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The George-Anne

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GA
THE GEORGE-ANNE

"At that moment, all you could do is run, it was one man vs. three zombies. The odds didn't look good..."

HUMANS

vs

ZOMBIES

First zombie attack of 2016
Full story on Pages 8&9



RECRUITING UPDATE PAGE 12

Eagles begin to finalize 2016 class

3-DAY STARTUP PAGE 3

Event attracts investors for student entrepreneurs

Weather Bar

Tuesday



High: 72°
Low: 50°

Wednesday



High: 63°
Low: 44°

Thursday



High: 50°
Low: 38°

Friday



High: 63°
Low: 38°

Good Morning GSU!

I'm Gary the Eagle
bringing you this
week's forecast!



JD MCARTHY

GEORGIA SOUTHERN EARNS MULTIPLE NATIONAL RANKINGS

College Affordability Guide - Georgia Southern ranked 5th nationally in Master of Science in Applied Economics, Instructional Technology, and Graphic Design.

Three other Georgia Southern programs were also ranked in the top 10 nationally in their field by the publication with the program for a Masters of sport management ranking 7th, public health ranking 8th, and justice studies ranking 9th.

Georgia Southern online programs also received several high rankings. U.S. News and World Report listed 6 Georgia Southern online programs in a list of 20 ranked programs across the country.

According to the rankings, Georgia Southern

has the 21st best online graduate IT programs, the 28th best online MBA programs, 33rd best online graduate business (non-MBA) programs, 49th best online nursing programs, 73rd best online graduation programs, and the 114 best online bachelors programs.

In total, Georgia Southern received 21 national rankings from 10 different sources.



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SPRING CONCERT CANCELLED THIS YEAR

According to a recent statement by UPB, they are not currently looking to have a spring concert this semester. Instead they are in talks with various other organizations in order to try to make an event that will be more inclusive/collaborative for students across campus. This article will be extended as more information is released.

MARIJUANA PENALTIES TO POTENTIALLY LESSEN

A workshop called "From Munchies to Memory: What the Science Says about Marijuana" is coming to campus. It will be on January 26 in Russell Union room 2080.

It will be a lunch and learn workshop during which you will learn facts about marijuana from the most up to date scientific research.

This event correlates perfectly with Georgia's soon to be changing laws on marijuana. Seven different bills have been proposed in the Georgia legislature all aiming to loosen laws pertaining to marijuana.

The Telegraph lists many different bills proposed by Georgia Senators:

State Senator Harold Jones proposed a bill that would make all marijuana possession a misdemeanor. Selling would still be a felony but possession of marijuana no matter the amount would not be.

State representative Dee Dawkins from Lithonia plans to go one further, drafting a bill that would make possession of small amounts of marijuana punishable by only a citation.

State Representative Stephen Alison from Blairsville proposed House Bill 283 which would let people convicted of marijuana possession keep their drivers licenses.

Possibly the most radical no-beating-around-the-bush action is Senator Kurt Thompson's Senate Resolution 6 which would set up a public referendum on marijuana legalization.

In January 21's issue the map on the front page should have been credited to the Georgia Southern Marketing and Communications/IT Services Web Team. The George-Anne regrets this error.

CORRECTION

R

New Year's Resolution Statistics
REFLECTORGsu.COM
by Tayler Critchlow

*Statistics per year gathered by statisticbrain.com

45%

Americans who regularly make a New Year's Resolution.

17%

Americans who infrequently make a New Year's Resolution.

8%

Americans who achieve their New Year's Resolution.

At the strike of midnight not but three weeks ago, last years regrets and failed promises faded away to make room for the start of the New Year and with that the New Year's resolution.

Read the rest of this story on reflectorgsu.com

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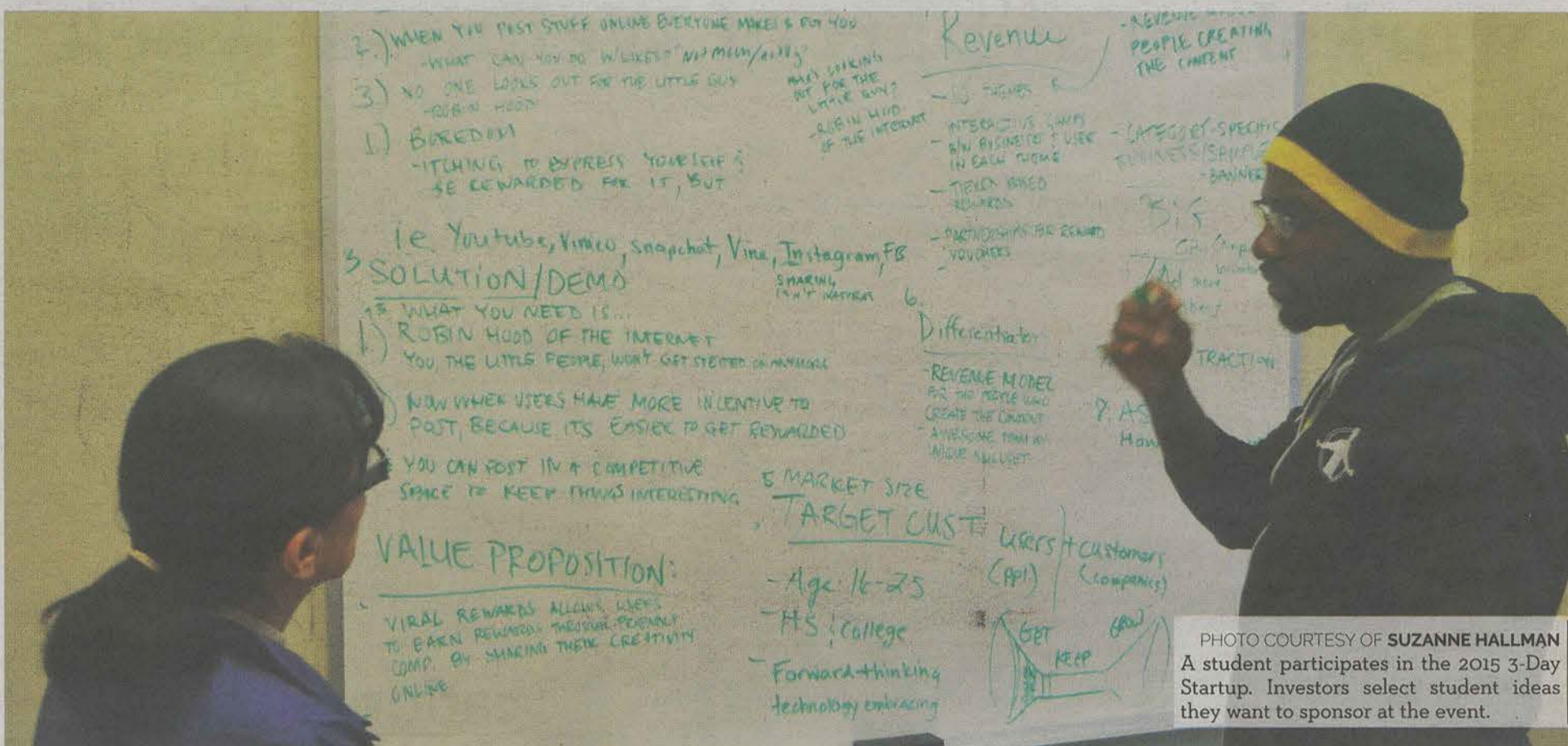


PHOTO COURTESY OF SUZANNE HALLMAN
A student participates in the 2015 3-Day Startup. Investors select student ideas they want to sponsor at the event.

Business ideas to be showcased at 3-Day Startup event

BY CHANCE SHELTON
The George-Anne staff

Students who wish to sharpen their entrepreneurial skills will be able to participate in the 3-Day Startup event on February 19 at 2:00 p.m. until February 21 at 10:00 p.m. in the College of Engineering and IT (IT building) 3rd floor.

