

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Georgia Southern Magazine

Office of Strategic Communications &
Marketing

Fall 2007

Georgia Southern Magazine

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/georgia-southern>



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

"Georgia Southern Magazine" (2007). *Georgia Southern Magazine*. 7.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/georgia-southern/7>

This magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Office of Strategic Communications & Marketing at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Georgia Southern Magazine by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

» NEW FOUNDATION TRUSTEES HOMECOMING 2007 PHOTOS 25 YEARS OF SOUTHERN PRIDE

GEORGIA SOUTHERN

FALL 2007 • VOLUME 10 • NUMBER 1 • WWW.GEORGIASOUTHERN.EDU



BEYOND BORDERS

HOW GEORGIA SOUTHERN IS MEETING THE
CHALLENGES OF AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD



To Our ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Much has been written in recent months about the importance of international trade, globalization and the role that our country is playing in the world economy.

What is Georgia Southern University doing to prepare tomorrow's leaders? In this issue, you will see that this once small regional institution, now boasts nearly 17,000 students and is focusing its efforts on providing students with access to a wide variety of global experiences – on campus and off campus.

There is no coincidence between the global marketplace and our efforts on campus. All signs point to a continued need to ensure that students not only get the best education, but an education that prepares them to work in a global economy.

Our region is one of the fastest growing in the country due in large part to global commerce. For example, Georgia's Port of Savannah recently set record numbers and is now considered the fourth busiest port in the nation. In addition, our region is also home to many international companies such as Gulfstream and JCB.

Recognizing this need, Georgia Southern has continued to develop a number of opportunities designed to bring about an understanding of the global nature of our role as a nation and the role that individuals play in today's society.

While located in a classic college town in Southeast Georgia, Georgia Southern students today study abroad year around. Eighty-six nations are represented in our diverse student body. Visiting international faculty members and students can always be found in our classes. Research at Georgia Southern is increasingly making a global impact and our faculty includes Fulbright Award winners.

One of the biggest changes on campus is the growing number of students from other countries. Next time you are here, I invite you take a walk through the center of campus. The diversity of our students and faculty is prominent throughout.

If universities are to grow, we must identify critical demand and deliver on our commitments. I like to ask the question, "Are we leading change or chasing it?"

At Georgia Southern University, we see ourselves as leaders, not just because we're growing, but in how we are changing as a university. Education is a responsibility and our goal is to ensure that when our students graduate they are prepared to face today's reality.

The world is, indeed, larger than our state, region or country.

Bruce Grube
President

VOL. 10, NO. 1, SUMMER 2007

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Christian Flathman

EDITOR

David Thompson ('81)

WRITERS

Loretta Brandon, Michelle Groover ('05),
Mark Holland ('85)

DESIGNERS

Ray Hoffman, Ryan Honeyman,
Gina Neville, Rachel Rodriguez

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Frank Fortune, Suzanne Oliver

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

and other submissions
are encouraged.

Send correspondence to
Georgia Southern Magazine
P. O. Box 8055-01
Statesboro, GA 30460-8055
FAX (912) 486-7746
cdavidt@georgiasouthern.edu

CLASS CHRONICLES

may be sent to the
Office of Alumni Relations
P. O. Box 8053
Statesboro, GA 30460-8053
alumni@georgiasouthern.edu

FOR ADMISSIONS

information contact the
Office of Admissions
P. O. Box 8024
Statesboro, GA 30460-8024
admissions@georgiasouthern.edu

Georgia Southern magazine is published three times a year
for Alumni and Friends of Georgia Southern University by the
Office of Marketing & Communications.

Georgia Southern University is a member of the University
System of Georgia and an Affirmative Action/Equal Op-
portunity institution

Georgia Southern Magazine
© 2007 Georgia Southern University

ISSN 1524-0975





» 18 BEYOND BORDERS

An increasingly international faculty, student body and outreach have given Georgia Southern a global entree into virtually every field of endeavor from education to ecology and from parasites to pachyderms. As nations are ever more closely tied by trade and travel, the University is exploring new avenues of cooperation.

FEATURES

28 PRIDE ON THE LINE

Southern Pride Marching Band was founded 25 years ago and has been leading parades, serving as a training ground for musicians and future educators, and helping to bring big-time college atmosphere to Paulson Stadium ever since.

30 HOMECOMING 2007

Photos of fun and frolic as alumni returned to campus for reunions, food and football

DEPARTMENTS

2 CAMPUS NEWS

Record enrollment • ConEd goes online • System honors professor • Economic impact tops \$700 million • Carnegie Hall • New COGS dean • Chemistry ranked • Faculty awards • Ruffin Cup

10 RESEARCH NEWS

Fullbright scholar in Slovenia • Boosting elephants' health • NASA intern

12 FOUNDATION NEWS

Haywood Family gift • Pembroke Telephone • New Foundation trustees

14 SPORTS SCENE

Basketball outlook • Keeping Eagles in flight • Ham in Hall of Fame

32 CHRONICLES

Forever changed • Still building • Remembering Jeff • Furnishing new ideas • A model life • Keep it clean

Fast start

University begins second century with record enrollment and SAT scores

Georgia Southern entered its second century of service this fall with the largest enrollment, the highest freshman SAT scores and highest retention rate in its history.

University's final enrollment for Fall Semester 2007 reached 16,841 students breaking the record of 16,646 students established last year. It marked the fifth time in six years that Georgia Southern has set a new record for enrollment.

Also, the average SAT score of 1108 for incoming freshman class increased over the previous fall for the 13th year in a row, topping last fall's average of 1104, which had been the previous record high.

The average SAT score of the incoming freshmen at Georgia Southern has increased by more than 114 points since 1999.

The University's retention rate – the percentage of first-time freshmen from one fall semester who return for the following fall semester and a key benchmark for measuring teaching and learning success – exceeded 80 percent for the first time in school history.

As the new year began, the University continued to update its facilities. During the previous academic year, for example, both the Henderson Library and the Recreation Activity Center (RAC) unveiled major expansions.

The first phase of the Henderson Library construction and renovation project was an 89,000 square-foot addition to the east side of the 1970s-era original building. The renovation of the old library is expected to be complete next spring.

Meanwhile, the centerpiece of student recreation and intramural activities, the RAC, saw its size more than double to 215,000 square feet with an addition that features additional indoor multi-use courts, multiple swimming pools and a weight room.

Other projects include the conversion of residence facility Veazey Hall into classrooms, offices and administrative space for the Department of Communication Arts. Work was completed in September, and the revamped facility also houses the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies and the Office of Strategic Research and Analysis.



SUZANNE OLIVER

The Center for Art and Theatre is scheduled for completion in spring 2008. Covering almost 30,000 square feet, the addition to the rear of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, once housing the Marvin Pittman Lab School, features galleries for displays by student and professional artists, an experimental black box theatre for student productions, and administrative offices.

The conversion of Cone Hall, another former residence hall, into administrative space and offices for the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, is nearing completion. The Academic Success Center, the Regents Center for Learning Disorders, and the Student Disability Resource Center will also be located in Cone Hall.

As the Henderson Library expansion was completed and occupied, work turned to renovating the original four-story structure. The second phase of the Henderson Library project is on schedule and occupies 12,000 square feet. It is expected to be completed in June 2008.

Finally, a makeover of Paulson Stadium's home-side concourse was completed in time for the season opener with the addition of brickwork, benches and planters between the press box and concession stands. The fixtures and façade of the concession stands and restrooms on the home side were also renovated. Plans call for the renovation of the visitor's side concourse in summer 2008.

University at new level in *U.S. News* rankings

The 2008 edition of *America's Best Colleges*, published by *U.S. News and World Report*, has included Georgia Southern in the "Best National University" category for the first time.

Previously ranked as a master's university, Georgia Southern was classified as a doctoral/research institution in April 2006, and joins a new academic peer group of 262 American universities, both public and private, in the national category.

"The constant pursuit of academic distinction provides the central theme of Georgia Southern's strategic plan, and national recognition of the University for our achievements in teaching, research and student engagement affirms our efforts," said President Bruce Grube. "As Georgia Southern continues to deliver high quality academic programs and initiates more research activity, our position in the national rankings will certainly rise."

Princeton University earned the top spot among all universities for the eighth straight year and University of California-Berkeley retained its position as the top public institution. Georgia Southern, Georgia State, Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia were the four University System of Georgia schools listed among national universities.

National universities offer a full range of undergraduate majors, plus master's and Ph.D. programs and emphasize faculty research. Data indicating academic excellence in 15 categories

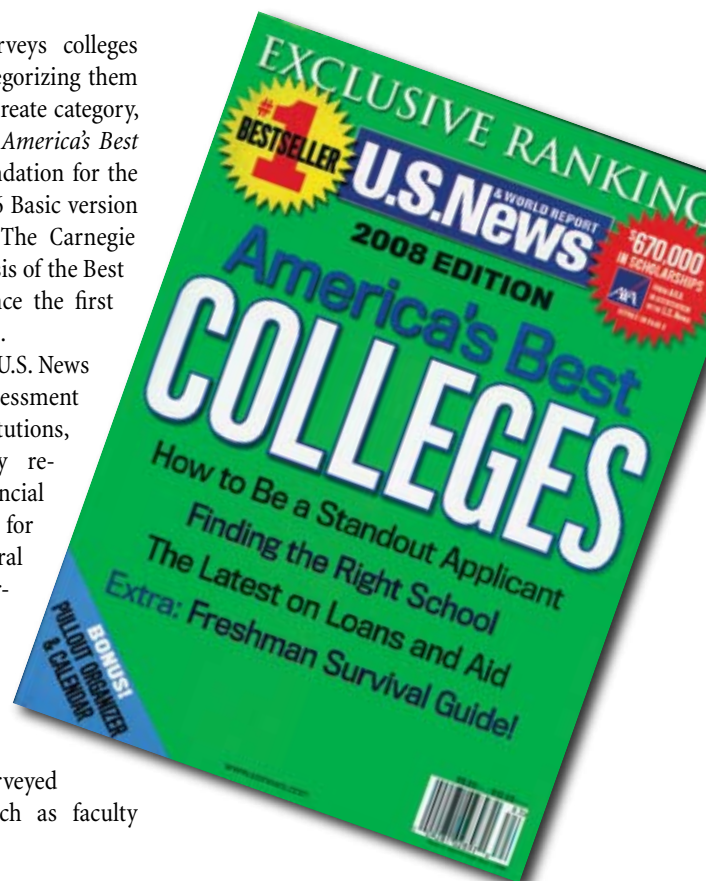
is gathered from each college and is weighted by the magazine's staff and the colleges are ranked against their peers based on their composite weighted score. The top school in each category is given a rating of 100, then all other institutions in that category are calculated proportionally against that score.

The magazine annually surveys colleges and universities by initially categorizing them by mission and for the baccalaureate category, by region. The 2008 edition of *America's Best Colleges* uses the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's 2006 Basic version of its Carnegie Classification. The Carnegie Classifications have been the basis of the Best Colleges ranking categories since the first rankings were published in 1983.

Seven categories are used by U.S. News to capture academic quality: assessment by administrators at peer institutions, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and for national universities and liberal arts colleges, graduation rate performance.

Assessment by peers is given the greatest weight, 25 percent, in determining rankings. Presidents, provosts and deans of admissions are surveyed to account for intangibles such as faculty

dedication to teaching and each individual is asked to rate peer schools' academic programs. Graduation and retention rates, faculty, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance, and alumni giving are considered in the final ranking.



Chemistry department earns national ranking

For the fourth time in five years, Georgia Southern's Department of Chemistry boasts one of the most productive degree programs in the nation.

The latest rankings by the American Chemical Society (ACS) rank Georgia Southern No. 13 in the nation for the number of graduates who earned a certified bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Georgia Southern is the highest-ranked institution in the state.

To compile the rankings, the ACS surveyed the more than 640 colleges and universities that have bachelor's degree programs which have been certified by the ACS.

The institutions are ranked based on the number of graduates they produce in a given academic year. Thirty-four Georgia Southern students earned certified degrees in 2005-06, the year used by the ACS for its most recent survey.

The University was tied for No. 19 in the previous national rankings for 2004-05. Georgia Southern was No. 22 in the 2003-04 rankings, and also No. 22 in 2001-02.

According to the ACS, some employers offer higher starting salaries to graduates who have certified degrees.

"Our graduates typically attend graduate, dental or medical school, or find employment

in the chemical industry," said Department of Chemistry Chair Mary Boyd.

The top five institutions in the ACS rankings for certified bachelor's degrees in order of rank are the University of Texas at Austin, the University of California at San Diego, the University of Virginia, the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and the University of California at Santa Barbara.

The list also includes the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (in a four-way tie at No. 16) and the U.S. Naval Academy (in a four-way tie at No. 21). Georgia Tech – which is among the schools tied at No. 21 – is the only other Georgia university to appear in the rankings.

Faculty honored for high scholarly standards

The outstanding teaching, research and service of six members of Georgia Southern's faculty have been recognized with Faculty Awards for Excellence.

Awards for Excellence in Contributions to Instruction were presented to mathematical sciences professor Patricia Humphrey and chemistry professor Jeffrey Orvis. The award recognizes contributions to the teaching-learning process at the institutional level.

Biology professor Sophie George and physics professor Xiao-Jun Wang received Awards for Excellence in Research/Creative Scholarly Activity. The award recognizes individuals who excel in their research efforts in addition to fulfilling full-time teaching responsibilities.

Award for Excellence in Service were presented to psychology professor Michael Nielsen and biology professor Bruce Schultze. Excellence in Service Awards recognize faculty who use their academic disciplines to provide non-compensated assistance to the region as well as the academic community.

Each recipient receives a summer contract with the University to continue their professional activities and to develop a mechanism to share their expertise with faculty, staff and students.

Each of the six award winners will present an on-campus lecture on a selected topic during the year.



FRANK FORTUNE

Six Georgia Southern professors received Faculty Awards for Excellence. Pictured are, sitting, l-r, Sophie George and Patricia Humphrey; standing, l-r, Bruce Schultze, Jeffrey Orvis and Michael Nielsen. Not pictured is Xiao-Jun Wang.

President's Medal presented to Braz

Music professor Michael Braz has been presented with Georgia Southern's President's Medal, recognizing extraordinary contributions to the University.

The multi-talented Braz is a composer, arranger, performer, conductor and teacher who has been a member of



Georgia Southern's faculty for two decades.

The 2003-04 winner of the Ruffin Cup, presented annually by the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Braz also received the University's Faculty Award for Excellence in Service in 1994 and the *Statesboro Herald's* Humanitarian of the Year award in 2003.

He is on leave during the 2007-08 academic year as an artist-in-residence to England, Nepal and China.

Braz has served as associate director of the Miami Choral Society, conductor and musical director of the Boy Singers of Maine, and founder and director of the Capital Children's Course in Tallahassee, Fla., and the Statesboro Youth Chorale.

The recipient of an American Composers Forum/Rockefeller Brothers Fund Faith Partners grant, Braz has 18 published choral compositions. He has written orchestral and choral works for professional, collegiate, school and community ensembles across the country, and his compositions have been performed by groups including the Boston Pops, the Raleigh (N.C.) Boychoir and the Georgia Tech Glee Club.

Braz recently composed his second opera, "A Scholar Under Siege," in honor of Georgia Southern's Centennial celebration. His first opera, "Memoirs from the Holocaust," was inspired by a visit to the Dachau concentration camp in Germany.

Cawthorn enhances University instruction

An assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Georgia Southern participated in a residential summer institute sponsored by the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement.

Michelle Cawthorn and representatives from 92 other institutions spent four days at the University of Southern Maine in Portland as part of a national initiative called Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER).

Supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, SENCER is a national dissemination project designed to promote reform through faculty development, a focus on local systematic change, and improved assessment strategies.

The project has three pressing goals:

- To improve science education, especially for students who may never major in a scientific field.
- To connect science education reform to more robust and relevant general education programs.
- To stimulate informed civic engagement with scientific questions on the part of today's students.

Summer institute participants envisioned and developed courses that teach rigorous science content through problems that require scientific knowledge and expertise.

