### EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 24</th>
<th>Bouldering Night Out</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This event is open to all ranges of experience, whether you are an experienced climber or a first timer this event is fun for everyone. Prizes are raffled and food is served at each BNO!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday, October 24 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Recreation Activity Center</td>
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<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 25</th>
<th>Fresh Fruit Friday</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stop by our booth to sample fresh, in-season fruit and learn about the benefits of incorporating these fruits into your diet!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, October 25 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Russell Union Commons</td>
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<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 25</th>
<th>Homecoming Pep Rally</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>We are getting in the homecoming spirit with games, ice cream, pumpkin decorating and a special appearance by the one and only GUS!</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, October 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Russell Union Rotunda</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 25</th>
<th>Homecoming Parade</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student organizations, campus departments and members of the community enter parade floats. The parade will begin at 4 pm leaving from lot 42 and ending at Sweetheart Circle.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday, October 25 from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lot 42</td>
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**Pet Name:** Twitchy  
**Owner Name:** Audree-Rose Toler  
**Freshman Anthropology 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!

---

Do you have art or creative writing that you would love to share?  
Submit your art and/or creative writing to Miscellany at miscellany@georgiasouthern.edu  
Make sure you use your Georgia Southern email!
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!

The SGA is held open forum that allowed students to ask questions to SGA and President Kyle Marrero in the Russell Union Ballroom!

Students in line to buy Doo-Dah tickets! They brought cash and their Eagle ID to purchase a $1 ticket, then got some free candy and popcorn from Ananda Shade, Brynna Chin ATound, and Sydney Evans!

What better way to start your busy day than with some yummy Starbucks! Visit employees, Kayla and Elaina in the Russell Union, for all of your fall drink favs!

Don’t have a Homecoming shirt yet? You can bring a college tshirt that you have already and swap it out! You can also buy one for $2 at the table. Available from 11:00am-2:30pm during Homecoming week. Come get one from Tamia Gusby, Brianna Battle, or Amari Nesmith!

Russell Union Ballroom!

ask questions to SGA and President Kyle Marrero in the

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Dear students,

We, a group of faculty in the Department of Health Sciences and Kinesiology, are compelled to speak out in response to the behavior of Georgia Southern students involved in the burning of Crucet’s book, Make Your Home Among Strangers. As faculty members, we are committed to academic freedom and free expression of thought, and we believe that it is within students’ and others’ First Amendment rights to free expression. However, we also have the right to condemn the symbolism of book burning, a practice employed throughout history to silence the expression of free thought.

As faculty, we have the privilege of engaging with you in the classroom and discussing different perspectives because of our education and the books we have read (and continue to read) along our way. While we may at times both agree and disagree with some of the content within these resources, we continue to recognize that each helps us make sense of the world — including recognizing opinions and experiences that may be different from our own. We believe that a university education encompasses an ideal time for open discourse, exploration of new and sometimes uncomfortable ideas, and learning and personal growth. Learning is not always enjoyable; sometimes it is unpleasant and can challenge our own entitlements and shortcomings. It involves listening, as much as speaking, with the purpose of discovering other perspectives and lived experiences. We believe that to burn books is to actively reject this critical engagement. It is our belief and hope that books have the power to guide you, and each and every one of us, in having these difficult conversations about privilege and to combat the thinking that it is legitimate to make oneself feel powerful or safer through acts of hostility and violence at the expense of others, especially those who are already underrepresented, treated as insignificant and peripheral or marginalized.

Our department is diverse in its faculty, our academic programs, and the students we serve, and we strive to prepare you for the “real world.” This “real world” is also diverse. No matter what career you choose, you will meet and work with people of different races, sexual orientations, religious affiliations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, and ethnicities. In the healthcare field, you also will take care of this diverse population — particularly when they are at their most vulnerable — and be a trusted source of knowledge and attention while creating safe, equitable spaces. We encourage you to use this recent event as an opportunity to engage in a civil dialogue with your peers, faculty, and staff by critically examining the information you are learning in your classes, questioning it, and developing conversations that can expand knowledge and understanding.

We are committed to hearing all voices, helping you process these incidents, and ensuring and contributing to an educational experience that is compassionate and inclusive of all. We uphold the University Affirmative Action policy that prohibits “creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or academic environment,” and we stand in solidarity with the author, faculty from other departments, organizations on- and off-campus, and students who value the diversity of thought and who denounce book burning.

