Clavelia Love Brinson

One of the first African-American students to graduate from Georgia Southern shares her story.

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Men’s basketball takes on opponents from Arkansas

Housing changes for upperclassmen

Freedom’s Landing to be the only housing option for upperclassmen
**EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS**

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**Weather**

- **Thursday** 69°/57°
- **Friday** 74°/52°
- **Saturday** 72°/45°
- **Sunday** 59°/38°

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**Petsboro**

We asked GS students...

“**What do you think about Food Truck Friday?**”

**Stephanie Ekiyor**

Senior Biochemistry Major

“It brings local businesses and people together and has better options than Starbucks and Chick-fil-a.”

---

**Bentley**

Owner: Jordan Bassan, Junior Biology Major

Want you and your pet to be featured next time? Post your photo on Twitter with the name of your pet and a little bit about you (name, year, and major). Make sure you include #petsboro and tag @SeenAtSouthern!
The George-Anne @TheGeorgeAnne · Feb 25

GS will be hosting the Clothesline Project from Feb. 25 until March 1 in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Week. The Clothesline Project is a national project that brings awareness to sexual assault and violence against women.

Read more here: bit.ly/2TOKyys
“GEORGIA SOUTHERN STUDENTS ARE LISTENING, THEY ARE WATCHING, AND THEY ARE ANGRY.”

TYLER TYACK
Tyack is the Speaker of the Armstrong and Liberty Campus Student Government Senate.

My name is Tyler Tyack, and I am the Speaker of the Armstrong and Liberty Campus Student Government Senate. I have served for three years in the Senate, and this is the first year that our two-campus-system has been in action.

First off, I would like to emphasize that this piece is in no way an official communication from the Armstrong/Liberty Campus SGA. These thoughts and opinions are my own, and do not necessarily reflect those of the members of the ALC SGA or its advisers.

In recent weeks, we have seen the phrase “new Georgia Southern” used to describe the new commencement changes. For the next four months, we received no new information on the commencement changes.

On Jan. 16, we received word that the commencement changes that had been proposed to us would in fact be going through effective for the upcoming spring. That afternoon, I called a special senate meeting for the following Wednesday, as Monday was Martin Luther King Day. Over the weekend, I worked on Senate Resolution Seven, which calls for the immediate reversal of the commencement changes.

This resolution passed the Armstrong and Liberty Campus Senate unanimously, and that same evening, I drove up to the Statesboro Campus Senate meeting and read the resolution aloud, word for word. The response from the overcrowded gallery of students was an applause. I asked the Statesboro senate to vote on SR7 that night, but they had a 72 hour wait period for voting on new pieces of legislation.

For the next four weeks, I attended one every one of Statesboro’s senate meetings. I received an email on Friday the 15th of February that SR7 would finally be united on something. Together, all Georgia Southern students would be saying NO to the administration.

Until we didn’t. Until only one Senator from Statesboro voted to approve the resolution. I had legislation with my name on it fail before, but never this badly. SR7 had been completely sunk on the senate floor.

When Nathan Weaver [from The George-Anne] asked me just five minutes after the vote how I felt, I could only say “disappointed.” I was confused, shocked and horrified that the body of students elected to represent their peers had gone clear against what the student body wanted.

Georgia Southern students are listening, they are watching and they are angry. The Student Government Association is by students, for students, and I can understand the frustration when the system fails.

I told Mr. Weaver that I would continue to fight for the revetment of the commencement changes. I will continue to fight for all three campuses of Georgia Southern. We are one university, with three distinct campuses, none more important than the others.

For the next four months, we received no new information on the commencement changes. I will continue to fight for the administration of GSU students would be including our academic major, hometown, and hometown. The editor reserves the right to reject any submission and edit submissions for length. Opinions submitted are those of the Armstrong/Liberty Campus Senate. The editor reserves the right to reject any submission and edit submissions for length. Opinions submitted are those of the Armstrong/Liberty Campus Senate.

I am here for you, we are here for you and we would love to hear from you.
Four instances of culturally inappropriate photographs have been found in Georgia Southern University’s 1963 and 1964 yearbooks.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution published an article Feb. 22 on racist imagery found in several Georgia yearbooks, including issues of GS’ Reflector yearbooks.

Upon review of Reflector yearbooks from 1954 to 1989, The George-Anne found several instances of cultural appropriation and two instances of blackface.

