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THE GEORGE-ANNE

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 • VOLUME 82 • ISSUE 28

COVERING THE CAMPUS LIKE A SWARM OF GNATS

THE SEARCH FOR GEORGIA SOUTHERN'S NEXT PRESIDENT

Belcher: 'I see a commitment to excellence here'

By Robert Greene II and Lynn Simmons

Staff writer and guest writer

David Belcher, the second candidate for Georgia Southern president, spoke to students, faculty and staff at the Performing Arts Center last Thursday.

Belcher currently serves as provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR).

During his introduction, he spelled out his plans for the university, his leadership style and what he wants to see in a relationship between the university and the community.

At the beginning of his remarks, Belcher said that he wanted to come to GSU because of what he called its "commitment to excellence, commitment to community engagement" and his "inherent need to be at a place where I can make a difference."

Belcher also said that he can "see excellence here" at GSU.

Belcher said that his leadership style includes collaboration, and he mentioned his work at UALR as proof of this. He cited his experience with the strategic planning process at that university soon after he arrived in 2003. Belcher said he "decided to be as inclusive as possible" and that he brought in "students, faculty and staff" as well as community members into the strategic planning process.

Belcher said his philosophy of higher education is that "higher education exists to serve our society" and that a university should be "producing graduates who can think and can live in a diverse world."

He said that the greatest issue facing higher education right now is "fiscal issues



Brandilyn Brown/STAFF

David Belcher spoke to faculty, staff and students at an open forum on Thursday at the Performing Arts Center. Belcher is the second finalist for the presidency.

due to the economy."

While he acknowledged that "not even rich schools choose to do everything in good times," Belcher also said that he wants members of the university community to collaborate about what's needed in relation to mission goals set up at the university.

Belcher went on to say during the question and answer session that he is "very committed to shared governance," mentioning his "great working relationship" with the faculty senate at UALR. He included the fact that he met with the faculty senate executive committee once

Presidential candidate No. 2

Name: David Belcher

Present Position: Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Little Rock, Ark. (since 2003).

Previous Positions: Dean of the College of Arts and Letters (1994-2003), Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Letters (1993-1994) and Coordinator of Keyboard Studies (1989-1992), Missouri State University, Springfield, Mo.

Education: D.M.A in piano performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester, a M.M. in piano performance from the University of Michigan and a B.M. in piano performance from Furman University.

Honors: UALR Student's Choice Award - Administrator of the Year (2004), Springfield, Mo. Area Arts Council Ozzie Award (1999).

Professional Memberships: Member, Pi Kappa Lambda (since 1978) and member, Phi Kappa Phi (since 2002).

a month, and also made sure to meet with UALR's Student Government Association on a regular basis.

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Brandilyn Brown/STAFF

McCarthy participates in forum Monday

By Charles Minshew

Editor-in-chief

Belinda McCarthy, the third candidate for the GSU presidency, spoke to faculty, staff and students at a forum in the Performing Arts Center yesterday.

McCarthy currently serves as the provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at Missouri State University.

McCarthy said that the future of GSU is still being planned and noted that all decisions regarding the path of the university have not yet been made.

"It's a very attractive time for a president to come in," McCarthy said.

McCarthy spoke about her style of leadership, saying that goals for a university need to include the foundation already present.

"You have to start with people where they live. You have to see where you are. You can't come in with a vision, you can't come in with a set of strategies and say, 'This is what we're going to do,'" McCarthy said.

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NEWS

Over 500 students attend Unity Fest on Thursday.

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Three-Day Forecast



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Thunderstorms
88/68



Wednesday
Thunderstorms
88/68



Thursday
Thunderstorms
88/68



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Career Services sponsors fifth annual Dare to Declare workshop series for students

By Kelsey Sorrell

Guest writer

Career Services is sponsoring the fifth year of Dare to Declare, a series of workshops designed to help students choose a major and their future career path. It will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in room 2080 at the Russell Union.

There are four workshops throughout the day that can aid students in their decisions for their academic career. They help students choose a major, learn about possible careers in their chosen field and get the students involved with career planning. The workshops prepare interests, skills and values and teach students how it relates to their careers.

Sophomore Blair Martin decided to go to Dare to Declare last year to choose a major.

"I wasn't sure what I wanted to do, but these workshops made me realize that I wanted to be an athletic trainer when I graduate," she

said. "That's when I chose the major that could get me there."

This program targets mainly freshmen and sophomores; however, any student is permitted to attend, as it also helps to narrow down a career path within a student's chosen major.

Junior Georgene Grant a chemical engineering major, attended this event her freshman year with her First Year Experience class.

"Even though I already had a major, Dare to Declare helped me to find more information about my major," she said. "Career Services helped me make decisions and allowed me to find out what I want to do."

Students do not need to attend all three workshops in order to participate in Dare to Declare. The workshops run for four hours and are designed to allow students who have classes to attend at least one or as many as they can.

The first workshop, Major Decisions from 11-11:50 a.m. and again from 1-1:50 p.m., allows students to take a Self Directed Search

that will be examined by a professional career advisor in order to decide which major is best for them.

The second workshop, held from 12-12:50 p.m., is Major Career Planning. This workshop explains the process of creating a four-year action plan in order to begin taking the steps needed to succeed.

The final workshop, Values and Skills: Things of Major Importance, from 2-2:50 p.m., teaches students the importance of identifying their personal values and skills so that they can relate them to their future career choices.

Students also have a chance to win up to \$200 that day by simply attending the workshops. For every workshop they attend, they receive one door-prize ticket. There will be drawings for money consisting of a \$100 drawing, a \$50 drawing, and two \$25 drawings. If a student wins, his or her name will be put back into the drawing with the possibility of winning again.

Amy Rowell, the assistant director of Student Affairs and coordinator of this year's Dare to Declare, said this is a good event for all students to attend.

"This program is really beneficial for students who still need to choose a major, however, students who already have one can still benefit as Dare to Declare can open up so many other options for careers within their major," she said.

Rowell added that guest speaker Patrick Combs, a keynote speaker from previous years, will also help students this year in his program, Major in Success. Hosted by the Dare to Declare program, Major in Success will teach students to be successful in their future careers.

Students do not need to register to attend any of these events, and all events they attend will be free of charge.

For more information, contact the department of Career Services.

Increased student enrollment could lead to more student fees to fund parking decks on campus

By Venyke Medley

Guest writer

Two years ago, Valdosta State University built a \$30 million parking deck, that included 2,000 parking spaces. The parking deck was built due to a shortage of parking spaces and the increase of the student body. Georgia Southern is experiencing the same problems due to the increase in student enrollment.

In 1991, the student population was 12,250. The beginning of 2004 started the increase of enrollment at 15,704. Christy Rikard, recruiter at the Admissions office approximates the student body to be at least 19,000 this year.

There are approximately 2,400 resident parking spaces and 3,000 commuter spaces currently

available on campus. A new project is currently in the works on Knight Drive, which will be used as an overflow for Centennial, Watson, Eagle Village and Kennedy. This project costs \$700,000 and contains 230 parking spaces. This costs approximately adding \$3,043 per space.

Adding parking decks to GSU have been discussed, but not for the near future, mostly due to the financial obligation that parking decks will bring. Bob Chambers, director of Parking and Transportation said, "We at Georgia Southern try to keep costs as low as possible. Education is the main focus."

Although parking decks will be expensive to build and maintain, they will include elevators, lights, a security program, equipment and emergency power. For this to be accomplished, additional fees must be put into place. Facility

fees must be paid by all students, while user fees apply to only the students paying to use a certain facility, such as campus parking.

Locations that have been considered for a parking deck, include the Performing Arts Center, the College of Education and close to the Landrum Center near Fair Road. The PAC is the front runner due to its already high demand for parking, and the fact that it is always the first to fill up.

Paper surveys have been handed out in the past pertaining to this subject, because GSU wants to know what the current and future students think.

"They are our customers, we try our best to meet their needs," said Chambers.

Mixed reviews were given from the students, and faculty. Samantha Young, president of the Student Government Association, is against the

thought of parking decks. She said, "Parking decks will be a great expense. This will only add to the current debt. We have to look at our long term and short term goals."

Sophomore Tony Cooper, agreed with Young, saying, "No, we do not want parking decks. If this affects our tuition price we would rather keep what we already have."

Glynn Ellis, a political science professor, was in favor of parking decks, but only, "if the need is great enough to justify the expense."

Junior Shane Palmer said, "Parking decks would be great if they will make it easier to get around campus. Parking is very scarce now."

"The decision is made for us by needs," Chambers says. "[We] Don't know what the future holds. [We] can just look into future as well as you can."

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BELCHER

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Still, he admitted that "there are times when decisions aren't 100 percent accepted" and that when such a decision is reached, his "goal is, to the best of my ability, to provide as much context" to why he made such a decision.

Belcher said he'd had "quite a provocative conversation" with student leaders earlier that day during a lunch, and that if he became president, he would "set aside time [for students] to come to talk to me about issues."

