MUSEUM REOPENS
Renovated Georgia Southern museum to reopen this spring.
Page 5

KLEINLEIN RESIGNS
Georgia Southern athletic director Tom Kleinlein was hired at Ole Miss following resignation
Page 10

SWIM SENIOR DAY
Georgia Southern Swimming had its senior day Saturday during the final home meet of the season.
Page 8

University Villas to Close in May
Kennedy Hall and University Villas will undergo changes in 2020.
Page 5

Join Us:
Letter From the Editor
Page 4
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!

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**EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS**

**REFLECTOR MAGAZINE LAUNCH**
Thursday, January 16, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Russell Union

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL VS. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA**
Saturday, January 18, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Hanner Complex - Fieldhouse (Statesboro Campus)

Come out and cheer on the women’s basketball team as they face off against their Sunbelt opponent University of South Alabama!

**CLUB SPORTS FAIR**
Tuesday, January 21, 6:00 p.m.
Recreation Activity Center (RAC)

Are you curious about what Club Sports is and how to get involved? Well, this is your chance to see the 30 plus Club Sports can offer you, as well as a chance to meet the teams, learn how to get involved, try-out information and more!

**BASIC CLIMBING CLINIC**
Wednesday, January 22, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Recreation Activity Center (RAC), Climbing Wall

This rock climbing clinic consists of free climbing programs that are designed to help prepare you for leading safe, ethical, and enjoyable rock climbing trips!

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#PETSBORO

Oscar’s Owner: Amber Chulawat
I’m a freshman Anthropology major. Here’s my precious cat Oscar.

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!

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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!
Dear Georgia Southern University community,

We’re experiencing some changes here at The George-Anne. For one, I have become editor-in-chief for the spring semester. Previously, I have held managing editor positions at The George-Anne and spent a year as the editor-in-chief of The George-Anne Reflector Magazine. Being EIC of The George-Anne is a big role with a lot of responsibilities, and I take it very seriously. Another major change is our staffing and day-to-day operations. The truth is, we have a smaller staff size this semester than we’re used to. Our sports staff is down to three, and the news staff has dwindled. We have no features staff. We have no opinion writers. No engagement/social media editor. No special publications editor. No assistant editors. No copy editors. No daily/digital editor.

Operating under this staff size means that we might not be able to accomplish everything we want. We want to bring you the best possible coverage of Georgia Southern University, we want to highlight every sport and we want to share your unique stories and voices. But, regardless of what we want, there are only so many of us - and like all students, many of us have full class schedules and part-time jobs. Fellow students, this means that we want you. The George-Anne is the place to go if you want to get involved with media on campus. We provide a workplace where you can gain journalism experience, build a professional portfolio and possibly earn a stipend - regardless of whether you’ve had prior experience. We’re a student-led newspaper with all-student editors, and we constantly work to connect with the Georgia Southern community. Other equally fantastic opportunities within The George-Anne Media Group include magazine writing with Reflector Magazine and videography with The Studio, as well as marketing, public relations, sales, photography and design.

We don’t care if you don’t have skills yet, we don’t care if you have no experience and we don’t care what your major is. New recruits to The George-Anne Media Group go through a semester-long training program - for free! Please consider joining us. Everyone is welcome here.

If you would like to know more about getting involved with The George-Anne Media Group, click here. If you would like to apply for our Spring 2020 Candidate Program, click here. Our Candidate Program will begin with a general meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 6:30 p.m. Contact us at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu if you have any questions. Despite our relatively small staff size, we’re going to strive to continue keeping the GS community informed as a student-led, student-read newspaper.

Welcome Back, Eagles!
Along with the spring semester, we welcome a new decade: 2020. The first Reflector magazine was created in 1989, replacing the Reflector yearbook. Since then, our name has changed from “Southern Reflector Magazine” to “Reflector Magazine” to “The George-Anne Reflector Magazine.” We’ve also covered many different topics and issues throughout the years. One thing that has not changed, however, is our drive to showcase the lives and culture of Georgia Southern University students. Reflector also welcomes a new team of editors and reporters. Aubrey Brumblow is our managing editor, and she is working her hardest to make sure everything stays on track this semester. Our campus and culture editors Jenna Wiley and Savannah Savage-Johnson are setting the direction for this semester’s online and print stories. Savannah King, our events and engagement editor, is working hard to increase our presence on campus and social media. Reporters Olivia Craft, Tatiana Joseph-Saunders and Kayla Winston-Bass will contribute fresh content to the publication.

