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VANGUARD

cumming ■ dahlonega ■ gainesville ■ oconee

VOL. 2, ISSUE 4, OCTOBER 13, 2014

NE Medical Makes Deal



Volunteer Fair



Fairytales Do Come True



Living the Dream



Smoke Now or Never



Photo by Rebekah Kerlin/Vanguard-Gainesville

Forward Mariah Dickey, a junior from Lawrenceville, goes after the ball for the Nighthawks women's soccer team.

UNG women's soccer dominates PBC

Kyle Funderburk
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In the past two weeks, the North Georgia women's soccer team played four games and disposed of each of their opponents with ease.

North Georgia's (10-1, 4-0) first prey during the two-week stretch was Georgia College and State University.

Four different women scored

to lead them to a 4-0 victory.

The Nighthawks then moved on to Young Harris in the a Battle for Blood Mountain game defeating them 7-1 behind senior Cicely Taliaferro and freshman Rachel VanHorn.

Taliaferro and VanHorn each scored twice during the game.

Armstrong State put up more of a fight than the other three schools, but they still fell to North Georgia 2-0. Freshman Brynn Finneran put Armstrong

behind the eight ball with a goal less than two minutes into the game.

The defenders continued their dominance until VanHorn scored in the second half to set the score at 2-0.

The final casualty during this two-week run was Montevallo in the most lopsided game of the season. The Nighthawks came away with a 9-2 victory with eight different women scoring a goal, two of them (sophomore

Jessica Allen and junior Kassidy Freeman) scoring their first goals of the season.

The Nighthawks have now scored 40 goals on the season with 22 of them coming in the last four games.

VanHorn and Taliaferro lead the team and are tied for second in the Peach Belt Conference with nine goals. Sophomore Sophia Montonak is second on the team and tied for fourth in the conference with seven goals.

Dahlonega

UNG Self-Defense - RAD

Monday, October 13
5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.-Tuesday, October 14

5:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Location:DC - Memorial Hall - Dahlonega 208

- Identify the warning signs of a potential attacker
 - Learn to overcome the instinct to freeze
 - Gain confidence through first-hand experience of protecting yourself.
- This course is offered free to all female UNG students and employees, but you must register in advance – space is limited!

Crossfire discussion

Wednesday, October 15

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:DC - Young Hall - Dahlonega Lobby Second Floor

Each week, the Political Science Student Association hosts its long-running Crossfire discussion series in the lobby of Young Hall.

Crossfires are always free and open to everyone. If you are lucky, we may even have free food! See: <http://ung.edu/news/articles/2013/09/crossfire-bringing-the-world-to-students.php>

Nighthawks Entertainment Bonfire & Open Mic

Wednesday, October 15

6 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.

Location:DC - Outdoor Reservable Spaces Memorial Hall Lawn (Pool side)

Bonfire and Open Mic Night. Planned for the lawn at the end of the gym outside the pool. Starts at 8 p.m.

Tackle for TATA's

Friday, October 17

2:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Location:DC - Outdoor Reservable Spaces Drill Field

Alpha Phi Omega will conduct Flag Football ga.me.s in a fundraising event for Breast Cancer.

Corps of Cadets Gold Rush 5K Run

Saturday, October 18

6 a.m. - Noon

Location:DC - Outdoor Reservable Spaces Drill Field

Event Type:Corps Event

Event Description:Corps of Cadets will participate in the Gold Rush 5K Run as part of Community participation and support.

Think Fast Alcohol Trivia

Monday, October 20

5 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Location:DC - Hoag Student Center - Dahlonega 342 - Auditorium

Event Type:Speaker

Gainesville

Foreign Language Lecture Series

presents: Dr. Paula Garrett-Rucks
Wednesday, October 15

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location:GC - Martha T. Nesbitt (Acad 4) - Gainesville 3110-A

Dr. Paula Garrett-Rucks (Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition from the University of Wisconsin-Madison) will talk about the need to understand languages and cultures other than one's own. Intercultural communication skills are necessary not only to equip today's learners to compete in the increasingly multicultural nature of industrialized societies, but also to prepare learners to become reflective global citizen

Wing It! Improv Group

Friday, October 17

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location:GC - Student Center - Gainesville Robinson Ballroom BCDE

Event Type:Club/Org Meeting

Event Description:Come join Wing It! The new improv group on ca.m.pus.

Writing Center Workshop: Hacking Hacker

Tuesday, October 21

2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Location:GC - Martha T. Nesbitt (Acad 4) - Gainesville 1213

Writing Center Workshop: Hacking Hacker and how to navigate Rules for Writers

The Politically Incorrect Club presents Eric Clanton

Wednesday, October 22

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:GC - Martha T. Nesbitt (Acad 4) - Gainesville 3110-A

Eric Clanton, retired NASA space shuttle orbiter project manager and former aerospace company executive will speak on Wednesday, October 22, at 12 noon about space exploration. Everyone is welcome to attend and ask questions at this exciting Politically Incorrect Club event.

Nationally Competitive Scholarships Workshop

Thursday, October 23

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location:GC - Martha T. Nesbitt (Acad 4) - Gainesville 5105 - Large Conference Room

An introduction to nationally competitive workshops.

APO Halloween Cabaret

Saturday, October 25

2 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Location:GC - CEPA - Gainesville Theatre

Alpha Psi Omega Alpha Beta Kappa Cast's Annual Halloween Cabaret

Oconee

Dr. Jusine Shuey-Wellness

Speaker Monday, October 13

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 522 - Multipurpose Room

Fall Carnival

Wednesday, October 15

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 522 - Multipurpose Room

Blood Drive

Thursday, October 16

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 522 - Multipurpose Room

Come give back to your community by giving blood with your SGA and LifeSouth Community Blood Centers.

Nighthawks Entertainment Breakfast Break

Tuesday, October 21

9 a.m. - 10 a.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee Atrium

Nighthawks Entertainment Breakfast Break

FYE Workshop

Wednesday, October 22

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 522 - Multipurpose Room

First Year Experience - Workshop

Guided Meditation

Thursday, October 23

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 564 - Conference Room

Whether you are new to meditation or you are highly experienced, all are welcome to join!

Evening Student Pizza

Tuesday, October 28

5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee Atrium

Evening Student Pizza

Ethical Business Workshop

Wednesday, October 29

Noon - 1 p.m.

Location:OC - Student Resource Center - Oconee 522

UNG Swing Dance Association getting ready for Oct. 23

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Every Friday, the UNG Swing Dance Association meets on the Dahlonega campus to share and practice their talent. This charismatic form of dance originally became popularized with the swing style of jazz during the 1920s. Currently, swing dance is experiencing a worldwide comeback in addition to attracting many fans here at UNG.