Belcher was also asked what steps he would take to make the university carbon neutral.

He said he was "pleased that a lot of the effort behind sustainability" came from the GSU student body. Belcher said that the university must "build in the known costs of the kind of sustainability issues" that GSU is facing, over both "the long run and the short term." He mentioned steps taken by UALR, such as better parking spaces for fuel efficient vehicles on their campus.

Belcher also said he supports efforts to ensure employee wellness, and he mentioned giving workers "flex time," or the ability to take longer lunches if it meant coming in earlier to work or leaving later. Such measures, he said, "makes jobs more attractive" and is also beneficial for student workers.

Belcher said that at UALR the staff were "heavily involved" in strategic planning. He also spoke of an annual staff awards ceremony held every year, and that these, and the ability

to include staff in the decision making process, would help staff morale.

Belcher said that the most important trait for a president is "engaging people" and "interacting with people outside the institution." Belcher was also asked about what he would do for students whose families were suffering financial hardship and could not pay all the fees required at the beginning of a semester.

He responded by saying he would "try to keep costs as low as possible" and that he would be "looking for every possible angle for funding," with a goal of "targeting scholarships in fundraising" once he became president.

Belcher said that he understands that Georgia's HOPE scholarship will not meet all the financial needs of students.

Belcher was also asked about his vision for GSU athletics.

He mentioned that he knew "Georgia Southern tradition is absolutely critical" and that athletics play a large role in any university, whether it be for student retainment or involvement in the community.

"Athletes rally the spirit of campus," Belcher said. "They are the gateways for community involvement."

Belcher joked that he is familiar with GSU through its rivalry with his alma mater, Furman University.

Belcher said, "I will pull for Georgia Southern- if you give me this job! I'll root for Furman otherwise!"

When describing first-year students in the year 2009, Belcher responded by saying such

students have the "same need to belong" as first-year students of other years, and said that the main difference between current first-year students is "how they interact with each other in social media."

He also favored a "strong orientation program" and said that a university must "build a community" for first-year students.

Belcher was asked whether students are customers, to which he replied "to some extent." He said a university must be "customer friendly," and that their goal is to "attract good students."

Belcher also said there is a "limit to the customer analogy," especially when it comes to enforcing rules on a college campus.

Belcher also said that he was "not very fond" of furloughs, but that he understood the plight at GSU. He said it was "something that has come down from above."

Toward the end of the question and answer session, Belcher repeated that he has a love for higher education and the people that work in the field.

Belcher said that he enjoys being around university faculty, and he sometimes goes to their offices to get their opinion on his performance.

However, he did mention that he considers impatience to be one of his weaknesses.

"I'm impatient because I'm a planner, and I like to get there as fast as possible," said Belcher. "I have to remind myself that people don't always see things the way I do."

In closing, Belcher said that he is a "pretty driven person," and that "there's a lot that excites me about being involved at a university."

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community. Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. 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. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

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DISTRIBUTION: The newspaper is distributed free to the community of GSU.

COLOPHONE: The magazine is printed by The Statesboro Herald Publishing Co. in Statesboro, Ga. Body copy in The George-Anne is 10 point Minion Pro on 12 leading. Standard headline size is 40 point Myriad Pro. For more information about the newspaper, please call 912.478.7459, or e-mail the director of student media at kcallaway@georgiasouthern.edu.

SUPPORT: The George-Anne is funded primarily through revenue from advertisements placed in the paper and receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee.

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MCCARTHY

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said. "I've seen people do that. It doesn't last. It goes back to the status quo when that individual is gone."

McCarthy also discussed issues such as sustainability, calling the effort a "complex" one.

She also took a question about university em-

ployees whose pay is so low that they qualify for food stamps and the subject of the living wage.

"I don't think it's much of a living wage," McCarthy said. "I don't know how people live on some of the salaries that are paid."

For video from McCarthy's forum, please visit www.gadaily.com. Expanded coverage of McCarthy's remarks will be in Thursday's George-Anne.

CORRECTION

In the Thursday, September 17 edition of the George-Anne, a story was published about a student forming the Student Government Accountability Office (SGAO). The story referred to Robert Greene II, a staff writer for the George-Anne, as a student advisor to the Student Government Association. Instead, Greene is a student advisor for the SGAO. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.



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The George-Anne
Tuesday, September 22, 2009



Special Cartoon

It's not about race, it's about politics



John DiPietro
is a junior political science major from John's Creek, Ga. He is a guest columnist for the George-Anne.

It's no big surprise to those who know me (and probably to those who have read my previous pieces) that President Obama and I are rarely in agreement on the issues. We just don't see eye to eye. However, once in a blue moon the president makes a comment that I subscribe to.

Most recently, it was as a denial of Jimmy Carter's allegation that the criticism leveled at the president is rooted in the racism of a country. Although there is likely a group of people who are racist, logic supports our current Commander-in-Chief on this issue.

First of all, if you were to look at the platforms of all of the candidates for the Democratic Presidential Nomination, you'd find that many of Obama's ideas were shared by others in the running, most notably Hillary Clinton.

They were very much in line with each other when it came to their policy goals; the Democratic Primary ultimately came down to a popularity contest between the two. Does that mean that those who chose Obama over Clinton are sexist,

or that those who chose Clinton were racist? No. Those who cast their votes were deciding which one was a better representative of the party and the message that it is trying to send.

It also doesn't make me sexist when I disagree with Clinton on the same issues; I disagree with her just as much as I disagree with Obama. The racism allegation also doesn't account for disagreement with Sens. Chuck Schumer, Harry Reid or John Kerry for holding the same policy views.

Further, the statistics don't support that either. Obama came into office with almost 70 percent of the vote; right now, the average poll has approval for him hovering around 50 percent. Did 20 percent of the population just simply become racist? That doesn't hold water with me, and it probably doesn't with you. Rather, it suggests that Obama has either been too focused on the policy issues that independent voters DIDN'T elect him for (that is to say, not everyone agreed with everything he said during the campaign), or else they don't like the solutions that he's come up with.

The fact is, since taking office Obama has failed to live up to a lot of expectations. Maybe the voters were expecting too much of him – we were and are in constant crisis, it seems – or maybe he promised too much. But the president and I agree on one thing: The real issue has nothing to do with race. It's all about politics.

Georgia Southern lies at a crossroads



Robert Greene II
is a graduate student in history from Augusta, Ga. He is a staff columnist for the George-Anne.

When the next presidential search takes place, which I'd estimate at around 2019 or 2020 due to the average longevity of a Georgia Southern president, it is worth wondering what this campus will be like. That is what this search is about, after all – where our university will be going for the next decade and beyond.

So far, the GSU community has already heard from three candidates who want to lead our school after President Bruce Grube steps down. What the last three presidents have seen GSU do is nothing short of phenomenal.

President Dale Lick, president during most of the 1970s and into 1980s, ushered in football to Georgia Southern, something that has changed the history of this institution for the better.

President Nicholas Henry saw the university complete the long-awaited change from college to university in 1990. And President Bruce Grube saw the growth and the expansion of campus, along with it becoming a Doctoral-Research institution.

So what can we expect by the time the next president steps down, presumably in ten or eleven years' time? Well, the campus will not quite be like the one we've grown to know and love. It is clear that with more students coming on campus, there will be larger facilities to accommodate those students.

A larger student union, for instance, is something that will be needed, and there are already attempts to raise money for such a building. It must be remembered that facilities that aren't academic in origin can't be paid for with state funding, so the money must come from donations. Also, academic buildings for liberal arts, math and science will be needed if our students are to be competitive with students from other institutions for jobs and research opportunities.

Ambition and drive will be key attributes for

the next president. Ambition in wanting to get new students to come to GSU and drive in order to make sure that we not only have the best students, the best faculty and the best staff, but can give all of them the best facilities possible.

That won't be easy, especially given the state of the economy, but any possible president must plan not only for the rocky times ahead but for the better times that will eventually come. Ambition and drive can also get the fundraising going that will be needed to pay for a new union.

New athletic facilities will be needed to keep GSU competitive as well. While I've fallen in love with the feel of Hanner Fieldhouse, it must be realized that a facility as small as that one cannot fit the needs of the coming waves of students we should expect in the future. Nor can Paulson Stadium, known by many as the "prettiest little stadium in America," remain at the size it is if we expect to attract some of the best student-athletes to our campus.

That doesn't even take into account whether or not we ever move up to be a Football Subdivision School; these upgrades, and others, are needed whether we move up or not.

What else should we expect a decade from now? We should expect a university with a higher profile, not only in the state of Georgia, but across the nation. Already, GSU has undergone an aggressive marketing campaign in Atlanta and other areas of Georgia to bring in more students. But with Georgia Southern's individual colleges all pushing their students to do greater things through such endeavors as the Undergraduate Research Fall Symposium being offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, we can expect GSU students to obtain a higher profile nationally.

