

# THE SENTINEL

## OF KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

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Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009

### Sports and Recreation Park enters second phase, nearing completion



The new Sports and Recreation Park, located on Busbee Drive, is tentatively scheduled to open Oct. 2.

ANDY NELSON  
STAFF WRITER

Phase two of the new Sports and Recreation Park is currently undergoing preliminary site work and the park is expected to be open for student use as soon as paperwork is finalized.

The project has been ongoing since the land, formerly Gold's Gym, on Busbee Drive was purchased at the end of 2008. So far, two major fields and a smaller practice field have been completed and have been dubbed the "Owl's Nest."

Plans for phase two include an 8,300-foot soccer stadium and practice fields, additional soccer fields, a rugby field and 4,683 feet of nature and hiking trails.

According to Tara Parker, associate director of intramural and recreation services, other potential additions include biking trails and volleyball courts, depending on funding for the project.

"We're trying to come up with other

more passive types of recreation activities for students who are not on teams," said Parker. "Our goal is for the students to benefit. We've been given a great opportunity with the Owl's Nest and with the other acreage to expand on what we can offer through recreation."

According to Laura St. Onge, collegiate club sports director at KSU, one of the fields in the Owl's Nest measures 75 x 120 yards and the other measures 40 x 100 yards.

Both fields have a built-in drainage system that has the potential to drain hundreds of gallons of water per minute, meaning that the fields will never be too wet to play on. Lighting units have already been added to the first field and the second is expected to receive lighting units during the winter.

"One of the things the clubs are most excited about is the quality of the fields," said St. Onge, who said that they had received challenges from intramural teams at schools such as the University of Missouri and Western Kentucky University. "We would never have gotten these matches on our old field. Other teams actually

want to come here and play us."

Bob Heflin, director of real estate at the KSU Foundation, said the bit of land set aside for intramural sports only amounts to 1.7 acres, which is not regulation size for intramural sports at KSU.

"This would give the university a much-needed sports and recreation park for the caliber of university we expect it to become," said Heflin. "It's hard to say who will benefit the most. It has facets everyone at KSU can enjoy."

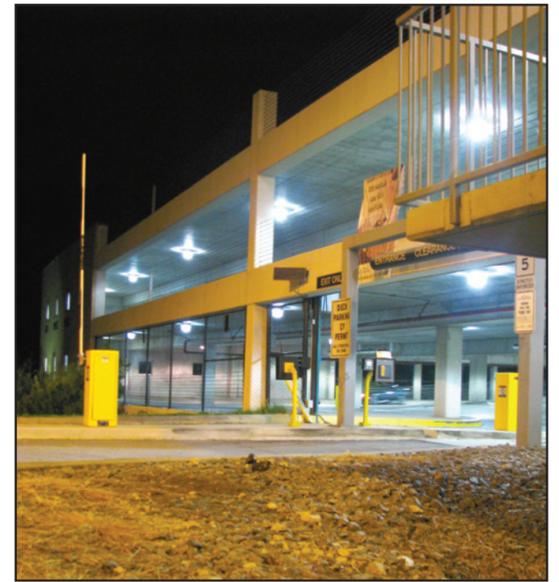
Currently, many club sports and intramural teams are forced to practice at venues outside of KSU, such as Noonday Park.

"We're at capacity right now for our intramural sports teams," said Parker. "This will allow us to practice right here on campus and invite other teams to home matches to compete against and give a nice impression of our program."

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the field is tentatively scheduled for Oct. 2, depending on when the paperwork is finalized and approvals are sealed.

Karlee Gonzalez | The Sentinel

### Student petitions West Deck parking problems



Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel

The West Deck is consistently at capacity during the day.

REBECCA HOOD  
STAFF WRITER

A student has started a petition in hopes of solving the parking problem on campus, specifically in the West Deck.

Shou Yuan "Steven" Lyu, a computer science and information systems major, and his wife are non-traditional students who come to campus straight from work around 6:30 p.m. According to Lyu, signs displaying "DECK FULL" block cars from entering the West Deck, yet there are available spaces.

"My wife is in the master's program, and any tardy will bring her grade down one letter, so one day when the sign said the deck was full, I moved it and went in to park anyway," said Lyu.

This led to an altercation with a parking official, who eventually called the police.

"I started talking to other students about the problem and decided to start a petition to try and come up with a solution," Lyu said.

Lyu sent an email inviting all students and faculty to email parking problems to an inbox created specifically for this purpose: ksuparkingproblem@gmail.com.

In addition to the email account, Lyu has created a Twitter account to document parking problems. Lyu invites those with complaints to include ideas to solve the ongoing KSU parking issue.

"We just want to present the problem and work together with the proper authorities to rectify the problem," said Lyu.

"Everyone attending KSU has to pay for parking," Lyu said in his email to students and faculty. "I know we can find a feasible solution if people are only willing to try."

The West Deck parking problem is no surprise to parking officials. Statistics from Auxiliary Services and Programs (ASaP) show that the West Deck is consistently at capacity, while the East and Central Decks usually have empty spots. During peak traffic hours, the line of cars waiting along Campus Loop Road to get a spot in the West Deck causes a hazardous driving situation.

In an attempt to solve some of the parking problems, parking operations installed proximity gates in most lots and decks accessible by electronic hangtags. According to parking officials, these hangtags and gates will regulate traffic flow and allow KSU police to handle situations more serious than directing traffic. It also allows parking officials to collect statistical data regarding parking in each lot in order to manage the decks and plan for special events.

Lyu has spoken with parking officials and hopes this idea will be a solution to the problem.

"I'm really hoping the hangtags help the problem, but I'm not sure if the counter will always work," said Lyu.

He suggests a digital display be installed to inform students how many spots are taken and how many are vacant.

"What's so irritating to me is it's such an easy problem to fix," said Lyu. "Police and parking staff need to work together to monitor parking lots and direct flow in and out of the decks."

Lyu said he has received quite a few emails from students experiencing problems and is gathering ideas from students to pass along to officials.

## KSU Foundation appoints Corhen Chief Operating Officer

MELISSA BUTZ  
STAFF WRITER

Richard Corhen has been appointed the new Chief Operating Officer of the KSU Foundation.

Corhen's background includes more than 20 years experience in the financial service industry, five of which were with KSU.

This experience will aid him as he manages and leads the Foundation's strategic, operational and financial activities, with more than \$350 million in assets under management.

Corhen assumed his new position on Sept. 1 as the KSU Foundation celebrated its 40th anniversary.

After graduating from the University of Georgia with a bachelor's degree in finance and an M.B.A., Corhen worked for Bank of America for 15 years. He served as northeast Atlanta commercial market executive, strategic plan-

ner and team leader for Olympic Banking. Although he just assumed this new position, he has served the KSU Foundation since 2004 as vice chairman for two years.

The Foundation began at Kennesaw Junior College in April 1969 with only 23 members. Then-President Horace W. Sturgis said, "[The forming of the foundation is] one of the most significant events in the development of our college. [It] will give the additional support needed for the continued growth of the college."

The Foundation's goal in 1969 was to accommodate its future growth. Now, the goal is to transform the school into a more residential and traditional university, as enrollment has now hit 22,500 students.

The Foundation plans to achieve this goal by improving education, providing success opportunities for students, faculty and staff and ex-



Richard Corhen

panding the horizons of the university as a whole.

As KSU continues to grow, it needs leaders who are set on furthering the growth and development of the school. According to Foundation chairman Norman Radow, Corhen is one of those men.

See CORHEN, page 2

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# AROUND CAMPUS

**What:** The Spoken Word—Pouring Tea: Black Gay Men of the South Tell Their Tales  
**When:** Fri. Sept. 18 and Sat. Sept. 19, 8 p.m.  
**Where:** Performance Hall, Bailey Performance Center  
**Details:** \$18; \$12 for KSU students

**What:** KAB Cinema Series: "Step Up"  
**When:** Tues. Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Social Science, Room 1019  
**Details:** Free food and drinks provided by Jason's Deli

**What:** "El Grito," sponsored by the Mexican American Student Alliance  
**When:** Tues. Sept. 15, 12:30–1:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Student Center Terrace  
**Details:** Kickoff of Hispanic Heritage Month

**What:** Women's soccer vs. Samford  
**When:** Fri. Sept. 18, 7 p.m.  
**Where:** KSU Soccer Complex

**What:** Hockey vs. UGA  
**When:** Fri. Sept. 18, 10 p.m.  
**Where:** Town Center Ice Forum  
**Details:** \$3; White Out Game—fans encouraged to wear white

# Student's credits refunded after dining hall disappointment

HEATHER COOK  
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Marc Hill and his wife entered The Commons on Sunday, Sept. 6. He had been so impressed with his prior experience at the dining hall that he thought he would share the experience with his wife.

"When everything is up and running like it should be, I think The Commons is an excellent place to eat," said Hill, an education major. "I took my wife there because of the first experience that I had the first week that it was up and running. I wasn't trying to be a cheap date, but I figured since I had the swipes available that she would enjoy eating there as

much as I did when everything was open."

However, upon arriving to the gates of the hall and swiping his card for himself and for his wife, he soon realized that this experience was not going to be like his first one. The Commons had about 50 people in it at the time of Hill's arrival, and once the food ran out, the dining hall did not replenish its stock.

"It was like playing Hungry Hippos because once they ran out of something, that was it," Hill said. "No one told us that if we got there two hours before the facility closed, that we were only going to get what was left, which was close to nothing. We ate what we could because we were already

pressed for time, and I had already swiped my card."

The new dining hall has been the talk of the campus for some time now. Most of the news has been about student opinion and whether or not The Commons is worth the extra fee.

