Settlement Reached
Families and attorneys hold press conference to announce agreement

SPRING WRAP UP
The football team finishes spring camp

BREAKING RECORDS
Rebecca Parker shatters records on the track
AND COMMUNICATIONS WILL notice last week which prohibited the use of THE OFFICE OF MARKETING have come to the end of the "who is the real University and Georgia State University. We may conflicts.

the term "GSU" in an attempt to avoid branding the change took place due to conflicts and mix-ups in reference to the schools, Georgia Southern. This would apply university-wide," Jan ups in reference to the schools, Georgia Southern. This would apply university-wide," Jan changes in the Eagles logo that also included that the word GSU would be replaced with just GS for branding purpose.

According to the website UnderDog Dynasty, the change took place due to conflicts and mix-ups in reference to the schools, Georgia Southern University and Georgia State University. We may have come to the end of the "who is the real GSU?" debate. The university has moved to try to eliminate the use of GSU when referring to Georgia Southern. This would apply university-wide," Jan Bond, Associate Vice-President for the Office of Marking and Communications, stated in an email sent to the George-Anne.

Georgia Southern athletics has sent out a notice last week which prohibited the use of the term "GSU" in an attempt to avoid branding conflicts. An email was sent out by Georgia Southern's athletic department explaining the changes in the Eagles logo that also included that the word GSU would be replaced with just GS for branding purpose.

The $20 bill is going to be redesigned with Harriet Tubman's face on it. She will be the first ever African American to be portrayed on American currency in 100 years. Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the U.S., whose face is currently on the bill, will be moved to the back of the bill. Harriet Tubman was a former slave and played a big role in the abolition movement. She escaped from slavery and she was said to have helped free at least seventy slave families through the use of the Underground Railroad.

The back of the $10 bill will also be changed to honor the 1913 march that ended on the steps of the treasury building with the presented legacies of suffrage leaders. The back of the $5 bill will also be changed to Martin Luther King, Jr. The last time a woman was on paper currency was in the late 1800s, which was Martha Washington and Pocahontas. Susan B. Anthony and Sacagawea are on dollar coins.

Three bills are supposed to be finished by 2020, which will be the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment (women's right to vote). Not only will this be the first African-American to be on U.S. currency, but also it will be the first woman in history.

The three bills are supposed to be finished by 2020, which will be the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment (women's right to vote). Not only will this be the first African-American to be on U.S. currency, but also it will be the first woman in history.

It is heating up in Statesboro this week with temperatures peaking at 92 degrees on Thursday. It looks like the weather is reflecting the emotions we are feeling about finals.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, one in four women or even other female musicians. This case brings an extremely important issue into the mainstream. This case is a light shining onto the stages of campus rape. Read about more facts related to the perceived grey area with campus rape and what Georgia law and Title IX say about it at https://reflectorgsu.com/what-keshas-court-case-tells-us-about-campus-rape/
The George-Anne 4/23/16 Crossword

Across
1 Know-it-all
5 Comfy spot
9 The Beehive State
13 Religious law
14 Ship’s front
15 Lymph bump
17 Have coming
18 Ski lift item
19 Honeybun
20 Periodic event
22 Jingle
23 Squeeze
24 Clavell’s "Pan"
25 Chaplains
28 Semidarkness
32 It shows the way
33 Hat-tipper’s word
35 Understood
36 Half-moon tide
37 Take by force
38 "Green Gables" girl
39 The skinny
40 Sweat source
41 Treat badly
42 Rope hitch
44 Romeo’s love
45 Charged particle
46 Be in relief
48 Rub the wrong way
51 Short-legged dog
52 Lion’s home
55 Sari-clad royal
56 King of the road
57 Where "Aida" premiered
59 Dog in "Beetle Bailey"