Cawthorn is involved in a year-long planning



FRANK FORTUNE

Michelle Cawthorn is improving science education through a new national initiative.

process to improve science education at Georgia Southern. She is working on a course that focuses on biodiversity as a means of teaching environmental biology.

Throughout the year, Cawthorn and her colleagues at the University will continue to network with faculty at other institutions and engage in innovative pedagogies, assessment and undergraduate research.

SENCER officials David Burns and Karen

"We are pleased to be partnered with Georgia Southern in focusing the intelligence and capacity of students, faculty and academic leaders on some of the hardest problems of our time."

David Burns

Oates praised Georgia Southern for contributing to a national reform effort that connects the improvement of undergraduate science education to some of the most vexing civic challenges that the U.S. and future college graduates will face.

"So many of our most significant civic challenges require knowledge of science and mathematics," Burns said. "We are pleased to be partnered with Georgia Southern in focusing the intelligence and capacity of students, faculty and academic leaders on some of the hardest problems of our time."

Since its inception, SENCER has worked with nearly 1,100 faculty members from more than 300 colleges and universities in 43 states and 10 foreign countries.

Professors' work honored by national teaching renewal group

Associate Dean of Education Stephanie Kenney and Goizueta Professor Dianne Bath are two of only 30 educators nationwide honored for their contributions to educational renewal.

The Institute for Educational Inquiry (IEI) cited the two for their work to implement the IEI's National Network for Educational Renewal through the group's Agenda for Education in a Democracy.

"Stephanie Kenney and Dianne Bath are both strongly committed to ongoing educational renewal," said Cindi Chance, dean of the College of Education. "Their success with Georgia Southern's partner schools demonstrates their

effectiveness in preparing new teachers and strengthening the work of teachers already in the classroom."

Kenney's recognition comes as a result of her ongoing leadership in strengthening relationships among educators in the arts and sciences, professional education, and P-12 schools. She also provides leadership to improve education through community engagement.

Bath's recognition comes as a result of her ongoing scholarly leadership in strengthening the P-12 school curriculum and instruction, with particular attention to supporting new teachers' schools.



l-r, are Stephanie Kenney and Dianne Bath

Parents Association impacts student success

For parents who want to be involved in their child's transition to higher education, Georgia Southern offers an option that increasing numbers of parents are choosing: a Parents Association.

The Parents Association was created to serve as a method of information exchange, a forum for discussion, and a way to encourage parents to get involved with the University.

"The Parents Association is an exciting part of my work," said Vince Miller, assistant director of Admissions, who oversees the Orientation and Parent Programs at Georgia Southern. "Parent involvement adds a whole new dimension to recruitment, orientation, and admissions events.

"Our membership has grown from about 400 families last year to nearly 700 families this year, and we expect that number to continue to rise."

For a \$30 annual membership fee, parents get a variety of benefits: the Georgia Southern Magazine; a Parents Association discount card with food and lodging discounts at locations near the University; a subscription to the Parent Programs newsletter; a Parent Handbook and Calendar; and an opportunity for their student to apply for a Parents Association Scholarship.

If they wish, parents may pay \$100 and join for the duration of their student's academic career at Georgia Southern.

During summer orientation sessions, the

"One of the best reasons for joining the Parents Association at Georgia Southern is that your student becomes eligible for the Parents Association Scholarships. This year 71 students applied, and from that group, the review committee awarded 15 scholarships."

Vince Miller

Parents Association hosts a parents information session, where parents have an opportunity to meet with members of the Parents Council, which plans, directs, and supports the work of the association. During the year, parents who do not live near Georgia Southern are invited to assist the Office of Admissions with recruitment events that take place near their homes.

In 2006-07, the funds raised through Par-

ents Association membership fees were used for grants to train ShuttleGus student drivers, to sponsor First Year Experience speakers, and to support student attendance at the Dining for Success etiquette and interview events. The Parents Association also provided 13 scholarships (a total of \$6,500) to students whose parents are members.

All parents of Georgia Southern students are invited to become members of the Association.

Georgia Southern recently awarded 15 Parents Association scholarships, nine to new freshman and six to continuing students.

"One of the best reasons for joining the Parent's Association at Georgia Southern is that your student becomes eligible for the Parents Association Scholarships," said Miller. "This year 71 students applied, and from that group, the review committee awarded 15 scholarships."

Parents Association awards are given in two categories, academic scholarships and leadership scholarships. The committee reviewing applications is comprised of faculty and staff members. Personal information, including the applicant's name, is removed, so that the committee's choice was based only on qualifications.

This year's awards totaled \$10,500, with all funds coming from the Association's membership dues.

Mack is new dean of College of Graduate Studies

Timothy P. Mack is the new dean of the Jack N. Averitt College of Graduate Studies.

Mack joins Georgia Southern from Virginia Tech, where he served as associate dean for Information Technology and Distance Education. He had primary responsibility for graduate education in Virginia Tech's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.



Mack was a faculty member at Auburn University from 1981-94 and joined Virginia Tech in 1994 as head of the Department of Entomology.

Mack became Virginia Tech's associate dean for Information Technology and Distance Education in 2004 and led the development of a new online master's degree program that involved 32 faculty teaching more than 24 online courses.

Mack also led the development of new college-wide standards for treatment of graduate students, defining time limits for funding of graduate students, improving recruitment of

graduate students, and increasing the number of funded assistantships.

Since 2003, Mack has been the national leader of the Food and Agriculture Education Information System (FAEIS), which compiles national higher education data on the food, life, human, natural resource, veterinary and agricultural sciences.

Mack received a B.A. in biology from Colgate University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in entomology from Penn State.

More than 1,900 graduate students were enrolled at Georgia Southern last year.

Grant will boost student research efforts

Georgia Southern physics professor Sarah Higdon has been awarded a \$179,376 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to further undergraduate research at the University.

The five-year collaborative grant is designed to help develop research opportunities for undergraduate students who will have an opportunity to work with scientists from around the world on a major astronomy project.

The grant provides students and faculty at Georgia Southern and 13 other institutions access to the Arecibo Legacy Fast ALFA (ALFALFA) survey, an ongoing project that is expected to detect 20,000 galaxies out to a distance of 750 million light years.

"This grant makes it possible for undergraduates to contribute to the scientific output of the ALFALFA extragalactic survey and follow-up studies," said Higdon, a professor of astronomy in the Department of Physics. "At the same time, the students will learn valuable lessons about the way that science collaboration functions through their interactions with their faculty mentors, their peers and the leaders of the project."

Led by Cornell University astronomers Riccardo Giovanelli and Martha Haynes, the ALFALFA survey is based at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. Using the world's largest radio telescope, the survey is mapping a large part of the sky by using radio wavelengths that are appropriate for the detection of neutral hydrogen



FRANK FORTUNE

Physics professor Sarah Higdon was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation.

gas in other galaxies.

"One of the main goals of the project is to discover low-mass, 'starless' galaxies, which contain hydrogen gas, but have not yet formed stars,"

Higdon said. "The abundance of these 'dark' galaxies, their characteristics and their locations are key clues to understanding how galaxies form and evolve throughout the universe."

Higdon has been contributing to the ALFALFA survey by providing data on star formation, gas properties of merging galaxies, and the formation of tidal dwarf galaxies.

Higdon is working with Colgate University professor Tom Balonek and Union College professor Rebecca Koopman. Together, they are developing an undergraduate student program that includes four core components:

- An annual group workshop at Arecibo that features observing sessions, lectures and group activities.
- Observing time at Arecibo for several groups of students per year.
- An annual summer research stipend program that will support seven students who will make a presentation at a national meeting.
- Funding to provide computers to each of the 14 consortium schools.

As part of the grant, Higdon will also collaborate on curriculum and public outreach endeavors with Jose Alonso, the director of the Angel Ramos Foundation Visitors Center at Arecibo.

Two Georgia Southern students are already involved in the ALFALFA survey. Physics majors Josh Davidson and Daniel Richey accompanied Higdon to Arecibo and gained experience with the radio telescope in January.

Theatre professor Dartt is 2007-2008 Ruffin Cup recipient

Theatre professor Gary Dartt is the 2007-2008 winner of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences' annual Ruffin Cup award.

The Ruffin Cup is presented to a CLASS faculty member who exemplifies the goals of the college, has given distinguished service to the University for at least 10 years, and excels in teaching and service to students, in scholarship, and in contributions to the spirit of the liberal arts.

Since joining Georgia Southern's faculty in 1988, Dartt has taught more than 20 different theatre courses. He has directed more than 15 plays and musicals, and served as the production designer for over 55 performances. He received the CLASS Award for Distinction in Creativity in 2003.

As the winner of the Cup, Dartt will have his name engraved, and he will retain it for a year. He will also receive \$1,000 for use in the enhancement of his teaching and scholarship through travel, the purchase of teaching materials and equipment, or other means.

Prior to arriving at Georgia Southern, Dartt served as an associate professor of theatre at Fordham University and Lycoming College.

Dartt earned a B.S. degree with a major in art and a minor in theatre from Augustana College. He received an Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Minnesota.

The cup was endowed by the late Professor Emeritus of English David A. Ruffin.



Gary Dartt, left, accepts the 2007-08 Ruffin Cup from foreign language professor David Alley, last year's recipient.

Continuing Education coursework goes online

Georgia Southern has virtual-reality students.

Without setting foot on the Statesboro campus, people of all ages and interests can take non-credit classes for professional development or personal enrichment through the University's Continuing Education Center.

The variety of "Education To Go" classes is staggering with around 300 online topics available. A nurse who wants to specialize in elder care can choose the "Certificate in Gerontology" course, a teacher may be interested in "Solving Classroom Discipline Problems," and a fledgling author can select from among classes on poetry, mystery writing and getting published.

The most popular courses focus on creating Web pages, learning computer programming, speed Spanish, basic accounting, grant writing, and fiction writing.

"Because there is no physical classroom, courses are never canceled due to low enrollment," said Judy Hendrix, the program specialist in charge of the Education To Go courses.

All participants must have Internet access, a Web browser (Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator), and an email address. Participants can log on to study or complete assignments at any time of the day or night.

A new section of each course begins on the second or third Wednesday of each month. Each course runs for six weeks, with a two-



FRANK FORTUNE

About 300 online topics are available for students in the "Education to Go" program.

week grace period at the end. Two lessons are released each week for the six-week duration of the course.

Students must complete each lesson within two weeks of its release.

The fee for each course varies. For a complete listing of classes and registration information, visit <http://www.ed2go.com/gsu/> and click on the Online Instruction Center. For more information, call 912-681-5993.

Program gives high school seniors early start

High school seniors who want a head start on their college careers are getting the opportunity through a pilot program offered by Georgia Southern.

The Senior to Sophomore program, administered by the University's Division for Continuing Education and Public Service, is designed to help students get a head start on college by allowing them to take college-credit courses taught by their high school teachers.

"Research has shown that the transition from high school to a four-year university is not as seamless as we would like," said Gary Means, dean of Georgia Southern's Division for Continuing Education and Public Service. "The Senior to Sophomore program will provide stu-

dents with an idea of what to expect from a university experience. It will get them accustomed to the type of learning and amount of work expected in college but in the more protected environment of their own high school."

According to Means, the program is in its infancy stage. After a year of planning that began in summer 2006, the program is being tested at Bulloch Academy, where an advanced placement (AP) pre-calculus course is being offered to students who applied for enrollment in Senior to Sophomore.

"Most high school honors and AP courses have learning objectives and outcomes that are well-aligned with Georgia Southern's requirements," Means said. "To ensure the course work

is truly college-level material, we have a University faculty liaison work with the high school teacher to modify course content, outcomes and examinations."

High school teachers participating in the Senior to Sophomore program must hold a master's degree with at least 18 hours of graduate work in the discipline for which they will provide instruction, the same standard required for University adjunct faculty.

"Ultimately, the goal is to establish linkages between students and Georgia Southern through exposure to our faculty and possible experience on campus through field trips, so that we can attract some of the very best students to the University," said Means.

University's regional impact tops \$719 million

Georgia Southern had an economic impact of more than \$719 million on its immediate nine-county region during the recently completed fiscal year according to a study conducted by the University's Bureau of Business Research and Development (BBRED).

The BBRED said the University pumped \$719,233,212 into the economies of Bulloch, Bryan, Candler, Chatham, Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, Jenkins and Screven counties in 2006-07.

The report also revealed that Georgia Southern was responsible for more than 10,300 jobs in the region.

"As the study demonstrates, the University continues to have a significant positive impact on the economy of the region," BBRED Director Phyllis Isley said. "This impact extends well beyond Statesboro and Bulloch County to a number of other counties that are interlinked economically to Georgia Southern.

"These interlinked counties have businesses that supply goods and services to the University, and to the residences of faculty and staff who commute to and from other counties."

The new study showed the University's economic impact on the region increased by more than nine percent from the previous fiscal year. Georgia Southern pumped \$653,440,929 into the region's economy in 2005-06, according to the BBRED report issued in August 2006.

In compiling the annual report, Isley and her

Georgia Southern's yearly impact

2006-07	\$719,233,212
2005-06	\$653,440,929
2004-05	\$549,249,613
2003-04	\$493,269,907

staff divided their analysis into four areas: the impact from the daily operations of the University as measured by operating expenditures; faculty and staff expenditures as measured by salaries and payroll; expenditures by students; and the impact from major construction projects.

During the 2006-07 fiscal year, Georgia Southern spent more than \$124.5 million on non-personnel operating expenses. These expenses include everything from printing and publications to electricity, gasoline, tractors and office furniture.

On the other hand, salaries for faculty, staff and support services as well as payments to consultants, casual labor and other part-time employees totaled almost \$96.5 million.

Combining operating expenditures, salaries, student expenditures and major construction projects, the University was directly responsible for expenditures of \$477,030,642 in the region.

"However, it must be noted that Georgia Southern's impact goes far beyond direct spending by the University and the spending of students and

faculty," Isley said. "For example, budget expenditures translate into the demand for goods and services for other

businesses. In turn, these businesses hire additional staff and order additional supplies to meet the demands of the University.

"It doesn't stop there," Isley said. "For every 100 jobs created by Georgia Southern, the secondary spending associated with those jobs created another 36 jobs in the region.

Isley noted that the figures in the annual study are conservative because they do not include additional categories of economic impact, such as spending by former employees of Georgia Southern, or consulting by University employees and the corollary spending that results from such income.

In addition, the economic impact figures do not reflect the growing number of research dollars that flow through Georgia Southern, or the spending by visitors to the University campus. These include people who attend activities such as athletic events, conferences, meetings and alumni reunions.

Finally, the figures do not measure any of the long-term benefits of the University to the region's economic development and quality of life or the increased lifetime earnings of the University's graduates.

Previous studies showed the University's impact at \$549,249,613 in 2004-2005 and \$493,269,907 in 2003-2004.

University System honors chemistry professor

Chemistry professor Laura Frost has been awarded the 2007 Award for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning from Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG).

The award recognizes her departmental leadership in the incorporation of process-oriented, guided-inquiry learning into introductory chemistry courses.

Frost's scholarship focuses on increasing student interest in chemistry, enhancing student learning, and enhancing students' per-



ception of learning.

Only seven faculty members and one academic program in the System were selected to receive Teaching Excellence and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Awards presented by the Board of Regents.

"Teaching and research represent the key missions of the University System of Georgia," said Lisa Rossbacher, the USG's interim chief academic officer and executive vice chancellor.

"These awards strengthen the commitment of USG faculty to student learning and achievement. We salute these outstanding faculty members and programs as models of excellence."

Since joining Georgia Southern's faculty in 1999, Frost has taught courses in general chemistry, allied health chemistry, organic chemistry and biochemistry.

"Learning is easier with a frame of reference, and each student comes into a classroom with their own set of previous experiences," Frost said. "Guided-inquiry learning is discovery-based learning where students are asked to explore a model and construct knowledge for themselves based on the model and their previous experiences.

"In my class, students are not given scientific facts to memorize. Instead, they are asked to construct facts from a situation, or model, thereby understanding its application."

Mechanical engineering student serves internship at Kennedy Space Center

So, what did you do this summer?

Mechanical engineering major Katrina Corley doesn't have to respond with the typical litany of leisurely activities.

Instead of simply relaxing and recharging her batteries, the Georgia Southern student served an internship with NASA.