That's as much an effective recruiting tool as having a successful athletics department, but the two together can take this university to higher places. That is, if we have the president willing to put in place a plan to implement whatever vision he or she comes to GSU wanting to achieve.

Georgia Southern 10 years from now will be a different place on the outside. But if it has the same heart and mind that it's had before, then it will realize that the sky's the limit for quality growth.

Submit your opinions to
gamed@georgiasouthern.edu

How to really be successful in college



Joey Newton
is a graduate student
in Spanish education
from Americus, Ga. He
is a staff columnist for
the George-Anne.

We've all heard the mumbo jumbo about being successful. It's always the same. "Study hard, apply yourself, save your money, blah blah blah." Well, today I will look into other ways you may be able to be successful without much work at all. Pay attention.

One: Don't study.

Unless you are trying to get some crazy job, the manager at the burger joint back in your hometown does not care what kind of grades you made in your physics class. Neither does your current employer. So just don't study, stay at the same job you work in part-time now, and don't aspire for anything out of the ordinary in life. Just maintain status quo. It's so much safer (and easier) that way.

Two: Drink a lot. Yes, I said it. Heck, drink every night. Drink a lot. Nobody likes a book worm, so while you are following the advice from bullet number one, you should definitely be drinking. Heavy drinking is awesome because it lowers inhibitions, make you the life of the party and always causes great, fabulous things to happen that may have never happened to you if you did not drink quite so much. Now who wouldn't like that?

Three: Spend all your (parent's) money. These

are the last seven years of your life that your parents will still support you financially, so you might as well spend every dime! There is time later in life to develop good money habits, but college is not it. Wait until you have a real job and then try to get your budget under control. In the meantime, go on numerous road trips, go out to the bar as much as you want and buy all of your friends those cool matching jumpsuits to wear on Halloween. Spend away, baby!

Four: Don't get involved in anything. Just spend your time at the pool. You'll be sure to meet some people with common interests there because you both like the pool, the sun and beer. What else matters in life? Besides, if you got involved in an organization, you may have to apply yourself and meet people you don't already know. What a drag!

So, maybe you are confused. Those things may bring you success- if your main aspiration is to be an MTV reality show star. If you thought the above was good advice, you may want to re-evaluate some priorities and start taking a little bit of ownership of your life.

Now, don't get me wrong, we all have tendencies to do the things above, but we have to balance these easy things in life with the things that challenge us. If we never challenge ourselves, then we will never get better at anything, and that really sucks.

If your life ever seems really easy, just remember "When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane."

Confidence is the key... right?



Shannon Knepp
is a senior broadcasting
major from Albany, Ga.
She is the managing
editor for the George-
Anne.

To me, they're the scariest two words in the English language. No other words evoke the same emotions that these words can. The words: standardized tests.

Every time I hear these two words, a new side of myself emerges, a side I never even knew existed. I become somewhat crazy and tightly wound.

Until the day of the test, I am unable to function as a human being.

The day of test is the worst, however. I try to do what everyone tells me to do: eat well, go to bed early and try to clear my mind. This is totally not helpful advice for me. Instead, I force down food and lay sleepless in my bed overanalyzing a test I haven't even taken yet and how it could detrimentally damage my future.

To me, it seems horribly unfair to know that the rest of my life could be determined by one test. It makes me feel like I'm drowning, like I will end up flipping burgers for the rest of my life if I don't do well on one test.

This is an extreme thought process, I know, but until this past weekend, it's exactly how I felt.

Desperate to get ahead, I registered for an LSAT prep course. I went in fully expecting to

cram my brain with facts that I would retain for the week and then quickly forget the day of the test. However, what I learned was much more helpful than I could have hoped for.

By going to this class, I didn't just learn things that I needed for the LSAT. I learned test skills. As I plowed on through each eight-hour course, I felt my confidence growing with every diagram drawn and flawed reasoning found. That is when the teacher said the one thing that sounded so easy: Have confidence.

Of course I had considered this before, but saying it is so much easier than actually having the confidence to do well. So, I decided to take the advice of my teacher and live this week with confidence.

Thus far, this idea has been working great. I sat down and worked my problems with confidence, improving my score by a few points. I finally figured it out; the key to not stressing out is realizing that (and listen closely here) it's not that big of a deal.

This was a hard concept for me to understand. After all, this is my life here. How could I not take things seriously? However, after a lot of practice and long drives by myself this weekend, I devised a back-up plan for my life. Suddenly, crushing the LSAT didn't seem as life changing as it did a week ago.

So when life gets you down, think of this- it's not that big of a deal. In retrospect, one test, one paper, one whatever will not change your life completely.

This week in the world: America executes unfounded power in Honduras



Sarah Goodwin
is a senior journalism
major from Cartersville,
Ga. She is news editor
for the George-Anne.

America's pompous attitude at times is quite nauseating.

The Honduran President Manuel Zelaya was ousted from power on June 28 this year. On Sept. 3 the United States threatened to put Honduras "in a box" because they refuse

to recognize the winner of the presidential election, according to The Washington Post in a report on Sept. 4.

U.S. officials have said that they will continue to shun the country unless the Honduran leaders reverted back to a negotiated plan for Zelaya to return to power with limited powers until his term expires in December, according

to the report.

The country's citizens ousted Zelaya after a constitutional succession, and the Honduran Supreme Court issued a warrant for Zelaya's arrest for his "blatant violations of our constitution," said Roberto Micheletti in a story published in The Washington Post this week.

The supporters of this coup feared that Zelaya would have introduced the socialist-style agenda that Hugo Chavez, the president of Venezuela and also the leader of an anti-America bloc in Western hemisphere, promotes.

Shortly after the country initiated this coup, the U.S. State Department formally terminated the already suspended \$30 million in aid that the Honduran government had been receiving.

The country has fair and transparent elections scheduled for Nov. 29, according to Micheletti. The United States stands by the decision to shun the country because if Zelaya is not

returned to power, Honduras will be violating the San Jose Accords, which were negotiated in San Jose, Costa Rica. Honduras will be able to return to previous interactions with the United States "once the regime embraces and faithfully implements the San Jose Accord," said Sen. John F. Kerry (D-Mass.) in The Washington Post.

If the Honduran people see fit to oust their leader from power because they do not believe him to be a competent leader for the country, then who are we to say that they are wrong?

The American government names itself the leading power in the world, and with its self-proclaimed title, it continues to force its opinions and policies onto unwanting recipients. The same government that proclaims freedom and equality for its people will not allow the same for countries and governments in which the United States ultimately has no say. If the Honduran people do not agree with the govern-

ment that is currently in power, then they should be given the freedom to choose another leader. This seems logical to most people.

However, the American government acts as if a country behaves in a way that is against the wishes of the self-proclaimed greatest power in the world, then it has a right to not only speak out about these actions, but the right to shun them.

Imagine if you would wake up tomorrow and your roommate disagreed with your breakfast choice for the day and decreed that if you didn't change your particular cereal choice then you would be shunned until the offense was righted. If you're anything like me, you would look at your roommate like he or she was crazy. So why does our government think they have the right to do this to other countries?

America is not the world. We are one small piece of the world, and we need to start respecting other countries' opinions and choices.

The 48th annual Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair comes to the Ogeechee Fairgrounds in October

By John Bender

Guest writer

The 48th annual Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair will be held Oct. 12-17.

The event serves as a fundraiser put on by the Kiwanis Club of Statesboro.

Darrel Colson, 2009 Fair Chairman stated in the Ogeechee Fair Book that "the money raised is given back to our community... We are able to give back over \$200,000 each year to deserving charitable projects such as: The Ronald McDonald House, Boys and Girls Club, Red Cross, March of Dimes, Habitat for Humanity, 4H, Special Olympics... scholarship programs and much, much more."

Part of what the fair will offer is the judged 2009 Art Exhibit. Any eligible resident of the seven county Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair area (Bulloch, Bryan, Candler, Evans, Jenkins, Screven and Tattnall) may participate.

There is no entry fee, but any piece(s) submitted should be less than five years old. Also, only one exhibit per person is allowed in each category: acrylic, drawing, pastel, oil,

watercolor, photography and mixed medium.

Exhibits will be accepted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the Saturday prior to the fair. All exhibits must be picked up on the Sunday after the fair between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The Fair Book also stated that "All work entered must be original art - no copies from art instruction books, no paint by numbers, and no work copied from published art... The Statesboro Regional Art Association and the Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair Community each reserve the right to refuse to show any exhibit it considers unsuitable due to subject, framing and or originality."

When you show up to enter your work, have it ready to hang and keep all entries appropriate with the understanding that this is a family event.

Melissa Lovingood from the Georgia Southern art department was a judge of the art show last year and encourages students to get out and take part.

Lovingood stated that the art show is "a great opportunity for GSU students to participate in a local event, and it will help them



File photo

understand the general standards that which they need to know for having personal work ready to be judged."

Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded to those who make the cut in every category.

The art show is welcome to all as long as some simple rules are followed. Sandi Francis with the Statesboro Regional Art Association

said, "The more students that can come out the better."