There are actually various schools of swing dance, such as the Carolina Shag or Lindy Hop. The SDA usually follows the East Coast school of swing, but the club does feature other variations on certain occasions.

Student instructors conduct the SDA's lessons each Friday afternoon on the second floor of the Recreation Center. The average meeting starts with some beginner practice, which covers different sets of moves. After the initial lessons, students can participate in a free dance session.

The SDA meetings typically draw between 20 and 30 students, who range from newcomers and intermittent attendees to talented regulars and skilled dancers. Special events, such as October's Monster Bash, have attracted upwards of a hundred students on a yearly basis.

With many other universities offering swing dance clubs, the SDA coordinates social dances with other groups. Swing dance provides a great opportunity for students interested in a fun activity and the chance to network with others.

According to Event Coordinator Kathleen Waters, the SDA aims "to create an open dance experience for UNG students, who, regardless of commitment, can learn and appreciate the fellowship of dance." Waters also anticipates a higher attendance for the SDA's special events this semester due to an increasing turnout over the last three years.

The SDA also provides inexperienced dancers the opportunity to practice in a comfortable environment while utilizing the presence of talented instructors. One SDA dance trainer, Fundraising Chair Carly Miers, states that "persistence truly pays off and if you stick with it, you're left with a rewarding experience and a new skill."

The wide appeal of swing dance can be attributed to its relaxed atmosphere and timeless charm. Anyone can pick up the basic steps and comfortably perform this dance style within a few hours of practice. UNG students should take advantage of this fun and engaging pursuit.



Photos by Joanna Toso

Less parking and more ceremonies for UNG?

Saara Wintersgill
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The Georgia Board of Regents has budgeted \$3.5 million for a new convocation center on the Dahlonega campus. The center will be located in an area that presently serves as student parking, which is already scarce.

“The new facility is currently planned for 103,000 square feet and would house components of the Athletic Department, such as administrative offices, coaches and team facilities,” said Kate Maine, director of university relations. “No facilities within the university’s inventory have a fixed-seating capacity of more than 1,049 occupants.”

The Student Government Association has been discussing at weekly meetings that the center may possibly be built on a current parking lot, which houses 300

spots.

Construction will not begin until 2016, and architects will not start planning until the Board of Regents secures the funding. Only when the Georgia Legislature approves the BOR budget will planning begin for the project, according to Maine.

“The plan also calls for some renovations to the Memorial Hall Gymnasium on the Dahlonega Campus to serve the Health and Physical Education and Athletic Training academic programs that are currently housed there, and to provide space for large meetings to support multiple programs within the university,” said Maine.

Because the project may take the place of student parking, it is important for students to keep in contact with SGA and voice their opinions on the project. It is possible that new parking will be installed by 2016, so some students may have nothing to worry about.



Photo by Rebekah Kerlin/Vanguard-Gainesville

New construction causes concerns for students as limited parking disappears.

The new convocation center would fix the issue of too few seats for ceremonies, which has been an issue at past UNG graduations. Notably, UNG attempted to

host graduation at Free Chapel, a church in Gainesville, but students protested and were able to get graduation moved back to Memorial Hall.

Northeast Georgia Health System comes to agreement

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Northeast Georgia Health System and medical insurance provider Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia have come to a multi-year agreement that will ensure continued coverage for in-network facilities and employed physicians.

“We have worked tirelessly to secure a new agreement that is beneficial for both parties and improves the overall health of the communities we serve,” said President and CEO of Northeast Georgia Health System Carol Burrell in an interview with The Gainesville Times. “This new agreement ensures that NGHS has the ability to offer the highest level of services, physicians and facilities for the regional community we serve. We are extremely pleased that patients can continue to access our health system with no disruption in service.

“We value our longstanding relationship with the



Photo special to Vanguard Dahlonega

hospital and medical professionals at Northeast Georgia Health System,” said President of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia Morgan Kendrick. “Several months of hard work have brought these negotiations to a successful conclusion for the good of the community. We’re pleased that our members in the Gainesville area will continue to

have access to the high quality medical care provided by Northeast Georgia Health System.”

This new contract went into effect this Wednesday, Oct. 1, and will cover all of the following facilities:

- Northeast Georgia Medical Center
- Northeast Georgia Physicians Group (all providers, all locations)
- The Heart Center of Northeast Georgia Medical Center (all providers, all locations)
- Urgent Care (all locations: Gainesville, Braselton, Buford and Dawsonville)
- The Imaging Center (all locations: Gainesville, Braselton, Dawsonville)
- The Rehabilitation Institute (all locations: Braselton, Buford, Cleveland, Dahlonega, Dawsonville, Gainesville and Oakwood)
- The Toccoa Cancer Center
- Hospice of Northeast Georgia Medical Center

Where would we be without you?
 Check us out online.



www.vanguarddahlonega.com
www.vanguardgainesville.com
www.vanguardoconee.com

Campus Bubble coming to UNG?

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Could this be the new black? Campus Bubble is looking to come to the UNG-Dah campus. Chief Executive Officer Spencer Barkoff and President and Sales Nir Levy presented information on this newest social network for college campuses at a recent SGA meeting.

Awarded the international web award for solo designers, studios and agencies, Campus Bubble is a social network specifically for life on campus, whether you are a student, faculty or alum.

Everyone on campus could explore different organizations, update their personal calendars, create their own events and message members about current events and even advertise.

A Bubble is a group that can be created by anyone. Events, organizations and individuals alike can communicate. Wait a minute, doesn't this sound like Org Sync? Barkoff responds, "We see Org Sync as an administrator tool whereas Campus Bubble is for more everyday use. We are focusing more on interaction."

Org Sync was brought up by Raj Sagoo, part of Student Service Committee. Every year, \$8,500 is funded for Org Sync. Coordinator of Student Leadership Jemima Fortune and a few other offices have been trying to utilize Org Sync and



campusbubble.com special photo

have asked for support but have received little from SGA.

Some of the board members agree that the older website should be given a second chance rather than be replaced with something that has yet to be tested. However, other SGA members and students on the Dahlonge Campus tend to have a different opinion when asked about the efficiency of Org Sync.

"When you ask me about Org Sync, it is not up to date and there are no social outlets or a way to reach out to students. The only time I go to Org Sync is when I need it to, but even that tends to lead to very little, if any, information. People don't

utilize it," said Alexis Weber, collegiate adviser for the No One Alone organization.

SGA President Hugh Stephens commented on Campus Bubble, "I think it could be a great communication tool. I think it could add to our community. Campus Bubble is almost half the price of Org Sync and we want to look at how Campus Bubble can complement Org Sync. There has to be some co-existence between the two websites, but I really think we can find that medium. All we want is to find what is best for the students so we really want to evaluate the cost and who is going to use the websites."

There is also some competition rising

up between Campus Bubble and the new UNG Mobile App. The UNG Mobile app that is coming up within the next two weeks is trying to collaborate email, Facebook, Twitter, D2L and Banner. A question was asked about whether or not Campus Bubble could offer the same thing. Levy comments that they will take in all considerations or ideas and if students want these products incorporated into Campus Bubble, it will take time but it could be done.

"We build communities so that students, staff, alumni, administrators and faculty have one place for their academic identity available on the iPhones and Androids for easy on the go notifications, messaging and emails." UNG could be the first public institution to use Campus Bubble. So far only private universities Emory, The Epstein School and Morehouse College are using Campus Bubble.

This website is a work in progress, so there might be a few hick-ups in the beginning. Stephens asked how many board members had issues registering for Campus Bubble and roughly eight hands were raised. After seeing the number of students who had issues with registering, Spencer and Nir left shortly after to fix the problem.

SGA will be discussing more on Campus Bubble in future meetings. For updates check out their blog, ask questions and tell us what you think.

UNG Pagan group seeking club recognition from SGA

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Support, fellowship, and guidance are just a few of the reasons the Pagans of UNG are fighting to become a club on the Dahlonge campus. Despite their controversial journey thus far, they have completed their initial process and are continuing with the paperwork.

Misconceptions surrounding Paganism have been one of the clubs biggest hurdles to jump over. One of the most common misconceptions is that Pagans are Satan worshipers; however, paganism is not a single religion, but an umbrella term encompassing many different belief systems, everything from Odinism to Wicca.

One of the most important reasons for starting this club was fellowship. An officer of the club, Trevor Graham, explains:

"Christians take it for granted. They go to church and they automatically have 50 people shaking their hand and welcoming them. Pagans don't get that, we have to hide." The club is to become a safe haven for Pagan students on campus, a place where they can express themselves without persecution."

Everyone is welcome to join once meetings have officially started, he said. Members encourage students to come,

ask questions and to get to know what the Pagan Club is all about. Graham states "We want people to come to us with open minds and open hearts," Graham said.

In the upcoming weeks as Halloween draws near, there will be a cauldron in or near the Meditation Room in Hoag. There will also be cards for students to fill out to receive more updates and information about the Pagan Club. To contact them sooner, email UNG.pagans@gmail.com.

More than a love affair with the farmers market

Katie Teal

Guest Writer-Dahlonega

I spent most of my first summer in Dahlonega holed up in the North Georgia Suites wishing I had something to do and complaining about the dining hall food. Then I heard about the Dahlonega Farmers Market. I had to talk myself into going the first time but after that I was hooked and I'm not sure what I will do once the season comes to an end and the Farmers Market closes until the spring.

It took a while for me to convince myself to go to the farmers market.

"Eight a.m. isn't really that early. I'll have to get cash. I wish the ATMs would let me take out less than \$20; surely I won't need that much. It won't be that hot right? I mean it is 8 in the morning."

Finally I took the plunge and one fateful weekend I set my alarm for 7:40 a.m. on a Saturday, in the summer, and I walked down to Hancock Park. I was in love immediately. The bundles of flowers drew me and the kind people kept me there well over an hour.

I have to make a confession. I spent my first couple of years at North Georgia living as a hermit. I stayed in the residence halls and wondered how I could become more

involved in the community. I was a bystander in this beautiful town. I would walk to class and admire the mountains and only really visited the square when my parents drove up. I was missing out on the history and culture that fills this gold rush town.

After visiting the farmers market for the first time I got a great taste of Dahlonega, figuratively and literally. Each seller at the farmers market is so kind and sells great products. On more than one occasion I measured out the vegetables I wanted to buy and the seller would a couple more just to make sure I had "a good pound." Many of the vendors told stories of their families farming for generations. Some have farmed for a living, as a hobby, for subsistence and as political opposition. Some of their stories have been recorded and used for UNG's Appalachian Studies heirloom seed project.

I am comforted the hard work of our farmers displayed on the square each week. It is an ode to the history of this town and Appalachia and the hard work and community it took to survive in these mountains.

So next time you are in Dahlonega on a Saturday between 8 a.m. and noon or a Tuesday between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., I encourage you to visit the Dahlonega Farmers



Photo by Rachel Glazer

Market. Take the time to hear their stories and become a part of the culture. Please don't let the excuses stop you like they did for me for so long. The mornings are beautiful so you can roll out of bed early on a Saturday. The residence halls all have a kitchen. The quality and price of the produce truly can't be beat and I promise they're not that hard to cook. If vegetables aren't your favorite, the farmers market has beautiful flowers, homemade jams and homemade baked good as well.



The Gold Shop Dahlonega

The Gold Shop - Dahlonega
10% In-Store Discount
 for UNG Students with Student ID

**Why pay for costume jewelry
when you can afford
Something Real?**

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PI Club speaker cites study against pot use

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The Politically Incorrect Club recently brought in Tara Overzat of UNG-Gainesville's Student Counseling Office to address a variety of mental health problems, including stress and the effects of marijuana use.

Overzat talked about some of the key aspects of marijuana use today, especially in young adults.

In a 15-year study in New Zealand, scientists ran tests on high school students using marijuana and followed them throughout their daily lives for the next 15 years.

The affects they found were that the young adults became dependent on the drug. They were labeled as being psychologically addictive, she said.

High school graduation rates were very low, suicide rates increased and anxiety levels in the users drastically went up, Overzat said.

"The most important find would most likely be that marijuana is a gateway drug," Overzat said.

"Most people that start using marijuana will start using more potent and more dangerous drugs."

Marijuana today is a lot more potent than the marijuana in the 1960s. It could be as much as 13 times more

potent.

"Today you just don't know exactly what you are getting," Overzat said.

Overzat noted that a lot of people in favor of the legalization of marijuana state that marijuana use is less dangerous than drinking alcohol.

The difference between the two, she said, is what stays in your body.

The main drug in marijuana is THC. This chemical remains in your system up to a month after you smoke marijuana. Alcohol is out of your system the next day.

Another main reason people want marijuana legalized is for medical purposes. It has been proven that it can benefit someone going through a lot of pain or depression, she said.

"If you are going to treat marijuana as medicine, use it like you would with any other medication," Overzat said.

"Don't abuse it."

"My overall message to someone using marijuana or someone who is considering using it is, will it really benefit your life for the best?" Overzat said. "I don't think it will."



SMMC here to help students budget

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The Student Money Management Center has services available to help students learn to budget their money, plan for the future, plan for tuition, pay off student loans and build emergency funds.

The offices are currently located on the Gainesville campus and Dahlonega campus.

The SMMC is staffed by Erick Jones. The best way to get in touch is through e-mail, smmc@ung.edu.

The center will do personal consultations as well as group workshops and class visits. There is no extra cost to get help from the SMMC. This is covered in your student fees.

One basic tip from the SMMC

is to make sure you have an emergency fund.

"We try to preach to have an emergency fund so that if your transmission blows up, you don't have to choose between transmission and tuition," Jones said.

If no one is available when you go to the office, keep trying, Jones said. The SMMC is still building their staff and will be available at all times in the near future.



"This is something I am very passionate about," Jones said. "We are really looking forward to working with students."

JOIN THE PEACE CORPS Two Opportunities to Learn More!



INFORMATION TABLE

Tuesday, November 18
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Student Center Commons

INFORMATION SESSION

Tuesday, November 18
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Robinson Ballroom A
Student Center

Be part of a new generation of leaders making a difference.
"Peace Corps Volunteers improve the lives of people in communities around the world, inform the global perspectives of Americans, and turn a life-defining experience into a lifetime of opportunity".

If you have a disability and require accommodations, please contact *Student Disability Services* (678) 717-3855 to make arrangements no later than one week prior to the event. Thank you.

For more information, contact *Career Services* at 678-717-3964 or 346 Student Center. For Students & Alumni Only.

NFL cases bring attention to domestic violence

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The statistics speak for themselves: one in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, with an estimated 1.3 million victims each year. Almost one-third of female homicide victims are killed by an intimate partner, and in 70-80 percent of intimate partner homicides — no matter which partner is killed — the man was abusing the woman before the murder.

The recent media attention on the NFL and Ray Rice has brought a new spotlight to the issue, sparking discussion nationwide.

“I think it’s pretty positive,” said Shannon Corda, who works as a shelter advo-

cate for the Partnership Against Domestic Violence. “It’s really raising awareness, and people are really stepping up and saying, ‘Maybe I need to do something about what’s going on’ or ‘I know my friend is going through something and I need to step up.’”

Experts say it’s important to protect and empower victims of domestic violence, because in many cases, the issue isn’t just physical. There are mental, emotional, and financial factors involved as well.

“Most of you are just thinking about physical abuse,” said Lindsey Castille, president of the Gender Equality club, “but it’s important to keep in mind that there is more than one type of abuse, and they are typically intersectional, which means that they can be combined in vari-

ous ways.”

These additional factors often contribute to a victim’s decision to stay with a partner. They may still feel an emotional connection to their abuser or believe that the abuse is their fault.

They may also be unable to leave their abuser due to financial dependence or a fear of retribution. Statistics show that victims are 75 percent more likely to be killed if they leave.

“There’s a huge amount of danger in planning to leave and deciding to leave,” Castille said, “because if they find out that you’re planning to leave, you could be killed.”

Although many people don’t know how to look for them, there can be warning signs even while dating. Being able to identify these can help people to avoid being

trapped in an abusive relationship.

“Control is a really big thing to look for,” Corda said. “If you’re with someone, and he’s telling you who you can hang out with, he wants to know when you leave class, and what you’re doing after class, he’s trying to limit your activities — anything like that is a big warning sign.”

Even so, many people don’t know how to identify these warning signs, and raising awareness for the issue as a whole can help to educate people and to prevent domestic violence from happening in the first place, Corda said.

“I think the most important to remember is just to always reach out for help if you’re not sure,” Corda said, adding that Gainesville has the Gateway House shelter for victims, with a crisis hotline at (770) 536-5860.

Volunteer Fair engaging the community

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The University of North Georgia Gainesville campus opened its doors to nonprofit, private and governmental organizations at the annual Volunteer Fair 2014, on Thursday, Sept. 18.

The fair combined almost 50 community organizations with a variety of volunteer opportunities for all students who wanted to participate and serve the community.

“Volunteers can be influential in their communities,” said the organizer George Danns, a sociology professor at UNG. “We encourage our students to serve, to learn, and to volunteer.”

In the “Year of engagement,” students were able to bring their concerns to many of the agencies, which were equipped with cordial personnel willing to answer questions and also provide informative pamphlets. As part of the engagement, UNG invited Flowery Branch High School students to participate and to seek volunteer opportunities.

According to the organizers, the event’s purpose was to mobilize and encourage students to seek opportunities for service, learning, internships, and volunteering with the participating agencies.

“We teach and prepare our volunteers in all areas of interest such as computer data entry, public relations,

artistic services, etc.,” said Nairika Cornett, a coordinator of The Arts Council SmithGall Arts Center in Gainesville.

The incoming students who participated for an hour or less in the event received extra credit in their classes, and a T-shirt, which helped distinguish them as volunteers.

Even though the fair successfully welcomed all students, some of them had a different approach, according to Ariana Cervantes, a UNG student.

“Student did not understand the meaning of the fair,” she said. “They were more concerned in getting the T-shirt.”

Cervantes, 19, participates actively as a volunteer for different organizations and recognizes the importance of volunteering.

“I believe students are not interested in participating,” she said. “They don’t realize the need for volunteering.”

However, many of the booths were constantly encouraging students to participate and be part of the difference, by informing them about the immediate ways to collectively engage in helping others.

“There are so many things to do and learn,” said UNG student Dulce Galvan.

For five years, the Volunteer Fair has played an active role in the community by inviting many organizations mainly from Hall County. Danns interviewed other orga-



Photo by Jessica Pace

nizations that are waiting to be listed on future fairs.

“We want to accept them all, but we do not have the space to have a Volunteer Fair that big,” Danns said.

UNG’s vision of engagement is crucial to all students, he said. Participation and willingness to give back to our communities builds character as individuals.

“Volunteering forms leaders, and leadership brings opportunities,” Danns said.

Classic fairytale brings magic to life on stage

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WonderQuest electrified Brenau University's Pearce Auditorium with laughter and interactivity for the audience on its opening night of *Sleeping Beauty*.

The WonderQuest branch of Gainesville Theater Alliance has been producing plays on the behalf of children for 40 years.

"As my first GTA production it has been an honor to be a part of this beautiful production," said J'Quan Gulley, who plays Pebble.

These 40 years of experience can be seen with the beautiful props, costumes and choreography in *Sleeping Beauty*.

"WonderQuest has its own level of magic, which nobody should ever want to miss," said Bryant Guire, also known as Lucky Toad in the production.

The tale of *Sleeping Beauty* is a well-known story, but Gay Hammond has out done herself with the breath taking oriental back drop of the sleeping beauty stage.

The play starts off with Luck Toad and Pebble tending to a beautiful garden when the emperor and empress enter to enjoy the garden's beauty, but the empress is troubled. She wants a child to love and care for. Three fairies: Lady Fluttertwig, Lady Mirror-pool and Lady Hummingbird, over hear her plea for a child and decide to help her with their magic.

A year later princess Dawn Blossom is born, and is to receive

blessings from the three fairies. The emperor and empress however forget to invite the dark fairy Nightshade, and in her anger Nightshade places a curse on the princess. The curse is to take place when Dawn Blossom turns 16 years old. She will then prick her finger on a spindle and die. Lady Hummingbird however balances the curse with her own magic making it so the princess will not die, but will fall a sleep until woken by true loves kiss.

Years pass and Dawn Blossom is now 16 when she meets her prince charming, Prince Singing Blade. Shortly after their meeting, Singing Blade must head back to his kingdom leaving the princess alone to be tricked by the fairy Nightshade. The princess pricks her finger and falls asleep. The fairies, upon discovering Dawn Blossom's fate, cast a spell to make the whole castle sleep until 100 years have passed and Nightshade's magic has weakened. The prince hears of his loves troubles rushes back to the castle to save her. Where he battles Lady Nightshade's dragon and awakens the princess with a kiss.

This was my first viewing of a GTA production in a long time, and I must admit that I loved it. I will also make it a point to see future GTA productions.

If you haven't attended a GTA production

yet, it is a must. This rendition of *Sleeping Beauty* was a perfect example of that.

"With only 16 days of rehearsal, and the cast being mainly freshman students," Hammond said, "they have done a great job."



Photo by Vanguard Staff

The *Sleeping Beauty* stage is ready for the show.

Cameras are rolling at UNG's film club

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Changes coming for the Student Film Association (SFA) will include actually producing multiple films from now on.

Professor David Smith is the facilitator for the SFA, as well as the instructor for some film classes.

"Initially Film Club started over in the Student Center," Smith said, "and then a woman's organization needs a video and that's when it started to become half screenings and half doings for other organizations on campus."

In the past the SFA has done more than just hold screenings and discussions. They have also done other small promotional

videos for activities and organizations.

"The SFA did a Muddy Duck Dash Race video that they're going to use as a promotion for next year's Muddy Duck Dash," Smith said.

James Cooley is a junior on the Gainesville campus, a third year SFA student and the acting president of the organization, and he wants more filmmaking.

"It's mostly been screenings," Cooley said. "We made one short film in the fall of 2012, it was a comedy, and we made it to be entered into film festivals."

The SFA is going to be making a short

film this year in addition to being open to doing promotional videos for other clubs and organizations.

"We're also going to make a short film in November," Cooley said.

The student who will be directing the short film in November will be Trey Brandon, a senior at the Gainesville campus.

"I joined the club because James [Cooley] said they would be working on some short films... I'm a writer more than anything, and just recently I've decided to try directing my own stuff," said Brandon. "This way I can see it come

out the way I want it to come out."

There are more and more students like Brandon, who joined in the goal of making films. Christopher Patton is one of those students who has joined the club because of the new developments. He wants to be able to produce and talk about film, a common interest, Patton said.

Freshman Regan Craven joined the film with the same goal as most other students.

"I'm really interested in filmmaking and stuff, so I'm really hoping to get some experience," Craven said.

And for these students who have come in at a turning point for the club where short films and videos will start to be made, instead of just screening films, the time to join could not have been better.

"Instead of just screening films, the time to join could not have been better."

“Outlast”-ing the fear at Mount Massive Asylum

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Many people like to jokingly claim that they are crazy. However, not many people actually mean that they belong in an asylum. Enter the life of Miles Upshur, the main character of the survival horror game, Outlast. He’s not crazy, but by the end of his adventures at Mount Massive Asylum, he just might start questioning his sanity.

Outlast is a psychological horror game created by Red Barrels Games. It was released for PC on September 4th, 2013 and for Playstation 4 on February 4th, 2014. In addition to the original game, a downloadable content portion called Outlast: Whistleblower was released on May 6th, 2014.

For the duration of the game, the

player explores and interacts with their surroundings in the first-person view of Miles Upshur, an investigative reporter who decides to journey to Mount Massive Asylum upon receiving a tip via email from an unknown sender.

The goal of the game is to locate files that contain patient information and to film the happenings at Mount Massive, all-the-while trying to escape. Oh, and did I mention that the entire asylum is teeming full of crazed and usually violent inmates?

Being a survival-type horror game, the player has to take great care in their enemy encounters. After all, the only weapon you have is your camera and your wits. That’s right: you have absolutely no weapons.

In Outlast, enemies are something to avoid at all costs. This means that the player is constantly feeling as if they are



Photo special to gamingprecision.com

prey being stalked by a predator. No one is your friend; everyone is your enemy. Well, except for the lockers and beds that the player can hide under. Those are your bosom buddies.

Will you survive the horrors of the Mount Massive Asylum, or will you go crazy trying to escape? The choice is yours.

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SGA discusses traffic

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Members of the Gainesville Student Government Association convened on Monday, Sept. 15, to discuss various issues affecting the campus.

One topic raised was the university-wide meeting attended by several members of SGA. The meeting included three campuses and had students involved in strength and community-building activities.

“I think it was good with getting to know each other better,” UNG student Harrison Beet-Arnold said.

They also discussed such issues as plagiarism, as well as traffic and parking

on campus.

“It was nice to get different opinions from different campuses,” SGA Treasurer Katelyn Mathews said.

SGA reported that most of the roads surrounding campus are county roads. UNG is therefore working with the county to resolve traffic issues.

They also said that solutions may include educating students on navigating the campus, particularly regarding the use of the roundabout.

Another subject raised at the university-wide meeting was the discussion of sports on the Gainesville campus. The verdict: They might not be in the campus’s immediate future.

“We probably won’t see sports on this campus for awhile,” SGA President Sean Magee said. “[Sports] don’t really last unless they’re wanted and there’s a culture behind it.”

Members who attended the SGA meeting also discussed the recent Blood Drive, which brought in a total of 79 completed donations, exceeding its goal of 35.

SGA encouraged members to attend the Leadership Conference, which occurred on Saturday, Sept. 20.

The Leadership Conference provided lunch and T-shirts for those who attended, and presented a way for students to learn new leadership skills.

COMPASS changes at Oconee

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Beginning in the fall of 2015, COMPASS testing at UNG Oconee will be vastly different than in years past.

Using longitudinal data, new policies such as a Math Placement Index and an English Placement Index have been put in place. The scores of the MPI and EPI are calculated using applicants' high school GPA and SAT or ACT scores.

Dede deLaughter, director of learning support at UNG, is enthusiastic about the upcoming changes.

"The greatest predictor of student success during the first year of college is not an ACT or SAT or COMPASS score," deLaughter said. "It is the student's high school GPA."

In previous years using the COMPASS

test, students were required to score 40 or higher in mathematics, 78 or higher in reading and 60 or higher on the English portion of the test. The scores were developed using predictive analytics based on multiple test takers at multiple locations.

This data indicated that a COMPASS reading score of 74 is 60 percent predictive of a student passing English 1101 with an A, B or C. If a student fell below the scoring threshold, they would be placed in learning support classes.

With the new placement methods, students who are just below the required MPI or EPI levels can now be placed in college level classes with built-in labs. In the past, students were encouraged to go to labs, but it was never a requirement.

The changes regarding COMPASS testing will also mean changes to learning support classes offered at UNG Oconee.

In previous years, students not only had

to pass the course, but advancement also hinged on their ability to pass a COMPASS exit exam. "It can be defeating for students," deLaughter said. "Sixteen weeks' worth of work should hold more value than a 30-minute test."

UNG was one of the first universities in the state to gain an exemption from the COMPASS exit exam. They provided data showing students who earn passing grades in learning support courses also do well in their collegiate-level courses.

Instead of using the archaic placement methods of the past, new and progressive ideas have led to these advancements. "I'm



Photo by Rebekah Kerlin/Vanguard Gainesville
UNG student Angie Bryant is not the only one studying.

interested, once we begin using MPI and EPI as placement for most students, how that will affect the number of students who will have learning support requirements," deLaughter said. "If students can get past having to take learning support classes, they can graduate sooner and achieve their goals."

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Piss off your server

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Downtown Athens has a rich culture throughout its restaurant scene.

A great way to get in good with the local businesses, and make friends with the local staff is to be the best table they could ever have!

First, when walking in, seat yourself.

Servers have certain assigned sections that divide tables accordingly, so this will surely be a great way to start the process in making friends with your server.

After you have made yourself at home, notify the staff that 20 of your closest friends are on the way. Sure, some people will think ahead, and make a reservation, but the element of surprise is key.

Rachel, a server at Trappeze says,

Continued on page 11

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“There’s nothing worse than a large party that orders waters and a few appetizers, then ends up staying for half the shift. I get that you want a nice meeting place, but go to a f***ing park.” Try not to take this the wrong way. Rachel could desperately use some fresh air with friends. Maybe invite Rachel to a day at the park.

When your server comes up to your table, make sure you ignore her. When you finally do recognize her existence, tell her that you are not ready for everyone to order, but you have a few friends that are. Ordering one person at a time will cause her to run back and forth to your table. The brisk workout can only benefit her and jumpstart her into a healthier lifestyle.

Remember, you are not their only table but treating them like you are makes them feel special. Highwire server John says, “I wish people would understand I am their server, not their servant. When tables make me run back and forth, I feel like they don’t realize I am a human being.”

There’s nothing more enlightening

than the feeling one gets when he can break out of his “human” self. Keep this in mind, and make John work til he drops!

When all the food has come out, complain as much as possible. Meg, a server at The Melting Point says, “People can be so relentless and cut throat when they complain. Sometimes it makes me want to quit on the spot.” Maybe you could be that table that pushes her to a newer and brighter future!

The wage for servers in Georgia is \$2.13. Servers almost only depend on tips, which brings us to our final, and most important step.

When the bill arrives, mentally recap on how much you have worked your server. After you have successfully reflected, be sure to leave a minimal tip, or better yet, nothing at all. The comfort and satisfaction in knowing you can pay this months rent can lead for a boring and dull life.

Take this to your advantage, and save yourself a little money. Your server will enjoy the excitement of finding an alternative way of making money, and possibly a new place to live.



Photo special to urthebest.us



UNG students belittled

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UNG Oconee students have been belittled by UGA students in social scenes throughout Athens and in social media.

“I totally get the vibe that UGA students don’t take us seriously,” UNG

student Josh Gordon said. “You just get a feeling that they kind of look down on you, almost to a point where it creates a divide between us.”

One UNG student, Chris Adams, said, “The girls from UGA just want to know what fraternity I’m in or what dorm I live in. When I tell them that I go to UNG, they just kind of turn around and quit talking to me.”

“There is no reason for them to look down on the students here,” Javon Swanigan, another UNG student said. “We’ve moved to a university now and UNG is actually a great school.

“Most of my UGA friends started out at UNG Oconee and they all say it prepped them for

UGA. Some even say it’s easier there [at UGA.]”

The tension between the students is growing on social media as well. UNG student Josh Berry tweeted about the

Georgia-South Carolina football game referring to UGA as “us.”

One UGA student with the Twitter username @kaylatricarico tweeted, “Oh when did you get

into UGA?” in a sarcastic retort. The tweet was quickly deleted.

There have been multiple instances where students at UGA have made snide remarks toward UNG students over social media.

One former UGA student does not seem to think that being a UNG student is something to be frowned upon. James Holland, a graduate from the Terry College of Business, said, “I think that most of the people that went to the Gainesville (now UNG Oconee) campus were just not quite prepared for the big school atmosphere.

“I think that most UGA students realize that and the ones that do look down on them are just snobs,” he said.

“...Most UGA students realize that and the ones that do look down on them are just snobs....”

Former UNG student makes his dream come true

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Growing up, John Huff had one dream: to follow in the footsteps of his father and walk on with the UGA football team. This past spring, that dream finally came true.

“You know, I was kind of shocked,” Huff said. “For years, I had envisioned seeing my name on the roster. It was just really cool to finally see that and look at my bio and look at my picture on georgiadogs.com. It was a really cool experience.”

Coming out of high school, Huff’s football coach had talked to smaller schools about potential playing opportunities but ultimately decided to keep working towards his goal.

Huff started at Gainesville State College in the fall of 2011. “I wanted to go somewhere that was close to home,” Huff said, “because I love the Athens area, so I liked being on the Oconee campus. It was very affordable and convenient.”

“My [high school] coach had talked to the University of West Georgia and LaGrange College,” Huff said, “and then my freshman year at GSC Oconee, I was talking to Rinehart University about possibly playing football there, but I decided that I wanted to hang on to my dream of playing at UGA.”

Huff accumulated a 2.81 GPA in 61 combined credit hours between his three semesters at GSC Oconee and his one semester as a transient student at Piedmont College to get into UGA. “The education at Gainesville was really underrated,” Huff said. “The education I got at Gainesville was great.”

Huff preparing athletically for UGA was a different process altogether.

Huff worked at a gym during his time at GSC Oconee to stay in good shape and worked out before and after shifts. He also kept up a good cardio routine, running an occasional 5K race.

One huge factor that helped Huff stay in shape was his baseball career. “I did play three seasons in the Athens Area Men’s Baseball League,” Huff said, “so I kept up with my baseball career after high school, but not collegiately.”

The road to making UGA’s football team was not an easy one for Huff. In his first semester at UGA, Huff tried out for the football team for the first time. Unfortunately, UGA was not doing tryouts for Huff’s home position of linebacker, so Huff attempted to walk on as a punter.

“I was scheduled to try out on the first day of classes,” Huff said, “and then I got an email from the coach I had



Photo from Huff family

Huff signing autographs for a young fan at UGA picture day

been talking to at UGA, Daryl Jones.” Jones told Huff that there wasn’t any tryouts for linebacker that season but continued tryouts for punters and kickers.

“Now, I’ve never punted or kicked in my life,” Huff said, “but I was like, you know what, I’ve got six days until this tryout. I’m going to teach myself how to punt.”

At the tryout, Huff was given five opportunities to punt. “I punted a couple for, like, 35 or 36 yards with a decent spiral and a decent hang time,” Huff said, “but that wasn’t good enough to get me on the team.”

This roadblock did not keep Huff from working towards his lifelong goal. At UGA, there is an in-house rule that as long as a student has at least two years of eligibility remaining, that student can still try out for the football team.

“I figured this would be my last shot at it,” Huff said. “Basically, until it was completely impossible, I wanted to keep pressing towards that goal.”

Huff drew a lot of his inspiration from his family. Huff’s father, Kelly, walked onto the UGA football team as a student. Huff also drew encouragement from his

grandparents.

They “played a big role in encouraging me, offering me support and guiding me through my entire sports career,” Huff said.

Huff also drew inspiration from a friend and role model, Candler Cook who also tried out for the football team and did not make it at first, but Cook made it eventually.

Inspiration came to Huff even through his detractors. “A lot of people didn’t think I could do it,” Huff said. “A lot of people didn’t think I could make it this far.”

All of this inspiration drove Huff to keep working and come back the next year for his final opportunity to complete his lifelong goal.

In his second tryout, Huff was able to tryout as a linebacker.

The tryout process began in June 2014 with summer workouts, which came five days a week. Even with all of the preparation Huff had done, he had experienced nothing like this before.

“It’s really intimidating when you first come out there,”

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Huff said, "because you see these guys that you've seen on TV and watched in high school. When you come out there on your first day, you don't feel like you belong."

Things did not stay that way for Huff for very long. After making the team, Huff started gaining mentors in the locker room.

As it is with most walk-ons, Huff has started off on the scout team. He is excited about the opportunity, though.

"I love being on the scout team," Huff said. "We get to go up against the first team every day. I'm competing against starting O-Line, and I'm having to get off of their blocks. I'm trying to go fit up Todd Gurley and Sony Michel and all these other guys. I'm really trying to embrace my role on the team and help us out."

There are things that Huff regrets from his time at GSC Oconee. "You don't always want to look forward to the next thing so much that you forget to live in the moment and enjoy where you're at right now," Huff said.

Huff is currently scheduled to be dressed out for the game against Charleston Southern and, should UGA meet the requirements, the bowl game. There is also the possibility that Huff could get more games where he can dress out, if he wins scout team player of the week.

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UNG soccer player returns after four ACL surgeries

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A torn anterior cruciate ligament usually spells doom for an athlete's future. Many athletes both in college and professional sports have felt the short- and long-term effects of the injury.

One soccer player at UNG, though, has refused to let the injury ruin his career. That player is Malte Krapp, a striker from Cologne, Germany. Krapp has torn an ACL not once or twice but four times since arriving at North Georgia in 2011.

"Just an ordinary person would have given up," said Patrice Parris, head coach of the Nighthawks men's soccer team.

"Most people start thinking about hanging up the cleats and think there is no way to come back from this," Parris said.

"His mind is extremely powerful," Parris said. "With all of these setbacks, he believed that one day that he will get back on the field and score a goal."

Krapp came to North Georgia as a player with a lot of potential and a knack for scoring goals. However, just a few games into his freshman season, he suffered his first torn ACL. While working his way back to being able to play, he tore it again and again and again.

Krapp had to spend all of the 2012 and 2013 seasons cheering on his teammates from the sideline instead of playing on the field with them.

"2013 was the worst to watch," he said. "Sitting on the sideline that

second year was pretty hard but it motivated me."

He gives much of the credit of his recovery to his trainer who had him on a pretty tight schedule to make sure he could return to playing shape. Parris echoed that statement.

"Props go out to the training staff over the years," Parris said. "In the long run it's about having to function as an adult."

All that hard work paid off in just his second game back when Parris decided to substitute Krapp in during the second half against Lees-McRae College. A few moments later and 71:15 minutes into the ball game, he had the ball and a shot at the goal. After a two-and-a-half-year hiatus from the game he finally scored another goal for the Nighthawks, this one to break a scoreless tie in a game North Georgia eventually won 2-0.

He may only be playing at 50 percent right now. He has only appeared in six of the 11 games the Nighthawks have played so far. Nonetheless, he has come a long way in the past two years, physically and mentally.

"Being away was challenging, but it made me a better player and person," Krapp said. "Everything happens for a reason and I can use this experience help me out in the future."

Parris calls Krapp "an outstanding guy and living proof that the mind is a powerful thing.

"Not sure if he will ever be at 100 percent but each day he tries to improve," he said.

"I don't know what the chances of him coming back were but he definitely beat them," he said.

Rivalry with Young Harris intensifies

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Last year marked the first season of the Battle of Blood Mountain rivalry between UNG and Young Harris, which ultimately landed the trophy here at UNG.

“I thought in its first year, the rivalry went really well,” said Lee Glenn, assistant athletic director at UNG.

In the beginning of the sports year, the rivalry started off close.

In the first scored event, women’s cross country, North Georgia took the point placing ahead of Young Harris in the PBC Championship.

Down one to zero, Young Harris’ men’s soccer team swept North Georgia in two games to tie the season score at one.

Women’s soccer gave North Georgia their second lead of the season series, beating Young Harris in their only matchup of the season, three to two.

The schools then split their matchups in men’s basketball, giving each team half of a point. And women’s basketball gave Young Harris another point to the tally, beating UNG twice.

Through the first five athletic competitions of the year, the season total in the Battle was all tied up at two and a half points each.

Then UNG went on a roll, sweeping the next three events: baseball, women’s golf and softball. They also won the final scored event, women’s tennis. Although Men’s tennis did garner Young Harris another point for the year.

When it was all said and done, North Georgia beat Young Harris in the season score for the Battle of Blood Mountain by a total of six and a half points to three and a half points.

With an impressive trophy to add to an even more impressive resume of achievement, the Battle of Blood Mountain should continue to heat up as the years go by.

“When it was all said and done, North Georgia beat Young Harris in the season score for the Battle of Blood Mountain....”



Photo by Rebekah Kerlin/Vanguard-Gainesville
UNG Women’s Soccer: Cicely Taliaferro in action against Young Harris.

Men’s soccer has best week of the season

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North Georgia (2-7-1, 1-2-0) managed to get their first Peach Belt Conference win of the season October eighth against Montevallo.

While the season as a whole has been tough, the last two week has been kind to the Nighthawks. They opened the week scoring the most goals they have all season with three in a tie with Lenoir-Rhyne. They fell to #22 Francis Marion by the score of 0-3 a few days later. The week ended with a big 1-0 win over Montevallo.

Sophomore Eric Carrion scored three of the Nighthawks four goals of the past week after being unable to score during their first seven games. The other goal was scored by sophomore Roldan Reyes against Lenoir-Rhyne which was also his first of the season. Sophomore Matt Shaftoe and senior Manuel Hernandez both recorded their first assists of the season during that 7-day span as well.

North Georgia hosts conference rival Clayton State this Wednesday. They then travel to UNC Pembroke this Saturday.

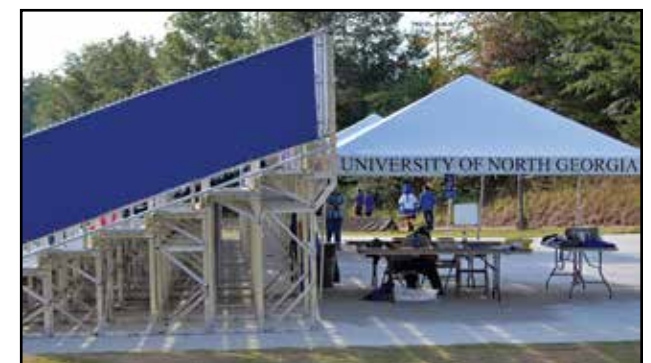


Photo by Rebekah Kerlin/Vanguard-Gainesville

Women's cross country team is rebuilding

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The University of North Georgia women's cross country team finished seventh in the Peach Belt Conference in the 2013 season. That's a far cry from where they were just three years ago, when the Lady Nighthawks cross country program did not even exist.

The cross country team was once a thriving program at UNG. At one point, they finished third in the region in 2008. Despite that, after the 2009 season, the women's cross country was cut from the university due to financial struggles. But in 2012, coach Tom Williams revamped the program, brought it back to life, and has made it a competitive team.

Williams was a former coach of both men's and women's cross country at Walton County High School. Both teams were successful and had 12 appearances at the State Championship meet in his last 14 years of his run at Walton. Williams began his tenure at UNG in 2009, coaching both men's and women's cross country. Only the women's portion of the cross country program was

revived. Rebuilding a collegiate sports program is a tall order.

"I am finding that you need to do your due diligence by going to high school races and talking to high school coaches and be a little lucky to reconstruct a program," Williams said regarding the program's rebuild. Williams added that in order to draw new athletes to the program, it needs to improve and continue to be successful.

Eight runners are returning to UNG this year. This offseason, Williams has brought in three freshmen and a transfer student from the University of Alabama.



Special to the Vanguard

The 2014 Nighthawks cross country women's team is poised for success

Williams is proud of the women's success in the classroom and on the running course. The team has a bright future, he said.

Upgrades on the horizon for Gainesville's fitness center

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Despite a facelift completed in the spring, updates are still on the horizon for the Hugh Mills Physical Education Center at the UNG Gainesville campus.

The complex will receive enhancements for students and faculty members. More weights, bigger locker rooms, and additions to the training field are the focal points of the renovation that should take place during summer 2015.

With the facelift, UNG hopes to provide more space for students to operate and with the school growing at a rapid pace the upgrade is much needed.

Each semester the rise in attendance affects some of the dynamics on campus. First it was parking, and now it's the gym. With more people wanting to be in better shape the expansion makes sense for its students so that everyone can get an equal workout. The UNG Health

and Wellness department believes this would be a big boost to the development of future activities on the campus and improve current activities.

The renovations will also add to the intramural sports program on the Gainesville campus.

"Waiting to use a machine to do an exercise will no longer be a problem," said Dat Nguyen, an accounting major at UNG.

"Every time I come to the gym it's always packed and I have to wait," he said.

The renovations look to expand its fitness area as more machines and weights are on the horizon, which means availability of gym equipment will not be a problem anymore.

As UNG steadily grows the Hugh Mills fitness center will have to as well. Plans are being put in place to make sure the gym stays in touch with a growing student body on the Gainesville campus.



Photo by Ishmael Hollis/Vanguard-Gainesville

Students working out in the recently renovated weight room

Smoke'em if you got'em

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Let me start off by saying that I am not a smoker, nor have I ever been a smoker. With that being said, I think the way we are treating smokers nowadays is downright criminal. This new anti-tobacco policy that the Board of Regents has enacted for all public universities in the state of Georgia is a clear violation of human rights and should be treated as such.

Who am I to tell someone whether or not they can smoke? It's none of my business. It is their right as an American to be able to choose what kind of carcinogens they want to put in their body.

Not only do I think this new policy goes too far, I think the old one was already too far. Of course students should be allowed to smoke in their own cars. That should be a given. It'll hurt the resale value but that is their choice. Instead, I think we should adopt a new policy stating that as long as someone is outdoors, they can smoke.

I say this because if people started smoking indoors, the school would smell like a dive bar, and that is something I would like to avoid if possible.

If it is outside, though, then what's the harm? A depleted ozone layer? I'm pretty sure we've already gotten rid of that thing. Secondhand smoke? The wind shall disperse of that. But what if it's not windy? Then don't stand next to the damn smoker.

The Board of Regents must be afraid that if they allow smokers to smoke wherever they want then they'll start



Photo by Angelica Beltran/Vanguard Gainesville

wearing their black leather jackets, greasing up their hair and blowing smoke in everyone's face whilst yelling, "Aye! Forget about it."

Hate to break it to you, but smokers are some of the nicest people you will ever meet. They are very polite about when and where they smoke. Even in their own home or car, they will ask if it is OK for them to smoke.

We all need to stop discriminating against smokers. They are human beings and deserve the same amount of respect as you or I. If they don't want to live till they're 90-something years old then that

is their choice and I respect it. Who the hell wants to be 90 anyway?

Today's society has a bad habit of demonizing smoking and smokers. We feel it is somehow our responsibility to tell people that smoking is bad for them, like they don't already know. Leave smokers alone. Let them live their short lives in peace.

Tobacco was so crucial in the founding of this country that it is a wonder as to how we could ever discriminate against it. Without tobacco, there would be no United States of America.

The revenue generated by the export of tobacco kept the Jamestown colony from failing. Since England found no gold in the United States like Spain did in South America and Mexico, they may very well have given up colonizing the Americas if not for tobacco. This would have left Spain as the primary colonizing force and what is now the United States would be nothing more than an extension of Mexico.

Without tobacco the U.S. would be Mexico and I don't want to be Mexico. Do you want to be Mexico? Some of my best friends are Mexican, but let's be honest here, Mexico doesn't even want to be Mexico with all the political corruption. Tobacco, we are forever in your debt for saving us from becoming Mexico.

So the next time you are looking up at that American flag, you better thank tobacco.

And if you see someone smoking, don't think about the cancer he or she is sure to receive, think about the freedom that each puff brings.



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