BLACKWATER PRESERVE

An outdoor getaway is closer than you think

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Gone for Good

Historic building demolished after five decades

PAGE 5

EDDIE LANDIN

Tennis star's journey to Georgia Southern

PAGE 9
Andrews, to create designs in order to showcase the buildings potential as a medical facility.

The Interior Design Program has teamed up with the Hearts & Hands Clinic of Statesboro, to help make a design for the clinic when it moves Statesboro with health care, and was named Van Buren Sanitarium after Dr. Harvey Van Buren. The building was first built in 1918, in order to help the African-American community of the historic Van Buren building.

The students will be working for the semester with the owner of the building, Mrs. Glenerra Martin, and the director of Hearts & Hands, Mrs. Ursovia Anderson, to create designs in order to showcase the buildings potential as a medical facility.

**SPORTS SHORTS**

- **Women's Tennis** won against Alabama State, 5-2.
- The softball team lost against Tennessee Tech (2-3), but won against Alabama A&M (7-2) on Friday.
- **Women's Tennis** won Saturday against Jacksonville, 7-0.
- **Men's Tennis** beat Kennesaw State on Saturday 6-1.
- The softball team lost against Tennessee Tech (2-3), but won against Alabama A&M (7-2) on Saturday.
- **Women's Basketball** lost to South Alabama on Saturday, 45-48.
- **Women's Basketball** lost to South Alabama on Saturday, 76-80.
- **Women's Tennis** won against Kennesaw State on Sunday, 6-1.
- **Men's Tennis** beat FAU on Saturday 4-2.
- **Women's Tennis** won Saturday against Kennesaw State, 5-2.
- Men's Basketball also lost to South Alabama (0-4) and Houston (2-10) on Saturday.
- The softball team lost to both Tennessee Tech and Houston.
- Men's Tennis beat FAU on Saturday 4-2.
- **Women's Tennis** won against Alabama State, 5-2.
- **Women's Basketball** lost to South Alabama on Saturday, 45-48.
- **Women's Basketball** lost to South Alabama on Saturday, 76-80.
- **Women's Tennis** won against Kennesaw State on Sunday, 6-1.
- **Men's Tennis** won against Steison Sunday, 4-1.
With the presidential election underway, various topics are being discussed. One of those topics is immigration. The problem with discussing immigration is the fact that politicians don’t realize that the system is completely broken and nobody offers a viable solution to the problem other than deportation.

According to joshmccown.net, President Obama is on pace to become the president with the highest number of deportations in the history of the United States. He has deported more than 2.5 million people since he was sworn into office in 2009, according to the Department of Homeland Security. It is clear that politicians from both parties prefer to get rid of the “problem” rather than fix the immigration system.

As an immigrant, I know for a fact that the immigration system is broken, because I was a part of it. A long time ago, my mother’s father, a U.S. citizen, submitted a VISA F3 request, which allowed him to sponsor my mother and my family under the married sons and daughters of U.S. citizen’s clause. When the request was submitted, we were placed on a waiting list. In 2003, we received a notification from the U.S. government that our request had been approved and that we needed to submit the necessary documents. After three years, we were told that we needed to come to the country on Jan. 2009, to receive our Green Cards and become legal residents of the United States after a 10 year wait. We were lucky. It usually takes longer than that coming from a developing country like Ecuador.

I can go on with my story, but I want to focus on the facts of this article. Recently, along with many of you, I attended the Jorge Antonio Veggie talk and was made aware of some of the problems undocumented immigrants are facing in the U.S. and our very own state is no exception. The President and the presidential candidates for both parties decided to turn away and focus on other topics.

According to pewresearch.org, there were an estimated 11.3 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. in 2014, making up a total of 3.5 percent of the population. Today, that number is expected to be higher. A lot of people prefer they be deported, without realizing that they are an important part of the economy.