She went on to say that the fair is a good venue for young artists to come and show their talent to the community. "It is wonderful to see people take the time to do the art. It is such a blessing to have talent, and for people to come and appreciate it."

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First-Year Experience sponsors 2009 Majors Fair

By Robert Hook

Guest writer

With freshmen here at Georgia Southern becoming accustomed to college life, their attention needs to switch to their future and their major.

A great opportunity for freshmen to learn about majors at GSU is the 2009 Majors Fair, which will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thursday in the Russell Union Ballroom.

The purpose of the fair is to inform freshmen about all the different majors offered available at GSU. All freshmen are strongly encouraged to attend the event, which is hosted by First-Year Experience.

Representatives from many majors, all departments, and each college will have booths set up at the fair for the students use. With all the majors and minors represented at the fair, students will be able to look at over 100 booths.

Along with the booths for the majors and minors, advising centers from each college will be present, and there will also be peer advising tables available.

The peer advising tables gives freshmen the opportunity to talk to upper classmen who have already gone through the process of declaring a major.

The event was put together by Ellen Murkison, the coordinator of academic affairs at FYE. "The fair is a great opportunity for freshmen to gain a good appreciation for all the majors at GSU," said Murkison.

Students who attend the event should come away with a better understanding of what majors GSU offers.

The fair is not just offered to undeclared freshmen. Freshmen who have declared a major but want to learn about others are also strongly encouraged to attend.

"Although I have already declared by major in IT, I still want to go to the fair to maybe learn more about my major and what all I can do with it," said freshman Chris Lansing.

This will be the first year that FYE will host the event. A majors fair hasn't taken place at GSU for a couple of years. FYE wanted to bring the event back to help students explore and understand all the majors.

"Most students don't even realize how many majors are offered to them," said Murkison.

FYE wants all freshmen at GSU to declare a major by the time they have completed 30 credit hours and hopes that most freshmen will take advantage of this opportunity and attend the fair.

Food will be available at the fair, along with raffles with prizes to give away.

Unity Fest gives GSU students a look at various student organizations

Sponsored by the Multicultural Student Center, students came out to learn about numerous on campus groups

By Kelsey Decker

Copy editor

Georgia Southern students were given the chance to learn more about the university's diverse student organizations in an open venue last Thursday despite the less than ideal weather conditions.

The Multicultural Student Center (MSC) persevered through the rain that, according to MSC Director Consuela Ward, seems to occur on the day of Unity Fest every year and held its seventh Unity Fest outside at the Recreation Activity Center from 6 p.m.-9 p.m.

There were information booths run by students, music, live entertainment and free food, all to encourage students to be exposed to GSU's diversity.

"The purpose of the Unity Fest is to celebrate the rich diversity of the student body and to foster a sense of community among all students," said Minority Advisement Program Graduate Assistant Jessica Allen.

Some organizations were deeply committed to that idea.

"We're here because we believe in everything about unity because our entire organization is like that," said Dare Laditan of the African Student Association. "That's what we stand for."

"We're trying to give more awareness to groups in the Multicultural Student Center," said Gay Straight Alliance Vice President Kathryn Lewis. "GSA is a part of MSC and most of their organizations are coming here."

Approximately 20 of the organizations that fall under the MSC had information tables so that they could explain what their group is about to interested students.

"Last year, a lot of people didn't know about our organization," said National Council of Negro Women President Khournei Ogburn, "so I wanted to raise awareness about it at GSU."

While some students who attended Unity Fest came to see specific groups, they still enjoyed the event.

"I came to support show choir and GSA," said journalism major Brandon Douglas. "I like the atmosphere of Unity Fest."

The radio station 94.1 The Beat handled the music at Unity Fest, and live entertainment included performances from groups like Born Forty, Dyversions and D.I.M.E.S. as well as a performance by comedian Lav Luv, one of the four permanent hosts at Uptown Comedy Corner in Atlanta. All of these performances drew crowds of students to watch at the RAC Bandshell.

"There [were] lots of folks here," said Ward. "I'm really, really pleased with the turnout."

Unity Fest also provided free hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks, for which students lined up even when they had to stand in the light rain. As entertainment for attendees, there were also multiple inflatable "bounce houses" in which to jump.

For the past few years, Unity Fest has had to be moved to an indoor location due to weather conditions, which limited attendance. This year, however, there were over



Jessenia Martinez/STAFF

Over 500 students turned out for the Unity Fest at the RAC last Thursday.

500 students, according to Ward.

"I don't think we've ever had a turnout this big," she said.

There were also many student groups who volunteered and ensured everything ran smoothly, and Ward

was appreciative to all the organizations that helped with Unity Fest.

"The RAC has been absolutely phenomenal," Ward said. "Their buy-in to talk about unity shows how much support we're getting."

Communication Arts Department host "Mocktail" party to promote L.E.A.P. program

By Jazmin D. Dekle

Guest writer

Last Thursday marked Georgia Southern's Communication Arts Department's first "Mocktail" Party, a non-alcoholic version of a cocktail party.

The purpose of the event was to promote the L.E.A.P. Program, a certification program sponsored by the GSU Public Relations Advisory Board that encourages students to focus on four key components: Leadership, Experience in Communication, Academics and Professionalism. This certification is earned through a point system.

"The advisory board has been talking about this event ever since 2004," said Lisa Muller, GSU Public Relations professor. "The board comes up with a concept, however there were some PR students to help plan the party."

Brandi Wigley, advisory board member,

was one of many to lend a helping hand in planning this event.

She expressed the importance of networking and maintaining communication with previous professionals.

"I kept in contact with Dr. Pam over the years; that's how I became a part of the advisory board," said Wigley. "It's important for students to learn how to network and to make good connections and actually staying in touch with them."

Along with GSU's Public Relation Student Society of America organization, there were PRSSA organizations from other schools to help kick-off this event as well.

One of the intended goals of the mocktail party is to try to work along with other organizations for the growth of the L.E.A.P. Program.

"I think having this mocktail party is a good opportunity for students to interact with professionals," said Michelle Groover of

the Communication Arts Department. "It gives students a chance to learn what to do to make their portfolios stronger."

Pam Bourland-Davis, chair of the Communication Arts department, said she is very excited about the L.E.A.P. Program. "It is very important to encourage students to make the most of their time," said Bourland-Davis.

The Advisory Board did a test run with students to determine exactly what it is they need for prosperity in their field. The ending result: Take student experiences and incorporate them into the program.

"Making time to complete this program promotes better advances," said Bourland-Davis.

Brittney Kish, public relations major, interned with Muller and had a hands-on experience with the L.E.A.P. Program and the planning of the mocktail party.

"Through my interaction and understanding of the program, I find that L.E.A.P. gives

students the opportunity to go above and beyond," said Kish. "I believe that having this certification not only gives us a chance to stand out, but it shows our future employer that we are prepared to do more than just the bare minimum."

Certification can be achieved by any public relations major with documented achievement of having earned 60 points, with at least 10 points earned in each category from the L.E.A.P. Checklist.

Whether there is an overwhelming pressure from an extremely hard course, or fear that you didn't do so hot on the your last exam, it is always great to know that you are apart of a department that encourages you to wind down, have a few drinks, non-alcoholic of course, and L.E.A.P. back into the groove of working hard.

For more information about the L.E.A.P. Program, visit <http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/comments/leap.html>.

United States House of Representatives passes new Student Financial Aid act

By Jake Grovum

U-wire

With the U.S. House passing the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act Thursday, congressional supporters and the Obama administration praised what they called a major overhaul of and large investment in higher education.

The bill includes a major shift in federal loan distribution to students, increased Pell Grant funding and a simplified FAFSA form, among other changes.

Put together, the legislation promises to have a far-reaching effect on campuses across the country if approved by the U.S. Senate and signed by President Barack Obama.

But amid the congressional debate over some of the finer policy details within the proposal, the actual effect on students coast to coast was sometimes lost.

LOAN DISTRIBUTION

Perhaps the most important and conten-

tious aspect of the bill, the actual effect of shifting all federal student loans from the Federal Family Education Loan Program to the Direct Loan Program is up for interpretation.

A central tenet of the measure, this provision would end subsidies to banks that currently broker federal student loans and instead funnel those dollars to schools, leaving the banks to service the loans.

Expected to save nearly \$90 billion, according to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the shift is the source of funds for much of the reinvestment in other programs included in the bill.

But detractors call it a government takeover of the student lending industry and say it could lead to fewer choices and worse customer service. However, federal student loans were always a public-private partnership and will continue to be, just in a different way.

On a practical level, the change means students currently at schools not participating in the Direct Lending Program now will

have to fill out a new promissory note, the contract that says a student will repay his or her student loans.

If the act is approved, students will have to fill out a new contract with the Department of Education rather than the private lender currently providing the loan.

Supporters say the move also eliminates private lenders' ability to loan too much money to students and engage in predatory lending schemes.

