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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

VOLUME 93, ISSUE 26



SMITH WINS

Juwan Smith elected as
2019-2020 SGA president

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Marrero greets students

president by greeting students on campus.

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Byington Staying

Men's basketball coach to
stay at Southern despite
rumors of his departure.

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EVENTS

AROUND CAMPUS

APRIL 12	UPB PRESENTS: AQUAMAN University Programming Board presents a Dive-In movie, Aquaman. This event is open to GS students only, please bring your Eagle IDs. Please bring your own towel. Friday, April 12 at 9 p.m. Recreation Activity Center Aquatics Center
APRIL 13	OUTDOOR POOL BLOCK PARTY Come join us for the Block Party celebrating the spring opening of the Outdoor Pool! There will be fun, food, games and prizes. Saturday, April 13 at 12 p.m. to 5 p.m Recreation Activity Center Outdoor Pool
APRIL 14	EGGSTRAVAGANZA EGG HUNT This free event is open to the community, and all are encouraged to come out and enjoy inflatables, candy, games and refreshments. Sunday, April 14 at 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sweetheart Circle
APRIL 18	LAKESIDE LUAU Enjoy delicious Hawaiian-inspired dishes like sesame-crusted ahi tuna, grilled swordfish, pineapple rice pilaf and coconut-crusted shrimp. Special event cost for EagleXpress is \$12 and for cash/credit/debit is \$15. Thursday, April 18 at 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lakeside Dining Commons

#PETSBORO



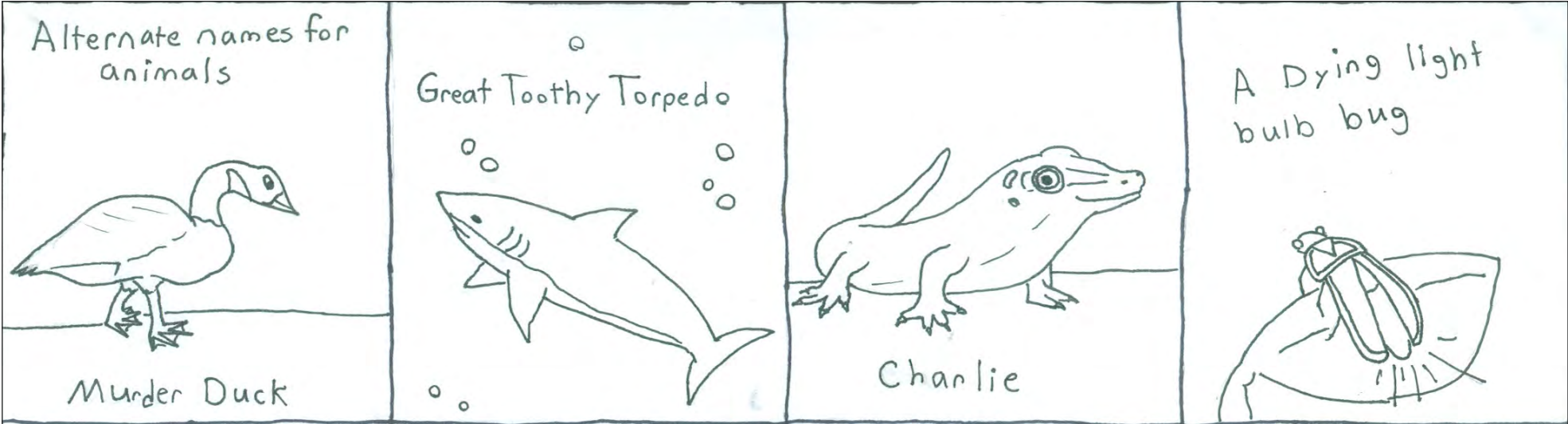
Jag
Owner:
Eli Hall,
senior public
health major



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 @GA_Visuals!



Comics by Coy Kirkland





#SeenAtSouthern

Our photographers went out on campus and snapped some photos depicting life at Georgia Southern. Come back every week or follow our Twitter, @GA_Visuals, to see if you have been spotted!



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STATESBORO HERALD
The Statesboro Commission on Diversity and Inclusion is hosting its first listening session on Tuesday. The commission will host sessions on April 16, 23 and 27.



ISIS MAYFIELD/STAFF
Clarissa, Becca, and Shelby were selling tacos at the Rotunda March 5 for their sorority.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BOTANIC GARDEN AT GEORGIA SOUTHERN FACEBOOK PAGE
The Georgia Southern botanic garden hosted its spring plant sale on March 5 and 6. All plant sales benefited the GS botanic garden.



MORGAN CARR/STAFF
On Tuesday, the Georgia Southern Botanical Garden hosted a pop-up workshop on beekeeping. Ed DiNello of Brooklet's The Bee's Knees was the guest instructor.



STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County.

The newspaper is published once weekly, on Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor email at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478.0566. For questions e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

The George-Anne receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee. For more information, rate cards, or sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

STUDENTS BEWARE: The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads-- particularly those that require personal information. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad.

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The George-Anne welcomes letters to the editor and appropriate guest columns. All copy submitted should be 350 words or fewer, typed, and sent via email in Microsoft Word (.doc/.docx) format to letters@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GSU students should include their academic major, year and hometown. The editors reserve the right to reject any submission and edit submissions for length. Opinions expressed herein are those of the Board of Opinions, or columnists themselves and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff, or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory, Student Media or the University System of Georgia.

Opinions

Know your rights, and the rights of others



SHIANN SIVELL

Shiann is a senior journalism major from Gibson, Georgia.

Early in March, an immigration activist was traveling with two passengers in his car, later identified as undocumented immigrants.

According to an article from the Washington Post, Bryan MacCormack was driving the two passages from a local courthouse in Hudson, New York after handling a traffic violation.

MacCormack said that he saw two Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers waiting outside the office in their vehicle. The officers watched him and his passengers leave the courthouse and proceeded to follow them.

The confrontation that followed next was documented by one of the passengers in MacCormack's car with his cellphone.

One of the officers showed MacCormack a document through the driver's window: a 'warrant' to arrest his passengers.

"Those are not warrants of arrest, sir," MacCormack says to the officer in the video.

"Yes, they are, sir, warrant of arrest of alien," the officer said.

"Yeah, warrant of arrest of alien, not signed by a judge. It's not a judicial warrant," MacCormack responds.

"This is a lawful warrant," the officer continues.

"Signed by a judge?"

MacCormack asks.

The officer continues to say that the warrant is valid under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

However, MacCormack, who also happens to be executive director of the nonprofit organization Columbia County Sanctuary Movement, dismisses his claim.

"OK, that's fine," MacCormack says. "But it's not under the Constitution. You have no jurisdiction over me as a citizen. I'm the driver of this vehicle."

MacCormack says the officers eventually left without making any arrests, and that they ultimately 'did not have authority to do anything.'

A copy of a Warrant of Arrest of Alien can be found on the Immigrant Legal Resource Center website.

Since the Trump administration began its extensive crackdown of undocumented immigrants hundreds have people have been needlessly harassed by ICE and Border Patrol.

In a few cases, many citizens are detained simply out of suspicion of being undocumented.

For example, two women were detained by U.S. Customs and Border Protection for speaking Spanish outside a convenience store in Montana in early February.

Both of the women were legal citizens and born on American soil.

The American Civil Liberties Union later investigated the incident and filed a civil suit, stating that the agent "offered no other justification for their detention" and that the agent's actions violated the women's Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure.