The 3-Day StartUP program at Georgia Southern University is a weekend-long boot camp for individuals who are seeking opportunities in the business realm, and improving themselves personally, academically and professionally.

The program is a "learning-by-doing" workshop, which teaches students the ins-and-outs of what it is to be a CEO or a key player of a winning team. There are only two programs like this in the state, the second being at Georgia Tech.

The students who take part in the program, come to the boot camp with either an idea or product in mind and figure out how they can bring this idea to life, polish it, pitch it, and wait to see if their idea is chosen by an investor.

"My adrenaline is going and I'm ready to get out there, I've been working on my business for quite a while now, and I'm ready to get it going," Jahsiah Kidd, junior mechanical engineering major, said.

At the boot camp, there are five to seven backers ready to invest in a student's idea and help them get to the next

level. Students can have actual products, as long as it can be turned into a business in the long run.

Even though the program is based around developing student ideas, that doesn't limit who can apply and be chosen.

"We have about a hundred of applicants apply every year, but only 40 are chosen for the program, and after the three day program only six ideas are chosen," Suzanne Hallman, Business Advisor in the Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development, said.

In addition, the program welcomes and chooses students who have skills in public speaking, marketing, graphic design, engineering, political science, and everything in between. This is because the program wants students to know that in order to have a successful pitch it takes more than just the initial creator.

"Applicants are chosen based on their idea and the experience of the student and what they have to offer, and their passion," Hallman said.

Investors expect the students to have skills that will benefit them in the business world and wish to further their ideas.

"To be open-minded and to be flexible to work with other people...and hold themselves and each other accountable," Hallman said.

Students feel that the 3-Day StartUP event allows them to practice, prepare and expand

their business ideas in front of a group of investors.

"I am very confident, it's an opportunity to not only get your business out there, but network before you even get to the event, you can progress so much before it even happens and in the long run as well," Quinton Boyd, sophomore business major, said.

The program goes as follows:

On day one, the chosen applicants will meet with facilitators and brainstorm their pitches and ideas, while selecting a team.

On day two, the teams figure out who their target audience will be and form their business plan.

On day three, the last day, the teams will continue their execution of the idea and present a final pitch to a panel

of mentors and investors.

Hallman states that currently there are 28 applicants, and advises anyone who applies to attach a resume for professional purposes.

The deadline to apply is Jan. 31, 2016 and the top 40 to 45 will be chosen that following Friday on Feb. 5, 2016. To apply, please visit <http://georgiasouthern.3daystartup.org/>.

College Health Tip #2

Don't binge drink or overindulge.



Best-case scenario: bad hangover.

Worst-case: alcohol poisoning or possible death.



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Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Graduate students invited to self-care workshop as part of Wellness Week

BY BAILEY ADCOCK
The George-Anne staff

The College of Graduate Studies is partnering with GSU's Wellness Program to bring graduate students a free self-care workshop as part of Georgia Southern's annual Wellness Week, February 8 through February 12.

This program will help graduate students learn how to care for themselves, handle stress, and not burn out as the semester goes on.

"The idea came from a class I had last semester. We spent almost the entire semester talking about a book. The whole idea behind it was that if we're not taking care of ourselves we won't be able to take care of our clients," Tom Hutchison, psychology graduate student, said.

It is a well-known fact that students, especially graduate students, have a lot on their plates. Between classes, jobs, and social lives, we tend to forget that we have to take care of ourselves first.

The stress that college students experience can poorly effect other aspects of

their lives. In 2009, mtvU and the Associated Press partnered to conduct a survey of college students that showed over half of students reported that stress poorly influenced their academic success.

"Basically we just want to let other graduate students know what self-care is. It's not selfishness, it's taking care of yourself," Hutchison said.

The Graduate Assembly at UC Berkley put together a Graduate Student Happiness & Well-Being Report in which 47 percent of graduate students who responded showed signs of depression.

In the fall semester of 2015, there were about 2,500 graduate students attending Georgia Southern, making up 12.2 percent of the student population.

While this particular workshop is aimed at graduate students, Wellness Week has various activities for students to attend.

On Monday, Feb. 8, traveling comedian and mental health speaker Kevin Breel will be speaking at 7 p.m. in the Russell Union Ballroom.

There will also be an event

on Tuesday, from 5-9 p.m., there will be a CPR/AED Class in the RAC Aquatics Classroom. The class costs \$35 and participants will be AED certified for two years.

The LiveWell Fair will start at 10 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. on Wednesday. The fair will be in the Russell Union Commons and feature vendors from around Statesboro as well as the Empty Bowl Project, where attendees can purchase a hand-painted bowl of chili for \$10.

On Thursday, in the Russell Union Theatre, leaders and representatives from various religions in the Statesboro community will be speaking and answering questions from 6-8 p.m.

In addition to the events, massages purchased from the RAC during wellness week will cost \$5 less than normal.

More events will be announced leading up to Wellness Week.

A daily schedule can be found on the University Wellness webpage at <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/wellness/awareness-weeks/wellness-week/>.

Self-care Graduate Workshop

Time: 7:00 P.M.
-8:30 P.M.

Date: Thursday
Feb. 11

Location: Russell
Union
Room 2041

Admission: Free

'International Journeys at the Library Series' continues

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

The Zach S. Henderson Library, working alongside other departments on campus, is hosting their International Journeys at the Library series this semester.

"We look for any and every opportunity that we can to partner with the various units on campus," W. Bede Mitchell, Dean of the Library, said.

The idea behind the library series is to get students involved in learning about different cultures and countries, without paying out of their pockets to do so.

"Our hope is that someone comes to the library and hears

a lecture about a particular place that they didn't know about and they decide that they want to know more about that particular country," Mitchell said.

The programs typically occur on Wednesdays at noon, and there is one program per month. Attendance varies between 20 to 30 audience members, and turn-out can be lower, depending on the topic that month.

"[The program] is about giving members of the university community: faculty, staff and students, an opportunity to share their international experience with the entire campus and off campus communities," Jacek Lubecki, associate professor

of political science, said. "The 'Journeys' are a joint venture between the Library and the Department of Political Science and International Studies."

There are two upcoming programs about Ireland and Brazil in which students will be able to participate.

"Brazil: On the Precipice of the Future" will give an overview of the South American country, providing details on topics such as the economy, politics and history, and will take place February 10th in library room 1300 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

"I want people to take away a better idea of Brazil and its past and its current position. Also, to be intrigued by its

people, culture, and way of life." Matthew Flynn, assistant professor of International Studies and Sociology said.

Part of Flynn's motivation for leading a discussion on Brazil is to promote both an upcoming study abroad trip to the country and a fall 2016 class about five countries that are often grouped together because of their similar positions in economic development, Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, otherwise known as the BRICS countries.

Though Flynn has spoken about Brazil many times before, this will be the first time that he is speaking at the library series.

"I enjoy talking about

Brazil and my experiences. I consider myself a Brazillinesta who has done lots of research in Brazil, has lived there quite a bit, and has incorporated a lot of Brazilian themes into my class," Flynn said.

Flynn was approached by another colleague who asked him if he would be willing to make a presentation about the country. He agreed and if everything goes well with the upcoming presentation, Flynn says he is interested in doing more.

The series aims for the presenters to tell their own personal stories, so that students are able to relate, rather than listen to facts about a particular country.

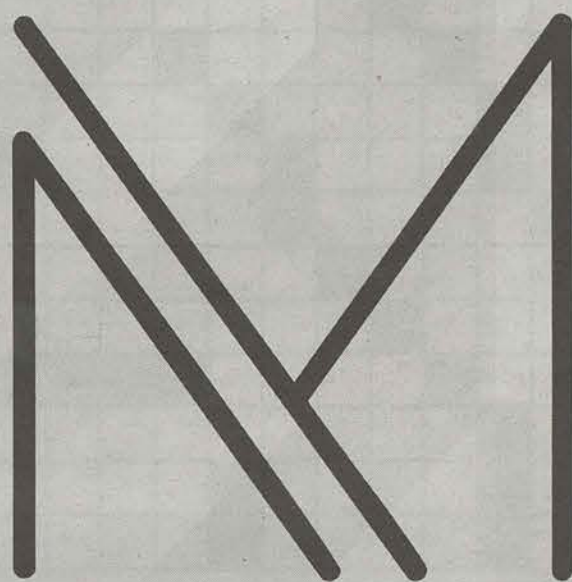
"They're not just lectures about the countries; these are personal stories by faculty members who went to these countries for various purposes. It's interesting to listen to these personal stories. There is a lot to learn in general and the unique experiences of the people talking about them are exciting," Mitchell said.