"I would have rather shelled out the cash and went to a restaurant and at least got my money's worth," said Hill. "My tuition does not pay for three pans of food, my tuition paid for a full service dining facility."

Hill believes that his experience had a lot to do with the Labor Day holiday weekend.

"They did apologize, but kept repeating the fact that it was slow," Hill said. "I un-

derstand about being slow, but I had a hard copy of The Commons' Web site, and it stated that even though the dining hall offices would be closed, that food service would not be affected by the holiday. When I went to The Commons, food service was definitely affected."

Laura Ulshafer, a freshman whose major is undeclared, believes that the dining hall didn't set more food out "because they didn't want to have to stay later than 8 p.m." She also stated that she "wishes they stayed open later."

After Hill spoke with representatives from The Commons, his credits were reimbursed and he received an apology.

# WEATHER



WEDNESDAY  
HIGH 77°  
LOW 65°



THURSDAY  
HIGH 76°  
LOW 65°



FRIDAY  
HIGH 78°  
LOW 63°



SATURDAY  
HIGH 80°  
LOW 62°



SUNDAY  
HIGH 77°  
LOW 60°



MONDAY  
HIGH 79°  
LOW 59°

# Program pairs international students with American friends

CAITLYN NEWMAYER  
STAFF WRITER

The Conversation Partners Program matches international students with native English speakers.

Housed in the ESL Study and Tutorial Center of University Studies, the program is available to all currently enrolled students, faculty and staff.

The program benefits both international participants and native English speakers by allowing both partners to learn about a different culture, develop friendships or learn to speak another language.

The 12-year-old program currently has 200 participants made up of mostly students, but also several faculty and staff members.

"This is my third year being a conversation partner," said participant Susan Ristau. "It's a great program designed

to give KSU's international students an American friend. In my case, I have been able to help my conversation partners with their English papers and with resources available on campus, as well as enjoy the social outlet, and learn about the international student's country and culture. My first two partners were Asian and I enjoyed learning about China and Korea very much."

The program matches partners based on their personal preferences. Some participants may request to be paired with another participant who speaks a language they are studying.

Partners are required to meet a minimum of five times per semester. Partners can meet on or off campus.

"They just arrange whatever is comfortable for them. Most people will meet on campus. They'll have a cup of coffee or go for a walk," said David Schmidt, director of the ESL Study and Tutorial Center.

"I'm still friends with a number of partners I had many years ago," he continued. "Many people report to me that they're still friends long after they've graduated with people that they went through the program with."

International students may use the program toward a tuition waiver credit. If international students com-

plete 20 hours of volunteer work and maintain a 3.25 GPA during a semester, they can apply to bring their tuition down to the level of in-state tuition. International students may use the time they meet with partners as part of the 20 hours of volunteer work required for the tuition waiver.

The program also holds two large social events per year, including a luncheon that is scheduled for Sept. 22.

Although applications are no longer being accepted for the fall 2009 semester, they will be accepted again in the spring. Recruitment for the program starts two to three weeks before the semester begins. The ESL Study and Tutorial Center receives applications via email three to four weeks into the semester.

To apply, contact Schmidt at 770-423-6377 or dschmidt@kennesaw.edu.

"This program supports the goals of KSU's Quality Enhancement Plan and increases global awareness for students and staff. It also benefits the international students who participate by giving them an additional support structure and academic resource," said Rebecca Casey, department chair for University Studies, who supports Schmidt.

"Having a friend, having someone they can talk to who's a native speaker—it makes a world of difference," said Casey.

**CORHEN from front page**

As Radow commented in a Sept. 8 press release, "...Richard Corhen is the perfect fit for KSU and the foundation. He is a big thinker, has comprehensive financial knowledge, is a great consensus builder, and he gets things done. We needed someone to manage our affairs that could lead our growing team of professionals, understand complex transactions and demonstrate leadership skills."

"We are pleased to be in a position to secure Richard Corhen's leadership, and to integrate his expertise into the daily operations of the Kennesaw State University Foundation," said President Dan Papp in the same press release. "We look forward to Richard's solid man-

agement and invaluable guidance as the Foundation continues to support Kennesaw State University's growth and momentum."

The KSU Foundation is responsible for several campus projects, the most recent being The Commons. The 38-member Foundation was responsible for the planning and operation of the dining hall as well as the University Village Suites and the Central Parking Deck, which were completed in 2008.

Two new sports fields have also been completed at the new 88-acre Sports and Recreation Park, the "Owl's Nest." The Foundation plans to open the building and the two fields to club sports on Oct. 2, when the sports teams will play for 10-20 minute intervals from 10-11 p.m.

# CORRECTIONS

In the 9-1-09 issue, the story "Skateboarding banned in certain areas" failed to include The Commons in the list of areas restricted once the policy takes effect. In the same issue, the story "Parking hangtag stats say Central Deck spaces usually available" has an incorrect headline. In fact, there is never a time that spaces are unavailable. It is the policy of The Sentinel to correct all errors of fact.



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# OPINIONS

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## How far is too far?

Once again, the religious zealots of the radical Christian community spew hatred and bigotry in their typical fashion: by condemning non-believers and the morally tainted. I find it hard to believe that a narrow-minded faction of society is allowed to preach words of condemnation on the grounds of a college that is trying to develop minds into progressive and forward-thinking individuals. However, on Aug. 25, the semester ritual continues and, once again, students passing the Campus Green are

exposed to chants of hate and posters of indignation.

Part of my mind tells me that these self-ordained "messengers" of God are terrifyingly similar to the ones that our brave men and women of the Armed Forces are fighting against over-seas. Where do we draw a line in the sand against acts of protest? Do we next allow the KKK to picket on the Campus Green, carrying signs condemning interracial marriage and African-American progression? I really do

not see much of a difference.

There are a couple of reasons why I believe these people should not be allowed back onto campus. First off, they shine a negative light on spiritual lifestyles that many KSU students find essential. I know that most people of faith would agree that the zealots' extremist views of society would make Jesus shake. When J.C. said to preach the gospel, I'm pretty sure the zealots' message of hate isn't what he had in mind.

Hypothetically, lets say the zealots are correct and Barack Obama is the "most wicked man we have ever had in the White House," and "Homo perverts will burn in hell;" does this coincide with the religious practices of forgiveness, compassion and open-mindedness? It seems to me that someone skipped over those sections of the Bible.

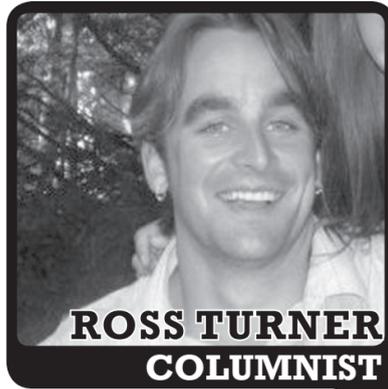
Secondly, the only constructive conversation that can ensue during this kind of protest is one of condemnation and conflict, and I am not talking exclusively about the words coming out of the purists mouths. Students line up to match their wits and collegiate knowledge against the "word of God." I find it fascinating that students would actually entertain the idea that arguing with these people will do any good. I leaned

over to a fellow student and asked him, "What good do these kids think is going to come out of arguing with these guys?" The student replied, "Its just fun to watch." And there, ladies and gentlemen lies the problem.

If you are a college student between the ages of 18-26 you have been indoctrinated into the Jerry Springer-style of confrontation and social examination where seeing a car wreck is more appealing than helping the people out of the car.

This form of "entertainment" can only numb an individual's cognitive reasoning skills and negate someone from openly viewing an opposing viewpoint constructively. This leads to the inability to find a reasonable middle ground to agree upon, causing people make brash judgments and create stereotypes that restrict societal cultural expansion.

Social dialogue is one of the most civically stimulating and misinterpreted activities known today. How are we supposed to raise young minds to avoid narrow-minded views if we are exposing them in an open and public forum? How are we supposed to guide the student body toward ana-



**ROSS TURNER**  
COLUMNIST

lytical liberation when social condemnation is what we give them? And where do we draw the line? Would we allow these same men to wear white hoods and preach the same words? Or is our judgment clouded by the flavored snow-cones given out as a peace offering?

A friend recently said to me that instead of arguing with the contaminants of progression, we should have students line up around them in a circle with giant mirrors to show what self-proclaimed men of God actually look like. I like that. I always thought that there was one way to kill a clown, but I have found that there are two: take away his audience, and show him he is not funny.

What's next, do we allow the KKK to picket in circle on the Campus Green carrying signs condemning interracial marriage and African-American progression

## Obama's Speech: The Conservatives are winning

President Barack Obama's address to the joint session of Congress Wednesday night was jam-packed with all of the fluff and high talk that defined his presidential campaign. It was far too campaign-styled, in fact; to see the President of the United States constantly talking to the American people about issues like there's an election this November is getting a little frustrating. Even so, he has the power of the office of president, and thus what he says, as much as it may sound like he's campaigning, has a much larger chance of being carried out.

The subject of the speech was health care, and with the debate plodding along and multiple members of both parties drawing lines in the sand over the issue, this was President Obama's chance to drum up support for the bill. Instead, he said nothing new, while trying to back down from some of the more controversial aspects of the plan, such as a single-payer system and the moniker of "universal health care" that has conservatives up in arms. While liberals hail the speech, they fail to either see or ignore the blatant contradictions and continuous jabs at Republicans and George Bush.

President Obama uses horror stories and vague scare tactics to get support for "his" bill (imagine how the founding fathers would react if they heard a president call a bill "his") while chastising Republicans for their scare tactics. He talks about a vast increase in regulation and thus government control of the health insurance industry, while articulating the greatness of choice and competition in America. He even addresses the history of citizens in America being skeptical of government while he pushes for an increase in government interference in health care. There was a brief mention of a public option, but one that was paid for by the premiums it would collect from would-be patients and saving money from waste from Medicare and Medicaid.