This Thursday, Jan. 16, Reflector will have our print magazine launch. It will take place in the Russell Union from 11 to 1 p.m. We hope to see you there!

In addition to being editor-in-chief of The George-Anne Reflector Magazine, I am also the editor-in-chief of Miscellany Magazine of the Arts. Alongside Miscellany Editor Nathan Luft and our team of Assistant Editors, we aim to showcase content in art, photography, creative nonfiction, poetry and fiction this year from the creative communities at GS. Reflector also wants to showcase your content. I urge you to submit your stories to our community blog section. The mission of Reflector Community is to ensure that your voice may be shared and your opinions heard. Topics may include fashion, fitness and more. For information on how to submit, go to “write a post” under the community section of our website, reflectorgsu.com.

We are excited to see what the semester has in store for Reflector, and we hope you are, too.

Blakely Bartee is a senior writing & linguistics and journalism major from Columbus, Georgia. She joined The George-Anne Media Group during her freshman year and is the editor-in-chief for the spring 2020 semester.

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Letter to the Editor:
Join us!

Hope Walker goes by her middle name Noelle. She’s a double major in writing & linguistics and English with a multimedia journalism minor from Gainesville, Georgia. She is the editor-in-chief of The George-Anne Media Group during her freshman year and is the editor-in-chief for the spring 2020 semester.

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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 at 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 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.
MUSEUM REOPENS
Renovated Georgia Southern Museum to reopen this spring

BY ALEXIS HAMPTON
The George-Anne staff

STATESBORO — The 80-year-old Georgia Southern Museum is planning to reopen in February or early March, after closing over a year ago for structural issues.

The museum has renovated some of the old permanent exhibits, such as the Mosasaur exhibit, as well as added in a new Human History and Coastal Plains, Georgia exhibit.

It will also debut its first dual-language exhibit, featuring Latin American folk art.

The museum put forth $500,000 of its own funds as well as hundreds of thousands of dollars donated by the university, GS Museum director Brent Tharp said.

With the museum closing, it was an opportunity to start fresh and expand on some of the history that was excluded in the museum before.

“We looked at ourselves internally and said, well look, if we’re going to do this, then this is an opportunity to use some of those rainy day funds and other things that we pulled together to really take an opportunity and open up all-new [exhibits] and expand,” Tharp said.

Built in 1939, the museum was forced to close down in summer 2018, when the plaster ceilings started to cave in.

Originally, the museum was supposed to reopen in fall 2019, according to the museum website.

The delay was a result of extensive structural repair and the fabrication of exhibit design, which was difficult to achieve with such a small staff, Tharp said.

Along with the updates, the museum introduced a new exhibit that highlights the jaw of a megalodon.

Tickets required for Spring 2020 commencement

BY ABBY FULLER
The George-Anne staff

Last fall, Georgia Southern University introduced the use of tickets for commencement ceremonies and plans to continue this in the Spring.

“Ticketing will be required to ensure the size of the audience does not exceed the size of the venues,” according to the GS commencement website. “There will be no charge for tickets.”

The number of tickets received by each graduate will depend on the overall size of the graduating class and has not yet been announced by the University.

Live-streaming and alternative viewing areas will again be made available by the University for those who are unable to get a ticket to the commencement ceremony.

Spring 2020 undergraduate commencement will take place in Statesboro on Friday, May 8, and in Savannah on Saturday, May 9.

All students in graduate programs will be recognized in one ceremony on the Statesboro campus at Hanner Fieldhouse in the afternoon on Saturday, May 9.

While the University has not announced a location for the Savannah ceremony, the Statesboro ceremony will be held in Paulson Stadium. Undergraduate students participating in commencement have the option to choose which location they would like to graduate in.

There may be multiple ceremonies scheduled based on the venue selected and/or RSVPs to the ceremonies,” according to the GS commencement website.

All colleges will be recognized at both undergraduate ceremonies. Each student will walk across the stage to be individually recognized and they will be seated and organized by college.

HOUING CHANGES
University Villas to close in May, Kennedy to reopen next fall

BY ANTHONY BELINFANTE
The George-Anne staff

STATESBORO — Georgia Southern housing will be undergoing changes in the next few months as University Villas is set to close in May, and Kennedy Hall will be reopened in 2021.

