President talks jobs

Obama praises Savannah Tech, tours area businesses

President Barack Obama spoke at Savannah Tech on Tuesday to an audience of students, entrepreneurs, and politicians about the importance of green jobs, clean technology, and the role of technical schools in that program.

A small crowd of about 250 people listened to the president’s brief remarks at Savannah Tech’s Eckberg Auditorium. The president was preceded by the entrance of Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue and Congressmen John Barrow, Jack Kingston, Sanford Bishop and Hank Johnson. President Obama opened his remarks by lamenting the state of the weather in Savannah, which on Tuesday was mostly cloudy with rain.

The president praised the efforts of students and faculty at Savannah Tech in developing technologies related to “clean energy,” such as solar cells and better heating and cooling systems. Obama cited Savannah Tech as a “real model for green energy.”

The President said, “From the instructors to the students, you saw just an incredible enthusiasm for America’s future” while he was touring classrooms at Savannah Tech.

Obama also noted the deep unemployment rate in Georgia, which according to the president’s remarks stands at 10 percent. “It’s tough out there,” said the

See OBAMA Page 7
WHAT IS SGA?

Student Government is a vital organization here at Georgia Southern University. It serves as the liaison between the students, faculty, staff, and administration. One of our biggest duties is to make certain that the concerns of the students are addressed and met.

WHO IS RUNNING?

SGA is comprised of five Executive Board Officers, three hired positions (Executive Assistant, Publicity Coordinator and Web Designer) and fifty-four senators: five (5) elected representatives from each college including the College of Graduate Studies & (5) At-Large representatives. One seat is reserved for every college so that a representative may be appointed in the fall. Incoming freshmen are appointed in the fall as well. The Executive Officers consists of the following: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Auxiliary Affairs.

VOTE ON WINGS
MARCH 29 - MARCH 31

TIMELINE

2/26: Applications due by 5 PM
3/1: Mandatory Candidate Meeting @ 6 PM in RU 2044
3/4: Mandatory Candidate Meeting @ 5 PM in RU 2044
3/10: Executive Candidate Debate @ 5 PM in RU Ballroom
3/29: Voting begins on WINGS
3/31: Voting ends on WINGS
4/1: Election results posted outside of Office of Student Activities
4/5: Runoff Election Voting begins (if necessary)
4/7: Runoff Election Voting ends (if necessary)
4/8: Runoff Election results posted outside of Office of Student Activities
From the SGA

The SGA discussed the following items of business at their Wednesday, March 3 meeting:

▲ During office hours, students can go into the SGA office in the Student Activities Center and write letters to their legislators.

▲ SGA President Samantha Young is going to Georgia Capitol on Tuesday, March 15. All USG undergraduate student presidents will be there to lobby against budget cuts.

▲ All USG undergraduate student body presidents will be on campus this weekend to discuss how they will organize before going to the legislature during Spring Break.

▲ Faculty Representative Michael Moore said that the Nursing program was listed on the summary of reductions by most universities in the state in order to “galvanize” doctors in the state.

▲ The SGA presidential candidates debate is Wednesday, March 10 at 5 p.m. in the Russell Union Theatre.

▲ A search to replace retiring Director of Auxiliary Affairs Tom Palfy begins Monday. SGA’s VP of Auxiliary Affairs Alton Standifer is the only student on the search committee.

▲ Standifer reported that one more entrée has been added to the Talon’s Grille menu that is priced within meal plan range.

SGA turnovers not due to leadership

Rachel CASON

guest writer

There have been a number of positions within the Student Government Association’s executive board that have changed hands so far this year, according to President Samantha Young.

She said there have been two changes in the vice president of finance, one change in the vice president of academic affairs and one change in the position of executive assistant.

She said while this number is not what she would consider “normal,” she says she can see how outside observers might view her administration as “heavy with vacancies.”

However, Young said that, “School is a priority … it is number one. SGA will always be last when it comes to academics, family and faith, in my opinion. All these vacancies have been based off that.”

She also said, “I think it’s easy to be on the outside looking in and say … this looks bad. We’ve had situations that were beyond our control with all of those four people, but at the end of the day, school and family come first.”

SGA advisor Georj Lewis said in an e-mail, “To the best of my knowledge the turnover had little to do with leadership but more to do with personal situations and the prioritization of educational goals. While Student Government is a very important group on any campus, our students’ health, family and academic success should be considered first.”

Young also said that she is still “incredible friends” with all of the students who left their SGA executive positions.

Kelsey Grubbs was the vice president of finance last semester under Samantha Young, and was a member of SGA for a total of five years. She said that she had to give up her position because she changed her graduate school program and — as a result of the number of hours she was able to take this semester — she was no longer able to participate in SGA. She said that the change had nothing to do with problems within the administration.

“[Samantha Young] has been one of the best presidents I’ve seen in my five years. She tried to establish a good relationship with the other members [of SGA] – there was a good team feeling throughout all of SGA,” Grubbs said. Young said that all of the positions are currently filled. She explained that there is one election in the spring for the year where students can vote for who will make up the SGA for the year.