Sincerely,
Diana Botnaru
Chris Barnhill
Christina Gipson
Leigh E. Rich
Mary Beth Yarbrough
John Dobson
Janet R. Baelov
Matthew Cleveland
Bryan L. Riemann
Gregg Rich
Amy Jo Riggs
Joelle Romanchik
Brandon S. Harris
Megan Byrd
Karen Spears
Amy Rundio
Tamerah Hunt
Matthew A. Williamson
Starla McCollum
Sarah Davis
McKinley Thomas
Nick J. Siekirk
Steven Patterson
Gavin Colquitt
Jane Lynes
Greg A. Ryan
Justine Coleman
Zahi R. Jurdi
Jody Langdon
Barry Munkasy
Erin Jordan
Padmini Shankar

Do you have an opinion that needs to be heard?

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 e-mail in Microsoft Word format to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. All submissions must be signed and include phone number for verification. GS 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 GS, the Student Media Advisory Board, The George-Anne Media Group or the University System of Georgia.
WE’RE NOT GOING TO STAND FOR IT’

Rally, march in response to book burning ends with protest at Eagle Village

BY MCCLAN BAXLEY
The Georgia-Anne Staff

STATESBORO — More than 100 students stood at the rotunda at Georgia Southern University Friday afternoon to talk about their concerns with the GS administration’s handling of racial issues before marching to Eagle Village residence halls to have a protest in response to last week’s book burning.

The event was hosted by the Young Democrats of Georgia Southern and was announced on Twitter after the Student Government Association open forum Wednesday night. Rally, march in response to book burning ends with protest at Eagle Village. 

Before the rally began, students spent time writing on posters while Young Democrats President Elizabet Malloy walked around handing out sheets that had the prepared chants written on them.

Just after 4 p.m., Malloy stood in the center of the rotunda and ushered the crowd that was still growing in one side of the rotunda. She thanked everyone for being there and then talked about why they were there.

“We’re burning books now,” Delgado said.

“Triggerish was a name that was wanted, including a rise in minority professors to 40%,” Delgado said.

After Malloy was finished, she handed the bullhorn over to Peyton Rowe, a senior theatre major, who then handed it to Eduardo Delgado, Georgia Vice President of the College Democrats. Both continued to bring up past instances of racial inequality on campus and called for a change from the GS administration and from the community.

“Our definition of hate is the point we’ve been seeing from the administration,” Delgado said.

“We are defined by a multitude of struggles,” Delgado said. “We must defeat this hate and show that we’re not afraid of this community.”

Four or five speakers expressed their thoughts on the stage before Malloy took back over to run through a practice go of the chants.

The selected chants were: “Hail Southern, not hell Hitler,” “Latinx lives matter,” “POC for equality,” “No justice, no peace,” “We will fight for civil rights,” “Black lives matter,” “Hey Mr. President, hold them accountable.”

After two runs through, the group began the march.

Prior to the event, Delgado said that the route would weave through some of campus, head across Chandler Road and end up at one of the grills outside of Eagle Village.

Delgado’s plan was altered a tad as the march went straight around Malloy and traded off who held the bullhorn.

“Hail Southern, not hell Hitler,” was the first chant the group went with as the began their way past the Russell Union towards Centennial Place.

Holding posters, screaming the chants and walking across the roundabout in front of Tech Corner, the protestors marched on with other students walking by and filming.

Some of the skateboarders joined in for a moment before the crowd of about 100 students reached Centennial Place.

Two GS police officers blocked traffic at Chandler Road so the march could hold steady down Georgia Avenue. The march continued past the Plaza and down and back parking lot of Eagle Village.

Once on the Eagle Village property, an audience gathered to watch the protestors walk down the sidewalk towards a grill. At the grill, the march came to a halt and the group formed a circle around Malloy.

“Extinguishing” stereotypes

With the eyes of about 150 students, four police officers and several other adults on her, Malloy talked through how the protest would be run.

“At this point, we are going to move into our open mic,” she said. “If you feel like you want to write something go ahead, put it down and put it on the grill.”

One by one, protesters grabbed the bullhorn, stood next to the grill and proclaimed a stereotype or negative thought they wanted to be “extinguished.” These stereotypes ranged from common stereotypes to more specific examples of racial inequality.

During the demonstration, people in their windows in Eagle Village began shouting down to the crowd. The protestors began to yell back up, but some of the leaders of the protest urged them to remain peaceful, and focus on what was happening on the ground.

The phrase that was written several times was white privilege and the protestors who spoke the most on it were senior philosophy and political science major Lauren McIntosh.