According to a study conducted by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, undocumented immigrants paid $11.84 billion in state and local taxes in 2012 and it’s expected that if they were allowed to legally work in the country, their tax contribution would increase exponentially.

One of the problems that impressed me the most is the fact that undocumented students in Georgia cannot pay in-state tuition to attend state colleges and universities after the Georgia Supreme Court rejected the proposition earlier this month. I strongly believe that these students should be allowed to; it should be a basic right for any resident of the state, documented or undocumented to be able to apply for in-state tuition and receive an education, as long as they are making a meaningful contribution to the United States, which most are.

Currently only 19 states in the United States allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition, with Alabama, South Carolina, and some universities in Georgia outright banning the enrollment of undocumented students, according to e4fc.org.

Georgia Senator, Josh McCown, is currently proposing driving cards that identify “illegal aliens,” according to the huffingtonpost.com. As an immigrant myself, this is offensive and insensitive, but it’s the reality many of us, even those who are legal, are facing. I have to carry a Green Card with me, because it’s the law. However, the proposition by Senator McCown is different. He is trying to make undocumented immigrants easy to identify and possibly deport.

It’s time to stand-up and write our concerns to representatives in Congress about the fact that our fellow college students in Georgia cannot receive the same benefits as we all do. The immigration system can be fixed, but only if we work collectively to find the solution rather than take the easy way out. This great country is always helping others in need throughout the world via foreign aid. Why can’t we help those already here?

JOZSEF PAPP
Papp is a sophomore journalism major from Guayaquil, Ecuador

Undocumented immigrants in U.S. labor force

Make up 5.1% of the labor force

8.1 million undocumented immigrants are either working or looking for work

States with the highest number of immigrant workers

Nevada - 10%
California - 9%
Texas - 9%
New Jersey - 8%
GSU welcomes Quickit app:
A time saver for paying parking tickets

BY TANDEA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University has recently begun to implement a brand new app called Quickit, which allows individuals who receive parking tickets to quickly pay them on their phone in seconds. GSU is the first university in the nation to use this app.

The app speaks volumes for many departments on campus and in addition, students. Many students think the app is useful and is a time saver. "The app sounds cool. It sounds way better than going all the way over to Parking and Transportation to pay a ticket," Rebecca McClellan, freshman psychology major said.

Quickit is a Savannah based company co-founded by Tristan Steele, CEO of Quickit and Steve Hall, Vice-President of Quickit. This is his second startup in the parking ticket field and his inspiration to make this app was when he saw how difficult it was for people to pay their tickets. He wanted to make the process of paying parking tickets easier.

The app was under development for six months and new features will be rolling out over the next few months. All of the features will attack the common goal of making city and university life convenient to pay for parking tickets.

GSU understands the importance of technology and innovation and that's why we chose [the school] to be a pilot for the program," Steele said. To pay a ticket using the app, all you have to do is scan the barcode located at the bottom of your parking ticket with your phone, tap the pay button, and that's it. There are two options to pay: credit/debit card and PayPal. The app saves your payment information once you enter it for the first time and Parking and Transportation will never see your personal information.

Even though the app's marketing has just recently begun, the Parking and Transportation department has already seen a growing number of tickets being paid. As many as 19 percent of tickets were paid using the app, despite limited marketing.

The app also shows you any other tickets that you might have on record and you are able to pay those as well. Once you have gotten a ticket, you have seven days to pay in order to receive a five percent discount on tickets that are $20 and above. This discount has already been in place and will apply to the Quickit app as well.

Other features of the app include push notifications to remind you to pay your tickets before they're due and payment confirmation.

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"GSU understands the importance of technology and innovation and that's why we chose [the school] to be a pilot for the program."

TRISTAN STEELE
CEO of Quickit

To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu
Former Coastal Plain Science Building to be replaced by open plaza

Demolition of the Institute for Coastal Plain Science Building began on Feb. 9 and is expected to be completed on Feb. 17. The building is being replaced with an outdoor seating area.

