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The George-Anne

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### The George-Anne

Georgia Southern University

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# GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

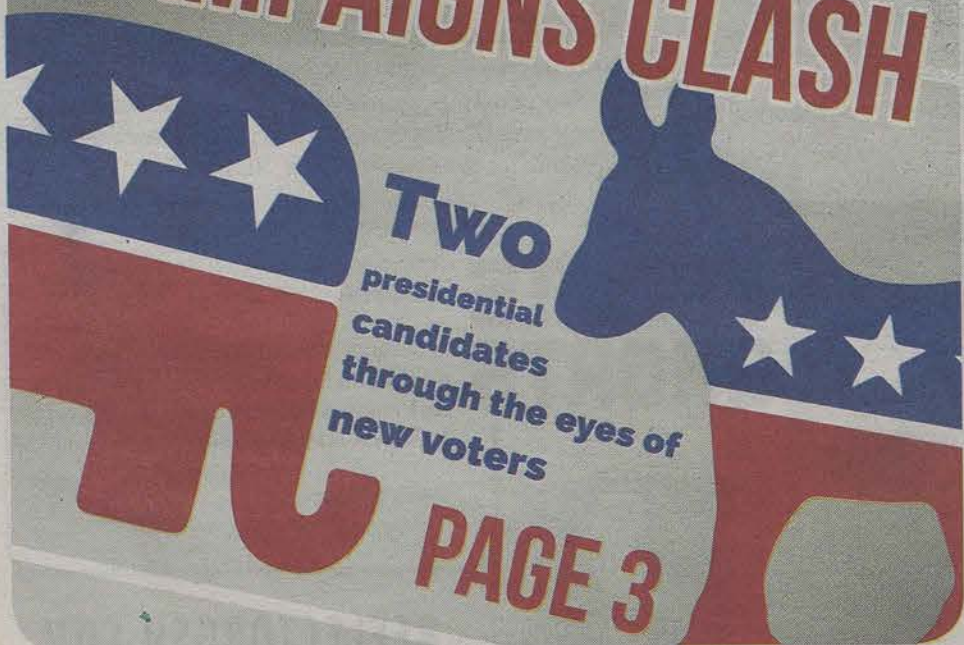
## GSM Closet

**Gay Straight Alliance opens community wardrobe for sexual minorities**

**Page 4**

© TAHIR DAUDIER

## CAMPAIGNS CLASH



**Two**  
presidential  
candidates  
through the eyes of  
new voters

**PAGE 3**

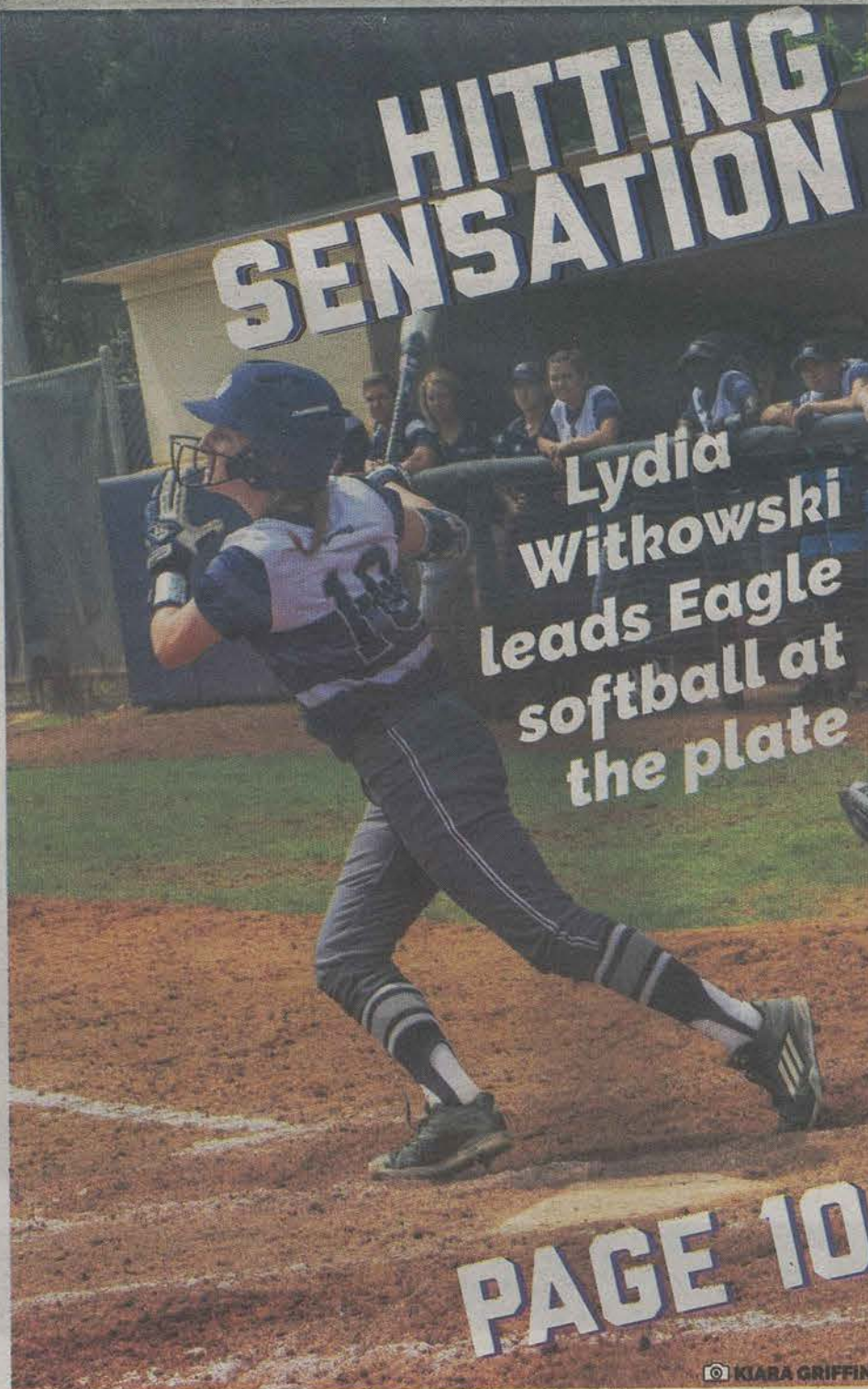
## CRAFTING COOLERS

**Sanding,  
priming,  
and plenty  
of paint**



**Page 7**

## HITTING SENSATION



**Lydia  
Withowski  
leads Eagle  
softball at  
the plate**

**PAGE 10**

© KIARA GRIFFIN



**Tuesday**



**High: 76°**  
**Low: 50°**

**Wednesday**



**High: 78°**  
**Low: 62°**

**Thursday**



**High: 84°**  
**Low: 70°**

**Friday**



**High: 81°**  
**Low: 64°**

We made it through the rain... only for the sunshine to last just a couple more days. It is looking to be sunny for the next two days, with a high of 84 degrees, but soon it will be back to those weekend showers we've been enduring.

## Weather Bar

### NEW BILL GIVES ATHLETIC DEPARTMENTS 90 DAYS TO RESPOND TO FOIA REQUEST

By Gabe Thomas

The Georgia State Senate and House of Representatives passed a bill on Tuesday that would allow university athletic departments up to 90 days to respond to open records requests.

According to the Macon Telegraph, Tuesday night an amendment was made to a Senate bill that dealt with Open Record request in the field of economic development that allows the 90 day period. The only exception to the 90 day rule is the salaries for coaches.

Supporters of the bill claim that it gives a level playing field to athletic departments in the state so they can compete with programs whose states allow more time for response to open records request.

Tom Krause, the chief of staff for state and Sen. Bill Cowser, R-Athens who sponsored the bill, told The Telegraph that the idea for the bill came from University of Georgia head football coach Kirby Smart.

"It's a similar subject that, from what I understand, came to light through Kirby Smart at UGA," Krause told the Telegraph. "It had to do with football teams or athletic departments that are recruiting football players in the state of Georgia. They had a (shorter) window where the documents were not yet public, but other states had 90 days."

An article published by Seth Emerson, the UGA

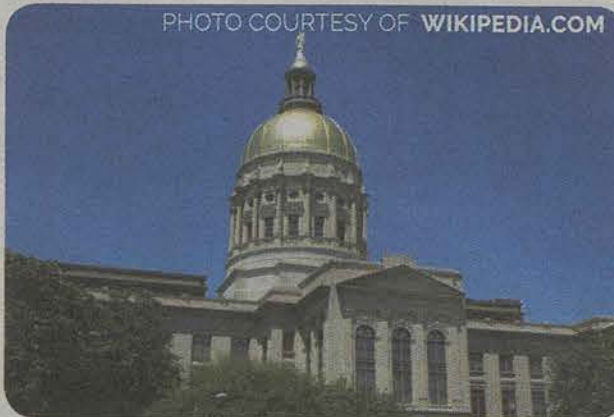


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIPEDIA.COM

football beat reporter for the Atlanta Journal Constitution disputes Krause's claim. The article published on AJC.com reports that 90 days would be the longest specified time frame of any state with university athletic programs in the SEC with UGA. The next highest is South Carolina at 15 days.

Two states, Alabama and Florida, open record laws do not specify an amount of time to respond to Open Record requests, but require a response be given in a, "reasonable amount of time." According to the article, The University of Alabama, Auburn University, and The University of Florida have all three been slow to process Open Records Request.

Georgia Southern athletic director Tom Kleinlein could not be reached for comment about the bill. Vice President for Legal Affairs Maura Copland told The George-Anne in an e-mail the law would dictate how Georgia Southern handles open record request for the athletic department.

"We will do whatever the law dictates we do," Copland said. "So, we will follow whatever timeline is signed into law, beginning on the effective date of legislation."

### HOT WINGS AND HOT TOPICS RELIGIOUS PANEL TOMORROW NIGHT

The annual Hot Wings and Hot Topics panel will be this Tuesday March 29. Hot Wings and Hot Topics is an annual Interfaith panel discussion.

The point is to have a discussion about a variety of important and controversial topics with a panel of people representing different religions. Topics will range from a variety of hot-button issues like poverty, racism, same-sex marriage, abortion, gun control, terrorism, etc.

The point of the event is to foster understanding between different religions and show that different religions can agree or at least come to some understanding on big, important issues.

The moderator of the event will be Dr. Francys Johnson, Georgia State president of the NAACP.

-Representing Judaism is Rabbi Robert Haas from the Congregation Mickve Israel.

-Representing Christianity is Rev. Tony Pagliarullo for the baptists branch and for catholics Father Douglas Clark.

-Nadia Kamal Hemmali Dreid, former president of the Muslim Student Association will represent Islam.

-Dr. Hugh Adamson will represent the Baha'i Faith.

Free hot wings will also be provided while you listen to the important issues being discussed. Hot wings and Hot Topics will take place March 29 at 6:00 p.m. at the Russell Union Ballroom.

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## SPORTS SHORTS

-Women's Tennis lost on Friday against South Alabama, 0-4.

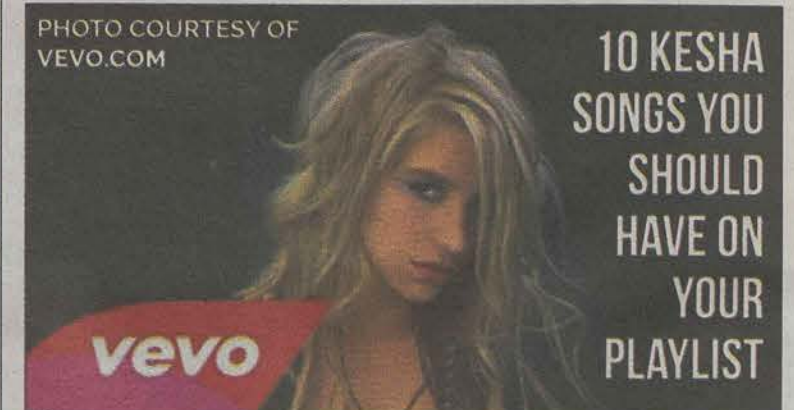
-Baseball played two games both against Arkansas State this weekend on Friday and Saturday; losing Friday (5-6) but winning Saturday (9-7).

-Men's Tennis won against USC Upstate on Saturday 6-1.



REFLECTORGSU.COM  
by Julia Fechter

PHOTO COURTESY OF  
VEVO.COM



10 KESHA  
SONGS YOU  
SHOULD  
HAVE ON  
YOUR  
PLAYLIST

Although Kesha hasn't released any new songs due to her current legal battle with producer Dr. Luke, her many party hits are worth remembering!

Visit [reflectorgsu.com/ten-kesha-songs-you-should-have-on-your-playlist](http://reflectorgsu.com/ten-kesha-songs-you-should-have-on-your-playlist) to hear some of Kesha's best theowbacks to add to your weekend playlist.



## CAST YOUR BALLOT

Two first time voters weigh in on the presidential race

### Feel the Bern



**CRISTEN GULLAT**

Gullat is a junior sociology major from Douglasville, Ga.

Bernie Sanders, or "the other democratic candidate" as he is known to the media, is who I support to be the Democratic Party's nominee and, ultimately, the next President of the United States. Bernie Sanders supporters are often looked at as freeloader

millennials who expect everything to be handed to them, when in reality we're fed up with an economy that isn't working for the run-of-the-mill family. The reason he caught my attention was his plan to provide free healthcare for every American. My initial reaction to his claim was that it will never happen in my lifetime. However I did my own research and found out it works in a multitude of European countries and it can also work here if we're willing to make it work.

Looking at his website I discovered that Sanders has been consistent on his views for almost every issue he's brought up during his presidential campaign. Consistency is a great trait in a presidential candidate and once I realized how unlikely it will be for him to flip-flop on

issues that's when my support for him bloomed. When he speaks about the presence of racial injustice in the United States and what he's going to do about it, I found photos of him at a civil rights rally in the sixties. When he vows to break up big banks and go after Wall Street investors that caused the recession in 2008. I saw that he has no Super-Pac funding his campaign, is funded by an average donation of around 27 dollars and broke the record for the most individual donations in presidential campaign history. As of March 28, Sanders has raised a total of 139 million dollars with over 99 percent of those contributions coming from individual donations.

Sanders is often portrayed as a boogeyman in the media, with cable news network throwing out that he is a

democratic socialist and more fit as a president of a European country than for the United States. As someone who has been to multiple European countries over the summer this claim is more of a compliment than an insult. Europeans are generally more happy with what's going on in their country. The quality of life in Europe also polls higher there than in the United States.

Since he has remained so constant on all of his views, he gives me optimism that there will be a revolution of how our political system works and who it works for. Ultimately, I support Bernie Sanders because he is a once in a lifetime candidate who has a past of sticking up for the little guy and will hopefully introduce policies that will help the typical American like you and I.

### Make America Great Again



**DEVIN CONWAY**

Conaway is a sophomore journalism major from Manchester, Nh.

I must admit that I was initially skeptical about Donald Trump as a candidate, but he has since removed all doubt. Fueled by an extremely patriotic message and a unique, irreverent brand of conservatism, Trump has allowed for his ever-increasing base of support the opportunity to 'stick it to the man', and these tactics have made him wildly successful much to the dismay and bewilderment of the political establishment. Critics of Trump cite his rhetoric toward

minorities as inflammatory in nature and plenty have gone as far as to call him a racist, but his polling numbers don't seem to reflect that attitude. Take for example his performance in the Nevada caucus, where he received 44 percent of the Latino vote, or the Council on American-Islamic Relations poll that showed Trump has more Muslim support than the rest of the GOP field combined.

Trump could certainly be more politically correct in his remarks, but in the day and age of safe spaces and micro-aggressions, I applaud those who aren't afraid to speak their minds. I would much rather live in a society where everyone is screaming at each other than to live in one where people are afraid to speak up at all. Would you rather have a candidate that has an emotionless and calculated response to each and every question thrown their way or someone who is up front and transparent?

The fact of the matter is that Trump is a Populist candidate that transcends typical

bipartisan demographic boundaries. As one of the most successful businessmen in the world, he could bring a rare kind of deal-making ability and a fiscally responsible attitude to a reckless government that is hell-bent on limitless spending and increasing the deficit exponentially.

I've heard plenty of arguments against Trump that claim he is a bombastic con-man that disregards policy completely, but his website lays out a number of articulate and immensely detailed plans including: fixing an illegal immigration problem that has taken so many job opportunities away from the American people and costs taxpayers approximately 113 billion dollars annually, repealing the Affordable Care Act that has embodied the idea that government intervention stifles the free market economy and offering our corporate leaders plausible incentives to bring jobs that have been outsourced back into our country.

The biggest problem in

American politics today is the subservient relationship between our elected officials and the special interest groups and corporations that fund their campaigns. In our country's recent history, financing a successful campaign has become ridiculously expensive, and as history has shown so clearly, those in positions of power are usually willing to do whatever it takes to remain there.

When considering these factors, it's fairly easy to see how the corporate world could and often does manipulate politicians with "donations" in return for legislative efforts that will continue to benefit their own selfish economic interests. This reciprocal arrangement has gone on far too long, and the American people are fed up with the corrupt and depraved Washington elites. The rise of the self-funding Donald Trump as a legitimate contender for president is the end result of a system that has failed us all time and time again.

### 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.

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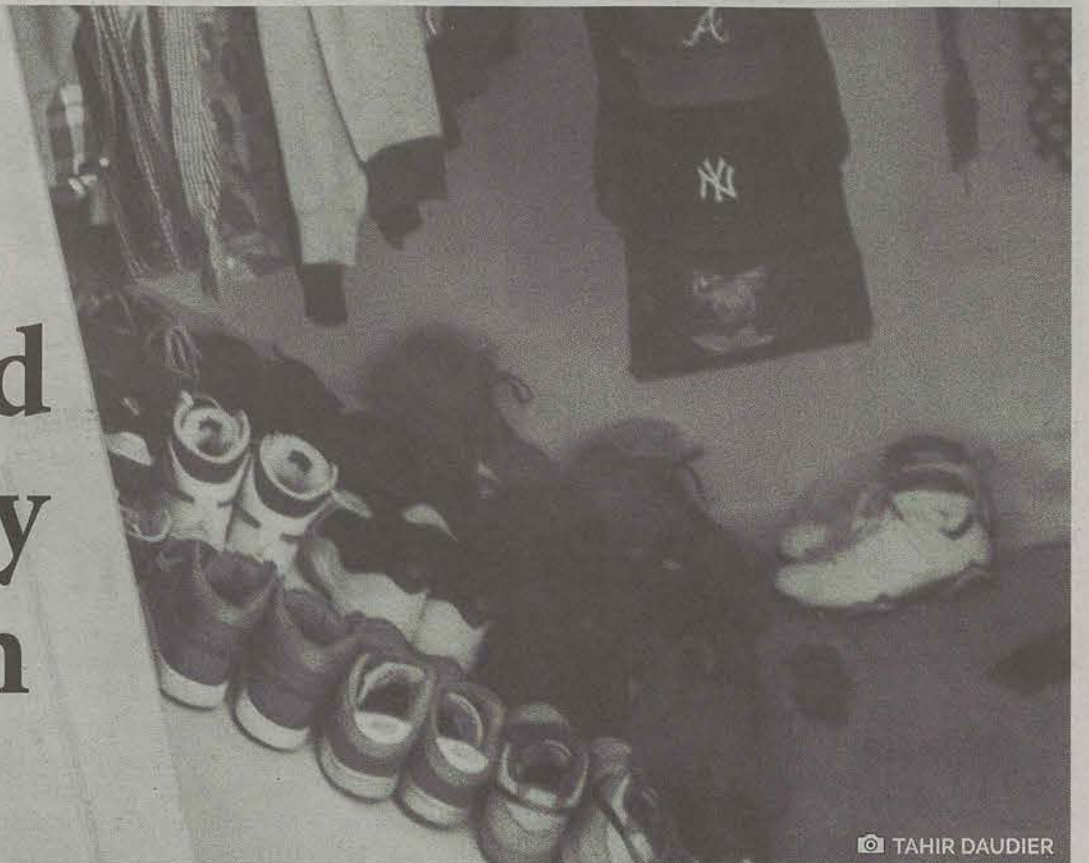
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The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor and appropriate guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or fewer, typed, and sent via email in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) format to letters@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed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



## GSA begins new gender and sexual minority closet program

BY TANDRA SMITH AND TAISHA WHITE  
The George-Anne staff and contributor



TAHIR DAUDIER

The GSM closet officially started in mid-February. Donations are currently being accepted to supply the closet

The Georgia Southern Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) has started the GSU Gender and Sexual Minorities closet (GSM), a closet in which transsexual/non-gender binary individuals can go and get clothing to make them feel more comfortable.

"I think that it is great knowing that there is a support system behind those struggling with finding clothes while being transgender," Jacob Richardson, senior early childhood education major, said. "It creates a sense of those in that position to eventually understand who they are and feel comfortable

with themselves."

Katrina Delghingaro, a junior writing and linguistics major and treasurer of the GSA, is in charge of running the closet. She says that the inspiration for the closet came from her own life.

"People don't have money to buy clothes when they're trying to transition but wearing and presenting to the gender that matches what you are is an important part of the transition," Delghingaro said.

Testosterone and hormones cost over \$100 and transitioning individuals have to take them once a week for the rest of their

life. Often, many don't have enough money to pay for their clothing, among other things. This is where the closet would come in.

"We all have clothes sitting around that we don't want to donate to Goodwill, so this way people will have somewhere they can donate their clothes and they know that they're going to somebody in the community," Delghingaro said.

The closet will be located in a place that Delghingaro will be sharing with other GSA board members, until they can get a LGBT resource center.

"We want to bring confidence and self love. We want people to feel comfortable in their bodies. That's the number one thing we want to do," Delghingaro said.

However, Delghingaro isn't alone. Other members of GSA have contributed quite a bit to the closet. Ethan Winters, vice president of GSA, is one of them. He is the co-helper for the closet.

"GSA members have helped by giving and donating clothes. Response for the closet has been really positive and people outside of GSA have been really excited to help," Winters said.

For some students, it could be

considered the best way to be frugal.

"I feel like it is a good idea for numerous reasons. For one, it would save them a lot of money and it would help boost the confidence of those involved," Tyler Mims, senior interior design major, said.

The GSM closet is taking much needed donations. If you are interested in donating clothing, or have any other questions, contact Katrina Delghingaro at kd04610@georgiasouthern.edu.

## Students team up to support local family

BY BAILEY ADCOCK AND MARQUIETTA GREEN  
The George-Anne staff and contributor

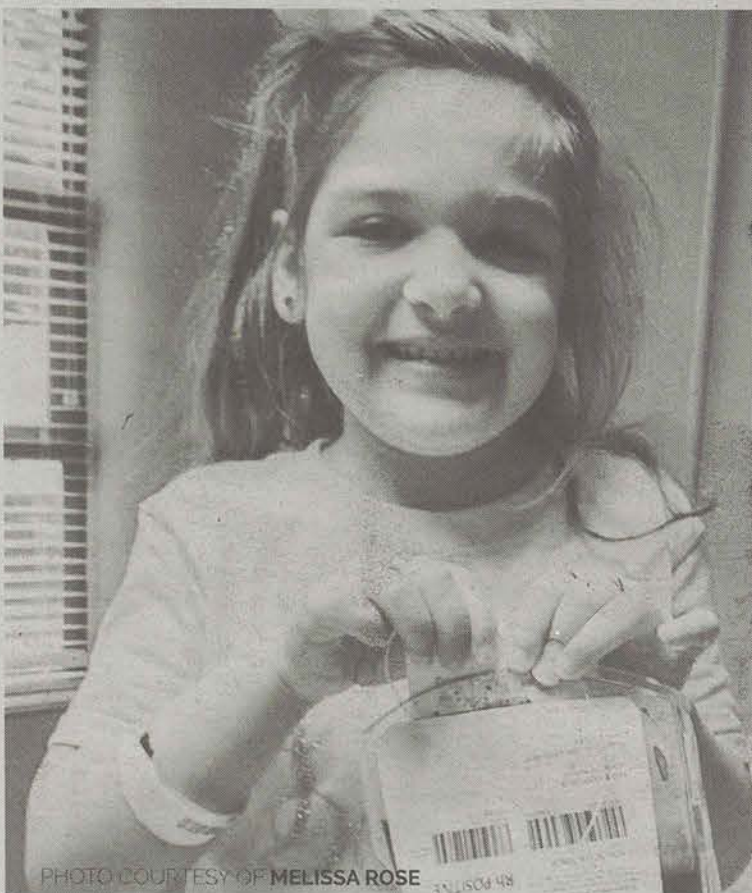


PHOTO COURTESY OF MELISSA ROSE

Phi Kappa Theta, along with Phi Mu, SAME and others, are helping to host a blood drive on March 30, at the Southern Hospitality Conference Center at Springhill Suites in Statesboro.

The blood drive is taking place in support of Irelynn Rose, a local six-year-old girl with a rare blood disease called Diamond Blackfan Anemia.

Diamond Blackfan Anemia is a bone marrow condition where a patient's bone marrow does not produce enough red blood cells, leading patients like Irelynn to need blood transfusions every month.

The blood drive is not specifically being hosted by Phi Kappa Theta, but by the Irelynn Rose Foundation, who reached out directly to the Red Cross.

Phi Kappa Theta became aware of Irelynn's condition when they were introduced to her and her family a couple years back. Since then, the fraternity has hosted many different fundraising events to support Team Irelynn.

Although it started off as a philanthropic event, it has become something much more to the men of the fraternity. They have started looking at Irelynn as a member of their family.

"The family is just a sweet family. You couldn't tell anything was wrong with her if you weren't told," Nolan Jackson, sophomore mechanical engineering major and VP of Intellect for Phi Kappa Theta and president of SAME, said.

Jackson says that helping Irelynn and her family has given the fraternity a greater focus and they hope that working positively with the community will bring more members to their organization.

The foundation seeks to not only help Irelynn, but also raise awareness for others who suffer the same condition.

This month Irelynn will be receiving her one hundredth blood donation.

"All of the money raised will be directly donated to Team Irelynn and will help with further research about her condition, we could possibly even find a cure in the future," Melissa Rose said. "Irelynn will also be at the blood drive, thanking each person who gives blood or donates funds. She wants to thank each for person for saving her life."

Something unique about this blood drive is the chance that, with someone who has the

correct blood type, the blood will be directly donated to Irelynn.

"One of the Phi Kappa Theta brothers, Ren Densmore's mom, Ashley Wright is a direct blood donor to Irelynn and donates every few months. Her contribution has been such a great help to our family and to Irelynn," Melissa said.

Jackson encourages students to participate in the blood drive and help Team Irelynn out.

"We always need people to come out and be willing to donate blood. The best thing people can do for her right now is give blood," Jackson said.

Irelynn's parents, Melissa and Nick, have expressed a strong gratitude towards the members of Phi Kappa Theta.

"We have tried many ways to show our appreciation to them but we could never really thank them enough for their time and effort," Nick Rose, Irelynn's father, said.

For more information about Irelynn, and her condition, you can visit [www.teamirelynn.org](http://www.teamirelynn.org). Irelynn and her parents will be at the Southern Hospitality Center Wednesday to show their appreciation for those who come to support the drive.

Irelynn Rose is currently infected with Diamond Blackfan Anemia. The Rose family will be attending the event to thank all participants.



# SGA amends attendance policy at GSU

BY ERIN MCGUINNESS

The George-Anne contributor

The Student Government Association (SGA) presented a motion to amend section 308 of the attendance policy at the faculty senate agenda meeting Wednesday, March 23.

The amendment to the absence policy permits excusing students from class to attend GSU sponsored events or any event in which the student is representing the university.

"In my opinion, if a student is representing the school at a GSU sponsored event, the student should always be allowed to make up their missed work," Karissa Wiebe, junior exercise science major, said. "Without this policy, students would be less willing to participate in events because they would be fearful of not being allowed to make up missed work."

There was strong opposition towards the amendment from James Harris, Ph.D., computer sciences associate professor.

"If you go along with this [amended attendance policy] you are saying that the instructor is not the best qualified person, so you're taking that right away from the instructor if you agree with this," Harris said. "I trust the instructor to make the best decision and I know what my students are doing in my class and I don't think any [administrator] or anyone on the outside knows that."

Harris says that this change would take the right away from the instructor and give it to the policy maker to make a one size fits all decision.

Students understand the faculty's concerns, but feel it's an important amendment that needs to be made.

"Where I understand that faculty may be concerned about this new attendance

policy, I believe the main reason we are here is for the students," Natalie Morris, junior public relations and Spanish major said. "If a student is presented a once in a lifetime opportunity and it is only offered during a class time is it fair for the professor to give them an absence? No, I do not think it is."

Errol Spence, SGA Vice President of Academic Affairs, says that SGA is not trying to take away faculty power and that the revisions regarding the attendance policy are general to give students the opportunity to excel out of the classroom and not be penalized for missing class.

"We (SGA) respect faculty discretion within the classroom, and we also believe that there should be reasonable compromise on matters where there is value-added benefit to both the student and the university, such as representation of Georgia Southern in university related or sponsored activities," Spence said.

Students are still held accountable for all missed material and class notes Spence said. Students must prepare ahead of time and take on the extra workload if they choose to miss class for such events.

"We have to acknowledge the fact that our students experience the world outside of the classroom and that as [Spence] has been saying, the students who are asking for these absences from classes are not the students who are being represented by this policy for the most part," Lisa Abbot, CLASS faculty senator, said.

According to the new policy, in the event of a disagreement regarding the policy, an appeal may be made by either the student or instructor of record to the corresponding college Dean.

“

We have to acknowledge the fact that our students experience the world outside of the classroom,”

LISA ABBOT

CLASS faculty senator

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# Puzzles

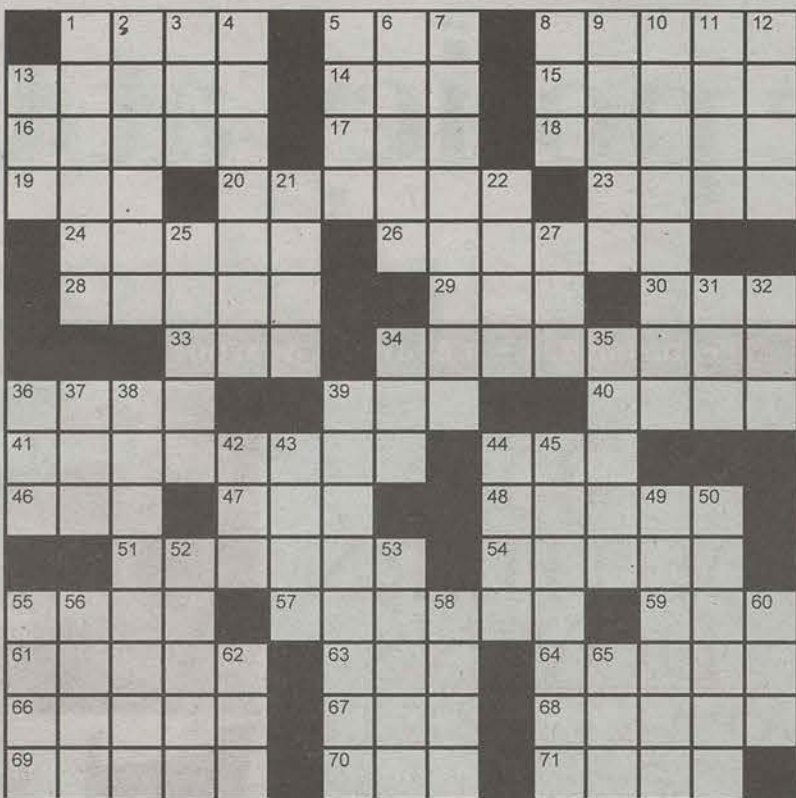
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The George-Anne 3/29/16 Crossword

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## Across

- 1 Gush forth  
5 Wharton grad  
8 Burn with hot water  
13 Come from behind  
14 Neighbor of Mo.  
15 Bud Grace comic strip  
16 Bowie's last stand  
17 Fruitcake item  
18 Bob's companion  
19 Henpeck  
20 -Hill publishing  
23 Part of a rose  
24 Sound  
26 Last  
28 Stands for  
29 "Monty Python" ailer  
30 Flock member  
33 Expression of disgust  
34 Watchdog  
36 Glance over  
39 Coquettish  
40 Sail support  
41 Graz resident  
44 Mortar porter  
46 Network inits.  
47 Pop-ups, e.g.  
48 Neptune's realm  
51 Lacking vitality  
54 Boot camp boss  
55 Misplace  
57 More ventilated  
59 Galley need  
61 Tobacco kilns  
63 Director Howard  
64 Habituate



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- 66 Young hog  
67 Quirky  
68 Illustrious  
69 Bad-tempered  
70 Prefix with classical  
71 Insipid

## Down

- 1 Muslim salute  
2 Infestation  
3 Glade shade  
4 Casper is there  
5 Like some vases  
6 Squib  
7 Acolyte  
8 Put in stitches

- 9 High point  
10 Curse  
11 Not prerecorded  
12 Consider  
13 Jogged  
21 Blackjack  
22 Emily of "Our Town"  
25 Intimidate  
27 Big heart?  
31 Kind of cabinet  
32 Bankrupt  
34 An Everly brother  
35 Golf's Cup  
36 Baglike structure  
37 Chicago baseball player  
38 Tax man

- 39 Like some stomachs  
42 Battle of Britain grp.  
43 Concept  
44 Gardener's need  
45 Egg-shaped instrument  
49 Rabbitlike rodent  
50 Closed in on  
52 Kind of position  
53 Lose ground?  
55 Red ink amount  
56 Home to Honolulu  
58 Prefix with China  
60 Checkers color  
62 Piggery  
65 Negative joiner

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## Cooler Painting, Craft or Curse?

Students describe the tedious tasks behind hand painted coolers

BY ANNIE MOHR

The George-Anne contributor

The beach is filled with evening gowns, a cool breeze, lots of drinks and memories in the making. Sitting on the sand containing the beverages is a cooler painted with beautiful images of sunsets, Georgia Southern scenery and even tiny details that showcase the personality of its owner.

In that moment, the artwork on the cooler is almost as beautiful as the event itself. College students are in the prime of their lives as they celebrate the closing of another school year.

As the night dies down, and the morning comes all too quickly, the beautiful cooler is no longer of work of art on the beach, but a scuffed up DIY project. A project that instead of being carefully carried is thrown into the bed of a truck.

It's fraternity formal season meaning hundreds of girls have already begun the process to create a unique and personalized work of art for their formal date.

Painting a cooler is a process that includes sanding, priming, decorating and sealing a plastic cooler. This seemingly harmless craft project can take anywhere from a few days to weeks. The work that goes into preparing for the event takes planning and commitment that often goes unnoticed.

"I fear two things in college: graduating and being asked to paint a cooler for a formal," Rachel Clardy, sophomore marketing major, said.

Clardy said that making a cooler is a huge undertaking, and with the stress of school it is a huge commitment to agree to paint a cooler. She described how the process of sanding down the cooler is difficult, and for those who are not naturally artistic, the task of painting can be daunting. Even the smallest

mistake can mean having to re-sand the cooler and start again.

Once the cooler is finished, it is often expected that it will be filled with drinks for its recipient. This can mean \$60 worth of beer or even hundreds if filled with handles of liquor.

"I think that if a guy wants you to paint him a cooler he should pay for the supplies," Katlyn Cameron, sophomore pre nursing major, said.

Cameron believes that the cooler is not necessarily a gift, so it should be expected that the crafter and the recipient both help to cover the costs.

"I think it is a courtesy thing now, like the guy is taking you to his formal and paying all the expenses and I think of it as just a token of appreciation," Maddie Thompson, sophomore nursing major, said.

Thompson said that it is important to keep in mind who you are making the cooler for. "Don't paint a side with something he isn't interested in because ultimately it's his cooler to use and it doesn't matter if you think it's cute if he doesn't like it," Thompson said.

All the hours put into a cooler can go completely to waste if it is not sealed and handled properly. Special attention has to go into making them waterproof and the carefully painted details can easily become scratched off in a beach environment.

"Respect that a lot of work went into this and don't just take it for granted," Clardy said.

Whether a cooler becomes a prized item or it gets left on the beach, there is still much to be appreciated about the creativity behind turning a piece of plastic into a work of art.

Painted coolers are common items found around universities which vary in color and design. Top: A cooler's side features a sunset mural of the Talmadge Memorial Bridge between Georgia and South Carolina. Bottom: A lid painted for a Sigma Nu cooler, adorned with the "Join or Die" symbolic snake.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MARY GRAYSON

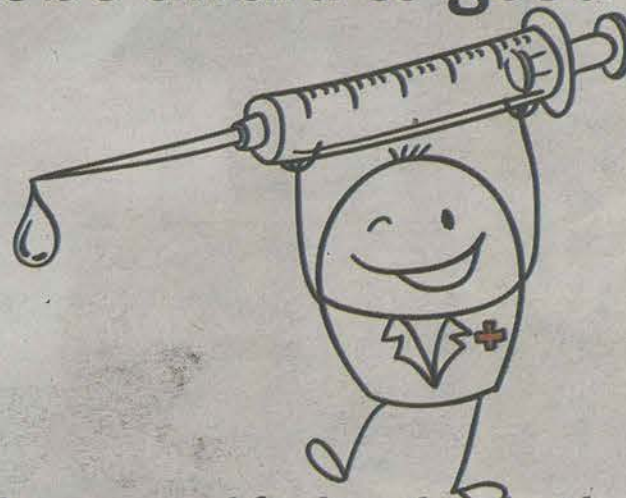


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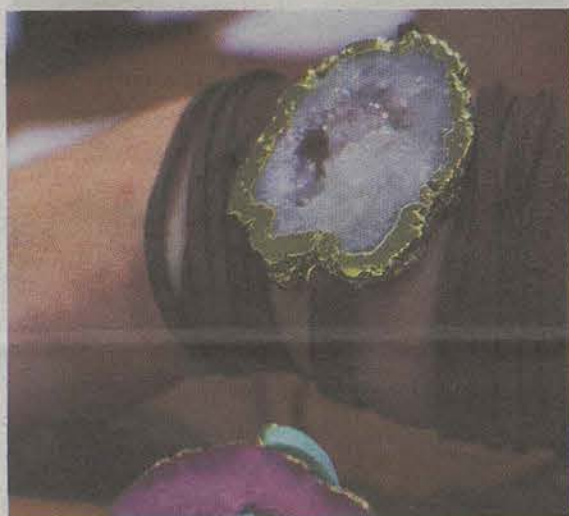
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Sunday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm



# Suede and Stones and Style - Oh My!

## Student's handcrafted jewelry line takes off

The handmade jewelry of Suede & Stone's are completely customizable. Many of Fogarty's designs also have a dual function of being a bracelet or necklace.



Left: Strands of suede acts as a wrap bracelet accented with a metallic edged stone.



Right: Each purchase is carefully wrapped in a holder featuring the logo for a professional look.

BY KAT SHUMAN  
The George-Anne staff

Staying in style can be expensive—especially if the pieces you want to add to your wardrobe are only sold at overpriced boutiques. This is precisely the reason that Erin Fogarty, a senior psychology and child and family development double major from Savannah, Georgia began making her own jewelry.

Fogarty has designed a piece of jewelry that can be worn as a bracelet and necklace interchangeably. Each piece features a large stone with long strands of suede that tie the piece together.

"I would look on the Instagram popular page to see what people are wearing, and I thought it didn't look hard to make," Fogarty said. From there she started making personal pieces as well as some pieces for her friends and family. "I gave them to friends as gifts, but then my sister featured a piece on her fashion blog, and my jewelry started attracting lots of attention."

At first, Fogarty was getting her supplies from places like Hobby Lobby and Michaels, but when her business started booming, she began ordering her materials online from China and Florida.

"I guess this year, January, is when I started 'professionally' making jewelry," Fogarty said. She explains that it was her New Year's resolution. Fogarty has made over \$1000 since then.

Because Fogarty makes all of her pieces herself, they sell out quickly. The last time she made some pieces, they sold out in minutes. She plans to order many more materials for her products in the future.

"They don't take long to

make," Fogarty said.

She even designed some jewelry holders to make the finished product look perfect. These jewelry holders boast the name of her brand, "Suede and Stones."

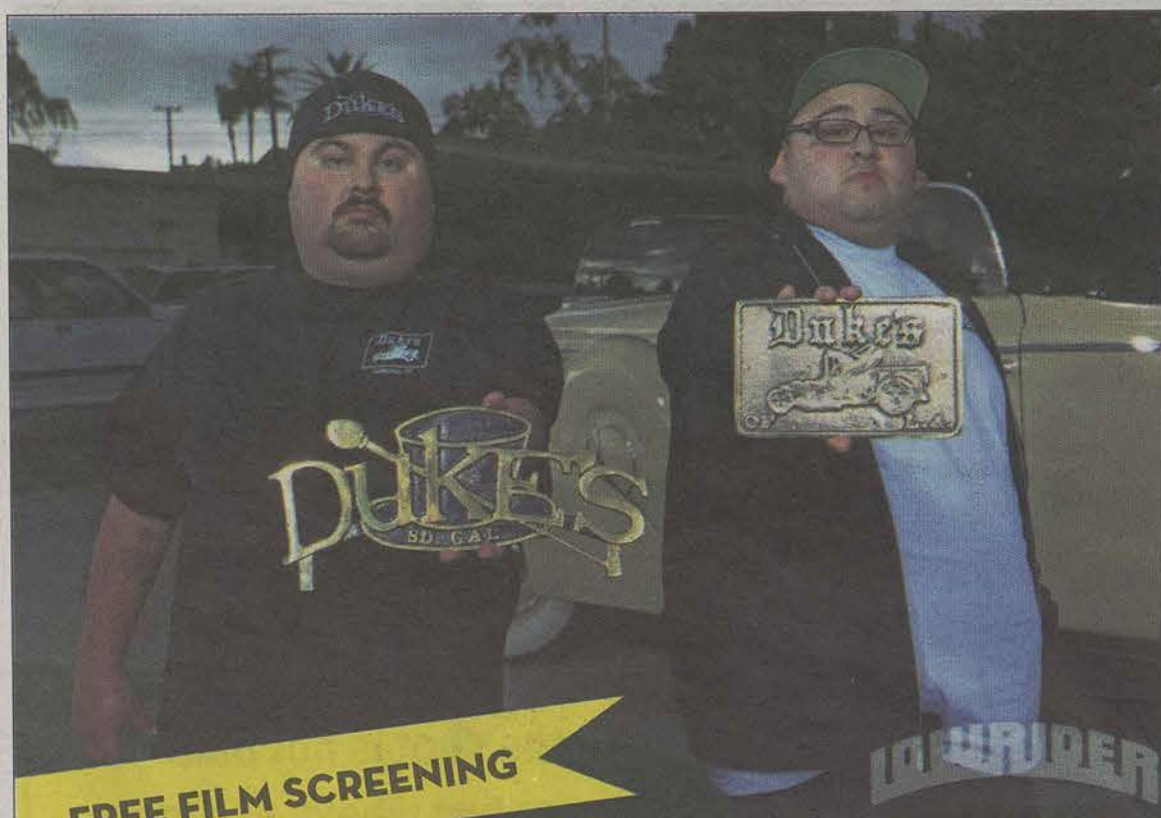
Most of her pieces can be worn as either a bracelet or a necklace. She has lots of different color bands and stone options. Her neutral pieces are very popular now, but she predicts her brighter colors will be more popular in the spring.

"Bright stones would be good statement pieces for special events like weddings," Fogarty said. She also mentioned that she would like to offer a mix and match option in the future because the suede can be easily changed on any piece.

She charges \$30 for most of her pieces, but some bracelets and necklaces cost less. The price depends on the type of stone.

Fogarty definitely sees this business as something she will be working with in the future. "I might even do this after graduation. I'm young, and I could start my own business," Fogarty said. Though she stays busy with college, she admits she has considered transforming an upstairs room in her house into a jewelry station.

In the future, Fogarty wants to make her own website to showcase her current and new pieces. For now, you can follow Suede and Stones on Instagram (@suedeandstones), email her at [suedeandstones@gmail.com](mailto:suedeandstones@gmail.com), or check out her Etsy page at [suedeandstones.etsy.com](http://suedeandstones.etsy.com) if you're interested in her jewelry.



FREE FILM SCREENING

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Award-winning Latina documentary filmmaker, Monica Delgado will screen and discuss her film on the history of "lowriders" in the American Southwest. Delgado traces the beginnings of this popular motorsport to the Mexican barrios of East L.A. and follows "Dukes Car Club" as it evolves to a worldwide organization. Thursday **MARCH 31** • 7:30pm • Nessmith-Lane Assembly Hall



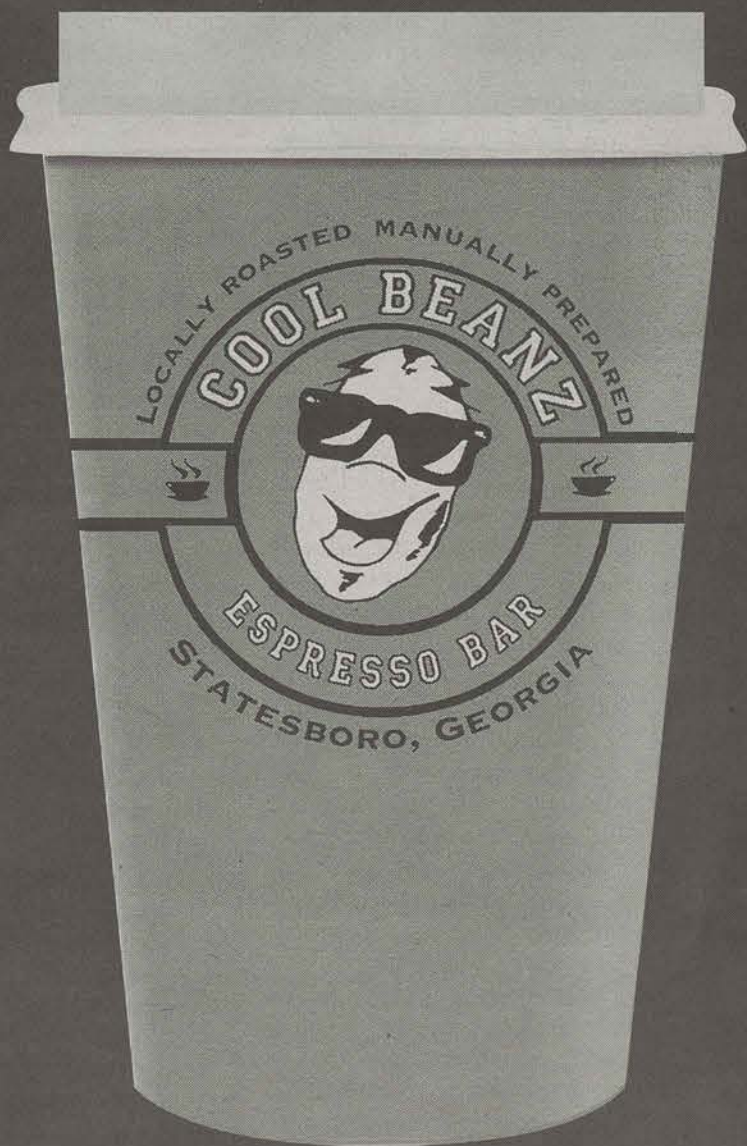
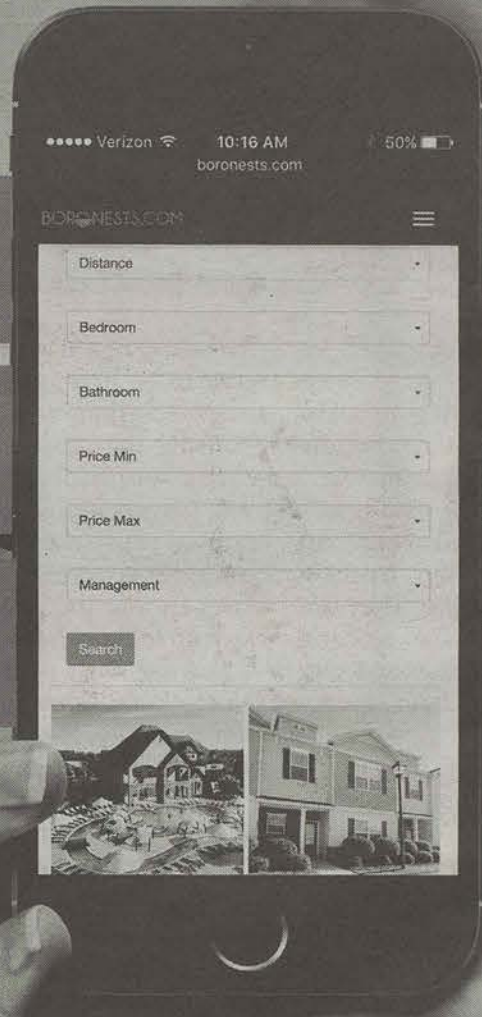
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## GSU FOOTBALL OPENS SPRING PRACTICE

The team runs through drills to begin the day. It was the first of 15 spring practices.

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

Georgia Southern had their first day of spring practice last Thursday under new head coach Tyson Summers. Coach Summers wanted to change things up and bring a new feel to the practices. Summers decided to play loud music during the practice, hoping that it would bring new energy and force the players to communicate with each other.

"They are all making a lot bigger deal of the music than I am," Summers said. "I like that the music makes everyone communicate is the big thing. When it's loud, it creates chaos

and it makes the coaches have to be very deliberate with what they are saying, it makes the players in a no huddle offense have to be deliberate."

Communication was key and senior quarterbacks Kevin Ellison and Favian Upshaw were prime leaders. They are competing for the starting quarterback position and you could see them both openly lead this team.

"It was a lot of fun, coach had the music going. He said that he wanted to get the juices flowing so it was a lot of fun, everyone was getting back in football and had fun out there today. Coach put us through a lot in spring

workouts, but it will take a while to get back into football shape," Upshaw said.

During the offseason there was an overhaul of coaches and players now need to learn a new scheme. Coach Summers is trying to make it fun so that the players can catch on to the schemes fast.

"For the most part we ran a lot of our schemes pretty well and everyone had a good understanding of what was going on," Upshaw said. "They do a great job putting us in meetings and making sure we know the fine details. I love this coaching staff and I can't wait to see what we can do."

As the quarterback for this team, Upshaw is learning to be more vocal as a leader. Other players are looking to him to show his experience and his leadership skills.

"Coach wants me to be more vocal. I like to lead by example, but I am a senior now. I'm pretty old compared to other guys out there. It doesn't hurt to be vocal. I'm just trying to set a good example for the guys on the field and off the field," Upshaw said about his leadership skills.

This is something that players were looking forward to. It is always great for players to have new and fun practice environments. For seniors, it

is about how can the vibes on the team change and for the incoming freshman it is about coming into a fun and energetic practice environment. Players are still trying to get back into football shape. It will take a few practices for this to happen, but running around in the Statesboro heat for two and a half hours should get them there pretty quickly.

Practices have started out on the right foot and hopefully this will lead to even better upcoming practices.

## Witkowski leads Eagles offense in freshman season

Lydia Witkowski has become the softball team's biggest threat at the plate this season. She leads the team in multiple offensive categories.

Witkowski is batting .360 with 40 hits on the season. She has started in every game this season.

**BY MARQUS WILLIAMS**  
The George-Anne contributor

The Georgia Southern softball team is 17-15 on the season, surpassing their win total from last season and the strong play from Lydia Witkowski has been a major part of their improvement.

Witkowski is a redshirt freshman outfielder for the Eagles from Alpharetta, Ga. and her game has improved

from the moment she stepped on the diamond. Witkowski leads the team in batting average, hits, runs and triples. She sports a .360 batting average, scored 26 runs, has 40 hits including three triples so far this season.

She has helped lead her team to their first two Sun Belt series victories as they're tied for third in the conference. Her softball career has gotten off to a hot start, but she is more than

just a star on the diamond.

She's not the type of person that likes to stand still which shows why she loves to be outdoors and enjoys activities like hiking, photography and of course, softball. The longest hike she can remember was six miles when she was vacationing in Hawaii over Thanksgiving break and she has also hiked in Colorado and Georgia.

She also boasts another hobby that not many people know about her.

"It's kind of weird that many people don't know that about me but I like taking pictures of things," Witkowski said on her hidden passion for photography.

While she's cheered for Georgia Southern softball for a while, as her brother Charlie Witkowski went to school here

and graduated last spring, she still cheers for her teammates of the past on their new teams.

"I cheer for the girls I've played with and the schools that they're at, but I've never truly been a fan of any school in particular," Witkowski said.

The loyalty and friendship she has with her teammates of past and present shows her character and how dependable she is on and off the field. She's not the type of person that yearns for the spotlight, but would rather share it with her teammates as she firmly believes it's a team effort.

Witkowski's growth as a redshirt last season to being a major contributor now makes her great, but her contribution as a good teammate and person makes her exceptional.



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### Meet Lydia Witkowski

#### Favorite Song?

"Unstoppable God-Elevation Worship."

#### Best Vacation Spot?

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#### Favorite Softball Memory?

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# Moya finds success as Eagles continue winning season

Freshman Ze Moya has worked his way into the tennis lineup. He is 8-2 in singles play this season.

Moya (right) has worked on his game after the transistion from Portugal. He'll return to the courts this afternoon against Mercer.

BY DERIK WUCHTE  
The George-Anne staff

Arriving in late January from Lisbon, Portugal, freshman Ze Moya has been slowly finding his rhythm in the men's tennis program.

The circumstances for Moya finding his way to GSU began with a coincidence. Eagles head coach Sander Koning's brother plays on a team in the Netherlands. A match against Moya led the two to talk about moving to the U.S. and competing at the collegiate level.

"Coach has a brother. And he's from the Netherlands," Moya said. "Once, I played in a tournament in Europe. My team played against Netherlands. Coach's brother was the captain of Netherlands. In that way, he saw me, he spoke with his brother and Southern contacted me."

Moya transferred to GSU shortly after that meeting. After a month of preparation and learning the team's style of play, he has become a starter in the Eagle's lineup. He began as a No. 4 spot player, but after a few wins has worked himself up No. 3. Despite being a freshman, Moya has been able to make an impressive show for his first collegiate season in the US with eight wins already.

"I don't feel that much pressure because I'm new and everything is new for me," Moya said. "I just try to enjoy playing and try to give a win for the team."

The US and college-level tennis have been the newest experiences for Moya. The adaptation hasn't affected his performance too much, but it has taken time to adjust.

"Something that really shocked me is the teamwork,"

Moya said. "Here, all the things we do is as a team. It really helps me to improve and have all the other guys supporting me and pushing me up. This is the thing that I most enjoy here and I'm learning from it."

The playing environment in the U.S. has also had an effect on Moya. Seven out of the ten players on the Eagle's men's tennis roster are not from the U.S. They each have had to play on U.S. courts and get used to them on their own time. Moya's learning curve began during the season so he has had to accustom in a shorter time.

"The biggest difference is the surface because we used to play a lot in clay," Moya said. "We adapt our game a little bit to the surface. My strokes are with more spin and others are more far away from the baseline. Here, it's faster tennis and people try to step up a lot more in the courts. This is what coach is trying to show to what I do in the match."

The team finds themselves 12-5 after defeating the University of South Carolina Upstate on Saturday. Moya will take his 8-2 singles record and three match win streak against Mercer today as the team looks for their 13th win on the season.

Mercer is 7-11 and they are coming off of a win to The Citadel. Southern lost 3-4 to Mercer last season so they will be looking for revenge. The teams play this Tuesday at home at the Wallis Tennis Center in Statesboro. The match will begin at 3 p.m.

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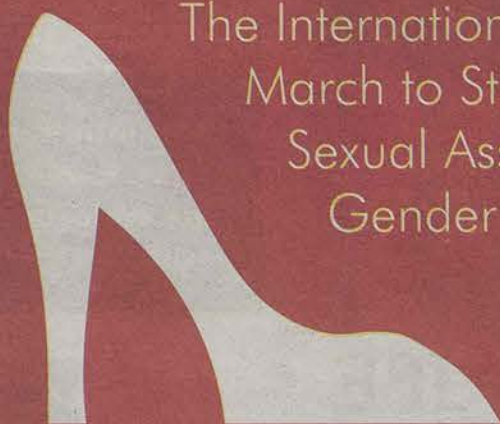


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