When positions are vacated, there is an application process for SGA members who want to become an executive officer.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, owned and operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County and Statesboro, Ga. The newspaper is a designated public forum for the Georgia Southern community.

Opinions expressed herein are those of the student writers and editors and DO NOT necessarily reflect those of the faculty, staff or administration of GSU, the Student Media Advisory Board or the University System of Georgia. The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu. Readers may access the newspaper and its archives at www.gadaily.com.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising as a community service to help defray publication costs. Inquiries should be directed to the ADS or PAGES, P.O. Box 8001, Georgia Southern University, or by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478-0566. You can fax any questions to 912.478.7113 or e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

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

COLOPHONE: The newspaper is printed by The Statesboro Herald Publishing Co. in Statesboro, Ga. Body copy in The George-Anne is 10 point minion Pro on 12 leading. Standard headline size is 40 point News Gothic MT. For more information about the newspaper, please call 912.478.7459, or e-mail kcallaway@georgiasouthern.edu.

PROOFING/ERRORS/OMISSIONS: The newspaper makes every reasonable effort to correct and complete information in advertisements. However 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 form a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

CIRCULATION INFORMATION: Mail subscriptions are not available at this time. However, readers may visit our web site for free access to current and past issues. Visit www.gadaily.com to view online issues. The George-Anne is distributed free of charge on the Georgia Southern campus and surrounding areas.

NOTICE: Readers may pick up one free copy, and a second for a roommate or acquaintance, at distribution sites. Additional copies are 50 cents each and are available at the Williams Center. However, unauthorized removal of additional copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time. Editors will seek to have any person(s) who removes more than the authorized number of copies from distribution sites prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

The deadline to submit to the newspaper is Noon, one week prior to the intended publication date. For more information, rate cards, sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director.

SOUTHERN PROPER

The Sir Shop
Statesboro Mall
912.764.6924
Get off Web; take to streets

It is evident that many students are outraged by the budget cuts universities across the state will be facing. They’re outraged with good cause. It’s not fair that our education is going to suffer because money elsewhere was mismanaged. Numerous Facebook groups have formed urging students to get involved by signing online petitions or by wearing black.

That’s all well and good, but that enthusiasm and willingness needs to make the move from the Web/Facebook to something of substance.

If you want to start a petition, collect signatures from students on campus. If you want to write a letter to your local representative, put pen to paper. Page upon page of petition plus bags of letters would make a larger impression than an inbox flooded with requests. (Select all ... delete.)

To see that students would take the time to physically go out and make an effort would show them the importance of this issue to the Eagle Nation.

These budget cuts are going to give students an opportunity to talk with the Board of Regents and the Legislature.

Get up from your computer and hit the streets. Shake hands. Talk with your peers. Organize a letter-writing campaign. Deliver a petition to the steps of the Capitol building in Atlanta. Go out and do something about it.

Students could opt to wear black on a Wednesday (or every Wednesday) to show support of the fight against budget cuts, but honestly, what does that do? If only a few random people know of the movement, what will its impact be? Organize. Get the word out. Push people to get involved. Two hundred people wearing black is typical; more than 18,000 would be staggering. Photos of a sea of students in black splashed across the front page of newspapers would make an impact on decision-makers in Atlanta.

These proposed cuts not only changes the face of the school we know and love; it alters your future. The days of a four-year program could be gone forever.

Whatever action is taken, we need to let the people in Atlanta that their decisions are not without consequence. Make a statement that can’t be ignored.

The Statesboro (Budget Cut) Blues

This paper’s talked about it, and by now the whole campus has as well – there are possible budget cuts coming on top of what we’ve already been hit with. But I think we may be overreacting just a tad.

Don’t take that the wrong way – I don’t want my school’s budget cut at all, if it can be avoided, and I do have worries about it if it does happen. I’m part of all the groups and attending the Facebook events to protest this as much as possible, and I think that we all can do the same. But I think we often forget that this is the absolute worst-case scenario. Let that sink in. As far as the state is concerned, this is as bad as it can get, and it may not be as bad as this. Here’s my take about the budget cuts as they stands right now.

First, nothing’s final until April -- appropriately enough, April Fool’s Day. Maybe this is just a really big, really bad prank? We have plenty of time to get our voice in on the matter, and something could change between now and then. Also, consider that it’s not just the university system being cut. Officially, every department is getting proportional cuts; while the cynic in me knows that some will get less cut from their budgets than others, we still won’t be alone in this matter. Consider the police department, fire station and hospital cuts, and the crime, property loss and deaths that could happen as a result of those cuts. Your problems may seem just a bit smaller.

Now, here are my humble recommendations on what the priority should be whatever the cuts are -- or, in some cases, where the burden should be borne least. The first million should be the million from athletic programs. Now don’t all throw vegetables at me at once. If you think about it, what other budget item can recover the lost revenue better? There isn’t a nursing booster club that can insulate the department from the worst of the hit, and as far as I’m concerned this is a university, first and foremost, not a sports franchise.

A program that shouldn’t be cut, on the other hand, is nursing. I see the argument for it – it depends heavily on temporary professors, which are going to be hit hard – but it’s one of the biggest programs of its type in the state -- possibly the biggest public program of its type. If we are serious about attracting the best to our school, that program needs to stay where it is. I realize academic programs will be the last to be hit, but it needs to be said.

I could probably write a thousand words or two on the proposals; these are just two suggestions. What say you, Eagles?
Protestors sign of healthy democracy

Tuesday was a rather momentous occasion for the city of Savannah and for all of South Georgia. President Barack Obama came to the city to promote his clean energy job initiatives. He chose as his setting Savannah Technical College, which is currently training students in skills essential for working in a clean technology economy.

The last time a president visited the region was in 2006, when then-President George W. Bush came to Hanner Fieldhouse to campaign for Max Burns, who was campaigning to regain the seat he lost in 2004 to John Barrow. Then, as now, enthusiasm for the president’s visit was balanced with protestors from the other side of the political spectrum.

Then, in 2006, protestors included mostly an anti-war crowd. Tuesday saw the appearance of the newest group of political activists in American society, the so-called “Tea Party” protestors. Mingled in with anti-abortion activists and a large gathering of pro-Obama supporters, the Tea Party activists railed against more spending, deeper national debt and growth of government.

I was happy to see the activists outside the auditorium where the president was set to speak. It’s always been fashionable for the other side to dismiss protestors they don’t agree with as “idiots” or “fools,” but that does the American spirit of activism a major disservice. Which made it all the more disappointing when the president didn’t take questions from the crowd. While the crowd was small enough for a town-hall like format to have been useful, it was simply another speech where the President spoke with authority while people sat and clapped.

This is not bashing President Obama, or presidents who did it before him. It is only disappointing America thrives on debate and discussion, and these speeches don’t allow an opportunity for that.

Still, days like this can be memorable. For the young boy or girl who was able to watch the motorcade go by, it was certainly an incredible moment. For the city of Savannah, it gave this proud Southern town the chance to -- at least for a day -- host the President of the United States. Not many cities or towns get the chance to say that during a president’s time in office.

Speaking of protests, it was especially interesting to consider the place where the president spoke. Savannah Tech was chosen because of the training for practical jobs students are getting there. What was not talked about was the budget cuts affecting most colleges and universities in the state of Georgia. Of course, a state issue like that can’t be on the president’s agenda. But it is worrisome that so many states are seeing the same budgetary issues. Today’s economy only wants people with bachelor’s degrees, or at least applicable training in the field of work they choose to pursue.

Today will see a massive protest against budget cuts all across the country. Don’t forget that, while Georgia Southern is suffering under cuts, schools all across the country are feeling the tough times too. From California to New York, students all over the country are taking a stand for higher education.

Tuesday marked a notable moment in my young journalistic career -- an opportunity to listen to the remarks of a sitting president live and in person. This visit also serves as a reminder that Americans yearn for democracy to remain vibrant, whether it be in support of the president, against larger deficits or on behalf of higher education.

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

More sensitivity, if you please

Dear Editor:

I am writing in regards to the article “No always means no” in the Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2010 Volume 82 Issue 58 edition of The George-Anne.

I appreciate that The George-Anne is bringing attention to an important yet taboo topic like sexual violence. I applaud you on your courage and boldness to feature several articles on something that so few people choose to talk about.

However, I was appalled when I read, in reference to sexual assault, that “it’s not the worst thing in the world!” How insensitive to make such a minimizing statement about something so tragic, so life-changing that happens to almost 250,000 human beings in this nation annually!

Although I, fortunately, have never been a victim of sexual assault, I still cringe at the thought of what reading words that were so incredibly trivializing must have felt like for someone who has been a victim of sexual assault. I can only imagine that for many of the survivors of such horrific acts of violence, being sexually assaulted is indeed on of the worst things in the world.

I ask that in future articles addressing such delicate topics, please use common sense. Be more sensitive to your readers and do not take away from the pain and struggles that come with all forms of tragedy and acts of violence.

Kristen Murray
GSU alumnus

Weekly Poll

Do you plan on attending the Graduation Gala?

- Yes. 53.8%
- No, I’m just ready to be done. 30.8%
- No, I’m not a senior. 15.4%

For next week’s poll question, visit GADaily.com.
Thursday, March 4th

4:00 p.m. - Becoming an Ally to support LGBT, Russell Union
5:00 p.m. - SBSAW - “Spring Bling,” Russell Union
7:30 p.m. - OPERA - “Into the Woods,” PAC

Friday, March 5th

9:00 a.m. - GSU Safe Space Program to support LGBT
7:00 p.m. - Georgia Southern Baseball vs. Marshall, J.I. Clements Stadium
8:00 p.m. - FREE Outdoor Movie, Sweetheart Circle - “The Blind Side”

Saturday, March 6th

7:00 a.m. - CRI Spring Triathlon, RAC
2:30 p.m. - Georgia Southern Baseball vs. Marshall, J.I. Clements Stadium

Sunday, March 7th

1:30 p.m. - Georgia Southern Baseball vs. Marshall, J.I. Clements Stadium

Monday, March 8th

1:00 p.m. - Sexual Assault Risk Reduction Program, Russell Union
6:00 p.m. - Southern Ambassador Information Session, Lewis Hall

Tuesday, March 9th

1:00 p.m. - “The Truth about Suicide, Depression & Bipolar Disorder,” Russell Union
7:00 p.m. - GSU Unplugged, Russell Union Starbucks
7:00 p.m. - “Dreamer” - Political Forum on Immigration, Russell Union, Room 2047

Wednesday, March 10th

11:00 a.m. - Blood Drive, Russell Union
11:00 a.m. - “Turn Your Lemons into Lemonade” FREE lemonade, Russell Union
8:00 p.m. - Adventure Movie Series, RAC
OBAMA

from page 1

The president. Obama declared that the importance of moving toward more green jobs is highlighted by the struggling economy, and the need to put skilled workers back to work.

“When it comes to domestic policy, I have no more important job as president than seeing to it that every American who wants to work and is able to work can find a job,” said President Obama.

The president also mentioned the money appropriated by last year's stimulus bill that was used to pay for the grant currently funding some of Savannah Tech's green job efforts. Obama also credited the stimulus with creating 300 transportation projects in Georgia alone. The president's goal with the stimulus spending is not just “spurring hiring,” but also to “create lasting opportunities and prosperity.”

Other projects that President Obama said would be coming to Georgia include a nuclear power plant, which will be the first built in over thirty years in the entire United States.

President Obama also spoke about the need to revitalize the construction industry, which the president said is suffering almost 25 percent unemployment. Therefore, his newest program will concentrate on making homes more energy efficient.

“Forty percent of energy usage is in homes and buildings,” said the president. The new program, entitled “Home Star” after the Energy Star program, which was designed to make home appliances more energy efficient, will concentrate on replacing windows and insulation in homes to reduce energy costs for homeowners.

“A lot of these materials are made right here in America,” said the president. Obama stated that the new Home Star program would spur the economy by putting back to work skilled workers, local manufacturers, and local retailers of such products as glass for windows. “All we have to do is create the incentives to make it happen,” he said. Obama called it a “common sense idea,” and not partisan in any way.

“Savannah Tech's leading the way. A whole bunch of folks in this room are leading the way, and I just hope Washington stands alongside you in making sure that we've got the kind of energy efficiency that we need,” said the president at the end of his remarks.
Safe Space program promotes acceptance

Shannon STUART
guest writer

The Georgia Southern Gay Straight Alliance and the university’s Counseling Center are working together to promote and educate students, faculty and staff about the new Safe Space program and becoming an ally to the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender community.

Safe Space is a campus-wide program teaching the importance of acceptance, knowledge and understanding of GLBT community at GSU and becoming an ally in the effort to support those within the GLBT community.

The Safe Space program is open to faculty, staff, and students and includes a three-hour training session for employees and a one-hour training session for students.

The training session educates faculty on various aspects of the GLBT community and some of the barriers GLBT members might face.

“They learn about sexual minorities and gender identity students on campus, as well as what those terms mean and really helping them to put themselves in those individuals’ shoes,” GSA advisor Kimberly Rowan said. “[They] gain empathy as well as that intellectual learning, and the session really gives them an opportunity to discuss what becoming an ally means.”

After the training session, faculty and students are able to provide more of a “safe space” for GLBT students.

“We don’t try to slap a label on people and say ‘to become an ally you have to go to a gay pride march and wear rainbow colors.’ Instead, being an ally — for some people — means just saying ‘I support people of any sexual orientation or gender identity,’” Rowan said. “For other people [being an ally] may be saying something when they hear a negative joke. For some people, it may even mean becoming involved politically and fighting for marriage equality.”

Those who have participated in the training session are given a decal to display, which notifies students and GLBT members that their area is a “safe space,” free of judgment and discrimination, and that trainee is dedicated to a pledge of promoting awareness and action for the GLBT community while maintaining confidentiality.

Rowan believes students, despite sexual orientation, should become involved and support the GLBT community by becoming an ally.

“I think for the students I have worked with on-campus having support from their peers is really important,” Rowan said. “In terms of being acknowledged for who they are, being supported no matter who they love or how they identify themselves, students want to feel like equally valid and important people.”

According to Rowan, the support GLBT members receive from students is sometimes the only support they have.

“Sometimes students don’t have that support from family, either they haven’t come out to their family or their family doesn’t quite understand or support. I think having someone here on campus, who they know they can turn to, is key in terms of overall well being,” Rowan said.

According to Rowan, research has shown that individuals who experience positive feedback when they first come out are much more stable later in life in terms of self-esteem and maintaining a positive overall feeling of self-worth.

“They are less likely to be depressed and overall well functioning because they have been accepted for who they are,” Rowan said. “I think straight people out there have a really important role in helping other individuals who may struggle because of stigma in our society and help them be healthy individuals.”

For more information on becoming an ally, visit the Safe Space training fan page on Facebook or contact the Counseling Center at (912) 478-5541.
Focus on the road

State considers banning texting while driving

Amanda STALEY
guest writer

A bill currently in the Georgia Legislature would make it illegal to text while driving. While people feel the practice is dangerous, there is nothing preventing a driver in Georgia from texting while behind the wheel. “I feel like people who do it generally know the risks, but they do it anyways,” said sophomore Michael Drake.

Studies have shown that texting and driving can be just as dangerous as drinking and driving.

“I do catch myself texting and driving every now and then,” said sophomore Michael Drake, “but that doesn’t mean I condone it.”

The fight against texting and driving is spreading quickly. “Anything that may distract you while driving a vehicle cannot be a good idea,” said Drake.

In different parts of the country, there are different incentives for not text messaging while driving.

According to the Governors Highway Safety Association, 19 states currently “ban text messaging for all drivers.”

The District of Columbia and Guam are also on board for this law.

“It is not illegal in the state of Georgia at this time, so we would have no reason to stop anyone for that reason alone,” said Major Laura McCullough of the GSU University Police.

Harris said that if there was a law banning it, “people would do it less, sure, but it would still happen.”

In Albuquerque, N.M., a parent decided to take action. Dennis Odom, an entrepreneur and inventor, recently released a new cell phone application that prevents people from texting and driving.

The application was originally thought of because Odom has kids of his own to think about out on the road.

“IT turns the phone off when you are driving,” said Odom. “The phone has to be GPS enabled.”

McCullough said that while the practice is not illegal, drivers need to have a second thought before texting.

McCullough said, “Just consider this: how aware of your surroundings can you be when you are looking down at a phone and texting instead of looking at the road in front of you? Most accidents occur in a split second.”
**WEEKEND WRAP**

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**Saturday, Monday & Wednesday:** $.35 Wings

**Tuesday:** Trivia Night at 6:30 p.m.

**Every Day:** $2 Single; $2 Margaritas; $2 House Wines; $6 Pitchers; $6 lunches

**Saturday, Monday & Wednesday:** $.35 Wings

**Tuesday:** Trivia Night at 6:30 p.m.

**Dingus Magees**
3 Georgia Ave. • 912-681-3207

**Thursday:** $1 Bourbon; Wine on the Rocks

**Friday:** Wine on the Rocks

**Saturday:** Tent City

**Monday:** AYCE Beer & Wings

**Tuesday:** $1 Vodka

**Wednesday:** Southbound

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- **Saturday:** 12 oz. Margarita $2 (Lime Only)
- **Monday:** 12 oz. Margarita (Lime Only)
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People line the streets in front of Savannah Tech hoping to catch a glimpse, share message with Obama

“Savannah Tech’s leading the way. ... and I just hope Washington stands alongside you in making sure that we’ve got the kind of energy efficiency that we need.”

President Barack Obama

President Obama visits Savannah

Left: President Barack Obama visited Savannah Technical College on Tuesday, March 2 to make a speech on developing greener technology. The president travelled to Savannah as part of the White House to Main Street Tour.

For more photos from Obama’s stop, visit GADaily.com.
A new trend is sweeping through the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. As Georgia Southern accepts students at a record rate on top of steeper budget cuts, core classes are being enlarged while major classes are disappearing.

"Basically, we are admitting more students but with budget cuts, we can't hire more faculty," Richard Pacelle, department of political science chair, said.

According to Pacelle, 65 percent of core classes are offered through CLASS, and as GSU reaches record enrollment rates, the number of seats per class must be increased to keep up with larger enrollment.

However, offering more sections of core classes is taking a toll on the amount of major classes available.

"We tried to make sacrifices by offering larger core classes," Pacelle said.

But major classes are still being cut, and departments throughout CLASS must adjust.

"So far we are managing," William Allison, department of history chair, said. "People need to realize that Georgia Southern is changing, and changing dramatically. This idea of a big university with a small feel doesn't exist anymore, in my opinion."

If the trend continues, students will be faced with the consequences and challenge of trying to graduate on time.

"It's not fair [to upper division students]," Pacelle said. "Right now, that's the big threat. People can get slowed down."

Pacelle wants to assure students that the departments are not cutting classes out of choice, but rather pressures they are facing from budget cuts and other extraneous factors.

"It's important that we don't shortchange our majors," Pacelle said. "People want to keep progressing, but there are simply not enough classes."

With registration beginning for the Fall 2010 semester, Allison predicts he will be hearing feedback from unsatisfied students.

"Right now we have enough [classes] to keep students progressing," Allison said. "We are still managing, but barely."

Allison recognizes the problem facing not only CLASS, but GSU in its entirety. Allison believes GSU needs to reconstruct from the foundation up. GSU, in his opinion, was intended to be like the University of Georgia, but the campus does not have a strong enough infrastructure to function to do so.

"We need more dorms, faculty, and staff," Allison said. He also noted the lack of space to hold classes, especially core classes that are rising to a capacity of 215 students.

"The growth was rapid," Allison said. "What was built couldn't keep up."

The department of communication arts is also cutting classes to accommodate the changing GSU campus. However, according to Department Chair Pamela Bourland-Davis, the changing environment is nothing new, as they are constantly making adjustments.

"It's what we are doing now is to balance [core classes and major classes]," Bourland-Davis said. "From the things that we have cut, nothing has been required."

The communication arts department began by cutting electives instead of requirements, which would keep students from progressing at a normal rate.

Bourland-Davis said she knew some students would be disappointed at the loss of interesting electives, but the changes are all a part of balancing and adjusting.

On top of eliminating electives, the communication arts department is also increasing the size of classes.

Instead of teaching in lab classrooms, some classes are being moved to lecture rooms, and some classes will be offered online as well.

While online classes will allow for more students to register, Allison does not agree with turning classes over to the web.

"To me, the beauty of Georgia Southern is students being here on campus," Allison said.

Students are not the only ones being affected by the changing classroom environment, however; teachers are also feeling the burden of the new changes.

"The faculty is really bearing the brunt," Pacelle said, noting the extra amount of time political science faculty are putting in to ensure students will not be left behind because of class cuts.

"The faculty is stuck between a rock and hard place," Allison said. "Everyone's having to adjust. Your choices are either adjust or try and find a job somewhere else."
In the wake of Haiti’s disastrous earthquake, one GSU graduate aided the survivors and discovered that their immense spirit could not be crushed.

**Overcoming disaster**

Ally RAKOCZY  
staff writer

The following is a continuation of Mary Lauren Veciana’s harrowing tale in Haiti from the Tuesday, Mar. 2 edition of The George-Anne.

There was no TV or radio at the compound, so Veciana and the team had to get reports about the quake from the internet and the Haitians from the compound that went to Port-au-Prince to look for family.

“We would hear from them daily about Port-au-Prince and how there were bodies everywhere,” said Veciana. “In our compound you definitely saw how strong these people were in their faith. They were just amazing. They would sing and they would pray, and I’ve never seen anything like it. It was just amazing.”

After the earthquake, the clinic was inundated with people who had been injured during the quake and they quickly ran out of supplies.

“Right after the earthquake - that afternoon - we did see a few patients, but it was the next morning when people started pouring in. We saw about 50-70 people that day and they were all pretty serious injuries,” described Veciana.

Many of the patients had broken bones, so the volunteers ran out of plaster first. After a failed attempt at making a concrete mixture to set the bones, some of the staff discovered that palm fronds from nearby trees worked as temporary splints.

“We ran out of plaster the first day, just completely ran out of it,” said Veciana. “One of the guys started mixing concrete, so we actually attempted making casts out of concrete at first, and that didn’t work, so then we went to the palm tree branches, and that did work.”

As the trip came to an end, the team worked diligently trying to get a plane to fly back to the U.S. However, all flights in restricted to government aid planes only. After spending several days unsure if they would be able to get a flight back, Veciana and the team were finally able to fly into Florida, making it back to Savannah days afterward.

“When I got back it really hit me,” said Veciana.

According to Veciana, her time in the US after the trip took some adjustment as she learned about the incredible amount of devastation that had hit the people of Haiti.

“It really took a toll on me when we got back to the United States,” remarked Veciana.

However, despite the turn of events in Haiti, Veciana is sure that she wants to return to continue to help the people.

“I definitely am 100 percent going back,” Veciana said adamantly. “I really want to use this experience and turn it into something positive. I would like to start some kind of foundation to benefit the orphans.”

At the end of the trip, an orphan named MindyLove had left an indelible mark on Veciana. Touched by the girl’s strength, Veciana gave her a pearl necklace and promised she would return to visit her, though she didn’t know when.

“At this point, we’re going to try to do something with the story and maybe sell duplicates of the necklaces,” said Veciana. “I want to start a non profit organization that would raise money for the Haitian orphans. I have been in contact with the company that manufactures that necklace and they have offered to partner with me. I want to use my story and sell duplicate necklaces to raise money for the orphans.”

For those who would like to help the victims in Haiti, Veciana stressed that while donations to Port-au-Prince are always good, it is also important to remember the villages affected outside of the city.

“I don’t think people realize that villages like this have also been destroyed. Basically the only help they’ve gotten is from church groups,” said Veciana. “This whole trip was an unforgettable life-changing experience. I have been changed for the better because of the things I saw and the people I met.”
Georgia Southern students came together on Tuesday evening to participate in the school’s very first Style Your Sole party. This event, hosted by the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, was set to promote TOMS Shoes and their One for One mission.

Students became excited for the Style Your Sole event when Blake Mycoskie, founder and chief shoe giver of TOMS, came to campus in early February. Mycoskie explained the foundation of TOMS and their unique business practice of giving away a new pair of shoes for every pair sold. The response from his speech was overwhelming, as many students were motivated to find ways to participate in the One for One movement.

Jodi Middleton, the assistant director of the OSLCE, stated that there were over 50 participants in Tuesday’s event, with many students signing up as far as one month in advance.

“The students really enjoyed Blake’s speech and wanted to get involved. I think the students here are more motivated to take action than at any other school I’ve experienced,” said Middleton.

Style Your Sole is an event created by TOMS to encourage creativity while spreading the One for One movement. Parties have been hosted in all 50 states and the United Kingdom. Every Style Your Sole party is unique. Participants bring their imagination and various inspirations to create a shoe that defines their personality and helps children around the world.

At GSU’s Style Your Sole party, students were told to bring only their imaginations, as all of the art supplies and shoes were provided and included in the sign up cost.

The OSLCE was able to bring this event to students at a significantly discounted price. Shoe donations were also taken to obtain the goal of giving away two pairs of shoes for every one pair sold for this event.

Participants came with ideas of all kinds. They showed off their styles with everything from peace signs to inspirational quotes to enhance the already stylish TOMS Shoes. One student filled her TOMS with statistics on poverty and disease around the world, to make a statement while still being fashionable.

Hayley Burgin, a junior finance major, stated that this was her first Style Your Sole party and she now wants to host her own. “I love TOMS Shoes and the work they do is so inspirational. If buying a pair of shoes for myself can help a child in need, I say ‘Why not?”

Along with an evening of shoe styling, students enjoyed music from the Do Good DJs and artistic help from members of the Art Guild. Middleton stated that she was happy with the turnout and hopes to make this a regular event here at GSU.

Mycoskie’s visit had a significant impact on GSU students and many other people have been affected as a result. Style Your Sole is just the first event on campus to promote the One for One movement. Upcoming events include a barefoot race hosted by the Student Alliance for a Green Earth in accordance with TOMS’ One Day Without Shoes on April 8. For more information visit onedaywithoutshoes.com.
The Georgia Southern University Opera will be performing "Into the Woods," beginning tonight at 7:30. This show promises to be one of the biggest of the year.

"It's funny; there are moments where it parts out and is touching and then it's funny again. It has beautiful music, good acting, some amazing costumes and an immense set. It is very much a visual spectacle," said Arikka Gregory, the director for GSU Opera. She is also the coordinator for the show and an assistant professor in the music department.

This musical, which first debuted in 1986, looks at some classic Grimm fairy tales as if they were interconnected. "When the Baker and his Wife learn they've been cursed with childlessness by the Witch next door, they embark on a quest for the special objects required to break the spell, swindling, lying to and stealing from Cinderella, Little Red, Rapunzel and Jack - the one who climbed the beanstalk," is the basic synopsis given by Music Theater International's website.

The show was subsequently produced on Broadway in 1987 and won several Tony Awards, including Best Score, Best Book and Best Actress in a Musical.

This show is designed for all ages. Act One follows a simple "happily ever after" plot. This is supposed to be short and merry, perfect for a younger audience. Act Two continues the tale after the characters realize that their happy ending is not so perfect.

They are forced to deal with the consequences of their actions while at the same time handling a threat to the village. Act Two is intended to be thought provoking. It will bring all the characters together again.

The theater and music departments, among others, have helped in the production of the show.

Richard Mercier, the chair of the music department, conducts the orchestra and acts as music director for the musical.

Robert Fowler, who works at the Averitt Center, volunteered to make the immense set for the play. Faculty members are also in the pit and one will even perform with the understudy cast due to a cast member having to drop out recently. The theater department is in charge of making the set and helping with costumes and lighting.

"This is an exceptionally talented cast of students. I was stunned at the talent I have to work with," said Gregory.

"Into the Woods" will be performed from March 4 through March 6 at 7:30 p.m. and on March 7 at 3:00 p.m. This final day will be performed by the understudy cast, not the primary cast. "I want to make sure that they get the chance to perform for their family and friends," said Gregory.

Tickets are $7 for GSU students, $10 for GSU faculty and staff and $13 for general admission. Also, as a special treat, GSU students are eligible to receive free tickets for the March 4 opening night performance.

To receive a free ticket, present your Eagle ID card at the PAC box office. The box office is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.
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WORLD

OF THE DAY

Transmogrify (v.) [transs-MAH-gruh-fye]

to change or alter greatly and often with grotesque or humorous effect

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Quick Hits

▲ GSU women's basketball will enter the SoCon tournament this weekend, facing College of Charleston in their first game.

▲ GSU baseball fell to 3-6 after losing Tuesday's game on the road against North Florida, 14-3.

▲ GSU baseball will host a three-game series against Marshall beginning Friday at 7 p.m.

▲ GSU men's basketball guard Antonio Hanson was named SoCon Player of the Week for averaging 29.5 points in a two-game span.

▲ GSU men's basketball will place sixth entering the SoCon tournament and face Chattanooga for their first game.

▲ GSU golf finished 10th in the John Hayt Invitational.

▲ GSU softball travels to Orlando, Fla., this weekend for the UCF tournament.

▲ GSU women's tennis will face Western Carolina at home on Saturday at 11 a.m.

▲ GSU men's tennis will face Wofford at home on Sunday at noon.

News from the Nest

GSU guard Willie Powers III (#50) was named to the All-Southern Conference team following his performance during the 2009-2010 basketball season. Powers was the leading scorer for the Eagles, finishing with 459 total points. He also led the team in assists with 171.

GSU News Service

Georgia Southern guard Willie Powers III, the Eagles' leading scorer, was named to the All-Conference team as the 2009-10 Southern Conference men's basketball postseason awards were announced on Wednesday, following a balloting of the league's head coaches.

