Religious Freedom Bill on the path to becoming law

WVGS Radio
Classic media outlet continues to serve GSU students

Exclusive interview with new GSU football head coach

TYSON SUMMERS

Pages 14 & 15
BEFORE YOU SEE IT: CREED REVIEW

Shadows of the past can make or break a person. If one focuses so much on the past, they can have no future. This is the core of Creed both in a plot standpoint and as an actual film. Creed stars Michael B. Jordan as Adonis Creed and Sylvester Stallone as Rocky Balboa. Both characters are trying to overcome what happened in their past lives. Rocky is fighting the personal struggle of having no family and Creed is fighting the personal struggle of never knowing his family. These two issues are continuously brought up and when the first boxing scene happens the punches have a bigger impact (especially with it being in one take).

In reference to Creed, living in the shadow of the series of Rocky, it is on a narrow line and successfully becomes its own entity. Creed is not a Rocky film, but instead a film that has Rocky in it. It does use similar plot elements as previous films in the series, more specifically Rocky 1 and Rocky 3. However, a person could see this movie and not worry about the previous films, because this movie simultaneously accepts its shadow and stands out from it.

From the whispers of the original score and the classic shots of Philadelphia, Creed is a must see movie not just for Rocky fans but for fans of any story with a believable hero. Creed is not only worth paying for, but worth buying the movie once you leave the Union Theater.

4.5 AMERICAN SHORTS OUT OF 5

Krispy Kreme coming to Statesboro

Krispy Kreme will soon make a permanent home in Statesboro. A definite time frame has not been set, but Statesboro residents and Georgia Southern students can expect construction in the coming months, with a tentative fall opening.

The new restaurant will be located next to Taco Bell, taking the place of the temporary TitleMax building. The official address is 190 Northside Drive East.

The first 100 people in line for a Krispy Kreme grand opening will receive free donuts for a year. Krispy Kreme will join Daylight Donuts and Dunkin Donuts currently in Statesboro, but will invade a corridor in Statesboro that is particularly void of the sweet treats.

For more information about Krispy Kreme and its grand opening procedures, visit www.krispykreme.com/about/Grand-Openings.

The George-Anne regrets this error.

In the article "GSU chapter loses members following investigation" in the March 1 issue, there was a misquoting. The quote read as "One way that we support that experience is through the membership review process, wherein we identify members who are willing to live up to their standards." It should have been "our standards." The George-Anne regrets this error.

Be sure to tune in every Friday to the Inner Circle podcast, where we discuss film, music and the latest entertainment trends!
College students armed to the teeth

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

This year and last have been filled with controversial topics in politics both nationally and state-wide. Recently, the Georgia State Government has pushed forward a bill that will make it legal for an individual, 21 or older, to carry a loaded firearm on campus with a concealed carry permit. Personally, this idea of a college full of guns is terrifying in a large amount of ways.

House Bill 899 states that the only areas on a campus that you would not be permitted to bring your gun would be dormitories, fraternity and sorority houses and sporting events. The idea of being anywhere in a university building with individuals who have no training or safety knowledge of a firearm makes me feel unsafe. I am aware that a large group of people that handle guns do know the proper way to use them but things can go wrong.

According to the Gun Violence Archive, in 2016, mind you it is only March, there have already been 413 accidental shootings. With an increase of gun sales at the beginning of the year, the amount of shootings overall is expected to increase.

I am all for exercising your right to bear arms because I come from a family that owns multiple guns. My father was in the military for 25 years and was trained to respect a firearm. He in turn trained me the safety aspects of firing a weapon. With that in mind, I do not believe that it would be a smart idea to bring guns into a community with individuals who are, in my opinion, not in the right frame of mind to carry a gun around others.

If this bill is passed, I believe that the process for receiving the permit and receiving a gun in general needs to be more comprehensive. Furthermore, the individuals that are getting the permits need to go through a safety course and screening prior to receiving it.

Our student body is directly affected by the passing of this law and our students should voice their opinions throughout the proper forums. Many individuals wanted to voice their opinion, and how they believed it would affect them over all.

Should students be able to carry guns on campus?

"No. Because I feel like it is a safety hazard especially when they don't have to go through any training. It's not safe because anyone could take out their gun at anytime just to scare somebody even if they're just playing. They should not be allowed to do that."