Down
1 Sheltered, at sea
2 Condo division
3 Go bad
4 Loose
5 Eyeglasses
6 Tough tests
7 Driver’s warning
8 Grass part
9 Inconceivable
10 Bag type
11 Genesis man
12 At this point
13 One of the finest
14 Survey choice
15 Eye’s mate
16 Offering
17 Proctor’s call
18 Lose one’s cool
19 Hippodrome, e.g.
20 After bark or down
21 Super
22 Taste, e.g.
23 Leper
24 It’s inspired
25 Pair of oxen
26 Ear
27 "MS. Found in a Bottle" writer
28 Trot
29 Lassitude
30 Tastie, e.g.
31 Like dessert wines
32 Plaintive cry
33 Affirmative action
34 "P" in "Pan"
35 "Green Gables" girl
36 At this point
37 "Green Gables" girl
38 "Green Gables" girl
39 "Green Gables" girl
40 "Green Gables" girl
41 "Green Gables" girl
42 "Green Gables" girl
43 "Green Gables" girl
44 "Green Gables" girl
45 "Green Gables" girl
46 "Green Gables" girl
47 "Green Gables" girl
48 "Green Gables" girl
49 "Green Gables" girl
50 "Green Gables" girl
51 "Green Gables" girl
52 "Green Gables" girl
53 "Green Gables" girl
54 "Green Gables" girl
55 "Green Gables" girl
56 "Green Gables" girl
57 "Green Gables" girl
58 "Green Gables" girl
59 "Green Gables" girl
60 "Green Gables" girl
61 "Green Gables" girl
62 "Green Gables" girl
63 "Green Gables" girl
64 "Green Gables" girl
65 "Green Gables" girl
66 "Green Gables" girl
67 "Green Gables" girl
68 "Green Gables" girl
69 "Green Gables" girl
70 "Green Gables" girl
71 "Green Gables" girl
72 "Green Gables" girl
73 "Green Gables" girl
74 "Green Gables" girl
75 "Green Gables" girl
76 "Green Gables" girl
77 "Green Gables" girl
78 "Green Gables" girl
79 "Green Gables" girl
80 "Green Gables" girl

Copyright ©2016 PuzzleJunction.com
Fear and loathing in Student Media

WHAT DOES ‘ORGANIC’ EVEN MEAN?

Cheryl Nuzum

Organic’ seems to be a food trend outlasting even ‘gluten-free’ and if I’m being completely honest, I’m totally on board. Anything with an ‘organic’ label and a $2 up charge goes straight into my grocery cart with a metaphorical pat on the back. I feel as if I’m doing my body a favor. There’s so much stigma around processed foods — with good reason — yet somehow even if I’m making spaghetti loaded with red meat and cheese, as long as there’s a little green label, then I’m convinced I just ate the equivalent of a grilled chicken salad.

I blame the Gwyneth Paltrow’s and Gisele Bundchen’s of the world. Noted for their extremely limited diets of no gluten, dairy or refined sugars — among other things — they provide this aura of pretension that we little people tend to mistake for authority. They are beautiful and glumorous and we want to be just like them.

Even though the majority of us aren’t willing to commit to such a drastic diet change, something simple like buying packs of organic chicken or baskets of fresh produce from the farmer’s market is enough to make us feel like we’re doing our part. Even if we choose to make those simple changes though, what are we really doing for our bodies?

What exactly is organic? In order for livestock or produce to be labeled organic, there must be proof it was not produced using genetically modified organisms, or GMOs. This means that produce cannot be grown through GM0 seeds and that the livestock being raised cannot eat GMO feed.

If something is labeled ‘100 percent organic’ it must be able to demonstrate that it is made from certified organic products and all processing is organic. However, some products have the label ‘made with organic ingredients’ These products may have the same standards as above but only up to 70 percent. Once upon a time, the regulations around organic food and labeling was pretty much a joke. However currently the USDA has really begun to crack down on regulations on what can be labeled ‘100 percent organic’ or ‘made with organic ingredients’. The same however, cannot be said for ‘natural foods.’

There is no definitive definition on what can be labeled ‘natural’ according to the FDA. There are only three rules: cannot contain 1) added color 2) artificial flavoring or 3) synthetic substances. The rest is fair game. Literally anything can be labeled ‘natural’ as long as it doesn’t contain one the three above restrictions. Maybe there is something to be said for organic foods and labeling. However, no matter what the current food trends are or what finds the celebrities and athletes of the world are following, we should still pay attention to what is put in our bodies regardless. Eat what you want, just be aware of what exactly that is.

Originally published on the Defender Community

Opinions: Fear and loathing in Student Media

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

While you read this I want to assure you that this will not be a sad goodbye. My opinion is that there are only two ways to say goodbye: a bittersweet remembrance or the utter truth.

For the past two years, I have been part of an organization that has changed my view on life, people, friends and education. This organization has not only helped me reach out to opportunities that I normally would not have but it has given me connections to new interesting people. The fact of the matter is that being a part of a group of people changes you, and sometimes that doesn’t mean change for the better.

Being a member of this group taught me some of the most valuable lessons. I learned that if you want to be a part of a particular group, that you need to conform. People tend to mistake for normal. In every aspect of our lives, from birth to death, we are thrust into situations with people that we disagree with or dislike, yet we learn from these people and are molded by the group and what we think of them. All of this said, there are so many amazing people that I have worked with throughout my semesters here. My first boss that taught me to be with people that you don’t want to be like.

