The George-Anne

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Walk a mile in her shoes

Yearly event raises awareness of sexual assault

Band's nationwide tour brings performance to local venue

The GSU football team begins spring practice today
It is going to be a rainy weekend with scattered thunderstorms Friday through Sunday with temperatures peaking at 86 degrees tomorrow. Any outdoor plans you have this weekend may have to be moved indoors, which means that Easter Egg hunt could be extra tricky this year.

ASK A FEMINIST: OPEN PANEL TODAY

By Johnny Liu

Within the Women’s & Gender Studies concentration at Georgia Southern University lies an interdisciplinary system of knowledge surrounding the dynamics of equality among matters such as gender, sexuality, race, culture and social class. Within the very program are organizations and opportunities educating the GSU community on gender and diversity in such a multicultural universe. One organization in particular, the Georgia Southern National Organization for Women (GSU-NOW), presents Ask a Feminist: An Interactive Panel on Thursday, March 24, 2016 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Room 2047 of the Russell Union. In light of Women’s History Month at GSU, the panel will educate as well as discuss the true meaning of being part of feminism.

“The event is kind of beautiful to me because it’s about having a dialogue with each other,” Rebecca Frost, senior Writing & Linguistics major, said. “We want you to have questions, we want new voices in the conversation.”

For more information, see Page 6.

HOLI FESTIVAL TO SPREAD LOVE AT GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Georgia Southern University will be putting on its own Holi Festival of Colors. The Holi Festival is a celebration traditionally practiced by Hindus and Sikhs. Holi has its origins in ancient Hindu religious traditions. It originates with Hindus in the area of India and Nepal but has spread to being practiced by many non-Hindus across south Asia. More recently the festival has begun to be practiced in Europe and North America in a similar way.

The festival’s main attraction is people throwing colored powders and paints on each other. Coloring one another is seen as expression of love and acceptance. The festival is meant to signify the celebration of love, color, the beginning of spring and originally the triumph of good over evil.

Georgia Southern’s Holi festival will take place outside the dining commons and the University store at 6 p.m. tonight. Attendance is free for all students, as long as you present your eagle ID.

The Circle challenges its staff to each decorate an Easter egg in 3 minutes!

By Chris Carter

PHOTO COURTESY OF THECIRCLEGSU.COM

The Circle challenges its staff to each decorate an Easter egg in 3 minutes!
Should women vote for Hillary Clinton?

CHERYL NUZUM

Nuzum is a junior English and communication major from Snellville, Ga.

Well, that depends. Do you agree with her politics? Do you think that the policies she puts forth, the bills she backs, the statements she makes, align with yours? Does she stand for what you stand for? If the answer is yes – vote for her. If the answer is no – don’t vote for her.

It’s as simple as that. That’s how politics (should) work. Our founding fathers didn’t grant us the right to vote (and women didn’t bust our ass until the 20th century) just to throw it away because of undirected reasoning.

Whether or not you vote for someone should not be determined by their gender. Voting for someone because they are a woman is just as bad as not voting for someone because they are a woman.

Voting for someone because they are a woman is just as bad as not voting for someone because they are a woman.
GSU hosts 4th annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes is one of the largest events on campus. Signups are open until March 31 and men are encouraged to participate.

BY BLAKELEY BARTEE
The George-Anne staff

The annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event will take place at the Russell Union rotunda at Georgia Southern University to raise sexual assault awareness on March 31 at 5 p.m.

The event, sponsored at GSU by the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), University Wellness Program, Health Services, the Multicultural Student Center, Fraternity & Sorority Life and Sexual Assault Student Education (SASE), is an international program that aims to give men an opportunity to walk a mile in a woman’s shoes.

Participants who registered by Feb. 26 will march in a pair of 3-inch heels at Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, which will truly last less than a full mile, according to Suzanne Shurling, graduate assistant for SART and certified victim’s advocate. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Statesboro Regional Sexual Assault Center.

This year, the event’s theme is “Defining Consent,” according to Shurling, who hopes the shocking appearance of the march will help draw attention to the cause.

“When you see a bunch of boys, especially last year when we had half the football team there in their jerseys, and 70-year-old professors, and policemen in their uniforms, marching in heels—students are going to be like, ‘Why are you marching? What’s going on?’ We’re hoping to get the message out that way,” Shurling said.