Sasha Philip senior multimedia journalism major

"No. Because I feel like it is a safety hazard especially when they don't have to go through any training. It's not safe because anyone could take out their gun at anytime just to scare somebody even if they're just playing. They should not be allowed to do that."

Simone Furlough junior fashion apparel design major

"I don't believe so. Simply because supplying more guns that's gonna solve the problem. The problem we have is in a mental mental problems issue. If you really look at the shootings that have been going on at schools, it's been caused by mental problems and by trying giving everybody a gun we are simply giving them easy access to a weapon."

Chase Ledbetter junior sports management major
The George-Anne 3/3/16 Crossword

Across
1 Boar's mate
4 "Bolero" composer
9 Make a scene?
12 Clearasil target
13 La Scala offering
14 Shaving stuff
16 Audition
17 Building addition
18 Not fooled by
19 Like a Mobius strip
21 Motion sickness
23 Porky's love
24 Fruit-flavored dessert
25 Old White House nickname
26 Enumerate
27 de guerre
30 Polish's partner
33 Hot sauce
34 Broke bread
35 Trunks
37 Hall of Famer Mel
38 Hindu princesses
39 Calendar abbr.
40 Calendar abbr.
41 Short erect tails
44 Force unit
45 Like some losers
46 Scrutiny
47 Singer DiFranco
48 Like some drinks
49 Hamlin's Oop
50 Procrastinator's word
51 Sponge
52 Wrapped up
53 Poverty
54 Priest's robe
55 "Beetle Bailey" creator Walker
56 Farm building
57 Hang loose
58 Furious
59 Caviar

Down
1 Public to-do
2 Early stage
3 Diving apparel
4 Band follower
5 Sleeper's woe
6 Peddle
7 "... he drove out of sight"
8 Negligence
9 Run ___ of (violate)
10 Harmonic
11 London's Gallery
12 Mounted on
15 Bygone bird
20 Squid's squirt
21 Illustration
22 Hatching point?
23 Runs out on
26 Starbucks serving
28 Suffices with psych.
29 Interlock
30 Solo
31 Bishop of Rome
32 Imperfect
33 Whiskey drinks
36 Magazine release
39 Runway
42 Profiscience
43 Just
47 Singer DiFranco
48 Like some losers
49 Hamlin's Oop
50 Procrastinator's word
51 Sponge
52 Wrapped up
53 Poverty
54 Priest's robe
55 "Beetle Bailey" creator Walker
56 Farm building
57 Hang loose
58 Furious
59 Caviar

MISCELLANY

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Poetry
Short fiction & nonfiction
Song lyrics
Photography
Paintings
Graphic design
Sculpture

To contact the creative manager, email prodmgmrgsouthern.
Religious Freedom bill passes through Ga. Senate

BY BAILEY ADDOCK AND GEORGE ANDERSON
The George-Anne staff and contributor

“The First Amendment Defense Act” was passed by the Georgia Senate recently, which prevents the government from discriminating against any person or organization based on their views about marriage.

This bill prohibits any federal agency from denying tax exemptions for organizations that have religious or moral convictions against same-sex marriage. This bill has been passed on the grounds that it is in defense of the First Amendment, hence, “The First Amendment Defense Act.”


The Georgia Senate passed the state version of the bill on Friday, Feb 19, 2016 in a 38-14 vote, after it passed the House in a 161-0 vote earlier in February. However, the Senate amended the bill by adding the Pastor Protection Act, which would allow religious leaders to decline to perform same-sex marriages, according to CNN.

This bill has been passed on the grounds that it is in defense of the First Amendment, hence, “The First Amendment Defense Act.” The First Amendment gives all citizens freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly, and petition. The argument in favor of the bill is that it is a religious freedom to refuse service to customers or clients based on sexual identity or orientation.

“Our bill ensures that the federal government does not penalize Americans for following religious belief or moral convictions on traditional marriage,” Labrador said in a press release.

Naturally, the introduction of this bill has raised concern among members of the LGBT community and its supporters.

“With this bill being introduced, I kind of feel like it’s pretty much opening the doorway to people to start being even more malicious and vicious towards the LGBT community,” Latane Brackett, senior international trade major and president of the Gay-Straight Alliance at Georgia Southern, said.

Bracket addressed the economic side of the situation as well as voicing his opinion that there may be a deeper, possibly business and money-driven side to the issue.