There are several other cases like these two that show that ICE and Border Patrol are going above the law to detain citizens.

However, there are ways citizens and non-citizens can protect themselves and others.

The simplest way of all is to know the basic laws when it comes to warrants and arrests.

Know your Rights

The idea of being stopped and detained by ICE may seem a bit far-stretched in rural Georgia but that doesn't mean we still shouldn't know the difference between a warrant and a virtually unlawful scrap of paper.

1. Warrants are signed by judges

An arrest warrant is an official document signed by a judge, which authorizes a police officer to arrest those named in the warrant. Warrants typically identify the crime for which an arrest has been authorized, and may restrict the manner in which an arrest may be made.

To obtain a warrant, a police officer typically submits a written affidavit to a judge or magistrate. The affidavit, given under oath, must recite sufficient factual information to establish probable cause that a crime was committed and that the person named in the warrant committed it.

Usually, however, if police have a good reason, or a "probable cause" to believe that a crime has been committed and that the person they want to arrest committed the crime, they can make an arrest without asking a judge for a warrant.

The major exception to this is when someone under

arrest is in their home.

2. Border Patrol has no right to ask you for your unless you within 100 miles of a border zone

In this 100-mile zone, Border Patrol agents have certain additional authorities. For instance, Border Patrol can operate immigration checkpoints.

Border Patrol, nevertheless, cannot pull anyone over without "reasonable suspicion" of an immigration violation or crime and reasonable suspicion is more than just a "hunch."

Similarly, Border Patrol cannot search vehicles in the 100-mile zone without a warrant or "probable cause" defined as "a reasonable belief, based on the circumstances, that an immigration violation or crime has likely occurred."

For example, a woman in Nevada stopped the Fourth Amendment violation of search and seizure on a Greyhound bus in June 2018.

In a recent letter to Greyhound's general counsel, the ACLU explained that Greyhound is not obligated to consent to the Border Patrol's warrantless and unjustified raids on its buses.

According to ACLU.org, roughly two-thirds of the United States' population, or about 200 million people, live within the 100-mile zone, or within 100 miles of a U.S. land or coastal border.

The following states lie entirely or nearly entirely within the 100-mile zone:

- Connecticut
- Delaware
- Florida
- Hawaii
- Maine
- Massachusetts

- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New York
- Rhode Island
- Vermont

3. Immigrants have the right to due process.

In some cases, however, illegal citizens are not granted a hearing.

At the beginning of President Trump's 'zero policy' immigration crackdown, he tweeted that undocumented immigrants should be immediately returned "from where they came" with "no judges or court cases."

When asked about the president's tweet, White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders pointed to the process of "expedited removal," which was created by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

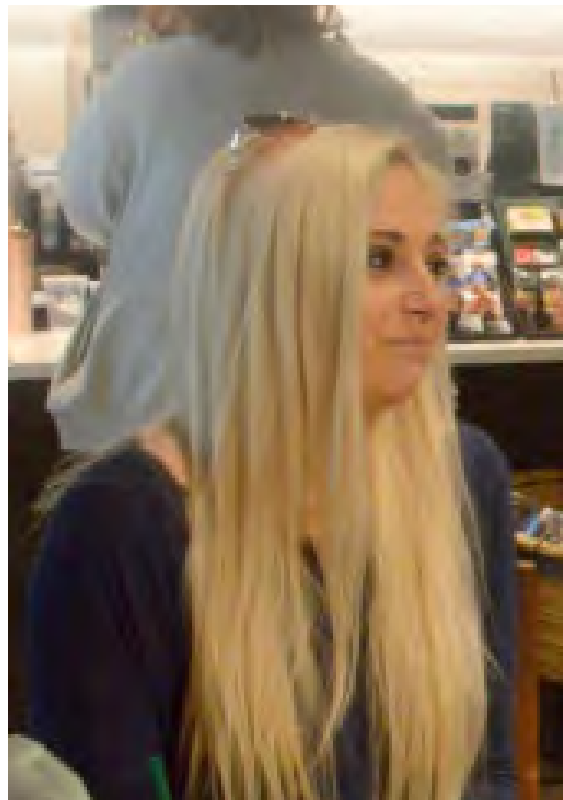
"Just because you don't see a judge doesn't mean you aren't receiving due process," Sanders said.

It's not all black and white, it's hardly gray

There are so many issues when it comes to arrests, and even more so when it comes to arrests of undocumented immigrants.

However, one thing that is clear is that these mass raids on people are a violation of human rights. Taking children from their parents and locking them in detention centers is cruel, and no law should justify what the U.S. is doing to them and their parents.

If the president truly wants to stop excess deportation and immigration, he should talk with the leaders of these countries and assist with finding solutions for the people rather than continue with this unnecessary cruelty.



Marrero on a Mission

President Marrero visits students at Dining Commons and on-campus Starbucks



MATTHEW ENFINGER/staff

Biology Graduate student Bailey Chandler spoke to President Kyle Marrero at the Starbucks on Georgia Southern University's Statesboro campus.

**BY MATTHEW ENFINGER
AND SHIANN SIVELL**

The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern University's new president Kyle Marrero finished his first week by greeting students at the Statesboro campus' Starbucks and Dining Commons April 5.

Since his first day on April 1, Marrero has held a series of meet and greets and campus walks on the Statesboro, Armstrong and Liberty campuses.

Biology graduate student Bailey Chandler was working on an assignment in Starbucks when Marrero introduced himself to her. They spoke about the components of

Chandler's upcoming project.

"I think he's super outgoing and impressionable," Chandler said. "I told him I really enjoyed his first PR stunt with walk a Mile in Her Shoes. I think that's good indication of the type of person he is."

Deangelo Miller, sophomore exercise science major, and Azortae Sanders, freshman geology major, spoke with Marrero about starting a new organization called The Society for Minority Advancement and Mentorship.

Both Miller and Sanders said Marrero gave them advice on the organization and were glad that he was easy to approach.

"I think it's pretty unique how he actually came out to blend in with the student life and try to get involved today," Miller said.

Marrero continued his meet and greet at Dining Commons and even joined a group of students at their table where they discussed student life.

Before he and the students had their lunch, Marrero stated that his first week at GS had exceeded his expectations and that he was planning to continue to be as involved as possible with the

campus.

Marrero said, "My goal is to be present on this campus

for the students, faculty and staff to know that I'm part of this community."



SHIANN SIVELL/staff

Marrero stopped for lunch in the Dining Commons and joined in on a conversation with three students. Throughout the day he took the time to talk with students and faculty individually and create an open atmosphere for conversation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF Georgia Southern University

2018 Fellow

Georgia Southern Professor named 2018 fellow of the National Collegiate Honors Council

BY MADELINE BRANCH

The George-Anne contributor

Steven Engel, Ph.D., director of the Honors Program at Georgia Southern University was named a 2018 fellow of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

The NCHC awards fellows for their scholarship, service

and leadership skills on their campus and within the national honors community.

Back in 2013 Hew Joiner, Ph.D., director emeritus of the Bell Honors Program, was also named a fellow of the NCHC, making this the second time that a professor at GS has won this award.

"I have the greatest respect

for Dr. Hew Joiner," Engel said. "He developed the Bell Honors Program here into a genuine national model for honors education. To be included in the same group as him as an NCHC Fellow makes me incredibly proud."

Engel came to GS in 1999 and has been the director of the Honors Program since 2005.