This whole speech, if nothing else, goes to show one thing: conservatives are winning, slowly but surely. You see, in the not-too-distant past, liberals were gloating over their majority in both houses of Congress and how that majority would allow them to pass anything they wanted. President Obama's speech makes a few concessions, namely his backing off of his earlier insistence on a free public option being included within the plan. Make no mistake though: there will not be a public option even if the bill is passed. The conservatives, and more importantly, the American people, have demonstrated over the past month how frustrated they are with the idea of more government growth and encroachment in their lives, and their frustrations are reaching the ears of their congressmen.

President Obama also demonstrated his



**NOAH SOLOMON**  
COLUMNIST

public pledge to listen to the desires and ideas of Republicans during the process of drafting "his" bill. When he isn't on camera, though, it's a different story. He hasn't met the Republican congressional leadership since April and has ignored requests for such meetings since then. President Obama also defended free market competition while taking issue with the fact that this competition has allowed certain states' health care markets to be almost entirely dominated by only a few corporations, a concern which could be addressed by adopting a Republican proposal introduced on July 14 by Arizona Representative John Shadegg.

What should we take away from the speech? America is rejecting the liberal theories on health care, and even with the president's contradictory rhetoric on their side, the Democrats just can't seem to win for losing.



### 2004-05 National Newspaper Pacemaker Award



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# It takes a tragedy



Well, it has been quite a whirlwind of a week. Republicans managed to demonstrate multiple times this week why they were voted out of the majority. First there was the unnecessary outrage over the speech to students. Republicans no longer find it appropriate to tell kids to stay in school, which some might think is a Democratic thought process, but that's a minor detail. Then things got worse for the Republicans when Rep. Joe Wilson called the president a liar during the over-publicized joint session of Congress; I might add that the congressman is correct in saying the president is a liar, but it is an inappropriate time and place.

Technically speaking, Republicans are faring much better in calling President Obama a liar as opposed to a racist. But, this column is not about the miserable failings of the Republicans this week, and starting "now," this is not about how inept the Democratic Party is. Instead, how about a break from "politics as usual," and reflect on what transpired in the hours, days, weeks and months following September 11, 2001.

As I watched the past week transpire in the political spectrum between Republicans and Democrats, I could not help but think about how both parties acted following the horrifying events of Sept. 11. Do you recall seeing our Congressmen and Senators on the steps of the Capitol Building singing "God Bless America?" Do you remember the unity and strength that both parties showed the American people following the attacks? Suddenly, the "R" or "D" after their names no longer mattered. The bickering and arguments over the Bush Tax Cuts of 2001 seemed like a distant memory.

In fact, Gallup polls from September-October 2001 indicated that in September the Congressional Approval Rating was only 42 percent, but jumped 42 points in October to a the largest single-month increase of 84 percent. The American people had faith in their politicians and their government.

Even outside of the political realm, stories flooded the papers about the heroic acts of everyday Americans from every walk of life and of every nationality. Names like Todd Beamer and Jeremy Glick are synonymous for being part of the Flight 93 heroes who decided that their plane was not going to be used as a weapon against others.

In New York, the images of firefighters running into the burning towers, the soot covered faces of strangers helping people who they will never know, flooded the newspapers and onto our TV sets. The story is the same in Washington D.C., everyday strangers helping others. Even the 911 oper-



ators became incredible heroes: they were the people who heard the cries and prayers of others, and they offered comfort in times of despair. All of these people represent the spirit of America.

That all of course was eight years ago. Things have changed since then. Rasmussen Reports conducted a survey in which 49 percent of respondents believe most Americans have forgotten the impact of the Sept. 11 attacks. It seems to me that as part of our ADD society, we are quick to forget what *impact* something has on our nation.

We will never forget the horrendous images of planes crashing into the towers, the fire and the smoke that tarnished a beautiful Tuesday morning. We will never forget a burning pit in Pennsylvania and we will never forget the images of firefighters unfurling an American flag over the Pentagon.

But, we have forgotten the impact that Sept. 11 left on America on that Tuesday morning and the days and weeks that followed. We have forgotten that it is possible for Republicans and Democrats to work together for the better of our nation. And we have forgotten that regardless of race or religion, we are all Americans; now we are chalked up to nothing more than a Republican or Democrat. On that Tuesday morning, we were blind to race; now it is hard to find a day where we are not accusing someone else of being a racist.

In arguably his most defining moment as president, Former President Bush summed up our national response the very night of the attacks "Today, our nation saw evil—the very worst of human nature—and we responded with the best of America. With the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring for strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any way they could."

This is the America that we had eight years ago. I shudder to think of what it will take for us to see that America again.

## Much ado about abortion

### Exposing the faulty logic behind Republican rationale

JAMES SWIFT  
COLUMNIST

If there is any singular point of contention in the American sociopolitical pool that rouses the most fervent discourse, it would clearly have to be the notion of abortion. By this juncture, it seems perhaps superfluous to even ponder annexing another treatise on the subject to the collective workings of mass society, since such delineation has been *clearly* marked by both ideological branches of the spectrum. That being stated, a different take on the matter is ripe for examination; this being the notion of *faulty* conservative rationale behind the moralistic and fiscal recourse of the medical procedure.

The conservative rationale for the criminalization of abortion stems from what is very much a theocratic root: the most widely-held conviction being the idea that *all* life has sanctity, and thusly, abortion is an element that devalues the whole of humanity.

Let us for a brief moment examine the meaning of the term "sanctity." Under secular terms, "sanctity" means that which is to be respected, as would be mandated by established laws.

In that, something quite revealing becomes apparent:

if life is truly sanctified, as the Republican proponents would espouse, would that not mean that life, from conception to death, is equivalently valuable?

I bring this up because, for all the rabble rousing and rhetoric bandied about by conservatives on the intrinsic value of the fetus, I have denoted an incredible lack of respect for the lives of those that *have* been born, as apparent by the slashed funding for welfare, monumental decreases in educational spending and subsidizing of early developmental programs for the child.

Under the mandates of the pro-lifer, perchance the best career move for the fetus would be to maintain being so, as such a political ideology most certainly does not involve linear progression; I know many pro-lifers, but have yet to meet a sole pro-toddler.

In regards to such a contradictory value set, mayhap the authentic cause for concern in the conservative pro-life circle is, in actuality, a matter of fiscal ideology rather than moralistic principle. I have long pondered the vehemence of the Republican party in regards to suiting the religious right and specifically, the heightened significance the conservative powers-that-be have placed upon the subject of abortion; as in many cases, the

pro-lifer considers the matter to be of such utmost importance that he or she makes her political choices based solely on the respective candidate's stance on the issue.

That being scrutinized, one most ponder whether or not the Republican elitists truly abhor the medical practice due to their integral conviction *or* the consideration of financial impact; perchance in the eyes of the fiscal Republican, over-

ther legislative powers.

If doctors are allotted the venue to turn down service to clientele, could there one day be an American health system in which professional care is only obligated to the wealthy and insured? Could it be, in a very furtive manner, that the Republican obsession with abortion is nothing more than a ruse to strip away patient's rights and ensure coverage (and subsequent income) to a

“ Could it be, in a very furtive manner, that the Republican obsession with abortion is nothing more than a ruse to strip away patient's rights and ensure coverage (and subsequent income) to a medicinal system that is already symbiotic with governmental affairs? ”

turning Roe v. Wade would act as a precedent for further privatization of health care, a mechanism that would allot the health care providers (of whom the Republican party are notorious courtiers) more congregational clout and fur-

ther medicinal system that is already symbiotic with governmental affairs?

Of course, all of the above is mere conjecture on my part, and my reasoning is most certainly anything *but* infallible. That being stated, I believe that

if such an overturning of Roe v. Wade comes to fruition, a *secondary* law *must* be passed. My proposal would place the names of every single pro-lifer in the nation inside a federal database, which in turn is linked directly to the Internal Revenue Service. Each and every American categorized as being "pro-life" shall be obligated *by law* to uphold their moralistic principle that all life is sacred by agreeing to become the adoptive benefactor for an unwed single mother, and he or she is mandated by their integral values to bestow upon the child half of his or her annual earnings, veritably no different than maintaining child support payments.

Any pro-lifer who refuses to support his or her adopted post-fetal being shall be charged with post-fetal being abandonment, and subject to hefty fines and potential jail sentences. Ambling to the court proceedings, I can envision a multitude of former pro-choice advocates protesting the deadbeats' appearance, holding signs that read "baby abandoner" and splashing the tried with buckets of faux breast milk.

All that is a required from this juncture is a catchy title for my proposed bill: perhaps the moniker of "The Great Sacred Life Passage" would be most fitting for legislative utilizations, I muse...

# Debunking 9/11 conspiracy theories: Part I

It's that time of the year again. While most people are remembering where they were when they heard that a plane had hit the World Trade Center, there are some people who come out of hiding from their tinfoil-laden bunker to tell us all that the attacks of 9/11 were an inside job perpetrated by the U.S. government as a pretext for invading Iraq, curtailing civil liberties, establishing a one-world police state, brainwashing you via American Idol, etc. You will also hear references to Zionists, Bildeburgers, Illuminati and Operation Northwoods. Basically, the usual Mel Gibson stuff.