Alvaro Smith, junior anthropology major, understands how religious organizations could benefit from the bill, but feels businesses shouldn’t be allowed to deny service.

“It is if it is a religious organization it makes perfect sense to tell them no you can’t [be served here] because of my religion because gay marriage does reflect in some religious scriptures... but for a regular business you can not say ‘no’ we are not going to accept you because of your sexual orientation or sexual beliefs that you practice in the comfort of your home with your partner.” Smith said.

The House of Representatives will vote in favor of the bill and send it to Gov. Nathan Deal to sign into law or send it back to the Senate where it will be passed over to a committee made up of members of both houses.

“Costumers walk out of a business after being denied service. Under the bill, businesses are permitted to deny service based on sexual orientation.”

Page designed by Margarita Suarez To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu
GSU to host political experts at Hanner

BY CHYNA JAMES AND MARQUIETTA GREEN
The George-Anne

Journalists Mara Liasson, Ted Koppel and Eugene Robinson will be hosting a panel about the upcoming U.S. Presidential election on March 23 at 7 p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse.

The three speakers will educate students and guests on current political moods and opinions for successful voting.

The event’s sponsor, Jody Kennedy, Associate Director of the Leadership and Community Engagement Office, is very hopeful about the event.

“We are very excited about the Leadership Lecture Series event because it is something different than our past events. We are currently in the midst of an exciting election year, and we are hoping the panel we have put together will educate students and guests on our current political climate,” Kennedy said.

“These events are important to expose our community to different thoughts, ideas, and opinions. From a journalist’s perspective, our panel of speakers have been through a number of world events and we can easily learn from their leadership experiences.”

A long time editor for the Washington Post, Robinson, has been recognized for his storytelling ability according to the Washington Speakers Bureau. He won the Pulitzer Prize for his commentary on the 2008 presidential race that resulted in the election of America’s first African-American president. He is currently part of the Pulitzer Prize Board, a member of the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) and an inductee of the NABJ Hall of Fame.

Liasson is the national political correspondent for NPR and contributor to FOX News Channel, according to the Washington Speakers Bureau. She serves as a panelist on Special Report with Bret Baier and FOX News Sunday, a public affairs program that airs nationwide every Sunday Morning. She has won many awards for her reporting, including the White House Correspondents’ Association Matthew Winkler Award” in 1994, 1995 and 1997.

Koppel, the longest serving news anchor in U.S. broadcast history, according to the Washington Speakers Bureau, has covered many events such as Barry Goldwater’s presidential campaign in 1964 and Richard Nixon’s presidential campaign in 1968. He has been awarded several times throughout his career.

Todd Deal, PhD., Executive Director and Leadership Studies professor, feels like it’s important for students to listen to these speakers because of how interesting this presidential election has been.

“We want students to walk away from the event with thoughts to consider and opinions to critically assess, to allow them to vote as informed citizens,” Deal said.

“The three panelist have been deeply involved in presidential campaigns and covering politics for many years. Their current perspective on the presidential race is expected to provide a unique insight for students to consider as they prepare to go to the vote in the 2016 elections.”

Some students hold strong opinions about the event and feel the university should be talking about other issues affecting students rather than the elections.

“We should be talking about more current issues that are more important like guns on campus,” Major Woodall, President of Georgia’s chapter of the NAACP Youth & College Division and political science major, said.

Although some students disagree with the event, others feel it’s important to be exposed to other political views for the upcoming elections.

“I do plan to attend the event and I hope to gain a lot of information from the speakers about many political views not just in Statesboro, but in other areas as well.” Ashley Brown, sophomore writing and logistics major, said.

Tickets are required and will be available for distribution starting on Feb. 29 through March 8 for students. Faculty and staff ticket pick-up will be March 3 through March 8. While the community can pickup tickets on March 7 and March 8 at the Hanner Fieldhouse box office from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Faculty, staff, and students will need to present their Eagle ID at the time of ticket pick-up at the Office of Leadership and Community Engagement in the Russell Union room 1056 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will be free and open to the public.
GSU professors recognized with national awards

BY ERIN MCGUINESS AND TAISHA WHITE

Three Georgia Southern professors have recently been recognized for their professional work in the past few months.

Each professor has been presented a variety of awards for their contributions to academia, both on and off GSU’s campus.