Brazil: On the precipice of the future

Time:
12:15 P.M.
-1:30 P.M.

Date:
Wednesday
Feb. 10

Location:
Library Room
1300



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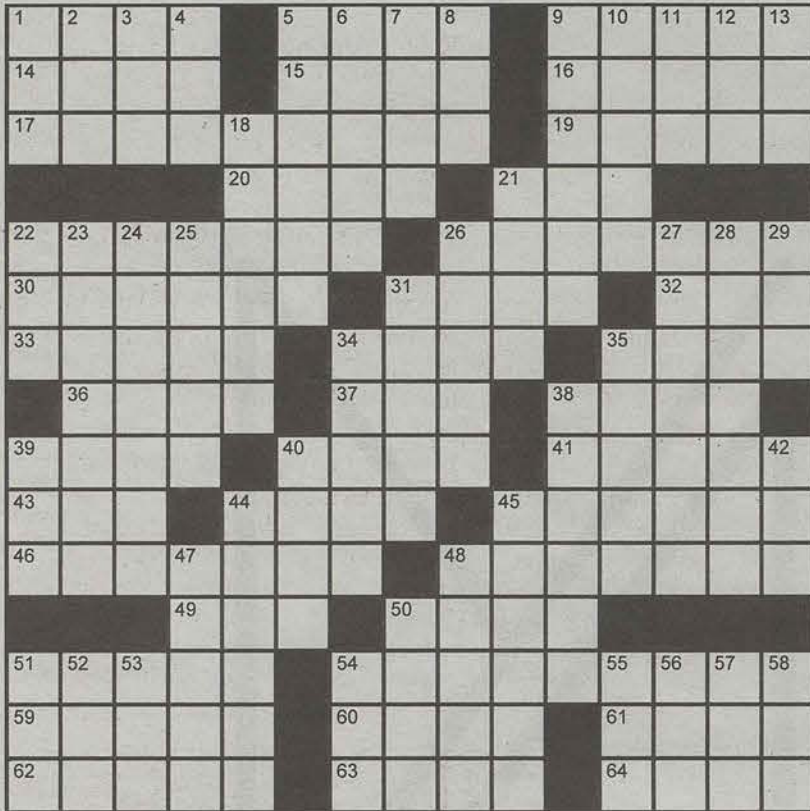
6

The George-Anne 1/26/16 Crossword

PuzzleJunction.com

Across

- 1 Fancy marbles
- 5 Many miles away
- 9 Watering can part
- 14 Certain hockey shot
- 15 Curse
- 16 Clear, as a disk
- 17 Dominant
- 19 Cast a ballot
- 20 River to Donegal Bay
- 21 Meditative sect
- 22 Dates
- 26 Vocalizers
- 30 Departs
- 31 Possesses
- 32 Bottom line
- 33 Farm units
- 34 Sweeping
- 35 Gallows reprieve
- 36 Washday problem
- 37 Tonic's partner
- 38 Ran, as colors
- 39 Young bears
- 40 Chills and fever
- 41 Altercation
- 43 Tumult
- 44 Sonic follower
- 45 Catapult
- 46 United States mathematician
- 48 Opaque gem
- 49 Indivisible
- 50 Unwakable state
- 51 Make into law
- 54 Take exception
- 59 Church offering
- 60 Can't stomach
- 61 Sheepskin leather
- 62 Transparent
- 63 Mine entrance



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Down

- 1 Sugar amt.
- 2 Fla. neighbor
- 3 Card game for two
- 4 Hot springs
- 5 Cancels
- 6 Roman deities
- 7 Diarist Frank
- 8 Abbr. after a name
- 9 Good craps rolls
- 10 Antler point
- 11 Feedbag morsel
- 12 Finish, with "up"
- 13 Rocker Nugent
- 18 Most basic
- 21 Brass component
- 22 High note
- 23 Shut off
- 24 Reindeer
- 25 Pizza places
- 26 Boar
- 27 Accord
- 28 ___ available
- 29 Sow's pen
- 31 Codeine source
- 34 Incite
- 35 Aspersions
- 38 Savage
- 39 Soup container
- 40 Top-notch
- 42 Born
- 44 Give-and-take, orally
- 45 Tiny village
- 47 Coffee shop order
- 48 Raccoon relative
- 50 Neighbor of Sudan
- 51 And so forth
- 52 Zero
- 53 Gobbled up
- 54 Chinese tea
- 55 Before, of yore
- 56 The land of ___
- 57 Joke
- 58 Compass pt.

		4	6		1	8		3
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	4	6						5
				7				
7						3	2	
		8		1				4
		1	8		7	2		
2								

4		5	3		6	2		
3		8	7			6		
	2		1	3				
	8			9				
				5	7		6	
		4			8	7		6
		7	2		3	1		5



ADDRESS: 815 S MAIN ST.
STATESBORO, GA 30458
PHONE: (912) 290-9595



THE HAMPTONS
STATESBORO

Letter to the Editor: The southern bubble

CHASE CHALKER

Chalker is a senior multimedia journalism major from Rome, Ga.

This past summer I became a local. I know, it's crazy. Every student here wants to leave Statesboro, and I plan on it as soon as my lease is up. For now though, thanks to working at a local bakery and accidentally updating my license to my address here, I fell into this small town's community and I'm not too upset about it.

Statesboro is small, no one can argue that. The US Census

Bureau estimates we had a population of 30,367 in 2014. That number is a little outdated, but things as we all know don't change often here. It doesn't help that Georgia Southern had an enrollment of 20,517 in the same year. That means that the student body takes up a whopping two thirds of the population and that's not counting the large number of Faculty and Staff.

Despite this tidal wave that is Georgia Southern, Statesboro does exist outside of Fair Road, the Plaza and our two Walmarts. Downtown is an area that I've grown to love. From Saturday Farmers

Markets, to trying the latest brew at Eagle Creek, to fresh pizza on Fridays at Sugar Magnolia, shows at the Averitt or even city council meetings in our town hall, Downtown Statesboro is a fantastic place that's constantly growing.

Most students are surprised to know we have an awesome airport on the fringes of town, or even multiple fresh seafood and meat markets. Ever taken a right off of Veterans instead of a left for the Walmart? We've got a great Goodwill that I spend entirely too much time at and a handful of neat shops and restaurants down that way. There's even a minor wrestling league

that does a cage match in the Ryan's parking lot once a year. I couldn't make that up if I tried.

My point is that your four years or so here don't have to be as grueling as you think. There's plenty to do and explore in this weird little town. I know there are plenty of students that enjoy this city as much as I do, but for you few that still haven't gone any farther than South City I really recommend taking a lazy Saturday to do some exploring. Statesboro has plenty to offer during your stay.

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.

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.