A native of Thomaston, Ga., Corley worked with the Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) program at the John F. Kennedy Space Center.

"While at NASA I had the opportunity to work with other interns," said Corley. "One of our projects was to build a radio controlled plane. Parts had to be disassembled, tested, located from vendors, requisitioned, and then reassembled on the plane.

"We also had the opportunity to participate in training for flying automated unmanned vehicles," she said. "This internship allowed me to get a better understanding of how the concepts I am learning in my classes will apply to the work world. Theories become real when applied to the real world."

Corley is enrolled in the Regents Engineering Transfer Program (RETP) at Georgia Southern. Established by the University System of Georgia (USG) Board of Regents in 1986, the RETP allows prospective engineering students to conduct their first two years of study at a participating USG institution, and then complete the program with two years at Georgia Tech.

Corley credits a former high school teacher, Eric Andersen, with helping to spark her initial interest in engineering.

"Mr. Andersen instructed me in a drafting course where I learned to design, first on paper and then on computer programs," she said. "This opened new doors and led to my interest in mechanical engineering and design."

Upon arriving at Georgia Southern, Corley had her intellectual curiosity further aroused by one of her professors, Gerald Jones, who is the director of engineering programs in the Department of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Technology.

"Dr. Jones' encouragement and support,



SPECIAL TO GEORGIA SOUTHERN

NASA intern Katrina Corley high atop the platform that surrounds the Space Shuttle

paired with my interest in space and the technologies used to explore space, led to my interest in the Kennedy Space Center internship program," Corley said. "After checking out the center's Web site and reading several articles on the technologies that the center is currently

working with, I felt this would be an invaluable experience for me."

"The internship at the Kennedy Space Center has allowed me to work with and gather information from the best of the best in the field of engineering," Corley said.

Research helps manage elephant populations

Georgia Southern biologist Bruce Schulte and Smithsonian National Zoo scientist Elizabeth Freeman are testing a field kit used to monitor the hormone levels of female African elephants in the wild.

Elephants are highly social and intelligent animals that use chemical signals to mediate social and reproductive behavior.

According to Schulte, the kits are yielding important information that will help conservationists more effectively manage both wild and captive elephant populations around the world.

“These hormone kits have transformed how we study elephants under field conditions,” said Schulte, an associate professor in the University’s Department of Biology. “They will also provide proof of whether wild elephants display similar endocrine patterns to zoo animals.”

“By generating physiological data for elephant managers and conservationists, these kits will support elephant conservation programs, with emphasis on intensive management and protection as well as scientific research that supports these actions.”

A member of Georgia Southern’s faculty since 1999, Schulte has spent much of his professional career studying elephants, which are the largest living mammals on earth.

“Humans feel a strong connection to elephants because of their intelligence, strong family bonds and a lifespan that resembles our own,” said Schulte, who travels to Africa several times each year to conduct his research.

Schulte has been studying elephants in cap-



SPECIAL TO GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Biology professor Bruce Schulte makes frequent trips to Africa to study elephant behavior

tivity since his post-doctoral work with the late Bets Rasmussen in 1993. In 2002, Schulte was part of a multi-institutional research team that received \$842,000 in grant funding from the National Science Foundation to study the ways in which chemical signals influence elephant

behavior. That ongoing project concentrates on how these signals may be used to discourage wild elephants from infringing upon villages and crops, thus reducing the number of potentially deadly and destructive confrontations between elephants and man.

Doctoral student awarded Fulbright Grant

Honors program and education doctorate student Nicole Harper has been awarded a U.S. Student Fulbright Grant to study in Slovenia.

Harper will further her doctoral research this year with the Center for Language and Cultural Communication at the University of Primorska and the American Corner in Koper, a partnership between the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana and the University of Primorska. Her research project, “Cultural Arts, Intercultural Immersion and Learning Perceptions,” explores the role of art in the intercultural immersion process and will involve case studies

of expatriate educators during their immersion into Slovenian culture.

Harper holds a B.A. in fine arts from Eastern Michigan University and an M.A. in education from Michigan State Bachelor. She has taught art at the Abu Dhabi International School in the United Arab Emirates and served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Botswana.

“Nicole put in a great deal of effort on this application and we are confident she will be an excellent ambassador in Slovenia for the United States and Georgia Southern,” said Steven Engel, director of the University Honors Pro-

gram and political science professor. We have a great team of people at Georgia Southern who have helped prepare her for this stage of her education and they deserve congratulations as well.”

“These opportunities have tremendous potential to open up new worlds for our students and, on a broader scale, foster international relationships and advance global understanding. Nicole’s accomplishment is symbolic of Georgia Southern’s mission to prepare our students to serve as world citizens,” said Bob Frigo, assistant director of the Honors Program.

Scholarship honors Paul and Ivey Beardslee

During the past six decades, the family of Paul and Ivey Bacon Beardslee built the Pembroke Telephone Company into a state-of-the-art resource that serves the communication needs of northern Bryan County.

Today the company is part of the heart and soul of the local community.

Earlier this year, the company gave the Georgia Southern University Foundation a gift of \$50,000 to create a scholarship endowment that will support College of Information Technology students from Bryan County, where Paul and Ivey Beardslee raised their family and built their company.

Ivey Beardslee is a member of Georgia Teachers College class of 1951.

Paul and Ivey Beardslee purchased Pembroke Telephone just after World War II, starting with just 112 lines in a room that should have been their living room. Today, the company serves 3,000 families, providing broadband communication for telephone, television and Internet.

Paul Beardslee was killed in a tragic accident in 1951, but over the next 60 years, Ivey continued to build the telephone company with



FRANK FORTUNE

Mary Anna Beardslee Hite, Ivey Beardslee and Jeanne Beardslee McCormick.

the support of her father, her brother and her daughters.

“Mama still comes into the office almost every day and checks up on why we are doing the things we do,” says Ivey’s daughter, Mary Anna Beardslee Hite, who serves as secretary and treasurer of the company. “Her daddy worked here until he was 96, so I guess she still has a little bit of time before she thinks about retiring.”

“I am enormously touched by the way the company sought to honor these two very special people,” said Michelle Pittman, director of major gifts and planned giving at the University. “The Beardslee Scholarship is a way of giving something back to the people of north Bryan County. On behalf of the University, I extend thanks for this generous and thoughtful gift.”

The Paul and Ivey Beardslee Scholarship will be presented to incoming freshmen with first priority given to graduates of Bryan County High School. The scholarship will be offered to students within the College of Information Technology, with first priority going to students studying Information Systems.



IN MEMORIAM



THE HON. FRANCIS W. ALLEN
1923-2007

FOUNDING MEMBER AND PAST CHAIR,
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION



CLEM F. RAITH
1922-2007
PAST CHAIR,
GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
FOUNDATION

Change of address

Georgia Southern’s Atlanta Regional Development Office has a new home at 400 Galleria Parkway, Suite 1500.

Information on giving to the University is available by talking to Director of Atlanta Regional Development George Freeman, who may be reached at 678-385-6515.

Alumni in the Atlanta area who need information on the University or wish to join the Alumni Association may contact

Alumni Relations representative Angelia Huggins at 678-385-6516.

Parents seeking information on admission to the University may call Admissions representative Rachel Miller at 678-385-6514.

The fax number is 678-460-0446.



New scholarship honors Weatherfords

Awards will support students seeking to be certified as teachers

Mike and Suzanne Graham have created the Joseph Eugene (Gene) and Peggy Marsh Weatherford Education Endowment, a contribution to the University that honors Suzanne's parents.

Income from their generous gift will provide two scholarships, one for full-time incoming freshmen, and one for juniors whose course of study will allow them to earn certification and become a teacher.

Joseph Eugene Weatherford entered Georgia Teachers College in 1940, but like many men of his time, his education was cut short by World War II.

"Gene enlisted the day after Pearl Harbor," said his widow, Peggy Marsh Weatherford, "but when he came back from the war, he returned to Statesboro and graduated in 1946 with a degree in education."

After their children were born, Peggy went to



FRANK FORTUNE

Peggy Marsh Weatherford was honored at the recent dedication of the Wall of Honor, which recognizes major gifts to the College of Education.

For more information about creating a scholarship endowment, contact Michelle Pittman at (912) 681-5015 or at mepittman@georgiasouthern.edu.

Georgia Teachers College, too, and earned her degree in education in 1959. Both worked as teachers, and Gene went on to serve 28 years as County Judge for Nassau County, Fla., retiring in 1984.

When Suzanne proposed a memorial for her father, Peggy Weatherford suggested creating "something that will keep on giving." Knowing how important education was to her parents, the Grahams created a scholarship endowment at the Weatherfords' alma mater, ensuring that both will be part of Georgia Southern University's future for many years to come.

"On behalf of the Georgia Southern students who will benefit from this endowment, I extend thanks the Grahams for their gift," said Michelle Pittman, director of major gifts and planned giving at the university. "Over the years their generosity will have a positive impact on many students' lives."

Foundation thanks retirees, welcomes new leaders

At right, l-r, Board Chair Connell Stafford, Chair-elect Max Manack, Vice Chair Tommy Bond, Foundation President Billy Griffis and Foundation Treasurer Joe Franklin.



At right are University President Bruce Grube, retiring Chair of the Board Rod Meadows and Foundation President Billy Griffis.



President Bruce Grube, Chair of the Board Connell Stafford, new trustee Mike Skinner, new trustee Derrick Brown and Foundation President Billy Griffis.



President Bruce Grube, outgoing Chair Rod Meadows, retiring trustee Rick Murray, retiring trustee Fred Blich and Foundation President Billy Griffis.



Eagles Basketball 2007-08

NOVEMBER

23 @ Furman

26 Mercer

DECEMBER

1 Appalachian State

10 Fort Valley State

15 Florida in Jacksonville

20 Asbury

28 @ Texas A&M-Corpus Christy

29 Rhode Island/Eastern

Michigan at Corpus Christy

JANUARY

3 @ Davidson

5 @ UNC Greensboro

10 College of Charleston

12 @ The Citadel

17 @ Elon

19 @ Appalachian State

24 Wofford

26 Furman

28 @ Western Carolina

31 @ Chattanooga

FEBRUARY

4 UNC Greensboro

7 Western Carolina

9 Chattanooga

14 @ Wofford

16 Elon

20 The Citadel

23 Bracket Busters @ TBA

28 @ College of Charleston

MARCH

1 Davidson

7-10 SoCon Tournament in
Charleston, S.C.

Visit www.georgiasoutherneagles.com
for the latest information on Georgia
Southern men's and women's basketball.

Hoops looks to regain titles

The Georgia Southern men's basketball team entered the 2007-2008 campaign hoping to regain its customary position among the Southern Conference elite.

Senior forward Louis Graham and senior guard Dwayne Foreman are the only returning full-time starters from last year's team, which finished with a 15-16 record. It was the program's first sub-.500 season since 1999 – the year before Jeff Price took over as head coach.

In his ninth season at the helm, Price had to replace three starters.

The team has a good inside/outside combo to build around in Graham and Foreman, both of whom ranked in the Top 10 among the in the SoCon leaders in several key categories last season. Graham was ninth in scoring (14.5), second in rebounding (8.2), third in blocked shots (1.5) and eighth in field goal percentage (52.7), while Foreman was second in assists (6.1) and fourth in assists-to-turnovers ratio (1.81).

The men's team opened their season at Florida State. The Eagles' schedule also features a Dec. 15 matchup with defending national champion Florida in Jacksonville.

Meanwhile, the Georgia Southern Lady Eagles are trying to improve upon last season's 13-18 record.

Head coach Rusty Cram's Lady Eagles returns six of its top eight scorers, including senior guard Tiffany Brown and sophomore guard Carolyn Whitney, two players who have already established themselves among the best in the SoCon.

An all-conference selection last year, Brown was fourth in the league in both scoring (15.1) and 3-pointers made (1.80). Whitney led the

Eagles take to the air this basketball season

Both of Georgia Southern's basketball teams will play regionally televised games this season, thanks to the Southern Conference's agreement with SportSouth.

The men's home game against Appalachian State on Dec. 1 and their road contest at North Carolina-Greensboro on Jan. 5 will be shown live. Each of those games is scheduled for 3 p.m.

Meanwhile, the women's matchup at Western Carolina on Feb. 23 will be televised live start-



SUZANNE OLIVER

league in free throw percentage (84.5) and ranked second in minutes played (32.2), seventh in assists (3.4) and ninth in assist-to-turnovers ratio (1.01) as she earned SoCon Freshman of the Year honors.

The Lady Eagles' non-conference schedule includes November dates with Georgia and Arkansas plus a Dec. 9 matchup at Georgia Tech.

ing at 12:30 p.m.

The men's team may be in line for a national TV appearance, too. For the second year in a row, the Eagles have been selected to participate in the O'Reilly ESPNU Bracket Buster.

The 100 teams picked to play in the Bracket Buster will be paired up at a later date. The ensuing 50 games will be played on the weekend of Feb. 22-23, with 14 of those contests being shown live across the country on ESPN2, ESPN, ESPN360.com, and ESPN Classic.

Enshrined

Legendary Tracy Ham is first Eagle inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame

By Mark Holland

When Georgia Southern hired head coach Chris Hatcher away from Valdosta State, it wasn't the first time the Eagle football program had crossed paths with the Blazers.

In the winter of 1982, a senior quarterback from Sante Fe High School in Alachua, Fla., was ready to accept a scholarship offer from the brand-new football program at Valdosta State – until an assistant coach informed him that he would be converted to defensive back.

But the recruit wanted a chance to play quarterback in college, so he opted instead to sign with another fledgling program.

Twenty-five years later, Tracy Ham's decision to attend Georgia Southern is still paying dividends. He was officially inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in July.

Ham is the first representative of the University to be enshrined in the hall, which is located in South Bend, Ind. In fact, less than one percent of the student-athletes who have played college football have been inducted into the hall of fame.

"I am honored to help continue passing along the Georgia Southern legacy," Ham said. "The University has always been on the map, but now when fans from all around the country



Former Eagle quarterback Tracy Ham

come to visit the hall of fame, they will get the opportunity to learn more about the Eagles."

Any discussion of Georgia Southern football must include Ham, who led the program to its first two national championships. A master of the triple-option offense that became known as

the "Hambone" during his time in the 'Boro, the 5-foot-10, 185-pound signal-caller was a gifted runner, dangerous passer and exceptional leader.

"It didn't take us long to realize we had something special," head coach Erk Russell said in *Just One More Time*, the 1987 book that chronicles the rise of the Eagle football program. "He was a good option quarterback, a good short passer, quick, good at reading defenses, very smart on the field. But he had something more. When we realized that, we were willing to go all-out and feature his ability."

The bigger the game, the better Ham performed.

For example, he posted four of his five best single-game rushing totals and two of his three best single-game passing totals in the playoffs.

Ham elevated his game to an other-worldly level in the two national championship games, accounting for a staggering 995 yards and 10 touchdowns in the miraculous 44-42 win over Furman in 1985 and the 48-21 romp over Arkansas State in 1986.

Ham went on to a stellar career in the CFL, where he was named Most Valuable Player and guided his team to two Grey Cup championships, but his efforts in helping to establish Georgia Southern as a national powerhouse on the football field may be his greatest legacy.

Eagle newsmakers...

ACADEMICS: Eleven Georgia Southern athletes were named to the TIAA-CREF Academic All-Southern Conference Teams for the 2007 spring season. To be eligible for the team, a student-athlete had to have a minimum GPA of 3.2 going into the spring semester, and they had to compete in at least half of their team's competitions. Representing the University were baseball players Chris Shehan, Aaron Eubanks and Brian Pierce; softball players Logan Free, Lindsey Hopkins and Maria Laurato; track and field athletes Abby Bloom, Nicole Brown and Jessica Kerzie; and women's tennis players Emma Knight and Heather Reynolds.

MEN'S BASKETBALL: Assistant coach Elwyn McRoy has been ranked as the No. 12 junior college recruiter in the nation by *Basketball Times*. Since joining the Eagle staff in 2006, he has overseen the arrival of four juco players ... Two-time all Southern Conference performer Donte Gennie signed a contract with Phoenix Hagan, a professional team in Germany. He averaged

16.2 point per game during the 2006-2007 season and finished his career with 1,288 points ... Jimmy Tobias signed a contract with CSU Brasnov, a professional team in Romania. In two seasons with the Eagles, he started 61 of a possible 62 games and averaged 8.4 points per game.