Last spring, select units at University Villas closed due to structural concerns. After a thorough review by the university, it was determined that UV will close at the end of the academic year in May and will no longer be offered as a student housing option, according to Executive Housing Director Peter Blutreich.

“The future use of the site and complex has not yet been determined,” Blutreich said.

Regarding Kennedy, the university housing complex will be reopened in the fall 2021 after undergoing restoration. The project is expected to take 12 months to complete, according to Blutreich.

“Project details are still being finalized, but Kennedy is a much-needed space in University Housing and we are excited the complex will be refurbished,” Blutreich said.

Once reopened, Kennedy will return to serving primarily first-year students, with hopes to include a break-out space and support space to ensure residents have a great first-year experience.
Join our cast at

We have journalism, marketing, photography, design, videography, and advertising opportunities.

Apply online at thegeorgeanne.com

Scan here to apply!
**FIVE YEARS OF GEORGIA SOUTHERN NEWS**

Headlines that defined Georgia Southern’s reputation

**2015**

Head Coach Willie Fritz leads GS Football to win the 2014 Sun Belt Championship, defeating Louisiana Monroe 22-16

After defeating Georgia State, Paulson Stadium was packed for the 2014 Sun Belt Championship. Injuries forced Ellison and backup quarterback Favian Upshaw out of the game, bringing third string senior Eazyi Yoyoute to the field. Yoyoute delivered with 81 rushing yards, leading the Eagles to victory in the fourth quarter.

GS mourns the loss of five nursing students, Abbie DeLoach, Caitlyn Baggett, Emily Clark, Catherine "Mckay" Pittman and Morgan Bass, who died in a car accident

Seven nursing students were traveling from Statesboro to Savannah on April 22, 2015 when a tractor-trailer hit the girls from behind. Megan Richards and Brittany McDaniel were also in the car and were seriously injured.

The girls were honored in various ways by GS and the student body, including chairs outside of the Williams Center and a memorial garden.

John Wayne Johnson, the truck driver who caused the crash on I-16 that killed five nursing students, pleaded guilty on July 14, 2016 and is currently serving time in prison.

GS receives a Diversity and Inclusive Excellence report, Three Campuses One Heartbeat, from Damon A. Williams

Damon A. Williams conducted research on the GS campus’s climate. This report sparked a conversation on inclusive excellence and diversity. President Marrero began meeting with and Inclusive Excellence Advisory Board to discuss issues on campus.

Anita Howard becomes the first African-American female coach in GS basketball history

With a strong background in coaching and becoming the first African-American female head coach at two other schools, Howard told The George-Anne that she was blessed, favored and excited to be coaching at this level.

Howard was given this position in the fall of 2019, and the team is 5-10.

**2016**

GS’s Rosemary Kramer finished third in the NCAA Tournament, qualifying for the Olympics

Kramer made history for the rifle team as the NRA First-Team All American by shooting 599 out of 600. The future Olympic athlete finished third and was named SoCon Air Rifle Athlete of the Year and 2019 SoCon Air Rifle Champion.

GS wins the 2018 Raycom Media Camellia Bowl 23-21 against the Eastern Michigan Eagles

GS finished the season 10-3 and this win promoted them to 2-0 in bowl games.

While the players would have loved to win a Sun Belt Championship, Head Coach Chad Lunsford was proud of the hard work and determination of his team. Lunsford was confident that this championship would go down in GS football history.

**2017**

GS mourns the loss of Michael Gatto, and new laws emerge

Michael Gatto, an 18-year-old student at GS, died outside of Rude Rudy’s bar and restaurant in Statesboro on Thursday, Aug. 28, 2014 after sustaining head injuries during an altercation.

Michael’s Law was passed by the Georgia Senate in 2015 and became an official law in 2016 with the help of the Gatto family. The law states that a bar is defined as an establishment where 75% of sales come from alcohol consumed on the premises, all bars must be 21 up and with employees 21 and up, requires city authorities and all businesses to report alcohol violations to the Department of Revenue and made powdered alcohol illegal.

James Grant Spencer, 20-year-old and the bouncer who killed Michael Gatto, was sentenced to 20 years in prison for voluntary manslaughter in 2016.

GS merges with Armstrong State University, creating three campuses at Statesboro, Savannah and Hinesville in the fall of 2018

In 2017, consolidation was discussed and confirmed for GS and Armstrong campuses. The merger was set to take place in the fall of 2018, leading to commencement and enrollment changes throughout both campuses.

Georgia Southern was granted university status in 1990. 30 years later, GS has had ups and downs that have won championships, changed laws and landed mentions in national news outlets.

Here are some moments from the past five years that shaped GS as a university and community.
A LOOK BACK AT THE CURE BOWL

BY AMANDA ARNOLD

Georgia Southern football season ended on a sour note a few days before Christmas with a loss to Liberty in the Cure Bowl, and fans are still buzzing about the defeat in the new year.

“They wanted it more than us and they got it,” Head Coach Chad Lunsford said. “They were really well prepared and they beat us.”

The team ended the season with a 7-6 record, a turnaround from the first season under Lunsford which ended with a 1-10-1 record. Six losses is not good enough, but the program is still headed in the right direction, Lunsford said in a press conference.

On and off the field, the team had a wild season. The season had a slew of injuries and the devastation of losing a teammate to suicide midseason and the devastation of losing a season had a slew of injuries team had a wild season. The press conference.

direction, Lunsford said in a good enough, but the program is still headed in the right direction, Lunsford said in a press conference.

The Georgia Southern football team was defeated by Liberty in the Cure Bowl on Dec. 21.

The season as more than just a record. The team had a 1-3 start over the course of the first four games, but the program maintained a positive outlook for the rest of the season.

At the time, the team was in limbo naming a starting quarterback due to Shai Werts’ injury. Backup Justin Tomlin saw action in two games and got his first collegiate start against Maine, where he accumulated 132 rushing yards.

Werts returned the following week and remained healthy for the remainder of the season. The team was forced to play in less than ideal weather conditions for just about every home game, which resulted in low crowd attendance. Lunsford stated that the team had to adjust early on to their new normal.

When the team became bowl eligible at home in a blowout victory against ULM, many fans were excited because they knew what the team had been through.

The Cure Bowl in Orlando was the first non-soccer sporting event ever played in the facility.

“I felt really good coming into the game because I really felt like we had kind of hit our stride winning six out of our last eight games,” Lunsford said. “We were putting up points, we were putting up yards, and tonight we just didn’t have it so I’m not upset with our offense.”

When the actual game began, both teams took awhile to find their rhythm. Werts was sacked twice early on, and the offensive line could not buy enough time for him to move the team down the field.

There were many three-and-outs, but a big 35-yard rushing play by Wesley Kennedy III gave the team momentum. He eventually would score his first touchdown during the drive and tie up the game.

Liberty would go on to score nine unanswered points in the first half and Werts would throw his first interception since 2017.

In the second half, an interception by Kindle Vildor set up the offense in prime field position, where they capitalized on the Liberty mistake and scored another TD.

The student section had a newfound energy and GS was prepared for a comeback.

It never happened. The Liberty defense cranked it up a notch and the Eagles would go scoreless for the rest of the game.

“I know I had a critical error during the game and that’ll haunt me...and that’s going to fuel me for next year personally,” redshirt junior linebacker Rashad Byrd said.

“There’s a lot of small things we didn’t do right and once we started getting all together as a defense we started rolling but by that time it was too late.”

The loss was heartbreaking, but Lunsford made sure to state that losses will not define the team and their season.

After the game, he told the team to look up at the scoreboard and remember how it felt. Since the game was the first bowl game that the program has ever lost, he wants that mental picture to stay ingrained into their minds so that they will have extra motivation during the offseason.

EAGLES HONOR SENIORS IN THE FINAL HOME MEET OF THEIR COLLEGIATE CAREERS

BY ELIJAH JACKSON

STATESBORO — Georgia Southern Swimming had its senior day Saturday during the final home meet of the season.

Seniors Elizabeth Chemey, Markie Duffy, Ashley Kubel, and Gretchen Mossburg were honored during the meet.

GS ended up losing the meet 120-111 to North Florida, even though they won five of the 11 swimming events.

The meet began with two wins for the Eagles with a first-place finish in the 200 Medley Relay by Chemey, Isabelle Bray, Jessica Ware and Holland Danskin with a time of 1:52.84.

“I am so proud of how hard our women competed today,” Head Coach Amanda Caldwell said. “It was a team effort and what a way to send our seniors out with a close meet coming down to the last races.”