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

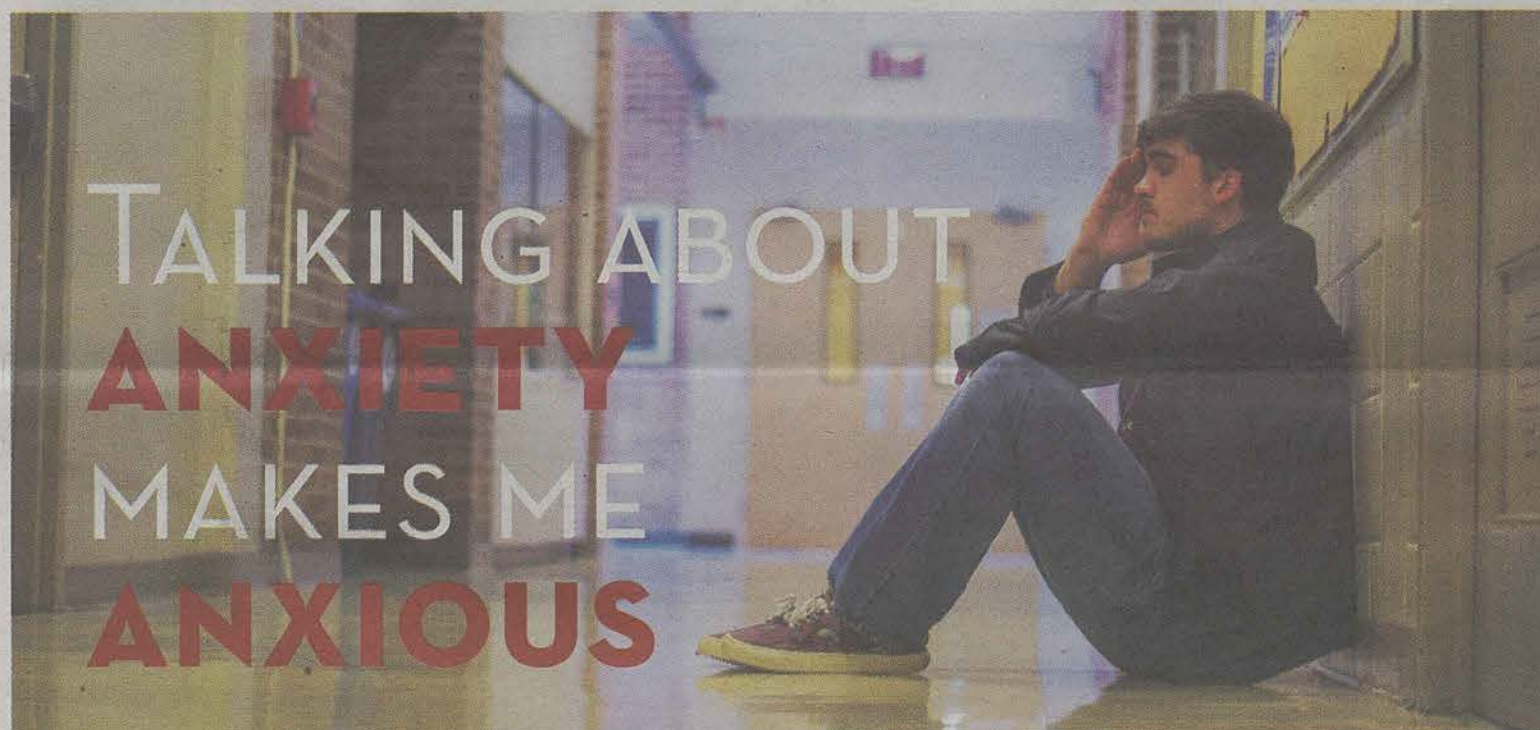
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The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor and appropriate guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or fewer, typed, and sent via email in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) format to letters@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed 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, Student Media or the University System of Georgia.



SKYLER BLACK

Black is a senior writing and linguistics major from Warner Robins, Ga.

Let me start this by stating that I am not an expert on mental disorders. I am not an expert on anxiety. I know my own personal experiences struggling with anxiety and some information that I have learned from people much smarter than myself. This is written in a way that other people can understand what anxiety is from a more human perspective. This is not to define whether or not someone has a

disorder or is just anxious. I write this so that you can understand, even if it's only a little, how it really feels to struggle with something so debilitating.

Anxiety can destroy you. It is a pile of bricks just waiting to topple on top of you and leave you helpless. It is that constant pull in the back of your mind telling you that something is wrong. The pull that is saying something is wrong with you. Even when everything seems completely fine. Anxiety is a flood of worry that drowns your entire body. It makes your bones ache and your muscles tense. It is something that cannot be pushed away from one person saying, "Everything will be okay." Because that just isn't how it works.

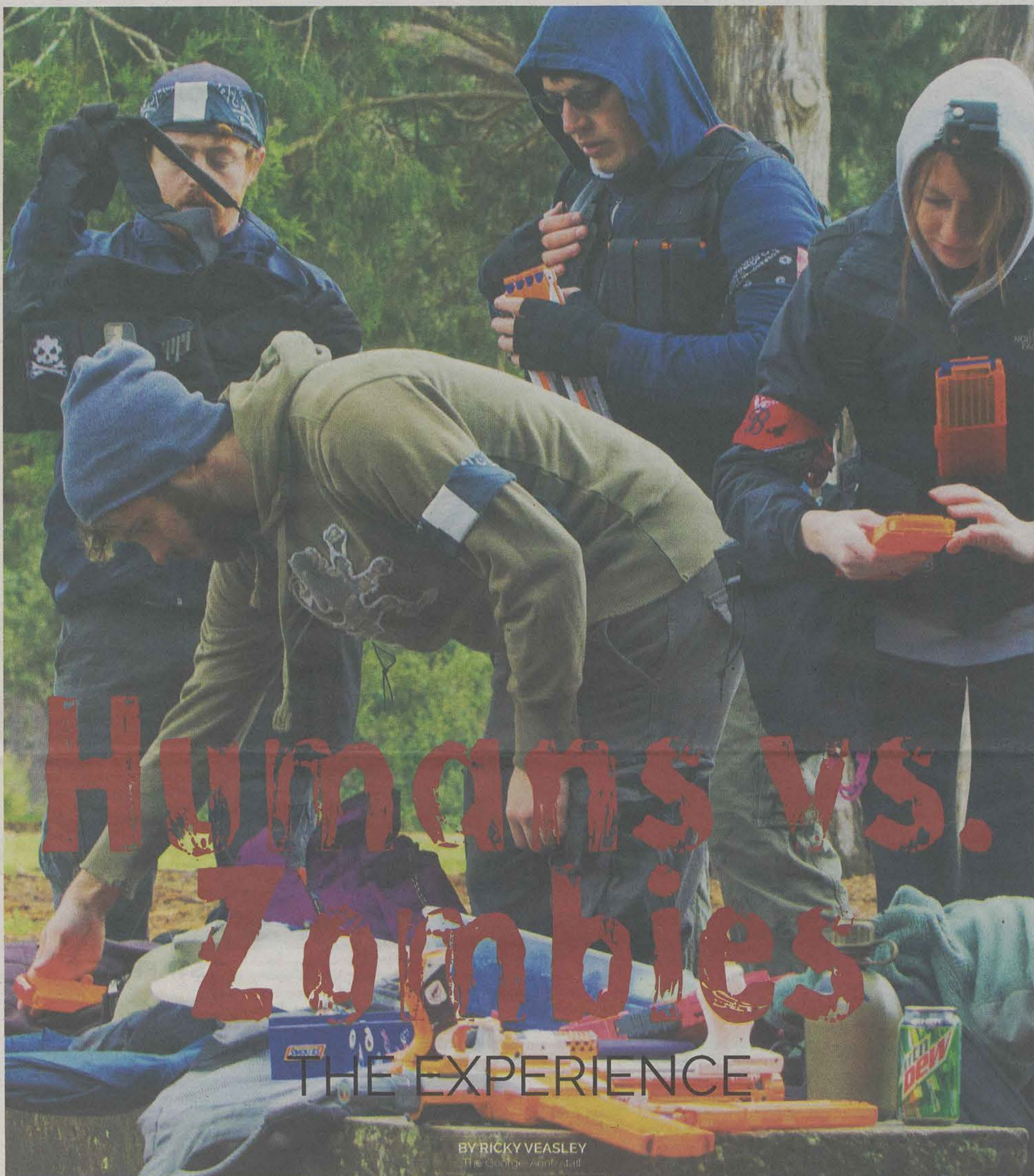
The majority of people see the word anxiety and deny the fact that it can affect them. We see this word that is plastered in our minds with a negative connotation and attempt to disassociate with it. The problem is that students don't know anything outside of the lists of symptoms from online searches.