"This is a win-win," said Eileen O'Leary, assistant vice president of student financial aid services at Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., who is also a past chair of a Washington-based national direct lending proponents group. "In my experience, the students and the families find the direct loan process to be simpler."

O'Leary said there are other benefits to the switch to direct lending including removing the temptation for conflicts of interests between school loan officers and lenders that were the source of controversy a few years ago. Some officers steered students to certain lenders in return for kickbacks or benefits.

The Obama administration and supporters also say the move will remove market pressure from the availability of loans and interest rates. The House bill caps interest rates on direct loans at 6.8 percent.

Still, Tommy Jardon, executive director of the College Republican National Convention, said the current system works well and that private lenders are much more effective and efficient because of their attention to the bottom line.

"A one-size-fits-all approach almost never works," he said. "A faceless bureaucrat doesn't care about service, quality or whether or not this is the best loan for the best person."

Todd Jones, president of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Ohio and a former Department of Education official in Bush Administration considered the bill a dramatic shift from the current system and said competition could suffer if it's enacted.

"This is a very radical change in the relationship between the federal government and colleges that has existed for about 40 years," he said.

INCREASED PELL GRANTS

Nearly half of the savings from the shift to direct lending will be reinvested in federal Pell Grants. The additional funds will increase the maximum annual scholarship to \$5,500 in 2010 and \$6,900 by 2019 and will increase

with inflation, plus 1 percent, starting in 2011.

The legislation also establishes a \$150,000 asset cap for Pell Grant eligibility, eliminating the asset analysis from consideration for those who are under the cap, a move that promises to simplify the FAFSA application proves.

The Obama administration, congressional supporters and other proponents of the legislation celebrated the increase in Pell Grants.

Melody Barnes, the president's domestic policy adviser and director of the Domestic Policy Council called the Pell Grant increase "an enormous victory" at a White House briefing Thursday, and special assistant to the president for education Roberto Rodriguez said the administration was "very excited" about the provision.

Increasing the Pell Grants is just one reason why Pedro de la Torre, advocate senior associate for Campus Progress, said the bill was good for students.

"Students will support anything that will help them reduce debt," he said. "What students care about is that college is affordable."

SIMPLIFIED FAFSA FORM

The bill would also simplify the FAFSA application form, a mammoth 100-plus-question document that many have called a barrier that prevents some students from seeking aid for which they would otherwise qualify.

The main changes come in the form of changes to the need analysis portion of the application, which will take effect after June 2011.

The \$150,000 asset cap for eligibility for Pell Grants, loans under the direct loan program and work assistance will be adjusted each year for inflation. It remains based on combined student and parent assets for dependents.

But the asset cap removes the need for an in-depth analysis of those families who don't meet or exceed the cap, removing a lengthy procedure from the application process.

Further, it also excludes child support, workman's compensation, veteran's benefits, living allowances, pension benefits, cash support or money paid on a student's behalf and other untaxed income from the analysis, removing a number of areas of inquiry from the FAFSA form.

Barnes, the president's domestic policy adviser, said the new FAFSA form would be "much easier."

-- UWIRE's Shelby Holliday contributed to this report.

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Spotlight on Student Leaders: James Kicklighter

By Ally Rakoczy
Staff writer

For James Kicklighter, a senior public relations major, leadership has always been an important part of his life at Georgia Southern.

With his numerous activities on and off campus—First Year Experience Peer Leader, Order of Omega honors society member, Southern Ambassador, George-Anne columnist and Eagle Entertainment publicity coordinator to name a few—Kicklighter has had no shortage of leadership building experiences on campus.

"I think people like Joey Newton really inspired me to get involved on campus. You see people that are older than you blaze trails and you feel like that's something you want to get involved in. It showed me, as a freshman, what was possible on campus," said Kicklighter.

In addition to all of his on-campus involvement, Kicklighter has developed a passion for filmmaking, which, he said, has really opened up his world and helped mold his leadership experiences.

"I love film, because doing film allows you to the opportunity to look at the world in ways that you may not have had the opportunity to see through [other] experiences. It allows you to see people and places and first hand aspects of the world," said Kicklighter.

"I like being a part of things that are bigger than myself. I feel that it's very educating... and allows you to see the world in a totally different way," he said.

According to Kicklighter, every experience he has had and every organization he has been a part of has, in some way, helped him be a better leader and to learn and develop that leadership style constantly.

"I'd like to think that I'm not a dictator," said Kicklighter. "I really think I'm more of a collaborator. I'm used to environments where I work on a team where you have lots of people involved and everyone's ideas are relevant. [We ask ourselves] what are common [ideas] here and what do we need to improve on? I think listening to all the ideas people bring to the table is the most constructive way to do that."

"I think everything that you do helps



Brandilyn Brown/STAFF

James Kicklighter currently works for Eagle Entertainment, and has held numerous positions in the past

build the way that you lead. Being a leader is about not only looking at what I have to do but [asking] what are the needs of my team?" he said.

In addition to his leadership development on and off campus, this past summer Kicklighter got the opportunity to teach at the National Student Leadership Conference at both American University in Washington D.C. and the University of California in Berkeley. He worked with high school students to teach them about journalism, mass communications and public relations.

Working with younger students has been one of Kicklighter's most memorable experiences, both from the summer and from working with the First Year Experience office as a Peer Leader and Peer Advisor.

"I think working with First Year Experience is one of the most rewarding things I've done on campus. [Peer Leading and Peer Advising] are less glamorous roles, but you have the opportunity to give back to the students... and you can inspire them to do things and get plugged into campus," said Kicklighter.

Kicklighter said that working with freshmen was a "privilege" for him and that it is truly the upperclassmen's responsibility to give back to those departments on campus that did so much for them in the past.

In fact, Kicklighter wasn't always planning on becoming so involved on campus. Kicklighter was going to go to GSU for two years and then transfer out. However, after meeting Newton and getting involved, Kick-

lighter decided there was no other school he'd rather be.

"After making friends and getting involved, I found that Georgia Southern had a very warm atmosphere and without these experiences that I've had, I don't think I would've grown as much as I have over the past three years," said Kicklighter.

However, every leader has his off days, and Kicklighter has had his share of feeling over-involved and overwhelmed.

"This summer I had this moment when I decided that I was going to quit everything," Kicklighter said. "When I got back, I said to myself, 'You know what, I don't need to do this anymore' I was just going to sit around."

However, Kicklighter chalked it up to a moment of weakness. After two weeks of being back on campus for the fall semester, Eagle Entertainment called him to be the new publicity coordinator, and after giving it some thought, Kicklighter accepted the position.

"The more I thought about it, I thought [about how] I really missed having something to do on campus everyday," Kicklighter said. "When you actually work on campus everyday you get the atmosphere. I'm really fortunate to get to work with the best student leaders, administration and faculty."

Kicklighter admitted that he realized that one of the more frustrating things on campus is when you see the same people, himself included, stepping up over and over again to take initiative in leadership roles.

"I think it's important for Georgia Southern to have a wide variety of people in leadership roles," he said. "I think it's sometimes disheartening to see the same people over and over again because you know there might be that one kid out there who doesn't know what's going on that would be a wonderful leader," said Kicklighter.

"You want to make sure that you're talking about your organizations so that you can plug in more people. That's something that I try to do everyday."

Would you like to nominate a student leader to be spotlighted here? If so, send that person's name and why they should be featured to RyanBabula@georgiasouthern.edu

Kenn Kington comedy show took place this past weekend

By Derek Joyce
Guest writer

Who would imagine that, in one hour, I could be laughed to tears by a comedian who used no foul language or references to drugs, alcohol or mishaps with the police?

Who would imagine that there was a comedian who could appeal to the elderly and college students alike? Who could imagine that this kind of thing could come out of Georgia Southern?

Well, it happened, and it was fun with a double "n."

Kenn Kington, comedian of daily XM Radio and Comedy Central fame and GSU alumnus, paid a visit to Statesboro last Friday night as part of a nationwide tour.

Topics he covered included the differences between men and women, what happens when an escalator breaks, male cheerleaders, sleeveless turtlenecks and the wonders of women's dress socks (which he wears).

"He kind of picked on me a little bit and didn't know it," said Tim Chapman, the executive director of the Averitt Center of the Arts and former GSU cheerleader.

Craig Roell, the husband of one of the show's advertisers, said, "I always like the male vs. female humor because we laugh at ourselves, and it's always right on."

Kington is best known for his "isms." According to his book, properly titled "Isms," an ism is "a familiar saying that has been mixed up, or the outright creation of a word or phrase that would not ordinarily exist in the English language but is used with boldness nonetheless."

Examples include "whatever floats your goat," "don't look at me in that tone of voice," "don't chew with your mouth full" and "trespassers will be violated." These are things that Kington heard people say (not even he could make these up), and when he

gives the scenario and his reactions, it is priceless. One had to be there to fully appreciate it.