Craig Roell, Ph. D., historian of economic business and advertising at GSU, was the recipient of the Sons of the Republic of Texas 2015 La Bahia Award for his book, “Matamoros And The Texas Revolution,” which discusses the historical significance of the Texas Revolution.

The Texas native has also written five other publications during his professional career. His book subjects range from presidential bibliographies to piano works.

When commenting with his students at GSU, Roell suggest a sneaky approach.

“I feel them into realizing that history isn’t a bunch of facts and dates that you have to memorize. It’s really about life,” Roell said.

Roell also goes into how his attitude in the classroom determines the mood of the students.

“If you’re not enthusiastic about what you’re teaching, how do you expect others to be enthusiastic about the subject?” Roell said.

Another professor who has received recognition for their contributions outside of GSU is assistant professor Carole Bennett.

Bennett, assistant professor of nursing, contributed a chapter to the textbook, “Global Health Nursing: Narratives from the Field,” which received the American Journal of Nursing (AJN) Book of the Year award for 2015. Her chapter “Resilience and Recovery: Mental Health Care in Post-Conflict Rwanda” speaks on her work on mental health in Rwanda.

In addition, Bennett is one of the founders and primary staff members for the new division in the School of Nursing, Post-Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN to DNP) at GSU.

Sharon Radzyminski, Ph. D., department chair of the School of Nursing, praised Bennett for her chapter contribution, for being committed, highly intelligent and experienced.

“Her real life experiences are unbelievable valuable,” Radzyminski said. “When you have someone that is that good at what they do, and [Bennett] is, the benefit to the students is overwhelming.”

Radzyminski also commented on Bennett’s connection with her students.

“She is a very hands-on educator. You’re not going to find Dr. Bennett behind a wall somewhere. She works really close with them [her students]; she’s really dedicated to them,” Radzyminski said.

While these two professors have been awarded for outstanding work off-campus, there have also been professors awarded for their success on campus as well.

Chris Caplinger, director of First-Year Experience (FYE) and assistant professor of history at GSU, was the one of 10 recipients of the 2016 Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award.

Caplinger believes that FYE is an important course for students that should take when first attending GSU.

“The reason FYE exists, essentially, is because it’s unrealistic to think that students are going to walk on campus and be these fully actualized adults that have got their stuff together completely—it’s the process,” Caplinger said.

Caplinger feels it’s important to maximize the college experience for students.

“I don’t want students just to graduate. I don’t want students just to “survive” Georgia Southern, I want them to “thrive,”” Caplinger said.

Having award winning professors at GSU brings a feeling of importance to students.

First-year graduate clinical psychology major Bridget Barney explains how she believes the award winning professors improve GSU.

“It definitely makes GSU look more distinguished because we have a great teaching faculty that has experience and credibility,” Barney said.

Senior biology major, Elena Rentschler also expressed her excitement for the multiple recognitions GSU professors are receiving.

“It makes me feel happy,” Rentschler said. “It’s good because I want to be able to go to a school with great merit and great professors.”
The radio station at Georgia Southern is located in Sanford Hall. Student-run shows are seen as an opportunity to gain experience and showcase talent in the field.

BY RACHEL KELSO & CARLTON TAYLOR
The George-Anne Staff and Contributor

WVGS 91.9 The Buzz has been serving Georgia Southern's campus for several years now. The radio station began broadcasting in 1974 and was originally located in the Williams Center, but has since moved to Sanford Hall, according to Mikalah Guyton, WVGS station manager and junior film and production major.

The gigantic metal structure outside of the Williams Center is not only for visual appeal. It's the antenna that allows the on-campus radio station to work its magic through the airwaves of Eagle Nation.

With 12 different genres of music ranging from 90's throwbacks and top-40 hits to country and hip-hop, the radio station provides entertainment for all students, faculty and staff, no matter their musical preference.

"It's really hard to find one channel that plays everything," Tatyana Cray, freshman business major, said. "It's a great thing that [The Buzz] provides more variety of music."

The Buzz is not just for music either. There are currently 27 shows that play throughout a week's span. According to Guyton, the radio always tries to be involved with the community. They can promote events for free and have live broadcasts on-campus or off-campus events.

"I feel like [students] should know it's a good way to know what's going on on-campus," Chris Zenn, a radio co-host for the 'Chris and Aaron Show', said.