People cannot see the real emotional and physical issues that are caused from anxiety. "It is well known that anxiety and depression can cause specific physical, or somatic, symptoms, such as: fatigue, joint and muscle pain, poor nutritional status, sexual dysfunction, problems with concentration, and sleep disturbances," Brian M. DeLoach, M.D., the Medical Director for Georgia Southern, said.

When I arrived at GSU, I knew that I had an issue with stress and being anxious. I did not realize how much it would exponentially increase once starting my courses and balancing my normal life with my professional life. According to the American Psychological Association in a survey of college counseling centers, 70 percent of centers stated that the number of students with severe psychological problems has increased. That fact alone is something to be worried about. It seems painfully obvious that anxiety increases at the university level.

For people with anxiety, it is hard to tell anyone how you feel. It is hard to tell someone that you struggle everyday to not break down and give up. Furthermore, people that do not have anxiety do not like talking about issues that they do not understand. "I think that we tend to tiptoe around the issue and if their friend or roommate is really struggling just having someone ask about it kind of gives them permission to open up," Jodi Caldwell, Ph.D., the Director of the Counseling Center, said.

So let's imagine, just for a second, that everyone with mental illness actually spoke to someone about the issues that they were facing. If everyone that was struggling with inner demons could find solace in people that understood how it feels, there wouldn't be 30 percent of students considering attempting suicide. There wouldn't be 24 percent of students physically hurting themselves. There would be a university community in which students could be safe.



HUMAN

It felt like one of the coldest days in Statesboro. The weatherman predicted it would snow, but he didn't predict that humans would be running from zombies.

Not real zombies, of course, but still scary nonetheless.

The biting wind blew across our faces as the four other humans loaded Nerf guns to their capacity. A combination of socks, Nerf guns and a game plan was all we had to fend off 17 zombies. We declared we were ready but is one ever truly ready for a zombie attack?

A group of five zombies charged toward us, but we shot them with-

in a few seconds. The zombies ran back to the respawn zone and brought more zombies with them. As we tried to shoot the new zombies before they got too close to attack, the gun jammed.

At that moment, all you could do was run. It was one man versus three zombies. The odds didn't look too good.

The ground was still wet from the rain the previous day. The leaves crunched underneath our shoes as we ran. Sweetheart Circle never felt so small until a swarm of zombies is surrounding you. A sock was in sight. Grabbing it while running by, you could feel a zombie was within range.

The sock flew through the air and wham! The zombie was hit; it stopped in its tracks.

There were two more, but no socks in sight. Heart racing, you pick up the pace and can feel yourself grow tired. Behind, a zombie slowed to a stop to catch its breath.

One zombie down, one to go. Another zombie grew closer. In the instant of turning around to check, it was on you; you had been tagged. Lesson: Always keep your eyes forward.

ZOMBIE

Being a zombie meant you had to turn on the people you were once partners with.

There were only three humans left.

Giving up your gun at the respawn zone, you run toward a human. Within two seconds, you feel the pop of two darts. Hit. Back to the respawn zone.

While turning back around, three zombies attacked a human at once. One went for his ankles, one for his chest, and the other for his back. Two more humans left.

Zombies were running left and right with socks and darts. We gathered together and ambushed the humans. The zombies had won. **GAME OVER.**

Human versus Zombies is an organization that is open to anyone.

"It's a really great way to meet new people while getting your exercise at the same time. We classify ourselves as a special interest group but also an athletic student organization," Sierra Moore, vice president of Human vs. Zombies, said.

There are two teams: humans and zombies.

There is a 10-day event where each team has a mission to do usually at night.

"Around 7:30 p.m., you'll get a text that says 'Hey, you have to find this thing across campus' and the games will begin," David Tullius, president of Human vs. Zombies, said.

Each game starts with one zombie and the zombies multiply quickly.

"A moderator's job is to make the game. They come up with the theme, new classes for the humans and zombies, missions throughout the game and keep everything running smoothly through the game," Courtney Cleaton, moderator of Human vs. Zombies, said.

The game is really simple.

Zombie's try to tag humans with both hands to turn humans into one of them.

There are different types of zombies that try to attack in waves. Psycho, White Walker, Wraith, Brawler and Charger are a few of the new ones recently added.

Each zombie has a distinct characteristic to aid during the game.

A Psycho zombie has noodles, which are used as extendable arms to tag humans. A White Walker zombie is immune to Nerf darts, but socks can stun it. A Wraith zombie is an immortal stunner. It holds onto humans for 15 seconds and stuns them, but it does not turn humans into zombies. A Brawler zombie has a shield and fist, one touch from this one and you become a zombie. Finally, a Charger zombie has a helmet to dodge off attacks.

A human's objective is to ward off the zombies as long as possible by throwing Nerf darts and socks at the zombies. Once a zombie dies, it has to wait a certain amount of time to respawn.

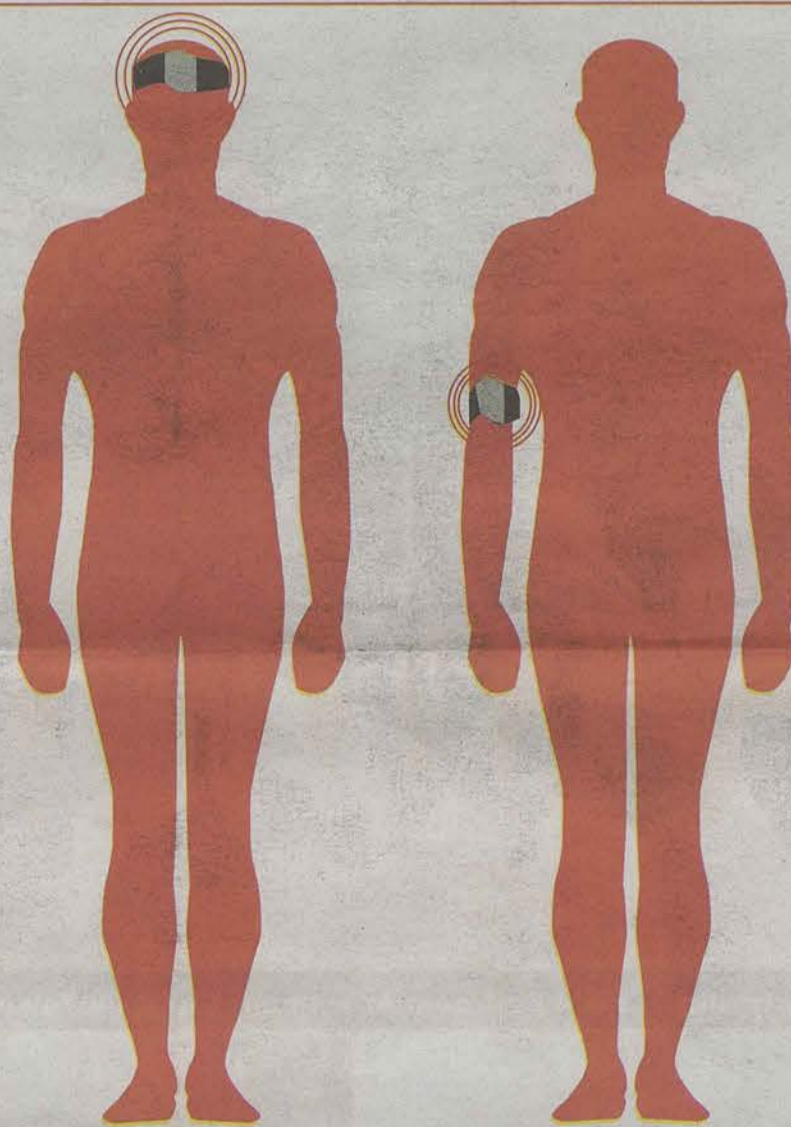
To distinguish between the humans and zombies, humans wear bandanas on their arms while zombies wear bandanas affixed with duct tape, on their head.