The two blackface images were captioned as part of a minstrel show, an American form of entertainment skits developed in the early 19th century that depicted racial stereotypes of African Americans portrayed by white actors in makeup.

Another image of concern was of a group of people dressed as ghouls for the 1986 Haunted Forest event. One member’s face is covered in black paint.

Director of Marketing and Communications Jennifer Wise sent a response on behalf of the university.

“These offensive images do not reflect Georgia Southern University’s values or our ongoing efforts to create an environment where differences are welcomed, various perspectives are respectfully heard and every individual feels a sense of belonging,” Wise said.

The following people contributed to this article by looking through GS yearbooks:

Rachel Adams
Anthony Belifante
Coy Kirkland
Bisola Oke
Tandra Smith
Noelle Walker
Nathan Weaver

Entrepreneur and “Shark Tank” star Daymond John will be the speaker for Georgia Southern University’s commencement ceremony at Paulson Stadium on May 11.

According to a press release from Jennifer Wise, director of communications at GS, John is a New York Times best-selling author, branding guru and “highly sought-after motivational speaker.”

His accomplishments include being appointed a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship by former President Barack Obama in 2015 and founding FUBU, a $6 billion fashion brand.

“Daymond John is a dynamic business speaker with over 20 years of hands-on proven business experience,” Carl Reiber, Georgia Southern’s provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said in the press release. “He has a relatable story and journey to success that continues to both motivate and inspire.”

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Football Players Arrested

Three Georgia Southern football players arrested on misdemeanor charges

BY MCLAIN BAXLEY
The Georgia-Anne staff

Three Georgia Southern football players were arrested morning of Jan. 17 and booked into Bulloch County Jail by Statesboro police on disorderly conduct charges.

Redshirt-junior quarterback Ivan Corbin J.R., J.D. King and Logan Wright were arrested between 3:47 a.m. and 4 a.m. for the misdemeanor charges. According to the incident report, the three players were involved in a “physical confrontation” along with two other individuals near Paulson Stadium.

Corbin, King and Wright were later released.

“We are aware of the situation and it will be dealt with internally,” head football coach Chad Lunsford said in an email. “We are disappointed with the decisions that were made and hopefully we can use it as a learning experience for our entire team as we move forward.”

Corbin is expected to compete for the backup quarterback position this season. King is a transfer running back from Oklahoma State, making him ineligible for the 2019 season. Wright rushed for 308 yards and three touchdowns in 2018.

Mayor McCollar

Statesboro Mayor McCollar addresses students at town hall meeting

BY EMMA SMITH
The George-Anne staff

Statesboro Mayor Jonathan McCollar held a meeting Tuesday night to allow students and community members to ask questions and voice their concerns regarding the growth of Statesboro. The meeting was sponsored by Student Government Association senators Alex Conarton and Keyshawn Housey, and was McCollar’s second time addressing students since his election in November 2017.

Keeping graduates in Statesboro

A question was asked about the city’s plans to encourage recent graduates to stay in Statesboro rather than find jobs outside the city. McCollar acknowledged that most students leave the city after graduation to either find better jobs or a higher quality of life, which city hall officials are trying to make more accessible.

“What we believe is that, through projects that we have right now, we’ll be able to create a higher quality of life,” McCollar said. “As a result, that higher quality of life will attract higher paying jobs, and with these higher paying jobs, we’ll be able to create an environment for students to find these jobs and stay in the community.”

Transportation

Another question regarded the city’s plans to add public transit to Bulloch County.

McCollar said he plans to establish a strong transportation system in Statesboro and encouraged students to attend the upcoming Transit Feasibility Study on March 7.

“What I’m hoping is that, with the public transportation system, that students will have the opportunity to get into our downtown areas and take advantage of some of the things [downtown],” McCollar said.

McCollar said he believes public transportation will add to the overall quality of students’ lives, especially for students without a vehicle who are seeking employment.

“I don’t know about you guys, but I wasn’t rich when I was in college, so I had to work and I had to use public transportation myself,” McCollar said. “We need young people with strong voices and innovative ideas to continue to engage into this conversation.”

Dry county student life

Housey brought up students’ complaints about Statesboro being located in a dry county.

McCollar pointed out that Bulloch County is one of only eight dry counties in Georgia out of 159 counties total.

“What that is telling me is that it’s time to really push in a different direction,” McCollar said.