Zenn, a sophomore double-major in art and fashion, along with Aaron Keenan, a sophomore multimedia communications major, have both benefited from their experiences with the radio station. As co-hosts of the "Chris and Aaron Show," they primarily talk about pop culture and play rap music.

Starting off as YouTube personalities, Zenn and Keenan have been able to rebrand themselves by tying their YouTube channel in with their Monday night radio show.

"It helps you become more comfortable with speaking, telling how you feel and working with other people," Zenn said.

Getting involved is not as hard as you may think. If you are interested in broadcasting or radio, then The Buzz is for you. Show applications open during the first month of each semester to any faculty member or student.

For more information, check out 91.9's website, http://919thebuzz.wix.com/thebuzz, or stop by on the first floor of Sanford Hall.

To contact the sports editor, email gasports@georgiasouthern.edu

Page designed by Rebecca Davis
Meg Made It: THAI PASTA SALAD

BY MEG ELWOOD

Put the knife and chopping skills to work with this easily addictive recipe for those who enjoy a little heat when they eat.

It is a bit time consuming, with total prep time being about an hour, but the final outcome is worth it.

Disclaimer: This dish contains nuts, those with a peanut allergy should refrain from adding them.

Begin with cooking one pound of capellini or fettuccine in a large stock pot.

There are two parts to this dish, the chopped contents and the dressing.

**Chopped:**
1 large cucumber
3/4 cups green onions
3/4 cups cilantro
3/4 cups chopped peanuts

**Dressing:**
3/4 cups rice vinegar
1/2 cup soy sauce
1 Tbsp red pepper flakes
1 Tbsp sugar
2 Tbsp ginger
2 Tbsp sesame oil
2 cloves garlic

**STEP ONE**
Peel skin off of the ginger root with a knife or peeler.
Chop ginger and garlic finely or press in a mincer.
Add to small mixing bowl.

**STEP TWO**
Combine all ingredients together in mixing bowl and whisk.

**STEP THREE**
Pull fresh cilantro leaves from the stems. Create a nice fluffy pile about the size of a fist.
Gather together with one hand and chop thinly using a saw motion. It's ok to press on the leaves in your hand to hold them down, just try not to completely squish them.
Add to mixing bowl.

**STEP FOUR**
This is the most time consuming step of the recipe.
Chop each peanut in half. Yes, each nut.
If a food processor or magic bullet is available, give a few pulses to lightly blend.
Be cautious of over-processing, the nuts should not be a pulp or turn into peanut butter.
Add to mixing bowl.

By pouring chopped ingredients and sauce into the large stock pot containing the pasta, mix together and serve or chill in the fridge for 30 mins before serving. Enjoy for any occasion.

**VIEW THE VIDEO PROCESS ON WWW.THEGEORGEANNE.COM/MULTIMEDIA**
Choose Southern for Summer! On campus or online, smaller classes and shorter terms help you graduate on time. Get ahead with more than 300 online courses, and 100+ summer jobs available for students taking summer classes. Register today! Deadline is April 1, 2016. Visit: Georgiasouthern.edu/summer

MARCH 3RD

Organization Leadership Consultant Applications Open
Time: deadline March 7th
The Office of Student Activities invites student leaders to apply for our new Organization Leadership Consultant (OLC) position.
Applications will be available on the OSA MyInvolvement page and open to the public. Students please bring your Eagle ID. If you need assistance, related to access for this event please email upb@georgiasouthern.edu
Contact information: Cara Wood
www.georgiasouthern.edu

MARCH 7TH

UPB Presents: UnPlugged - Luck of the Irish
Time: Thursday, March 3rd 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Location: Williams Center Multipurpose Room
The University Programming Board has changed the look of Thursday nights in the Boro! Our monthly Unplugged series offers a diverse, no-cover/low-charge environment for students to enjoy live music and beverages while enjoying a variety of entertainment acts, provided by Georgia Southern’s most talented. Faculty/Staff/students, do you have a special talent that you’d like to share with the campus? Click here to register to perform! (You must be logged in to MyInvolvement to register.) This event is free and open to the public. Students please bring your Eagle ID. If you need assistance, related to access for the event please email upb@georgiasouthern.edu
Contact information: Cara Wood
cw@georgiasouthern.edu

MARCH 9TH

Thinking Differently about Diversity, Inclusion, and Fairness!
Time: Wednesday, March 9th from 5:30 - 7:00 PM
Locations: Centennial Place 2101
The Multicultural Student Center will be hosting a Think DIF! Workshop where we will be unpacking topics related to social justice and identity. Make sure you don't miss the next workshop! If you are planning to attend please RSVP at tiny.cc/thinkright by March 8th at 5 PM. We look forward to your participation!