Anita Grimsley, a student at GSU, said, "I kept laughing out loud to several of the 'isms,' like the one about the suggestive heart failure and 'better to be safe than stupid.'"

Tim Humphrey was the show's opening act. He is a Statesboro local, a graduate of both Statesboro High School and GSU.

He commented on living with his dad, the importance of having the perfect name and picture on MySpace, and the four types of people on Facebook based on how they fill their statuses. (What really got me was that I checked Facebook afterwards and I found people of all four types. A little hint: Do not post everywhere you go in your status; that is a "Please stalk me" type).

On the flip side, it both interested and disturbed me that most of the older members of the audience,

approximately 70-80 years old, all had MySpace pages. Humphrey is the one who coined the "fun with a double 'n'" phrase.

Kington provided an amazing show. He was inventive, an amazing storyteller, and let everyone have a blast. "I even got his book and DVD after the show."

Despite being relatively unknown around here, most of the seats at the Emma Kelly Theater were filled.

"Crowd was incredible, the theater is beautiful, and it is just cool to be back in Statesboro," said Kington.

For those who missed out, segments of his performances can be seen on YouTube and kennington.com.

Be sure not to miss the Laughing Matters Comedy Troupe, an improvisational show, at the Emma Kelly Theater on Nov. 6.

'Major in Success' speaker returns to GSU this Wednesday

By Jake Wallace
Guest writer

Patrick Combs, a motivational speaker and best-selling author, will return to Georgia Southern students for the fourth time tomorrow to give his speech, "Major in Success." Combs will give students tips and lessons on how to find and follow their dreams, and land a great job after college.

"His message, we feel, is very important to [students'] career success and the goals they set for themselves," said Karen Townsend Murphree of Career Services.

Murphree added that another reason Combs' message was given such positive reviews by other students and organizations was due to his very dynamic nature and the belief in the values he is sharing.

"He's not your typical lecturer. He's a very high-

energy speaker. He wants all students to succeed. He really believes in what he is telling the students," said Murphree.

Murphree also noted that while Combs' speech is geared mostly towards freshmen and sophomores, one of the underlying themes to the presentation is following your dreams and tapping into your passions, which is important for all ages and classifications to hear.

Combs' presentation is a condensed version of his book, "Major in Success," which is a best-seller and an award winner. Combs will use his exciting and humorous style to motivate students to find their passions, set goals and make other important life decisions that will help a student get a great education and land a great job.

According to his website, Combs has presented to over 1,000 organizations, including Fortune 500 companies and Ivy League and state universities. He

has been featured in over 300 newspapers, such as the Wall Street Journal and USA Today, and he's been interviewed by some of the biggest names in news.

Combs is a three-time Speaker of the Year nominee and has been inducted into the Motivational Speaker Hall of Fame.

As well as being a motivational speaker, Combs is a noted comedian, performing at the Just for Laughs Festival in Montreal and HBO's U.S. Comedy Acts Festival in Aspen, Colo.

He also performs a comedy act off-Broadway. Recently, Combs co-founded and became the chief transitional officer of LifePath Unlimited, a multi-million dollar global personal development company.

Combs will speak at the Performing Arts Center Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and again at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free, but tickets are required. Students are advised to arrive early because seating is limited.



Special photo

Patrick Combs is a best-selling author and motivational speaker covering tips on job success

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'Jennifer's Body' is a disappointment - a tonal and structural failure

By Ryan Babula
Features editor

"Jennifer's Body," the new film from "Juno"-writer Diablo Cody, is rife with tonal and structural issues. The acting was generally good across the board, and there were genuine moments of fun and creativity, but on the whole, the film was amateurish at best.

Much of the film had a "made-for-television" quality, and it seemed as if Director Karyn Kusama couldn't decide how to balance the horror and comedy elements. Maybe in the hands of a more capable filmmaker this would have been a successful film, but instead, it is a giant mess.

The film centers on best friends Needy (Amanda Seyfried) and Jennifer (Megan Fox), and how one horrible night leads to Jennifer becoming possessed by a demon.

She craves the flesh of young men, and it's up to Needy to expose her best friend for what she is and keep her from killing any more students, including her boyfriend, Chip (Johnny Simmons).

The film's premise is supposed to be a metaphor

for teenage girls and their insecurities with growing up and fitting in. Needy follows Jennifer around and idolizes her, and Jennifer strives for popularity and notoriety. She's attractive, cunning and worshipped by everyone - an encapsulation of what every high school girl wants to be.

When Jennifer meets her eventual fate and becomes possessed, the film uses this as a parallel for high school life. For example, when she sets her sights on Needy's boyfriend, it parallels the fight between best girlfriends and their boyfriends, with one girl scheming her way into her friend's boyfriend's heart. The film underlying horror is not of demons, but of teenage girls. The demon just adds an excuse for the gore.

This premise is smart and entertaining on its own, but the contrasting tone that Kusama places on the proceedings with Cody's sarcastic dialogue turns the film into a large mess.

It's as if Kusama didn't understand what to make of Cody's script, and when she tries to make it witty or fun, she tries far too hard. It's not that the film needed to be subtle. It just needed to have a semblance of tact to balance the comedy and horror.

Cody's dialogue for "Juno" worked because the overall tone for that film fit her sensibilities. To compare "Jennifer's Body" to "Juno" is a disservice. The common link between the two is in the "cool" dialogue that Cody writes. If there was one thing about "Juno" that I didn't care for, it was this dialogue. There, it was reserved to a few characters, and it was employed only when needed.

In "Jennifer's Body," every single character speaks like this, and it wears thin, especially when the film should take a scarier tone, especially in the climactic battle between Needy and Jennifer. Here, the teenage girl metaphor that's been growing throughout the film gets rubbed in our faces. The dialogue alone ruins that scene.

In the end, Kusama's misunderstanding of how to handle Cody's sense of humor ultimately cripples the film. It comes off as amateurish and even laughably bad at times. For what it's worth, Megan Fox gives a pretty good performance. She was appropriately attractive and flaunts it to her advantage.

At times, the film felt like "The Megan Fox Show." Maybe that movie would've been better.



Special photo

Sister Hazel's new album, 'Release,' is a great addition to the band's already impressive lineup

By Paul Tenzel
Guest writer

Statesboro has seen many local bands that have made it big in the past years. One that toured around this area a while ago that really stands out now is Sister Hazel. The band originated from Gainesville, Fla. and began by playing in local scenes.

Originally signed by the independent label Croakin' Poets, Sister Hazel has released a total seven full albums. They are best known for their singles "All for You" and "Change Your Mind." Their newest album, "Release," came out last month.

The album lives up to the standard I would

expect from Sister Hazel. All of you fans out there will definitely not be disappointed by any means, and those who may only know them from one of their singles should give them the chance they deserve. This band is far underrated; they stay true to their sound, but do not give up originality in doing that.

While Sister Hazel is generally known for their upbeat, jam-band style, "Release" deviates by focusing more on the negative aspects of relationships. If you like the song "Champagne High," this CD is for you. Personally, I have never been a fan of songs that are somewhat depressing - being a fairly positive person, talking about breaking up, cheating and remembering the past usually does

not strike my interest - but this album does it well. I don't know if it is because I just really like their sound or because when listening to the CD in its entirety, the more uplifting songs give hope despite the sadder ones.

There are definitely a few songs that truly stand out from the rest. My favorite by far is "Ghost in the Crowd." If you were trying to figure whether to buy or listen to the CD, this song should determine that. This song condenses the whole album by discussing the feelings that one would have after going through some hard times, but towards the end leaves room for hope by talking about "trying to make it right."

"Run for the Hills" is also an amazing track. It

has a sound not heard very often. It has the feeling of a Beatles' song mixed with the Beach Boys but more contemporary and still keeping the general Sister Hazel vibe. It is one of the few tracks on "Release" that is consistent with many of the band's most popular songs. It has a very upbeat, catchy tune that emphasizes the theme that with the right person, you can make it through anything.

I am always skeptical when buying new albums from artists that I really enjoy. Nine times out of 10, I end up being extremely disappointed because the band tries to change their sound too much or doesn't change at all. Sister Hazel, on the other hand, found the perfect medium, making them distinctive among most modern musical acts.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

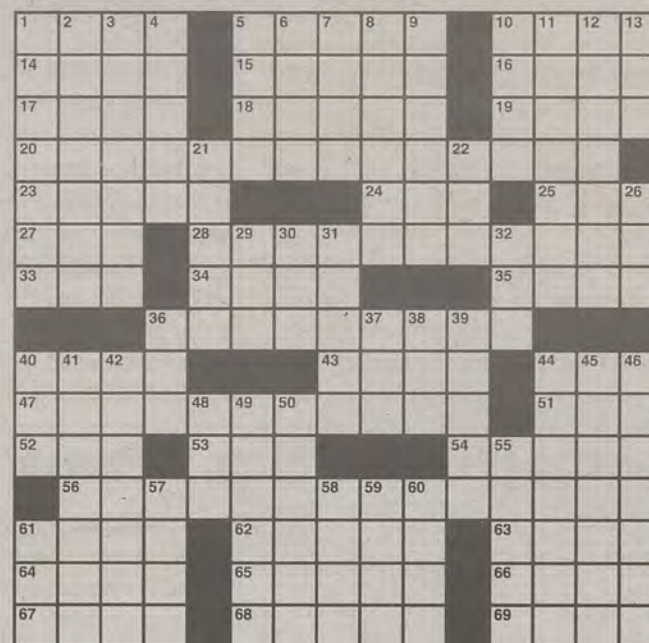
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Colored part of the eye
 5 Phonograph records
 10 Become overly dry, as lips
 14 John Wesley's relig.
 15 Love to pieces
 16 Country byway
 17 Arizona city
 18 Fenway Park team, briefly
 19 Condo or apartment, e.g.
 20 Really exhausted
 23 "Nevermore" bird of poetry
 24 Honey maker
 25 "... and so on": Abbr.
 27 11-point blackjack card, at times
 28 Really exhausted
 33 Copier paper size: Abbr.
 34 Creole vegetable
 35 Mil. school at Annapolis
 36 Really exhausted
 40 Bassoon cousin
 43 Big-screen movie format
 44 Observed
 47 Really exhausted
 51 Mentalist Geller
 52 Sandwich initials
 53 Cereal grain
 54 Concrete-reinforcing rod
 56 Really exhausted
 61 Ali who stole from thieves
 62 Broom rider of the comics
 63 With 66-Across, roadside stop
 64 Finds in mines
 65 King of rock 'n' roll
 66 See 63-Across
 67 Sitcom radio station
 68 Gunslinger's "Hands up!"
 69 Afternoon TV fare

DOWN

- 1 Unethical
 2 Bring to life again, as a Civil War battle



By Michael Blake

9/16/09

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

D	E	B	R	A	N	I	H	I	L	I	S	M
U	S	U	A	L	O	Z	O	N	E	T	E	A
D	A	N	G	E	R	M	O	U	S	E	O	L
S	I	D	E	R	O	A	D	S	W	O	L	F
			T	R	Y	E	C	A	R	D		
W	I	L	L	Y	O	U	M	A	R	R	Y	M
R	A	N	D	Y	P	A	R	D	O	A	R	
V	C	R	S	S	C	E	N	T	R	U	N	T
E	K	E	K	O	L	N	T	A	S	S	E	
R	O	B	I	N	S	O	N	C	R	U	S	O
			U	S	E	A	S	H	E	R		
T	I	T	L	E	E	L	A	I	N	E	M	A
A	N	T	L	O	S	T	I	N	S	P	A	C
R	C	A	E	N	I	D	S	T	I	L	T	S
P	A	L	D	E	N	S	E	O	C	T	E	T

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9/16/09

- 38 Sigma follower
 39 Additional
 40 Horse player's hangout, for short
 41 Defensive wall
 42 Halloween month
 44 Really cold, temperaturewise
 45 Shrunken Asian lake
 46 Furtive listening device
 48 Extensive period
 49 Preferably
 50 Star, in France
 55 Poet Pound and others
 57 Hoarse sound
 58 Edison's middle name
 59 Banking regulatory agcy.
 60 Diaper problem
 61 Gift decoration

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

		7						4
9				6		5		2
			8		4	6		
	7							
	5		4		9		3	
				1			4	
		2	6		1			
6		5		2				9
7					8	2		

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE

9/18/09

1	3	6	5	2	4	8	7	9
9	5	7	8	3	6	2	4	1
8	4	2	7	9	1	3	6	5
6	9	5	3	4	2	1	8	7
7	2	8	1	5	9	4	3	6
4	1	3	6	8	7	9	5	2
2	6	9	4	7	3	5	1	8
3	8	1	9	6	5	7	2	4
5	7	4	2	1	8	6	9	3

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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THE K CHRONICLES

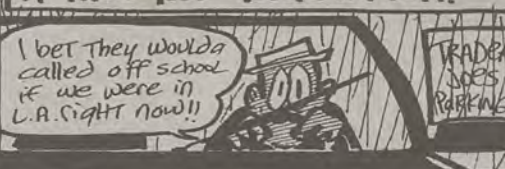
IF THERE'S ONE THING I MISS LIVING IN LOS ANGELES--



-- IT'S RAIN.

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IT'S RAINED MORE DURING OUR STAY IN BOSTON THAN IT HAS ALL YEAR IN L.A.



I bet they woulda called off school if we were in L.A. right now!!

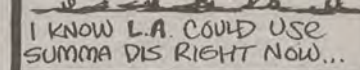
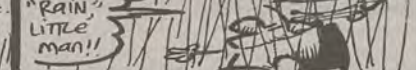
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GSU hosts 'Cheerleader for a Day' event on Saturday

By Latrice Williams and Ditoria Geddis
Staff writers

The Georgia Southern cheerleaders hosted their annual 'Cheerleader for a Day' event on Sept. 19, 2009. Boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 14 could participate in pre-game activities before the Eagles' football game.

Held in the Williams Center, Eagle cheerleaders worked with the children and taught them chants, cheers, and important cheerleading skills. They were also taught the fight song and other dances to traditional songs played by the band.

Jessica Armstrong, the cheerleader graduate assistant, expected a large turnout this year after calculating a total of 125 participants.

"I think that this is a fun experience," said Armstrong. "It's good to be able to work with young children and what you can instill in them on what it takes to become a cheerleader."

"This is my first year so I'm excited," said freshman Ashley Riggs. "I've heard some of the other girls talking about how much fun it is and I think it's a great opportunity for the kids to come and hang out with us."

'Cheerleader for a Day' has intentions to teach young people about teamwork and how it benefits others in the community.

"We want to show the girls how to have a positive attitude and how to be supportive of each other



Bret McGonigle/STAFF

Georgia Southern cheerleaders teach chants and skills to the young ladies of Statesboro.

because that is what we do," said Riggs. "Whenever one of us sees someone that's not feeling good or not having a good day, we try to uplift each other because it's really important that we encourage one another."

"We also love doing this for the people that can't make it to the game," said Riggs. "At least their child can participate in the event and feel a part of what's going on."

During the event, Eagle cheerleaders taught the

children cheers, chants and important cheerleading skills. 8 year-old Madeline Deal has participated in the event for the past two years.

"I like doing this event every year with my best friends," said Deal. "It is fun to learn cheers from the college cheerleaders."

"I continue to let my daughter participate because as a GSU alumnus and football fan, I wanted my daughter to be part of a GSU tradition," said Missi

Elord, parent to Madeline Deal.

"I think that out of this event, my daughter has gained love of Georgia Southern and confidence from performing in front of a larger crowd."

Senior Cara Griffin has been cheerleading for 13 years, and as a veteran, she knows all too well about being a leader and setting an example for those to follow.

"Cheerleader for a Day' has been an event at Georgia Southern for as long as I can remember," said Griffin. "This is my fifth time doing it, because we do it during basketball season as well, and a lot of the high schools do it to, so it's been around for a long time."

Griffin emphasized the significance of the event and how much it contributes to the team. "This is really big for us because it helps us raise money for nationals," said Griffin. "We usually raise around \$4,000 from this event, but we need \$35,000. We went to nationals two years ago and won so we're looking to do that again this year."

Griffin spoke about how this event will be one of her most memorable moments of her senior year.

"I'm really sad. This is my last year and I'm really am going to miss it," said Griffin. "As a senior, I want to be a leader for the program and for the community. We have a great group of girls who are great students and cheerleaders."

'Cheerleader for a Day' will also take place during basketball season, but there has not been a set date.

GSU volleyball defeats Gardner-Webb in Saturday tournament

By GSU News Service

Freshman Moriah Bellissimo recorded her first double-double as an Eagle helping lead Georgia Southern to a 3-2 victory over Gardner-Webb Saturday morning (September 19). Sanford posted her sixth double-double of the season as the Eagles closed out the Wingate Inn Classic with a win. With the triumph, Georgia Southern improved to 9-5 on the year, while Gardner-Webb fell to 4-9.

The Eagles got off to a great start to the match, winning the first two sets, 25-16, 25-22, but the Lady Bulldogs fought back taking the next two sets, forcing a deciding fifth set. In dramatic fashion, Georgia Southern fought off three Gardner-Webb match points to edge the Bulldogs, 18-16, in the deciding set. With the teams tied at 16-all, Lauren Claybaugh recorded a solo block to give the Eagles their first match point at 17-16. Claybaugh followed

her solo block with a block assist with Parker Small to secure the match win for the Eagles.

In the opening set, Georgia Southern took its first and last lead at 4-3 and never relinquished their advantage. The Eagles held their largest lead at set-point, 24-16. An attack error from the Bulldogs rounded out the opening stanza in which the Eagles hit a match-high .375 from the floor. Georgia Southern was paced by freshman Bellissimo who recorded five kills.