“We don’t privilege is the war on drugs under Nixon which was created primarily to discriminate against black people while wealthy white people who were using cocaine were receiving laughable punishments, black people who were using crack were receiving the strictest, harshest life punishments,” McIntosh said. “I don’t even dare to wish to be upset. Y'all do because my white privilege is when I’m driving down the road and getting pulled over, I do don’t have to fear for my life. I don’t have to ask if I can reach for my wallet so that the officer doesn’t think I’m pulling out a weapon and fatally shoots me. I’m sick of people calling Elisabeth (Malloy) when she spoke at the meeting a race traitor because this is something that shouldn’t be about race. It should be about humanity and morals.”

An emotional McIntosh thanked everyone for being there before leaving.

“Georgia Southern isn’t all racist. It’s mostly good people.”

With the route as right, Malloy and Rowe pulled out a white “Georgia Southern University” flag and raised it up.

“We are Georgia Southern,” Rowe said. “Not F**** burning books. This is Georgia Southern. This campus used to not be able to have faces like y’all and now it F**** does and your voices matter.”

The two women put the flag down and announced that there would be no fire. The group then grabbed the last notes cards and doused the note cards and the grill, as phones filmed and took pictures.

“I’m super satisfied with the tone we’ve been getting from the community,” Delgado said. “I have not really seen anything get violent, maybe some outbursts here and there. I don’t blame them for being mad.”

Several times throughout the afternoon, Rowe and others made mention of a walk-out on Wednesday at noon, followed by another protest.

Rowe said that the next step would be an important one.

“Internationally last week, we looked like a bunch of racists, intolerant and by the student body coming out and showing that we aren’t, hopefully some major media outlets will pick that up,” she said. “Georgia Southern isn’t all racist. It’s mostly good people.”

After the two jugs of water and a Chick-Fil-A sweet tea had been poured onto the pile of note cards, the group dismantled and went about its various ways, signifying the end of another GS protest.

Before marching from the Rotunda to Eagle Village Friday afternoon, students made posters with phrases including ‘AGAIN! ANOTHER SEMESTER OF THIS!’

PEYTON ROWE
Senior theatre major
STATESBORO — Georgia Southern University students expressed their opinions at the GS open forum with President Marrero on Wednesday in the Russell Union regarding the response of the University to the book-burning event that occurred last Wednesday. While 500 people were expected for the event in the Russell Union ballroom, but around 1,000 ended up showing up, with extra chairs having to be brought in to accommodate such a large crowd size, and the beginning of the forum push back 20 minutes.

The event made for a tense environment, as students seemed upset as President Kyle Marrero cited the inclusive excellence plan as the University’s reaction to the book burning that happened, instead of a code of conduct punishment.

“It is unfortunate the same answer, and with [the code of conduct] and with that with free expression,” Marrero said. “The First Amendment of the Constitution overrides that...as a state university which is governed by the First Amendment.”

One student stood up, while a concerned parent was in the process of asking a question, and said, “No direct answers, no direct answers, I need a direct answer!”

Tyler Tyack, speaker of the Armstrong/Liberty campus student government senate, asked about the University’s position on the book burning incident.

“Does the university believe that the actions that were taken were racist? Does it condemn the racist actions or do they just condemn the action,” Tyack asked.

Marrero’s response was met with cheers and claps from the crowd.

“I wish there was an answer because I don’t know the intent of the actions other than ignorance, other than foolishness, other than not having an idea of what in essence that they were doing. But I don’t know [the students], I don’t know their hearts, I don’t know if they are. But the actions themselves are repulsive, and symbolic of historic reflection of intolerance, and yes, of racism.”

After the event, students also expressed their feelings with reporters.

Sheldon Brown senior recreational therapy major, said he wanted more concrete action.

“What the President said did make me feel better,” he said. “But it didn’t completely answer any and every question that me including all the other concerned individuals on this campus had. Some of the questions ran in circles, and some of the responses ran in circles as well...I was looking for him to say that [diversity and inclusion plans] have been set in stone.”

Mackenzie Miller, junior fashion merchandising and management major, said that FYE faculty was overworked, and that the time allotted for FYE classes was not enough.

“How can we expect advisers who are overworked and sophomore to senior students who are 19 to 22 years old in two 50 minute classes to unpack white privilege, xenophobia, homophobia, trans-phobic ablest views all in two 50 minute classes when some people are so closed off, and they don’t even want to listen anyway,” Miller said. “How can we expect to fully address these issues when it’s really only being included in FYE?”

Emily Zaneski sophomore history and araboic major, said that FYE should be for all students, not just freshman.

“We have to expand some outside of the classroom,” she said. “Upperclassmen are equally as racist, as outwardly xenophobic as homophobic as well as the freshman. This shouldn’t just be an FYE thing, it should be open to all people on campus.”

Zaneski also said that Cruce cancelling her speech set a future precedent to not allow speakers, based on the controversial subject matters that they discuss.