TRACK AND FIELD: Four Georgia Southern athletes were named to the All-East Region Team for the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. Nicole Brown was honored after winning the triple jump at the regional competition in Gainesville, Fla., last May to become the first Georgia Southern female to qualify for the national meet. The 400-meter relay team – comprised of Brown, Demetrise Anthony, Rasheda Arnold and Shamyria Ortiz – also received all-region laurels after turning in the eighth-best time of the competition.

FORMER EAGLE Rob Bironas kicked an NFL record eight field goals in one game this season for the Tennessee Titans.



FRANK FORTUNE

Keeping the Eagles in flight

Training staff responsible for health and fitness of athletes

By Mark Holland

First of all, let's get one thing straight: They are NOT water boys.

It is true that the job description of an athletic trainer includes a mandate to make sure that athletes remain properly hydrated at all times. Thus, they occasionally distribute cups of POWERade and bottles of water to various and sundry offensive linemen, point guards and center fielders.

But don't let the simplicity of this task fool you.

Georgia Southern University's trainers are part of a highly professional sports medicine team that is charged with keeping the members of the University's 15 varsity sports teams ready for competition.

"We are responsible for the health and well-being of every student-athlete at Georgia Southern," said head athletic trainer Brent Berkstresser, who also serves as the University's assistant athletics

director for sports medicine.

To get an idea of how much the trainers mean to the University's athletics program, just speak to Chris Hatcher, the head coach of the Eagle football team.

"They're probably the most important part of our staff, bar none," Hatcher said. "Injuries are a part of football, just like they're a part of every sport, and it's their job to get our guys well in a timely manner so that they can get back on the field and do what we need them to do on game day.

"As a coach, I am very appreciative of what they do."

ROAD TO RECOVERY

When a Georgia Southern athlete gets hurt, the road to recovery passes through the University's Sports Medicine Center.

Located in the depths of Hanner Fieldhouse, the Center features a combination of state-of-

the-art instruments and traditional tools that are used for the treatment and rehabilitation of injuries.

Upon entering the Center, the first thing a visitor sees is a large room that contains 12 treatment tables, six taping stations and a rehab table. There is a separate rehab room filled with treadmills, Stairmasters, stationary bikes and a variety of weight-lifting equipment; a hydra-therapy room that holds two whirlpools; and a doctor's office for private examinations.

In addition, the Center houses two ice machines: one makes cubed ice for cooling drinks, while the other produces crushed iced for treating injuries.

Ever since the first twisted ankle, ice has been a trainer's best friend, but the staff at the Sports Medicine Center also benefits from the latest in modern technology.

Take, for example, the Hivamat. Developed in Germany and approved by the FDA four years

ago, it is a wand-like instrument that uses electrostatic energy to trigger a deep “kneading” of virtually any injury. This kneading is accomplished with minimal pressure.

Georgia Southern utilizes two Hivamats, and Berkstresser believes they are one of the most valuable tools in his arsenal.

“The Hivamats have quickly become the most popular modality we use in treating our athletes,” he said. “They do a great job of reducing pain and swelling.”

Then there’s Game Ready, a sleeve-like device that uses ice-cold water and compression to treat swelling in everything from knees and ankles to elbows and shoulders.

“We have tremendous support from our athletics director, Sam Baker,” Berkstresser said. “He makes sure we get the equipment we need to safely and effectively treat our athletes.”

TRAINING TRAINERS

Of course, all of these high-tech gadgets would be useless without competent people to operate them, and the Sports Medicine Center is blessed with an educated and experienced group of trainers.

Berkstresser has a bachelor’s degree in athletic training and a master’s degree in kinesiology. He spent 12 years at Kansas State University and the University of Maryland before coming to Georgia Southern in 2003.

Berkstresser oversees a staff of three full-time certified athletic trainers, each of whom has a master’s degree. In addition, there are seven graduate assistants who are certified athletic trainers and pursuing a master’s degree.

Rounding out the staff are approximately 25 undergraduate students who are pursuing a bachelor’s degree in athletic training. Their academic requirements include a healthy dose of physiology and anatomy courses, not to mention the practical experience they gain from helping out with the University’s athletes.

Each full-time trainer is assigned to a particular group of athletes. Berkstresser and assistant trainer Nate Miker work with the football team, and Miker also works with the cross country, track and field, golf and cheerleading teams.

Associate trainer Brandy Petty has the women’s basketball, soccer and tennis teams, as well as the swimming and volleyball teams. Assistant trainer Tyler Landgraf gets the men’s basketball and tennis teams, and he also oversees the graduate students who work with the baseball, softball and men’s soccer teams.



Regardless of their assigned sport, the trainers find themselves with very little down time.

“At this level, most of the sports are year-round activities for the athletes,” Landgraf said. “If they aren’t practicing, they’re running or lifting weights, so there’s almost always someone who needs your attention.”

WHEN INJURIES HAPPEN

What are the most common injuries treated by Georgia Southern’s trainers? The answer depends on the sport.

For basketball players, it’s tendonitis of the knee. For baseball players, it’s sore elbows and shoulders. For football players, it’s bruised hands.

Bruised hands?

“Most people are surprised by that,” Berkstresser said, “but football players use their hands on every single play, and they’re usually hitting something hard, like a helmet or somebody’s shoulder pads.”

Regardless of the nature of the injury, the trainers are the first line of contact for an athlete that gets hurt. Berkstresser and his assistants are supported by a team of local doctors that includes a general practitioner, an orthopedic surgeon, an optometrist and two dentists.

“Essentially, the athletic training staff evaluate injuries and illnesses,” Berkstresser said. “We then make a decision as to whether we need to refer the student-athlete to one of our physicians, or we can treat them with our resources.”

If an athlete is recovering from an injury or surgery, they are required to report to the Sports Medicine Center for treatment sessions, which

usually start at 7 a.m.

“We start out by doing a subjective report that involves asking the student-athlete how they are feeling,” Berkstresser explained. “Then, if it’s, say, a sprained ankle, we’ll get an objective reading by evaluating any discoloration or swelling, observing their walking pattern, and performing a functionality test that measures their ability to run, plant, jump, etc.”

“After that, it’s treatment that may involve ice, heat or ultrasound, and then a rehab session.”

The trainers record all of the pertinent information in a computer database and provide all of the head coaches with an updated injury report every day.

“We let the coaches know what a student-athlete can or can’t do in practice, and if they’ll be available for the next competition,” Berkstresser said.

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

The trainers don’t just treat existing injuries. They also play a role in injury prevention by taping, padding and bracing various parts of the body.

Oh, yeah. The trainers also make sure the athletes get plenty of fluids, especially if it’s extremely hot, as it was in August, when the heat index routinely surpassed 110 degrees during preseason football drills.

The football team can go through 200 gallons of water and 60 gallons of POWERade during a single practice session. The players consume 80 gallons of water and 80 gallons of PowerAde during the average game.

Unfortunately, there is a down side to hydrating athletes.

“When we’re handing out cups of POWERade, it seems like there’s always somebody who yells, ‘Hey, water boy!’” Miker said. “I hate that.”

However, the trainers have come to view such indignities as merely an occupational hazard of their chosen profession.

“It can be a tough job with very long hours,” Petty said, “but you like it more days than you don’t. Knowing that you’re helping people makes it all worthwhile.”

The real payoff comes on game day, when an athlete who was hobbled by an injury gets back on the field in front of a cheering crowd.

“You look up in the stands and see all of those people who came to see the game,” Miker said. “It’s a good feeling to know that, by helping to get the athletes ready to play, you had a role in bringing those fans to the stadium.”



BEYOND BORDERS

Stories by David Thompson, Loretta Brandon and Michelle Groover



Don't look now, but our world is shrinking.

Accustomed to the immediacy of e-mail and the Internet, Georgia Southern University students routinely travel across international boundaries without leaving their residence halls. Their reality is being shaped by a growing global outreach that takes communication, business, politics, the economy, the environment, and our culture into a world view. They understand that today's major issues – economic development, climate change, infectious diseases – are no longer local problems.

“The world today is truly international,” said Nancy Shumaker, director of Georgia Southern’s Center for International Studies. “Today’s citizens understand that every action we take as a nation affects not only the U.S., but nations around the world. As a university, we have an obli-

gation to our students to prepare them for interaction with other cultures of the global society in which they will live.”

Global learning opportunities are integrated throughout every college and program at Georgia Southern, said Shumaker, with centralized support focused in the Center for International Studies.

“Our challenge as a University is to stay ahead of the curve in meeting the demands of our students for international education,” Shumaker said. “We need to stay aware of what is happening now so that we are ready to address the interests of next year’s students.

“At Georgia Southern, the University community as a whole is flexible, and we adapt quickly to change. For international education, that’s a real Georgia Southern advantage.”



Li Gaoqing.
Yi Huang.
Yang Liuqing.
Ji Xi.
Tan Xiao.
China.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Exchanges with China



At this moment half a world away, five Georgia Southern students are studying at Central China Normal University in Wuhan. In turn, five students and two faculty members from Central China Normal are experiencing life at Georgia Southern.

The students, all young women, are adapting well to higher education in the United States, partly because they both understand and speak English. They will be on the Statesboro campus for two semesters, with side trips to American cities during their school breaks.

“We came here to get more international experience,” said Yang Liuqing, an English major who has adopted the American name of Vivian. “Georgia Southern is a beautiful place. We find the people here nice and helpful.” Liuqing’s home is in central China’s Hubei province, not far from the Three Gorges Dam, a Chinese hydroelectric dam spanning the Yangtze River.

“While these students from China are here, they will have an opportunity to get involved on the Georgia Southern campus through student activities, volunteer services, intramurals, the International Club, and through our weekly International Conversation Hour,” said Jeffrey Palis, Georgia Southern’s coordinator of student exchange programs. “There is more to coming on an exchange than just classes. There’s also an exchange of friendships and ideas.”

The five have chosen to live together for easier cooking and transportation purposes, but they are exploring a variety of academic coursework. In addition to English language classes,

they are taking American literature, social psychology, public speaking, composition, anthropology and social dance.

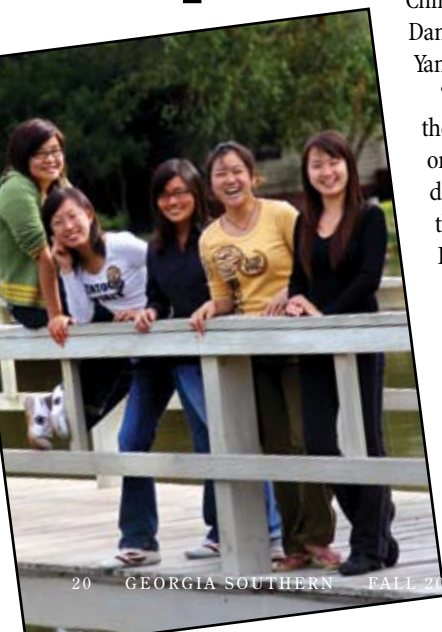
“I am expecting a totally new literature,” said Li Gaoqing, who is majoring in Chinese language and literature. Gaoqing, who has adopted the American name, Sophia, is from Shandong province, a coastal province in Eastern China.

“We live together, but we are meeting American students in class,” said Yi Huang, a psychology major from Fujian province, in southeast China. “The other students introduce themselves to us, and in one class, the teacher asked us to introduce ourselves to each other.” When their new American friends discovered that the group prepares Chinese food, some have even tried to get, and received, dinner invitations.

“The schedule of classes is different here,” said Vivian, and her fellow students agreed. “In China we take 36 credits in a semester, and here we take 12. The scoring system is different and the final exam is the most important part of a class in China. Here, all parts of class are equally important and there are papers and quizzes all semester long. In China, classes are easier in the beginning, harder at the end.”

“To prepare students who are interested in this exchange, Georgia Southern is offering Chinese language classes, taught by Xiaojie Li, one of the exchange faculty members,” said Palis. “The introductory Chinese class is full and has a waiting list. The other exchange faculty member, Hong Yang, is conducting research under the guidance of Martha Pennington, chair of Georgia Southern’s Writing and Linguistics program.

The students’ visit is supported by the Coca-Cola Foundation, which recently presented a \$200,000 grant to implement an educational exchange between Central China Normal and Georgia Southern University.





Sweden to Statesboro

Christian Holmqvist.
Sweden.
Psychology.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Christian Holmqvist loves the Alps. But remember, they're in Switzerland. He's from Sweden. "I was in New York and I was talking to a guy who worked at the New York airport and I needed help with directions," explained Holmqvist. "He said, 'By the way where are you from?' "I said, 'Sweden.' He said, 'Oh I love the Alps.' "I said I like them, too," laughed the psychology major.

Back home, his family lives in a suburb of Sweden's capital city, Stockholm. His dad is policeman and his mom is a secretary with the patent office. He has a younger sister who will be attending college in Sweden next spring.

Holmqvist, a freshman, chose Georgia Southern through a Web "match test" that allows students to input the attributes they are seeking, like major, region and school size. "When I was done there were five universities left," he said. "I started by looking at the Web sites of each college. I don't really know what precisely drew me more to Georgia Southern than any other. I loved the pictures of the campus.

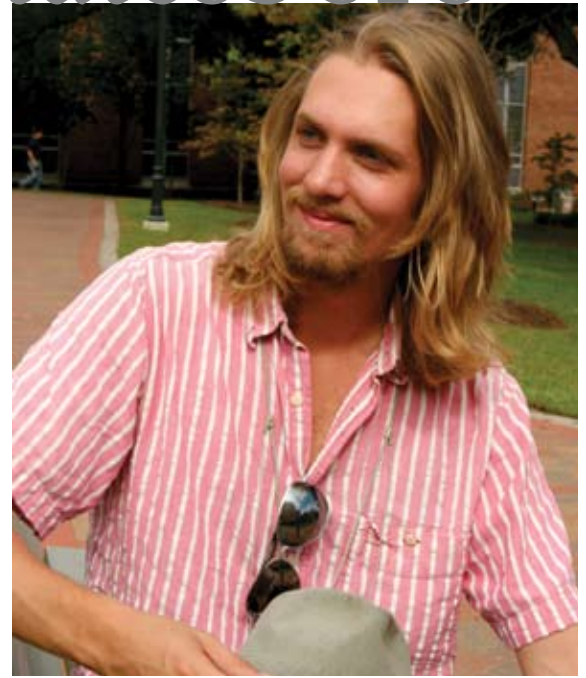
"At this particular point I hadn't really thought through applying and moving to America, but I sent an e-mail with a question to (University international admissions counselor) Mr. Ron Jones," Holmqvist said. "He wrote me back with a very nice and inviting answer. I was very happy. That pretty much settled me.

"Since I've been here, I'm still kind of in the process of adapting to everything because even though things aren't that different between Sweden and here on the surface, when you move somewhere abroad, that far away from where you are from, you notice small differences in how people act and think and talk, and food, and what you do for fun in your free time."

Holmqvist's family came with him to help with the move-in process. "We stopped for three days in New York, and what struck me when we came down here is that people are so much nicer and friendlier than in New York. I was very happy about that and I still am," he said.

"Everyone I've met has been very kind and inviting and open. That's one of the biggest surprises I think. I tried not to have any specific expectations. I wanted to just come here and experience it for what it was," Holmqvist said. "The only real expectations that I had were about America in general. Pretty much, the view of Americans that that I had was from the movies and television. Even in Sweden most of the TV shows and movies that are shown are from America. But since we're not there, we don't know what's true and what's not.

"Part of my coming here was experiencing more on a per-



sonal level what America is like," said Holmqvist. "All around the world, I'm pretty sure that people have very strong opinions about America without really knowing how it's like here. I wanted to get a feeling of how small-town America is. I feel that I found it. I'm very happy about that."

Another thing that surprised him about Statesboro is that there is no public transportation, a common convenience in Sweden and across most of Europe.

"That really took me by surprise at first," he said. "My sister came with me for International Visitation Day. We lived in a hotel and we rented a car in Savannah to come here, but we are not used to driving anywhere we are going.