BY BLAKELEY BARTEE
The George-Anne Staff

Just outside the Russell Union, Complete Demolition Services has reduced the former James H. Oliver Institute for Coastal Plain Science building to rubble.

According to Bobby Campbell, an employee of Complete Demolition Services, the final demolition began on Feb. 9 and is expected to be complete by Feb. 17.

The building, formerly known as the Institute of Anthropology and Parasitology, was originally built for the home economics program in 1960, according to Carrie Thorne, a project architect at Georgia Southern University.

"It was designed as a modern home of the day to instruct students in a living lab setting, including [kitchens and bedrooms]," Thorne said.

More recently, the building housed the coastal plain science program and the Smithsonian's U.S. National Tick Collection, the world's largest curated tick collection, which has thrived at GSU since 1990 when the Smithsonian decided to close the collection due to a lack of funds, according to the collection's exhibit.

The coastal plain science program and tick collection eventually outgrew the building, according to Thorne. Today, the Math and Physics Building houses the growing program and collection indefinitely.

The old building, which stood for over half a century, developed hazardous materials, according to Thorne.

"In the last years, because of problems of isolation, there were a lot of molds growing in there. It was really becoming a little bit unhealthy to stay in there," Lorenza Beatii, associate professor and curator of the U.S. National Tick Collection, said.

Thorne said these hazardous materials would have been costly to remove in a renovation, and the building no longer met current building codes. As part of the 2008 Campus Master Plan, the building would be demolished.

According to an executive order by Governor Nathan Deal, the Board of Regents declared on Oct. 13, 2015 that the building could no longer be used advantageously by GSU or the University System of Georgia and should be removed.

Beatii said that the tick collection was moved in April, 2015—a difficult task requiring special carts to ensure the fragile collection's safety.

"We were actually happy that we were moving out; we were happy that GSU gave us quite a lot of money to clean up all the space back here. We have many rooms and a lab [in the Math and Physics Building]. [We moved to] a healthier environment," Beatii said. "We also have a wonderful sprinkler system, because ticks are preserved in ethynol, and it's highly flammable."

The space where the old building once stood will become an extension of the Rotunda, according to Thorne, who said the space will remain an open area.

"We are planning many sustainable concepts that we are hoping the student body will enjoy, including edible plantings and casual lounge spaces," Thorne said. "Demolition and re-establishment of the site will be completed within the next several months."

To contact the news editor, email ganeewsed@georgiasouthern.edu

Page designed by Margarita Suarez

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20. Kind of house
22. Referee
23. Blue-pencil
24. Affirm
26. Part of MGM
27. Balsam of Peru
31. Children's game
32. Established
33. Dispatch boat
35. Southpaw
37. Court call
42. Ship part
44. Affirm
47. Caravan maker
48. Quilting party
49. A billion years
51. Lowly worker
52. Whiskey cocktail
53. Author John _
56. Author John _
57. Commute option
58. Mother's sister's kid
63. Kind of exam
64. Bubble of proof
66. Supermodel

Down
1. Prefix with physical
4. Slave
7. Immortality
8. Complain
9. Thoroughfare
10. Eat away
11. De Mille was one
12. Reason to cram
14. Knock about
21. Louisville Slugger
25. Waste time
26. Excited, with "up"
27. Mulberry bark
28. Face shape
29. Shaffer's call
30. Can neighbor
32. Bow's pen
34. Willow twig
36. Crook
37. Miner's quest
38. Therefore
39. New driver, typically
41. "To Autumn," e.g.
43. Drench
44. Salve time
48. Course jute fabric
49. Mother Teresa, for one
52. Ramee's wrap
53. Emulate Cicero
54. Early time
55. Mailed
56. Booster's pride
57. Western tie
59. Aster Newman
60. Sacred
61. Arab ruler
62. Sponge off
63. Tendril Cecro
64. D.C. V.I.P.
Living in the small town of Statesboro can sometimes give the feeling like there's not enough to do. Many students want more to do on the weekends while staying close to campus. If you feel this way, than fret not. Statesboro offers the opportunity to experience truly unique places that are only known by few, like the Blackwater Preserve.