“My concern is they cancelled Cruce going to Armstrong for unforeseen circumstances,” Zaneski said. “Are we just going to not allow all speaker who talks about stuff like white privilege, who talks about how not all Muslims are terrorists, about LGBTQ discrimination, tough topics that people need to understand.”

TAKING A LOOK AT THE GEORGIA SOUTHERN FIRE CODES

BY NATHAN WOODRUFF

Georgia Southern University’s fire safety code outlines many ways that GS students can avoid hurting themselves or others in the residence halls.

The University addressed the issues surrounding the book-burning incident, in terms of free speech and expression, and that you have to adhere to the code of conduct and fire safety.

Amber J. Culpepper, J.D., Interim Director, Equal Opportunity and Title IX Coordinator said that grills that were used to burn the books did not have to be reserved for use.

“So, the particular drills that we’re talking about here...outside of the residence halls, those do not require that. You don’t have to have permission to go out and use that grill.”

Culpepper also said that free speech and free expression were the ways that the code of conduct were interpreted.

The GS fire safety code lists 10 violations. Some include: fire doors being propped open, blocking paths of egress, obstructing fire alarm pull stations and tampering with fire extinguishers.

In addition, high power draw appliances such as refrigerators, microwaves and space heaters must be plugged directly into a wall receptacle. Surge protectors/power strips not properly mounted may be fixed to the wall.

“These devices must be mounted a minimum of 8” up off the floor and must be mounted in a way to prevent physical damage and liquid damage,” GS general fire safety tips reads.

Open electrical junction boxes should be properly protected and GFCI receptacles not provided by GS should be kept within six inches of a tub, sink or other water source.

Certain household appliances like micro fridges, microwaves and refrigerators.

There are also five forbidden items: alcohol, drugs, extension cords, pets and weapons.

What comes to cooking, chapter six section 11 F says, “engaging in unsafe cooking practices that create or increase the risk of fire” is a punishable offense. Section 25 also prohibits, “unauthorized use of University equipment.”

Turning a Look at the Georgia Southern Fire Codes

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MESA DE CONVERSACION IS MORE THAN A CONVERSATION TABLE

BY SARAH SMITH

STATESBORO — Georgia Southern students gathered at El Rinconcito Restaurant on Oct. 8 to enjoy food and speaking in Spanish with professors and fellow students.

This was the second conversation table of the six that are scheduled this semester.

Professor Miguel Garcia, along with Teaching Assistants Carmen Kramer and Martha Flores, led the event, according to Teresa Buzo-Salas, Spanish professor.

“It was a very nice gathering,” Buzo-Salas said. “There were around 12 people who interacted in Spanish with one another in a very relaxed atmosphere.”

Tuesday, Nov. 5 at El Rinconcito Restaurant at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 18 in the Interdisciplinary Academic Building, room 1015 at 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 3 at El Rinconcito Restaurant at 5:00 p.m.

To contact the editor, email gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu
BY KAITLIN SELLS
The George-Anne staff

STATESBORO — Georgia Southern football player Jordan Wiggins was found unresponsive by Georgia Southern police in his resident hall in Statesboro Monday night.

A family member called GSPD to request a welfare check on Wiggins, and upon arrival they found Wiggins unresponsive. They transported the freshman to East Georgia Regional Medical Center, where he later passed away.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation was called in to conduct an investigation looking into Wiggins’ death, and was later ruled a suicide by overdose.

“We are devastated to learn of Jordan’s passing,” Tom Kleinlein, director of athletics at GS, said in a press release. “Although he has only been on campus for a few months, Jordan has left an indelible mark on our program. He was a great person, a great teammate and a great friend to the entire Georgia Southern community. Our deepest condolences and heartfelt thoughts go out to the Wiggins family, and all those who knew and loved Jordan.”

The Florida native signed with GS in December of 2018 as part of the recruiting class of 2019 and was a scheduled redshirt this season. The offensive lineman played at Godby High School in Tallahassee, where was was named Capital outlook’s Youth of the Year for his work on and off the field.

“He never wanted to do anything if it didn’t make someone else happy,” Coach Brandon McCray, Wiggins’ offensive line coach for two years, said in an interview with the Tallahassee Democrat. “He was always there for his friends. He would do anything for his linemen. He loved football, but even he did that because it made his friends happy.”

Wiggins was also a first-team All-Big Bend offensive lineman for his high school his senior year, he notched 73 pancake blocks and only allowed two sacks the entire season. Wiggins’ mother passed in 2017, and McCray’s mother took Wiggins in.

“Thank you Son for helping me find a deeper love I had never experienced before your Mom passed you off to me. You know me DMa and Mrs. Jess love you.

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WINNING IN THE RAIN
Eagles prepare for Homecoming after hard win in overtime

BY KAITLIN SELLS
The George-Anne Staff

After last Saturday’s pancho party in Paulson, the Georgia Southern football team will be back in action at home to play New Mexico State for homecoming on Saturday. The Eagles are now sporting a two-game winning streak on top of an overall record of 5-3 after defeating Coastal Carolina. The win over CCU was not an easy one as the game went into triple overtime, but the Eagles were still able to come out on top.

The Eagles offense is beginning to find their rhythm as the Eagles have put up 1610 rushing yards on the season, averaging 236 per game. Leading the Eagles in rushing is junior running back J.D. King, who’s notched a net of 214 rushing yards, averaging 3.6 yards per carry.

Junior running back Wesley Kennedy III is another offensive player who is swiftly adding to his stats this season after getting a late start. Kennedy has only been able to play these last two games for the Eagles as he had to serve a four-game academic suspension, and has already scored three touchdowns for GS. The junior has logged a net of 189 rushing yards on the season so far, averaging 84.5 yards per game.

“Wesley’s a huge lift,” Head Coach Chad Lunsford said. “He took a negative and turned it into a positive. You can tell he’s playing with a chip on his shoulder. He’s playing like a Georgia Southern football player should play. He plays to win every play, and is very loud and focused. Very proud of that.”

Quarterback Shai Werts is another player that’s recently gotten back into the game after recovering from injury against LSU. The redshirt-junior stepped up against CCU, where he passed for 81 yards as well as connecting two passes over 20 yards with Mark Michaud to complete for two touchdowns. The Eagle defense has been a strong point for GS all season, and they haven’t let up so far this season.

As a team, the defense has logged 387 tackles, as well as forcing four fumbles while recovering six. The defense has also been quick on their feet, notching 10 sacks and 23 pass breakups. Junior captain Rashad Byrd continues to lead the Eagles with 46 tackles on the season, with five of them being tackles for a loss of 14 yards. While the Eagles have seemed to find a rhythm and have been successful enough to find a two-game winning streak, it’s still a work in progress for GS. Both of the past wins have gone into overtime, and have been fighting tooth-and-nail to get the win.

“We haven’t played a great game yet,” Lunsford said. “We’re playing better, but we’re not to the level that we need to be at... It’s all about us being 0-0 and trying to go 1-0 this week.”

NMSU has struggled this season, being on a seven-game losing streak as they have yet to win a game so far. On the offense, the Aggies average 105.4 rushing yards per game while averaging 3.7 yards per carry. Leading the Aggies rushing offense is senior running back Jason Huntle who’s racked up 442 rushing yards this season, averaging 63.14 yards per game. Their passing offense looks better, averaging 263.57 passing yards per game. Their passing offense looks better, averaging 263.57 passing yards per game. Redshirt-junior quarterback Josh Adkins leads the Aggies on the passing, notching 1738 yards in the seven games he has played on the season, averaging 248 yards per game. Adkins has also thrown nine touchdowns as well as rushing for four.

In their last game against Central Michigan the Aggies rushed for 121 yards and threw for 263, showing no struggle to convert in the red zone as they scored both times they found themselves in the red zone.

“Just because they’re winless football team does not mean that we’re going to take them lightly,” Lunsford said. “It’s going to be tough to get pressure on the quarterback, but we need to make sure that we are making it difficult for him... They can be explosive on offense, and they can be dangerous defensively.”

On the defensive side of the ball, the Aggies have logged 533 total tackles as a team, led by Javahn Ferguson with 76 total tackles on the season. The redshirt-senior has logged five pass breakups and two tackles for a loss of five yards.

The match up is set for Saturday in Paulson at 3 p.m. and will be Georgia Southern’s homecoming game.

EAGLES RALLY IN THIRD OVERTIME TO CLAIM SECOND CONFERENCE VICTORY

BY KAITLIN SELLS
The George-Anne Staff

The Georgia Southern football team pulled out another close win over Coastal Carolina after taking the game into triple overtime.

A rainy 3 p.m. kickoff time might spook any other opponent, but the Eagles seem to be very successful playing in the rain. Thinking back to a win over Appalachian State and a bowl win in the rain last season, the inclimate weather might have been welcomed by GS to Paulson.

Redshirt-junior quarterback Shai Werts seemed to fall into a rhythm in the rain tonight along with the rest of the team, leading the Eagles to his second win on the season after rushing for 48 yards and passing for 61 yards. Werts also passed for two touchdowns, his first of the season.

It was another explosive night for junior running back Wesley Kennedy III who has proven he’s still in the game with 117 rushing yards on the night and 16 receiving. Kennedy also scored the winning touchdown for the Eagles in triple overtime, overall scoring two touchdowns on the night.

For the second game in a row, the Eagles have been successful after going into overtime. The Chanticleers put up more of a fight than South Alabama, forcing GS to go into three stretches of overtime.

Senior wide receiver Mark Michaud was a key player in overtime for the Eagles, scoring two touchdowns both in OT to put the Eagles ahead and in possession for a win. Michaud received a total of 45 yards on the night, with a long of 25 yards.

“This game was very emotional,” Michaud said. “How the game was going over, and over time—it was just pretty much everything that I’ve been preparing for. As far as I’ve been a receiver in the system, when opportunities happen just make a play. I mean you see the ball and just catch it, there’s really no other way to say it. Just playing hard and finishing the game.”

Overall the Eagles put up 368 yards on offense, 307 of those being rushing yards. The Eagle defense held CCU to only 132 rushing yards and 96 passing yards.

Redshirt-sophomore linebacker Reynard Ellis led the defense with nine tackles on the night while the defense as a whole logged 69 tackles on the night.

The referees seemed to be a little flag-happy tonight, as they ejected four different players from the game Saturday. Three of those players were all due to one incident—a dance off preceding the fourth quarter between the two teams.

The Eagles now have extended their winning streak to two and improved their conference record to 2-1.

GS will be carrying momentum from their two-win streak into their homecoming week, as they prepare to take on New Mexico State Saturday.
THE COMEBACK OF WESLEY KENNEDY III

BY AMANDA ARNOLD
The Georgia-Anne staff

When it was announced that junior running back Wesley Kennedy III would not be playing due to academic suspension right before kickoff at LSU, Eagle Nation was caught off-guard at the absence of the man behind the strong Georgia Southern rushing game. After last Saturday’s performance, it’s safe to say the comeback has begun for the Savannah native.

“He is a competitor,” Head Coach Chad Lunsford said. “He’s not just a game guy. He practices as hard as anyone on this football team each and every day...He’s playing hard...and he wants to do everything to help us win.”

Kennedy was sidelined for the team’s first four games due to an academic suspension.

“Football student-athletes who do not earn 9-semester/8-quarter hours during the fall term and fail to earn the eligibility point may not be eligible to compete during the first four games during the next season.”

During those four weeks where the team went 1-3, Kennedy continued to condition and sharpen his skills.

Redshirt-sophomore Logan Wright, who is currently injured for the next few weeks with a neck injury, kept the offense moving during his absence.

In his first two seasons on the team, he played 23 out of 25 games and rushed for over 600 yards. Lunsford has long preached that the team has not had a great game yet, but they are slowly improving every week.

Kennedy has been a large asset to the offense and overall team morale since his return.

He has meshed well with redshirt-junior quarterback Shai Werts and has quickly become a fan favorite for his dancing celebrations and positive nature off the field.

In Saturday’s triple-overtime victory over Coastal Carolina, Kennedy scored the game winning touchdown which capped off his 117-yard and two touchdown showing. What was his first move after winning the game? He took the ball to his mother in the stands. Even after just a short conversation with Kennedy and a quick glance at his social media will show that he does everything he can to make his mother proud. With the suspension being a bump in the road, he has learned his lesson and is looking forward to straightening his path.

Though the numbers speak volumes, he is not satisfied yet.

“I have a lot of mixed emotions about my performance,” Kennedy said. “I just had to get the jitters out because I was out for a little minute.”

He has been very successful with his efforts on offense. Since his suspension, he has already tied last season’s touchdown record of three in these two games.

“Wesley is a huge lift to our offense,” Lunsford said. “I hated for our football team that he wasn’t out there the first four games because he was obviously missing. What I’ll say about that kid is he is a competitor and you can tell he’s playing with a chip on his shoulder...He plays to win every play and is very dialed in and focused.”

Kennedy is no stranger to a comeback, as he had a very successful senior year in high school and had to deal with a tough season as a freshman at GS, which resulted in a 2-10 record. He was the GHSA Class AA Offensive Player of the Year and assisted his alma mater, Benedictine High School, to reach a 53-4 record over his four years. He received over ten offers but chose GS without any hesitation. He is determined to make the most out of his time as an Eagle, no matter the circumstances.

He knows what it feels like to be at a low low and a very high high. In both capacities, he has maintained the same work ethic.

Kennedy will continue his comeback effort in front of many GS alumni on Saturday in Paulson and the team will take on a wireless New Mexico State team.