"We wanted to go for a walk to explore the city," said Holmqvist. "A lot of the times we felt like people were driving by and looking, like, 'What? Why are they walking? You're supposed to drive!' That felt pretty weird."

Based on that and his experiences thus far, he is planning for a major adaptation to the American lifestyle in the coming months.

"I don't have a car," he said. "Since I'm most likely going to be here four years I'm going to buy a car because I see the importance of it. I have a bike and I can easily get around campus, but as soon as I need to buy groceries or if I go to Walmart, for example, it presents a bit of a problem. I always need someone to drive me there."

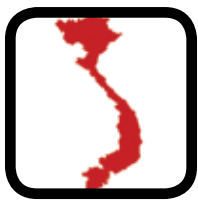


North American Studies...

The Center for International Studies is the administrative headquarters for the 2006-10 North American Mobility Project, supported by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education.

The project enhances North American Studies Programs at member institutions in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. through collaborative

curriculum development and the creation of exchange opportunities. The grant funds scholarships for students to study at a participating institution for one or two semesters, and provides an additional stipend for recipients wishing to improve their French or Spanish language skills.



Vietnam: Past vs. Present

James Bentley.
Tucker, Ga.
Photography.

STUDY ABROAD



Photographic art student James Bentley had seen lots of 1960s-vintage pictures and film footage from the Vietnam War before his study abroad to the Southeast Asian nation.

“Before we went on the trip, I think everybody had their own ideas of what it would be like,” said Bentley, a senior from Tucker, Ga. “When we got there, it was completely different.

“Everywhere we went we were treated with respect,” he said. “I was talking to one individual. I told them I was worried about being an American and being accepted. Right off the bat, he said, ‘No! No! No! We love foreigners! That happened in the past!’ They were under Chinese rule and French rule, and it was just another step for them,” Bentley said.

He found it easy to talk with people on the street – much easier, he said, than he has found in most big American cities. While some were reluctant to talk about politics, he surmises because of government restrictions, “You can walk around the streets and just walk up to anyone and start having a conversation with them,” he said.

He tried to capture all that he saw on film and videotape.

“As a photographer, visually everything was completely different from what you see here. I took 1,070 photographs

and 12 hours of video,” he said. What Bentley photographed and videotaped depicts the simplicity of life in Vietnam today, he said.

Thirty years has brought much change to an Asian country viewed by most Americans as it was the 1960s. Even so, Bentley said, there are reminders of the war. He visited a war museum in Saigon and was able to purchase a Marine Corps lighter and a set of U.S. military dog tags.

He hopes that, for a family somewhere, the dog tags might shed light on the fate of their owner.

“My brother-in-law is stationed up Fort Knox and he’s trying to find out about the information on that dog tag,” said Bentley. Though it’s been more than three decades since the last American soldier left, “I saw the remnants of what went on there.

“We only know Vietnam from the war,” he said. “When we got there, it was a lot more commercialized. It was so busy. Then again, on the side of the street there was the simplest example of human values – a father taking care of his kids. It was so chaotic, but it was so simplistic.

“It was one of those things I know I’m never going to forget the rest of my life,” said Bentley.

Representing the world...

For the Fall 2007 semester, there are 65 foreign-born faculty teaching at Georgia Southern.

Some are with exchange programs. Others are permanent residents of the U.S.

All are involved in sharing their heritage with students.

Native countries of Georgia Southern’s international faculty include Canada, Ireland, Germany, Korea, Japan, China, Bangladesh, United Kingdom, Spain, Colombia, Albania, Guyana, Jamaica, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Russia, Egypt, Argentina, Brazil, Netherlands, Switzerland, Ghana, Ecuador, Trinidad and Tobago, Romania, Serbia, Ukraine, Cameroon, Mexico, Chile, and Poland.



Lalit Ramchandani.
Oman.
Psychology.

Starting in Oman



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Lalit Ramchandani thinks of himself as a citizen of the world.

Born of Indian parents and raised in the Middle Eastern nation of Oman, he and his family returned briefly to India before emigrating to the U.S. about three years ago.

Now a senior, the psychology major's voyage of personal discovery has been as adventurous as the physical journey.

"I was not raised in a traditional family, to say the least," Ramchandani said. "I was raised in a multicultural environment. I allowed myself the permission to go against the stereotype – a reflection of my non-traditional and open way of being raised. My mom wanted me to go towards my 'calling' and dad always encouraged being open and up front about things we wanted in life," he said. "This process helped me choose my own path."

Approaching graduation, he sees his Georgia Southern experience as a positive one. "I would say what I am experiencing is different than what I have been used to, but I have enjoyed it and continue to appreciate and embrace it day by day."

Not content with psychological theory alone, Ramchandani has become involved in undergraduate research with the support of his mentor, professor Amy Hackney. He had the winning entry in the 2007 Georgia Psychological Association's Undergraduate Research Competition for his poster, "Social Comparison, Self-esteem, and Face Book Usage."

"I have enjoyed researching and can't wait to get into a clinical program and observe, learn and take part in the fascinating process called therapy," he said. "I would like to become

a professor after finishing my PhD program and, hopefully, have a practice at the same time."

In addition to his classroom studies and psychology research, Ramchandani is a member of the student Sexual Assault Prevention Associates organization. The group promotes open discussion among students about sexual violence and increases the awareness and sensitivity of the public to sexual assault.

Given his travels and willingness to explore new ideas and experiences, Ramchandani is getting accustomed to stepping out into unfamiliar territory. Last May, he stepped out again – way out – when he made his first skydive.

Inspired by a supportive friend, he set skydiving as a goal after meeting a personal challenge of losing 30 pounds. "I was also helped tremendously by my trip to Disney World last spring during which I rode my first rollercoaster," he said. "Then I figured that it would be time to go skydive." He said his study of psychology also contributed helping him over the fear.

Jumping out of an airplane was "a thrilling experience to say the least," which he says has influenced his approach to risk when it comes to engaging other aspects of living. "Once you go skydive, which is a huge risk of life, other things don't seem as big," said Ramchandani.

"The freefall was for about 90 seconds, and the parachute ride about six to seven minutes," he said. "Freefall is fantastic at 120 miles per hour. The nauseous part is the last push out of the plane. We even did a flip."

Sharing ideas and experiences...

Georgia Southern's Center for International Studies pursues a variety of efforts that engage students on and off campus in internationally-focused programs.

The International Club provides opportunities for international students to meet and work together. The Cross-Cultural Friendship Program pairs international and American students who share interests. International Conversation Hours are Friday gatherings of American and international students who share meals and ideas. The event draws 130 or more students each week.

Other programs include International Extended Families where

students experience family life in Statesboro, the Global Ambassadors Program, which trains American students to present their study abroad experiences in area schools, and the International Festival, which engages international students with members of the community.

Each fall semester, International Week includes international events campus-wide. In conjunction with the week, the International Festival is a collaborative event with local and regional school districts. The event includes international food and entertainment and a global village created by area middle-schoolers.



**Bill Schmid.
Georgia
Southern
Department
of Music.**

FACULTY OUTREACH

Ah, El Salvador...



I went to participate in a series of concerts titled “Jazz Sinfonico” and performed by the National Youth Orchestra of El Salvador along with six American jazz professionals.

The hotel was very nice, but once you ventured away from the front desk, English was seldom spoken. The Peace Corps representative working with the Youth Orchestra helped us significantly in terms of cultural and language awareness. There is a big push, I understand, by the Salvadoran government to get the populace to learn English to help with hoped-for tourism. Some logistical elements made the travel easier – the official currency of El Salvador is the U.S. dollar, and the electrical voltage and outlets are the same as in the U.S.

The place still has a bad reputation as a travel destination because of the disastrous civil war in the 1980s and the ongoing high crime rate. We were, for the most part, kept in the safer parts of the city. The nice residences of the wealthy were pointed out to us – they were all surrounded by high walls, topped with razor wire. What a way to live.

On the first morning there, we traveled (we had a driver for most places we needed to go) to the office of the National Youth Orchestra of El Salvador, where we were greeted by a security guard with a shotgun. This is a sight that was to become common for us as the week went on. We were assured it was okay, since the private security guards with their shotguns – along with the police and their Berettas – were the good guys. Most of the orchestra staff spoke English fairly well, including the conductor, Martin Jorge, who is actually from Uruguay. Martin, by the way, is a wonderful conductor and great guy.

Knowing the country’s recent history, I must say the Salvadoran people are remarkable. Everywhere I went, the people were very friendly, always ready with a smile and greeting.

David, the trumpet player who sat on my left in rehearsals

and concerts, is one example. He is only able to participate in the group because an orchestra sponsor provides a scholarship covering all of David’s expenses, but not to the point of replacing his very poorly-constructed trumpet, unfortunately. But he has the most positive attitude!

I wanted to do something for him, so I gave him my trumpet stand after the last concert. Well, you would’ve thought I’d handed him \$10,000. He was so excited, with much astonishment and big hug for me. In fact, the conductor told me later that after that concert, David told the conductor that he just couldn’t talk right then – he was too excited! All that from merely being nice to him, learning some Spanish words, playing well, and then giving him a \$24 stand.

What an object lesson for us all, eh?

In addition to the orchestra members and the American professionals, there were a few local adult musicians: a trombonist, a saxophonist and the whole rhythm section. And when we did Latin tunes – wow! The style was remarkable!

With his son helping to translate, the bass player spoke to me before one of the concerts to thank me for coming there to be with them and to play with them. The adult trombonist brought me a large aluminum pan full of Salvadoran quesadilla, more like a cornbread, that his wife had made for me. There were plenty more incidents like this, which only served to humble me.

I’ve never experienced anything like this before, and it was amazing. I’m not saying I did all this to make myself feel good, although that did happen. To know that I could make such an impact, just doing what I take for granted, was rewarding on so many levels. I’ve already told the conductor that I would love to return. This is after he told me that I was exactly the kind of person who’s perfect for them. So maybe it’ll happen!

Hasta luego!

BY BILL SCHMID



Roaming around Italy

Misti McLeod.
Reidsville, Ga.
Art.

STUDY ABROAD



Misti McLeod always wanted to see Italy.

"I've always wanted to go there, especially Tuscany," she said, "so it was the perfect opportunity. When we first got there, they took us to Rome and Florence the first week as a whole group. On the weekends we got to travel where we wanted to, so we got to go on a guided tour the first time then we got to go back on our own.

Language, she said, was a bit of a problem. She took a course in Italian, and "That helped a little bit with everyday conversations."

The group also visited Germany. "Munich was my favorite when I went to Germany," she said, describing it as a very clean city.

As for Italy, "I just loved it. Venice is always a must-see and Rome – all the obvious places are still just the best places to go, but with our classes we got to travel to a lot of the smaller cities and those are a lot of cities that I think tourists miss. I still think they're worthwhile to see. People shouldn't plan their trips around the big cities

because the little cities have things to offer, too."

The class stayed in the southern Tuscany Renaissance town of Montepulciano. While we were there, our little city had an opera going on and bands there every night. It was nice. In the big cities everybody spoke English. In Montepulciano, hardly any of the older people spoke any English."

Which led to her developing an unexpected friendship with an elderly Italian lady who lived in the apartment near her own. "She would talk to me every day," McLeod said. "I didn't know what she was saying, but every day she would talk to us. After five weeks, she had to know we didn't speak any Italian. Finally, she started doing using hand gestures so we could kind of understand. One of my funniest experiences there was her talking to me every day.

"In Tuscany, the landscape is completely different from any other place I've gone. You know when you're getting into Tuscany. It's just completely different. Tuscany is just grass and huge fields of sunflowers everywhere and trees."



At 35, Model U.N. program among oldest in nation

When Georgia Southern's first Model U.N. team winged its way to New York in 1972, Richard Nixon had just won re-election.

Boasting one of the oldest continuous Model United Nations programs in the nation, Georgia Southern each year sends a group of approximately 20 students to the national Model U.N. in New York City. A simulation of the real U.N., the Model U.N. features delegations from colleges around the world. Each is assigned a different country than their own, which they represent at the annual conference.

Now-retired political science professors Lane Van Tassell and Zia Hashmi inaugurated the University's program. Current international studies professor Barry Balleck took the reigns of the program in 1996.

"The first year I attended the national conference there were about 2,200 students from around the world that participated," said Balleck. "This year, due to the growth, the national conference has

grown from a one-week-long conference to three. There is one in Washington, D.C., and two in New York City."

After learning which country the Georgia Southern delegation will be representing, Balleck prepares his students by teaching extensive details about the country, its culture, history, foreign policy and the major issues facing that country.

"At the national conference we write position papers on three topics in each committee," said Balleck. "The papers are written from the perspective of that country and not our own beliefs.

"The goal of the Model United Nations is for students to take on the persona of a delegate from that country and represent it, if you will, as jealously as they would represent the interests of the United States," Balleck added. "But, you have to remember, they are representing the official government of that country, which doesn't always mesh with what they believe."



Kari Greenway.
Savannah, Ga.
Music.

STUDY ABROAD

Sounds of Costa Rica



When was the last time you saw monkeys on the beach?

Music major Kari Greenway's study abroad to Costa Rica let her enhance her foreign language skills, but she also saw some unusual animals, explored a jungle, went whitewater rafting and snorkeling and visited two active volcanoes.

Living in the capital city of San Jose, the Savannah native attended a language academy each day.

"I knew a girl who went the year before and she said it was really awesome and she really improved her Spanish," said Greenway. "I jumped at it at the last minute and figured I could get credit for it, meet friends and practice Spanish."

Greenway joined six other students and Georgia Southern professor Delores Rangel. "We stayed with a host family," she said. "My 'mom' there was awesome and we talked all the time, so I had a chance to practice my Spanish and an opportunity to get to know her. The language academy was small, she said, and all the teachers were Costa Rican.

After weekdays in the classroom, weekends were for getting out into the city or the countryside to learn about

Costa Rica. "We went somewhere every weekend, including visiting two active volcanoes. We zip lined through a forest, snorkeled, walked through the jungle, saw monkeys on the beach, and went whitewater rafting," said Greenway.

"To get to school every day we took the bus – it stopped pretty much right in the middle of our little neighborhood – for the cheap amount of about 20 cents. If we went out at night, we took taxis and that was really cheap, too," Greenway said. "For the weekends, we had our own little travel company so we took a van they provided for us."

She shared most of her meals with her host family. "Every meal we had rice and beans," she said. Greenway and another student tried to cook an American meal for the family. "We couldn't think of anything because everything in San Jose was very similar to American food with a Spanish twist to it."

After graduating with a Spanish minor, Greenway will have options to use her skills in any number of multilingual settings. "There are many opportunities to serve as a Spanish translator," she said. "I'd also like to give private voice lessons."



International partners...

Exchange programs at Georgia Southern began in 1948 with then-President Marvin Pittman, who was selected to lead the United Nations Education Commission's effort to rebuild Germany's post-World War II rural educational system. While in Germany, he met a young German education major, Albin Eber, and he convinced the Statesboro Rotary Club to pay Eber's expenses to complete his education at Georgia Teachers College. When he graduated in 1950, Eber's example helped to establish the tradition of Rotary International.

Today the University has bilateral and collaborative exchange programs that allow students to study almost anywhere in the world. Bilateral programs – ones that are based on a memorandum of understanding with a partner university – are in place at:

- Huazhong Normal University – Wuhan, China
 - University of South Bohemia – Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic
 - Roskilde University – Roskilde, Denmark
 - Fachhochschule Ingolstadt University of Applied Sciences – Ingolstadt, Germany
 - Nagoya University of Foreign Studies – Nagoya, Japan
 - Universidad Veracruzana – Xalapa, Mexico
 - Keimyung University – Daegu, South Korea
 - Nearing formalization – University of Limerick – Limerick, Ireland
- Student wanting to study countries not represented in the bilateral exchange programs, may apply through a collaborative exchange program such as the International Student Exchange Program or the North American Student Mobility Program, Australearn or Swansea University in Wales.



Jessica Sparrow.
Marietta, Ga.
Biology.

**STUDY
ABROAD**

A Passage To India



Jessica Sparrow didn't set out to study in India. But she's glad the opportunity came along.