Obviously, I’m not saying that change is bad, and I’m not saying that being a member is nothing but conforming. I’m trying to say that I learned to interact with people that I normally would not interact with. These individuals were sometimes people that I didn’t like talking to or interacting with. This is the definition of life for everyone around us.

In every aspect of our lives, from birth to death, we are thrust into situations with people that we disagree with or dislike, yet we learn from these people and are molded by the group and what we think of them. All of this said, there are so many amazing people that I have worked with throughout my semesters here. My first boss that taught me to be with people that you don’t want to be like.

To assure you that this will not be a sad goodbye; a bittersweet remembrance or the utter truth.
One day shy of the one-year anniversary of the I-16 crash that resulted in the death of five Georgia Southern University nursing students and injured two others, a press conference was held regarding the settlement of the wrongful death lawsuits against Total Transportation of Mississippi (TTM), the trucking company that hired the driver who caused the crash.

"We confirm that Total Transportation of Mississippi, LLC and its insurers have reached agreements with the families of four of the young nursing students who died and with one of the young ladies who was injured in this terrible accident," John Stomps, CEO and president of TTM, said in an email. "Through their respective attorneys, we continue to talk to the family of the fifth student who died as a result of the accident and to others who were injured. We are grateful to all for their willingness to work with us toward resolution. On behalf of the employees of Total Transportation of Mississippi, I am profoundly sorry for the pain and loss we have caused, and we continue to pray for peace and healing for all affected by this tragedy."

Attorney Bob Cheeley, partner at Butler, Wooten, Cheeley & Peak, LLP, spoke at the press conference to a small crowd of friends, family and fellow students of the victims.

"These parents want [TTM] to deal with these problems so no parents will have to deal with something like this ever again," Cheeley said.

TTM admitted that hiring truck driver John Wayne Johnson was a mistake, according to Cheeley. Johnson, who had a rollover and totaled his vehicle while working for Steven's Transport and was fired from his job as a mechanic for a bus company in Louisiana for sexual harassment, failed to meet the company's hiring policies.

"Johnson had been deemed incapable of being a professional driver by a former employer, he was welcomed at [TTM]," Cheeley said.

TTM is currently upgrading their equipment to the latest safety technology, including collision mitigation systems that are capable of stopping a vehicle when a driver fails to react, says Stomps.

"Since founding Total Transportation in 1991, we have strived to make the company a safe one, with driver hiring standards, operational practices and equipment specifications that far exceed what is required by law. We have put in place additional procedural safeguards to ensure that our drivers meet the higher standards we set for ourselves," Stomps said in an email.

At the press conference, students were visibly shaken as Cheeley and family members of the victims spoke.

"Unfortunately, I have the opportunity to sit in one of these chairs [at the memorial garden], and as a parent... you understand the depth of the pain and the humility that also comes with being a parent," Jimmy DeLoach, father of victim Abbie DeLoach, said.

"Do I think they should be held accountable? Absolutely."

For DeLoach, no amount of money gained from the settlement can make up for the loss of his daughter.

"I would trade my soul and my heart for just one more Dad, I love you. Dad, I'll be home in a couple of hours. Dad, I miss you," DeLoach said. "What is the value of that? How do you put thousands or millions of dollars on that? You can't do that... Life is not cheap, and life is precious. And that's why God gave us his son for eternity."

After the press conference, many tearful members of the audience embraced. For friends and family of the victims, the settlement of the lawsuit does not mark the end of the pain of losing their loved ones.

"We were prepared to do whatever we had to do [for the girls]," Kayla Wilkinson, senior marketing major and close friend to Emily Clark, said. "There's no amount of money or time that's going to make the days get easier. Every single day is going to be tough."

"It was just overwhelming," Wilkinson said. "I can't even put it into words."

"It's just a lot," Cheeley said. "I think it's important to recognize the pain."
Newly elected SGA executive board looks to engage the student body

BY TANDRA SMITH AND ERIN MCGUINESS
The George-Anne staff and contributor

Dylan John and Valencia Warren were elected President and Executive Vice-President of the Student Government Association (SGA) after receiving 957 votes. "Winning the election feels amazing. We had some students that came up to us that were very vocal about how they felt about our campaign and how they felt about how were handling things and it was great," Warren said.

Warren is a senior logistics major that will be returning for graduate school in the fall for her masters in business administrations with a focus in logistics.

The entire experience, even with our opposition, has brought great friendships and valuable connections. The students are excited with us and we are excited with them and it's just an amazing feeling knowing we are getting ready to impact the students in a way that they have never been reached before," Warren said.