Residing just off of Pulaski Highway, Blackwater Preserve is a beautiful and historic property of approximately 420 acres, only about six miles away from Georgia Southern's campus. The property, which is backed by water and a cypress swamp, hosts a vast and unique ecosystem that's enjoyable to observe and allows many activities like canoeing, kayaking, fishing, bird watching, hunting and camping.

When you enter the grounds of Blackwater, you are immediately greeted by the calming sound of running water. This sound is accompanied by the sweet smell of ancient Cypress trees, and the gleaming reflection of the sun bouncing brightly off of the gentle water. With all of your senses pleased by the accumulation of these natural beauties, you can't help but feel refreshed.

Christopher Stephens, a junior business and linguistics major from Druid Hills and Lindsey Sawyer, a sophomore chemistry major from Roswell, recently had their first experience at Blackwater.

"We got out there early in the morning," Stephens said. "We got some canoes and some kayaks and just had a great time out on the water."
The Cypress-filled swamps are only part of the many natural sceneries visitors can enjoy at the Blackwater Preserve. Guests can also utilize the provided camping and hunting grounds.

"I didn't know what to expect," Sawyer said, "I had no idea something that amazing was so close to Statesboro."

Sawyer went on to explain what she meant by "amazing" but she was almost at a loss for words.

"It was just so peaceful and serene and you feel like you're in your own world when you're there. It's so hard to describe. You just have to go see it for yourself," Sawyer said.

Dating back to the earlier part of the 19th century, the property was originally established as a grist mill, which was a site for grinding grain. It was originally known as McElveen Pond until it was purchased in 1960 by Strickland Holloway Sr., grandfather of the current owner, Strickland Holloway III. After obtaining ownership, the Holloway family decided to allow public access to the grounds for the first time since its existence, and changed the name to "Blackwater Preserve". This was to show the public that the property was not only something the Holloway family wanted to share as a place for recreation, but also share in preserving the ecosystem that sustains it.

"When my dad bought the property back in the 1960s we wanted to open it up to the public more so they could go fishing, canoeing, kayaking, hunting and camping and just enjoy the beautiful nature that we have here," Strickland Holloway Jr., the current marketing and sales director of Blackwater, said. "We want people to come out to explore and enjoy it, but at the same time preserve it."

Blackwater Preserve currently offers memberships to the public, wherein one can pay a one time fee to gain full access to the grounds at any time for a year. The Holloways decided to establish a membership system in order to create a community of people to go and enjoy the grounds whenever they wanted and witness how their fee aids to the preservation and even expansion to the property and unique ecosystem.

"By being a member, or by coming out and partaking in one of the activities we have to offer, will provide us with the money to continue to preserve the property but also help in adding to it," Holloway said.

Holloway believes that with proper funding, they will be able to build a lodge for private parties, cabins for hunters and campers, and eventually a museum to display the antique farming tools that were once actually operated in the original grist mill.

Holloway Jr. encourages Georgia Southern students to come out and enjoy Blackwater. He explained that they now offer semester memberships to students at a fee of $60, or a daily rate to those who want to explore Blackwater for a day, just to see what it's about.

Daily rates vary depending on which activity you want to do.

"I want Blackwater to be a home away from home for students. A place where students can feel safe and enjoy on a daily basis without spending a lot of money," Holloway said.

For more information, visit www.blackwaterpreserve.com.

Lindsey Sawyer
sophomore chemistry major

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Page designed by Rebecca Davis
To contact the features editor, email gaartsandent@georgiasouthern.edu
Los Cabos native finds his place at Georgia Southern

Eddie Landin has begun the season with four wins at the third singles spot. The Eagles will play again this weekend in Conway, S.C.