The junior from Gainesville, Fla., was a member of the league's All-Freshman Team following the 2007-08 season.

In the other individual awards, Jeremy Simmons of the College of Charleston and Western Carolina's Brigham Waginger were named Co-Defensive Players of the Year while Davidson guard JP Kuhlman was tabbed as the league's Freshman of the Year.

Noah Dahlman was a key in leading Wofford to the program's first South Division championship and a 15-3 league record.

He ranked fourth in the conference in scoring at 17.4 points per game and seventh in rebounding with 6.3 boards per contest.

Dahlman also made 59.2 percent of his field goal attempts, good enough for fourth in the SoCon, en route to becoming the first Terrier to win the league's top honor.

Mike Young, in his eighth season at the helm of the Wofford program, took the Terriers to new heights in 2009-10, with a 23-8 overall record and a 15-3 league mark.

Simmons and Waginger were the top defenders statistically in the league this season as Simmons led the league in blocked shots (2.1 bpg) while Waginger paced the league in steals (2.7 spg).

Kuhlman started 23 of Davidson's 30 games during the regular season while averaging 12.7 points, 3.4 rebounds and 3.3 assists per game.

Dahlman was one of three players to earn all-conference honors for the second straight season, joined by College of Charleston's Andrew Goudelock and The Citadel's Cameron Wells.

Also earning All-SoCon honors were Donald Sims (Appalachian State), Simmons, Amu Saaka (Furman), Ben Stywall (UNC Greensboro), Brandon Giles (Western Carolina) and Tim Johnson (Wofford).

Joining Kuhlman on the All-Freshman team were Jake Cohen, Willis Hall (College of Charleston), Harrison DuPont (The Citadel) and Kyle Randall (UNC Greensboro).
Women prepare for SoCon tourney

Eagles begin tournament play against the College of Charleston on Saturday

Latrice Williams
staff writer

The Georgia Southern women’s basketball team is gearing up for the Southern Conference Tournament this weekend. The fifth-ranked Eagles won’t set foot onto the court until Saturday, but they have been going hard in practice all week.

Last year, the Eagles were knocked out of the first round by Elon.

When the team got word that they’d be playing College of Charleston, there were some mixed emotions.

“I was excited,” said sophomore guard Krista Tate. “I know we can beat them again. They are on such a low right now. They’ve lost the last few games of their season, so I know we can beat them”.

On the contrary, senior guard Carolyn Whitney is not sure that playing the Cougars at their lowest point will be an advantage.

“They aren’t doing very well, so that kind of scares me because I think they are going to be ready and prepared for us,” said Whitney. Tate admitted that Samford is a SoCon foe that she does not want to meet again.

“We always play bad against them, so I definitely don’t want to play them again,” said Tate.

Looking back on their season, the Eagles could be looked at as a “happy medium” team. At times they play mediocre and other times they are tough to beat.

The good news for Eagle fans is that GSU has won nine road games in the SoCon, so they are a team that plays well away from home.

The Eagles began the season with a huge win over Brewton-Parker, defeating them by 52 points. GSU then hit a low point when they went on a four game losing streak against Duke, Auburn, New Orleans, and the University of Colorado.

After the Omni Hotels Classic, the Eagles won two out of their next three conference games giving them an early start.

This season, the Eagles set records, broke some of their own and defeated teams that had a winning record in Hanner Fieldhouse, such as Davidson.

“We haven’t beaten them in four years I think, especially not at home,” said Tate. “They always shoot well and they always play well”.

Whitney and Tate pointed out their most difficult losses, best wins, and the players that have surprised them the most with their playing ability.

In the losing column, Whitney spoke about what she felt was the worst defeat.

See TOURNEY Page 20
TOURNEY

from page 19

“I would say Greensboro just because we know that we are so much better than them. We didn't play the way we should have played and that was a big loss for us,” said Whitney.

Tate's most disappointing loss of the season came against the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

“We were up the whole game and the last eight minutes we let them come back and we had it. We were up one and then they got that rebound and hit that last-second shot,” said Tate.

If GSU makes it out of the first round, it is very likely that they will have to face off against UTC.

UTC is a team that beat the Eagles twice in the regular season.

The Mocs are the conference leader with just eight losses, but Whitney knows the recipe for success.

“We need to guard their post player really well. The biggest thing with UTC is boxing out because they are very hungry for rebounds,” said Whitney.

Since the start of the season, the team has really gelled well together, and the signs of maturity are showing throughout each individual.

“We know how to finish the game,” said Whitney. “At first we were struggling because there were a bunch of freshman, but over the season we really matured and have good chemistry. There are two players that have really surprised me. It's Jamie. She knows how to score and does when Coach Cram asks her to and then there is J'Lisa. She has no idea how good she is.”

“I think that we've learned from each other and how each other plays, so we all know our roles,” said Tate.

“Even down to the freshman, they know their roles when they come on and give us bench minutes, so I think we have all just come together and figured out what each of us needs to do to bring the team together.

The semifinals and championship game will be aired on Sports South.

The winner will be crowned as the Southern Conference champions and earn an automatic entry in the 2010 NCAA Women's Basketball Championship.