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK
The Weekly Buzz is sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Dear Kat,

I'm really having trouble getting along with one of my coworkers. Last week, she didn't get any of her work done, so I had to do it all by myself. I'm so stressed.

Sincerely,
Undercover Ginger

Dear Kat,

"Don't you hate when people can't get their work done?" I type as a red bar on the top of my screen lets me know that "Kat's Korner" was due yesterday. Seriously, you are in quite the predicament. Work is stressful enough without having to add someone else's work to your own.

My advice is to sit down and talk with your coworker. Let them know that they are complete disappointment, and that you hate them. Ridicule them in front of your entire office as loudly and as obnoxiously as possible, so everyone knows what a victim you are.

You should start verbally and physically harassing them every chance you get, so they know that they need to get their act together. Seriously, just lock them in the shins if they sit too close to you.

If harassment in the workplace isn't enough, you can start leaving them threatening voicemails and emails as well.

Of course, these suggestions may be a tad bit extreme. The best thing you can do is complain to everyone else as much as possible about how overworked you are because you choose to pick up on your coworkers slack. Only look for the bad in your coworker so you have plenty of things to be angry about when you're watching and live tweeting "The Bachelor" all by your lonesome on Monday nights.

Peace Out,
Kat

Dear Kat,

I'm in college, and I get butterflies when I'm around this boy. I know he's not interested, so I just ignore them. Plus, he's leaving Statesboro soon. What do I do?

Sincerely,
FLIES

Oh Flies,

How can you brush off what may be the truest love you've ever known so easily?

It sounds to me like you need to spend more time with this boy. You say that "you know" he's not interested, but how do you know? You should ask him out. If he says no, cry hysterically and throw a tantrum until he agrees to go out with you or runs away.

If you really care about him, you won't give up on him even if he asks you to leave him alone. Persis. "No" really means "Try Harder."

You could even start insisting that you two are dating. Tell everyone you know, and ask your family to post on his Facebook wall and "welcome him to the family." Take pictures of him when he's not looking and make him your #MCM every Monday. This will surely win him over.

Be sure to invite me to your wedding!

XOXO,
Kat

Disclaimer: Kat's Korner is a satirical advice column and should be no way be taken seriously. My nineteen years of life experience have not given me the wisdom to seriously deal with the life problems of everyday student at Georgia Southern University. GSSU has a Counseling Center that can be reached at (912) 478-5541.

To contact the features editor, email gaartsandent@georgiasouthern.edu

The George-Anne staff

5/9

3/3    BUZZ   ~
WEEKLY     " ," WEEKLY     " ,"
The Eagles are currently on a six-game losing streak heading into tonight's game against ULM. The last game between these two teams came down to the last 15 seconds of regulation when ULM's Deja Cline hit a runner with 0.7 seconds left on the clock to win 50-49. GSU had led by one point down to the final seconds after Patrice Butler knocked down two free throws, but weren't able to close out the game.

With both teams sitting at the bottom of the conference with practically nothing to play for but momentum going into next season, this should be as intense as the first matchup. "We're just talking to them about trying finish on a really positive note and finish feeling good about everything; we're moving forward," GSU head coach Kip Drown said. "We would love to get this two weekend, so that it kind of gives us some motivation to go into the spring with weight lifting, workouts and going into the summer."

With GSU leading scorer Angel McGowan being injured last game versus App State, Drown will be looking for guard Alexis Sams to continue her aggressive offensive play in order to fill in the scoring gap. Despite the loss to App State, Sams dropped a career high 20 points on 50 percent shooting from the floor. "When Angel went down, I knew I had to try step up to make up for her being out, but also it brings a different dynamic to the whole team. All the coaches have been really confident in me and that makes me feel confident in myself," Sams said.