He has been involved with honors education at the state, regional and national level. Engel has also served as the president for the Georgia Collegiate Council in 2013, the president of the Southern Regional Honors Council in 2015, a member of the NCHC finance committee since 2008 and a treasurer and an

executive board member since 2014.

Engel plans on growing the Honors Program moving forward to continue to provide opportunities for undergraduate research and experiential learning, because he insists that, "these are the kind of skills employers and graduate schools want to see."



PHOTO COURTESY OF MySEGCause.com

Statesboro Community Bag Program

Statesboro Food Bank chosen for Community Bag Program

BY BISOLA OKE
The George-Anne staff

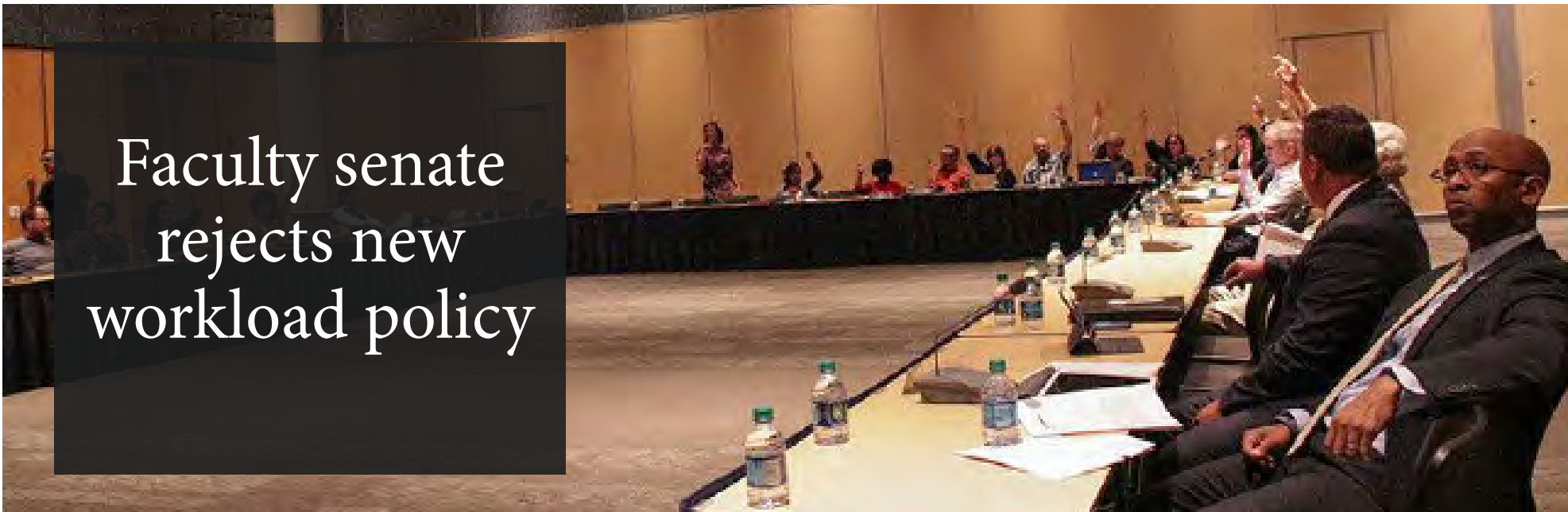
The Statesboro Food Bank has been chosen for the Community Bag program for the month of April. The purpose of the program is to give customers of BI-LO, Harveys, Winn-Dixie and Fresco y Más the opportunity to give back to the community while supporting the

environment at the same time. The program offers two reusable community bags that support local non-profits in the communities that we serve. The reusable Community Bags benefit education, health and wellness, hunger relief, military/veterans, and disaster relief organizations that are local to each store location. “We were thrilled to learn that we had been chosen to be

recipients of this fundraiser,” Jodi Brannon, operations manager for The Food Bank Inc., said. Brannon said that there was no application process involved, but the food bank has been recipients of donations of the food they pick up daily. The food bank serves an average of 200 households per month a one week’s worth of emergency food and supports

Rebecca’s Cafe who serves a hot meal twice weekly. Each time customers purchase a community bag that has a giving tag, the shopper will have the power to direct a \$1 donation to a local non-profit within seven days of purchase. These community bags can be found at various registers and reusable bag racks. Upon purchasing the community

bag with the giving tag, shoppers are directed to visit MySEGCause.com within seven days of their purchase where they can select the non-profit organization they’d like to receive the donation. If the shopper fails to do so within seven days, the \$1 donation will go straight to the Food Bank.



Faculty senate rejects new workload policy

JULIA FECHTER/staff

Faculty Senate overwhelming voted to reject a new faculty workload policy at its most recent meeting. The workload policy was first introduced in fall 2018, when a committee of faculty from each teaching college drafted a new policy.

BY KYLE CLARK
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern University Faculty Senate voted down a new faculty workload policy, which was designed to outline new average workload expectations for the three main areas of a faculty member’s workload on April 3. The workload policy was first introduced in fall 2018, when a committee of faculty from each teaching college drafted a new policy. The three main functions of university faculty are teaching, scholarship and service.

Teaching is holding lectures and office hours along with grading assignments and responding to students, according to the policy. The general expectation is that this will be 60 percent of a faculty member’s workload. According to this policy, a semester-long, three-credit course would be nominally equivalent to 10 percent of this section of workload. Scholarship is the active pursuit of extending knowledge in one’s discipline. This is set to be at minimum 30 percent of one’s workload. Service is faculty taking

part in committee work for departments and service to the institution and the community, which is generally expected to be no less than 10 percent but no more than 30 percent of a faculty member’s workload. Attending meetings is expected of faculty regardless of their workload. It will be up to department chairs to outline the expectations for their departments in each of these three categories. Armstrong senator Christy Moore, a senior lecturer for the Department of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Sciences,

expressed concern with department heads not being receptive to work with faculty on finding the proper hours. “We’re overworked, we’re exhausted, we’re ready to quit,” Moore said. Another issue was a general concern that this policy was not vetted in a way that was satisfactory. Senate Chair Dustin Anderson said this new workload policy was made by an ad hoc committee, which is a committee created and appointed for a specific task, whereas most faculty welfare issues come from and are vetted by the faculty welfare

committee. “The composition of that committee did not include elected members by the faculty, so that caused me some concern,” history professor Michelle Haberland said. The senate voted against these revisions with 22 votes against and 11 for it, meaning the senate will have to try and reach an agreement at next month’s meeting. Anderson said if the senate fails to pass a new policy, it will be forced to use the current workload policy next semester.

UNI-FEST

Georgia Southern students win awards at the Uni-Fest Student Film Festival

BY ELIZABETH GROSS AND SHIANN SIVELL

The George-Anne staff

Two Georgia Southern University students won awards at the 2019 Uni-Fest Film Festival in Atlanta on March 30 and 31.

Uni-Fest is an annual film festival for students in Georgia to show their film-making skills, receive feedback on their films and network with professionals.

The GS films screened at the festival were “NOSTOS 12” by senior multimedia film production major, Connor Rentz, and “I Hate When Balloons Fly Away” by junior film production major Madison Bunker and Jared Cobb.

A scientific discovery

Rentz said “NOSTOS 12” is an abstract science-fiction short film. Rentz directed, wrote, edited and co-produced “NOSTOS 12” alongside co-producers and co-directors of photography Logan Beever and David Besh. The film stars Rebecka Moreno, Franchette O’Neal and Will Besh.

Rentz’s film won awards for best performance in a leading role, production design and best sound design.

“I want to congratulate Rebecka for her win,” Rentz said. “She was such a joy to work with and she rocked it, especially since the character she was acting was hidden behind a mask.”

Rentz said he did the entire sound design from scratch and said that the majority of

production of “NOSTOS 12” was filmed on campus with the help of his crew.

“We have a lot of talented people here, and I hope the rest of the team is very proud of these wins,” Rentz said. “I hope this inspires more film students at Georgia Southern to go for festivals.”

“NOSTOS 12” is the ninth film that Rentz has made in his college career under his film and production company, Kyanite Pictures, Rentz said. The film premiered during the GS senior project two-film screening last December and received high praise from students and faculty.

“I love everything about making movies,” Rentz said. “It felt very rewarding once we were filming, and we’d look through the monitor on the camera and see one of the characters who is in a ship, and you can see space behind her, and there’s her reflection and her cockpit view and we’re like, ‘This feels real.’”

Rentz said he watched many of the other films that will screen at Uni-Fest from other students around Georgia, and he is glad to have his film play alongside them.

“I’m very excited,” Rentz said. “It’s always nice to have your work screened somewhere, because anyone will tell you, any of the film professors here or any of the guest film-makers that come to Georgia Southern, that you will submit to so many festivals, and most of them will tell you no, so when there is one that does let you in, it’s very exciting.”

Floating ideas

Madison Bunker and Jared Cobb’s film “I Hate When Balloons Fly Away” was nominated for best directing and best editing.

Their film is about a quirky romance, the idea of which came to Bunker while he was doodling in class.

“Jared and I were in class and I randomly drew a balloon with hair on it, and wrote ‘I Hate When Balloons Fly Away,’ and said [to Jared], ‘Let’s do something like this,’” Bunker said.

The film itself is about a man who falls in love with a balloon, but another balloon threatens their relationship, Bunker said.

“This is a strange one,” Bunker said. “It’s about really how some people sometimes will be in relationships and things happen, and eventually you have to move on and let them go.”

Bunker worked closely with “Balloons” fellow writer, co-producer and director Jared Cobb to create the film. He also worked with theatre major Nick Parish, who stars in the film.

Cobb’s sole co-stars of the film are balloons with faces drawn on them, which he completely commits to, Bunker said.

Bunker said that having the film shown at the festival is all that really matters to him.

“For us, it’s really about being able to showcase this strange little film that we concocted, and that people want to see it is good enough for us,” Bunker said.

Both ‘I Hate When Balloons Fly Away’ and ‘NOSTOS 12’ can be viewed on YouTube.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PRODUCTION OF “NOSTOS 12” AT FILMFREEWAY.COM
“Nostros 12” stars Rebecka Moreno. Moreno won best performance in a leading role.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CONNOR RENTZ
Rentz directed, wrote, edited and co-produced “NOSTOS 12.” Rentz’s film won awards for best picture, best performance in a leading role, production design and best sound design.

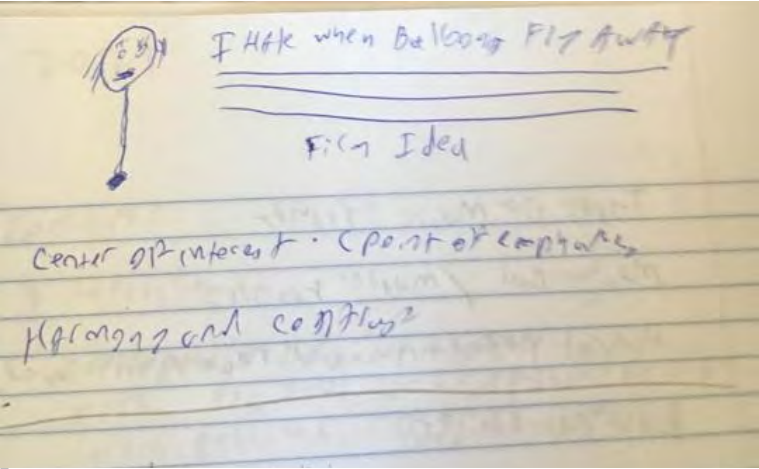


PHOTO COURTESY OF MADISON BUNKER
Concept art for Bunker’s film, “I Hate When Balloons Fly Away.”



220 Students Relocated

University Villas to relocate students due to structural issues found in select apartments

BY KYLE CLARK

The George-Anne staff

University Housing announced Wednesday that 220 students of the approximately 470 living at University Villas will be relocated due to structural issues.

Following a series of inspections that took place over spring break,

various structural concerns were discovered in select apartment units within University Villas.

“Out of an abundance of caution for student safety, the university has taken the steps of closing the affected units and is working to relocate students to other spaces in University Housing or at off-campus apartment properties,”

John Lester, vice president for Strategic Communications and Marketing, said.

Not every unit in University Villas will be relocated, and only those affected by the structural issues will be asked to move. Students living in University Villas were sent an email Wednesday morning telling them if they were

going to be forced to move or not.

Students will be moved to one of the several off-campus locations or be given the option to stay on campus in a new room. Their preferences are being taken into account, but will not be guaranteed.

Affected students will be moved out this weekend, starting Friday.

The university will supply crews and trucks to help move out affected students.

There will be mandatory meetings for affected students tonight at Nessmith-Lane Room 1915 at 7, 8, and 9 p.m. Students are only required to go to one meeting.

SMITH WINS

Juwan Smith wins Student Government president seat for 2019-2020

“I HAVE THE PASSION TO MAKE THE SACRIFICES NEEDED TO BRIDGE ALL THREE CAMPUSES TO MAKE ONE FAMILY. I WILL CREATE INTENTIONAL MEETING SPACES FOR ALL CAMPUSES TO COME TOGETHER AND DISCUSS CONCERNS ON ALL THREE CAMPUSES. IT IS MY HOPE TO SHOW EACH STUDENT THAT FAMILY DOES MATTER.”

JUWAN SMITH
2019-2020 SGA president



LAUREN SABIA/staff

BY MATTHEW ENFINGER AND
NATHAN WEAVER

The George-Anne staff

Juwan Smith will be Georgia Southern University’s 2019-2020 Student Government president.

Smith’s campaign was inspired by the tv show “Family Matters” and ran on goals to represent the voices of all

students on all three GS campuses. Smith aims to take on issues such as consolidation and campus safety.

Smith said his first plans following the election is to meet with all the executives from each campus and to work out to identify and develop a mission statement for what GS want to see for the year and for student government association.

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Kahria Hadley

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dajah Jones

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
VICE PRESIDENT FOR
AUXILIARY AFFAIRS

Nailah Mitnaul

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR AT LARGE

Tinashe Chitiyo
Nyla Hall
Dantrell Maeweather
Devin Stephens
JaMarian Walker
Mekashaw “Teddy” Meyoka

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Albani Berryhill
Ashley Cadely
Caryn Coquerel
Imani McGill

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
BEHAVIORAL AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Asiyah Amador
Zakiya Daniel
Taylor Delgado
Erika Love

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
BUSINESS

Aaron Geter III
Kameron Humphrey
Sequoya Mclendon
Kobe Stringer

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Gwendolyn Brown
Deshae Deans
Ayah Favors
Nia Gitau

STATESBORO CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
GRADUATE STUDIES

Quentin Smith

LIBERTY CAMPUS:
COUNCILOR

DeMorris McGruder
Emmaline Menger
Dillon Minges
Parsa Torabi

ARMSTRONG CAMPUS:
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Spencer DeMink

ARMSTRONG CAMPUS:
VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE

Yilnette Morales Núñez

ARMSTRONG CAMPUS:
SENATOR AT LARGE

Erica Cribbs
Megan Evans
Beverly Leitelt
Elizabeth Ossi
Jacquie Reis
Jordan Stevenson
Katie Sparks
Tyler Tyack

ARMSTRONG CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION

Mohamed Elshahahwy
Sophia Lopez

ARMSTRONG CAMPUS:
SENATOR - COLLEGE OF
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Makenzie Bunton
Jade Reynolds
Nick Wright

BREAKING THE STIGMA

Three students discuss their trials and triumphs as first-generation college students

BY SHIANN SIVELL
The George-Anne staff

From the time we are born we have no choice but to trust our parents to guide us, to mold us and to help us make better decisions for ourselves. The greatest challenge they are supposed to help us overcome is what to do with our lives after we are legally no longer their responsibility.

In families where a college education was not stressed or considered, many young people will struggle to decide what they want to do with their lives. Some may be able to pick from what their high schools have to offer while others must decide their own paths without guidance.

Three Georgia Southern University students shared their stories of how they chose a path their parents did not, and how they overcame the stigma held against them thanks to the help of tact and unlikely mentors.

Three Students, Three Stories

Ruben Benitez

Ruben Benitez, a fifth year senior public relations major, was born in Colombia but transitioned to the United States when he was three. His mother attended accounting school but had to drop out after she became pregnant with him. She soon married a south Georgia man and Benitez gained two older step siblings.

While his family was well-off financially, Benitez said that neither his older siblings or his parents attended college and the bar for him to go was set very low. He originally had trouble applying to colleges and financial aid and had to figure such things out without parental assistance.

However, his mother did step in to influence him to pursue a secondary education.

"It was kind of a gimmick that me and my siblings would go to college," Benitez said. "I originally wanted to go into the military because I had no idea what I wanted to do. But then my mom was like, 'No, you're not going into the military, you're going to college.'"

Society in general, Benitez said, does not have much of a focus on students, let alone education.

"Whether it's first-generation or not, I don't think they put the focus on helping people to graduate," Benitez said. "In high school, they didn't really prepare you to apply let alone graduate college."

Benitez said that while college is important, it is ultimately not the equivalent of happiness.

"College isn't for everyone," Benitez said. "I struggled with it and if I had someone with experience with it as well, someone who helped me out with it alone the way, it would have been a lot easier."

Christopher Bernard

With neither his parents nor grandmother having gone to college, freshman theater major Christopher Bernard said he thought for the longest time a secondary education wasn't an option for him.

Both of his parents were caught up in a lot of bad stuff, he said, and he was subsequently raised by his grandmother.

"Both my parents failed out of high school in, I believe, the 10th grade," Bernard said. "I never really knew my dad. My mom always said [school] wasn't for her. One of the reasons she quit was because she got pregnant. She had her first three children in her teens."

Bernard said his grandmother tried to encourage him to stay in high school and receive his diploma. However, his biggest influence was a retired GS pianist, professor Michael Braz. Braz showed Bernard the campus and told him that college would help him immensely.

"He's the reason I'm here," Bernard said. "He's helped do things such as finish paying tuition, help me get scholarships I didn't even know I can get. Even now he's pushing me to think about my graduation."

Bernard said that he believes that those with his similar background can be more successful in college than the generation before.

"I feel like there are a lot more doors open who are from rough backgrounds and can't necessarily afford college or aren't really the college type of people," Bernard said. "There are so many more opportunities, you just have to show that you can do it."

Kristen Edwards

Kristen Edwards, a senior public relations major, is able to share the title first generation college student with her older sister.

Both of Edwards' parents attended college, but did not finish or receive their diplomas. Edwards' father had a basketball scholarship but left for the military, and her mother left after a year.

However, there was always an expectation that their children would attend college.

"My parents always wanted me to go to school or get a job," Edwards said. "The only time I ever really wanted to quit was when I got too overwhelmed with my work. But I'm not really a quitter."

Edwards said that her sister is one of her greatest inspirations.

With a six-year age gap she was like another parent to her and made sure she stuck to her academics before and during college.

"I think in a way she wanted me to be better than her too," Edwards said. "It's like a rivalry, but I feel like it was more parental. It was never spoken, but more subtle."

Edwards plans to work on an internship after she graduates before attending law school.

Statistical Odds

Over 7 million students are undergraduates attending four-year public and private colleges and universities. About 20 percent are first-generation students and 50 percent of all first-generation college students in the U.S. are from low-income families.

According to a 2018 report from the U.S. Department of Education, about one-third of U.S. undergraduates in 2011-12 had parents who hadn't attended college.

Students of these low-income families may need professional mentoring. Often, first-generation students apply only to a single college and do so without help. They can't afford multiple application fees and they are unsure of how to determine a good fit, as their parents have not taken them on any college tours.

Resources available to help students combat the first-generation struggle can be found in the financial aid offices or from academic advisers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KRISTEN EDWARDS

Kristen Edwards, a senior public relations major, plans to attend law school after she graduates. She and her sister both attended college despite how their parents dropped out of it.

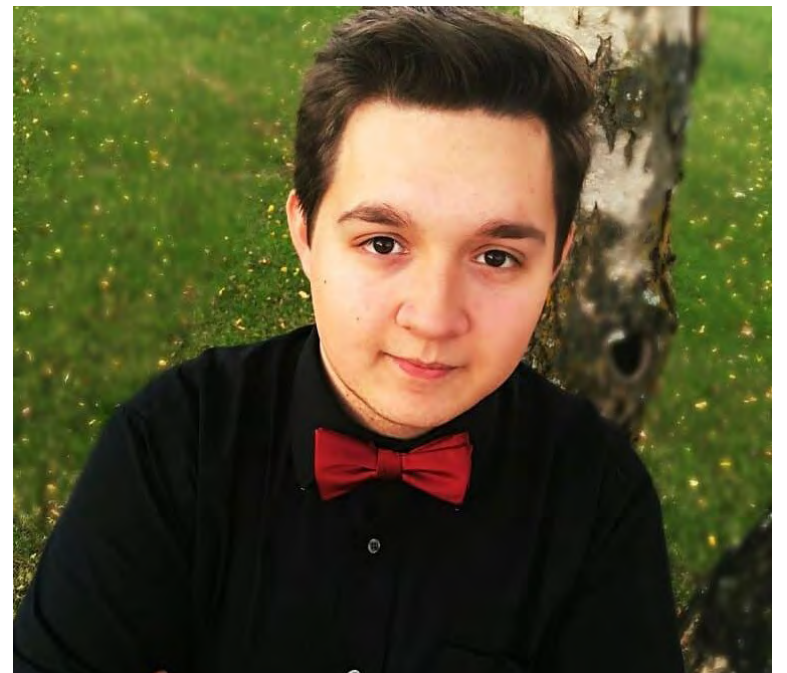


PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTOPHER BERNARD

Christopher Bernard, a freshman theater major, found a role model in retired GS pianist professor Michael Braz. Despite his struggles, he is optimistic that more first-generation will be able to attend college as he did.

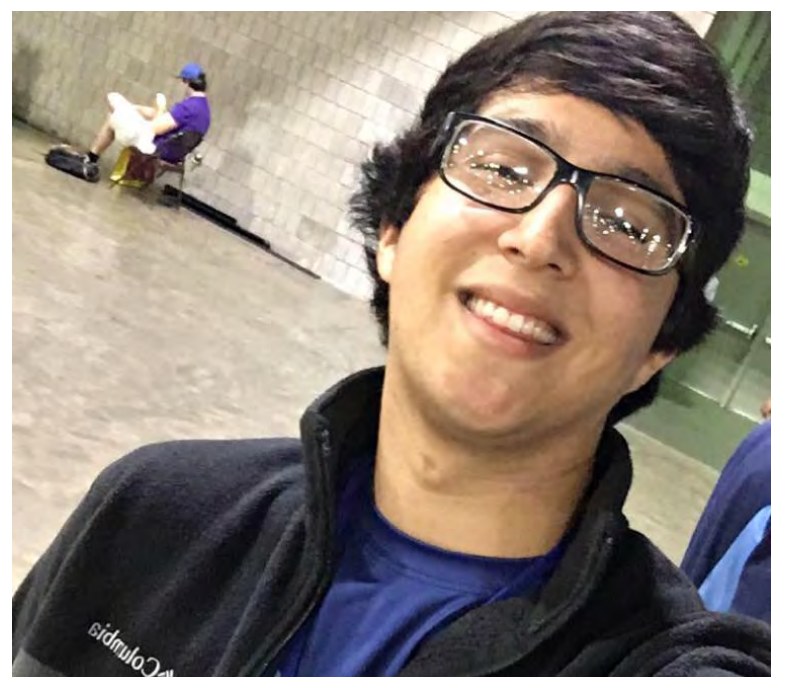


PHOTO COURTESY OF RUBEN BENITEZ

Ruben Benitez, a fifth year senior public relations major, is the first of his parents or his siblings to attend college. Though he originally struggled to find resources and guidance, he managed to pull through and will soon graduate.

THE **GEORGE-ANNE** DAILY

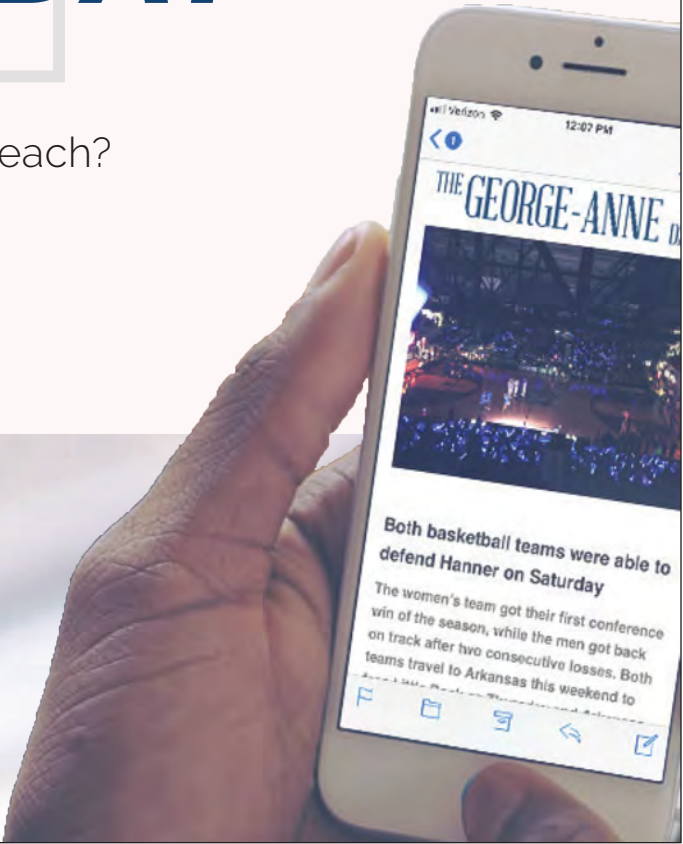
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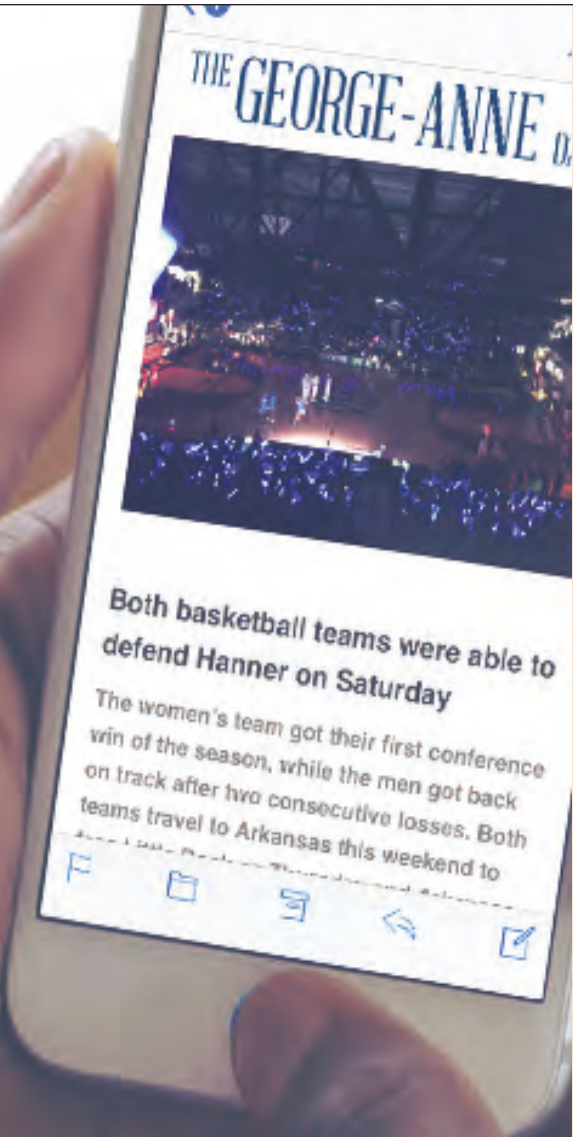
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Adapt	Giants	Outdoor
Agreed	Goods	Output
Agricultural	Grade	Pines
Amount	Guess	Prefer
Angles	Holland	Press
Anyway	Human	Rainy
Ashes	Improve	Rapid
Atomic	Income	Rates
Basket	Index	Reign
Books	Insist	Round
Choir	Joint	School
Cliff	Jungle	Shaking
Complex	Kicks	Sleep
Coral	Ledge	Solve
Cords	Month	Speeds
Coughs	Months	Thicker
Coward	Mount	Twist
Crime	Muddy	Typical
Cruel	Named	Unable
Daisy	Needed	Unity
Dancer	Neutral	Unless
Disco	Ninth	Veins
Disks	Noise	Vicious
Edges	Opens	Waded
Estate	Orbit	Yawns
Furry	Ounce	Zipped

The George-Anne 4/11/19 Crossword PuzzleJunction.com

Across

1 Sandpiper
5 Lingerie item
9 Painter Chagall
13 Declare
14 Inadvisable action
15 Detached
17 Cuzco’s country
18 Wood sorrels
19 Birth-related
20 Orange kin
22 Buddy
23 Met display
24 High spirits
27 Scarlett O’Hara, e.g.
30 “So soon?”
31 Early evictee
32 Like some humor
33 Nativity nursery
36 Trouser part
37 Personal quirk
38 Sweet potato
39 Fortune
40 Clans
42 Thai river
43 Stars and Stripes land
44 Piece of men’s jewelry
46 Liabilities
48 Camisole
50 Juliet, to Romeo
51 Donations
52 Vaporize
57 Salmon River locale
59 Church section
60 Wild goat
61 Pretend
62 From square one

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63 Thunder sound
64 Soaks, as flax
65 Glasgow gal
66 Achilles, e.g.

Down

1 Spellbound
2 Part of the eye
3 Terrarium plant
4 Penny-pinching
5 Sound of contempt
6 Places
7 Fatuously
8 Charlatan
9 "___ overboard!"

10 Like some desserts
11 Service organization
12 Raccoon relative
16 Kind of collar
21 Bard’s “before”
25 Ice cream flavor
26 Mischief
27 Boxing prize
28 Constantly
29 Lawful
30 Rainbow’s shape
32 “Saturday Night Fever” music
34 Party thrower
35 J.F.K. postings

37 Adolescent
38 Jabber
41 VIP, usually
42 Shangri-la
45 Relating to the spleen
46 Twosome
47 Improve, in a way
48 Bucket
49 Patriarch
50 Gushes
53 Ancient greetings
54 Competent
55 Drop from Niobe
56 Really big show
58 Switch settings

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JAREN STEPHENS/staff

BYINGTON TO STAY AT GEORGIA SOUTHERN DESPITE ELON RUMORS

BY MCCLAIN BAXLEY
The George-Anne staff

Georgia Southern men's basketball coach Mark Byington took to Twitter Thursday night to shut down rumors of him being a candidate for Elon University's head coaching vacancy. "Eagle Fans... with news spreading about other jobs, I just wanted to clear something up. I'm staying at Georgia Southern," Byington said in a

tweet. "#UnfinishedBusiness" Elon fired their coach of 10 years Matt Matheny at the conclusion of the regular season. Rumors of Byington being a candidate for the CAA school were first reported by WJCL's Frank Sulkowski Thursday via Twitter. "Multiple sources telling @WJCLNews that Georgia Southern Men's Basketball coach Mark Byington is a candidate for

the @ElonMBasketball head coaching position," Sulkowski said in a tweet. In February 2018, Byington signed a contract extension through the 2022 season. Byington has been the head coach for GS since the 2013 season and has posted three 20-win seasons, including five straight 10 conference win seasons. He has an overall record of 111-84 with the Eagles.

HOW THE EAGLES LANDED THE NUMBER TWELVE GOLF RECRUIT IN GEORGIA



PHOTO COURTESY OF GS ATHLETICS

BY BETHANY-GRACE BOWERS
The George-Anne staff

The No. 12 golf recruit in the state of Georgia last year ended up picking Georgia Southern as the place that would be his home for the next four years. Wilson Andress, the freshman from Macon, Georgia, started playing golf, as well as other sports, at a very young age and he soon knew that golf was his passion. "When I was younger my dad and I always played a lot," Andress said. "Starting in 6th

grade, I kind of got interested in golf and that's when I started playing, right after I got done with travel ball and All-Stars [baseball] that summer, that's when I got serious and I quit baseball after 6th grade and I just focused on golf." Andress knew that he wanted to play golf early on, even before high school. During his 7th grade year, it was time for baseball tryouts and he shot that down immediately. "I told my dad that I didn't want to do that," said Andress. "I wanted to play college golf instead."

With that strong mindset, he continued to play golf throughout high school and did indeed perform well enough to consider playing on the collegiate level. When looking at schools, Andress considered others, but felt at home at GS. "Once I visited here I really liked it," Andress said. "The coaches were awesome, the players, everyone here, is an awesome fit." With only a few tournaments under his belt at GS, Andress has performed well this season and had a few success stories. He has had two top 10 finishes,

one being at the Hummingbird Intercollegiate Tournament in Cashiers, North Carolina, finishing T7 and the other being at the AutoTrader Collegiate Classic in Duluth, Georgia, finishing T4. At the AutoTrader Collegiate Classic, Andress finished nine under par and accumulated 17 birdies. He shot 70-68-69 on the tournament, ending with a total of 207. With so much room to grow and time to do it, Andress has a promising future playing golf as a GS Eagle and fans are already wondering what his next step might be, maybe even playing

golf professionally. "People have asked me that, but I don't know for sure," Andress said. "We're just going to see how golf goes over the next few years, but definitely the plan is to focus on school." With that mindset, Andress will have his head focused on golf but also in the books as a civil engineering major. The GS Eagles have definitely added a strong asset to the team with Andress and fans are ready to see where he will be and where his team will be later on in the season, as well as years to come.

Women's Tennis *swept* during weekend play

BY KAITLIN SELLS
The George-Anne staff

Coastal Carolina (L, 2-4)

The Georgia Southern women's tennis team went 0-2 on weekend play after traveling to the Carolinas to take on conference opponents.

Appalachian State (L, 1-4)

The first opponent the Eagles saw on the weekend was long-time rivals, the ASU Mountaineers who took the win over GS 4-1.

The Mountaineers came out strong by taking the doubles point early on after collecting wins over Eagle duos junior Paula Boixader and freshman Luisa Hrda as well as senior Lindsay Truscott and sophomore Charlotte Van Diemen.

On the singles court, Boixader was the only Eagle to collect a win and earn GS their only point of the match as she took the match 6-2, 6-4, respectively.

The Eagles concluded their weekend play taking on the CCU Chanticleers who ended up taking the win over GS 4-2.

Doubles team Truscott and Van Diemen earned a 6-0 win on the court but it wasn't enough as Boixader and Hrda were taken down 6-1 as well as senior Emilia Bujan and junior Arianne De Winter were defeated 6-3, earning CCU the doubles point.

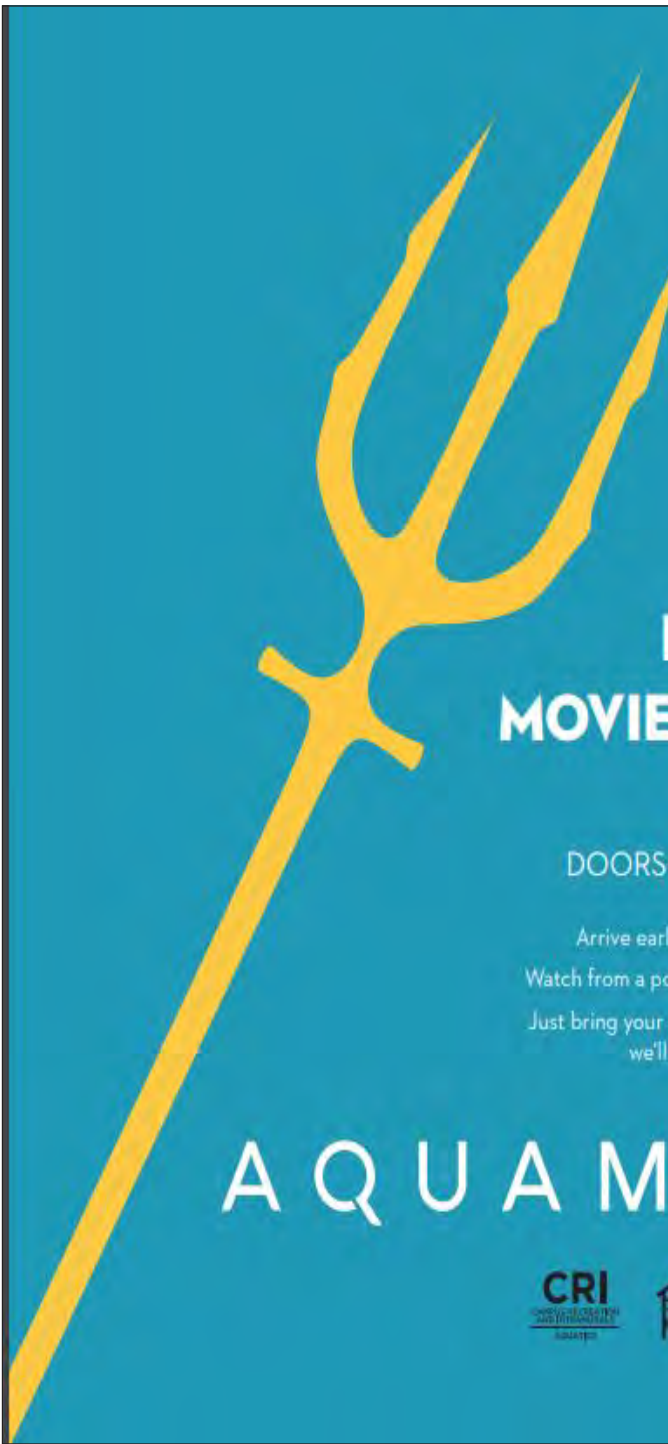
Hrda fought like fire on the singles court and took her match 6-2, 6-3, respectively. Freshman Elizabeth Goines was the other Eagle to collect the second point for the Eagles after going 6-3, 6-3 on the court.

The Eagles will be back in action as they play their last regular-season matches at home both Saturday and Sunday, taking on the University of South Alabama and the University of Troy.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SINDI PATANI

The women's tennis team now sits 11-11 overall and 3-5 in the conference as well as being on a two game losing streak.






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Georgia Southern announces 2019 football promotions

Saturday, Sept. 7 -

Maine
GATA Club Reunion
Night of Champions
Paint the Town Blue

Saturday, Sept. 28 -

Louisiana
Family Weekend
Tackling for a Cure

Saturday, Oct. 19 -

Coastal Carolina
Military Appreciation



KAITLIN SELLS/staff

Saturday, Oct. 26 -

New Mexico State
Homecoming
Teacher Appreciation

Saturday, Nov. 16 -

ULM
Celebrate Agriculture Day

Saturday, Nov. 30 -

Georgia State
Senior Day
Blue Out



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Every Thursday
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BY BETHANY-GRACE BOWERS
The George-Anne staff

After coming off of a series win over Appalachian State, the Georgia Southern baseball team faces a full week ahead, already halfway completed after competing against Kennesaw State. After the Eagles finished their single game against the Owls Wednesday, they are set start prepping to take on the Texas State Bobcats in a three game series that will go from Friday to Sunday.

The Bobcats’ current season record is looking a little bit better than the Eagles’ with them sitting at 20-12 overall, however, their conference records match perfectly at 7-5. TXST is coming off of a win, but a series loss against Troy as well as coming off a non-conference matchup versus Texas A&M on Tuesday before they’re set to meet the Eagles in Statesboro for the weekend. A couple Eagles to watch this weekend are infielders junior Steven Curry and sophomore Austin Thompson. Both Eagles had two hits in the last game

against App State and Curry had two RBIs. Both have performed well this season for GS and fans are eager to see what the next games hold for these two. GS currently sits in the number two spot in the eastern division of the Sun Belt and TXST sits at third in the western division. Game play is set to begin in J.I. Clements Stadium at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Both Friday and Saturday’s games will be streamed on ESPN+, while Sunday’s game will be shown on True Blue TV.



BY KAITLIN SELLS
The George-Anne staff

After completing half their busy week of play facing off against the College of Charleston on Wednesday, the Georgia Southern softball team will conclude play by taking on the University of Troy in a three-game weekend series. Georgia Southern (18-19; 4-10) After collecting a 9-1 win over ULM, the Eagles were finally able to break their six game losing streak and now show for an overall record of 17-19 and a conference record of 4-10. As a team, the Eagles show a batting average of .272, while junior outfielder Shelby Wilson is the one who leads GS with her .383 batting average. Wilson has collected 24 runs,

36 hits and seven home runs on the season during her 94 at-bats. Senior catcher/infielder powerhouse Logan Harrell collected another home run against ULM, tallying her season total at 10 while she’s hitting a .312 batting average while notching 21 runs and 34 hits off her 109 at-bats. Pitching-wise we can expect to see freshman Ashleigh Morton on the mound at some point during the week of play as she showed for a powerful performance against ULM, allowing her to claim her seventh win on the season. Morton has seen the mound for 54 innings this season, throwing for 19 strikeouts and showing a 3.76 ERA. Troy (29-13;11-4) The Trojans will be a difficult opponent for the Eagles as they sit in third in the Sun Belt, showing for a conference

record of 11-4, as well as having the momentum of an 11-game winning streak behind them. Troy proves to be dangerous on the bats as they show for a team batting average of .282 while sophomore outfielder Talia Truitt leads the Trojans with her .357 average off her 112 at-bats. Truitt has tallied 27 runs and 40 hits on the season, allowing her to show for a .366 slugging percentage. GS needs to be on the lookout for freshman star pitcher Leanna Johnson who’s logged an impressive 2.24 ERA while showing for a record of 20-5. The freshman has pitched for 149.2 innings on the season where she’s allowed 106 hits and only 51 runs while throwing for 163 strikeouts. The Eagles will face the Trojans in a three-game series at home, kicking off Friday at 5:30 p.m.

FASTBREAK

Softball vs. College of Charleston



	CoC	GS
1	1	0
2	0	0
3	0	1
4	0	0
5	0	1
6	0	0
7	0	X
R	1	2
H	6	5
E	1	1

Baseball vs. Kennesaw State



	GS	KSU
1	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	0	0
5	0	0
6	2	0
7	0	2
8	5	0
9	X	0
R	7	2
H	8	2
E	1	2

Organization Leadership Consultants present



Eagle HUNT SCAVENGER

April 16, 2019 | 9 am - 5 pm
Williams Center | Statesboro Campus



For more information on accommodations related to access or participation, please contact OSA at (912)-478-7270, at least two weeks prior to the event.





2019-2020 STUDENT ORGANIZATION Renewals

The organization President and 1 additional leader **MUST** attend a renewal workshop.

Renewal Workshop Dates

Thursday, April 18 | 5:00 pm | Williams Center Multipurpose Room

Tuesday, April 23 | 6:00 pm | Williams Center Multipurpose Room

Thursday, April 25 | 5:30 pm | Williams Center Multipurpose Room

Advisors are strongly encouraged to attend.
2 Wings points will be awarded for Advisors attending.

EVENTS

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- HEAVY TOSS
- 1000 METER ROW
- TIRE FLIPS
- HEAVY CARRY



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9AM | CHECK-IN / WEIGH IN

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THE GEORGE-ANNE MEDIA GROUP



student organization Renewals

EVERY STUDENT ORGANIZATION MUST HAVE THEIR PRESIDENT & 1 ADDITIONAL LEADER ATTEND

Thursday

Tuesday

Friday

Wednesday

April 12th, 4:30 pm; Russell Union Theater

April 17th, 5:30 pm; Williams Center Multipurpose Room

April 20th, 3:30 pm; Russell Union Theater

April 25th, 6:00 pm; Russell Union Theater

*Advisors are strongly encouraged to attend a workshop and will receive 2 WINGS points for attending

For more information, please contact the Office of Student Activities at osa@georgiasouthern.edu



STUDENT AFFAIRS WEEKLY BUZZ

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Block Party

April 13 at 12pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS OR ITS UNITS PLEASE VISIT STUDENTS.GEORGIASOUTHERN.EDU