The Journey

International players, such as Landin, have a number of reasons for playing college tennis in the United States. One of the primary ones is opportunity. Landin saw GSU as a chance to be part of a new level of competition. This was going to be a new part of his life that he wanted to try out.

"Where I live, in Mexico, there wasn't that much tennis level," Landin said. "When I reached 13 years old, there was no one to play tennis with. I had to travel to different cities, look for tennis academies and so on. Since I was 13, I left my parents in order to keep improving. Even met a lot of people all around the world. In Mexico, I was in Canada for two years out here in the states."

From such a young age, Landin has traveled across the world. He has been in the pursuit to grow stronger as a player and become better at the sport of tennis. Even now in college, the traveling does not stop. It is part of why Landin loves the sport and why he is thankful for being here.

"For me, it has been a journey. A big journey."

The Difference

Hailing from Los Cabos, Mexico, Landin has made tennis a major part of his life. To him, the sport is more than tennis. Having come here to Georgia Southern, he has learned a lot about himself and the way college operates.

It is a team sport.

"Before, coming to college, the thing that was special about tennis is that you only depend on yourself," Landin said. "You don't have to depend on someone. But now that you're in college, it's a team thing. Everyone has to be on board and giving it their best."

When a player finds themselves reaching that level of understanding, the sport changes. It becomes about time and effort. Someone is no longer grinding for individual success; he is now deciding to work harder for the benefit of everyone else on the team.

"You have to put a lot of time in the sport," Landin said. "I feel that, with tennis, there's so many things that you can improve on. There's so many things that you have to do in order to get better. If you really like the sport, you are set. If you don't like the sport, it's going to take so much time out of you. It's so demanding sometimes."

The Difference

Having come here to Southern, there have been experiences Landin never would have anticipated. The normal college tennis match is much different than any other normal tennis match. It is typically livelier with a much louder crowd. Landin has learned to like how college tennis works and the idea that every match on that day matters to team success.

"The college atmosphere; the team atmosphere; the people at GSU sometimes," Landin said. "It's all new to you. There's no one really there for you. When you are on a team, you have each other's backs. You are training your partner right next to you on the next court. The intensity is much greater."

The concept of teamwork drives players like Landin forward. It's likewise whether he finds himself playing at home or away.

"It's funny sometimes. Say if you are playing in the match and you are visiting another university. You make not very good calls, but not intentionally. All the crowd goes to you and starts saying stuff to you. You are just playing around with everyone: the crowd, the opponent, everyone."

In contrast to what Landin said, with the team counting on each individual player's success, the pressure is much more. To clinch a match means to be the deciding victor. It means obtaining that 4th point that will give the team the win.

"You get way more nervous, especially if you have to clinch. Those have been one of my toughest moments," Landin said.

"In doubles last year, I used to play with former senior Kyle Hoffman. We had several matches played in doubles together. We were at the point where we were at the last court playing. We had to clinch for that point. Some moments, we did it right and we got the clinch. Sometimes, it was the other way around."

The Future

After college tennis, players either continue with the sport or they find themselves returning to a normal life. It varies, but Landin has an idea of what he wants already.

"I'm thinking of being an assistant coach so I can also do my masters and get more education," Landin said.

"Maybe I would like to try the pro tour for one year, two years to travel around and everything. Knowing that now I have my degree, I can do a little bit of traveling, working with people and playing in tournaments. Otherwise, I think I'll go back home. I'm a hotel management major and where I live in Mexico, it's very touristy. That'll be another plan."

As a sophomore right now, there are still a few years left for Landin's career, fully possible. He has already made it this far; however, and he is always looking to improve. Tennis has done a lot for his life. The journey is only reaching its halfway point for his college career. There is still a lot to be said before it's over and Landin has no expectations of slowing down before this journey ends.

GSU will be competing against North Carolina Central and Coastal Carolina the weekend. Their first home match of the season will be at the Wallis Tennis Center next Friday on Feb. 26.
The Eagles beat Troy and fell to South Alabama this past weekend. Junior Angel McGowan notched her 900th career point against the Trojans.