Of course, not everyone who thinks that 9/11 was an inside job are that crazy, but they all seem to be far removed from reality, existing only in an underground world that projects an illusion of reality specially tailored to every fear of the paranoid mind. Zeitgeist and Loose Change seem to be the most popular documentaries for 9/11 conspiracy theories. I won't go into great detail on the science of why the controlled demolition or missile theories are wrong. Popular Mechanics already did a great job debunking these myths. I will just rely on common sense.

It is often claimed that the collapse of the Twin Towers resembles a controlled explosion. The conspiracy theorists don't seem to consider that if the government really

were behind it, then they would make sure that it didn't look like a controlled explosion. Besides, tall buildings don't collapse the same way small buildings do. It's called the "pancaking effect." I won't discuss the physics of such collapses except to say that these things happen naturally.

There are plenty of examples of buildings under construction that accidentally collapse in very similar ways. The L'Ambiance Plaza in Connecticut is a good example. These conspiracy theories also make somewhat factual claims that fail to take other circumstances into account. For example, while the BBC did indeed report that several of the alleged hijackers were later found to be alive and well in other parts of the world, they later retracted this report on the basis of mistaken identity. The conspiracy documentaries conveniently leave that part out in between their many interviews with random bug-eyed people they find off the street who supposedly know all about the inner workings of the U.S. government.

The conspiracy theorists also seem to think that everyone is "in on it." Take the claim that a missile, not a plane, hit the Pentagon. They assume that the families of all the people on the passenger lists, and everyone in the area who claims to have seen a plane hit the Pentagon, were all in on the conspiracy. In 2006, the Pentagon released

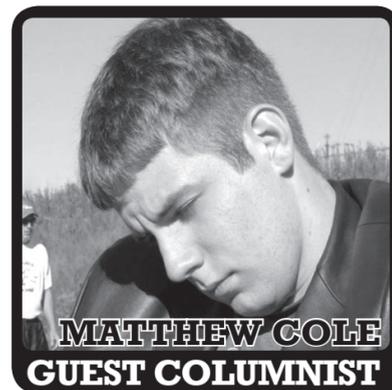
footage from the security cameras that clearly show a plane hitting the Pentagon.

They also like to interpret the government's unsatisfactory response in conspiratorial ways. Incompetence is not equivalent to complicity. NORAD is often accused by these conspiracy theorists of not doing their job on 9/11. At the time, NORAD was primarily concerned with protecting our airspace from incoming missiles. Flight of domestic origin were considered "friendly by origin." There were protocols for dealing with hijackings, but nobody expected hijacked planes to be used as weapons.

Conspiracy theories about 9/11 seem to be America-centric, as if America is the only victim of the terrorists who are believed to have attacked us. They seem to forget about all of the other victims of Al-Qaeda's aggression around the world.

Surely, the U.S. government isn't also responsible for all of the terrorist attacks linked to Al-Qaeda over the years that have happened in the Philippines, North Africa, Somalia, Indonesia, Iraq, Pakistan, Russia, Afghanistan, Bosnia, Yemen and Jordan. I am not going to include the London bombings or the Madrid train bombing in this list, because Zeitgeist claimed that these were government conspiracies too.

If the U.S. government were capable of orchestrating all of these attacks, not to men-



**MATTHEW COLE**  
GUEST COLUMNIST

tion the civil wars in Somalia and Eritrea, then they would have little need of a false flag operation to use as a pretext for whatever grand scheme they have in mind.

Of course, there are some conspiracy theorists who believe that Al-Qaeda was responsible but that the U.S. government is somehow pulling their strings, as if Osama bin Laden works for the CIA in an employer-employee relationship. There are some who believe that Al-Qaeda is an invention of the U.S. government. These conspiracy theories are much more common. I will address these in the next article.

## Why social security is a ponzi scheme

MATT CONNORS  
COLUMNIST

Currently, the biggest issue of discussion in Washington is the health care reform bill. This issue is important enough to warrant constant news coverage, and to inspire discussion amongst nearly all Americans. It would be hard to find a U.S. citizen who does not hold a strong opinion either for or against the bill. However, as significant as the public debate concerning health care reform is, I would argue that there is a more compelling issue that needs to be brought to the public's attention: Social Security.

Social Security is a sacred cow in this country, and many believe that it is beyond reproach. Even slight propositions to alter its nature, such as President George W. Bush's recent attempt to privatize Social Security, are met with howls of righteous indignation and squeals of immeasurable fear.

Consider a baby's response to losing its lollipop: not only does it express its poor mood at losing its treat, but it also shouts out in anger at the fact that anyone would dare to remove its lollipop. Yes, it tastes good, but is having a lollipop an inalienable right—as the baby's outburst suggests?

The entire justification for the existence of Social Security is based on several pessimistic

viewpoints about humanity in general. According to the late economist Milton Friedman in his book, "Capitalism And Freedom," Social Security consists of "...three separable elements."

First of all, Social Security assumes that individuals are too incompetent to save for their own retirement and that a monthly stipend is needed for each retired person's sustenance and well-being.

Secondly, it assumes that the government should be the sole provider of this stipend. Last of all, Social Security holds that people are so stupid that this stipend must be stripped from each individual's paycheck and then given back at a later date in the form of a monthly check.

That anything is based on these three facts would be laughable if it were not true. Sadly enough, Social Security does exist, so let us analyze these three pillars of its existence.

The first claim is quite ironic in light of the great debt that the U.S. government maintains—there can be no worse investor than the government. The second statement is quite hypocritical because, according to the Sherman Antitrust Act, monopolies are illegal, and yet in this case the government is forcing a monopoly upon U.S. taxpayers. Unlike public utilities such as electricity, gas or water,

Social Security is not a physical asset whose distributors are limited to certain geographic areas.

Social Security is merely concerned with the collection of cash and its subsequent disbursement; therefore, there is not a solid argument for a monopoly in this case. Insurance companies could run a special type of annuity as a competitor to Social Security, or individuals could choose to opt out of the program. Sadly enough, these are not options available to the American taxpayer.

The third belief, that the government collects the money now and pays it out later, is blatantly misleading. Taxpayers are forced to pay the Social Security tax, but that tax is not hidden away in some vault collecting interest. Rather, Social Security payments are used to pay for the benefits of current retirees.

That sounds like a great idea. I will start a retirement fund and collect payments from people and claim that the payments are locked away, safe and sound. Then, when older participants in the fund need to cash out, I will simply take the new members' payments and hand it over to the older members, all the time claiming that the payments are safer than a bar of gold at Fort Knox! Oh wait a minute... didn't somebody go to jail recently for doing something like that?

## Activist's speech touches on racism, politics, economics

On Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009, "anti-racism" activist and author Tim Wise visited KSU to give a speech on racism in the age of Barack Obama. The basic thesis of his speech centered around the idea that just because Barack Obama is the president does not mean that racial disparity has disappeared.

He mentioned many statistics about the racial disparities still present in American society in terms of economic standing. Of course, we cannot deny that these disparities exist nor can we deny that racism still exists in America. I know first hand of many people who still hold racial prejudices. However, Wise jumps to the conclusion that all of these disparities are caused uniquely by "white domination."

Let us not forget that we have a welfare system—a progressive policy—that encourages single-motherhood and keeps its victim trapped in poverty and dependency. This system disproportionately affects black communities. Yet, according to Wise, if white people oppose welfare policy they do so because of the group it affects the most. In other words, white people just don't want to help black people.

Wise's speech quickly became political. One of his first talking points included the arrest of Henry Louis Gates and the right's racial motivation behind the issue. He then talked about how rich white people who discriminated against poor black communities in the housing market were to blame for the financial crisis. I thought the speech was about racism, not economics.

Wise, as he does on numerous occasions in his blog at Red Room, began to talk about the racial motivations behind the current health care debate. He mentioned that some of the outcries of the protests such as "taking our country back" are code for voting out the "black man." This could not be further from the truth. People are genuinely concerned about the growth and intrusion of government into their daily lives.

How easy it has become for progressives to blame any opposition to the current administration's policies on racism. Liberals have used racism as a way to attack conservative philosophy in the past, but now that the President happens to be of a different race, it appears to be the go-to talking point.

Many in the mainstream media completely disregarded the radical past of Van Jones and jumped directly to the conclusion that those on the right like Glenn Beck attacked Jones because he was a progressive black



**JUSTIN HAYES**  
SENIOR COLUMNIST

man. Of course, it has nothing to do with the fact that Jones is a self-avowed communist, accused white environmentalists of poisoning minority communities and stated that the green movement needs to go beyond systems of exploitation and oppression, or capitalism.

Wise, too, attacked Beck multiple times in his speech, I am not really sure when Beck became the head honcho for the conservative movement. Wise pointed to a comment where Beck said that he "hated the last 100 years of American history" as evidence that conservatives' hate the progress of African-Americans. Beck was actually talking about the Progressive movement and how far it took our government from the intentions of the founding fathers.

In the question and answer portion of Wise's visit, he said that the white media was responsible for getting black people to buy into the idea that capitalism is a liberating economic scheme. This statement must mean that Wise buys into the same conclusion as Jones about capitalism's exploitive and oppressive nature.

Capitalism respects individual liberty without breaking down people into groups of class or race. It seems like the alternative is the one that exploits and oppresses. Progressive policy uses a divide-and-conquer approach to ensure that certain groups remain dependent upon their programs so that they can guarantee future votes from these groups. Yet, according to Wise, it is conservatives who are racist.

I think Wise should take a look at Bill Cosby's book "Come on People: On the Path from Victims to Victors." The comedian and author warns that "blaming only the system keeps certain black people in the limelight, but it also keeps the black poor wallowing in victimhood." This self-victimization is just as powerful at keeping people oppressed as the "white domination" explanation found in the sermons of Wise.



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# FEATURES

I didn't mean to be all preschoolish, but what's she doing?"