When asked how long he predicted Statesboro would remain a dry county, McCollar explained that 30 percent of the city’s registered voters will have to sign a petition and have it verified at the elections office before any changes are made.

“So I think it’s time for us to release that bondage? Yes I do,” McCollar said. “But at the end of the day it’s the people who have to get engaged as far as that’s concerned.”

Diversity and inclusion in the city

A student asked McCollar to expand on his initiative for inclusivity in Statesboro.

“What we’re wanting to do is work with organizations that are already existing in our community to create opportunities,” McCollar said. “At the end of the day, we have more things in common than not.”

McCollar said diversity and inclusion are part of the city’s economic development plan.

“[Major organizations] are looking for communities that have that diversity and inclusion, where their employees feel welcome,” McCollar said. “There’s money in diversity and inclusion, there are job opportunities in diversity and inclusion, and we have to embrace that.”

McCollar said what he loves about the current generation of students is how they view diversity and inclusion.

“Let me tell you something guys, you are on the right side of history as it relates to this. You are doing it right, and we want to embrace that,” McCollar said.
Only Freedom's for Upperclassmen
Freedom's Landing to be only on-campus housing option for upperclassmen

By Nathan Woodruff
The George-Anne Staff

Freedom’s Landing will be the only on-campus housing option for upperclassmen next semester due to an expected increase in fall 2019’s freshman class.

“University Housing is managing current occupancy as we anticipate the size of the incoming new freshman class coming to the Statesboro Campus,” Executive Director of University Housing Peter Blutreich said.

Blutreich said based on the results of a survey for returning students, Freedom’s Landing will have the space available to meet the demand for upperclassmen.

“After resident advisor selection and placement, other spaces on campus will be made available contingent on, specific documented student needs, capacity and available space,” Blutreich said. As University Housing members calculate the size of the fall 2019 freshman class, other options will become available.

“We anticipate opening up other options for upperclassman students as again we get a clearer picture of how many first-year students we will be housing for fall 2019,” Blutreich said.

Freedom’s Landing was chosen because it is seen as a better environment for upperclassmen rather than freshmen, Blutreich said.

“Freedom’s Landing is a much more conducive environment for an upperclass community of students to live in as opposed to placing first year freshman students in that same location,” Blutreich said.

“Certain styles of residence halls are better for building community and focusing resources that are critical during a student’s first year.”

According to GS’ University Fact Book, enrollment on the Statesboro Campus decreased from 20,418 students during the fall 2017 semester to 18,499 students during the fall 2018 semester.

Despite these numbers, the number of students requesting to live on campus has increased over the past two years.

“We have had an increase in returning students requesting to live on campus over the past 2.5 years since my arrival in June 16,” Blutreich said. “With just a little effort from June 16 to July 17 we increased returning students by 2 percent for the Statesboro campus.”

Blutreich said the closure of Kennedy due to black mold last semester also had an effect.

“The Kennedy closure shifts 350 plus freshman year students into other housing options. Therefore our available occupancy must be managed,” Blutreich said.

Retry for Commencement Resolution

Rejected commencement resolution to be proposed again at joint student government session Saturday

By Nathan Woodruff
The George-Anne Staff

Legislation to revert commencement changes will be proposed again at Saturday’s joint Student Government Association session on the Statesboro Campus.

Armstrong SGA speaker Tyler Tyack will bring forward the same resolution that was voted down at the last SGA meeting on Feb. 20.

“It’s another chance for all three campuses to be united on an issue again,” Tyack said. “I’m excited and hope that we will be able to have the support from the Statesboro Campus and their senators.”

Tyack’s proposed legislation calls for students to be given the option to walk at graduation on their own campuses at the end of the semester.

It also calls for the creation of a committee made up of equal parts students and faculty, along with listening sessions on all three campuses held prior to any final decision by the president’s cabinet for the next commencement ceremony.

The resolution passed on the Armstrong Campus before being brought to Statesboro, where it was voted down by the Statesboro campus SGA.

SGA President Jarvis Steele was emailed on Monday for comment on Tyack’s legislation but has not replied.

The joint session, called SGA Spring 2019 Convention, will gather SGA representatives from all three GS campuses. The session will take place in the Military Science Center from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

New Stadium

New Tormenta FC stadium to begin construction in March

By Sarah Smith
The George-Anne contributor

Darin Van Tassell, owner of the Clubhouse and South Georgia Tormenta FC, plans to break ground on a new soccer stadium in March 2019 and to be fully functional in 2020.