**BY CHRIS SMITH**
The George-Anne staff

The Eagles went on a two-game road trip playing Troy on Thursday and the University of South Alabama on Saturday. They lost both games, narrowly losing to Troy 68-84 and South Alabama 77-80, dropping the season conference record to 7-7. They begin a four-game homestand Thursday night against Arkansas State.

**By Marquis Williams**
Georgia Southern Staff

The Georgia Southern Eagles split a pair of road games last week, ending their bid for five straight wins. The Eagles defeated the Troy Trojans last Thursday 77-71 sweeping the season series, but fell to South Alabama 80-76, dropping the season series against them. They are now 11-13 overall and 7-7 in conference play this season with six more games left in the season before the Sun Belt Tournament in New Orleans.

In the win against Troy, Tookie Brown led the Eagles with 23 points, while Mike Hughes had 25 points, eight rebounds, and five assists. With six games remaining on their schedule, the Eagles are faced with a tough task of facing Arkansas State, Arkansas Little Rock, Georgia State and Appalachian State in their next four games.

In the Eagles lone loss in the past five games the Eagles only shot 36 percent from the field as well as giving up 54 percent from the field to the Jaguars. Jake Allsmiller had a career high 29 points with eight three's made in the game and Mike Hughes had 25 points, eight rebounds, and five assists. In the Eagles lone loss these games are winnable, the Eagles have beaten the Trojans have shown they can be beaten. The Trojans lost to Louisiana-Monroe last week 89-82 and have lost to Arkansas State, two teams the Eagles have beaten. To win these games, the Eagles have to perform well offensively and show their toughness and tenacity on the defensive end.
Former NL MVP Terry Pendleton visits baseball team

The former Braves third baseman spoke to the baseball team last Thursday night. The Eagles play their first game this Friday in Athens.

BY KEVIN KENEELY
The George-Anne staff

Every year the Georgia Southern baseball team brings in a former All-Star member of the Atlanta Braves to come down and speak to the team. This year they brought in former third baseman and current first base coach Terry Pendleton, who spoke with the team last Thursday.

In the past, the program has been able to bring in former Braves like Dale Murphy, Chipper Jones, John Smoltz and Ned Yost. Head coach Rodney Hennon was really excited to have Mr. Pendleton speak with the team and he said the players gave him their utmost attention.

His message to the players was all about having a strong mindset and working hard.

"It's about going out and playing hard, giving it all you got everyday, being able to face your teammates everyday, knowing that each one of you in the clubhouse battle with each other and for each other and that you gave it your all, you left everything out on the baseball field today or everyday," Pendleton said.

Pendleton believes that experience is the best teacher and that he feels a connection with these players when he speaks because he has been where they are now.

"A lot of them are trying to get to the big leagues," Pendleton said. "I know that they love the game and that's the reason they play it and so I have been in their shoes before so it's easier for me to speak on it because I've lived it.

Pendleton played in Major League Baseball (MLB) for 15 seasons, jumping around the league for a while, playing with the Cardinals, Braves, Marlins, Reds, and Royals.

He is a one time All-Star, one time NL MVP, three time Gold Glove winner and one time NL batting champion.

During his time as a Braves member, he played in three World Series with them, 1991, 1992, and 1996. Unfortunately the Braves never won the World Series during Pendleton's time with the team.

After his playing career ended, he became the hitting coach for the Atlanta Braves from late 2001-2010, and has since been with the team as the first base coach.

Pendleton has been an outstanding coach for the Atlanta Braves from late 2001-2010, and has since been with the team as the first base coach.

"Believe me from a coaching standpoint, I'd go back and be the player any day," Pendleton said.

Before Pendleton was a player or a coach, he was simply just a fan of the game. His favorite player growing up was Hank Aaron, saying back in his time Hank Aaron "was the man."
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