## Taste of Kennesaw assists charities



Karlee Gonzalez | The Sentinel

JENNY HARRISON  
STAFF WRITER

If you happened to walk down Main Street in Kennesaw last Saturday, you were more than likely welcomed with the aromas of roasted turkey legs and fresh barbecue, a wide variety of musical entertainment and an area full of friendly locals. Downtown Kennesaw was temporarily converted into a food court on Sept. 12 as it hosted the annual Taste of Kennesaw event.

Joint efforts by the Kennesaw Business Association (KBA) and the City of Kennesaw developed this event as a way to give back to the local community. Taste of

Kennesaw's Second-year committee chair Mike Everhart described KBA as a networking organization and local business promotion group that is strongly tied to the community. KBA, the oldest business association in Cobb County, works with the city and local schools to provide support and funds where they are needed.

The Taste of Kennesaw, which was funded through business sponsorships, had around 30 local restaurants from Sweet Tomatoes to The Melting Pot participate and sell their menu items to guests. Admittance to the event was free, and a cap of four dollars was put on all food items to keep Taste of Kennesaw inexpensive and appealing to all.

"Because of the economy people are looking to do things close to home so as not to break the budget," said Everhart. To participate, restaurants paid a flat fee and were allowed to keep all proceeds from sales throughout the day. Restaurants were also allowed to participate in five food contests with awards for Best Appetizer, Entrée, Dessert, Food Presentation and Best Decorated Tent.

The streets surrounding the food tents were filled with baby strollers and leashed dogs as families browsed the wide variety of food. Karen Andrews, Director of the Career Services Center at KSU, brought her family to the Taste of Kennesaw on Saturday to enjoy the food and entertainment available.

"Kennesaw is known as a great town for families," said Andrews. "This event exemplifies that."

While the food was a huge attraction, the entertainment for children and adults drew crowds as well. Two stages were set up within the perimeters of the event that showcased local dancing groups and acoustic guitarists throughout the day. Children enjoyed the inflatable play areas that were located in close proximity to the stages.

While the event provided food and entertainment for the city, Taste of Kennesaw's main goal was to raise funds for four local charities: Shop with a Mustang, Shop with a Warrior, MUST Ministries and the Jerry Worthan Community Christmas Fund, according to KBA's Web site.

Shop with a Warrior and Shop with a Mustang are charities created by two local high schools, North Cobb and Kennesaw Mountain, to pair children with high school students, who spend the day Christmas shopping with the elementary and middle school students who may not be able to afford to buy gifts for family members. MUST Ministries is an organization that meets the basic needs of food and shelter for individuals in Cobb and Cherokee counties while offering a variety of additional services to individuals in the metro area, according to its Web site. The Jerry Worthan Community Christmas Fund works with

the Kennesaw Police Department to provide families in the Kennesaw area with toys and clothing during the holiday season.

"As an organization we have supported these charities in the past. We get so much support and active participation from the high schools, and MUST Ministries is a charity that everyone loves," said Everhart. "Jerry Worthan is our way of giving back to the city. The police department is out here all night and all day, so this is our way of saying thank you back to the city for helping us."

Last year the Taste of Kennesaw was able to provide these charities with \$2,000 each. Due to the increase in participation this year, Everhart estimated that each charity would receive approximately \$3,000 from the event.

Other charitable organizations took the opportunity provided by the Taste of Kennesaw to raise funds. Renee Sees, advocate for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure organization, joined with local high school students to sell handmade items during the event and promote upcoming events to increase breast cancer awareness.

"By choosing to raise funds at the Taste of Kennesaw, we are letting the majority of the funds earned stay in the Kennesaw community," said Sees. "We want to give to local residents who may not be able to afford treatment otherwise."

The Taste of Kennesaw festivities drew nearly 20,000 people on Saturday, which was an increase from the 15,000 people who attended last year.

"Our intent is really only to make it bigger," said Everhart. "This is only our second year, but if we continue with the same kind of progression that we had over the first year, I think we'll see this turn into a pretty substantial event as it rolls on down the road."



Karlee Gonzalez | The Sentinel

## Year of Korea compels students

ANASTASIA BARTOLUCCI  
STAFF WRITER

Each academic year, KSU offers a series of unique events and services to the student body and faculty.

The Institute for Global Initiatives provides an array of information and programs for students to get involved and diversify their interest in cultural histories and experiences. Perhaps the most beneficial program offered is the country study. This is the program responsible for the "Year of" fliers hanging around campus. Students may notice these fliers, but not enough of them are encouraged. Their purpose is simple: providing the student body with the tools in becoming a cultural connoisseur at no cost.

The "Year of" study comprises a multitude of lectures, performances, exhibits and films at the disposal of anyone aiming to enhance their worldly knowledge—and for free. The principle objective is to educate students and faculty of a specific country (or world region) chosen for that academic year. Through utilization of the country study services and events, the institute aims to review the chosen region from its earliest history to its contemporary contribution to the modern world. The program has been in effect for 26 years, with the "Year of Turkey," as some may recall, being the area of study for 2008 - 2009. This year, the Global Institute is excited about the newest addition to its program menu, with hopes of generating the same excitement throughout the campus community as in preceding years, as they introduce the "Year of Korea."



Korea has a lot of culture and history bottled up in its humbly geographic package. The political impact and militant influence stored in Korea's historical resume is critical when analyzing global events and progress. The Korean War, for instance, was a seminal time, typically overshadowed by the Allied victory of World War II or the disappointment of Vietnam. It was a pivotal point in the transition of the Cold War era and heavily coincides with the initiation of the Cold War conflict. In fact, it was North Korea's invasion of South Korea that brought about a United Nations' "police action" and triggered heavy military and naval involvement by the U.S.. An approximate 30,000 U.S. troops have been currently stationed on the edge of the Demilitarized Zone, a strip of "buffer" land that separates the south from the north. With so much significance on present and past global occurrences, why then do so many students know so little about Korea?

For this reason, the Country Study program, and its utilization, becomes valuable. Dr. Daniel Paracka, director for International Services & Programs and associate professor of education, eagerly clued in how this year's Country Study is expected to be bigger and better than ever before. "I think we'll have good attendance this year because we have the best scholars from Korea coming, with lots of money spent to ensure record turn-out," said Paracka. Through constructive modules and a general education, the institute aims to provide students and faculty with a number of services to be excited about. With Korea being such a culturally diverse and distinctive nation, composing a series of events to fill this year's calendar was all but arduous.

Located in the lower level of the Sturgis Library, the "From the Fire" art exhibit comprises a melting pot of artists, bringing the finest contemporary Korean ceramics. It debuted on campus at the end of August, organized and circulated by International Arts and Artists, and will be staying through Oct. 8. The gallery incorporates traditional techniques with innovative methods to create both functional and sculptural work. "Korea is famous for their ceramics," said Paracka. "So it was good to have this contribution to our campus." With America being a fairly new country, Paracka commented how most art in our culture is "new and hot" but Korea "sits on a long history," which he claimed to be what allows for the individuality of Korean design.

The institute also plans to host a series of musical concerts, featuring traditional and contemporary Korean music. To expand on the upcoming agenda, KSU will welcome the Korean Association of Zither Musicians on Oct. 14. The musical group will be performing a concert of calming traditional sound using a rare, but native, instrument to Korean music—the zither. Along with other concert and gallery line-ups, the "Year of Korea" Web site provides a detailed schedule of all the upcoming events the program will offer through spring 2010.

Students compelled to learn more about Korean culture can also attend one of many lectures held every Thursday on campus. These educational conferences are not limited to students; many university instructors are getting themselves, and their classes, involved as well—incorporating the program into their curriculum.

In addition to what is already blueprinted for this year, the country programs also lead to future study abroad opportunities. With the "Year of Brazil", for instance, the program enabled the chance to facilitate trips and educational prospects relating to the South Atlantic region.

Although many believe it to be implicit, some wonder why there is such a prominence in learning about Korea. Outside of being recognized for its artistic traditions in pottery, music, calligraphy and other



Photos Courtesy of Walker Powell

Elyse Lim (above) may live in America, but she stays true to her Korean roots. Dan Paracka (left) is the Director of the International Services and Programs.

genres, the country may hold answers for future progression of international affairs. Sandwiched between two powerful giants—China and Japan—Americans can discover so much about these influential countries through their interactions with Korea. Even on American soil, so much of Korean culture plays a key role to lifestyle blending between the U.S. and Asian regions.

With more than 1 million Korean-American citizens living in the U.S. today, there are generous donations of native cuisine, art and lifestyle to this country that most Americans are unaware of. Elyse Lim, a student at KSU, expresses her opinion on being Korean-American: "I was raised in the American community, and many would say I'm much Americanized; however, there are so many characteristics of my culture and history that I still find so interesting." This is perhaps the greatest ambition of the Country Study program: integrating the knowledge of Korean culture with the student and faculty body of Kennesaw.

Whether through attendance of concerts, lectures, galleries or other events hosted by the Global Institute, students will hopefully relate to Korean ethnology, history and lifestyle on a myriad of levels. By breaking down stereotypes and connecting with another culture's mores and values, the Country Study program will be effective in bridging the gap between a specific annual region and KSU students, nurturing a better relationship and understanding between various cultures and distinctive civilizations.

# French club welcomes all

HEATHER COOK  
STAFF WRITER

The KSU French Club reached out to the student body when they hosted their cookout on Sept. 2 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. The event was intended to attract attention for the French Club and to raise money for future activities.

The new school year brought new faces to the club— French Club officers for the 2009 – 2010 school year are Mallory Brewer as president, Kevin Filippi as vice-president, Germaine Kabore as secretary and treasurer and Francis Smalto as public relations.