The stadium’s seating capacity will be 5,300 and will hold up to 14,000 people for concerts. Van Tassell expects the stadium to include offices, meeting rooms and recreational areas, an athletic training room, a restaurant and craft brewery, a retail space, teams store, luxury suites and a VIP meeting space.

To have this stadium as a larger development project that includes The Clubhouse, residential and retail offerings, grocery store, movie theater, professional and medical offices, as well as hotels, permits the new stadium to be a focal point of a unique “Live, Work, Eat and Play” location for Statesboro, the university, and the state of Georgia,” Van Tassell said.

Georgia Southern’s men and women’s soccer teams will be accessed and host games at the new stadium as well. This is the first time GS’ fans and athletes will be able to enjoy the university’s new state-of-the-art stadium, according to GS’ head women’s soccer coach, Brian Dunleavy.

“The benefits of a larger facility are immense,” Dunleavy said. “We will have the potential to play in front of large crowds in an incredible stadium and the atmosphere will enhance our home field advantage.”

The overall cost of the stadium is approximately $30 million. Road and parking improvements will be made to accommodate the new stadium, Van Tassell said. Old Register Road will be widened to a five-lane road. A new road, Tormenta Way, will connect Old Register Road and the Akins Boulevard extension.

Tormenta FC recently announced that all students of all ages will get into the games for free with a ticket to the game. ESPN+ will broadcast all United Soccer League One’s games for the inaugural 2019 season.

Down Vote on Resolution

Student Government overwhelmingly votes down resolution against commencement changes

By Nathan Woodruff
The George-Anne Staff

Student Government Association senators overwhelmingly voted down a resolution calling for the reversal of the recent changes to Georgia Southern University’s commencement ceremonies on Feb. 20.

The final tally concerning the resolution was one yes, 13 no and 12 abstentions, with some SGA members absent. The meeting wrapped up not long after the resolution was officially not passed.

The resolution was originally passed on the Armstrong Campus and brought to the Statesboro Campus by Armstrong SGA speaker Tyler Tyack, and included proposals to allow students to graduate on their home campuses, create a committee made up of equal parts students and faculty in equal proportion to all three campuses and set up listening sessions on all three campuses before any final decision on commencement could be made by the president’s cabinet.

Tyack expressed his disappointment in the Statesboro campus SGA, but also affirmed his intention to keep fighting on the issue again,” Tyack said. “This was something that united the three campuses. This was shot down completely.”

Tyack said he did not understand why SGA members voted no on the resolution.

“I understand the abstentions, but the nays I can’t fathom,” Tyack said. “Whether or not the Statesboro senator will support me on it, I will still fight tooth and nail to make sure the administration knows what students at the university, including those in Statesboro, are not in favor of this.”
Clavelia speaking

The story of one of Georgia Southern’s first African-American students

BY JULIA FECHTER
The George-Anne Studio staff

She was one of the first African-American students to graduate from Georgia Southern University in 1970, then called Georgia Southern College.

Clavelia Love Brinson, known by many of her fellow students and professors as “Sherry,” had made her career as a health and physical education teacher and a school administrator in Jacksonville, Florida. After moving back to Statesboro in 2011, she did not return to campus until 2013.

“I didn’t come back to this campus until Soledad O’Brien was talking … I haven’t been on this campus, in this gym, since 1970,” Brinson said.

Her challenges during college

Brinson originally wanted to go to Tuskegee University, but her family didn’t have money for that, nor did she receive any scholarships from the Alabama university.

“I said, ‘Well, I’m going to go to school, and I want that piece of paper that says that I can work and earn a decent living,’” Brinson said.

She applied to GS in the summer of 1965, whereby she was accepted and started school in the fall quarter. Though she said that her mother felt fearful about Brinson’s safety at the college, Brinson was determined to go to school.

“We had no money, and GS wouldn’t give me a scholarship for any kind,” Brinson said. “So I worked, and it was $175 a quarter for me to go to classes.”

She took other measures to save money, such as living at home, often eating at home and bringing her own lunch to school.

Many of the students, particularly freshmen and sophomores, were not kind to Brinson when she took classes at GS. She cited the frequent experience of students driving by her in their cars and calling her expletives, telling her to go home.