Shurling said that local DJ Ryan Batts will perform, and food will be supplied from Buffalo Wild Wings and other local vendors.

The event drew approximately 200 participants last year, according to Carmen Gray, senior English major and president of SASE. Gray said that her favorite sexual assault awareness event at GSU is Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.

“I like Walk a Mile, just because it’s hilarious. Guys just don’t know, and they’re like, ‘I’m so sorry that y’all do this,’” Gray said.

While Walk a Mile in Her Shoes is more playful and lighthearted than most sexual assault awareness events, it represents an issue that, according to Jodi Caldwell, GSU counselor and chair of SART, affects everyone.

“I think that sexual violence continues to be one of the largest epidemics in our country, especially on our college campuses. In the last few years, it’s gained a lot of traction in terms of media attention,” Caldwell said. “Unfortunately, I think the cases that typically made it to the media are not necessarily representative of the vast majority of the sexual violence that occurs. I’ve always maintained that sexual violence impacts every single college student, whether we realize it or not.”

According to Shurling, some people hesitate to participate in the event, partly due to the difficulty of walking in high heels.

“For the guys who say the walk is too long and they might hurt their ankles, I encourage them; well, first of all, that’s kind of the point. There are gendered violence differences in our country, and there are experiences that women are going have that men, in general, are not going to be able to understand,” Shurling said. “Even though some victims are men, it’s still a much smaller percentage compared to women. One of the points is learning, metaphorically, the walk that a woman has to go through—the pain, the struggle that we have to go through.”

To contact the news editor, email ganewsed@georgiasouthern.edu
Upcoming speaker to focus on sexual assault awareness

BY TANDRA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

Retaking Our Story: Reframing the Sexual Assault Conversation, hosted by Tim Mousseau, will be coming to the Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, March 29 at 7 p.m.

Drawing upon his own experiences and interactions he has had with support groups, Mousseau aims to make sure people are able to recognize the three types of impacts of sexual assault: define the various terms and actions involved with sexual assault, empower an understanding involved with sexual assault, and that they have rights.

'There are also many other resources on campus that will help students as well,' Brandon Robinson, sophomore mechanical engineering major, said.

Though there won't be any other sexual assault speakers coming to campus soon, Martin hopes that attendees will take away a lot from hearing Mousseau.

The National Organization of Women will be hosting the first annual "Ask a Feminist" interactive panel will be held on Thursday, March 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Russell Union room 2047.

The event will consist of a panel of professionals, as well as students and members of N.O.W. discussing the topic of feminism and answering questions from the attendees.

The event will broaden others on social issues, as well as getting others to be aware of feminism and problems regarding intersectionality.

"I think my question would be, what do you think is the best way to combat someone who thinks that feminism is being dominant in the world, it would be more about females," Lanisha Wilson, junior biology major, said. "I guess people refer to the Bible sometimes or would say that the man is in charge, but it just looks like women trying to make difference instead of being known a less of a man."

The N.O.W believes that the event will broaden others on social issues, as well as getting others to be aware of feminism and problems regarding intersectionality.

Junior chemistry major Kalyn Warren has a specific question she would like answered regarding feminism.

"I think my question would be, what do you think is the best way to combat someone who thinks that feminism is when women want to be better than men," Warren said. "You know sometimes that issue right there can cause a fight, so I would like to see how knowledgeable people would answer that."

The event is free and open to the public.
A piece of Nashville at Dingus Magee's

The Vegabonds will be performing live at Dingus Magee's this Friday. The members from left to right are Richard Fordham, Bryan Harris, Daniel Allen, Paul Bruens and Beau Cooper.

BY CARLTON TAYLOR
The George-Anne contributor

The Vegabonds, a new-age rock band based out of Nashville, Tennessee, will be taking a pit stop at Dingus Magee's this Friday night. They will be bringing the sweet sounds of the Music City to Statesboro on their nationwide tour to promote the release of their fourth album, "What We're Made Of."

According to their online biography, Daniel Allen (lead vocals), Paul Bruens (bass), Richard Fordham (guitar/vocals), Bryan Harris (drums) and Beau Cooper (keys/vocals), relate to their audience by telling their stories of love, growing up and overcoming hardships along their pathway to success.