The Eagles will be back in action hosting their Diving Invitational Saturday, Jan. 18.

The swimming and diving team held Senior Day on Saturday.
BY AMANDA ARNOLD
The George-Anne staff

While the majority of the student population went home for the holidays and had time to relax and prepare for this semester, the Georgia Southern men’s basketball team played nine games and accumulated a 5-4 record. The team is currently undefeated at home.

The break was highlighted by a close loss to SEC giant UGA, where the Eagles played the Bulldogs for the first time since 2001. Redshirt-senior guard Ike Smith led the game with a season-high 25 points. At the half, GS led by three and the second half saw many lead changes. In the end, GS could not pull out a win.

Smith leads the team on offense, where he is averaging about 14 points per game. Sophomore guard Elijah McCadden had several big games and has quickly become a fan-favorite over the break. His dunk on a Florida Gulf Coast defender went viral on social media in December. He has averaged 13 points per game this season, which is the second highest stat on the team. McCadden also leads the team with 95 rebounds.

The team fell to rival Appalachian State by two, where Mountaineer guard Justin Forrest’s game winning shot lifted his team over the Eagles. GS has been averaging around 71 points per game and is currently tied with Georgia State and Little Rock for first place in the conference, though the Panthers hold the best overall record.

Redshirt-junior guard Quan Jackson has taken a more defensive approach than last season and has been the go-to man for steals.

The team hopes to continue their fight for a conference title on the road against a 7-11 Troy team on Thursday and South Alabama on Saturday.

MEN’S BASKETBALL STARTS CONFERENCE PLAY ON THE RIGHT FOOT

BY ELIJAH JACKSON
The George-Anne staff

The Georgia Southern women’s basketball team began conference play over the holiday break.

In the eight game span, they went 3-5 with two wins coming at home against Louisiana and ULM.

The team had one win in the Las Vegas Holiday Hoops Classic against St. Francis Brooklyn, but the team has struggled on the road, as they have lost all six games away from Hanner Fieldhouse.

As a team, GS shot about 39% from the field while scoring an average of 60.8 points per game.

The team improves to 8-0 at home with Saturday’s victory over UL.

The team now holds a 5-10 overall record, and a promising 2-2 conference record. They will play Troy at home on Thursday, before taking on South Alabama on Saturday.
Georgia Southern Athletic Director Tom Kleinlein has been hired as the deputy athletic director for the University of Mississippi.

Kleinlein announced his resignation on Jan. 3 after eight years at GS.

“It’s been a wonderful, wonderful place to work,” he said during a press conference. “A lot of good things happened at Georgia Southern...and I’m excited about where Georgia Southern is at right now.”

During his tenure, the athletic department tallied 12 conference championships and two football bowl wins.

In his new position, Kleinlein will be in charge of the football program in “every aspect” including marketing, external relations, television, sports information and “making sure that Coach Kiffin and everybody on that staff have the things that they need to be successful,” he stated.

“Business is a funny thing,” he said. “Sometimes you get to places and change is needed. And so for me, this was an opportunity I was very thankful to have at a time where we were in discussions about my future here...Ole Miss is an opportunity for me to go to work at an SEC school and be at a place that has a very, very clear vision of where they want to go and how quickly they want to get there.”

When he looks back at his time to Statesboro, he is most proud of the transition that the football program has made to FBS and the competitive nature that the department has created in the conference across all sports.

He boasts that the department has had tremendous success in fundraising revenue, which has allowed for improvements across all sports. “I think college athletics right now is about being creative and figuring [out] creative ways to drive revenues,” he said. “So, one of the challenges here is going to be...how do you continue to produce the things that you need to make student-athletes and coaches successful within the constraints?”

Kleinlein believes that the challenge for the next AD, who has not yet been announced, will be to find ways to grow interaction between the Statesboro and Armstrong campuses.

Some of his fondest memories include the success of Rosemary Kramer, the golf program reaching the NCAA Championships last season and the start of Steven Fisk’s professional career, along with baseball’s continued postseason success.

His last day at GS will be Jan.21 and a new athletic director has yet to be announced.
To contact the creative editor-in-chief, email prodmgr@georgiasouthern.edu
THE GEORGE-ANNE REFLECTOR

LAUNCH PARTY

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

RUSSELL UNION | 11 a.m - 1 p.m.