Because of her interest in coral reefs, she really wanted to study in Australia, but the year-long program she was seeking was cost-prohibitive. Then she heard a presentation by geography professor Keith Bosak on India.

"He said they were getting a group of people to go trekking through the Himalayas and also taking a mountain geography and sustainability course over there. "I was really interested in the sustainability part and when else can I go trekking though the Himalayas? It was an amazing trip. I'm so glad I went.

"We got to meet some of the local people. I realize they are a third world country – poverty is an issue – but it didn't really hit what that meant until you go over there and see the effect on people."

The group flew into New Delhi, and was almost immediately faced with the reality of that poverty. Homeless families, she said, are assigned spaces on streets. "The government regulates the blocks of the sidewalk – you know, where the lines are – and they regulate that because the homeless are such a problem they don't know what to do. So you get your own little square for your family to live on the sidewalk."

She also saw problems relating to drinking water and

public sanitation. "I got so much of an appreciation of what we have in a first-world country, and I wouldn't have gotten that understanding if I had gone to Australia."

On the trek into the Himalayas, she observed environmental problems and the Indian government's attempts to solve them. Due to the ongoing issues, a section of the Nandi Devi Biosphere Reserve has been closed off. "You have to get special permission to go there. The World Bank gave them money to close it for conservation purposes. The only thing is, it ruined a lot of the local villager's livelihoods." Many of the locals were farmers or ranchers. "It really crippled their economy," she said.

Sparrow also gained an appreciation of the lifestyle and opportunities available to her as an American. "I would get up at six in the morning, and already girls that were four and five years old were working on the crops. You'd see little girls herding cows. And boys, they'd have to do more manual stuff, but usually they'd leave the village to go to the city to find work. A lot of the women run the households, run the farms, take care of the houses. It was very interesting to see the different roles of men and women."

She might go back to the mountains, but would like to visit Kenya and either Thailand or Indonesia.



East meets West...

The International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) has placed its operations in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) at Georgia Southern for the coming year.

The College is expected to become the permanent home of this international organization.

"We have this tremendous international opportunity thanks to a relationship forged years ago by the late Jiann-Ping Hsu, namesake of the College of Public Health," said Dean Charles Hardy. "In the 1990s, Dr. Hsu was active in the early growth of the ICSA and served at least one term as president of the organization. Her husband, professor Karl Peace, is a member of our faculty and remains an active member of the ICSA.

"Knowing the importance of the ICSA to Jiann-Ping Hsu, Dr. Peace made a proposal to the ICSA Board of Directors in June 2006, to incubate their central office within the JPHCOPH," Hardy added. "That proposal became effective in August 2007."

The ICSA office is staffed by Chungfeng Ren, a graduate assistant pursuing a Master of Public Health degree in biostatistics. Biostatistics professor Lili Yu serves as a faculty advisor to Ren and oversees ICSA operations.

The ICSA office will be responsible for operating the organization's Web site and e-mail list and for producing the twice-yearly ICSA Bulletin. The office will also be responsible for sending notices of the annual meeting, taking registrations for those who plan to attend, and facilitating membership in the ICSA.

"Having an office of the ICSA in the J.P. Hsu College of Public Health is a definite advantage," said Hardy. "In addition to the positive recognition it brings to the College, it provides a conduit for recruiting both students and faculty. It also increases the transcultural opportunities for our public health students, a benefit that really enhances the value of a Georgia Southern education."

PRIDE

O
Z
T
H
M
R
Z
M

Southern Pride Marching Band marks its 25th anniversary

By Mark Holland

For the better part of a month, the players battled the heat and the gnats that are hallmarks of summer in South Georgia, gathering on the green grass of their carefully marked-off practice field.

Under the watchful eyes of their whistle-blowing leader, they work on formations and movements and cadences in an effort to become a well-tuned machine.

Finally, after surviving the rigors of two-a-day practice sessions and adjusting to the demands of being full-time students, they could see the payoff for all of the time and effort:

The Georgia Southern football team? No, it's Southern Pride.

Numbering nearly 200 members, the University's marching band is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

In addition to performing two brand-new halftime routines during the course of the season, Southern Pride will release a special "Greatest Hits" CD that will feature the band's most popular songs of the past quarter century including fan favorites like the GSU fight song and the GSU Scramble.

"We are really looking forward to celebrating 25 years of Southern Pride," said Mathew D. Fallin, the associate director of bands in Georgia Southern's Department of Music and the director of the marching band. "We have a fine group of students whose talent and dedication in support of the football team will continue to help make Saturdays in Paulson Stadium a memorable experience for all Eagle fans."

Fallin has been affiliated with Southern Pride in one capacity or another for 21 of the band's 25 years. A native of nearby Claxton, he was a percussionist in the University's very first marching band, which was created by director Jerold Michaelson in 1982 to support the fledgling football program.

After graduating in 1987, Fallin left Georgia Southern to

pursue his graduate degrees, but he returned in 1991 to assist Michaelson's successor, Daniel Pittman. It was Fallin and Pittman who dubbed the marching band Southern Pride.

"We just felt like the marching band needed an identity of its own," said Fallin, who succeeded Pittman as director of the marching band in 1994. "We came up with the name and the logo, and it sort of took off from there."

Of course, Southern Pride is not the only moniker for the marching band. It is also billed as "the hardest working band in show business."

And, in preparing for its silver anniversary season, Southern Pride has displayed a work ethic that would make the late James Brown feel good. Its members began arriving on campus on the morning of Aug. 1, a full nine days before the residence halls opened for the rest of the student body.

Southern Pride held its first rehearsal of the new academic year Aug. 3, marking the beginning of a grueling eight-day stretch that included 21 practice sessions. Some of the rehearsals were held at Southern Pride's practice field, which is part of the Recreation Activity Center (RAC) outdoor complex. These sessions focused on the mechanics of marching.

Other rehearsals were held inside the RAC. At these sessions, the band concentrated on learning – or re-learning, as the case may be – its repertoire of songs.

All together, the members of Southern Pride logged well over 40 hours of rehearsal time before the first official day of fall semester.

"It takes quite a bit of work to make it all come together," Fallin said. "I'm not sure most people realize just how much these students put into it."

Classes began on Aug. 13, and that's when Southern Pride initiated the weekly practice routine it will use until the end of





FRANK FORTUNE

football season. The band rehearses from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The thrice-a-week practice schedule represents a significant departure for Southern Pride. In each of the last two seasons, the band had four rehearsals each week. Prior to that, it practiced five times a week.

“Like a lot of college marching bands, we have a good bit of turnover in personnel from year to year,” Fallin said. “Between class and other activities, students have so much to keep them busy. We hope that cutting back on the number of days we practice when school is in session will encourage more students to stay in the band.” Marching band is an academic course worth one hour of credit. The course is a requirement for music education majors, who must participate in Southern Pride for a minimum of two years in order to obtain their degrees.

During a typical season, music majors comprise about 25 percent of the band’s membership. The rest are former high school musicians who simply enjoy performing in a marching band and supporting the football team.

To reward Southern Pride’s most loyal members, the Department of Music is now awarding Band Service Awards, which are a kind of scholarship.

“These awards are another way of encouraging students to stay with the marching band,” Fallin said.

The latest edition of Southern Pride includes 128 wind instruments, 35 percussionists, three drum majors, 10 color guard members, seven major-

ettes and one feature twirler.

When the Eagle football team kicked off the season against West Georgia on Sept. 8, Southern Pride unveiled the first of the two halftime shows it is performing in 2007.

To design the marching routines, Fallin uses a special computer program that tracks the movement of every member of the band in conjunction with the appropriate music. The result is a “drill book” that is distributed to each member. The book for the first halftime show is almost 25 pages long.

“With instruments on the sideline, we teach and rehearse the drill in segments,” Fallin said. “The band marches to a recorded tape or sings the parts to help develop the idea of associating moves on the field with phrases in the music. After the drill becomes familiar, we put the segments together, this time with the instruments.”

As usual, Southern Pride will continue to add to the pageantry and excitement of the Eagles’ home contests with a pre-game show that includes the University fight song, GSU Scramble and alma mater.

Both of those tunes will appear on Southern Pride’s “Greatest Hits” CD, featuring more than 40 songs.

“The CD is a collection of the most popular songs we’ve played on the field and in the stands over the past 25 years,” Fallin said. “We think it’s something that every Georgia Southern football fan will want to have.”

For more information on Southern Pride or to buy the “Greatest Hits” CD, visit georgiasouthern.edu/southernpride or call (912) 681-5396.

HOMECOMING.

One popular dictionary defines it as “the return of a group of people, usually on a special occasion, to a place formerly frequented or regarded as home.” Tens of thousands came to campus this fall, bringing with them their spouses, children, grandchildren and cherished memories of college days. “Returning home” to Georgia Southern in 2007 meant more than just remembering – although that’s always worth the trip. But, it also means making new memories of a special place that bring you back year after year...



The Homecoming Parade had an international flavor.



Watching the Parade is as much fun as being in it!



The Greeks were out in force for Homecoming events.



So simple, even a caveman can do it.



PHOTOS BY FRANK FORTUNE AND SUZANNE OLIVER



Special guests for the weekend were members of the 1957 baseball team. L to r, Jimmy White, Von Hall, Ralph Berryhill, Roy Alewine, Dave Esmonde, Bill Mallard, Briggs Tyler, Ralph Turner



Legendary entertainer Kenny Rogers performed for the 1906 Society.



1906 Society members were honored at the annual Gala.



The Eagles take the field and the win, defeating The Citadel 21-17.



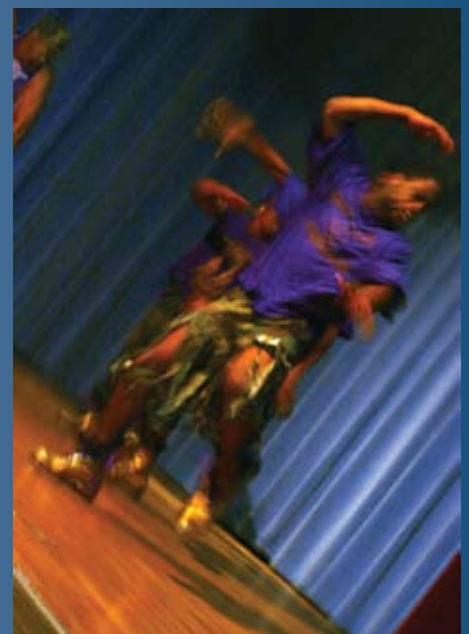
School spirit among students reached record support this year.



▲ The BAGS Reunion was a big hit.
▼ Student dance performers wowed the crowd.



Tedris Kelly and Molly Trindell were named Homecoming King and Queen.



1950s

Robert L. Hurst ('54) is a Ware County, Ga., historian and retired Ware County educator. He recently became a contributing writer for *Georgia Backroads* with his first article appearing in the Autumn 2007 issue of the magazine.

Von Hall ('57) recently retired from his post as long-time golf coach with the Thomson-

McDuffie County Recreation and Leisure Services. Children have been part of his life for nearly 60 years. "I love being around them and helping them – especially in sports," Hall said. Hall also taught mathematics and history and coached baseball.

Ralph D. Walton ('57) has started his 48th year in education. He has served as a teacher, department chair, counselor, director of curriculum, principal, headmaster and college professor. He is now teaching chemistry at

The First Academy in Orlando, Fla., where he and his wife, Ella, live. Contact him at RalphWalton@TheFirstAcademy.org.

1960s

Patrick Blanchard ('66) was featured in the premiere issue of *Pillars of Augusta Life* magazine, which focuses on the people of Augusta, Ga.

» ALUMNI PROFILE

'Forever changed...'

Integration pioneer Mosley recalls good and bad as GSC student

By David Thompson

A strange thing happened the first day Georgia Southern student Ulysee Mosley Jr. walked across campus.

Nothing.

In August 1965, Mosley and five other African-American students had just enrolled at then-Georgia Southern College. He and five women – Jessie Ziegler, Shirley Woodall, Arlene Daughtry, Clavera Love and Catherine Davis – arrived only six months after graduate student John Bradley became the very first black American to enroll.



"I was a nervous wreck the night before the day of registration in Hanner Gym," Mosley said. "I had lived a lifetime of segregation and discrimination, had experienced racial protests with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in my hometown of Albany, Ga., and had heard of the violence James Meredith and other African-American students encountered when they integrated colleges and universities throughout the South. I thought of being stoned, beaten

"My good experiences with both races outnumbered the bad, and my whole way of thinking about race was forever changed at Georgia Southern."

Ulysee Mosley Jr.

or even killed the next day when I walked on campus.

"The white staff and students were surprisingly cordial, helpful and non-violent," said Mosley. "To my surprise, several professors and staff members at Georgia Southern were actively involved in civil rights activities in the city of Statesboro. Foremost among those professors were Dr. Donald Olewine and Dr. Harris Mobley. They went above and beyond being friendly in helping African-American students assimilate into the culture at Georgia Southern."

Mosley first lived with an African-American family in town. Later, he moved into Dorman Hall, becoming the first black student to live

on campus. He roomed with a white student, Steve Hess.

"Steve and I were good roommates," said Mosley. On one occasion, he said, "Someone threw a carton of sour milk on our door and ran downstairs. Steve and I found the necessary equipment and cleaned the mess. I lived in Dorman Hall until I graduated, and the sour milk was the only negative experience I encountered. Those guys who wanted to associate with me, did, and those who did not, didn't."

Mosley joined in student activities as a member of the Masquers drama club and Alpha Psi Omega social fraternity.

"Yes, there were a few bad experiences," he said. "I attended a dance with some African-American girls. Clavera Love was a very outgoing person. She danced with many white males who were moving around on the dance floor by themselves. One of the guys became verbally abusive with Clavera," Mosley said. "When I intervened, a fist hit me in my left eye. The scar above my eye is still visible."

Catherine Davis was the first African-American to graduate with a degree from Georgia Southern, he said. In June 1969, Jessie Ziegler became the first African American student to have enrolled as a freshman and graduated with a four year degree from the college.

1970s

Amanda Bruner McRee ('71) is an upper-school Spanish teacher and cheerleader coach at Deerfield-Windsor School in Albany, Ga., where she lives. She recently received recognition for 25 years of teaching in Georgia by the Independent School Association. She has three children and three grandchildren. She can be reached at abmcree@hotmail.com.

Robert M. Williams Jr. ('71) is the editor and publisher of *The Blackshear Times*. He was honored during the National Newspaper Association's 121st Annual Convention and Trade Show with the 2007 James O. Amos Award. The award is presented to a working or retired newspaperman who has provided "distinguished service and leadership to the community press and his community."

Kenneth Austin ('74) works in purchasing and production control for American Mills

Inc. in Griffin, Ga. He has also been teaching accounting at Griffin Technical College for 10 years. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two sons, Cliff and Walt, and reside in Williamson, Ga. He would like to hear from former classmates at kwareagle@bellsouth.net.

Mitchell Bohannon ('75) was named president/chief executive officer/chairman of the board for Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co. He assumed responsibility for overseeing all aspects of company business.



SPECIAL TO GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Ulysee Mosley Jr. poses as a member of the Masquers theatre group in this photo from the 1968 Reflector yearbook.

"In August 1969, I became the first African American male student to graduate with a four-year degree from Georgia Southern College," said Mosley. "Soon after leaving Georgia Southern with a degree in psychology, I moved to Indianapolis."

Mosley went on to work for Phillip Morris USA and Atterbury Job Corps Center, then began a 35-year career for the public school system of Indianapolis, 17 of those as an elementary school teacher and 18 as a principal.

He earned a master's degree in education from Indiana University and, "In 2005," he said, "I received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Martin University in Indianapolis."

Now retired, he looks back at his undergrad days with pride.

"My experiences at Georgia Southern, good and bad, made me a better person. During that time, some whites believed that African Americans could not be prejudiced. Well, they were wrong. After a lifetime of abuse, segregation,

degradation and deprivation, I was angry and just as prejudiced as any white person when I first came to Georgia Southern," Mosley said.

"It was at Georgia Southern that I learned that there were some good white folks, and there were some bad white folks. There were some good Negroes, and there were some bad Negroes. My good experiences with both races outnumbered the bad, and my whole way of thinking about race was forever changed at Georgia Southern."