Going into Saturday's game against UL Lafayette, this challenge GSU needs to motivate them for next year's tournament chase. Suffering a 17 point blowout at home to a future tournament contender, after only being down three points going into the fourth quarter can really sit on a team's mindset. Sams performed relatively well in the last meeting, scoring 12 points off of 5-7 shooting.

"We're still trying get these two wins, being out of the tournament, which kind of makes it a little bit harder to be motivated," Sams said. "At the same time we know that we have another whole year coming up, we got two more games to finish up strong this year. So we really been working hard to play those two games like it's any other game in the season."

Both games will be on the road for the Eagles. McGowan's status is unknown for the next two games.

"She shot today, went through shooting drills, but has not gone through contact. To be honest she looks good moving. We haven't heard anything official," Drown said.

Tonight's matchup against ULM will tip off at 6:15 p.m...
After starting the season as a substitute, Coye Simmons broke into the starting lineup at the beginning of conference play. He has been one of the team's most important players in the second half of the season.

Simmons has started in 17 games this season. He leads the team in rebounds with 5.5 per game.

BY MARKUS WILLIAMS
The George-Anne Staff

Mike Hughes isn't the only player on Georgia Southern from Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
Meet six-foot-eight forward, Coye Simmons. Simmons is a sophomore and has established himself as a key contributor to the Eagles this season. He averages 5.7 points per game and 5.5 rebounds per game and even though his numbers don't jump out, his energy and defense have been his biggest contributions.

His physical frame and athleticism has given him the ability to produce the highlight plays the Eagles have used throughout the latter part of the season.

Coming from the small town of Winston-Salem, Simmons talked about a few key things he noticed as a difference in both places was Statesboro was bigger and you meet a lot more people here.
"He knows being a student-athlete has its ups and downs. He's been balancing his assignments and having good time management skills has been a key focal point in his success as a student. "Trying to get your work done before the due dates and time managing is the hardest thing," Simmons said.

With heart and energy being key contributions to Simmons' game, he has shown hard work pays off. He didn't start off as a regular in the starting lineup, but as the season progressed, he became a well-known name in the GSU community. His game against Georgia State with his highlight block play in the final minute was a big moment for him.
"It felt good, it just really goes to show that hard work really does pay off," Simmons said.
Simmons has said the main thing he's progressed with throughout the season was bringing high energy levels on a consistent basis and learning the plays well enough that they become second nature to him.

As a sophomore, Simmons has two more years of eligibility after this season, so this won't be the last time people will see Coye Simmons.

Some stiff competition. We will get a chance to see pitchers Dixie Raley (6-3) and Kierra Camp (2-4) in action for the Eagles. Camp has an ERA of 3.80 and Raley has an ERA of 3.82.

On Friday, GSU will be hosting the Fighting Hawks of North Dakota. North Dakota is 3-10 on the season, but are coming off of a win against St. Peters.
On Saturday, in back to back games the Eagles will play against North Dakota yet again at 2:30 p.m., followed by a matchup against Harvard at 4:45 p.m. The tournament will be capped off on Sunday when the Eagles play Eastern Kentucky.
GSU is coming off a two game win streak at the Coastal Carolina Invitational against the University of Iowa and Coastal Carolina University. GSU has won six of their last eight games after starting out 1-4. The game against North Dakota on Friday is going to be the first home game for the softball team since the start of the season. This four game home stand will be three only games at home for the next three weeks. This makes these next four games very important games to win.

Play starts on Friday at 2 p.m. with EKU and North Dakota, followed by the Eagles and North Dakota at 4:30 p.m.

THE GEORGE ANNE STAFF
The Next Chapter
Tyson Summers speaks on Family, Football, and GSU traditions

Tyson Summers recently coached at Colorado State University as a defensive coordinator. He brings in over 15 years of coaching experience to the Eagles.

Since its rebirth in 1982, the Georgia Southern University football program has won six national championships, 11 conference championships, 512 total games, and had 11 players formally announced as head coaches. The program will be entering its third year in the FBS this fall, but has already proven itself as an elite team in the Sun Belt. It’s for us to be, on a consistent level we’re aspiring to reach,” Summers said.

“[VanGorder] was an extremely detailed person. He had a way of, from a coaching staff standpoint, really trying to raise the bar for each guy. He was outstanding to me and gave me an opportunity when I was young,” Summers said.

After leaving GSU, Summers landed a job at Alabama at Birmingham, where he eventually worked his way up to co-special teams coordinator in his fifth and final year with the team. He then coached at Central Florida, where he was named defensive coordinator in 2014. He led a unit that ranked in the top-10 in the FBS in total defense, rushing defense, red-zone defense and scoring defense.

His one-year stint as defensive coordinator at Colorado State ended when he received the news from Kleinlein that he had been selected to be the next head coach for GSU. Summers said that his experience with multiple coaches and programs helped mold him into the coach he is today.

“I’ve been blessed in the last 10 years to coach a lot of good players and around a lot of good coaches as well. I think you take a little bit from everybody and try to take the best pieces of everybody you’ve been around and add these things in and try to do it with your own personality,” Summers said.

GSU football is in the midst of a crucial transition period. The program will be entering its third year in the FBS this fall, but has already proven itself as an elite team in the Sun Belt. It’s a time where the team can establish themselves as a perennial powerhouse in the Group of 5 conferences if they continue to perform at the levels they have been in the last two seasons.

Summers will take over a program that’s coming off back-to-back nine win seasons and a pair of historic milestones. The Eagles won the Sun Belt in their first season in the league in 2014, and then won their first bowl game in 2015. He talked about what the next step the Eagles need to take in their ascension to become an elite team, or what Eagle Nation may be hopeful for, a dynasty.

Summers said, “well I think it’s for us to be, on a consistent basis, a team that can be in the top 25 in the country. We have to continue to have sustained success and how can we do that over a 10, 15, 20-year period of time. That’s what we’re looking at.”
Q: Recruiting season just finished up. What can you say about the class and how that process was?

A: I think the big thing that stands out is how our assistant coaches and our staff did. We had three and a half weeks to try and get together a class. We feel good about the players coming in. Not just as football players, but as students and as people too. And that was true.

Q: Do you have thoughts about playing on a turf field and the team going to be practicing on a turf field?

A: I think the big thing you're always looking for is safety. Any decision you're making as a head coach or in a leadership position is what's gonna be best for our players. And safety is first and foremost with any of those things. Obviously we feel like one of the things that can help us certainly are the ideas that when there is rain or is moisture that the turf can protect us with that and protect the grass fields that we have. We certainly don't want to take away from the culture and the background and the history that we have with Eagle Creek, but we certainly feel like having the turf will give us a better chance on those days to use this and it will be advantageous for us.

Q: You've said that the offense will look similar to how's it been. What about Georgia Southern's option offense is so hard to defend?

A: I think the option is certainly a big part of it, but it's really more of what the option brings you. It's the mentality, the toughness and the focus that it brings. It's a little bit of a different type of offense than what you see week-in and week-out for defenses so obviously trying to get prepared for it makes it more difficult. You know, I think it's all the intangibles the option brings. Like I've said the toughness, the mentality and the competition that comes with it.

Q: Spring season is coming up. What are some things you want to get done in this first spring?

A: I think the implementation of both offense and defense. There will be pieces that will look similar to the past, but there will be verbiage, new language. So trying to make sure that piece of it is taken care of when we get done with our 15 days of spring practice. That we walk out of here on each side of the ball as a staff and with our players to be able to feel like we have a good basis and a good ground to where we want to be and what we're going to be. We want to be able to come out of the 15 days with a strong leadership group. Guys that, when the rubber hits the road and when there are tough things going on that we find out who can stand up and who can make plays for us. That's what we're looking for. The competition part and the leadership part.

For our full video interview with Tyson Summers, check thegeorgeanne.com/multimedia

To contact the sports editor, email gasports@georgiasouthern.edu

Page designed by Erin Fortenberry
Dress in the Press
Team Submissions

Dress in the Press
6th Annual Newspaper Dress-Making Competition
Now accepting team applications!

You and three of your friends can create an outfit from recycled student media publications, display it in a fashion show, and win prizes!

Teams of four consist of 1 model and 3 designers. The event will take place on Thursday, March 31st. The theme for this year’s Dress in the Press is Greek Mythology! Each team will be assigned a different character to be the inspiration for their outfit.

Submit team member names, all contact info and any questions you have to Lauren Little, PR Coordinator
ll01932@georgiasouthern.edu

Deadline: March 9th

Election Information Sessions

February 25, 29
March 3, 7
7 pm
RU 2044

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