The Vegabonds began their journey in 2009 as students at Auburn University. Paul Bruens, the bass player for the Vegabonds, said that they want to inspire the Georgia Southern public in the same ways they were inspired as students.

"We all came from a big music background," Bruens said. "[Bryan] and I were in this band together, but our lead singer sucked...Daniel, our current lead singer, was a great singer, but his band was terrible."

The road to creating the band had a few twists and turns. Bruens said that each of the musicians wanted to bring their talents to universities and ended up forming two different groups. It wasn't until later that the two groups merged together, leaving some of the previous members behind, to form the Vegabonds.

"We grabbed the best vocalists and backing band in town," Bruens said.

Once the group found each other and their sound, they were able to become one of Auburn's most prominent groups and even gained European album sales as seniors in college. They have since been touring the country and performing at different venues and festivals.

"The Vegabonds' sound fits our area well," Will Bridwell, the owner of AirBound Entertainment, the local booking company presenting the Vegabonds, said. "They have flares of country, alternative, and blues."

Bridwell further explained that this performance serves as a pre-show for "The Major Rager," a musical experience that will be taking place in the city of Augusta next month.

"I've never heard of [The Vegabonds] but I am actually excited. There's a first-time for everything. I believe that having performers who started out in a college town like ours is inspiring," Veronika Snuggs, a sophomore education student and music lover, said.

For more information about the Vegabonds, check out their website at themegabonds.com. You can also like and follow them on Facebook and Twitter.
Apply for Student Support Services!

Student Support Services (SSS) is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Education that 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. For more information please visit the SSS website at https://www.georgiasouthern.edu/sss. Applications are currently available under the "Apply" tab. If you have any questions, please contact us at (912) 478-8746 or 478-806-3588.

University Conduct Board Applications

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As part of our mission, the Office of Student Conduct aims to "uphold the academic and behavioral standards of the University by addressing violations of the Student Conduct Code in a fair and consistent manner.

Our University Conduct Board members assist us in this process. Questions? Call the Office of Student Conduct at (912) 478-5204 or visit us in Russell Union, room 2022.

Student Conduct: V.A.L.U.E.S. Photo Contest!

Photo Contest Submissions OPEN NOW!!

Do you know your CU’s V.A.L.U.E.S. (Voices, Accountability, Lasting Traditions, Ethics, and Universal Standards)? Join us in promoting productive citizens with an informed set of ethics and community standards, and to create an environment of respect and civility. This is your chance to show us your V.A.L.U.E.S. Find out what you think represents each value and take a photo. Each value has its own submission date so be sure to submit your photo before the deadline for a chance to win some GREAT prizes!

Our community is UNITED in Celebrating Diversity in all its varied forms. Show us how you capture this value! And something that you think represents V.A.L.U.E.S. and take a photo. "Submit your photo with it to one of these three places and make sure to include your contact information. Email studentconduct@georgiasouthern.edu.

Contact Information:

Kristen VanNoord
Kvannoord@georgiasouthern.edu

Facebook: CU Office of Student Conduct
Twitter: @GSUConduct

MARCH 29TH

SOLD Series - Transitioning Your Organization

Presenters: Dr. Kerry Greenstein

Time: Tuesday, March 29th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Location: Nicolson-Lone Assembly Hall Room 1915

This session will help students learn how to identify the future leaders of their organization. It will also discuss ways to mentor and properly train them to take on leadership roles in the future.

Contact Information: Kristen VanNoord
Kvannoord@georgiasouthern.edu

MARCH 30TH

UPB Canoe Race

Time: Wednesday, March 30th, 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Location: Lake Ruby (beside Lakeside Dining)

This event is a "canoe" race for students to raise money for our student organization. The event will consist of a short course in the lake with multiple stops to raise money. The event will also have a "race" to see who can raise the most money.

Contact Information: UPB@georgiasouthern.edu

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

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The Georgia Southern football team is returning to the gridiron for the first time since their 58-27 win over Bowling Green in the GoDaddy Bowl on Dec. 23, 2015. Spring practice officially kicks off this afternoon and it will be the first time newly appointed head coach Tywan Summers and his staff will be on the field with the team. He and the rest of the staff have been playing catch up this offseason with both recruiting future players and getting to know the returning players. Summers said everyone is ready to get back on the field and get to work.