» ALUMNI PROFILE

A model life

Joiner's acting career on the rise after start in modeling

By Michelle Groover

The life of a model sounds glamorous, but it takes a lot of hard work to reach the top of the business.

After being discovered in Atlanta, Rusty Joiner spent years modeling in Milan, New York, Miami and Chicago. The former Georgia Southern cheerleader's portfolio includes modeling clothing for companies like Abercrombie & Fitch, American Eagle and Levi's.

"About my third year into modeling, I participated in the Structure underwear contest because the cash prize was so great I'd have to be crazy not to do it," Joiner said. "I was selected as a semi-finalist with 15 to 20 people, then it was narrowed to 10, and then they announced I won the contest." The win gave him a two-year exclusive contract with Structure.

"That is a model's dream," he said. "You have a huge contract and you don't have to do much but work about four times a year."

With his dream job came a lot of down time. "Since I couldn't model for anyone else during that time, I decided to move to California and start studying to become an actor," Joiner said. "I have such a huge respect for acting because it is so challenging."

Joiner has had guest starring television roles on "ER," "CSI: Miami" and "Bones" to name just a few. He has also appeared in the films "Dodgeball" and "Resident Evil: Extinction." This summer he guest starred on the TNT series "The Closer," starring Kyra Sedgwick.

In the episode, "Manhunt," Joiner's character killed several women and used a cattle prod on Sedgwick's character. "It was a very intense role," Joiner explained. "When Kyra's character figures out that I'm the one, I attack her and she shoots me and I die. But I die before she gets her confession – that was the first time that her character didn't get a confession in the three seasons the show has aired.

"That role has been my favorite so far because it was the most challenging," he said. "It's difficult to play a character like that when you're nice, friendly and outgoing, and you have to portray this person who has all this masking going on because he's hiding the evil on the inside, and in the matter of one second able to flip that and go into a rage where you attack someone with the intention to kill," he said. "As an actor, just being able to do something like that is an awesome challenge."

In October Joiner began shooting the independent feature film "Savannah" in the leading male role.

In addition to his roles on TV and in movies, he has also appeared in several commercials. He might look familiar to many because of an Excedrin commercial that ran frequently last summer. In it, he is the bare-chested runner who jogs through a lake. "From that commercial, I had a really fantastic agent call and track me down," he said. He also completed



GREG GORMAN

"I'd like to get to the point that I'm able to pick really awesome roles. My ultimate goal is to win an Academy Award."

Rusty Joiner

his second campaign with Suzuki.

Even with his success as an actor, Joiner hasn't given up his modeling career. He has appeared on 11 covers of Men's Fitness magazine, making his one of the most recognizable faces in the fitness industry.

Joiner's goal is to shoot three films a year, travel and spend time with family. "I'd like to get to the point that I'm able to pick really awesome roles," he said. "My ultimate goal is to win an Academy Award."

James Osterman ('78) recently had his book, *Excellence in Brand Advertising*, published. The book profiles advertising agencies around the country that have earned a reputation for cultivating strong brand relationships.

1980s

Daniel Purdom ('80) is medical director at Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center in Kansas City, Mo.

David Monroe ('81) is the regional director/regional membership executive for Ritz Carlton in Atlanta. He and his wife, Sharon, have two children, Sabra and Wesley.

Edward Freeman ('82) writes, "After years working with the Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of the Army as a special agent, refuge manager and biologist, I finally decided to leave government service. I am now enjoying our most recent gift, Cameron, who was born prematurely in November. He is now 24.5 lbs and 31 inches and is a vibrant and joyful baby."

Charles L. George ('82) is vice president and quality assurance/quality control manager for Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.



Patrick Ford ('87) and his wife **Twila** (Mullis '88) reside in Dublin, Ga. Pat was recently promoted to the South Central Regional Manager position for Walden University School of Education. Twila is an 8th-grade language arts teacher at West Laurens Middle School. They have two daughters, Kayla, 18, a senior at West Laurens High School who just received her acceptance to Georgia Southern, and Hannah, 14, an 8th-grader at West Laurens Middle School.

Kevin L. Mason ('87) was named 2007 Line Officer of the Year for the Southeastern Region by the Federal Probation and Pretrial Officer's Association. He is a federal probation officer for the Middle District of Georgia. He and his wife, Kinsey, reside in Macon.

1990s

Leslie Lawton Fuller ('90) and her husband, Tony, announce the May birth of their son, Aidan.



SPECIAL TO GEORGIA SOUTHERN

» ALUMNI PROFILE

Furnishing new ideas

Zablah helping to drive economic growth in Honduras

With sandy coastlines on two oceans, and soaring mountains and lush jungle valleys in between, the Republic of Honduras is a beautiful country, but is also fighting to leave its recent past of war and hurricane devastation behind. One of the top priorities is to rev up its economy.

People like Fernando Zablah ('02) are providing the fuel.

After earning his BBA from Georgia Southern, Zablah, a native Honduran, went home and joined the management of Desarrollos Metalicos, an office furniture company.

The company is in the city of San Pedro Sula, just a few miles inland from the Caribbean.

"In the R&D department, I analyze existing models for production optimization and cost reduction and create new models according to the region's demands," Zablah said. "In the EuroSeat Department, which focuses on the import of Italian chair components, I am in charge of all the process, from purchasing and production to cost calculation, establishing price lists, and sales support.

"Besides my routine obligations, I designed and update the company's Web site and maintain all computer equipment and configure the software for optimum functioning" he said. "I also am in charge of purchasing computer equipment and sometimes buy the parts and assemble the PCs on my own."

In May, Zablah founded his own distribution company, Vinstri.com, which imports wines for local sale.

"The products we sell are carefully chosen and imported from Italy," said Zablah. "We currently distribute four types of wine: peach cocktail and strawberry cocktail, pinot chardonnay, and sparkling wine similar to champagne."

He likes to spend his spare time dining out, seeing movies, and gathering with friends to play online computer games.

Zablah, whose sister Linda ('99), is a University alumna, has good memories of his student days.

"My experience at Georgia Southern was very pleasant," Zablah said. "The city itself is an excellent place to relax and study. In my spare time, there were lots of amenities like movies, gym, sporting facilities, restaurants and sports events. I was blessed with experienced professors and the classrooms were just the right size to get personalized treatment."



A page out of history

Elton Sanders ('31) holds a framed page from *The Southern Century* centennial history book on which he is pictured as a member of the 1931 football squad. Sanders, who celebrated his 97th birthday in July, played both football and basketball for the legendary South Georgia Teachers College coach B.L. "Crook" Smith. Sanders is native of Laurens County, Ga. Also pictured is Fred Kennedy Jr. ('51), who presented Sanders with the page when they became acquainted as neighbors at a retirement community. "It's ironic that Elton Sanders graduated in 1931 and I graduated in 1951 and over 55 years later we find ourselves living in Smoky Springs retirement community in Gainesville, Ga.," said Kennedy.

Jill Martin Higgins ('93) has expanded her wedding and portrait photography business outside the southeastern United States. She is now offering world-wide destination coverage. She invites everyone to visit her company Web site, www.jillhiggins.com.

Melissa Morrison ('93) is a systems engineer with VeriFone Inc. She lives in Savannah with her two children, Lee and Stella. She would enjoy hearing from friends at fishwater99@comcast.net.



Michael Simmons ('94), (above, left) is owner of Bradley Creek Seafood in Savannah, which was the winner of the 2007 Flavor of Georgia contest in which participants were challenged to use food grown or produced in Georgia. The restaurant's award winning item was its "Low Country Pastry." More than 150 recipes and samples were entered into the contest. Bradley Creek Seafood won its category, meat and seafood, in addition to the grand prize. "We thought the products selected would merge popular favorites

into a unique presentation, all supporting Georgia's agriculture," writes Simmons.

Jamey Durrence ('94) is vice president, commercial lender and chief business development officer with The Claxton Bank. He and his wife, Amber, have two children, MiKaley and Banks, and live in Mendes, Ga.



Donna Toler Butler ('95) is a teacher with the Grady County (Ga.) Board of Education. She and her husband, Bruce, reside in Thomsville, Ga.

Doree Avera ('96) is a staff attorney with the Georgia Legal Services Program in Brunswick, Ga. She lives on St. Simons Island, Ga., and serves as the Glynn County Eagle Club representative. She would enjoy hearing from friends at davera.brunswick@glsp.org.

Stacy Higginbotham Mason ('96) is a compensation analyst with Turner Broadcasting Systems Inc. She writes, "We celebrated our son's first birthday in September. Connor Blaine Mason has a bright GSU future ahead!" Stacy and her husband, Ray, live in Smyrna, Ga., and can be reached at stacy.mason@turner.com.

Glynn Webber ('96) is senior pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Chiefland, Fla, where he lives with his wife, Amy, and daughter, Meredith.

Susan Sheffield Baird ('98) is a stay-at-home mom with twins Morgan and Caroline. Her husband, **Tray** ('99), is market president of Park Avenue Bank in Statesboro and is also owner of Baird Hauling, a trucking company. The family lives in Statesboro and welcomes e-mail at susansbaird@yahoo.com.

Dekesha Bridgeforth ('98) is a social worker and was recently promoted to intake specialist and lead worker.

Ken Harville ('99) is a project manager for Swim-Pro Pools Inc. in Statesboro. One of the company's notable projects was the construction of the competition pool, leisure pool and two spas at Georgia Southern's newly renovated Recreation Activity Center.

2000s

Elizabeth Harvill, ('04) of Vidalia has been named to *Georgia Trend* magazine's annual "40 Under 40" list of influential young Georgians. Harvill is executive director of the Vidalia Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Megan Francour Ray ('00) and her husband, John ('97), celebrated the birth of their daughter, Emma, in August.

Jon Sisk ('00) and his wife, **Hollie** (Gogans '00) proudly announce the December birth of their son, Samuel. The couple also has a daughter, Emma.

Scott Hoffmann ('01) and his wife, Alice, welcomed daughter, Abigail, in August.

Stacey Roach ('01) and his wife, Emily, happily announce the birth August of their daughter, Gabriella. She joins siblings Grace and Grant.

Suzanne Brightbill ('03) and Todd Balsley were married in July in Dahlonega, Ga. The couple lives in Roswell, Ga.

Andrew J. Duncan III ('03) lives in Columbus, Ga. He is a veterinarian at the Animal Emergency Center in Columbus.

Christine Robson ('03) and Jeffrey Gibeau ('03) were married in October 2004. The couple resides in Cumming, Ga.

Matthew Runion ('03) works in the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office in Cumming, Ga. He writes, "I was recently assigned to the Special Operations Division on the H.E.A.T. team (Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic) sponsored by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety."

Jenny Lee Chandler ('04) was promoted to procurement manager at Corrugated Replacements Inc. in Blairsville, Ga.

Jennifer Fowler ('04) and **Daniel Stalls-worth** ('06) were married in June in St. Lucia and are living in Griffin, Ga.

Candice Grant ('05) and **Christopher Barr** ('04) were married in June and reside in Richmond Hill, Ga.

Zeke Spears ('06) is a social studies teacher at The Learning Center of Beijing in Beijing, China.

Ashley Turner ('06) and **Ames Barnett** ('99) were married in December 2006. Ashley is the tourism director in Washington-Wilkes County, Ga. Ames is vice president of Barnett Southern Corporation and vice president of Team Excavating.

Charles Akins ('07) and **Sarah Harter** ('05) were married in Dublin, Ga., in July. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

F. James Dodelin Jr. ('07) is a lending officer in management training with First Citizens Bank of Hinesville, Ga.



In Memoriam

Francis W. Allen, 1923-2007

Judge Francis Waldo Allen of Statesboro was graduated from high school at Georgia Teachers College Laboratory School. He served during World War II in both the European and Pacific theaters. He earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Georgia, was elected to three terms in the Georgia House of Representatives, and in 1961 was elected judge of the State Court of Bulloch County, holding office until retirement in 1984. He was a charter member of the Georgia Southern Foundation and served as its president for two years. He was a director of Ogeechee Technical College, president of the Statesboro-Bulloch County Chamber of Commerce, a member of Dexter Allen Post 90 of the American Legion, named Rotarian of the Year by the Rotary Club of Statesboro, and a recipient of the Deen Day Smith Service to Mankind Award. Judge Allen is survived by his son, Francis W. Allen Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.; son and daughter-in-law, H. Scott and Sandra Allen of Augusta; sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Carey McDonald of Ocala, Fla.; sister and brother-in-law, Mary and Thomas Moore of Orlando, Fla.; two grandchildren, a nephew and niece, and numerous other relatives.

C.F. Raith, 1922-2007

C.F. "Clem" Raith, 85, was employed by Rockwell Mfg. Co. and Emerson Electric Co. for 46 years. He served as president of the Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Southern Foundation. He was first president of the board for Ogeechee Technical Institute, past member of the board of directors of the American Red Cross, past director of Joseph's Home for Boys, past president of the Statesboro Lions Club, past director of the Statesboro Rotary Club, recipient of the Rotary Citizen of the Year Award and recipient of the Business Leader of the Year Award. He served several terms on the board of directors of St. Matthews Catholic Church, and was awarded the Deen Day Smith Service to Mankind Award in 1989 and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1990. Mr. Raith was preceded in death by his wife, Jane Wilt Raith. Surviving are two sons and daughters-in-law, Dr. Frank Dennis Raith and his wife, Mary Raith of Aiken, S.C., and Charles David Raith and his wife, Elizabeth Raith of Brooklet; a daughter, Marsha Jane Raith of Statesboro; a brother, Harry Raith of Statesboro; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

» ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Memorial outing honors friend, benefits golf program

What started as a college alumni reunion for a few fraternity brothers and avid golfers from Georgia Southern, has turned into an annual event in memory of their friend, Jeff Chandler, who passed away in 1998.

The day before Thanksgiving every year, the Jeff Chandler Memorial Golf Outing is held in Lakeland, Fla., at The Club at Eaglebrooke. All proceeds from the outing benefit the Georgia Southern University men's golf team.

"We are fortunate to be the beneficiary of their generosity and will use the support to better the golf program and our new golf facilities," said Larry Mays, Georgia Southern men's golf coach.

Since 2004, the outing has raised close to \$6,500. At the end of the outing, participants are asked to make a financial donation in Chandler's name. In return, participants are given goody bags with golf balls, hats, umbrellas, etc. donated by local companies, along with a trophy, which is awarded to one player.

"No matter what you shoot, we always give a trophy for the most courageous effort and it has Jeff's picture on it. That player keeps the trophy for the next year," said Martin. "He's responsible for coming back the next year and he has to bring the trophy with him. That's how we keep them coming back."

The event has no trouble with turnout. Starting with only seven men, the tournament has turned into a gathering of 24 people, who come to support Chandler's memory.

"We just want people to know what we're doing on behalf of the memory of our friend. It's kind of a nice way to keep his memory alive, to let his family know that he really was appreciated and loved and that we miss our old friend," said Martin.

Alumni interested in learning more about the Jeff Chandler Memorial Golf Outing, may e-mail Martin at mmartin@jefferson-allsopp.com.

George Paul Carr Jr.

('56), 1934-2007

Retired professor George Paul Carr Jr. died Sept. 9 in Statesboro. Mr. Carr taught health and physical education from 1965 until his retirement in 1992. In addition to his teaching duties, he served as head

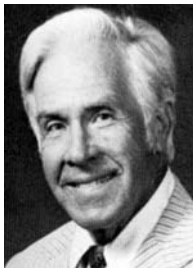


coach of the Georgia Southern golf team 1968-74, taking his team to a No. 2 national ranking in 1970. He was instrumental in helping to establish the prestigious Chris Schenkel Intercollegiate Golf Tournament. Mr. Carr was an active member of Pittman Park United Methodist Church and the American Red Cross. He loved to fish, play golf and follow Eagle athletics. He is remembered by many in Bulloch County as the man who taught them to drive, as he directed the Continuing Education Drivers' Education Program from 1965 to 1991. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Rose Watkins Carr, their three daughters and son-in-laws: College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Associate Dean Olivia Carr Edenfield and Daniel Edenfield; Paula Carr Cain and Michael Cain; College of Education professor Elizabeth Carr Edwards and College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences professor Brad Edwards; a sister, six grandchildren and many nephews and nieces.