Smalto, a junior finance major, said, “The purpose of the barbeque is to expose our club to KSU community and to raise money for the French Club in order for us to have more free events on campus. We want to share our knowledge of the French culture with the KSU community.”

The weather was beautiful for the event. The sun was out, and occasionally it would hide behind the lingering clouds. Students populated the campus green and reclined in the green grass. French Club members grilled hot dogs and corn and greeted about 30 students. The club intended to attract people of all races, ethnicities, studies, and languages.

Because this event was a fundraiser, the club was collecting cash with every meal. However, most of the people coming by their stand did not have cash on them. Elizabeth Motion, a junior accounting major, said, “Food is always great, however I know that I don’t usually have cash with me and don’t have much money period.”

The French Club’s purpose, according to Smalto, is “to help students practice and improve proficiency of conversational French outside the classroom and host and make introductions between native speakers, students, and other enthusiasts interested in learning about their diverse

cultures. We also want to show people that France is not the only country where French is spoken.”

Although not as many people bought food as the club would have liked, the French Club was still able to spread information about the organization. Smalto said they passed out the club’s calendar of events so “they will have an idea about our purpose.”

The club hosts a conversation table every Tuesday where students can speak French with other students and native speakers. It is held in the foreign language conference room in the Picher Building from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., beginning Sept. 15. At each session, attendees discuss a pre-chosen topic and are encouraged to ask others questions to get them talking.

As for the club’s other events, Karaoke Night is scheduled for Oct. 15 in the Leadership Room in the Student Center from 5 to 8 p.m. Guests are encouraged to sing songs in English, French or both and lyrics will be provided. The next month, the French Club will host un petit déjeuner (breakfast) on Nov. 5 from 8 to 10 a.m. Students are encouraged to come and enjoy croissants and pastries and practice a little French. As every year, the French Cocktail Party—a required event for French students, but fun for Francophiles (French-lovers) too—is scheduled for Nov. 9 from 4 to 6 p.m., with the talent show following after.

Being a part of the French Club is a great way to meet new people who have a passion for learning languages. The club does not discriminate against novices or non-speakers of French, but encourages everyone interested in the French language and culture to come and take part in their activities.

For more information about the club, visit their Web site at [freewebs.com/kennesawfrenchclub](http://freewebs.com/kennesawfrenchclub) or contact them directly at [ksufrenchclub1@gmail.com](mailto:ksufrenchclub1@gmail.com).

# It’s all GREEK on KSU row

ANASTASIA BARTOLUCCI  
STAFF WRITER

When the modern college student hears the word “Greek,” there is not an automated association with an ancient civilization or small country occupying the Mediterranean. There are not thoughts of Mount Olympus with its ruling gods and goddesses, Antigone, or Plato. In contemporary times, an array of very different images and thoughts come to mind. Words like “rush” and “hazing” typically coincide with “Greek” living. Sister and brother comprise a different type of family unit in these systems, and Thursday nights are some of the greatest days of college life. In fact, sororities and fraternities have revolutionized campus life on universities throughout the country, and now that same energy is permeating the student body of Kennesaw State.

Fraternities initially began in colonial times as a literary and debate network for students of the era. The word fraternity stems from the Latin word frater, meaning “brother”, and sorority from soror, meaning “sister.” As the words suggest, the premise of these societies is to provide for the social development of members through organized communal events and service projects. Their members are not selected by a specific academic path or field of study, however, there is typically criteria associated with a candidate’s gender, religion, and ethnicity. The prospect members for each sorority or fraternity must first participate in a “rushing” period, where they are acclimated with various societies and, ultimately, denied or accepted. Most organizations have a period of “pledgeship” before extending full membership.

Rush is typically held in the fall of each academic year. In following with tradition, KSU recently hosted its series of formal recruitment. Organized and delivered by a Panhellenic Council of each house chapter (a specific division pertaining to each sorority or fraternity), recruitment may last a week with each house having its own methods of enrollment. This past week, a deluge of students from different backgrounds and lifestyles attended particular society conferences that they deemed most aligned with their interests. Student and hopeful pledge, Vick Melts, hopes that Fraternity membership will help gain support for the advancement of his chosen career path while “still having a lot of fun” in the process. He conveys a peculiar disappointment remarking, “I wish we could participate in some of the hazing that you always hear about when rushing. Even though some stories are brutal, they would be a good memory.”

The pressure is often not on which fraternity or sorority to choose, as many pledges worry whether or not the council will choose them back. An anonymous source disagrees with the selection system said, “It can’t always be honest because it’s not up to one person to choose,” as he references the common discrimination that can sometimes surface in the rushing process. He continues by suggesting that there is inherent “pressure” placed on the “rushing process” that can “make things a little stressful.” Indeed, “rush week” at any university tends to be somewhat demanding. The recruitment agenda can host a heavy load, often including secret ceremonies and rituals, and with many common horror stories involving sorority and fraternity “hazing,” it’s easy to understand one’s apprehension of recruitment.

KSU, however, has eased this anxiety for students through their strict policy on “hazing.” The policy essentially states that if a student feels uncomfortable with the participation of any activity, they are not required to partake and should follow-through with an incident report. Upon researching the effectiveness of these guidelines, it appears to be relatively helpful in regards to most chapter recruitment. When inquiring of a pledge’s views as to whether or not they feel too much pressure is placed on recruitment, Courtney Lancaster, a first year transfer student, said, “Although, it was extremely hectic (with 220 girls pledging), and outside of all the sleepless nights, the whole process was actually really enjoyable!”

Lancaster continued to explain the recruitment process as being mostly chit-chat with some fun arts and crafts thrown into the mix. Likewise, Chelsea Hebert, a freshman, said, “It was fun. You always hear about the stereotypes of pretty little rich girls in sororities, but everyone is actually quite laid back. Plus, I’m all about free pizza!”

On campus, Greek life provides an array of various social gatherings for members to be excited about, both within the individual chapters and on a university level as well. It is not uncommon to learn that the movies on the green and a variety of philanthropic fundraisers are hosted by several individual chapters within the Greek system. Members look forward to personal gain from the whole experience as well. Lancaster expresses her appreciation for the level of bonding the girls do within each chapter, and how through this avenue of networking she “hopes to grow as a person.” That is a predominant component of the Interfraternity enrollment procedure; through mixers and formal rushes, there is room for each pledge to build friendships. Hebert talks of her recent move from Maine, sharing her excitement for this experience, in that she hopes to “have the opportunity to meet new people and make friends” here at Kennesaw.

With the growing interest to join a Fraternity or Sorority in the average student’s college career, it is no surprise why Kennesaw has had a growing interest in Greek life and their events. Although the process has substantially changed from previous generations to contemporary rushes, the significance of these organizations remains constant. Sororities and Fraternities aim to help new students adjust to college, as well as offer a network of people who may be able to help advance the careers of other members. Sure, there is no pressure on students to eat dirt, stand outside in the snow in bare skivvies, or partake in any other unbearable (but rather humorous) hazing stories, but that allows for pledges of present day to enjoy all the positive aspects of recruitment.



Photos Courtesy of Walker Powell

Chelsea Hebert takes a break outside of the sorority recruitment conference.

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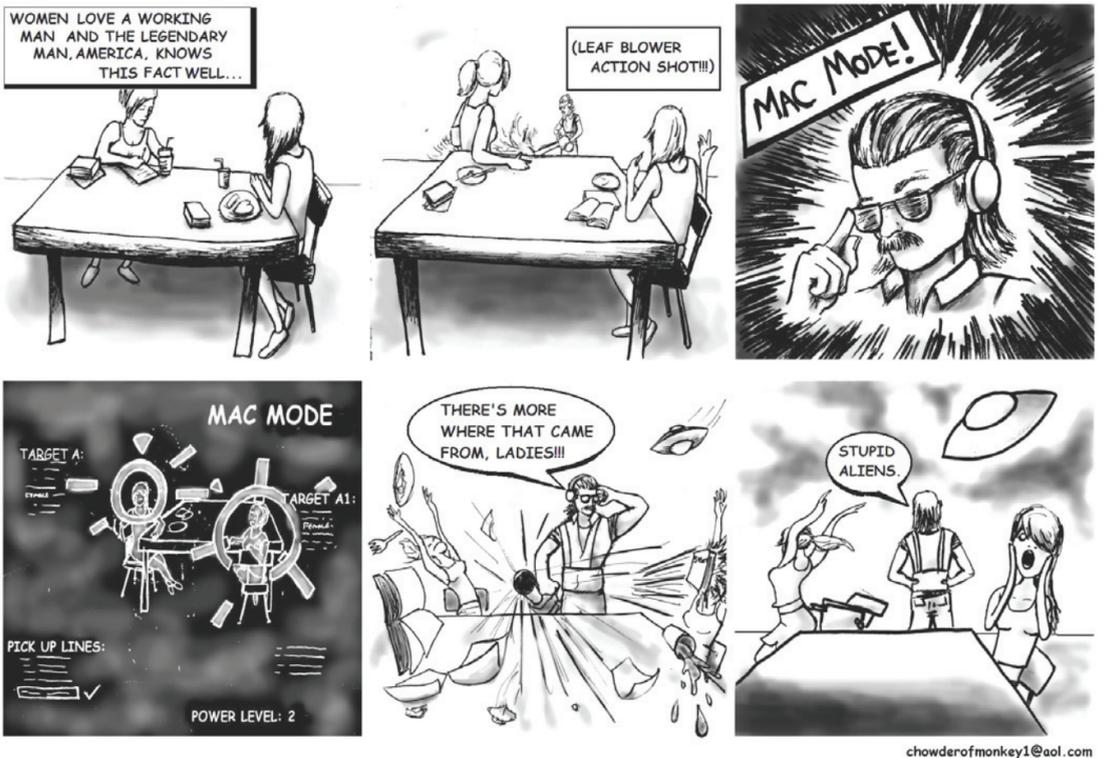
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Issue #2

By Ivan Villa & Brett Frank



**KSU STUDENT CONDUCT AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING NEW STUDENT MEMBERS**

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**Campus violence: How safe is your KSU?**

JEFF DEARMAN  
STAFF WRITER

While KSU has one of the lowest crime rates in the University System of Georgia, no college campus is immune to crime and violence. The events of Columbine and Virginia Tech have changed the way schools handle security.