THE RUN DOWN
Weekend of Oct. 17: What you missed in Georgia Southern Athletics

BY AMANDA ARNOLD
The Georgia-Anne staff

Here’s what you missed over the weekend in Georgia Southern Athletics...

MEN’S SOCCER
The men’s soccer team lost to Central Arkansas in a conference matchup at home on Friday night. GS took an early lead and went into halftime 1-0, with a goal from senior midfielder Azaad Liadi, his second of the season. Two unanswered goals from the Bears led to a victory that drops GS to 6-6-1 and 1-1 in the conference.

WHAT’S NEXT?
The team will play Winthrop at home on Tuesday at 7 p.m. before traveling to Washington D.C. to play Howard on Saturday.

WOMEN’S SOCCER
The women’s soccer team lost to Arkansas State Friday, 1-0, in overtime. Both teams were highly competitive on defense, which forced an extra period due to a scoreless board. The Redwolves scored on a corner kick in minute 95 to take the victory.

The team quickly bounced back from the loss and defeated ULM, 2-1, on Sunday. The game honored seven seniors before the first kick and saw senior forward Frida Brattum score her eighth goal of the season in minute 26. GS held this lead going into halftime and the first half of the second period. The Wolfpack scored in minute 69 to tie the game, but GS quickly responded after fifteen minutes later with a game winning goal by freshman midfielder Karin Winka. The team improves to 6-8-1 and 3-4-1 in the conference.

WHAT’S NEXT?
The team completes their season this weekend in two away matchups with Louisiana on Friday and Texas State on Sunday.

SWIMMING AND DIVING
The team fell to North Florida Saturday night as she recorded 16 kills and nine digs. She has already missed 16 kills and 10 digs. Her numbers could not lead GS to a win, as the team fell 3-1 to the Ragin’ Cajuns. GS now holds a 6-13 record.

WHAT’S NEXT?
The team will travel to Alabama for a swing of conference games this weekend. They will play South Alabama on Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Troy on Saturday at the same time. The latter match can be streamed on ESPN+.

FOOTBALL
The football team defeated Coastal Carolina Saturday night in their overtime periods on Saturday. In a rainy and sloppy game, senior wide receiver had a career night as he took advantage of the extra time to score two touchdowns. Senior running back Wesley Kennedy III scored the game winning touchdown in the final possession of GT, capping off a 117-yard rushing performance. With this victory, the team improves to 3-3 overall and 2-1 in the conference.

WHAT’S NEXT?
The team will take on a wireless New Mexico State team on Saturday at 3 p.m. for the season finale of homecoming week.

CROSS COUNTRY
The cross country team ran their last regular season meet of the season at the Sand Shark Invitational in South Carolina this weekend and finished in fifth place overall. Sophomore Morabu Nagpawanda set another school record in the 5K race with a time of 17:58.8, while sophomore Carly Braman and Mattie Harris recorded personal bests in the same race.

WHAT’S NEXT?
The team will continue to train to compete in the Sun Belt Championships on Nov. 2.
GOD AND GEORGIA HIGHLANDS HELP TO MOLD EAGLE INTO A STRONGER PERSON

BY AMANDA ARNOLD
The Georgia Eagle Staff

As senior shortstop Shayla Smith suited up for her last weekend of fall softball in her collegiate career, she knew that this time was special for another reason… she would play her alma mater, Georgia Highlands, in her Georgia Southern uniform for the first time.

“Georgia Southern, along with Coach Dean, has allowed me to continue my softball career for 2 more years,” Smith said. “I’m forever grateful for the opportunity to end my career with great coaches and awesome teammates.”

During her time at Stephens High School, she was a four time First-Team All County honoree, named team MVP for all four years and was named the Dekalb County Player of the Year her senior season. She was previously committed to another school, but things didn’t work out, so she committed to be a Charger late in the summer before her freshman year began. Her mother, Lisha Smith, gave a peek into her daughter’s room when she was in high school.

“Once you’re used to the practices and long days, it becomes the norm. I think my biggest adjustment was finding my place on a new team… and in a new environment.”

That decision was not taken lightly for Smith because she sometimes felt overlooked at Highlands. This feeling is not uncommon at smaller schools and she knew that the school was full of often great athletes from high schools who were unfortunately looked over. The junior college experience forced her to develop a tough mindset that she still carries today.

As a Charger, she learned that softball was a ‘grind’ and she sometimes felt taken lightly for Smith because she was not from a Division I background. This feeling is not uncommon at smaller schools and she knew that the school was full of often great athletes from high schools who were unfortunately looked over. The junior college experience forced her to develop a tough mindset that she still carries today.