"It's what we've been looking forward to for the last couple months," Summers said. "When we come out of spring, we want to know who the guys that we can trust are. We are certainly looking for leadership in everything, that we're doing and we're trying to build character and build toughness."

The Eagles have an almost entirely new coaching staff for the 2016 season. Three of the big new hires are Co-Offensive Coordinators David Dean and Rance Gillespie and Defensive Coordinator Lorenzo Costantini.

Costantini comes from UCF, where he helped coach defense with Summers from 2013-2014. While he has mostly coached the defensive line throughout his career, he said he will be heavily involved in all aspects of the defense at GSU.

"My defensive philosophy: be physical, be fast and be sudden," Costantini said. "And that's how we're going to play and that's what I expect out of these kids and I expect the game to have a little more feel of physical toughness up front."

One word Costantini mentioned multiple times was "fun." He stressed how football is a game and that you should be having fun. He and the rest of the defense will look to bring that energy and fun to the practice fields in the spring.

"Coming into an office every day and sitting under these lights is no fun - this is football - that's what I'm looking for."

Both Dean and Gillespie have been the head coach at Valdosta State University, where he won two national championships since he took over in 2007. He will be involved heavily with the wide receivers and will look to help bolster the passing game.

"We're going to continue to run the football, but yes, I think they're excited about some of the things that maybe we're going to install and put in and give these guys an opportunity to be more of a factor in the offensive game plan," Dean said.

Gillespie was the offensive coordinator at GSU from 2007-2009 under Chris Hatcher. He then spent five years at Valdosta High School as the head coach and athletic director. Valdosta High and VSU share the same stadium, meaning he and Coach Dean have held a professional relationship for the last few years.

"David and I have known each other for probably 15, 20 years, so a long time," Gillespie said. "We've coached camps together and had interaction with one another throughout the profession so I look forward to working with David, this is our first time working together, but I've known David practically my entire career."

Gillespie will coach the quarterbacks and is looking to help improve on their fundamentals. Much of that will come from drills and workouts that he will implement in spring practice.

"There are some areas for growth and that starts with base fundamentals," Gillespie said. "That's why I'm here to help them improve fundamentally and I feel like we've got some things that can help them on a baseline schedule."

Today's practice will be the first of 15 sessions over the next month. The team will play in the spring game on April 16 at Statesboro High School, as Paulson Stadium is still under renovations to install turf.

Check back over the next few weeks for more updates and storylines coming from spring camp.
Adjustments at the plate helps McDonald extend hitting streak

The junior shortstop is hitting .304 on the season. He’s moved up eight spots in the lineup since the start of the season.

"Do I want to see my numbers climb that high? Yes, but I’m not going to worry about it, I just want to get on base and help the team out," McDonald said.

BY KEVIN KENEELY
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern shortstop Evan McDonald extended his hitting streak to 11 games after picking up two more hits against Troy on Saturday night.

McDonald’s 11-game hitting streak began against the College of Charleston. Since then McDonald has seen his average jump from .100 to .304 as he is hitting a remarkable .410 throughout the streak.

Before this streak started, he was consistently being put at the bottom of the lineup, typically hitting ninth. Now, with the second best batting average on the team, he’s in the lead off spot.

"I cut down the amount of swings I took before games drastically... and that gave me a little bit more energy come game time," McDonald said.

McDonald has done more than just help the team out with his hitting, he has also shown that he is very dangerous on the base path, scoring nine runs during the streak. He had failed to cross home plate before the streak started.

This sudden display of consistent offense is nothing out of the ordinary for McDonald. While playing ball at Platte County High School his senior season, McDonald hit .395 and was named to the All-Conference team for the third time in his high school career.

After high school McDonald played at the Junior College level before transferring to Georgia Southern.

While attending Barton Community College, he had a solid sophomore season, which lead to him picking up an offer from Georgia Southern. That season, he managed to get a hit in 43 of the 52 games he played in, finishing with a .369 batting average. Along the way he had multiple hitting streaks, and one of them was a 14-game hitting streak, the longest of his college career.

"Do I want to see my numbers climb that high? Yes, but I’m not going to worry about it, I just want to get on base and help the team out," McDonald said.
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