“I got to the point where I said ‘Come back, stop right here and ask me that;’” Brinson said. “When I left [Georgia] Southern, I always told people I had a rock the size of Gibraltar on my shoulder, because I listened distinctly to how people asked me things, or told me things, and I was very quick to say ‘What did you mean by that?’”

She elaborated that when she changed her major from pre-nursing to health and physical education, Frank Ramsey, Ph.D., taught one of the first classes she had to take.

On the first day of the class, Brinson said that Ramsey asked her, “Sherry, what the hell are you doing in here?”

She explained that when she changed her major to health and physical education, so she needed to take the classes and two other classes from him.

Ramsey said that he wished she had not changed her major, because he thought that black women should pursue learning things like how to cook, clean and have babies. Brinson explained that the taunts became worse, as Ramsey picked on her every class, Brinson said.

The situation came to a head when, after studying with one of the smarter students in the class, Brinson said that she got a score of 48 on her test, compared to the other student’s 110. She told Ramsey in class that she wanted to talk to him during his office hours.

“He said, ‘I don’t have time for you to do that,’” Brinson said.

The other students convinced Ramsey to schedule an appointment with Brinson. The day of the appointment, a Friday, Brinson arrived at Ramsey’s office. The professor was talking to the tennis team in the immediate minutes before the appointment.

Brinson made eye contact and waited in the outside hall until 1 p.m., the time Ramsey suggested in class, passed.

When he finished his previous discussion, around 1:10 p.m., Brinson said that Ramsey told her, “Get your black ass out of my office, and don’t you ever come back here again.”

A shocked Brinson walked out of the office, passing health and physical education chair Doiyce Cotton, Ph.D. in the hallway.

Cotton saw Brinson looked distraught and asked what was wrong.

“When Cotton offered that they go into his office to talk, Brinson explained her situation, but made clear to Cotton that she did not want him to talk with Ramsey because she had more classes to take from Ramsey.

“I don’t know what happened, but senior health and physical education majors called for a meeting,” Brinson said. “President Henderson was there. All of the health and physical education teachers were there.”

The seniors who had called for the 1969 meeting were there. Many of them were members of Gamma Phi Epsilon, a campus professional organization for health and physical education majors.

“I think Sandra Ray or Claudia Whaley was talking, and they said, ‘We called this meeting because we will not attend another class from Dr. Ramsey. Either you get somebody else to teach it, or we will transfer our credits to the University of Georgia and finish our degree.”
The senior then said, according to Brinson, that Ramsey did not like women majors in the department or black students, so Brinson had it twice as bad.

"And President Henderson said 'Sherry?,'" Brinson said. "I said, 'Well, you know my situation. I can't do anything right in that class.'"

Her saving graces

From that meeting, the university recruited Tom Paul, Ph.D., from New York, and Brinson retook two of the classes she had been taking with Ramsey.

That was not the only time that Henderson helped Brinson with a class-related issue. When Brinson took a college algebra class as a junior, the professor accused her of cheating and demanded to know the answers for some mathematical induction problems.

"He said, 'Clavelia, I don't know how the hell you did it, but you cheated. There's no way in hell's for you to know that,'" Brinson said. Brinson gathered her belongings and walked over to President Henderson's office, because she knew Henderson would listen to her.

The secretary there said Henderson was busy, so Brinson waited for a couple of hours. After the secretary went out for lunch around 11:30, Henderson came out to put something on the secretary's desk.

"He said, 'Young lady, you've been here. May I help you?,'" Brinson said. "I said, 'I hope you can.'"

Brinson asked for paper and pencil and then showed Henderson she could do the mathematical inductions problems her class was learning. She told the president that despite that knowledge, her professor thought she cheated.

"President Henderson picked up the phone and called the controls office," Brinson said. "And he said 'Take Clavelia Sherry Brinson out of math. Give her credit, and she will not take another math class on this campus.'"

Brinson also elaborated on the helpfulness of Cotton, the professor who helped Brinson with the previously mentioned prerequisite classes. He helped her sign up for other classes, too.

"I could go to him and talk to him and tell him what I've taken, what I haven't taken and what I need to take again," Brinson said. "He would have to sign it [a form]."

Outside of Georgia Southern College, Brinson often confided in Martha Riggs, a woman who lived in the projects near Brinson's family.

"I would go home crying, and she would say, 'Tell me anything except about English [which Brinson failed three times],'" Brinson said. "Just tell me about the rest and take it again, baby. You'll be alright.'"

Riggs encouraged Brinson to pray and, if she needed to, cry, but then get up and try again. Indeed, Brinson added that she did cry, almost every day. However, she would often recall something that her grandmother told her.

"I had a cross that my grandmother gave me, and she said, 'God isn't going to allow them to give you any more than you and he can handle,'" Brinson said.

Extracurriculars

Aside from her classes, Brinson participated in several kinds of extracurricular activities through the college. One of her highlights was participating in Gamma Phi Epsilon. She got to do things like play campus intramurals and attend the state meeting for Gamma Phi Epsilon at Jekyll Island.

"Jekyll Island was all white at that time," Brinson said. "Blacks were not allowed at that end of the island. Dr. Clements and J.B. Scarse and Dr. Cotton said, 'You have to go, Sherry. You have to go.'"

Brinson explained that out of the 10 majors required to be in the meeting room, four people had to sign documentation confirming their attendance.

"I had to sign, because everyone would want to know where I was," Brinson said. "Where's the black girl? Where's the black girl?"

She enjoyed going to the state meetings after a while, particularly because the upperclassmen were very nice to her.

In addition to Gamma Phi Epsilon, Brinson also participated in a creative dance group and the Methodist student union.

Graduation

Brinson mentioned that following the difficulties she had with Ramsey, the professors would often stutter and mispronounce her first name.

When it came time for graduation, Brinson's mother mused that perhaps administrators would pronounce Clavelia's name correctly this time.

"Dr. Hawk was over the education department, and he said, 'Clavelia Love Brinson,'" Brinson said. "She's like, 'Go ahead, go ahead, go ahead.' [Hawk] pulled me up on stage and said, 'Sherry, I'm so proud of you.' He said 'I'm proud of you,'" Brinson said.

President Henderson asked Brinson to give him a hug and also said that he was proud of her.

"I said, 'I'm proud of myself, Doc,'" Brinson said. When Brinson left the graduation, she looked at her diploma and, after marveling at it, told her mother she would be back in a minute. Her mother asked why she was going, to which Brinson replied that she would go visit Ramsey one last time.

Upon going to his office, Brinson saw that he had his door cracked because he was working on something at his desk. When she pushed the door open, he said one word: Sherry.

"I said, 'I got my black ass in your office one more time, for the last time,'" Brinson said. "I have this degree in spite of you.'"

Though Ramsey replied that she earned it, Brinson commented that she had earned the degree threefold because of the difficulties he caused her.

"I said, 'But I could not leave this campus without telling you that I hate you,'" Brinson said. "My grandmama said 'Don't hate nobody,' but I think you have a problem. Either some black woman has hurt your heart and told you where to go, or there's somebody in your ancestral line blacker than me.'"

Her mother was in disbelief when Brinson recounted the story to her, but Brinson maintained that she felt better for seeking that kind of resolution.

"In the army [reserves], they taught me 'You can. You will,'" Brinson said. "The army is where I got rid of all of that anger and being mad and upset the way people asked you to do things."

As for the state of race relations now, Brinson seemed to think that positive changes have been made with students getting along and going to their classes without that much negativity.

"I know one student in the nursing program, and he said that he has interactions with his teachers just fine," Brinson said. "And I think that's far different from when I was at [GSC]."
FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS OR ITS UNITS
PLEASE VISIT STUDENTS.GEORGIASOUTHERN.EDU

For more information on accommodations related to access or participation, please contact UPB at (912)-478-2603, at least two weeks prior to the event.

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Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column, and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium, and difficult.

By Myles Mellor
Men’s basketball extends winning streak to four with big win over old rival

Men’s basketball player David Viti is taking full advantage of redshirted season

Redshirited But Ready

Freshman basketball player David Viti is taking full advantage of redshirted season

The Georgia Southern men’s basketball team took down rival Appalachian State 92-69, in a painless match on Feb. 23 to extend to a four game winning streak as they return home to Hanner Fieldhouse for the last three games of conference play.

Led by senior guard Tookie Brown who tallied 28 points and eight rebounds, GS held the lead for majority of the game, only allowing two lead changes. Redshirt-junior forward Simeon Carter added in 18 points and two blocks, making this his eighth game of the season with double digit point values. Senior forward Montae Glenn contributed 10 points and seven rebounds in a 4-6 effort, bringing up his point average to 10 this season. Freshman guard Calvin Wishart put up nine points and three assists.

GS shot 38 percent during the first half and went on a 20-3 run to go into the break up by 18. Appalachian State cut the deficit down to three with 11 minutes left but this would be their only rally of the afternoon.

GS scored a whopping 35 points off the bench and 20 points from turnovers alone. The Mountaineers were led by sophomore guard Justin Forrest with 15 points and two rebounds, with help from Ronshad Shabazz tallying 12 points, four rebounds, and two steals. They fall to 9-18 and 4-10.

With this win, GS improves to 18-10 and 10-5 in the conference. The team is currently tied for second in the Sun Belt with Georgia State behind Texas State. The Eagles will be back in action, looking to extend their winning streak to five, in Hanner Fieldhouse on Thursday to play a 10-17 Little Rock team. The game can be streamed on ESPN+.

The wait that was this season is soon coming to a close for Viti as the Eagles only have three regular-season games left to play as they take on Little Rock Thursday at Hanner Fieldhouse.

As anyone who would be told they wouldn’t see the court until next season, Viti found himself initially disappointed but knew it was the right decision for him as a player.

“At the beginning of the year when we weren’t really playing games it was hard because you’re just practicing with no pay off at all, but you know that when you get out there next year the whole redshirt thing is supposed to make you better,” Viti said. “You work every single day. You work harder and harder because you can’t wait for the next time you can play. Just looking ahead and knowing I’m going to be on the floor next year makes me want to work even harder.”

While being redshirted can be a downer, Viti doesn’t let that diminish his energy levels for practice or games as he can be seen as a huge positive influence for other players.

“His role right now is not being on the court, but he can make an impact by talking to guys on the bench and being positive with them, encouraging with them and so he does a great job of having a lot of energy on the bench.”

The wait that was this season is soon coming to a close for Viti as the Eagles only have three regular-season games left to play as they take on Little Rock Thursday at Hanner Fieldhouse.

The redshirting season was supposed to benefit for guys on our team to be redshirted. It gives them a chance to work on some things to kinda catch up and be more ready to play when their time comes. Redshirting is nothing new for GS as guard Quan Jackson was redshirted his freshman year. Jackson, a now redshirt-sophomore, is a team leader for the Eagles as he’s a regular starter who finds himself putting up just over 15 points per game.

Forrest with 15 points and 4-10. GS shot 58 percent during the afternoon.

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BY RYAN KOSTENSKY
The George-Anne staff

Women’s basketball hits the road
Eagles head West to Little Rock and Arkansas State

Sitting at 7-19 overall and 2-13 in conference, GS has little to play for, likely missing out on the Sun Belt Tournament in New Orleans in a few weeks. The Eagles travel to Arkansas where they face Little Rock on Thursday, and Arkansas State on Saturday.

GS is going to need to rely on junior guard Alexis Brown, who leads the team with 17.5 points per game, and is just one of three players to start in all 26 games played. Sophomore guard Tatum Barber averages 11.5 as the team’s only other double-digit scorer.

Little Rock - Feb. 28
Little Rock comes into Thursday’s game amidst a two-game losing streak, but the Trojans have been atop of the Sun Belt Conference standings for quite some time. At 11-3 in conference, Little Rock looks to solidify a better seed and will likely put a lot of importance into the game. Senior forward Ronjanae DeGray leads the Trojans with 14.7 points per game and junior guard Kyra Collier comes in just behind at 13.7 points per game, propelling Little Rock to their successful season.

Arkansas State - March 2
The Red Wolves come into Saturday’s matchup as a middle of the road Sun Belt team. At 5-9 in conference and 10-15 overall, Arkansas State is looking to better their tournament seed much like Little Rock is, and needs a victory over GS to ensure this. Sophomore forward Peyton Martin averages 14.1 and redshirt-senior Akasha Westbrook averages 10.8 points per game as the leading scorers for the Red Wolves and will look to get going early against the Eagles.

Thursday’s road matchup is set for 12:30 p.m. from Little Rock, and Saturday’s tipoff is scheduled for 5 p.m. from State University. GS will face Georgia State in Atlanta for their final game of the season next Saturday.

CHRISTOPHER STOKES/staff
Junior forward Hailey Dais-Allen passes the ball while Troy’s senior forward Sky’Lynn Holmes attempts a block. After falling to 2-13 in the conference, the Eagles look at a five-game loss streak.
Georgia Southern drops three-game series to West Virginia, gets first home win of the season

BY RYAN KOSTENSKY  
The George-Anne staff

The Eagles fell in two of their three games of the home-opener to the Mountaineers of the Big-12, despite stellar pitching throughout the weekend. The bats for GS just couldn’t come alive, scoring just three runs in the series. Here’s the breakdown for how each game went.

Game one, Friday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.: GS 1 WVU 0

Junior starting pitcher Seth Shuman went head-to-head with WVU starter Alek Manoah, who was hitting 98 on the radar gun consistently all night. Shuman struck out nine batters in his six inning of work, getting his first quality start of the season, while falling to 0-2 on the year.

GS trailed from the third inning on, but it wasn’t until the seventh and eighth innings where the Mountaineers put up more runs and ran away with the game.

The Eagles came out rather stagnant on offense, being held hitless by Manoah until the fourth inning, and only driving one run in.

Game two, Saturday Feb. 23, 1 p.m.: GS 1 WVU 5

GS fell in the first leg of Saturday’s double header, getting no help from the offense yet again. The Eagles were once again held hitless through the first four and a third innings of play and didn’t score their lone run until the eighth inning, where sophomore outfielder Christian Avant just missed a home run off the top of the Blue Monster, driving a run in with a double.

Looking to avoid being swept for the first time on the young season, GS sent senior pitcher Daniel Collins to the mound looking for some answers. Collins went six innings of shutout baseball, surrendering just four hits while earning his first D-1 victory. The seasoned pitcher had no room for error with the early offensive woes, and came through when the team needed it most.

The offense came out for the third straight game being held hitless through four and two thirds, but got a hit in the fifth. In the sixth inning, sophomore infielder Jason Swan drove in the go-ahead run, giving the Eagles their first lead of the series.

Sophomore pitcher David Johnson and senior pitcher Cole Whitney closed the door on West Virginia over the final three innings, getting GS that much needed win.

Fastbreak

Sun Belt, Georgia Southern to adopt SMART schedule

BY BETHANY-GRACE BOWERS  
The George-Anne staff

There is a new 20-game SMART schedule coming to Sun Belt Conference men’s basketball in the 2019-20 season and it will not only affect GS but the NCAA standings as a whole.

The 20-game “SMART schedule” will match up the top teams in the conference so that they are able to match up more than one time, working in the way of a bracket, or “pods” as they call them.

This system is being put in place in order to boost NET rankings and will help select and field out teams for the NCAA Division 1 Men’s Basketball Championship.

“Our new scheduling model will improve the seed of the conference’s automatic qualifier while also improving the résumés of the best conference teams in order to receive additional bids to the NCAA Tournament,” Sun Belt Commissioner Karl Benson said.

Here’s how the format will break down:

The Eastern Division will hold Appalachian State, Coastal Carolina, Georgia Southern, Georgia State, South Alabama and Troy.

The Western Division will be Little Rock, Arkansas State, Louisiana, University of Louisiana-Monroe, University of Texas-Arlington and Texas State.

The season will start with a 16-game schedule for each team and it will be sectioned off so that each team plays five home and five away divisional opponents and three home and three away non-divisional opponents.

After the 16 games are played, the teams will be ranked from top to bottom in the conference and will be split into four “pods”.

Pod A: numbers one, two and three, Pod B: numbers four, five and six, Pod C: numbers seven, eight and nine, and Pod D: numbers 10, 11 and 12.

The final four games of the schedule will complete the 20-game season with each team playing the other members of their pod once at home and then once away.

After the final four games, teams will be seeded for the 2020 Sun Belt Men’s Basketball Championship based on pod results.

To contact the sports editor, email gasports@georgiasouthern.edu
For more information on accommodations related to access or participation, please contact OSA at 478-7270 at least two weeks prior to the event.

The Organization Leadership Consultants (OLCs) are student leaders who volunteer to promote organizational leadership on campus. OLC’s serve as program coordinators, facilitators, trainers and workshop presenters. For more information or to schedule a consultation or workshop, please visit students.georgiasouthern.edu/student-activities/olcs or email OLC@GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

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Wednesday March 6th, 2019
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