John Patrick Graham,

1916-2007

Dr. John Patrick Graham was born in Olney, Texas, on October 25, 1916. He received his bachelor of music and master of music degrees in 1941 and 1946 at the University of North Texas. He taught music at Howard Payne College before completing his doctorate in music education at Oklahoma University in 1953. His teaching career thereafter included Georgia Southern, Troy State College and Colorado College for Women. He served as head of the music department at Troy State and Colorado College for Women. His tenure of almost 20 years at Georgia Southern began in 1962 with his appointment as professor of music and continued until his retirement in 1981 with the title of professor emeritus. During his work at Georgia Southern, he was editor of the Georgia Music News (1972-74), which was awarded the Communication Commendation under his editorship. He was a member of Georgia Music Educators and National Educators of America, and was named



President Bruce Grube met with Paul and Elizabeth Gillespie when they established the Robert S. Haywood Family Foundation Scholarship Endowment.

Haywood Foundation endows University scholarships

While serving with the Dixie Division of the Mississippi National Guard, Robert S. Haywood was called to active duty. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, Ga., and served as a U.S. Army Ranger during the Korean War.

"I grew up hearing my father's Army stories," said Haywood's daughter, Elizabeth Gillespie. "He loved the Army life, and he treasured his fellowship with the Rangers. Creating scholarships that will help the sons and daughters of today's Army Rangers is exactly what he wants to do."

Haywood, through the Haywood Family Foundation, has given the Georgia Southern Foundation a gift of \$400,000 to create four endowed scholarships to educate sons and daughters of active duty or former U.S. Army Rangers.

"Robert was the national president of the Ranger Infantry Companies of the Korean War from 2001 to 2003," said his son-in-law, Paul Gillespie, a Georgia Southern alumnus, a former football coach and a board member of the Southern Boosters. "His goal was to create scholarships at that time, but he didn't have the mechanism to accomplish it. When we established the Haywood Family Foundation as part of his estate planning, we decided to make this major commitment. In giving this endowment to Georgia Southern, we are giving where my heart is, but we are accomplishing the goals Robert set."

Elizabeth Gillespie fully supports the Haywood Family Foundation decision. "Not all college attendance is covered by HOPE," she said, "and not all military families have the funds to send their children to college. This will help."

In 1972, Robert S. Haywood purchased the E. Van Winkle Gin and Machine Works from the Murray Cotton Gin Company. The 24-acre site in Atlanta was used as an industrial complex from 1889 to 1992. Haywood used part of the property to maintain a large sheet metal fabrication company and rented the rest of the space to as many as 40 tenants. Known to locals as "Murray Mill," the property has attracted artists, painters, jewelers and studio set designers, and has been the site of several movies.

When Haywood's health began to fail recently, the family made a decision to sell a portion of the land and create the foundation. The Gillespies, who oversee the foundation activities, chose something they could put their hearts into: the Haywood Family Foundation Scholarships.

"I loved my Georgia Southern experience," said Paul Gillespie. "It's a friendly campus. The first time I went to the cafeteria and sat down, people came over to sit with me, and soon I had a group of new friends!"

"Georgia Southern has grown, and its needs today are every bit as great as a school with a larger alumni base or a larger endowment," Gillespie explained. "It's rewarding for us to know that Robert Haywood's intentions will be carried out in a way that helps Georgia Southern, too."

"I commend Elizabeth Gillespie and her husband on the creative way they have chosen to honor Mr. Haywood," said University President Bruce Grube. "This gift will not only support future Georgia Southern students, it will also benefit military families. Most important, it will achieve Robert Haywood's purpose."

» ALUMNI PROFILE

Keeping it clean for the rest of us

'87 grad Terry Fox Hornsby provides analysis on potential pollutants

It could just be that Terry Fox Hornsby is helping your family avoid some unhealthy situations.

Hornsby ('87) is a project manager at the Savannah lab of Test America, a company that performs chemical analyses for government and private entities. The company has labs across the U.S. and units in The Philippines, Thailand and Korea.

"The Savannah lab is one of the main drinking water laboratories for the company," said Hornsby, a Chi Omega and Bell Honors Program alumna. "We test the quality of the public water facilities to help them maintain their water within regulations as well as testing the sources and finished products for bottled water."

Her company also analyzes materials to determine the best means for disposing of hazardous

waste like pesticides, herbicides and metals.

"We also do underground storage tank analysis assessment as well as landfill and ground water monitoring," she said. The laboratory also does National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) monitoring. NPDES is the protocol used by the Environmental Protection Agency that regulates the flow of potential pollutants into waterways or groundwater. "This is the data that gets reported to the state for monitoring wastewater effluent discharge," said Hornsby.

"This job came to me through a friend who worked at the lab already," she said. "I interviewed and got a job in the Wet Chemistry Department. I moved to other instruments and methods over the months and before the first year was up, my department supervisor had become the manager and I became the supervisor."

Hornsby spent five years there, then left the company for a three-year stint at an Atlanta lab and at Emory University before moving back to Savannah. "I returned two years later and worked as department supervisor in the semi-volatiles

Gas Chromatography Department for a year before I was able to move back into the Wet Chemistry Department as the manager," she said. "There, I ran the department for six years."

"In 2005, I became a project manager where I work with clients setting up projects for the laboratory to analyze, managing them while they are here to make sure they are set up correctly and reviewing the data for accuracy before the data goes to the client."

Hornsby and her husband, Jess, have a daughter, Anna, 17, and a son, Aidan, 3. In her spare time, she displays her creative side. "I'll try just about any craft that comes along – soap making, candle making – but my favorite thing to do is jewelry making. There's craft stuff all over my house. It drives my family crazy!"

The family enjoys camping when time allows, even though she says her children might sometimes prefer something less sedate. "I'm sure my kids would love to hit the theme parks, but we always head to state parks up in North Georgia," she said.

in the Outstanding Educators of America; Personalities of the South, for the year 1979-80. In World War II, Dr. Graham served as a sonar operator on two destroyer escorts, the U.S.S. Harveson and U.S.S. Durant, making 10 round trips in the North Atlantic. He married Betty Winston of Vernon, Texas, in 1946. Their five children are Brian Timothy "Tim," Christopher Patrick "Chris," Gregory "Greg," Mary Elizabeth "Marybet," and John Joseph "Joe." Three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren also survive Dr. Graham.

Dorothy Few Lee, 89, died in October. Mrs. Lee joined the faculty of Georgia Teachers College in 1955, where she taught speech and founded the drama program and the Masquers, now Theatre & Performance. She retired as an assistant professor in 1981. Mrs. Lee attended Little Rock Junior College from 1936 until 1938, received her B.A. degree in religious education from Scarritt College in 1942 and



her master's degree in speech from LSU in 1952. After retirement, she remained active in educational and civic programs, teaching adult literacy, working with high school debate teams, and performing reenactments of Martha Washington. She was a member of the Civic Garden Club and the Statesboro Women's Club. Mrs. Lee was active in the Georgia Southern Botanical Garden, Statesboro's Averitt Center for the Arts, and the Georgia Southern Performing Arts Center. She was an active charter member of Pittman Park United Methodist Church. Mrs. Lee was preceded in death by her husband, Winfield John Lee; two sisters; and a brother. Surviving are a son and daughter-in-law, John and Lisa Lee of Statesboro; two grandchildren; a sister; and a brother. The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Dorothy Few Lee Scholarship Fund, c/o the Georgia Southern University Foundation, P.O. Box 8053, Statesboro, Ga. 30460; or the Pittman Park United Methodist Church Memorial Fund, 1102 Fair Road, Statesboro, Ga. 30458.

Alumni

Francis W. Allen, ('43) Statesboro

Richard B. Bennett III, Jacksonville, Fla.
Teresa Blevins ('84), Augusta, Ga.
Wayne Buffalo ('75), Gastonia, N.C.
Charles Parrish Blitch ('48), Statesboro
Jamie Coleman ('06), Auburn, Ga.
Ann Breen Collins ('40), Wilmington, Del.
Ralph Lanier Jones ('67), Griffin, Ga.
Linda Nease Lee ('92), Springfield, Ga.
Albert Reeves Sr. ('75), Portal, Ga.
Verdean Kicklighter Rush, Rockingham, N.C.
Ramona Morris Thigpen Strother,
Martinez, Ga.
Thomas Edward Vandiver, Artesia, N.M.
Roxanne Watkins Wilharm, Guyton, Ga.
John Allen Wissner ('04), Augusta, Ga.

Faculty & Staff

George Paul Carr Jr., health & physical education
Cornelia Tuten Hyde, biology
Dorothy Few Lee, theatre
Maryland Waller Shytles, communication arts
Peter Smith, art

Students

Joseph Bush Jr., Blakely, Ga.
Madison Floyd, Bloomingdale, Ga.
Elliott Rivers, Augusta, Ga.

Still building

Former SGA President Chris Clark is Georgia's new GEFA director

By Michelle Groover

Chris Clark knew, if you build it, they will come.

Clark was convinced as Student Government Association president that his fellow students would flock to a high-quality recreation facility, and 15 years after he helped to launch the Recreation Activity Center (RAC), they're still coming in droves.

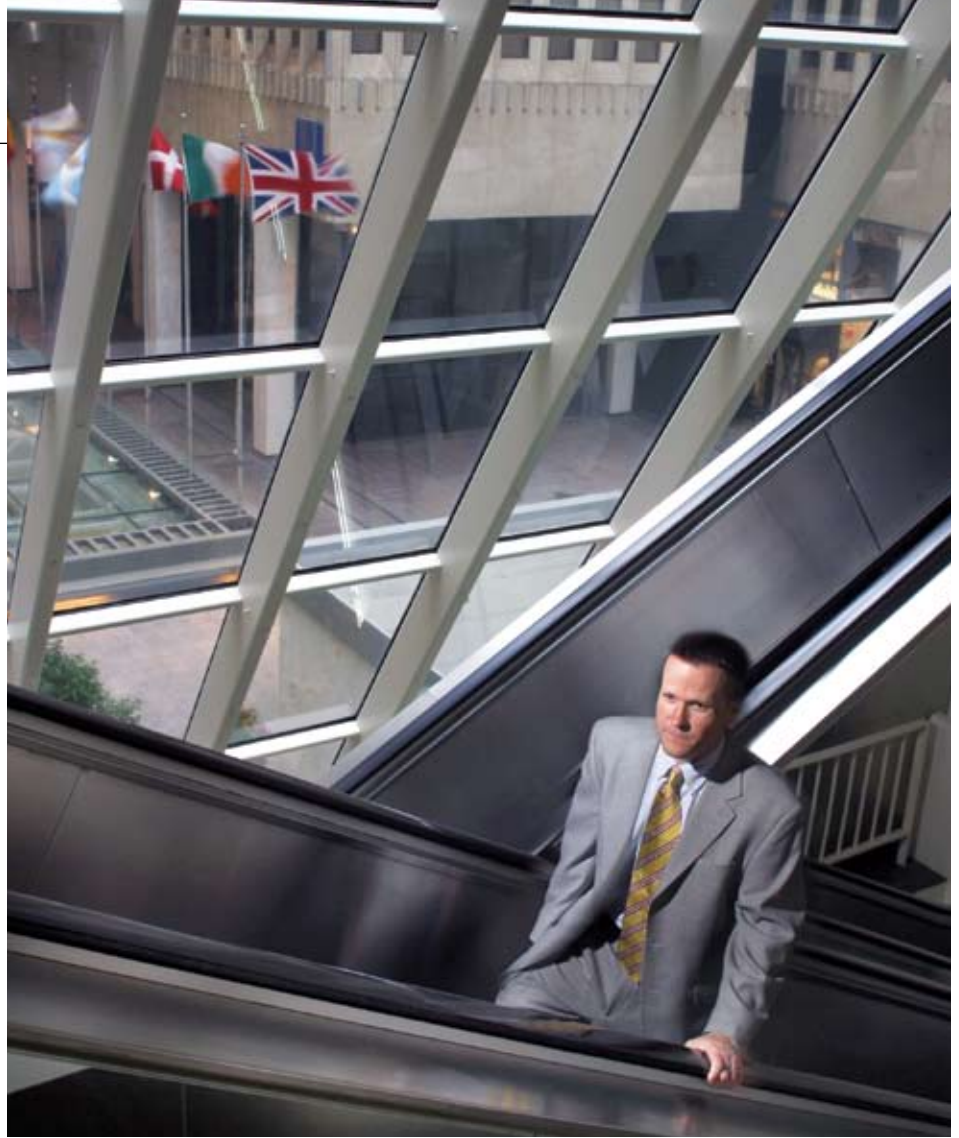
Today, after serving with the Fayette County Development Authority then as a Georgia deputy commissioner with the Department of Economic Development, Clark is the new executive director of the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA).

"The agency serves two purposes," said Clark. "First, we're the state's bank and we manage over \$1 billion worth of loans within the state to communities. We also manage the land conservation financing. The neat thing about the new position, and my main responsibility, is that we have the State Energy Office," he said. "We're responsible for the state's energy plan. In light of the activity with energy and the environment and alternative fuels, we'll be in charge of all of that."

Serving as the state's bank, GEFA has provided loans and grants for clean drinking water, weatherization, economic development and solid waste projects for local governments. In 2007, GEFA provided over \$288 million in local grants and loans. Currently, over half of Georgia communities receive GEFA funding, totaling over \$2 billion.

"GEFA's responsibilities as the State Energy Office include the Georgia Energy Plan and our alternative fuel and energy efforts," Clark explained. "In this role, we promote and set policy to decrease Georgia's dependence on foreign oil and find the balance between conservation and economic growth. This team also facilitates the federal weatherization program."

In his student days, Clark was preparing to



FRANK FORTUNE

graduate when he saw that students were losing their recreation space because of the rapid growth of the University. "The courts I played on had temporary classrooms on them," said Clark. "Activity space was being eaten up due to the University growing so fast."

Knowing the issue of recreation space was dear to Clark's heart, Recreation and Intramural Director William Ehling and Vice President John Nolen approached him to ask him to stay on for another year and run for student body president. "I told them that if we could do something about this issue, I might stay," Clark added. "Jack told me his idea, but in order to make it a reality, the students were going to have to finance it themselves. This meant that SGA had to vote on it and it meant that the current students would have to be supportive of something they would never see a benefit from."

Clark stayed, got an extra minor, ran for SGA president, and won. "During my senior year I gave a speech about the RAC to every student organization and put together a task force that toured other RACs around the Southeast," he said. "At my

last meeting as SGA president, we voted on it and it passed unanimously. What we were seeing were students that were willing to give something of themselves with nothing in return but a benefit to future generations."

Clark said his time at the University taught him many things and also helped direct him to his current career path. "It wasn't so much about the classes and it wasn't so much that I was taught certain things. I think it's the overall environment at Georgia Southern, where you can get involved, get to know people, understand how things work, and have relationships with your faculty and professors that go beyond just sitting in class. All those things together – teaching you to think for yourself – those are the types of things I took away from there," he said. "I think having been student body president and the types of things I was involved with let me understand the bigger picture, understand what is important and that I wanted to be involved in public service."

In his spare time Clark enjoys spending time with his family – his wife, Tiffany, and son, Christian. The family lives in Fayetteville, Ga.

PARTING SHOT



Paying homage to the memory of the late Erk Russell, Eagle players touch a new bronze bust of the legendary coach as they take the field for home football games. The bust is one of the upgrades to the newly named Erk Russell Athletic Park. The park encompasses Paulson Stadium, the Gene Bishop Field House, the Cowart Building, and the soccer and track stadium.



ADAM PACE

The Center for Wildlife Education and Lamar Q Ball Jr. Raptor Center is celebrating its 10th anniversary, and in conjunction with Homecoming, it hosted events that drew about 4,000 guests above its normal level, plus three special visitors: A Siberian tiger, a puma and a young grizzly bear. Above, volunteer Kim Hunter tells school-aged children about the puma. In the background is C.W. Wathen, founder of the Chestatee Wildlife Preserve, which loaned the two big cats and the bear to the Center for the day.



GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY

P.O. BOX 8053
STATESBORO, GA 30460-8053

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED