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Longtime Friend of Georgia Southern University, Eugene M. Bishop Passes Away

MARCH 24, 2011

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Georgia Southern University lost longtime friend and dedicated supporter Eugene M. Bishop on Wednesday March 23, 2011. Bishop, who lived in Dawsonville, Ga., played a pivotal role over the years during the University's growth to nearly 20,000 students.

"Georgia Southern has lost a great friend, leader, and role model with the passing of Gene Bishop," said Brooks Keel, President of Georgia Southern University. "Gene's love and support of Georgia Southern were unmatched and he will be greatly missed."

Georgia Southern will dedicate the first home football game of the 2011 season on Sept. 10, 2011 to Bishop. The University will recognize the longtime benefactor and thank his family for his contributions and service during a special ceremony. "I want to encourage the entire Eagle Nation to attend the game and show their appreciation for Gene's support of Georgia Southern," said Keel.

Bishop's many contributions can be seen on some of the most visible buildings on campus. The campus facilities bearing his name include the Bishop Field House at Allen E. Paulson Stadium. Constructed in 2006, the facility houses home and visitor locker rooms, meeting and hospitality space and has become the gathering spot for Georgia Southern supporters on game day. Because of his generosity and support of Eagle Athletics, Bishop was the single largest contributor to the Georgia Southern Athletics Department.

In addition to his support of Eagle Athletics, Bishop made numerous donations to Georgia Southern's College of Business Administration and Office of Alumni Relations.

In 2009, he provided the lead gift to construct the Eugene M. Bishop Alumni Center. The impressive 12,000-square-foot Center, which was formally opened on August 27, 2009, houses the University's Office of Alumni Relations, Advancement Services, Annual Giving, Governmental Relations and the Office of Development.

Equally impressive was Bishop's leadership on numerous boards and committees within the University. He served two years as Chairman of the Southern Boosters (now Georgia Southern University Athletic Foundation, Inc). In 2003, he was named Georgia Southern's recipient of the Southern Conference Distinguished Service Award, recognizing individuals who have made a great impact on their respective institution. In 2000, he was awarded the Georgia Southern University Honorary Doctor of Letters to honor his service, support and contributions. He is a past recipient of the prestigious President's Medal recognizing extraordinary contributions to Georgia Southern and the Friend of the University Award presented by the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association.

Visitation will be from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on March 25th at Dahlongea Funeral Home. Funeral and memorial services will be held on March 26th at 2:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Dawsonville.

The Bishop family has requested that honorariums and memorial contributions be made to a Georgia Southern University Foundation scholarship in memory of Gene Bishop. Contributions may be sent to the Georgia Southern University Foundation, P.O. Box 8053, Statesboro, GA 30460.

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"O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree..." 🎄🎵#TBT to circa 1964, when a tree in front of the Williams Center was decorated for the holidays.



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Georgia Southern University's Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art will host ArtsFest 2011 on Saturday, April 2 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on the campus' Sweetheart Circle. The day of art, music and dance draws hundreds of visitors to the University every year.

"ArtsFest unites the community and University to celebrate the importance of the Arts. Especially in this economic climate, we're delighted to be able to offer a day of creative activities and performances that are fun and free for all ages," said ArtsFest 2011 Director Stephanie Neal.

Children can explore a variety of art activities at more than 20 different "Studio Stops" where they will create giant bubbles, print Gyotaku fish, make paper, sculpt with clay, paint a masterpiece, craft jewelry or pose in a photo booth.

Artists from around the region will have art on display and available for purchase in the artist's market. Watch artists, including members of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art's Jewelry Guild and the Statesboro Regional Art Association, demonstrate their talents in jewelry, folk art, painting, ceramics, sculpture and photography.

Live entertainment will take place on two stages throughout the day. Magician Magic Marc will perform from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the main stage, where he will entertain the crowd with humor, education and breathtaking illusions. Accompanied by his pets, Goose, Bingo, Showbiz, Wizard, Bubba and Fluffy, he focuses on "magication," Magic Marc's own word for combining magic and education for kids. Magic Marc's performance will be followed by demonstrations of magic tricks for all to learn, and a chance to interact with his menagerie of unique pets.

Magic Marc will be followed by The Chucks and Sonic Boom of Pladd Dot Music's School of Rock, who will perform from 1:30 until 3:30 p.m. A variety of local performers will showcase their talents throughout the day on the community stage, and an assortment of food will be available for purchase.

"For the past 29 years, the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art has hosted the spring arts festival, providing 'a day for the arts' to Bulloch County and the surrounding region. Generations of families hold fond memories of this event that was once a part of their childhood, and is now part of their own children's experience," said Patricia Carter, chair, Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art. "Our goal is to provide such a quality and quantity of arts events that attendees end their day at the festival with pure exhaustion and unlimited inspiration from the exhilarating fun they had."

For more information about the day's events and activities, please visit http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/art/arts_fest.html.



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Research Published by Georgia Southern University Biology Professor and Student to Be Published in International Journal

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To view a video explaining Harvey's discovery, please visit http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXWcP7Sb_zo.



Research conducted by Georgia Southern University associate professor of biology Alan Harvey, Ph.D. along with former Georgia Southern University biology graduate student Sarah Zukoff will be published in *PLoS ONE*, an international, peer-reviewed, open-access, online publication. *PLoS ONE* features reports of original research from all disciplines within science and medicine.

Harvey and Zukoff recently documented the first case of wind-powered wheel locomotion in larvae of "one of the best-studied insects in North America," the Eastern Beach Tiger Beetle *Cicindela dorsalis* (subspecies *media*). The discovery is unique as wheel locomotion, in which an animal distorts the shape of its body to form a rolling wheel, has only been reported for a few species worldwide, all of which use either gravity or their own exertions to power the wheel.

"That we could find such an astounding suite of behaviors in such a well-studied animal is very rare," said Harvey. "These discoveries might help explain how human impacts are causing populations of this species, and perhaps others, to decline. This project also demonstrates the value of continued basic research on organisms if we want to conserve biodiversity."

The Georgia Southern research team found that the Eastern Beach Tiger Beetle's wheeling is initiated through spectacular leaping somersaults. At the team's research site along the coast of Georgia, all larvae wheeled uphill due to the consistent sea breeze. Stronger winds and untrampled sands increased the proportion of larvae that wheeled, as well as both wheeling distance and speed. In some cases, larvae wheeled more than 60 meters at an estimated speed of three meters per second, the fastest ever recorded for an insect on the ground.

Harvey also notes that jumping is challenging for elongate, soft-bodied animals with short or no legs like beetle larvae. "Leaping is known for only a few animals with this 'worm-like' morphology. At first we thought our larvae were just wildly thrashing around until they happened to catch the breeze. But our slow-motion videos showed that they were actually making carefully timed leaps that became these beautiful aerial somersaults, which seemed to let them orient to the breeze and then 'hit the ground rolling.' We almost couldn't believe our eyes."

The two researchers suspect that the wheeling behaviors are escape responses to a type of parasitoid wasp that specializes in tiger beetle larvae around the world, which will be the focus of their next phase of research. In recent years, many species of coastal tiger beetles have suffered precipitous declines that are clearly correlated with increased human impacts such as pedestrian or vehicular traffic, although the exact reasons have

been unclear. The team's current research suggests that the negative effects of foot traffic may be indirect, preventing larvae from escaping from predators by disrupting the flat, hard surface necessary for efficient wheeling.

The University's Master of Science degree in Biology is designed to provide innovative training in biology that will prepare students for challenging professional careers or entry into competitive Ph.D. programs. More than 92 percent of the department's alumni are working in the biological, environmental, or health sciences; one out of every three graduates goes on to receive a terminal degree (e.g., Ph.D., M.D.). Today, graduates of the program work in 32 states and 10 countries.

Georgia Southern's location provides easy access to the amazing biodiversity of the southeastern United States. Students in the program have a variety of research opportunities and are able to take advantage of the department's numerous affiliations. In the recent past, graduate students have worked closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Army (Fort Stewart), Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, Sapelo Island Estuarine Research Reserve, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary, and many more agencies abroad.

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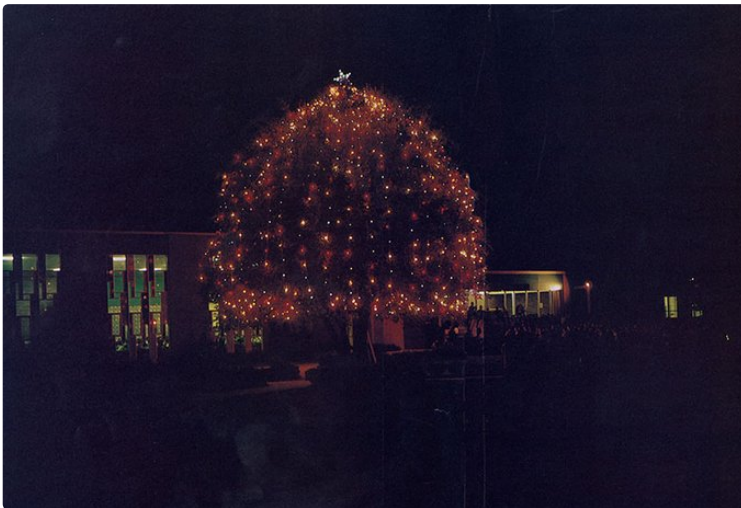
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