Almost 75 percent of the John-Warren ticket was elected by the student body to represent SGA. Included on the ticket were students from the Greek community, the Multicultural Student Center, international students and more.

"We made sure our ticket was very well positioned," John said.

John, who was born in Sri Lanka, is a senior construction management major that will also be returning to GS next fall for graduate school. John will be studying applied engineering with a focus in construction management.

Previous experience

John actually failed out of high school and said that college was not in the books for him. After coming to college, he wanted to change who he was and aspired to become active in his academics and student organizations.

John has been involved with 16 organizations, a few that he started himself at GS such as the Mock Mediation club and the Construction Management Association of America and has held 12 officer positions in his time at Georgia Southern.

"It's about dynamic thought and how you engage and how you strategize and I've learned that experience through mock mediation," John said. "I have six foundation words for my life: construction, business, mediation, training, diplomacy and international relations. If you look at my list of organizations they all relate to those six."

Both John and Warren started their college careers at different institutions, Warren at Valdosta State University and John at Middle Georgia State College. The newly elected SGA executives believe that their experience at different colleges has given them an insight to the way other institutions run and allowed them to bring new ideas and perspectives on how to run a successful student organization.

During their campaign, the John and Warren ticket started a program called "Empower the Eagles" where they handed out two poker chips to a student, one to say that they invest in the student and think they are special at GS and another to pass along to someone else that the students wishes to invest in.

"(The poker chips) kind of captures what we want to do by reaching out individually to people and it was not something we advertised during the campaign because we wanted to connect with them on a personal level as well as unique GS," Warren said.

Campus Carry bill

Currently, some students, faculty and staff are concerned about the possible implementation of the campus carry bill in Georgia. However, John is against this bill.

"I am personally against it, as is our university administration. The most useful response [regarding campus carry] that I've heard was from our incoming president, Jamie Herbert. He said statistics that may indicate that it's not going to be a campus safety problem," John said.

"Regardless of the statistics, if one student is uncomfortable that is a problem."

Goals for upcoming year

As for next year, one of the things John wants to accomplish is being visible and transparent to the student body.

"It's about joining governments and I don't think we effectively do the trick down, and we have to lead from the front and not sit back and expect engagement because that doesn't happen," John said.

Warren states that one of the issues that GS currently faces is the disconnect from the student organizations and SGA.

Warren hopes to build a strong relationship with the Office of Student Activities (OSA) to increase the connection between the student body.

John doesn't want to change the SGA representation but rather transform the way it runs by engaging students.

"We are not trying to reinvent the wheel, we are trying to make it spin better," John said.

"From our survey, we saw that almost 80 percent of the students felt like they don't know who their representative is. We want to make a tangible effort to have student knowing and identifying who is representing them."

Elected president and vice president of SGA, Dylan John and Valencia Warren are eager to begin building relationships with the student body. Their campaign was very hands on and student oriented.
Study drugs such as Adderall, Vyvanse and Ritalin are commonly found on college campuses and used in order to help one focus. The real effects of these drugs to those who are not prescribed can be far from beneficial.

BY KAT SHUMAN
The George-Anne staff

Note to reader: The following story contains accounts from students who share their experience with illegal study drugs. Their names are fictitious in order to protect their identity.

As finals week approaches, the Henderson library will be full day and night as students work to finish term papers and cram for final exams. Parking will be impossible, study rooms will be full and many students, feeling overwhelmed with their workload, will turn to study drugs in attempts to maximize their study time.

“Study drugs” such as dextroamphetamine-sertraline (trade name Adderall), methylphenidate (Ritalin) and lisdexamfetamine (Vyvanse) are abused worldwide and especially so on college campuses during the months of December and May, when the majority of colleges end their semesters with finals week.

Adderall, Ritalin and Vyvanse are completely legal with a prescription. However, when used by students without prescriptions, they become Class II drugs.

Michael’s Story:
“I didn’t need to use in high school. I was probably a better student and studied more and not the night before the test,” Michael*, a Georgia Southern student, recounts how his good study habits slipped away in college. He describes how he met new people in college and became more outgoing than he was in high school.

“I got lazy and started doing my homework later, and it all caught up to me eventually,” Michael* said.

Like other students in college, uses study drugs. Michael* is not prescribed these medicines; he uses them because he believes they increase his focus and stamina when spending long nights in the library.

“I had a friend that told me that she was giving another friend Adderall, so I asked her for one,” Michael* said.

That was the first time Michael* used study drugs. He had lots of homework due the next day and a test, so he decided to stay up all night depending on Adderall to keep him awake.

“I didn’t feel tired. I felt pretty awake and felt like it was successful use of drugs,” Michael* said.

An Academic View:
Georgia Southern professor, John Weaver, Ph.D., researches the posthuman condition, drugs and education, and popular culture. In his book “Educating the Posthuman,” Weaver cautions against the use of medicines like Adderall, Ritalin and Vyvanse. He believes that students have become a very drug-oriented culture and a pawn in a pharmaceutical game.

“Premature wrinkles, dragon breath, smoker’s cough and addiction. Who needs it?”

STUDY DRUGS cont. page 8

College Health Tip #7
Don’t smoke.

Premature wrinkles, dragon breath, smoker’s cough and addiction. Who needs it?

To contact the features editor, email ganartsandent@georgiasouthern.edu
It is what it is, right? I'm not an addict. I've never had problems staying focused, but with finals comes stress; you have to take it.*

WILLIAM*

Richard's Story. Feature 2, 3 & 4 Bedroom Apartment Homes & Townhomes

Richard has ADD and ADHD. He is prescribed Adderall, but he admits to selling it. Richard described his frustration with students who abuse study drugs. They [students who abuse] think Adderall will turn them into a supercomputer. That they can cram and ace an exam," Richard said.

Richard had a few people ask to buy his Adderall. He admits that he had sold it before, when coerced by manipulative peers. "Once people find out, they pressure you to let them get it. You don't ever want to tell people that you take it. It's on campus, in the IT building, somewhere, and I pulled my medicine out to take it. Some people jokingly asked for it, but like, they're serious about it. People get really aggressive in a passive way...They force you into giving them one or selling them one," Richard said.

A state law view:
Lieutenant Chris McElroy works for the Criminal Investigations Department of Public Safety at Georgia Southern University. McElroy said that under the Georgia State law, possession of a controlled substance without a prescription is a felony offense. One could go to prison more than a year and face a fine of more than one thousand dollars. "Students think it helps them, but if you think it helps you, it's as simple as going to a doctor and get a prescription. It's much easier that way," McElroy said.

William's Story.
"It is what it is. First is, right? I'm not an addict. I've never had problems staying focused, but with finals comes stress; you have to take it."

William, a Georgia Southern student, recounts how high school was more structured and had a lighter workload than college. The freedom of college and the necessity of learning time management can intensify a student's pressure. "I haven't used yet this semester. I did last semester, to focus on finals week. It's like I was hopping on the bandwagon, gonna see what's it's all about. It was in the heat of the moment. Like, 'Do you want to have one?' and I said, 'Sure.'"

Corey Smith Back in the Boro

TICKETS ONLINE.

Songs from Corey Smith's new album "While the Gettin' is Good" will be played at South City on May 5. Concert tickets can be purchased online.

BY AARAY JACKSON

"While the Gettin' is Good" is Smith's most recent album. "I'm not Gonna Cry," which was released on May 5, is a great example of Smith's abilities. Smith's voice is one of the best in country music, and it affects people's lives. "I'm Not Gonna Cry" is a great song that everyone should listen to. Smith's music is definitely worth the money.

Corey Smith has included Statesboro as a stop on his current tour, and he'll be playing at South City Tavern on Thursday, May 5.

Rare to find in an artist, Smith is a true singer/songwriter, writing each of his own songs. "I don't write because I want to be on the radio, I don't try to write hits, I just write what I know and what makes me feel good and what I think is cool," Smith said in a phone interview.

His songs are a personal representation of himself and his experiences. According to his album's press release, this album explores themes of love, hometown pride and self-discovery. Smith has released multiple hits from "Fuck the Po-Po," "If I Could Do It Again" and "I'm Not Gonna Cry," which has been used at high-school graduations across the United States. "While the Gettin' is Good" album holds highly anticipated songs from "Blind," "Taking The Edge Off" and "Blow Me Away." Working with Sugar Hill Records, Smith was able to go into an actual studio, edit, and mix his music. The record label way for the first time.

"When people hear the difference, it's definitely there," Smith said. Smith started out playing in college towns and bars, including right here in Statesboro, and it's a place where he feels very comfortable. He believes it to be his duty to invest back to the fans who have invested in him. "It's a nice break from reality, it's an escape. It's why we play music," Smith said. "We focus on playing and hanging out and I hope an audience is just singing along and having their escape."

There's no better way to release after finals week and welcome in the summer than a good time at a country concert. Plus, it's Cinco de Mayo, and you'll probably be going out anyways. So grab your cowboy boots and a margarita to show Corey Smith a hell of a good GATA time. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased from Xorbia Tickets online.

"Blind," "Taking The Edge Off" and "Blow Me Away." Working with Sugar Hill Records, Smith was able to go into an actual studio, edit, and mix his music. The record label way for the first time.

"When people hear the difference, it's definitely there," Smith said. Smith started out playing in college towns and bars, including right here in Statesboro, and it's a place where he feels very comfortable. He believes it to be his duty to invest back to the fans who have invested in him. "It's a nice break from reality, it's an escape. It's why we play music," Smith said. "We focus on playing and hanging out and I hope an audience is just singing along and having their escape."

There's no better way to release after finals week and welcome in the summer than a good time at a country concert. Plus, it's Cinco de Mayo, and you'll probably be going out anyways. So grab your cowboy boots and a margarita to show Corey Smith a hell of a good GATA time. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased from Xorbia Tickets online.

"Blind," "Taking The Edge Off" and "Blow Me Away." Working with Sugar Hill Records, Smith was able to go into an actual studio, edit, and mix his music. The record label way for the first time.

"When people hear the difference, it's definitely there," Smith said. Smith started out playing in college towns and bars, including right here in Statesboro, and it's a place where he feels very comfortable. He believes it to be his duty to invest back to the fans who have invested in him. "It's a nice break from reality, it's an escape. It's why we play music," Smith said. "We focus on playing and hanging out and I hope an audience is just singing along and having their escape."

There's no better way to release after finals week and welcome in the summer than a good time at a country concert. Plus, it's Cinco de Mayo, and you'll probably be going out anyways. So grab your cowboy boots and a margarita to show Corey Smith a hell of a good GATA time. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased from Xorbia Tickets online.

"Blind," "Taking The Edge Off" and "Blow Me Away." Working with Sugar Hill Records, Smith was able to go into an actual studio, edit, and mix his music. The record label way for the first time.

"When people hear the difference, it's definitely there," Smith said. Smith started out playing in college towns and bars, including right here in Statesboro, and it's a place where he feels very comfortable. He believes it to be his duty to invest back to the fans who have invested in him. "It's a nice break from reality, it's an escape. It's why we play music," Smith said. "We focus on playing and hanging out and I hope an audience is just singing along and having their escape."

There's no better way to release after finals week and welcome in the summer than a good time at a country concert. Plus, it's Cinco de Mayo, and you'll probably be going out anyways. So grab your cowboy boots and a margarita to show Corey Smith a hell of a good GATA time. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased from Xorbia Tickets online.

"Blind," "Taking The Edge Off" and "Blow Me Away." Working with Sugar Hill Records, Smith was able to go into an actual studio, edit, and mix his music. The record label way for the first time.

"When people hear the difference, it's definitely there," Smith said. Smith started out playing in college towns and bars, including right here in Statesboro, and it's a place where he feels very comfortable. He believes it to be his duty to invest back to the fans who have invested in him. "It's a nice break from reality, it's an escape. It's why we play music," Smith said. "We focus on playing and hanging out and I hope an audience is just singing along and having their escape."

There's no better way to release after finals week and welcome in the summer than a good time at a country concert. Plus, it's Cinco de Mayo, and you'll probably be going out anyways. So grab your cowboy boots and a margarita to show Corey Smith a hell of a good GATA time. Tickets are $20 and can be purchased from Xorbia Tickets online.
The 2016 GS football season is getting closer and the Eagles finished up spring practices and are getting ready for summer training and the upcoming season.

Head coach Tyson Summers shared how the team's progression has been with the last few practices and what he thinks the team needs to work on over the summer to help prepare for the fall season.

"I think we have had two good days this week," Summers said. "It gives us the opportunity to go in and watch the tape and make some decisions on what we're doing offensively and defensively and come back in and clean some things up. That was the idea of trying to have the spring game a little bit early, so we could pick up another three or four practices."

The Eagles had their Blue-White game on April 16, which saw lots of energy and aggressiveness on the defensive side of the ball. One thing Summers has pointed out is that he is still looking for leaders on both sides of the ball that can rally their teammates when things don't go their way.

"As a unit we're getting better every day. It took us about ten practices to get into what we're supposed to do. Our guys have to step up and I think I have to step up as a leader too. We want to win every single game we can. We want to try to make it to the big bowl game," senior offensive lineman Andy Kwon said.

The players have adapted to the new staff in the short time they've had on the field, and are looking to build off that in the summer.

"Anytime you get change it's a little bit difficult, but I think we have come a long way since day one. I've seen a lot of progress in the team. As a team our goals are to be undefeated and go to the bowl game at the end of the year," junior linebacker Chris DeLaRosa said.

They will wrap up the spring with a few more practices to help clean things up before the semester ends. They'll participate in workouts this summer on the field and in the weight room.

"We have to get more defined into what our assignments are and right now we put in a good bit on offense and defense. The biggest thing was that they came out the first week, and I think that they had a lot of anxiety with the new staff and the new practices. I think that they were extremely anxious when we started. Now I think that a lot of those things have become second nature to them," Summers said.

The team opens the 2016 season on Sept. 3, when they host Savannah State at Paulson Stadium.
Inside the Mind of a Runner

Sophomore GS distance runner Rebecca Parker discusses how she prepares for a meet.

The distance runners practicing on the track at Eagle Field. They will run again on April 28-30 at the Penn Relays.

By Derek Wuchte
The George-Anne Staff

On April 3 at the Florida Relays, sophomore Rebecca Parker broke Georgia Southern’s school record in the 3000 meter steeplechase. She has been an important part of the school’s distance running team this season for both track and cross country. Her success comes from the hard work she puts into running, but that success had to be founded back in the day.

“With other sports, you have to learn technique and there’s a list of complexities that an athlete needs to understand,” Parker said. “With running, distance running in particular, Parker found herself in a sport she could compete in. It had an organic flow to it unlike other sports. With soccer or tennis, an athlete needs to understand a list of complexities that start with serving or passing and end with collegiate-level performance. Track & field projects a different mentality onto its athletes.”

Parker started as a soccer player in high school. Cross country meets and track & field were eliminated in the first round of the conference tournament on Friday afternoon. The Men’s team fell 2-4, and the Women’s team 1-4. Both the Men’s and Women’s Tennis programs were eliminated in the first round of the conference tournament on Friday afternoon. The Men’s team fell 2-4, and the Women’s team 1-4.

“The steeplechase is different than a traditional 3000 meter run. It includes hurdles and water jumps, which are jumps over a barrier into a small pit of water. Besides those obstacles, the rest of the run is linear around a normal outdoor track.”

Parker is only a sophomore and has a relatively short year means room for improvement. When discussing her future accomplishments, her ambitions are set even higher.

“Time-wise, definitely, keep breaking my record. Maybe cut off a minute or two in the 5K,” Parker said. “Individually, I’d love to keep competing regionally in cross country and track. Maybe take the [track team] to regionals. Keep taking the team to those big competitions. To really compete against the top collegiate athletes; to be able to compete and keep getting higher up there in the level.”

Parker plans to stay an Eagle and see how far the team can go while she is here. The season has a few competitions left, but, until it’s all said and done, she will be working hard until the last event finishes.

It tells me we are on the right track as a program, and we have the right guys to make this program great,” head coach Sander Koning said in an interview following the competition. “I believe we will really breakthrough as a program when we do that.”

On the Women’s side, the Eagles faced No. 3 seed Troy, a team that they had beaten a few weeks prior to the tournament. On Friday, however, Troy bested the Eagles 4-1. Guilia Repe won her singles match and was named to the Sun Belt Conference’s All-Conference Second Team.

The Men’s team took on No. 2 seed South Alabama and came up just short. JC Aloha and Ze Moya were the only Eagles to win their matches on the day, as both earned points in singles competition. The team finished the season with a 13-7 overall record, ending one of the best seasons in the program’s recent history.

“I commend the guys for having a good season, and looking back from a year ago, we made some strides,” coach Sander Koning said.

GS Tennis teams knocked out of Sun Belt Championships

By Robert George
The George-Anne Staff

Both the Men’s and Women’s Tennis programs were eliminated in the first round of the conference tournament on Friday afternoon. The Men’s team fell 2-4, and the Women’s team 1-4.

The Men’s team took on No. 2 seed South Alabama and came up just short. JC Aloha and Ze Moya were the only Eagles to win their matches on the day, as both earned points in singles competition. The team finished the season with a 13-7 overall record, ending one of the best seasons in the program’s recent history.

“I commend the guys for having a good season, and looking back from a year ago, we made some strides,” coach Sander Koning said.

It tells me we are on the right track as a program, and we have the right guys to make this program great,” head coach Sander Koning said in an interview following the competition. “I believe we will really breakthrough as a program when we do that.”

On the Women’s side, the Eagles faced No. 3 seed Troy, a team that they had beaten a few weeks prior to the tournament. On Friday, however, Troy bested the Eagles 4-1. Guilia Repe won her singles match and was named to the Sun Belt Conference’s All-Conference Second Team.

They finished the season 12-9 and 2-3 in the conference. With just two seniors on the team, the Eagles should continue to improve in the offseason and be ready for next year.
SPORTS

BY KEVIN KENEELY
The George-Anne staff

Whether it is crouching behind home plate, making plays in the outfield, or standing in the batter's box, CJ Brazil endures everything the game of baseball throws at him.

Some people know him as "Sticks" because he wears the number 11, but his mom knows him as "Ceeg" and every once in a while his teammates will call him that whenever they hear his mom shout it from the stands.

He is easily the toughest man out on the field as in almost every game it seems he gets hit with a pitch or the follow through of the swing of a bat. In some cases, an opposing runner may even take him out at the plate in order to try to score a run.

Being fit and in shape has its ups and downs in terms of being a catcher. Sure it makes him nimble and quick, but his smaller size puts him in harms way of being taken out by a base runner.

This has never worried Brazil; he knows what it's like to take a hit, as he also played high school football at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School.

"Being a catcher in the game, I feel like that's just something that you assume. Like when you're a receiver running across the middle, you kind of assume that you're going to get hit pretty hard by a linebacker," Brazil said.

Luckily for Brazil, he has never had to worry about this, as it has always been illegal to take out the catcher at the high school, travel ball and college levels. MLB has also come around recently enacting that rule into place prohibiting home plate collisions.

This rule recently caused havoc throughout the MLB as this play at the plate has always been one of the sport's most exciting plays, next to a base runner taking out a fielder to avoid a double play, but that's also illegal now.

"I don't want baseball to start being like football and becoming a little soft and taking out some of the rules," Brazil said.

Brazil has always been a huge fan of Yadier Molina, catcher for the St. Louis Cardinals. Molina is a prime example of a big league catcher who has for many years dealt with these potentially dangerous plays at home plate.

Molina is one of the greatest defensive catchers of all time and has a build that scared anyone trying to come home on him. 2012 was a different story for Molina as Josh Harrison, outfielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates, crushed Molina at the plate forcing Molina out of the game. What makes this story relevant is the fact that Molina, crushed and all, held onto the ball and the runner was called out at the plate.

That's exactly what Brazil is talking about when he says catchers have to be prepared and assume they are going to get hit. Molina did just that and saved his team a run in the process.

Brazil has had a few injuries himself over the years as he tore his meniscus in his senior year of high school in the first region game against St. Pius, rival high school to Blessed Trinity. And then just last year he tore his labrum.

Before these injuries and the reality that he may be just a step or two away from the MLB, Brazil grew up a fan of the sport.

With his parents being from New York, he was initially a fan of the New York Yankees, who have won the World Series five times in his lifetime. But as he got older, he became a fan of the Atlanta Braves.

Ever since middle school, Brazil has been going to Turner Field with friends, family and teammates, which lead to the natural transition to becoming a Braves fan.

Brazil said, "And then you start actually knowing some people who play for the Braves, so it just becomes your home team."

---

Runners:

3

Runs:

27

Fielding percentage:

.992
**FREE DINING PLAN UPGRADE!**

**TRUE BLUE & Gold Too**

**APRIL 4 - APRIL 29**

From **April 4 - April 29**, all returning students of Georgia Southern who purchase an Eagle Blue dining plan will get a FREE upgrade to an Eagle Gold dining plan*. With this FREE upgrade, students can maximize their plan and get the best, for less!

### COMPARING EAGLE BLUE & EAGLE GOLD:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amenities</th>
<th>Eagle Blue</th>
<th>Eagle Gold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Res. Dining Access</td>
<td>All-Access</td>
<td>All-Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dining Dollars (D$)</td>
<td>100 D$</td>
<td>300 D$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guest Passes</td>
<td>Five (5)</td>
<td>Eight (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost per Semester</td>
<td>$1725</td>
<td>$1875</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BENEFITS WITH EAGLE GOLD

- Total additional Dining Dollars for the year: $400
- Total additional Guest Passes for the year: 6
- Cost to upgrade per semester: $150 (0 with this offer)
- Yearly savings with this offer: $300

**SIGN UP NOW!**

*All dining plan policies and procedures listed on our website at GeorgiaSouthern.edu/dining will still apply. Incoming freshman are not eligible. Eagle Dining Plans which are purchased during promotional period will become effective beginning Fall 2016 semester. The automatic renewal of the Eagle Gold dining plan for Spring Semester of 2017 will be at the same reduced price. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu/dining for more information.*

Visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/diningplans/blue2gold](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/diningplans/blue2gold)