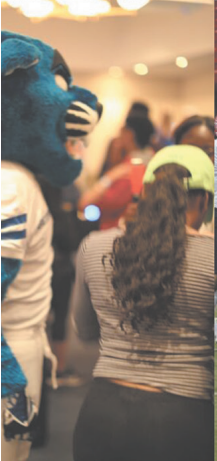


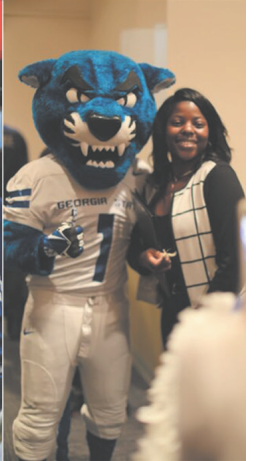
THE SIGNAL

HERE IS WHAT YOU MISSED,

#GSUNITED



Missed Homecoming? We've got you covered. Read our interview with the 2015 Homecoming Royal Court!
Arts & Living | Pages 10-11



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MILITARY OUTREACH

Student veterans fight VA paperwork to claim post-service educational benefits.

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HOMECOMING TRADITION

What makes a downtown Homecoming celebration work? Why is Homecoming important?

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'SCREAM QUEENS' KILLS

Bloody Hell! Fox's new show is taking audiences by storm. Read The Signal's take on the absurd new series.

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ATHLETIC HOMECOMING

Do athletes even have time to celebrate Homecoming? Hear from the sports stars themselves.

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blotter

- 1. SEPT. 28**
Sticky fingers
Georgia Bookstore
 A non-Georgia State affiliated person was arrested by the Georgia State Police Department (GSUPD) for taking items valued at \$100 or less from the Georgia Bookstore. The theft occurred at 1:29 p.m., and the person also had outstanding warrants.
- 2. SEPT. 28**
Emotionally Disturbed
Edgewood Avenue
 A disturbed or emotional sick non-Georgia State person was reported to GSUPD at 6:54 p.m. in Edgewood Ave. The case is cleared.
- 3. SEPT. 29**
Deja Vu
Student Center East
 Trespass warning was issued at 4:32 p.m. in Student Center East to non-Georgia State affiliated person by GSUPD. The case has been cleared.
- 4. SEPT. 29**
Deja Vu
Aderhold Learning Center
 Trespass warning was issued in Aderhold Learning Center at 9:50 p.m. to non-Georgia State affiliated person by GSUPD. The case has been cleared.
- 5. OCT. 1**
Heated words
Patton Hall
 Two or more Georgia State students had a verbal confrontation in Patton Hall from 2:27-2:46 p.m. The case has been cleared.
- 6. OCT. 1**
Breaking Buildings
Greek Housing
 In Greek Housing's rear community building, criminal damage was done. The damage was reported at 7:19 p.m. and happened on Sept. 29 from 2:34 a.m. to 2:45 a.m. The case is active.

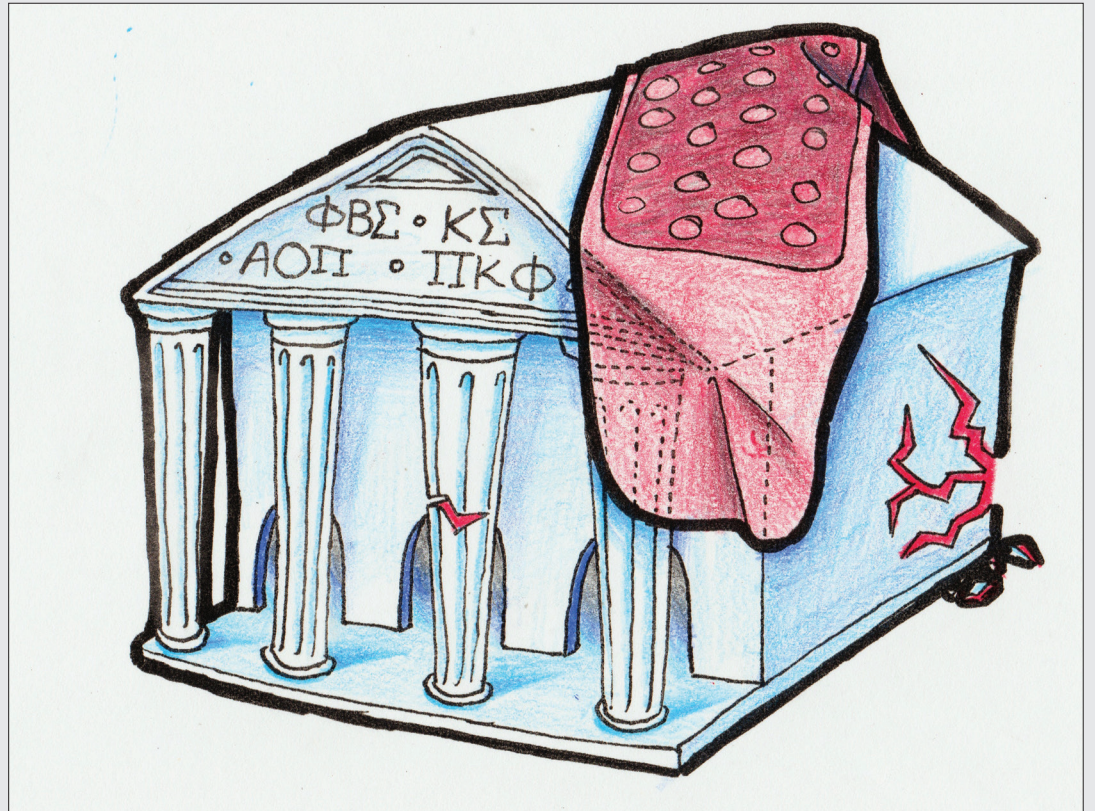


ILLUSTRATION BY UDUAK ITA | THE SIGNAL



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Corey Grey, Homecoming Duke, and Kayla Duncan, Homecoming Duchess, walk away in joy after the announcement of this year's homecoming court.

PHOTO BY RALPH HERNANDEZ | THE SIGNAL

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The Signal shall provide, in a fair and accurate manner, news of interest and significance to the Georgia State University community and serve as a forum for the expression of ideas of members of that community. Furthermore, The Signal shall provide an opportunity for students to pursue experience within a professional newspaper environment. The Signal shall also provide truthful and ethical advertising of interest to the Georgia State University community.

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Letters must be submitted to the Opinions Editors via e-mail and must include the text of the letter in the body of the message. Letters should be 200-400 words maximum. The Signal will allow longer letters, but only in rare circumstances. Letters must include the full name(s) of the writer(s) and include their year and major. If the writer is a faculty member, they must include their title and department. Letters will be fact-checked prior to

publication. The writer may be obligated to make changes to the letter for publication. Letters will be edited for grammar, clarity, length, factual accuracy and adherence to Signal policy. The Signal reserves the right to modify and/or reject letters at the discretion of the editorial staff.

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The first copy of The Signal is free. Additional copies can be purchased from our office for \$1.00 each.

Stacking up for homecoming

This year's Homecoming budget jumped to more than \$40,000



PHOTOS BY DAYNE FRANCIS | THE SIGNAL

Georgia State's annual homecoming golf cart parade, showcasing the university's various clubs, is priced at \$6,500

STAFF

The seven Homecoming events and promotional activities leading up to last Saturday's football game cost Spotlight Programs Board a pretty penny, \$43,400 to be exact, according to Spotlight Advisor Philip Smith.

Corey Sams, Georgia State Student Government Association's (SGA) vice president of student services and the newly named Mr. Georgia State, said the football game is a vehicle for promoting a string of pep-rallying events.

"Sports teams really thrive off the student body input," Sams said. "So I really understand the way that athletics is gearing up for Homecoming. We have so much great push for promotions of athletics for Homecoming. It [was] on Spotlight and SGA and other large student organizations to reach out to the students and tell them 'we need you at these things.'"

The season featured a formal press conference, breakfast meal, posh parties and a parade, rivaling last year's nine events.

Price tags of Homecoming events

Sept. 22: Press Conference, Price: \$250

The 2015 Royal Court Candidates were announced to the public during a press conference held in Student Center East. The meet-and-greet cost \$250 and welcomed students, faculty and staff to attend.

Monday: Good Morning Georgia State, Price: \$500

One of the first events in Homecoming's schedule was the Good Morning Georgia State event held in Unity Plaza on Monday Sept. 28 in Unity Plaza. The kickoff to the Homecoming week cost a total of \$500 and included a breakfast served with free waffles and pastries to more than 800 groggy students.

Tuesday: Spirit Plaza and Block Party, Price: \$11,350

On Sept. 29, there was Spirit Plaza, which featured the homecoming court in Library Plaza. This gathering cost a total of \$350 to pull off.

Then later that day from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., Spotlight Programs Board welcomed hippies to Student Center East for Georgia State's Coachella-esque Homecoming Block Party, but due to inclement weather, they relocated the festivities. The "Block Party" cost \$11,000. Students bounced to heavy bass kicks and grooved to a sporadic light show while local acts played their hearts out to a humbled student body.

Wednesday: Royal Ball, Price: \$22,000

This year's Royal Ball took approximately half of Homecoming's budget, with a price tag of \$22,000. Spotlight Advisor Phillip Smith said they opted for Fernbank due to an expected uptick from last year's thousand attendees.

"It was a great opportunity because last year we had 1,000 people that wanted to come to the ball, so we were looking for a place with a little extra," he said.

Ticket sales at the Royal Ball can claim revenue for next year's Homecoming committee. Spotlight projected to sell 1,400 tickets to the ball and

to raise \$14,000.

Spotlight Programs Board missed that goal and ended up selling 883 tickets, according to Boyd Beckwith, director of Georgia State's Student Center.

Droves of tailored-suited men and majestically-clad ladies crammed onto the dance floor beneath the museum's colossal dinosaur skeleton.

A decadent feast of butterfly shrimp, teriyaki chicken and deep-fried mac n' cheese wooed some dancers from the main ballroom before Georgia State's hungry attendees cleaned out Fernbank's caterer around 10:30 p.m.

Shortly thereafter Spotlight introduced Georgia State's Royal Homecoming Court, which was comprised of university big-shots such as Sams. He and other members of the court shocked the crowd of students and their dates when they broke into a spontaneous dance number, which Sams said will survive as a goofy tradition in the years to come.

Thursday: Golf Cart Parade, Price: \$6,500

While participants in the Oct. 1 Golf Cart Parade suited up for their 15 minutes of fame in the procession, students and onlookers flashed their Georgia State gear with pride. Echoing traditions of presidents and officials, President Mark Becker and his first lady rode in the back of a topless Chevy Camaro waving and smiling to the passing crowd.

Saturday: Homecoming Game, Attendance: 11,512

Georgia State's football team faced Liberty, a team from Virginia, in the Georgia Dome on Oct. 3 and lost 33-41. Attendance was at 11,512, which increased from last year's 10,196 attendance.

This year's Homecoming grand total vs. previous year's

Homecoming this year cost about 10 grand more than last year's \$33,700, and it had two less events. In addition to paying for events, Spotlight spent \$2,000 on public relations materials and giveaways. They also spent \$800 on the Royal Court.

When Georgia State's football program sprouted in 2010, Homecoming festivities moved to the Fall semester. Georgia State Spokesperson Andrea Jones said the events have only grown in popularity since the basketball team passed on the torch.

"It has grown each year. For example, the president's brunch has gone from around 100 guests to several hundred and we've seen those types of gains across the spectrum," Jones said.

Spotlight committee member Sams said next year's GSU-GPC consolidation will add a new variable to planning for the festive week's eventful schedule.

"Our next university Homecoming committee will sit down and talk about the large influx of students and decide how to accommodate that change," Sams said. "Classic staples such as the Royal Ball will be even bigger... We have to continue to find ways to engage our off-campus (the main campus) students."

Sams said he's eager to see how the waves of graduate and new students will culminate into a spirited Panther family.

"I'm interested to see how we will begin to grow in our alumni base, student involvement and overall sense of school spirit... Next year, it's all about... creating the culture of Georgia State."

So, as Georgia State tacks on an-

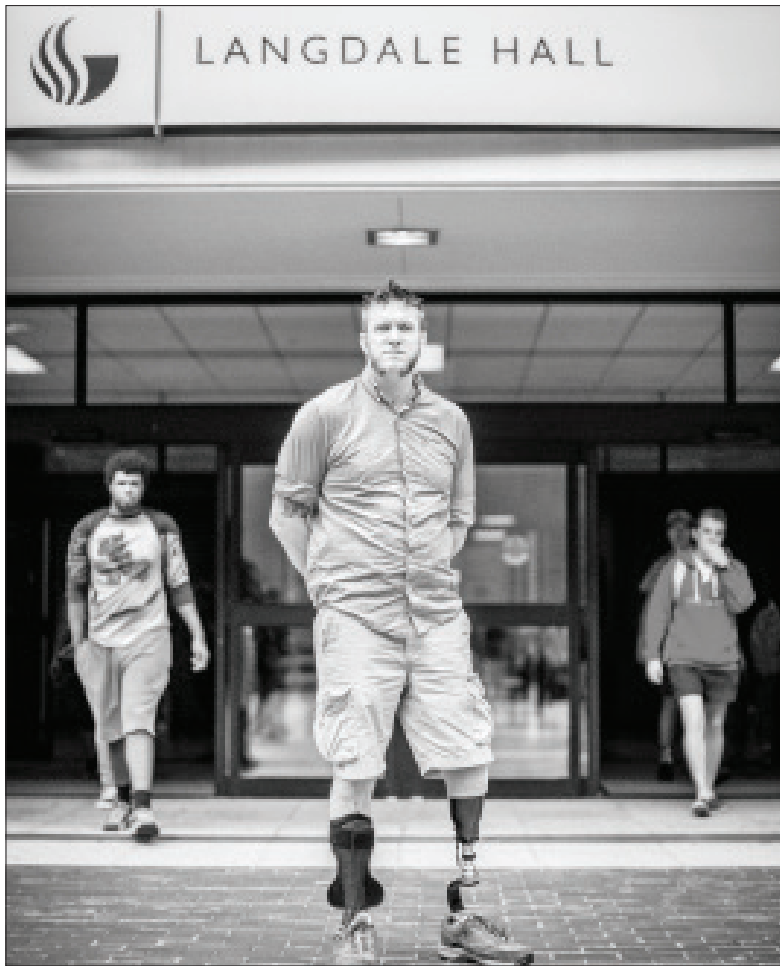
ROYAL BALL	\$22,000.00
ROYAL COURT	\$800.00
GOOD MORNING GSU	\$500.00
BLOCK PARTY	\$11,000
GOLF CART PARADE	\$6,500.00
PR/GIVEAWAYS	\$2,000.00
PRESS CONFERENCE	\$250.00
SPIRIT PLAZA	\$350.00
TOTAL:	\$43,400.00

other twenty-or-so thousand students and broadens its academic reach to five new Georgia campuses, Smith said the Homecoming planners will need to adjust the scale of their operations.

"Our focus is just pretty much the students we have on campus," Smith said. "Hopefully we have things established and in place so that when GPC gets involved, they can just join in on the fun."

Combating bureaucracy

Military veterans of Georgia State's student body jump through hoops to ensure the GI Bill pays out



PHOTOS BY JASON LUONG | THE SIGNAL

Veterans Adam Hygema, left, and Shamsud-jin Jabaar, right, say they must be vigilant about maintaining paperwork

SEAN KEENAN

Associate News Editor

Sidney Covington, U.S. Army combat veteran and president of Georgia State's Student Veterans Association (SVA), said the university doesn't do enough to help ease the transition from military life to college life.

"Georgia State didn't help at all, which is why I'm passionate about the Student Veteran's Association," she said, "I had a very hard time [in college] at first. [In the military], I knew where to be, what to wear, what to do... pretty much my life was given to me. When I was no longer in the military, it was kind of strange. I got to decide what to wear each day. I didn't know how to adapt to that kind of choice."

Georgia State's campus houses a Military Outreach Center (MOC), an office which facilitates the disbursement of GI Bill educational benefits to student veterans.

Covington said the university's MOC, "doesn't do jack anything." She claims the "Outreach" part is a misnomer, as the center doesn't reach out to advocate on behalf of the students at all.

SVA, however, tries to offer the outreach that the MOC fails to provide, according to Covington.

"We host services such as teaching [student veterans] to translate their military jargon back to civilian jargon so when they apply for jobs, they seem more qualified," she said.

And Shamsud-jin Jabaar, a Georgia State senior and U.S. Army vet, said acclimating to civilian speech is among the many burdens of leaving a military-structured lifestyle.

"The culture isn't too much different but once you get out of the military there's so many different acronyms you've learned," he said. "And as you transition out...you don't know how to speak without using these terms and you're not sure what terms

are used outside the military."

Jabaar said although military experience fosters lasting professional skills, it is important for veterans to be able to communicate their abilities to potential non-military employers.

"You may have a lot of skills and training from the Army," he said. "But you may not be able to speak the language to really translate it and be understood when you apply for a civilian job."

Jabaar said his experience with the MOC has gone "pretty well" thus far in his Georgia State career. He said the office works with the VA to circulate his GI Bill paperwork in order to claim his educational benefits.

Getting school paid for with the GI Bill

Jabaar said if a student vet is not on top of his paperwork, his payments could slip through the cracks of the VA's system.

"It's such a large agency and they have so many [military men and women] coming out...that you have to do your due diligence, make sure you have your paperwork together," he said.

And Covington, who also attends school on the GI Bill, said adapting to the financial change of civilian life can be taxing on student veterans. She claims Georgia State cogs up the process of dispersing benefit bills to the VA.

"The way Georgia State processes the payments is a little inconvenient," she said. "A lot of students have already received their refunds, but as a student veteran, I haven't received mine."

Covington said she worries her check may not show up until November.

"[Georgia State] postpones to send the bills to the VA which makes it hard on students who rely school benefits," she said. "It makes it harder for me sometimes, especially this time of the year."

Jabaar, Georgia State Student Government Association's newly appoint-

ed transfer liaison, came to the university from Campbell University in North Carolina. Like Covington, he pays for tuition with funds from the GI Bill.

Fighting for disability benefits

But Jabaar said, even with the GI Bill, it is tough for some soldiers to claim disability benefits once they leave the service.

"There really is a big difference between disability and using the GI Bill benefits," he said. "I don't really have a problem with the GI Bill benefits, but I know many veterans who have had problems applying for disability."

Former Panther and U.S. Navy Veteran Adam Hygema said he meticulously monitored his disability claim to ensure it didn't get swallowed up in the VA abyss. Hygema lost his leg in a car accident while he was stationed in Portsmouth, Oregon as a hospital foreman.

"I'm very lucky that I got the services that I did, but that's also because I was calling my rep every week of every month just to figure out where in the system my claim was," he said.

But Hygema said he knows vets who were put through the ringer attempting to claim disability benefits.

"I know a lot of other veterans who have to jump through a lot of hoops just to get a small percentage of their claim to go through," he said.

Covington is one of those denied disability status. She said she injured her hip while deployed in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and the VA awarded her zero percent of her disability benefits claim.

"I need to go in and get my injury looked at [by VA] because they don't seem accurate," she said. "I know they [deny claims] a lot."

Hygema said he spends as little time as possible working the VA so to avoid "jumping through a ring of hoops on fire" to get prosthetic help.

"I go in. I get my treatment. Then they don't hear from me for months at

GI BILL

Many student veterans claim benefits from Chapter 33 of the GI Bill, the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008, which offers payment for academic endeavors such as:

- Four academic years (36 months) of educational tuition.
- A monthly living stipend
- A benefit eligibility period of 15
- An annual stipend to cover other education costs (e.g., books, supplies, fees)

a time," he said. "If I have to schedule regular health checkup, I have to wait six months for an open date. At the same time, I know there are veterans who... are waiting way longer for an appointment."

A report leaked in August by Huffington Post revealed that a system glitch at the Atlanta VA's office computers led to more than 35,000 combat vets being denied health care nationwide.

The veterans interviewed by The Signal were not aware of anyone af-

flicted by the computer glitch, but they all said keeping up with forms and folders will help things with the VA run much more smoothly.

"While you're active duty, everything's cake if you keep your paperwork in line," Hygema said. "Once you're out of the military, you have to make sure you've got duplicates and triplicates of every paper you handle."

When prompted for comment, the MOC referred The Signal to Ms. Covington.

College smoking ban not up to snuff

Did you know?

THE SURGEON GENERAL'S REPORT:

99%

smokers start by age 26

E-cigarettes reported to help smokers **QUIT**

But the CDC

(Center for Disease Control and Prevention)

found e-cigarettes highly addictive

(according to USG Tobacco Free)

CHARLES BAILEY
Staff Reporter

Three years after Georgia State's campus wide smoking ban and a year since the University System of Georgia's (USG) tobacco free policy, cigarette smoke and vape clouds are still being puffed out in smoky laughs across Georgia State's campus.

Georgia State spokeswoman Andrea Jones said the university has no plans to further enforce the smoking ban beyond the policy, and without inherently defined borders to the campus, enforcing it is difficult.

"We try to build awareness in our community for the ban with posted signs and reminders to faculty, staff and students of programs to help with smoking cessation," she said.

Emma Yelma, journalism major

and non smoker, enrolled at Georgia State after the ban was implemented. She said people consider it a joke.

"I don't think anyone cares," she said. "I've heard multiple people talk about it, and when they bring it up in conversation, it's to make fun of the ban because people still smoke."

All Georgia State faculty, staff and students have a responsibility to help enforce the school policy. Individuals should remind smokers of the policy in a respectful fashion, according to the Georgia State Student Handbook.

Deputy Chief Carlton Mullis of the Georgia State University Police Department said the smoking ban is to be enforced by the university. However, he also said the department only enforces no smoking on campus.

"For instance if you're standing in front of Langdale [on the sidewalk], that's City of Atlanta, and you can smoke; if you're in Library Plaza, that's Georgia State, and you can't

smoke there," he said.

Lauren McCullough, Georgia State biology major, said electronic cigarettes helped her quit tobacco cigarettes. She only smokes while on neighboring streets away from school buildings.

"With [Georgia] State, they own buildings and not streets, so if I'm walking down the street, they can't tell me to stop smoking," she said.

Like other students, McCullough smokes to relieve stress from school. She is aware of the amount of nicotine in e-cigarettes.

"It has a little bit of nicotine, but it's relaxing with school," she said.

Liza Muccino, Georgia State sociology major, said she is aware of the smoking ban on campus, yet she smokes there at least twice a day.

"Georgia State enforced [the ban] when it was first implemented, but then people stopped yelling at me," Muccino said.

Diandra Canzius, Georgia State sociology major and smoker, said she believes the ban is important, but thinks enforcing it is difficult due to the openness of the campus.

"It makes sense, but with Georgia State being so open, what can you do?" she said.

Yelma said she thinks smoking is bad and feels bad for anyone who does.

"Smoking is bad and it kills people; we all know this. When I see someone smoking, I know they're losing years off their life," she said.

Canzius attributed her smoking to anxiety about school and work. She smokes at least three or four cigarettes a day.

"Right now, it gets me through the day. I have a lot of social anxiety when I'm out around a lot of people, and it calms me down. I have a history of panic attacks, and school's stressful," Canzius said.

2012

2013

2014

October 2012

The Georgia State University Senate approved a ban on smoking and tobacco products. (according to a campus press release)

University Housing details smoking areas

Smoking is not allowed 25 feet from Georgia State building entrances and exits.

March 2014

USG's Board of Regents adopted a statewide policy to ban smoking and tobacco products from all college campuses. (according to the USG Tobacco Free)

"Right now, [smoking] gets me through the day. I have a lot of social anxiety when I'm out around a lot of people, and it calms me down."

-Diandra Canzius, Georgia State Student

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Kell Hall is still set to become a greenway

JOSEPH DOYAGUE
Staff Reporter

Announced in 2013, Kell Hall is on track to be demolished and replaced by a greenway. Georgia State student Austin Lederman said he believes the upcoming greenway will create a more secure setting for lounging and studying than the city owned Hurt Park.

"I think a reason why people don't go to Hurt Park is because a lack of perceived security," Lederman said.

Despite Hurt Park's close proximity to Georgia State buildings, it is not officially a part of campus and is open to use by anyone. Jewanna Gaither, spokesperson for the Mayor of Atlanta's office, said the park is owned by the city.

"The city of Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation owns Hurt Park. Georgia State University serves as an operating partner to the city of Atlanta for Hurt Park and provides the maintenance, as well as programming for the park," Gaither said.

Associate Vice President for Georgia State Facilities Management Services Division Ramesh Vakamudi said a primary goal of the proposed greenway would be to create a safe, comfortable and appealing hangout space for students.

Senior marketing major at Georgia State Spencer Maxwell said the limited size of greenery available at Hurt Park and the open use by civilians and the homeless discourage students from using the park.

"We get campus alerts all the time about people getting mugged at these parks," Maxwell said.

While Maxwell said he thinks it could be difficult to keep the homeless out of the proposed greenway, the new green space would more likely keep him on campus longer.

"When I go home, I would rather stay here and study outside," Maxwell said.

Lederman said the new stretches could also provide a sorely needed green presence to campus.

"Space is always an issue for any urban school. I think it's great that they're trying to make a green space," he said.

Georgia State's master plan said the greenway will provide safe and attractive pedestrian connections between buildings in the core of campus and anticipated outdoor landscaped communal study and social spaces.

Vakamudi said an important objective of the proposed greenway would be to unify and strengthen the existing campus core and the tentative completion for the greenway is 2018.

Lederman said he is concerned that the larger crowds of students the greenway will attract, the university will be unable to enforce its campus-wide smoking ban.

"If you create a bigger space to congregate, more people will congregate. And the issue right now is enforcing, for example, no tobacco spaces," Lederman said.

The greenway will be used in a similar fashion as the Library Plaza found between Pullen Library and Sparks Hall, Vakamudi said. Including the option of reservation by chartered student organizations and university departments.

Additionally, the greenway will serve as a necklace of green landscaped quadrangles and courtyards internal to the campus core with linkages outward to the surrounding frame of public streets and public open spaces, according to the master plan.

"The intent is to reduce and replace existing concrete surfaces with softer green and pedestrian friendly campus spaces," Vakamudi said.



Park goers enjoy a game of football in Hurt Park.

PHOTO BY DAYNE FRANCIS | THE SIGNAL

Georgia State student's suspected attackers behind bars

CHARLES BAILEY
Staff Reporter

Georgia State University Police Department (GSUPD) arrested suspects involved in a Georgia State student's assault on Sept. 17. The attackers were reported to be students from Georgia Southern University, and are currently charged with battery by GSUPD.

The victim was allegedly assaulted by the two Georgia Southern students near Grady Memorial Hospital around 10:40 p.m. on Sept. 16, according to a Campus Crime Alert. The student told GSUPD the men approached him after he got out his car. They asked him his name and proceeded to attack him.

They knocked the student down and hit him for several minutes before leaving and walking east-bound towards Piedmont Avenue, according to the official police report.

The student sustained injuries to his face, ears and elbows. He was treated at the scene and refused further treatment, according to the

police report.

Deputy Police Chief Carlton Mullis said the attack of the student was not "random."

He also said surveillance cameras placed around Georgia State campus led the student to identify his attackers.

Alexandra Todorova, Georgia State english major, said the incident is "unnerving," but feels relieved the suspected culprits have been found.

"Whenever I walk alone on campus at night, walking by like five Georgia State dorms I don't really feel unsafe, but I'm glad they caught them," Todorova said.

Mullis said the GSUPD Investigations officers received contact information for the men from Piedmont North housing and retrieved the attackers the following morning.

"We checked the surveillance cameras and traced the suspects' movements [from the scene of the crime] back to Piedmont North at 10:30 p.m., there we learn they were inside at that time, being checked out by at the front desk," he said.

The reason behind the attack is unknown, and the investigation is still in progress, according to Mullis.

last week...

LOCAL

Shooter still not arrested

The person wanted for allegedly shooting at a MARTA police officer still has not been found, according to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The shooting happened Saturday Oct. 3 outside the Ashby Station in northwest Atlanta, and the officer was not hit. The suspect in the crime is also wanted for being involved in a robbery. APD warned MARTA to watch out for the suspect, according to MARTA spokeswoman Saba Long. Bus service has not been suspended and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation is now helping with the case.

NATIONAL

Community College in Oregon hit by gunfire

On Oct. 1, a gunman killed nine people at Unpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon, according to CNN. The victims were Lucero Alcaraz, Treven Anspach, Rebecka Carnes, Quinn Cooper, Kim Dietz, Lucas Eibel, Jason Johnson, Lawrence Levine and Sarena Moore. Law enforcement found that the shooter had 14 firearms. The gunman committed suicide after shooting at Douglas County police officers.

GLOBAL

Openly gay priest forced to halt work

After declaring that he is gay, Polish priest Monsignor Krzysztof Olaf Charamsa has been stripped of his duties in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the faith and the Pontifical universities, according to CNN. Charamsa asked Pope Francis to change the Catholic doctrine about homosexuality on Oct. 4 during a press conference in Rome. He announced his sexuality right before the Synod of Bishops, which is when bishops discuss topics affecting Catholic families starting on Oct. 5.

THE TRADITION OF HOMECOMING

The reason Homecoming is important

JOHN MILLER
Staff Reporter

Homecoming is an American tradition. It's tailor-made for the social customs of high schools and universities all over this country, and being so, it reflects the values of the cultures therein.

It's named for the coming-home (so to speak) of the alumni of whichever institution is hosting it. As such, they become the center of attention of that celebration.

It's important for such an event that there is a certain amount of school spirit and nostalgia for the "good old days" that the alumni can reflect upon while waving and smiling from their floats in the parade, or slicing cake during the banquet.

The ideal sort of college for a Homecoming is one that has a home-like vibe to it, and therefore a homecoming ceremony is more germane to smaller institutions with isolated campuses and a strong sense of community.

This is why Georgia State's Homecoming has some obstacles. On one hand, it is a good idea to uphold the tradition, especially for a college with such longevity. While on the other hand, it seems like a homecoming ceremony would be somewhat unwieldy because of Georgia State's location.

But Georgia State isn't low on school spirit, and they even supplied Homecoming with a "Panther Pack," which is like a grab bag full of a few things you need for a party: pom poms and t-shirts.

The Panther Packs are just one example of the way Georgia State geared up their school spirit for Homecoming, and just one of the many events that happened around the same time.

From Sept. 28 to Oct. 2, there was a door judging competition, a block party, a royal ball, a golf cart parade, an alumni social, and a canned food drive collection. That

is in addition to the football game, and community events.

That there are so many events in one homecoming week show that a lot of thought has been put into the week, and that it's being used for more than just pomp and circumstance to glorify the alumni.

Such a formulation of a large-scale event is extremely innovative and rare, and it's refreshing to see different causes included in such a widely-regarded tradition.

You've probably guessed, this article is basically a big shill for everything "GSU Homecoming," simply because I can't find anything to criticize like I have in other articles.

Nothing, that is, besides Atlanta itself. Atlanta's a huge city, and being so, it causes a lot of problems when it comes to Georgia State's status as a university.

I don't need to go over the difficulties of going to a commuter school; we all know that it's a struggle. But when it comes to celebrating Homecoming, commuting is a big handicap.

And Panther Packs are a good example of the ways people worked around this handicap. Can't make it to the main events? Celebrate by yourself at home, and while you're at it, post pictures of your party to Instagram with the homecoming hashtag. It was a partially-digital celebration.

What a great idea. It's inclusive, innovative, simple, and it works because people are attached to their Instagram accounts anyway.

As for the parade, it was held on Oct. 1, and traced a big circuit around campus, which surely ran the risk of congesting traffic.

But despite this, it was still a bold display of school spirit. It probably annoyed drivers, but not as many people as were witness to the floats and perhaps learned something about the more distinguished alumni.

These difficulties, and others, got in the way of Georgia State pulling off their events as smoothly as they would have hoped.



PHOTO BY TAMMY HUYNH | THE SIGNAL

But let's imagine for a moment a Georgia State without a homecoming ceremony of any kind. This is where I get really speculative.

Imagine that Homecoming week was just like any other week: under-slept students trundling listlessly from class to class, hating their lives and fearing their grades and futures, with nothing to look forward to but Thanksgiving break, if even that.

Imagine the opportunity passing by for some sort of context—some sort of meshing together of the entire student body into a cohesive identity—and students never really get a sense of Georgia State as a gestalt, and that they never get the chance to meet people they otherwise wouldn't.

Imagine that there is no canned food drive and no blood drive, that there isn't a reason for these philanthropic activities to get underway.

Imagine a middle-aged couple showing their friends their photo album from their youth, and the friends ask "Who was homecoming

"That's why homecoming is important as an event, and that's why school spirit is important as a symbol."

King and Queen?" and the couple says: "Yeah, our school didn't have that."

Imagine, finally, that alumni felt no sense of welcome at their alma mater, that the only contact they get from the school is an invitation to give donations, and otherwise nothing? They might watch their children or their children's children attend, but there will be no sense of a bridged gap between generations.

They would feel that it was once their school, and now it is their chil-

dren's. No history, just an institution fulfilling a necessity.

Their kids will attend and get their degrees, never to return. Never to come home. That's why Homecoming is important as an event, and that's why school spirit is important as a symbol. It is not some kind of vacuous anthem to be cheered and eventually forgotten about. It's a memory in the making, an invitation, and most importantly a bridge between classes, ages and personal experience.

EDITORIAL

School Shooting Crisis: Where does Georgia State stand?

There have been a lot of school shootings in the U.S. recently, namely the most recent one on Oct. 1 at the Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon. The shooter entered a classroom and shot several students. The incident resulted in 10 deaths.

More than 120 people have been killed in America in school shootings since 2010; many of whom fell victim to the murderous rampages of deranged gunmen.

So as students of such an open campus, we should be concerned about how Georgia State's campus is far from being crime-free as it is. From Sept. 28 to Oct. 5, there were approximately 29 reported crimes, according to the Georgia State University Police De-

partment's daily report. Out of the 29, 10 were not associated with Georgia State.

The locations of these incidents included Peachtree Street, Auburn Avenue, Library Plaza, University Lofts and the Law Library.

Georgia State has woven itself into the metropolitan area so completely that it's hard to tell where Atlanta ends and Georgia State begins. As a commuter school, Georgia State has multiple buildings where entry doesn't require a student ID, leaving it open for anyone to walk in off the streets.

The biggest problem lies within Library Plaza. The Plaza connects multiple Georgia State classrooms together for easy access. It's a hot zone for

students; they stand and watch events on the plaza stage, lounge off to the sides, and visit the organization tables, making it nearly impossible to navigate the dense crowd.

Also, Sparks, Kell, Langdale, Classroom South and Aderhold have multiple entry points but none require student ID for entry, and can all be accessed on the street level.

The library itself has a card swipe for entering and detectors for exiting the building, but are those detectors modified to scan for weapons, or are they programmed just to detect books? Out of the four buildings connected to library plaza, the library seems to be the only efficient building capable of using the Panthercard to its fullest potential on a downtown campus.

So, there is a greater need for security, and Georgia State police are tasked with protecting students from threats inside the University.

Panthercard is the only way students have to identify themselves as students. The Panthercard's website states that the card "should be carried at all times and presented, upon demand, for identification."

Yet, how many times are students really asked to present their Panthercards? Students can get in and out of too many buildings on campus without having to show or use ID, including boarding the shuttles. Who is to say someone on campus is or isn't a student?

Security is out there and

GSUPD does a good job, but with the amount of students coming and going, and the relatively open nature of Georgia State, the campus is not as safe as it could be. It's scary to think that, given the frequency of school shootings in this country, it could very well happen here.

Students should be aware of the campus' openness and pay attention to how it can be vacated in case there is a shooting.

Do you think the campus should be open? Do you think Georgia State should have a more well known strategy for when a school shooting arises? Email us your comments at signaleditor@gmail.com

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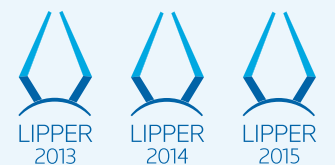
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COMING INTO YOUR OWN

Shows to watch before graduation

SYDNEY CUNNINGHAM
Associate Arts & Living Editor

Pop culture isn't merely a distraction from your day to day, it's a part of it. Some of your most fulfilling moments of the day are when you love something you read, listened to or watched on TV.

In trying to figure out who we are

at college, sometimes it's not nearly as interesting as figuring out what we like. These are some TV shows that you may see yourself reflected in, and learn from in the process.



Buffy the Vampire Slayer

Into each generation, a Slayer is born. Sometimes her name is as ridiculous as Buffy. To a lot of millennials, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" is that '90's show that they caught from time to time with the vampires. To the other half, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" has solidified its spot as iconic in pop culture. The show takes place in a world where there is one girl who must save the world from vampires and all forces of darkness. When they die fairly young, a new one is called. With "Buffy", she is a 16-year-old Valley Girl who recently moved into the

Californian town of Sunnydale. The juxtaposition of a superhero being a mini-skirt wearing, pun making and ass kicking blonde is half the reason the show works so well.

As the show progresses, Buffy has to take on tragic and dark things in her life. The show follows her escapades throughout high school, college and the giant scary world of being in your twenties and having no idea what you want your life to be. Buffy loses lovers, parents and friends. Besides the campy and thoroughly fun supernatural run ins with vampires, witches, werewolves, magic, monsters and sometimes an immortal Mayor, "Buffy

the Vampire Slayer" exemplifies the frustrating dilemma of growing up.

Each season represents a "Big Bad" that must be defeated with a take away each time. The real "Big Bad" is life. As we follow Buffy throughout the show, she becomes someone we not only can relate to but see ourselves as being. It's not everyday your superhero of choice is a depressed, suicidal college dropout who works a fast food job minimum wage job to support her family and still continues to fight.

You're going to run into a lot of things in college and in life. With the anecdotes of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" to follow you, may you slay them.

**"Strong is fighting. It's hard, and it's painful, and it's everyday."
- "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"**



Six Feet Under

"Six Feet Under" is a lot like watching life, if life was more entertaining to watch. Set in a family-run funeral home, The Fishers all have dysfunctional problems encased in death. These problems unravel when the patriarch of the family croaks on Christmas. Nate, the black sheep of the family, comes home and the subsequent members of the family have to learn how to continue on living their lives. Each episode begins with a stranger's last moments, with their funeral arrangements ending up at The Fisher & Sons Funeral Home.

Each episode reminds you of a truth that we all know and never take quite to heart. Which is, we all die. In "Six Feet Under", it is inescapable. Amongst the deaths each episode, each member of the family deals with something that we have probably felt at one point. Each character, deceased or alive, explores relationships, religion, identity, sexual exploration, depression and life crises. All delivered in black comedy and unflinching sadness. "Six Feet Under" never lets you forget the condition of living, even in a lighthearted and light scene. It's always there. Life can be hilarious and break your heart in the same day.

As the show goes on, you witness the very authentic growth of each character as they change lovers, careers and life decisions. Unlike other shows, "Six Feet Under" takes you through to the end with each character, quite literally. In one of the most famous TV finales, you watch each character's last moments on Earth.

Life is confusing and it probably won't ever not be, but with a show to expand on ideas you may spend your day avoiding, it adds a particularly useful amount of clarity. These were complex people, these were their stories and now they're gone. Make yours a good story.

**"Why do people die?"
"To make life important."
- "Six Feet Under"**



Parks and Recreation

We all may like to consider ourselves optimistic, but we have nothing on Leslie Knope. "Parks and Recreation" breathes life into menial office bureaucracy. Set in the fictional town of Pawnee, Indiana, the show follows the lives of the staff of the Parks and Recreation department. The crew, all lovable and strange, is championed by the one and only Leslie Knope. With more passion for local government than one would ever expect, she battles roadblock after roadblock

each episode.

Instead of being slowed down by this, she is only every simply frustrated. The tenacity of Leslie Knope, combined with the select personalities of each of the other characters creates a dynamic played off of each episode. Hijinks ensues.

With most comedies, cynicism and apathy usually prevail. For "Parks and Recreation", they are minor notes in a show devoted to passion and perseverance. Petty local government disputes over a local park are shown for

what they are, ridiculous, but Leslie's determined efforts are not. "Parks and Recreation" is earnest and hopeful. Looking like a fool and putting 100% behind something is the only option, fail or win.

When college can drag you down to indifference, having a show that works for happiness is the fastest way to recharge your mood. As the episodes develop, each character begins to feel like an old friend. Whenever succumbing to skepticism, "Parks and Recreation" will bring you back up.

**"I am big enough to admit that I am often inspired by myself."
- "Parks and Recreation"**

The crown goes to..

Here is the Homecoming Royal Court, in case you've missed it.

2015 Homecoming Court

Corey Sams (Mr. Georgia State)

How does it feel to be treated like royalty?

"It's mind bottling, [and] it's been a whirlwind. Being here with everybody, and just getting to know everyone. I loved every single moment of it, I told myself coming in [and] I've even said it to everyone else, 'let's make sure we enjoy this.'"

Are there any challenges that you encountered while running for Homecoming King?

"We'll say that campaigning was definitely a challenge. We had our friends that [were] going hard for us, we had our different organizations that [was] backing us. I was handling multiple things while also campaigning, rehearsal times, academics and I think that was a very big challenge for me."

How did you feel once your name was called for Mr. Georgia State?

It actually happened really fast. It's my senior year, and I'm able to look back on that experience and really say that I thoroughly enjoyed it with my royal family. To be here and to be crowned, I literally almost fainted.

Jamika King (Miss. Georgia State)

What's the most challenging part of homecoming?

Campaigning is hard. Just trying to really sell myself, because I really like intimate relationships with people. However, it's fun, it's definitely a lot more than I ever expected, and I wish we could be the royal court all year and serve together as a team. It's so much fun.

Did you celebrate after finding out that where Miss. Georgia State?

I kept it simple, and went to dinner with my family. I went to sleep, I probably slept three or four hours the night before, I slept afterwards and that was a really good celebration for me.

How did you feel when your name was called?

I was happy, I didn't know. When they called my name first I was like 'don't cry.' It felt like a lot of things at one time, but mostly I was grateful. It was overwhelming but I'm over all the static.



King & Queen

Shamari Southwell (Prince)

How would you describe your homecoming experience?

The homecoming experience for me has been really great, it's also been really stressful, but a fun experience at the same time. I've made a great bond with all these beautiful people. Practices have been going really well.

Did you ever get nervous, and if so what motivated you to participate in this year's homecoming court?

It was something outside of my comfort zone, I wanted to involve myself and help myself grow as a better leader. If I can do it, someone else behind me can too. The whole reason [why] I'm doing this is to inspire others and show that something like this is attainable.

How would you describe that moment when your name was called for Georgia State Prince

It was a really surreal feeling, I couldn't really put it into words. I was speechless, when we were first going onto the field. I thought my heart was going to jump out of my chest, [and] I was so nervous in front of all of those people. Just hearing my name called was the best feeling ever.

Madlina Jonassaint (Princess)

How does it feel now that you are the Georgia State Princess?

Magical, this is so unreal. I wasn't even going to apply for court, I didn't have the confidence.

You said it took a lot of encouragement for you to apply for court, what changed your mind?

I felt like someone else was going to beat me out because they knew more people or felt stronger in themselves. I was going against some tough competition and I psyched myself out. To see all these people support you was mindblowing.

What are some benefits of being a part of the homecoming court?

I feel like it's a way for us to promote our smaller organizations, such as the Nursing Students at GSU. Not many people know about Nursing Students, so just a way for us to put up our flyers and other people to [see] our flyers.



Prince & Princess

The Duchess and Dukes: Throughout previous years the traditional homecoming ceremony featured a homecoming king and queen, but this year Georgia State welcomes two new additions to the royal court. The Dukes and Duchess has become a new royal court title for sophomores, which was a result of spotlight and campus events merging together.

Corey Grey (Duke)

What's the best part of homecoming?

For me, it's just being around so many great people [with] so much potential to be great.

Kayla Duncan (Dutchess)

What are the benefits of Georgia State having a new homecoming category?

I like the fact that it gives sophomores the opportunity to be on court. Normally, it was juniors and sophomores. Of course juniors are going to be a little bit more established [and] a little bit more established.



Duke & Dutchess



Allana Anderson



Ashley Dixon



DesMonet Symone



Jasmyn Monteiro



Justin Jones

2015 Homecoming Court Candidates



Leila Collins



Phabian Davis



Scott Mayott



John Adeleye



Marlena Collins

DIY

The Aftermath

Homecoming is over,
now what?



NICHOLE PLACE

Arts and Living Associate

Homecoming has come and gone. Now all we are left with are expensive dresses, empty liquor bottles and tons of pictures. All we can do is try to figure out what to do with the reminiscences of the week. Here are few ways to deal with the leftovers and make the memories last.

The amount of money that is spent on looking nice for one night is a bit extreme. Once the night is over all we have to show for the good time are sweaty, alcohol (or stains from a few other things) stained clothes. So what do we do with the clothes that cost a paycheck and a half once it's all said and done? Here are a few ideas.

1. Reuse them: Duh. Put the clothes to good use and wear them again.

2. Sell it: Make a little bit of money back from the clothes. Unfortunately you won't get half of what you spent back but at least it won't be clogging up your closet.

Here are a
few places
to sell your
clothes:

Rag-O-Rama

(1111 Euclid Ave NE,
Atlanta, GA 30307)

Buffalo Exchange

(1057 Ponce De Leon Ave
NE, Atlanta, GA 30306)

Polyvore.com

(online forum to sell and
buy clothes)

Photo Key Holder:

What you need: Canvas, push pins, paint, twine, tape and mini clothes pins.

1. Take an old canvas and cut the canvas part out from the backing.
2. Then you will be left with just the wooden frame. Paint the wood whatever color you like and then let it dry.
3. Once the paint is dry take a string of twine and tape it to both side of the frame on the upper section. Make sure that you tape the twine on the back so that the tape isn't visible.
4. You can then take your photos and place them along the twine in garland like fashion, using mini clothespins to hold them up.
5. Then take the push pins and space them out evenly on the middle section of the frame, along the front. This will be where you will hang up your keys.

Photo Key Holder



Gallery Wall



Gallery wall

(probably the easiest DIY in the world)

What you need: Pictures and different picture frames

1. Frame your pictures in different frame (not all of your pictures have to be framed).
2. Hang your picture on the wall in different ways. Make some lay vertically while others are horizontal. They also don't need to be symmetrical, get creative.

Wall Mobile

What you need: Three sticks (branches from a tree), twine and your pictures.

1. Take your sticks and place them in the shape of a triangle.
2. Tie the twine around each corner to keep the sticks together
3. Tie strings of twine to the bottom stick of the triangle. Make sure that the end of the string is hanging down.
4. Then poke a hole through the top of each photo so that it is large enough for the twine to go through. If you don't want to put a hole in your photos you can tape the twine to the back of the pictures.
5. Finally, loop twine around the top of the triangle so that you can hang it on the wall.

With homecoming week over it's time to deal with the aftermath. Don't like reading? Watch our tutorial on YouTube at 'The Signal at Georgia State University'.

Wall Mobile



FILM REVIEW

“The Intern” delivers a great story played by wonderful actors.

FERNANDO MATTOS
Staff Reviewer

The two hours of “The Intern” fly by. It’s no surprise. The new comedy starring Robert de Niro and Anne Hathaway does everything right, and it’s worth every penny of the admission and more.

The movie tells the story of Ben (de Niro), who decides to apply for an internship program for senior citizens at an online fashion store created by Jules (Hathaway). On his first day, Ben finds that he must report directly to Jules, who is far from being an easy person to work with.

The film’s greatest quality is that it doesn’t make you wait two hours for the predicted ending. Rather, Ben and Jules become good friends by the halfway mark. From there on, the story can move on to more unpredictable stories and develop other characters. The result is a dynamic movie that never seems to have a dull moment. Something is always happening, whether it concerns Jules’ control of her company or her fight to keep her beloved husband and daughter next to her.

Photography and directing are strong points in “The Intern”. Scenes are not only shot well, but they also communicate points visually, making dialogues direct and economical. When Ben sits in his office desk next to a younger intern, the visuals do the talking (something so obvious that so many movies forget). Ben takes out of his brown leather suitcase a pen, a calculator and a flip phone. His fellow intern takes out of

his backpack a hard drive, earbuds and an iPhone. Nothing more needs to be said.

The film works because details like these are not forgotten. “The Intern” has memorable images with unforgettable dialogues. Seeing Ben invade a house to delete an email Jules accidentally sent to her mother is both entertaining and absurd at the same time. De Niro proves he still is a goodfella, and the connection to his past crime films is incredibly satisfying to any movie buff.

On the subject of acting, De Niro and Hathaway put on a master class. Their chemistry here is almost unbeatable. The scene of the two laughing together on the airplane on their way to San Francisco is pure joy, on and off screen. It’s hard not to be touched by the encounter of a true film legend with a young star who seems well on her way to becoming one. And most of these interactions happen when De Niro drives as Hathaway’s chauffeur (still a Taxi Driver at heart!).

“The Intern” is a sweet surprise in a genre saturated by formulaic story lines: opposites meet, struggle and finally come together. There is some of that in here, but Nancy Meyers, director and writer, uses the formula only as a springboard and makes the story move along to interesting scenes, gags and even social debates.

There is more story here than in the formula. The secrets are the well developed characters, played by people who know their craft. The result is a delicious comedy painted with tones of drama, action, friendship and romance, making you leave the theatre smiling afterwards.



SYNOPSIS:

Starting a new job can be a difficult challenge, especially if you’re already retired. 70-year-old widower Ben Whittaker seizes the opportunity to become a senior intern at an online fashion site. Ben soon becomes popular with his younger co-workers, including Jules Ostin, the boss and founder of the company. Whittaker’s charm, wisdom and sense of humor helps him develop a special bond and growing friendship with Jules.

RATED: PG-13

GRADE: A

VERDICT: De Niro and Hathaway make magic in “The Intern,” adding together their huge talents to tell a tale of experience, friendship and love.

TV REVIEW

Scream Queens: Is it scream worthy?

INGA MASIC
Arts and Living Editor

Ryan Murphy has decided to drop the mic and pick up a chainsaw and butcher knife for his new creation “Scream Queens.” The Fox show aired Sept. 22 and had everyone raving at the witty sass and insane murder scenes being presented. With a top-notch cast, well-liked writers and a storyline that kills (pun-intended), is this new show the complete package or is it just a play off of *Glee* featuring bloody corpses?

The show has been on air for a little over two weeks, and audiences have tasted the eccentric style of the show from the first two episodes. To sum up quickly for those of you not caught up, it tells the story of a sorority, Kappa Kappa Tau (KKT), being hunted by an evil red devil mascot on a rampage around campus.

Setting aside a serial killer running around chopping heads off, the other conflict is between the Dean (played by the original scream queen, Jamie Lee Curtis), Cathy Munsch, and the president of KKT (Emma Roberts), Chanel. Munsch has made it her mission to bring down the sorority that she believes is tainting the minds of girls at the school; Chanel, who calling a bitch would be an understatement, is not going down without a fight.

The first episode lays in the over-

the-top dialogue from the first scene. Not only are we introduced to the show with a KKT sister and her just-born baby in a bathtub covered in blood, but the reaction given by her fellow sisters is nothing short of priceless. Some of the lines entail things like, “I didn’t even know I was pregnant, I just thought it was the freshman 15 and I was having a bread baby,” “Give the baby a mojito to quiet it down,” and my personal favorite, once TLC’s “Waterfalls” plays in the background, “I’m not missing ‘Waterfalls’ for this, ‘Waterfalls’ is my jam.”

The dialogue between the characters is basically the dialogue of the cheerleaders in “*Glee*” hyped up on acid. This is one aspect of the show that, admittedly, makes it entertaining to watch. It’s almost a guarantee the audience will never be bored. However every good thing has its faults. Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk’s writing holds nothing back and leaves nothing to the imagination when it comes to offensive insults and low-blows. With this dialogue, being easily offended might make it a rough ride.

Not only is the dialogue something that might blindside viewers, the murder scenes on the show have outdone themselves with the unbelievable. Each kill is so bizarre and unrealistic that laughing will always be in the cards, but I think that’s the point.

Take one of the sister’s (played by

RATED: TV-14

GRADE: A

VERDICT: *Scream Queens* is a show that draws in the audience through an elaborate use of dialogue, which makes the classic slasher thriller plot appealing to the young demographic in society today.

Ariana Grande) deaths in the pilot episode, the scene takes the concept of society being taken over by technology to a new level. Chanel #2, as she’s called on the show, converses entirely with the killer standing in front of her through texting. Even after he/she has revealed their intent to kill her, she responds to it through texting (shockingly, of course). And just after the red devil has stabbed her a couple of times and is about to finish her off, she makes her way to her laptop to tweet about the event. Talk about being addicted to social media.

If you enjoy a new-age twist on dark comedy and watching well-known stars live in fear and speak absurdly in, then “*Scream Queens*” is a show for you. It’s fun, interesting and something to watch if you feel like escaping from real life issues and not having to use an ounce of brainpower.

ALBUM
88

APPROVED

1

ABRA
ROSE

2

MILD HIGH CLUB
TIMELINE

3

SCOTDRAKULA
SCOTDRAKULA

4

HOMESHAKE
MIDNIGHT SNACK

5

LAND LINES
THE NATURAL WORLD

JOINING THE SIGNAL IS ONLY

ONE
CLICK
AWAY

THE SIGNAL IS HIRING:

The Signal is hiring writers, reporters, photographers, designers, people, people, and more people. To get an application, go to www.georgiastatesignal.com.

CAMPUS & DOWNTOWN EVENTS

REALITY RIDES

Oct. 7
10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Student Health Promotion is partnering with AllState to teach students the reality of driving distracted. Students will have the opportunity to drive in a simulation. They will have to steer the car while attempting to text and talk on the phone at the same time. Come out and bring awareness to a problem that put thousands of people's lives in danger each year. For more information contact Nicole Johnson at nmorrison@gsu.edu.

SERVICE PROJECT AT APEX MUSEUM

Oct. 7
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Located at Apex Museum off of Auburn Avenue, there is a volunteer and service program being held. The Apex Museum is a museum formed in the black perspective

WHAT'S NEXT FOR LGBT RIGHTS?

Oct. 7
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
College of Law, Room 341
After the Supreme Court's ruling to legalize same sex marriage, a panel will be held at the College of Law to discuss what could be next for the community. Tanya Washington, a professor of Law and Beth Littrell, Lamda Legal's senior attorney, discuss. The

Lesbian & Gay Law Students Association, OUTlaw, is presenting it. The event is free and food will be provided during the panel.

ART IN THE PARK: MANDALAS AND MEDITATION

Oct. 8
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
Hurt Park
Come outside for an interactive learning experience. The Natural Leader Series is giving students the chance to learn leadership topics while enjoying the outdoors.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

Oct. 9
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Speaker's Auditorium
Continuing Georgia State's Distinguished Lecture Series (DLS), Catherine Dulac will be in attendance. Dulac is a Ph.D. at Harvard University and her talk will be on Molecular and Neural Architecture of Circuits Underlying Social Behavior in the Mouse.

ARE YOU READY?

Oct. 9
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Student Center West, Room 270
Are your job skills lacking? Come out and join the office of Veteran Student Affairs and University Career Services for lunch and a chance to enhance your interview skills and resume building. Students will also get the opportunity to have a recruiter to look at their current resume and help them perfect their presentation.

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WORD SEARCH

- ATLANTA
- BALL
- BAND
- BLUE
- CHEER
- COURT
- CROWN
- DANCE
- DRESS
- DUCHESS
- DUKE
- FALL
- FANCY
- FLAGS
- FOOTBALL
- GAME
- GEORGIA
- GOWN
- HOMECOMING
- KING
- MARCHING
- MEMORIES
- ORGANIZATIONS
- PANTHER
- PARADE
- PARTY
- PICTURES
- POUNCE
- PRINCE
- PRINCESS
- QUEEN
- SASH
- STATE
- TIARA

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 J M A V N V P J L R K B D O D B W E Z Q U T P E O
 U R L K C G L N W C W J C J N P L J H Z E V E S E



On stands every Tuesday!
Find us during Plaza!

A look at Panther Football Homecoming Week

JARED OLIVER
Staff Reporter

Ah, Homecoming- a time where the school rallies and celebrates the traditions and culture of the school around a home football game in fall.

During the fifth homecoming football game, the Panthers lost to the Liberty Flame 41-33 in the Georgia Dome Oct. 3. Surprisingly, homecoming was something celebrated as the team was 3-2 in their first five seasons. The team lost a game to Charlotte team, which was labeled a "cupcake" game of the season. Against New Mexico State the Panthers looked like the team that could be the future to come. Pulling out a 34-32 victory the team was fast, put points up quickly and played with huge confidence. Oregon was a guaranteed loss, Georgia State lost 61-28. Although Georgia State put 28 points on the board against a team who played in the national championship last year.

The Panthers offense turned the ball over four times. If you take those turnovers away, you are looking at a game that's much closer, maybe around a 10 point margin. But, we're not here for assumptions right? Wrong! Despite the 'disaster' season Oregon is trying to have, Georgia State could have had a much better chance of taking down the University of Oregon if the Panthers offense would minimize the turnovers.

Looking at this year's team and knowing anything about last year's team---it's safe to say the team looks much better overall. Aside from laying an egg in the home opener against Charlotte (losing 20-23) the team is where most would see the team three games into the 2015-16 season.

But of course, if you ask Trent Miles he'll tell you otherwise.

"I expected us to be 3-0," Miles said.

"We're never satisfied, yeah we have shown improvement. We're better at all phases of the game, but you're never satisfied until you're doing everything right," Miles said.

I suppose Miles was referring to limiting offensive turnovers and having his 3-4 defense hold opposing offenses to 200-250 total yards per game. I should have asked him about that, I'll be sure to do so next time.

Liberty vs. Georgia State

Liberty is a FCS school who's ranked nationally in the standing although the Flames are now 3-2. Liberty is a team who's a bit similar to the Panthers. The offense can put up points quickly, their quarterback Joshua Woodrum is an athletic player who keeps the defense on their heels who's accurate, not to mention their one-two punch in the back

field Desmond Rice and D.J. Abnar. The two combine for 460 rushing yards. The defense is not too shabby, starting with leading tacklers both at the safety position, Corbin Jackson and Avery James. They account for 35 unassisted tackles.

Trent Miles spoke well on this.

"Well you've got to slow their quarterback down first and keep them from running the ball down your throat," Miles said. He believes this is the number one thing to be successful in homecoming match-up.

"They've got a quarterback who's really accurate and got a lot of experience. They can run the ball and they've got a couple of good receivers. You've got to slow the quarterback down, get the ball out of his hand," Miles said.

It seems like quarterback Joshua Woodrum is the main focus for this match-up and the Panthers for good reason. Woodrum rushed for a grand total of 47-yards in an option-dominated performance for the Flames compared to Georgia State's total of 11 rushing yards as a team.

Harden returns on Homecoming

Oh what a perfect story it was! The first team Sun Belt wide receiver Donovan Harden comes back on homecoming night and has one of those games he's had in the past (Just ask South Alabama and Georgia Southern). Harden was 'expected' to return to the team following his broken foot he suffered in summer practice. I'm sure quarterback Nick Arbuckle was more than pleased for the California kid to return to an already talented offensive group. The first Panthers drive of the game, Harden caught a 76-yard touchdown pass from Arbuckle.

"Having him on the field always made me feel more comfortable even in practice we have really good chemistry," Arbuckle said. "I know he's going to make plays and I know I just have to get the ball in his area."

The wide receiver core is very deep so it's hard for all of Georgia State's talented receivers get on the field. Robert Davis is your prototypical stud on the outside, Penny Hart is having sensational season as a freshman in the slot. Avery Sweeting is your speedy guy, Nyakki Height can do a variety of things, and Glenn Smith is a guy who can take it all the way on offense and special teams—and tight end Joel Ruiz. So what do you do?

"The difficulty I have is who I am going to throw to," Arbuckle said. "Because at the end of the game of the best players in the conference [are] not going to see the ball as much as they should because we have so many guys that need to touch the football," Arbuckle said.

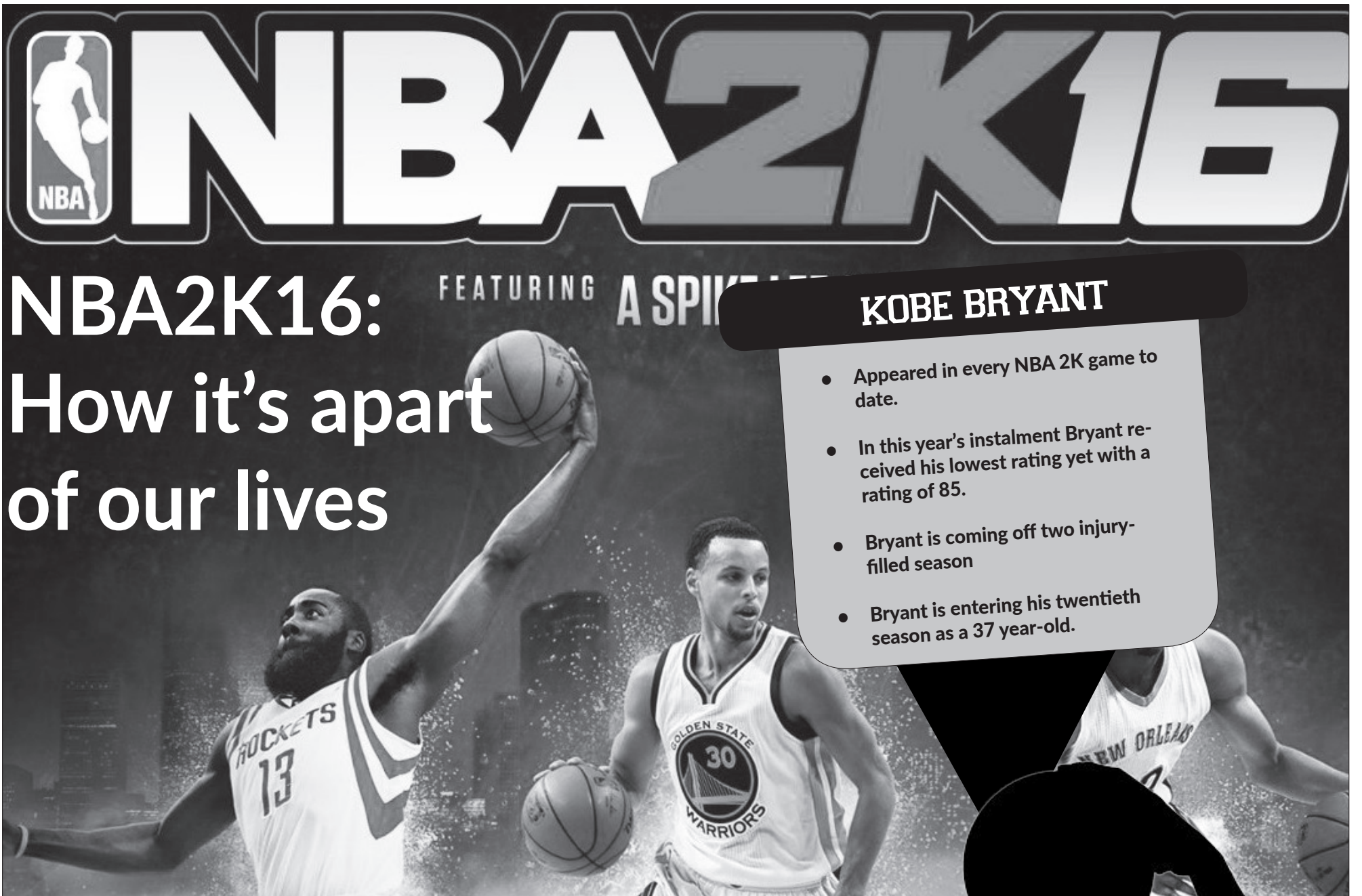
So, Harden shouldn't be rushed back too quickly. But I'm sure he would tell me otherwise



HERE'S
WHAT YOU
MISSED!

Saturday, Oct. 3
Liberty vs. Georgia State





NBA2K16: How it's apart of our lives

FEATURING A SPIRITUAL

KOBE BRYANT

- Appeared in every NBA 2K game to date.
- In this year's instalment Bryant received his lowest rating yet with a rating of 85.
- Bryant is coming off two injury-filled season
- Bryant is entering his twentieth season as a 37 year-old.

PHOTO AMAZON

JEREMY JOHNSON
Staff Reporter

Sept. 29 marked the annual release of 2K Sports' popular video game NBA 2K16. NBA 2K games have become a bit of a pastime for college students or more accurately, a fun distraction from the daily battles of college life.

That has carried over to the student athletes that play the game that is being portrayed within this virtual world.

The Georgia State men's basketball team is no different, they too share in the excitement that the new installment of the premier basketball game on the market.

"It means a lot to college students. It's going to take up most of our time. We're probably not going to study as much," junior guard Isaiah Dennis said.

The 2015 edition has made several improvements and have some of the Panthers singing high praises to the creators at 2K Sports.

"It's the best 2K so far to me," sophomore forward Jordan Session said. "It's real big. I mean even football players, golf players are talking about it. Everybody's playing it right now."

The game has added a few new features allow for a more realistic game experience. This version of NBA 2K has implemented some of the NBA's stars most recognizable moves into this game, moves such as Golden State Warriors' guard Stephen Curry's high arching jumpshot and floaters that made him last season's MVP and NBA 2K16 cover man.

"You can tell there are little changes. Like the way they shoot. Steph Curry does his high floater like he usually does and I really like that about the game," redshirt freshman guard Jeff Thomas said.

This installment also has become more realistic in that it requires a bit of a basketball IQ to compete at a high level.

"It definitely makes you think more than the other 2Ks. I mean the better your IQ is the better you play on the game, but I mean anyone can play a video game. But it's always nice to know what you're doing," Session said.

This apparently has a bit of truth to it as most of the players came to a consensus as to who the best NBA 2K player is; point guard Isaiah Williams, though Dennis, another point guard dubbed himself the best, but gave Williams second place.

"I think I'm the best 2K player and I think who can come after me is Isaiah Williams," Dennis said.

The point guard position is the extension of the coach on the floor and usually calls the plays after receiving instruction from the coach so naturally that player would have an exceptional basketball IQ.

The Panthers' two point guards share the title of best 2K player and that is probably not a coincidence due to the demand for high IQs to play the position.

There's also a sense of competition involved with the game as mentioned earlier Dennis named himself the best 2K player showing the competitive spirit that bubbles in the virtual basketball competition.

The Panthers have also made the game a bit of tool for bonding in ad-

dition to just another way to scratch their competitive itches.

The team routinely gets together to battle with their favorite NBA stars and teams.

"We all just meet in the room some days and we'll just have a tournament. It's real competitive everybody's in the room. It helps our team have something to do when we're not in practice and stuff," Session said.

There is also a familiar face being portrayed within the game this year. Former Panther R.J. Hunter is now in the game as he was drafted by the Boston Celtics in first round in this summer's NBA draft.

The current Panthers are adjusting to the unique experience of seeing a friend as a character on a video game as a character after getting a close look of Hunter's abilities up close over the past three seasons.

"It's amazing. Really, he's my friend, so it's just like he's on there [in the game] but other people [teammates, fans] make me feel like it's just an amazing feeling and it's the first time I've that I have ever known somebody in the NBA," Thomas said.

Hunter's former teammates are already taking advantage of their former running mate's skillset.

"It's real cool. A couple of us have already played with him [Hunter] and when we played with him, he's the only one we allow to shoot on the team we don't really shoot with anybody else," Dennis said.

The NBA season nears and so does the college season. Soon all the games will be put aside and the games will begin in earnest as the Panthers begin their preseason slate on Nov 9 against Oglethorpe.



New Women's sport on the horizon for Georgia State



PHOTO BY JASON LUONG | THE SIGNAL

Kelcey Roegers-Jensen, Associate AD-Senior Woman Administrator, discusses the ongoing processes of bringing more women's sports to Georgia State University.

GPC Consolidation brings more programs to school

JEREMY JOHNSON
Staff Reporter

First Step

The Georgia State athletic department has taken the first step to adding a new women's sports team.

This first step comes in the form of a survey sent out to the female students of Georgia State and the consolidated Georgia Perimeter College.

The survey is being used to gauge the interest of the female population in which sports they would like to see added in the future.

Georgia State is looking to gain firsthand knowledge of what students want to see, rather than making a decision based off of potential financial reasons.

"We certainly want to always want to take into consideration what our students want. That is a huge purpose of why we're putting the survey out to begin with. Otherwise, we would just look at it from a financial standpoint, a facility standpoint and make our own decision internally," Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator Kelsey Roegers-Jensen said.

The survey includes eight potential sports that are sponsored by the NCAA and within Georgia State's region for competition. The sports that were up for vote include bowling, equestrian, field hockey, gymnastics, lacrosse, rifle, swimming and diving and rowing.

Some students are already feeling the excitement of bringing on board some new and exciting sports that have yet to be seen in the urban campus that is Georgia State.

"Field hockey would be really awe-

some. I played it at my old school and it was really fun and if there was a field hockey team here that would be amazing," junior criminal justice major Imani Anderson said.

Why Now?

Georgia State's plans to bring on another sport comes from the addition of the football program in 2009 and the need to comply with the Title IX law.

The Title IX law prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex from federally funded educational facilities and programs.

The ratio of men to women in the student population must mirror that of the athletic program's population.

"They go by percentages of enrollment. So, our female to male enrollment is about 60-40 for men. So, when you look at athletics and the opportunities you provide in athletics for males and females, that percentage needs to be 1 percent. There should only be a 1 percent difference. So you want to try get as much as possible to that 60-40 ratio as your undergraduate population," Roegers-Jensen said.

This number for Georgia State has been skewed in the last few years and has necessitated the need to create balance.

The addition of the football team brought in a large number of student athletes due to the large size of a football roster.

The Panthers' football in 2009 brought in about 70 student athletes as the team entered as a bowl sub division or division 2 football team. The number of players has since climbed close to 120 players as the team can now offer full scholarships to 85 players, according to NCAA rules as the Panthers made the jump to division

one at the start of 2013.

Georgia State last added a women's sport in 2012, when beach volleyball was added.

Timeline

The addition of the new team will not come immediately. There first has to be results from the month long survey that will conclude on Oct. 16.

Then there will be a process of tallying the data and interpreting the wants of the student body.

"It'll take us about a week to kind of collect all the data and look at that. And then we've got to look at those exact responses. Is there an unmet interest from our underrepresented sex? And if the answer is yes then we need to look at what that sport is that we had the highest rate," Roegers-Jensen said.

The next thing that would have to be considered is the logistics of a team. The team will need a practice facility, a place to hold games, a coach and time to recruit players to put a team in between the lines.

The cost of operating another team, with costs including uniforms, travel, scholarships, housing, coaching and medical costs among other factors also must be considered.

"We need to look at what facilities are available. Is it financially feasible? And can we put this team together and still be competitive and have a big enough roster to fill this spot," Roegers-Jensen said.

The Game Plan

The questions of when, where and how all were in place in the previous Athletic administrations as the focus was solely on adding a swimming and diving team.



PHOTO BY JASON LUONG | THE SIGNAL

There was the option of the renting of a facility to house a swim team. But those plans were derailed before the Charlie Cobb administration took over and has restarted the process again.

"Under the previous administration, when the first survey went out,

solely about swimming and diving that administration looked at possible facilities, what that cost was going to be. At that point they looked at renting a facility. Because financially it wasn't feasible to build a facility for the size of pool that you need for swimming and diving," Roegers-Jensen said.

Homecoming through the athletes eyes

Seeing how student-athletes handle homecoming



PHOTO BY JASON LUONG, DAYNE FRANCIS (PHOTO OF #45) | THE SIGNAL

Left to right: Donovan Harden, Eliza Zachary, Joseph Peterson, Brianna Jones, Keith Rucker

STAFF

The Golf Cart Parade, the block party, the royal ball, a pep rally, and tailgating all describe this year's Georgia State homecoming. An eventful week, including the homecoming football game, for students and alumni, but what about the athletes of Georgia State? How do they see homecoming? Do they even get to participate in any of the events?

Homecoming, the athletes adrenaline boost

Some football players view homecoming as motivation.

"It adds a little extra excitement to the game," senior linebacker Joseph Peterson said. "Students seem to really get into it, and hopefully a lot of alumni are able to come back and see the game."

Peterson is Georgia State's career tackling leader with 265 tackles and

an average of 8.3 per game. With extra excitement leading into the homecoming game, Peterson didn't have a problem getting more than his average 8.3 tackles.

Tons of energy is being transferred throughout Georgia State and especially throughout the different sports teams. Take for instance the volleyball team and the mindset Brianna Jones is bringing into practice and to the team during their Oct. 2-3 road trip in Alabama.

"All of us are really excited for the football team since they have been doing so well, and when we get excited for them we get excited for our sports," Jones said. "We know they're going to go into the game with great tenacity and a totally different mindset, we're going to have that same mindset."

The 2015 homecoming weekend wasn't the best for the football or volleyball team. The football team fell 41-33 against Liberty and the volleyball team lost to South Alabama and Troy in four and five sets, respectively.

Conflicting schedules

Some student-athletes are unable to partake in homecoming festivities.

"We're not able to participate in all the activities," tight end Keith Rucker said. "The pep rally should be a lot of fun. We appreciate what the students and alumni do for homecoming, and we're looking forward to an exciting game."

Rucker is one of the athletes that missed events because of practice, but he doesn't let it get to him because he still gets to engage in the pep rally. Plus more energy and excitement for a football game always helps a player go into the game with confidence.

Some athletes are still able to participate in the events, like senior volleyball player Eliza Zachary.

"I am going to come to some of the events and try to attend all the sports events like soccer games and obviously the football game. I really wanna see the golf cart parade too," Zachary said.

Zachary is able to go to the homecoming events because of her season-ending injury. An unfortunate injury considering she's a senior, but she doesn't let it get her down.

"I try and stay positive and not focus on the negative," Zachary said.

One positive for Zachary's last undergraduate homecoming is she could

attend the events her teammates could not at Georgia State because of their roadtrip to Alabama the same weekend.

Some college coaches know how big homecoming is for their players and they try and make sure they can participate in at least some events, especially volleyball head coach Sally Polhamus.

"[Coach Polhamus] doesn't finish practice too late, and makes sure we do other things outside of our sport," Jones said. "If she knows something is going on we can talk to her about it and she'll help us out."

Previous Homecoming Experiences

With homecoming, there is always a homecoming court, and students will vote for their homecoming king and queen. Most athletes can't participate in the homecoming court at Georgia State, but some did get the experience of it in high school.

"I was part of the homecoming court in high school, but I did not win," wide receiver and Rancho Cucamonga High School graduate Don-

ovan Harden said.

"I was on the homecoming court my senior year of high school and it was a lot of fun," Jefferson High School graduate Zachary said.

"[I was on the] sophomore, junior, and senior homecoming court," Dunwoody High School graduate Jones said.

Some athletes had their time to shine for homecoming court already thanks to their popularity in high school. However, some athletes are more focused on the sport they came here to play and not too worried about not being on the homecoming court.

"I'd love to be here for the homecoming dance, but at the same time Volleyball is my number one priority when it comes to sports and social activities," Jones said. "I'm so excited for this weekend and to be with my team and to perform and get that W to bring back to Georgia State."

At the end of the day, not all athletes are able to attend all the homecoming events or even some of them. Some are Okay with that sacrifice, and just want to bring that energy into the sport they play to make sure that Georgia State comes out with a win because of it.

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Events for October 2015

Get Fair Ready	Tue, 10/6 & Tue, 10/27	1 – 2 p.m.	Dahlberg Hall, Room 134
Information Session: Co-op & Internship	Thu, 10/8	1 – 2 p.m.	25 Park Place, Room 755
Are You Ready? (Interview Prep & Résumé Writing)	Fri, 10/9	12 – 1:30 p.m.	Veterans Memorial Hall, Dahlberg Hall
Graduate & Professional School Fair	Mon, 10/12	12 – 3 p.m.	Student Center East State Ballroom
All Majors Career & Internship Fair	Wed, 10/14	1 – 4 p.m.	Student Center East State Ballroom
Holiday Hire Virtual Job Fair	Thu, 10/15 to Thu, 12/31	Online (24/7)	
Mega Workshop Series: Interviewing Workshop Series	Thu, 10/19 to Fri, 10/23		Speaker's Auditorium (10/15 – 22) Student Center West, Room 266 (10/23)

› For a complete list of UCS events, please visit career.gsu.edu/calendar.

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PANTHER OF THE WEEK



GEORGIA STATE ATHLETICS

**Caitlin Ray
Soccer**

The freshman from Loganville, Georgia had a pair of game-winning goals to put the Women's Soccer program at an undefeated 2-0 conference play start. While at Loganville High School, Ray became the school's all-time leading scorer, graduating with over 100 goals in her career. Ray was also named a Scholar-Athlete from 2010-12 and was named the 2014 Region Player of the Year. In the conference season opener against UL Monroe, Ray's sole goal of the match came just before the half to give the Panthers the edge over the Warhawks. On Sept 27 against UL Lafayette, Ray scored her fourth goal of the season en route to a 3-1 win over the Rajin' Cajuns.

SPORTS CALENDAR

*CONFERENCE GAME



WOMEN'S SOCCER

Sunday, Oct. 11
Georgia Southern *
at Statesboro, Ga.
1 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

Tuesday, Oct. 6
Belmont
at Nashville, Tenn.
7:00 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10
NJIT *

GSU Soccer Complex
7:00 p.m.



WOMEN'S TENNIS

Friday, Oct. 9 - Oct. 11

Mercer Gridiron Classic
at Macon, Ga.
TBA

Sunday, Oct. 4 - Oct. 8
USTA Pro Circuit Event
at Hilton Head, S.C.
TBA

MEN'S TENNIS

Friday, Oct. 9
Day 1
Mercer Gridiron Classic
at Macon, Ga.
TBA

Saturday, Oct. 10
Day 2
Mercer Gridiron Classic
at Macon, Ga.
TBA



WOMEN'S GOLF

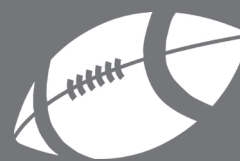
Tuesday, Oct. 6
Host: Charleston Southern

Wendy's Invitational
at Mt. Pleasant, S.C.
All Day

MEN'S GOLF

Tuesday, Oct. 6
Santa Clara
Cabo Del Sol Intercollegiate
at Los Cabos, Mexico
All Day

Monday, Oct. 12
Georgia State -
Collegiate Classic
at Duluth, Ga.
All Day



FOOTBALL

Saturday, Oct. 10
Appalachian State *
at Georgia Dome
3:30 p.m.

THE FINAL SCORE

GSU Rivalry Announced

Both Georgia State and Georgia Southern announced on Oct 1 the two schools will begin a rivalry series this year for bragging rights and a trophy. The competition will include academics, community and athletic events. Volleyball will begin this year's series in Statesboro Oct 7, in a half point matchup.

Basketball Returns

The two-time defending Sun-Belt conference champion Men's Basketball team returned to practice Oct 2. After signing autographs for fans at the homecoming football game, both the Men and Women will host another "GSU JAM" event, which includes a three-point contest and dunk contest. At last year's Dunk Contest, Junior Guard Isaiah Dennis beat Senior Forward T.J. Shipes by jumping over three teammates to make SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays the next morning. The JAM event is free and open to the public Oct 8.

First Hall of Fame Class Inducted

On Sept. 28, Georgia State Athletics announced the inaugural Hall of Fame class to begin its 2015 homecoming festivities.

The elite group of 10 was honored during the homecoming football game vs. Liberty in the Georgia Dome at 3:30 p.m. on Oct. 3.

SPORTS EDITOR'S PREDICTIONS

RASHAD MILLIGAN | THE SIGNAL

Northwestern
us. Michigan

Northwestern

West Virginia
us. Oklahoma

West Virginia

Cal us. Utah

Utah

App State us.
Georgia State

App State

Texas State us.
Louisiana
Lafayette

Texas State

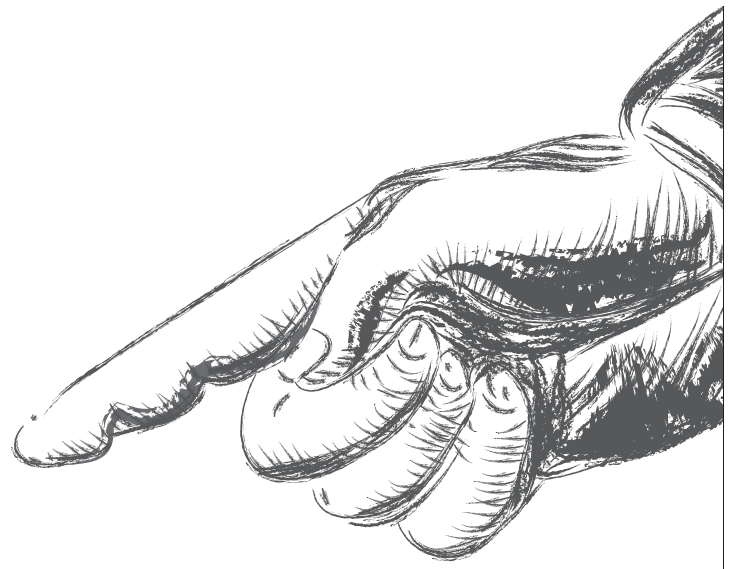
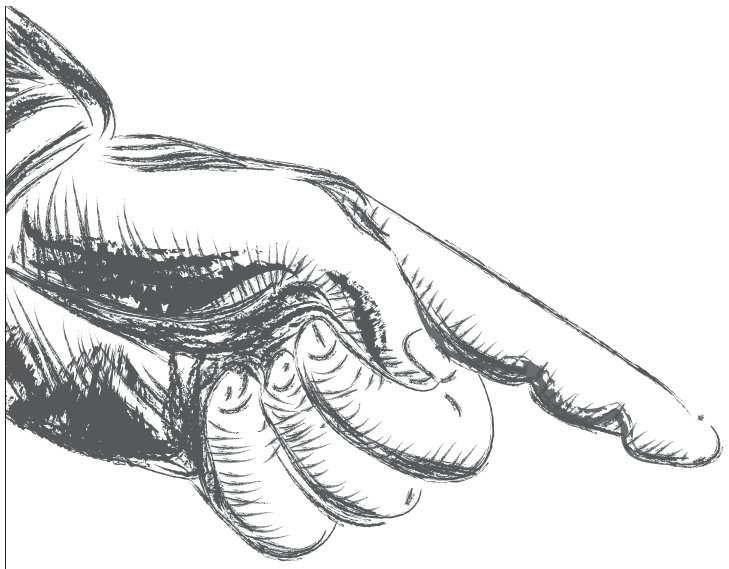
GSU JAM DUNK
CONTEST

ISIAH
DENNIS

Sun Belt Standings

WOMEN'S SOCCER

1st	South Alabama 3-0 Overall: 9-2-1
2nd	Appalachian State 2-0-1 Overall: 6-3-3
3rd	Georgia Southern 2-1-1 Overall: 5-6-2
4th	Georgia State 2-1-1 Overall: 8-2-3
5th	Texas State 2-1 Overall: 8-3
6th	Troy 2-1 Overall: 9-3
7th	Little Rock 1-1-2 Overall: 6-5-3
8th	UL Lafayette 1-3 Overall: 7-6-1
9th	Arkansas State 0-3-1 Overall: 2-1--1



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