People travel from surrounding places like Savannah and Athens to participate in the games.

"We've had a relationship with Georgia Southern's Human versus Zombies for a really long time now. I come here every weekend to participate. I like how challenging and difficult it is to win their games. It's very cool," Haley Baggerley, president of the University of Georgia Human vs. Zombies team, said.

**SURROUNDING SCHOOLS
THAT ALSO PARTICIPATE IN
HUMANS VS ZOMBIES:**

**UGA
SCAD
KENNESAW
MERCER**



ZOMBIE HUMAN

**OVER THE LAST
6 YEARS
PARTICIPANTS HAVE
INCREASED FROM
50-300**

“ Around 7:30 p.m., you'll get a text that says 'Hey, you have to find this thing across campus' and the games will begin.”

DAVIS TULLIUS

president of humans vs. zombies

A FICTIONAL SPORT BROUGHT TO LIFE:

The Quidditch Club

BY RACHEL KELSO
The George-Anne staff



“

You don't have to be a fan of Harry Potter to join. If you just want to exercise and do a sport that's interesting, come join us.”

EMILY FISHER

Quidditch club president

Welcome to the Wizarding World of Georgia Southern University. The Quidditch Club has just been introduced to our campus. Quidditch, a game originating from the Harry Potter book series, is now an official club at GSU and pending approval to become a CRI certified sport.

The idea of starting this club has been a dream for one GSU student in particular.

“I knew that when I started college I wanted to start up a Quidditch team,” Emily Fisher, Quidditch club president, said. “You don't have to be a fan of Harry Potter to join. If you just want to exercise and do a sport that's interesting, come join us.”

While it may sound like a fictional fantasy, Quidditch is actually a very involved contact sport. Seven players on each team race and tackle one another to score their points from either placing the balls in one of three different hoops on each side and by catching the snitch, which awards that seeker's team 30 points and ends the game.

“There are at least seven players on each team: three chasers (offense), two beaters (defense), one keeper (goalie), and one seeker, whose only goal is to catch the snitch. You know how people will say that while reading a book you get to live in their world to escape your own? It's a reality now with Quidditch.” Katie Neas, club vice president, said.

The \$25 membership dues cover players' broomsticks, hoops, and the three

different kinds of balls used for the game: volleyballs, dodgeballs and tennis balls.

To make the game even more similar to the popular book series' plot, players are divided into whichever house they belong to, as dictated by a specific online quiz that sorts them based on their personalities and problem-solving methods. The club is currently at seven members, but 28 are needed for full, all-house competition.

This is one of the very few college Quidditch teams in the state of Georgia, so the GSU club is attempting to schedule matches with neighboring states' teams and leagues.

“I will help organize club meetings and travels to other schools for matches,” professor Christina Salhi, the club's advisor, said. “I will also attend the games and support each house. I am pretty much Dumbledore!”

It's organizations like the Quidditch Club that make GSU even more diverse and accepting of all students on campus.

“Quidditch Club is a club for anyone,” Sarah Greenberg, club treasurer, said. “Whether you are a super intense Harry Potter fan, someone looking for a way to stay in shape or you just want to meet new people at your university, Quidditch Club is the club for you.”

For more information, you can email Quidditch club president, Emily Fisher, at ef01127@georgiasouthern.edu.

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REFLECTOR

SUMMERS LANDS COVETED RECRUITS

BY HAYDEN BOUDREAU
The George-Anne staff

National signing day is just over a week away and the new Eagle coaching staff is nearly complete in signing the last few commits to the 2016 recruiting class. Georgia Southern is set to have one of the top classes in the Sun Belt Conference.

Many of the best recruits that the Eagles have netted came in the past week for new head coach Tyson Summers and his band of new coaches. Things looked bleak about a month ago after former coach Willie Fritz's departure came with the news of several recruits de-committing. It turns out that they might have been better off holding onto that decision as the Eagles have been picking up some of Georgia's best high school players. Eagles football recruiting has always been a force to be reckoned with, but the unique style taken by Coach Summers is certainly paving the way for one of the best classes ever. With a barrage of new head coaches coming from the high school ranks, they brought their former players with them. The last two weeks has seen several more high-profile signees that we will cover more in depth in our signing day wrap-up next week.

DARION ANDERSON

QUICK STATS:

6'1"
170 lbs.
Houston County H.S.



The first spotlight recruit just signed over the weekend, Darion Anderson, a receiver from Houston County High School. The receiver is rated as an 88 percent four star recruit with great speed and hands and ranked as the 28th best recruit in the state of Georgia, he also made history as the first ESPN 300 player to sign with Georgia Southern. Anderson had compiled nine total offers from schools such as UNC, Marshall, Boston College, and most notably: The University of Georgia where he flipped after

the news of the changes coming to the Bulldog program.

The former 2-AAAAA Region Player of the Year shocked many with his commitment to the Eagles and his arrival likely signals more of an emphasis on the passing game in the coming year as the team continues to open up the run game. Anderson picked up 22 catches last season for 432 yards and doubled in the defensive backfield with 28 total tackles and an interception in 10 of his team's 13 games played.

@the_Duno

Blessed to say that I've committed to Georgia Southern #Swoop16

JEREMY HAWKINS

QUICK STATS:

5'11"
215 lbs.
Screven County H.S.



With the best running game in college football, the Eagles are constantly looking to improve their backfield. Between Walker Award nominee Matt Breida, the consistently good L.A. Ramsby, and the up and coming Wesley Fields, it seems like the backfield is full to the brim. However, one of the latest recruits is likely to add another dimension to the running game, but also could be used to stuff a run game.

Last Tuesday, running back Jeremy Hawkins committed to join the Eagle backfield in the 2016

season. The three star running back hails from Sylvania (Screven County). Hawkins ranks as an 84 percent on 247 Sports and had raised eyebrows across the state. With great size, many wouldn't expect his 4.48 speed and his hard hitting ability as he split his time as a linebacker for Screven High.

Hawkins proved to be one of the most lethal defensive players for his high school. Aside from leading his offense in rushing with an average of 11.9 yards per carry, he also led the team in tackles with 99 total and 41 solo tackles.

@jjHAWKins_1

Happy to say that I've committed to THE Georgia Southern University!!!
GATA EAGLES! #Swoop16

2016 Conference Opponents Announced

The Eagles will play four home and four road conference games this season. They will travel to take on the defending Sun Belt Champions Arkansas State Red Wolves on a date TBD.

BY ROBERT GEORGE
The George-Anne staff

The Sun Belt conference opponents have been announced for the 2016 football season.

In addition to playing rival Appalachian State in Paulson Stadium, the Eagles will host UL-Monroe, UL-Lafayette, and Troy.

The Eagles will travel for four conference matchups this upcoming season. They play South Alabama, New Mexico State, 2015 Sun Belt Champions Arkansas State, and rival Georgia State on

the road. It will be the first contest against Arkansas State since entering the Sun Belt. The dates and times for these games have not been released.

The four non-conference games have also been announced. The Eagles will take on the reigning Sugar Bowl Champs in Ole Miss and the Bahamas Bowl Champs in Western Michigan, both on the road. The Eagles defeated Western Michigan last season 43-17 in Paulson.

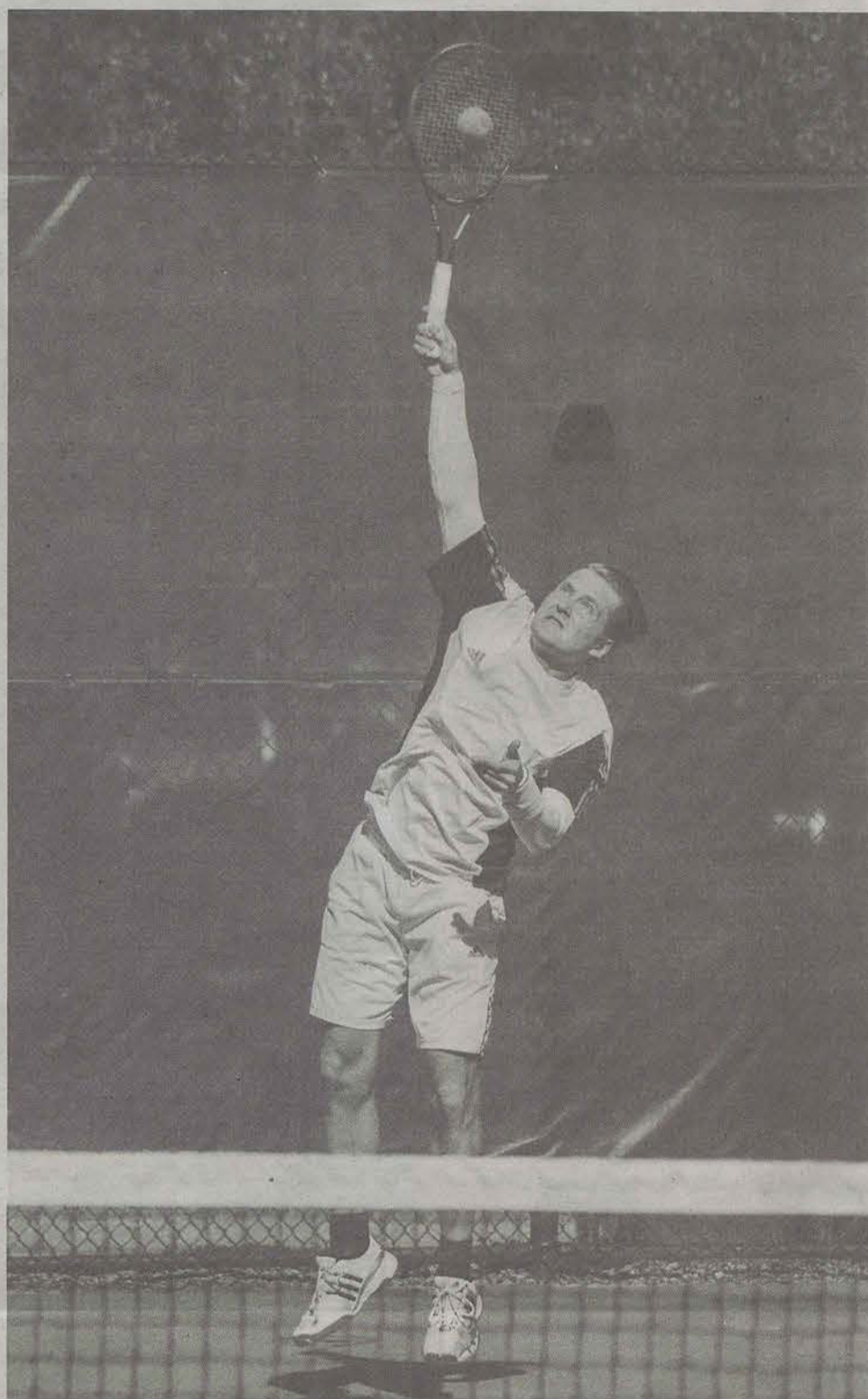
The Eagles will also travel back to Atlanta to Bobby Dodd Stadium for a rematch with the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. It will be the second meeting in the last three years for the two schools.

The Yellow Jackets defeated the Eagles 42-38 in the 2014 season. The Eagles overcame a 25-point deficit to take the lead in the fourth quarter before surrendering a touchdown in the final minute of the game.

Rise Lanne looks to anchor the Eagles in spring season

The 2015 Sun Belt All-Conference First Team senior is ready to lead the men's tennis team in his final semester. He and the rest of the Eagles will take the courts again this weekend in North Carolina.

Rise Lanne won his first match of the season in straight sets. The Finland native is entering his senior year as the number one singles player on the roster.



BY DERIK WUCHTE
The George-Anne staff

At this point last season, men's tennis was 0-2. This time around, the role is reversed. The team finds themselves ahead after wins over Davidson and Gardner-Webb. Senior Rise Lanne is a team captain, he plays as the number one position player for singles and he also plays on the number one team for doubles. After making the Sun Belt All-Conference Singles First Team last season, he is back to help lead the team through a strong spring season.

Of the 12 singles matches during the past weekend, the Eagles recorded eight victories. The accountability of success can be from the Eagles executing well, being better conditioned and being more experienced. There are many reasons for their individual wins. But Lanne has seen this play out before and he knows how the Eagles should be handling it.

"I think compared to other seasons, we started a little easier. It's building the confidence for everyone," Lanne said. "Last year, we had

a tough Georgia Tech. People got losses. Then after that one, we had a tough match right after. It's easier to build on [our success] when we win the first two matches. When you win, it's easier to win again. When you lose, you realize how tough it is to win again. It's all about the confidence."

Head Coach Sander Koning is to credit for setting up the schedule this season.

The team will take part in 23 matches this spring before competing in the Sun Belt Championship during April. They will be playing a majority of their matches in North Carolina and South Carolina with 10 matches lined up at home.

The starting lineup for the Eagles was consistent through the weekend. It was Lanne, sophomore J.C. Alcala and sophomore Eddie Landin at the helm. Following them was junior Nico de Groof, redshirt junior Daniel Casablanco and freshman Andre Johnson. Junior Christian Kerrigan paired with Lanne in doubles and he is considered one of the leaders of the team on that side of the court.

It was only a handful of players that did not find an

early win this past weekend. With how the sport operates, and with the amount of experience Rice has had playing tennis, he knows how the team should be judging themselves now.

“YOU NEED TO GET THE CONFIDENCE. THAT'S THE BIGGEST THING RIGHT NOW.”

RISE LANNE
senior journalism major

"In tennis, I can tell myself that I'm good. If I win, it's easy to win again," Lanne said. "You know how it is. You get used to the routines and the patterns you do well. You start executing those. When you lose, you start to think of the small details. For everyone, it's important you get wins because you get the feeling of winning. They get

the feeling of what they're doing well and what they're not doing well. You need to get the confidence. That's the biggest thing right now."

For the Eagles, even if the entire team plays singles well, doubles can still decide the match. The scoring for college tennis matches is first to four points, meaning that doubles can be the deciding factor in a lot of situations.

Southern got the opportunity to show off their doubles formula with wins over Davidson and Gardner-Webb. Doubles ended up being the reason for their victory over Davidson that Saturday.

The team sometimes looks for different answers to doubles when things start being inconsistent. Lanne got an opportunity to explain his thoughts on how the team should operate in doubles this season.

"You get the chemistry going," Lanne said. "You know where the other guy is going, what he loves to do. When you play with someone else, you might not know his favorite serve or his favorite move; what he wants to do. If I play with the same guy, I start to realize what he knows best

and I can support that. With these couples we have now, it's balanced that one guy is better at the net and the other guy is better at the baseline. It's credit to coach for figuring out what guys play well together. I hope that we can remain with the same guys because, in the long term, that's the best option. If you have to change a lot, like with last year, you have to change things because your partner wants to do something differently and so on."

There's always so much to consider for the upcoming tennis season regarding the team's physical conditioning, their ability to play in different environments and what level of competition their opponents will be playing at this year. No matter what, however, Southern will always get to take credit for their two win start this season.

They will be put to the test against better competition the weekend of Jan. 29 when they face East Carolina and Winthrop in Greenville, NC. The Eagles will be ready for the challenge and ready to prove themselves as a better team for this 2016 season.

EAGLES FIGHT TO STAY IN CONTENTION IN SUN BELT

GEORGIA SOUTHERN CURRENTLY SITS AT NINTH IN THE SUN BELT. THEY TAKE ON
CONFERENCE LEADING ARKANSAS-LITTLE ROCK THIS WEEKEND.



Mike Hughes looks for an opening in the defense. He is averaging 12.1 points per game this season.