"We're in different times now where information is so quick that it's just happening. You get a lot of copycats. People say it comes in threes—that's not the case, but there are a lot of people who would emulate different

people through movies, videos and YouTube," said Bob Lang assistant vice president for Strategic Security and Safety on recent school shootings.

Schools may never be able to stop school shootings from happening, but they can better prepare themselves for the future. Legislation could help too: a bill that requires universities to notify their students within 30 minutes of an emergency is going through the U.S. Congress.

With this impending legislation in mind, KSU implemented the text message alert system, starting this past March, alerting students that an escaped convict had made his way to campus from the Waffle House.

After the prisoner's escape, professors cancelled classes and KSU Police locked down campus for three hours, keeping students and teachers in their classrooms—but in doing so, generating much panic throughout campus. Despite the chaos that ensued, KSU proved itself capable of handling a large-scale problem.

Violence takes many forms: physical, sexual and emotional. Many students may not realize that emotional violence happens every day. For example, if

you are texting a classmate constantly and he tells you to stop and you don't stop, you can be charged with harassment and stalking.

The leading causes of death for 18 to 23-year-olds are related to alcohol, but its consumption can also spark violence. Between 2005 and 2007 there were more than 476 arrests related to alcohol on the KSU campus. Alcohol intensifies emotions and increases the likelihood that tempers will erupt. Many of these fights resulted from excessive drinking and subsequent confrontation.

Sexual assault continues as a serious problem on college campuses all throughout America. One in four female college students will be sexually assaulted during their college careers. Of these students, more than 90 percent knew their attackers and nearly 50 percent had drunk alcohol the night they were assaulted.

Between 2005 and 2007, campus police arrested five people for forcible sexual offenses at KSU—a low figure considering many female victims are too scared to report it.

Because emergency call boxes around campus aren't enough

to prevent sexual assaults, KSU has created programs such as Rape Aggressive Defense (RAD) and Self-Defense Awareness & Familiarization Exchange (SAFE).

"We recommend everyone take a self defense class, this is the best preventative. Staying in control by not using drugs and alcohol, being aware of your surroundings will also lower your chance of becoming a victim. 90 percent of self defense is mental preparedness; and the other 10 percent is physical. SAFE and RAD have helped many of the KSU community become prepared giving them options to protect themselves when needed," said a member of the KSU Police.

"Our campus is safe for many reasons, the police and the public work together to ensure safety at KSU. The KSU Police routinely check all areas of the campus, utilizing vehicle, foot and bicycle patrol. High visibility of officers helps deter crime."

Although we may get upset when they write us tickets and tell us to turn our music down at parties, KSU's campus police force helps to ensure all students' well-being.

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**KSU students get down to party**

RACHEL GOFF  
STAFF WRITER

The three simply said they just want fellow KSU students to have fun. "People should come out to a DTP event to have fun, meet new people and to guarantee that they are enjoying college life by taking a break from all the stress that comes with class," said Curcio.

Now the group has an event for almost every day of the week. On Wednesdays, DTP Kennesaw can be found at Flip Flops, while Thursday through Saturday the guys hold events at Hole In the Wall, Tongue N Groove, Halo and Twisted Taco (midtown).

Now that school has started back, however, DTP Kennesaw looks to organize more events in Kennesaw. "We want to get back involved with the sporting events to support the Owls and school," said Curcio.

Although Curcio graduated from KSU in May and Rens graduates soon, they would like to keep the tradition going. "We would like to turn the torch over to someone who has followed us through the process, so they can keep the brand going for many more years to come," said Rens.

# Earth Talk

Dear EarthTalk: Hunting seems to be a real controversy among environmental advocates. Can you set the record straight: Is hunting good or bad for the environment? — Bill Davis, New York

Like so many hot button issues, the answer to this question depends upon who you ask. On the one hand, some say, nothing could be more natural than hunting, and indeed just about every animal species — including humans — has been either predator or prey at some point in its evolution. And, ironic as it sounds, since humans have wiped out many animal predators, some see hunting as a natural way to cull the herds of prey animals that, as a result, now reproduce beyond the environment's carrying capacity.

On the other hand, many environmental and animal advocates see hunting as barbaric, arguing that it is morally wrong to kill animals, regardless of practical considerations. According to Glenn Kirk of the California-based The Animals Voice, hunting "causes immense suffering to individual wild animals..." and is "gratuitously cruel because unlike natural predation hunters

kill for pleasure..." He adds that, despite hunters' claims that hunting keeps wildlife populations in balance, hunters' license fees are used to "manipulate a few game (target) species into overpopulation at the expense of a much larger number of non-game species, resulting in the loss of biological diversity, genetic integrity and ecological balance." Beyond moral issues, others contend that hunting is not practical. According to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the vast majority of hunted species — such as waterfowl, upland birds, mourning doves, squirrels and raccoons — "provide minimal sustenance and do not require population control."

Author Gary E. Varner suggests in his book, "In Nature's Interests," that some types of hunting may be morally justifiable while others may not be. Hunting "designed to secure the aggregate welfare of the target species, the integrity of its ecosystem, or both" — what Varner terms 'therapeutic hunting' — is defensible, while subsistence and sport hunting — both of which only benefit human beings — is not.

Regardless of one's

individual stance, fewer Americans hunt today than in recent history. Data gathered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for its most recent (2006) National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, show that only five percent of Americans — some 12.5 million individuals — consider themselves hunters today, down from nine percent in 2001 and 15 percent in 1996.

Public support for hunting, however, is on the rise. A 2007 survey by Responsive Management Inc., a social research firm specializing in natural resource issues, found that 78 percent of Americans support hunting today versus 73 percent in 1995. Eighty percent of respondents agreed that "hunting has a legitimate place in modern society," and the percent of Americans indicating disapproval of hunting declined from 22 percent in 1995 to 16 percent in 2007.

Perhaps matching the trend among the public, green leaders are increasingly advocating for cooperation between hunters and environmental groups: After all, both lament urban sprawl and habitat destruction.



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**Thurs, September 17**  
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*Events Sponsored by Others:*  
**Wed, September 16**  
**VOLUNTEER KSU FAIR**  
11-2 pm; Student Center University Rooms

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# SPORTS

## Volleyball starts strong Record setting 7-1 start turns heads

BRIAN C. BELL  
STAFF WRITER

The Owls are off to the hottest start in their history, winning seven of their first eight games to set a new school record for wins in a season, capturing four straight home victories and jumping head



Christine Morales | The Sentinel  
Holly Knight and the volleyball team are off to the best start in program history.

first into A-Sun conference play with victories over USC-Upstate and in-state rival, Mercer.

This kind of season seems to have been in development for a while, as the Owls field an experienced squad, including four seniors and three juniors. KSU has defeated the likes of Rider, Alabama A&M and Marist with a staunch defense led by senior libero Selena O'Leary and sophomore middle hitter Callie Churchwell.

The offensive prowess of senior hitter Asija Stokes and junior hitter Sabrita Gulley has fueled the Owls attack.

Stokes has racked up a team-leading 124 kills this season, followed closely by Gulley's 94. Add that offensive power to O'Leary's 127 digs and Churchwell's 25 total blocks and it's no wonder that the Owls have only allowed opponents to win 13 sets.

"The student-athletes on this team are talented and their work ethic is remarkable," said KSU head volleyball coach Karen Weatherington. "They are fighting for respect."

KSU mainstays such as O'Leary, Stokes and senior setters Ginny Fredrick and Chelsey Denesha have to be pleased with the amount of success that their labor of the past three years has produced so far in the young 2009 season. The leadership of each of these seniors, whether verbal, emotional or physical, has contributed heavily to the team's 7-1 start.

"I have been a part of some very successful programs and mentored by some great coaches, and I am proud to have some of that success come to fruition so early at KSU," Weatherington said.

Weatherington has the Owls continuing their climb to the top of the Atlantic Sun and possibly their first birth in the A-Sun Conference tournament in November.

"Our goal is to make it to the conference tournament. That is the goal on which we have set our sights," Weatherington said.

With the conference schedule currently underway, the time for the Owls to tout their improvement has never been better. Coming off a school-best 5-15 A-Sun record in 2008, the Owls are well on their way to setting a school record for A-Sun victories this year as well.

"This team is giving its best right now, not making any assumptions, setting aside individual ideas and is committed to giving a sincere effort and hard work," Weatherington said.

The Owls will take the court Sept. 18 at the KSU Convocation Center against conference rival East Tennessee State University at 7 p.m.



Photo courtesy of KSU SID  
The men's and women's cross country teams swept the JSU Struts Season opener in Oxford, Ala. The ladies took second place in the PowerAde Invitational in Chattanooga, Tenn. on Sept. 11. They were led by Mackenzie Howe, who has finished in first place in the team's first two events. The men finished third in Chattanooga despite running without Nathan Haskins and Scott Burley. A full early-season review will be in the Sept. 22 issue of the Sentinel.