Gardner-Webb kept the second set a little closer, but not close enough as the Eagles put together a 25-22 set win. Georgia Southern held the lead from 9-all until Gardner-Webb fought back, tying the set at 16 apiece. The teams would tie the set at every point until the Eagles pulled away with the lead following a 19-all tie. Georgia Southern went up 23-19 as the Lady Bulldogs pulled to within two

at 23-21. But a kill by Bellissimo gave the Eagles set point and Georgia Southern closed out the second set, 25-22 with a kill by Sarah-Gildersleeve.

Hitting .429 in the third set and .487 in the fourth, Gardner-Webb fought back to even the match at 2-all winning the next two sets. Georgia Southern was held to its lowest hitting percentage of the morning in the third set, striking only .158 from the floor. Only six kills were recorded by the Eagles in the third set to Gardner-Webb's 15. Laura Wilcox posted seven kills for the Lady Bulldogs in the fourth set, leading Gardner-Webb to a 25-16 win. With the help of Molly Rhyne and Evan Moffitt, who each posted four kills, the Lady Bulldogs took the fourth set, forcing the fifth set.

Georgia Southern held Gardner-Webb to a .077 attack percentage in the final set and was led by sophomore outside hitter Sanford who posted

four kills in the deciding set. Rhyne's five kills for Gardner-Webb were not enough as Georgia Southern outlasted the Lady Bulldogs, 18-16, to decide the match.

For the match, Bellissimo posted 13 kills and 14 digs for her first collegiate double-double. Meanwhile, teammate Sanford posted her sixth double-double of the season with 16 kills and 17 digs. Georgia Southern hit .278 for the match to Gardner-Webb's .277. Rhyne carried the Lady Bulldogs recording 19 kills as Wilcox posted double figures with 18 kills and 10 digs. Moffitt also posted a double-double for Gardner-Webb, owning 12 kills and 11 digs.

Georgia Southern opens conference play next week on the road. The Eagles take on the Wofford Terriers Friday, September 25, at 7 p.m. and then challenge Furman, Saturday at 2 p.m.



FILE PHOTO
Red-shirted senior
Michelle Carlson
attempts to help her team
by moving the ball
to the front.

Women's Soccer loses home opener

Eagles unsuccessful in scoring in second half

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

The Georgia Southern women's soccer team opened their first home game of the season with a loss to the Mercer Bears. After a strong second half comeback, the Eagles couldn't find a way to score as the Bears walked away with a victory 2-0.

This marks the seventh defeat of the season for the Eagles who are currently ranked last in the SoCon. The Bears, a non conference contender, moved up to a 3-3-1 record.

Rainfall kept both teams at a slow pace within the first few minutes of the game, but eventually both teams picked up the pace.

The Eagles edged the bears in corner kicks 3-1. Freshman Morgan Springer took the first corner kick in the 47th minute. Danae Kaimulua recorded the Eagles' second corner in the 65th minute. Springer's second corner kick led to a shot by Courtney Collins.

Springer led GSU with three shots. Her first shot came in the 26th minute but sailed wide of the net.

Springer's second came after a foul by Mercer in the 55th minute, and her third was missed high in the 67th minute.

Mercer scored their first goal with 29 minutes left in the first period. Ali Meek assisted Kaelyn Horton with a long free kick pass. Meek scored the second goal off of a deflection in the 35th minute.

The Eagles continued to battle but failed to score as Casey Collins notched one of her two shots in the 39th minute but missed wide of the net.

Kyrstin Smith put a shot on target in the 41st minute, but mercer goalkeeper Jean Worts came

Women's Soccer Home Schedule

DATE	TEAM	TIME
Oct. 2	Elon	4 p.m.
Oct. 4	UNC-G	2 p.m.
Oct. 8	The Citadel	4 p.m.
Oct. 16	Furman	4 p.m.
Oct. 18	Wofford	1 p.m.

up with the save.

In the second half, the Eagles stepped up their defense, keeping the Bears from scoring for the remainder of the match up.

GSU kept the Bears out of their territory as Mercer attempted a total of six shots.

The Eagles improved offensively by making a way for their forwards to get open and attempt a shot.

Senior Michelle Carson played a major part in keeping the offense flowing by moving the ball to the front.

The Eagles attempted five shots in the second half, but was unsuccessful in scoring.

Each team suffered from a significant amount of penalties. The Eagles suffered from nine fouls, while the Bears suffered from twelve.

Georgia Southern will begin conference play with two road games beginning Sept. 25th against the Appalachian State Mountaineers and Sept. 27th versus the Western Carolina Catamounts.

The Eagles return to Eagle Field for a double header as they face off against the Elon Phoenix.

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Breakout Sessions: 11:00am-3:00pm

Russell Union 2080

Keynote Speaker: 3:30pm & 7:00pm

Performing Arts Center (PAC)

11am-11:50am **Major Decisions (Self Directed Search)** **Union Room 2080**
Students will learn about their interests, skills, and values by taking the Self Directed Search, a popular career assessment. Results will be interpreted by a professional career advisor.

12pm-12:50pm **Major Career Planning** **Union Room 2080**
Students will plan their future careers by creating a four-year action plan and learning steps they can take now to succeed.

1pm-1:50pm **Major Decisions (Self Directed Search)** **Union Room 2080**
Students will learn about their interests, skills, and values by taking the Self Directed Search, a popular career assessment. Results will be interpreted by a professional career advisor.

2pm-2:50pm **Values & Skills: Things of Major Importance** **Union Room 2080**
Students will identify their personal values and skills and how they relate to career choices.

Keynote Speaker □ Patrick Combs: Major in Success

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Attend the Majors Fair!

Thursday, Sept. 24, 10am-2pm, RU Ballroom (Coordinated by FYE)



Rob Eakins/STAFF

Defensive lineman Harland Bower (47), Brent Russell (66) and Rod Tinsley (94) line up against the Catamounts offensive line in Saturday night's victory.

Eagles kick off conference play with win versus WCU

By Latrice Williams
Staff writer

The Georgia Southern Eagles (1-1, 1-0) opened conference play with a 27-3 victory over SoCon foe Western Carolina (0-3, 0-1) at the "Prettiest Little Stadium in America," Paulson Stadium on Saturday.

Last year, the Eagles staged an NCAA record fourth quarter comeback at Western Carolina by scoring 35 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to defeat the Catamounts.

This year, it didn't take that long for GSU to put points on the board. GSU's defense put pressure on the Catamounts from the moment the game started, holding the Catamounts from scoring a first down.

The Eagles took over after less than just two minutes of play. GSU looked solid as Lee Chapple led his troops from the 34 to the 14 yard line, resulting in a 31 yard field goal by Adrian Mora.

Adrian Mora set a program record with the field goal, kicking eleven consecutive field goals in eleven straight games.

"I remember what it was like playing against

these guys last season," said Chapple. "I wanted to make sure that we came out and executed from the very beginning."

With 6:42 remaining in the first quarter, GSU began their drive at the 45-yard line; but failed to score after getting a first down. Adrian Mora's field goal attempt was blocked by defensive back Angelo Brown.

WCU took over at their own 40-yard line as quarterback Zack Haynes led the Catamounts to the 12-yard line. With 2:48 remaining left on the clock, Zack Haynes' pass was picked in the end zone by Darrell Pasco.

The Eagles continued to hold off the Catamounts for the remainder of the first quarter, leading 3-0.

"We had a great week in practice, probably one of the best weeks we've ever had," said Chapple. "Before we were kind of lackadaisical, but we definitely picked up the momentum this week."

By the end of the first half, the Eagles led WCU 17-0, holding the Catamounts to just 2 out of 8 on third down conversions.

With 10:34 left in the third quarter, Adrian Mora

kicked a 23 yard field goal to bring the Eagles up 20-0.

Just when it looked as though the Eagles were going to hold the Catamounts to a shutout, WCU recovers a fumble off a botched punt return and manages to tack on a 32 yard field goal, bringing the score to 20-3.

In the fourth quarter, GSU obtained its first rushing touchdown of the season after a touchdown by sophomore tailback Adam Urbano, bringing them up 27-3.

Defensive lineman Markeith Wylie capped the night off with three tackles and was somewhat disappointed that the defense couldn't hold the Catamounts to a shutout.

"Yea I thought it was going to be a shutout," said Wylie. "I really wanted the straight shutout. I was like 'man, they got three points.'"

Defense once again was inescapable, allowing the Catamounts to just four first downs. "We just made sure that we played the scheme right," said Wylie. "Coach really talked to us about being aggressive and making sure we can make all the stops we can."

The Eagles travel to North Carolina to face off

Statistical Leaders (vs. Western Carolina)

Passing

(GSU) L. Chapple - 26/38,
249 yards, 2 TD

Rushing

(GSU) A. Urbano - 17 carries,
85 yards, TD

Receiving

(GSU) J. Valentine - 6 recps.,
54 yards, TD

against the Elon Phoenix on Saturday. Kickoff is set for 1:30 p.m.