CAREER SERVICES LAUNCHES NEW APP!

Last semester The Office of Career Services launched a new and improved Eagle Career Net for all students and alumni to utilize, this semester an app has been added to make the site more user friendly. The app is essentially a continuation of the site at your fingertips available for download in the Apple Store and Google Play.



The app offers users many helpful resources. In order to effectively utilize Eagle Career Net, it is important to learn about all it has to offer.

You have the ability to create a profile, connect with Career Services, and watch career prep videos. In addition, through the app, students and alumni can search through hundreds of jobs, internships, and co-ops and apply for the job or favorite it to apply later.

The Office of Career Services frequently hosts events; all of which are available to students and alumni. Because there are so many events, it can be hard to keep the details in order. To ease the confusion, the app has a helpful calendar to keep track of events, career fairs, on-campus recruiting, and connect with the office via Twitter.

Please come by the Office of Career Services during walk-in hours, Monday through Friday 12-4 p.m. for help on how to create your profile, search for an internship, co-op, full-time and part-time opportunities, and on how Eagle Career Net can help you!



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BY MARQUS WILLIAMS

The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern Eagles Men's basketball team had their game postponed against App State due to weather issues over the weekend.

After the App. State game, the Eagles still have upcoming games that could decide their future in the conference this season. The Eagles are (6-11) overall this season and (2-5) in conference play with wins over Troy and Louisiana-Monroe at home. The overall record of their remaining opponents is 127-110, which gives hope the Eagles still have a chance to make a big impact in the Sun Belt despite their slow start. Their toughest tests will be Arkansas-Little Rock this Thursday on the road, Texas-Arlington February 4th at home, and Georgia State at home on February 23. If the Eagles can get a quality win against these teams it should be able to give them a confidence boost as they make a push for a seed in the Sun Belt tournament.

They have not had a conference win away from home all season and are 1-7 overall on the road, but the way they have played recently has proven they are growing into a team capable of winning difficult games. Their overtime game with Georgia State showed the fans their resiliency and ability to play against the Sun Belt's elite. Being the youngest team in college basketball has it's down points, but has positives because of the valuable experience their young players receive that should become an asset in the future.

If all goes to plan, their early experiences could lead to potential Sun Belt championships and an NCAA tournament bid for the fourth time in school history, with the last being in 1992. The names Mike Hughes, Ike Smith, Toookie Brown, Montae Glenn, and Jake Allsmiller will be called upon heavily now and in the future as they shoulder the pressure of taking Georgia Southern to new heights with a conference championship and an NCAA tournament appearance.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

THE EAGLES DEFEATED APP. STATE ON MONDAY NIGHT 65-50. UP NEXT IS A TRIP TO ARKANSAS FOR A PAIR OF CONFERENCE MATCHUPS.



BY KEITH SMILEY
The George-Anne staff

The women's basketball team opened their four game road swing with a 61-50 win last Tuesday against rival Georgia State. With only two games left before returning home, the Eagles will look to finish strong against Little Rock and Arkansas State.

The Eagles will be traveling Thursday to take on Little Rock, who is ranked fifth in the Sunbelt with a 4-4 conference record. The last time Eagles traveled to Little Rock, they lost 63-40. It won't be easy for Eagles first year Coach Kip Drown, as he will be trying to out coach Joe Foley of Little Rock. Head Coach Joe Foley was the 2010, 2011 and 2015 Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year. The game should be competitive on the defensive side of the ball also, with both teams not allowing over 62 points per game.

The key matchup to watch surprisingly won't be against the leading scorers of both teams, but between Eagles guard Alexis Sams and Little Rock guard Alexius Dawn. Alexis Sams stands five foot five and Alexius Dawn stands five foot four. Alexis Sams is averaging a respectable 6.1 points per game and 2.5 assist per game and Alexius Dawn is averaging 10.9 points per game and 2.5 assists per game. Both guards may be small, but

both of them will be looking to pack a big punch on Thursday each other.

With the Eagles continuing their road trip, GSU will be looking to face their toughest Sun Belt opponent yet on Saturday. Eagles women's basketball will have the task of beating the now 8-0 Arkansas State Red Wolves and giving them their first loss in the conference. Arkansas State is the number two scoring team in the division averaging 77.1 points a game. GSU has the number three scoring defense in Sunbelt play, allowing only 58.7 points per game.

Arkansas State is a scoring juggernaut, with three players averaging double figures for the season. It will be a test for the Eagles stopping guard Aundrea Gamble, forward Khadi Brown-Haywood, and forward Amanda Lawson. Gamble is averaging 17.8 points per game, forward Khadi Brown-Haywood 16.6 points per game, and forward Amanda Lawson is averaging 10.2 points per game.

Eagles leading scorer Angel McGowan and leading rebounder Patrice Butler will be looking to match Arkansas State best weapons all the way to the last buzzer sounds.

The Eagles will return home from their four game road swing Feb. 4 at Hanner Fieldhouse to face UT-Arlington for the second time this season.

Angel McGowan leads the team in scoring with 14.8 points per game. The Eagles take the court again this Thursday at Arkansas-Little Rock.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded TRIO program through the U.S. Department of Education. The program provides comprehensive services to first-generation students, limited income students, and students with disabilities. The primary goal of SSS is to help transition, retain, and graduate college students.



Information Sessions:

Russell Union Room 2054

January 12	5:00pm
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Learn more at our Information Sessions and apply at:

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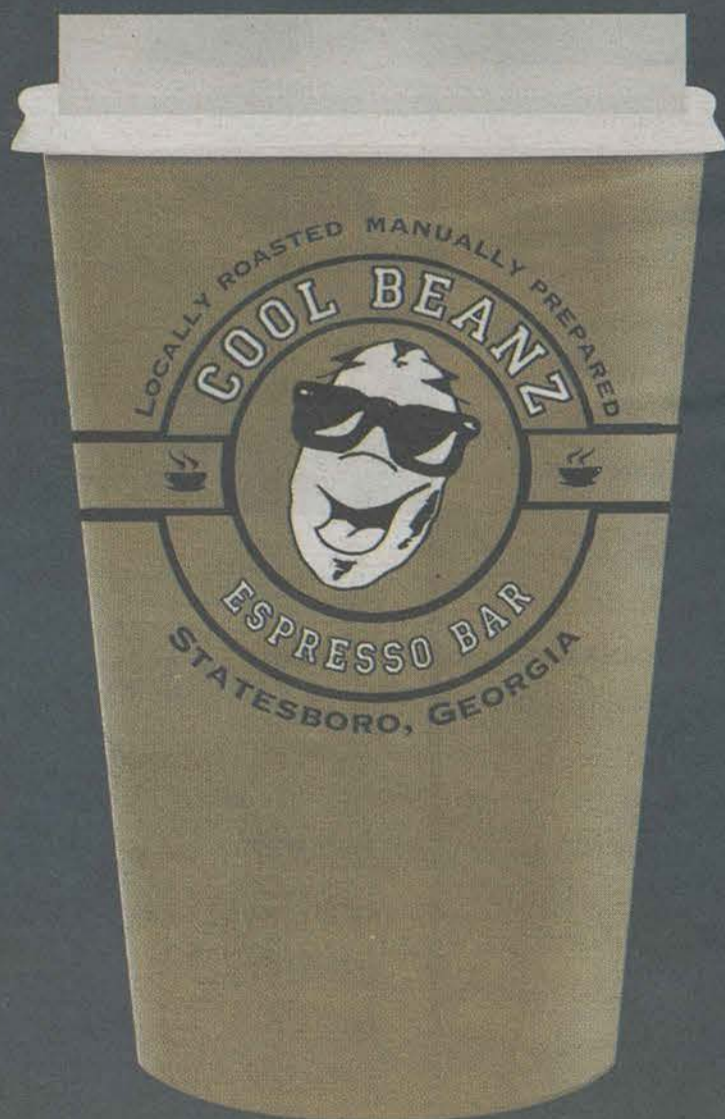
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