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## Attin-Johnson, Dingle back for senior season

LAUREN MILLER  
SPORTS COLUMNIST

After suffering season-ending leg injuries in 2008, Owls seniors Maylee Attin-Johnson and Caitlin Dingle will no longer sit on the sidelines.

"It's great to be coming back. It's really hard coming back from the couple of surgeries that I have had, because knee surgery can actually end your career. So I'm still fighting to get back to where I was," midfielder Attin-Johnson said.

The return of these two key players could have a big effect on the team's success.

The A-Sun recently named Attin-Johnson as the Preseason Player-of-the-Year. However, she's not letting that title put any pressure on her.

"I'm a player. It's all about the team, and I'm just looking forward to helping my team whether it be an assist or stopping someone from scoring goals," Attin-Johnson said. "So basically, I don't really have to score to be effective on the team."

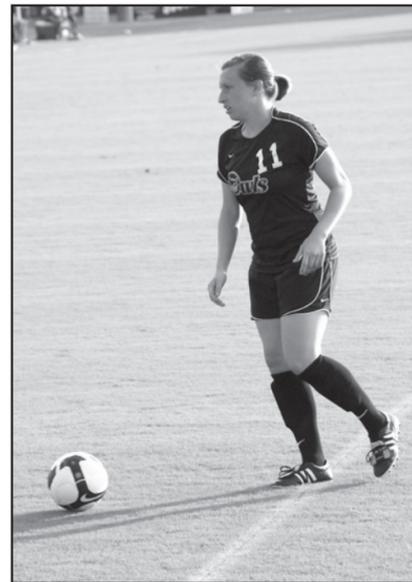
Dingle, a forward, also had the honor of being named Preseason Player-of-the-Year in 2008. Unfortunately, her season-ending injury came in the first game of the 2008 season.

"Being injured and having to sit on the sidelines is really difficult for anyone. It's depressing. You really want to get out there and help your team," Dingle said. "You know it makes you realize how much you really love it, and I think it's going to make me work harder this year."

Dingle's love for soccer began when she was 7 years old. Her brother was already playing soccer, and she wanted to prove to him and her parents that she could do it too. Now her brother no longer plays, and she's sitting pretty on statistics from her 2007 season, such as 8<sup>th</sup> in the NCAA in goals per game.

Attin-Johnson's soccer career began in the Caribbean. She moved to the U.S. from Trinidad and Tobago when she was 18 years old, and she is also proud to be a part of the Trinidad and Tobago international team.

"For me, I just take it as a privilege to be honored and to be selected at any level, college or international. I just go there, have fun,



Derek Wright | The Sentinel  
Caitlin Dingle returns to help lead the Owls to the top of the conference in her senior season.

and play the game of soccer," Attin-Johnson said.

Other than soccer, the Trinidad native enjoys shopping, going to the movies and watching her beloved ESPN. She is a sport management major, and she hopes to coach soccer eventually.

Dingle's interests reach outside of soccer as well. She will pursue a career in writing with a degree in English and a minor in professional writing.

Although neither of the players say they have recharged 100 percent, Attin-Johnson hopes she will be at the top of her game "before the conference tournament."

For the fourth straight year, the Owls were named the Regular Season Champions in the A-Sun preseason awards. Dingle and Attin-Johnson hope that this will mean another trip to the NCAA tournament, and a chance to help lead the team to victory in their final season as Owls.

# 2009 Athletic Hall of Fame class inducted at KSU

JOHN MORBITZER  
STAFF WRITER

KSU inducted five new members to the Athletic Hall of Fame on Saturday, Sept. 12.

"We consider this as the number one prestige prize in the athletic department, being elected into the Hall of Fame," said Athletic Director Dr. Dave Waples.

The class includes alumnae and professional golfer Larry Nelson, former vice president for Student Success and Enrollment Services Dr. Nancy King and three former Owls basketball stars: Columbus Ballard, Israel Brown and Tony Williams.

"When we have our student-athlete orientation in August we tell them 'How do you want to be remembered?'" said Waples. "What do you want people to think about you 5, 10 or 15 years from now?"

Nelson did enough to be remembered outside of his stay at KSU. He attended KSU when it was a junior college in the early 1970s, then took up golf at the age of 21. By age 27, Nelson

had qualified for the PGA Tour and embarked on a hall of fame career. He was inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2006. Winning 10 total events on the Tour, including three major championships, Nelson twice won the PGA Championship, first in 1981 and again in 1987. He also claimed the 1983 U.S. Open. Nelson will be inducted as a booster for this Hall of Fame class.

King has worked at KSU for more than 25. She is the sixth administrator to be inducted. Known for initiating the First Year Experience Program, King is recognized nationally because this program is widely used for the management of freshman students by other institutions. She also headed the KSU Self Study team, allowing the institution to be accepted into Division I of the NCAA this year.

"Granted, Dr. King was not a KSU graduate, but she is someone who has been here for years, and has done just a fantastic job," Waples said.

Ballard, Williams and Brown combined to play 358 games for the Owls, were teammates for three seasons and led KSU to its first ever 20-win

season in 1991-92.

Ballard was a four-year letterman at KSU from 1990-1994, and ranks third on the Owls all-time scoring list with 1,453 points. Ballard shot better than 40 percent from the field and 70 percent from the free-throw line in each of his four years with the Owls. He was named to the NAIA All-Southeast Region Independent Team when he averaged a career-high 12.8 points in 1994. Ballard also contributed to the Owls 1994 NAIA National Championship baseball team, and batted .354 in two seasons on the baseball team.

Williams also lettered four years for the Owls from 1989-1993, and places fifth on the all-time scoring list with 1,328 points. Williams' senior

season produced a career-high 14.4-point average, a NAIA All-District selection and KSU's Athlete-of-the-Year award.

Brown joins his teammates as a four-year letterman for the 1989-1993 seasons, leads KSU in rebounds with 734 and places sixth on the all-time scoring list with 1,268 points. Brown shot 63.3 percent from the field during the 1990-91 season and still holds the record for highest single-season field goal percentage with that campaign. Brown also earned NAIA All-District honors in 1993.

"Administrators, boosters, coaches, players and others are all up for consideration," Waples said. "We've kept our classes small, on purpose, to make it more of an honor."

## Men's soccer breaks even after first two games



Photo courtesy of KSU Club Sports

Brandon Scholz played strong in goal to help get the men's soccer team a season-opening win.

LUCAS BIGHAM  
CLUB SPORTS REPORTER

The KSU men's soccer club beat Dalton State College 3-1 at home, but fell to Georgia Southern 0-2 in their second game in Statesboro, Ga.

"The first game was a great stepping stone for the direction this team is headed," club president Chase Lunenschloss said. "It is only unfortunate that we can't take everyone to each event we have this season."

The Owls entered into their first match having just finished tryouts, so the amount of time they had to prepare was limited. However, they were able to come together on both offense and defense thanks in

large part to the amount of experience each player on the team brings.

"Our team has a very high soccer IQ and it makes our student run organization feel that much more proficient on and off the field," Lunenschloss said.

KSU's striker Oleksander Tsyra was responsible for the team's first goal of the season against Dalton State. Owls starting goalkeeper Brandon Scholz, who had a superb game, thwarted all shots in the first half.

"The other team was very level headed and made very good decisions," Scholz said. "Our conditioning is the edge we had over Dalton State."

Javier Ezeurra and Fernando Guerrero clinched the win for the Owls by putting two more goals on the board.

On Saturday, Sept. 12, the Owls traveled to Statesboro to play a round robin against Georgia Southern and Samford University. However, with Samford cancelling, KSU took on Georgia Southern.

Southern capitalized on a penalty kick within the first five minutes of the game. Later, the Owls strategy backfired when they pushed their players forward to attempt to tie the game, leaving them with a lack of defenders. Southern took advantage of the opportunity and scored a second goal.

"It was a rough day," club officer Samer Kaddah said. "We learned a lot from the game and are ready to bounce back next week at home."

## Owls on the ROAD

Owls complete tough early schedule, begin conference slate

BEN HAMPTON  
STAFF WRITER

On Friday, Sept. 4, KSU (2-3-0, 1-0-0) played the Auburn Tigers (3-1-2) for the first time in school history and suffered a 3-1 loss.

Auburn came out strong getting three shots off during the first nine minutes of the game. In the 29th minute, the Tigers took a 1-0 lead when Jenni Prescott scored from a ball crossed by Katy Frierson. Auburn had many other chances to extend the lead, but KSU goalkeeper Staci Pugh came up with six saves in the first half.

In the 56th minute the Owls tied the game up 1-1 when Jade Dempster scored the first goal of her collegiate career on a corner kick delivered by Alyssa Mahan. Mahan now leads the team with five points coming from two goals and an assist.

The celebration of the goal was short-lived as Auburn quickly scored again in the 60th minute. Then in the 85th minute the Owls committed a foul in the box, giving the Tigers a pen-

alty kick and their third goal of the evening.

On Saturday, Sept. 12, KSU faced rival Mercer University (2-3-1, 0-1-0) and came away with a victory in front of 620 fans. With the victory, the KSU soccer team moved to 7-0 all-time against the Bears.

The action started early for the Owls, as Jade Dempster scored her second goal in as many games off a well placed free-kick that went over the Mercer goalkeeper in the 11th minute.

In the second half, the backline for KSU established their presence in the match, only allowing two shots.

Mercer had four shots on goal and seven total shots during the match. KSU keeper Staci Pugh was up to the challenge, saving every shot that came near her goal. In the 87th minute Pugh was substituted after an injury, and freshman Melissa Hutto saw her first action of the year.

On Friday, Sept. 12, the Owls return home to the KSU Soccer Complex to host the Samford squad at 7 p.m.

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