As senior shortstop Shayla Smith suited up for her last weekend of fall softball in her collegiate career, she knew that this time was special for another reason… she would play her alma mater, Georgia Highlands, in her Georgia Southern uniform for the first time.

“She was not the only transfer on the team when she arrived. Due to the merger, she was joined by several former Armstrong State girls and her best friend, senior infielder Ali Booth, from Highlands. Booth also holds the Charger’s single-season record for the most doubles and was named to the NJCAA First-Team All-Region her sophomore season.

On Oct. 12 when she saw her former school for the first time, she got goosebumps remembering when she was in their spot. Highlands has had the same coach for seven seasons in Melissa Woods. Smith can name countless times where Wood would get fired up during games and saw some of the same antics on Eagle Field. She considers it Woods’ trademark.

“It was great playing them and seeing the program thrive,” she said. “I didn’t know many of the girls but seeing them step on the field because they’ve been brought in on a team with this mindset, they’ve proved and wanted to play on the Mountain. Softball has been a big part of my life since I was four, so it’s definitely a part of my identity.”

With one more weekend of fall softball, Smith is savoring the time she has left with her team. Regular season begins next semester and she is one of four seniors. She admitted that she gets emotional at the thought of her softball career ending but has high hopes for the season and hopes to make it to the Sun Belt Championship.

“I’m definitely going to miss the team,” she said. “You realize that the game must come to an end, but when it’s close you want the days to slow down. Softball has been a big part of my life since I was four, so it’s definitely a part of my identity.”

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FASTBREAK

MSOC vs Winthrop Statesboro, GA T 1-1
WSOC vs ULM Statesboro, GA W 2-1
WSWIM at North Florida Jacksonville, FL L 169-85
FB vs Coastal Carolina Statesboro, GA W 30-27

Women’s 5000 Meters - Individual PL: 5 Nagwandala, Merabu SO-2 Avg. Mile: 5:47.2 Time: 17:58.5
PL: 16 Harris, Mattie FR-1 Avg. Mile: 6:33.3 Time: 19:01.3
PL: 18 Booth, Adriana FR-1 Avg. Mile: 6:33.3 Time: 19:01.3

WSOC vs Arkansas State Statesboro, GA L 0-1
WVB vs Louisiana Statesboro, GA L 1-3
WVB vs Central Arkansas Statesboro, GA L 1-2
WVB vs ULM Statesboro, GA L 2-3

Shayla Smith runs to third base in a preseason game against Georgia Military College. Regular season for softball starts in Spring of 2020.
Across
1 Trade
5 Kind of gun
8 Very, in music
13 New Zealand bird
14 Exotic vacation spot
15 Rodeo sight
16 Matinee hero
17 Bypass
18 Sables
19 Confess
20 Dregs
21 Husky burden
22 Classic theater
24 Trio, less one
25 BBQ pin
28 Rigging supporter
32 Wool weight
33 Main arteries
36 Donegal Bay feeder
37 Cathedral instrument
39 Tibetan ox
40 Imbecile
41 Country dance
42 Echo
44 "___ Time"
45 Mibs and taws, e.g.
47 Tightens up, like muscles
49 T __
50 Scent
52 Type size
54 Fiber source
55 Gut ready, for short
59 Billiards bounce
60 French girlfriend
61 Running behind
62 Plato's plaza
63 Famed loch

Down
1 Burlesque bit
2 Off the mark
3 Military no-show
4 Bedding piece
5 Anaglyph
6 Little green man?
7 Quarries
8 Carries on
9 Skied
10 A few
11 Wowed
12 Ft. parts
13 Ravel classic
14 Martin or Koontz
15 Old PC platform
16 Hurricane, e.g.
17 Divided land
18 Gardening tool
19 Select
20 Spring sign
21 Sleep disturber
22 Heads (Fr.)
23 Deli breads
24 Spigot
25 News bit
26 Sandpiper
27 Makes amends
28 Andean animals
29 Italian port
30 Poker play
31 Clothes presser
32 Burke
33 Curse
34 Harrow rival
35 Subway alternative

To contact the creative editor-in-chief, email prodmgr@georgiasouthern.edu
THE GREATEST HOME COMING ON EARTH

Parade starts at Lot 42

Celebrate the end of The Greatest Homecoming on Earth with us! Free food and activities for everyone including:
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- Homecoming week award ceremony,
- Crowning of the Duke & Duchess, and
- Announcement of the Homecoming court!

Friday, October 25
Sweetheart Circle
Parade starts at 4 PM | Celebration to follow
Parade starts at Lot 42

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