

THE SENTINEL

OF KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY

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SERVING SINCE 1966

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010

Snow cancels classes



Photo courtesy of Grace Hegwood

Students April Powers, left, and Heather Irvin, right, play in the snow at University Village Suites. All classes were cancelled as of 3 p.m. Friday and campus remained closed throughout the weekend.

Campus radio seeks to move into former Midnight Owl space

DEBBI LITT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Owl Radio is making plans to expand its main studio booth by obtaining the space formerly occupied by Midnight Owl in the Student Center.

Reggie Joseph, assistant promotions director of Owl Radio, said the station is making a strong play toward acquiring the abandoned area. Initially, the KSU Bookstore claimed the room for its own expansion, but plans changed and the space became available. Owl Radio saw the opportunity for growth and quickly formulated a proposal.

Joseph believes that The Midnight Owl is probably one of the best places for live shows.

"That's our drive for getting the Midnight Owl," he said.

The station has been discussing its options with Culinary Services, the group that allocates the use of space. Local Music Director Matt Nix said the station anticipates a decision by the end of the semester.

"I really do believe we have the absolute best programming of any college radio station," Nix said. "This expansion is only going to allow us to give an even better broadcast that's even more accessible and visible to the student body."

Expanding into the Student Center is part of Owl Radio's plan to increase listenership. The station's audience has picked up significantly since it first aired three years ago, and has an average of around 200 to 700 listeners a day. In order to draw in more listeners, Owl Radio is requesting permission to pipe live broadcasts into buildings around campus.

"There's no building that plays Owl Radio feed, so that's another thing we're pushing," Joseph said.

There is also a possi-

bility of an AM/FM frequency in Owl Radio's future. Switching to that kind of radio transmission would require heavy changes within the studio. Some staff members are unsure whether it is the best option for the station.

"There's a lot of debate as to whether or not it's the best avenue for our programming, but I think no matter what we decide, we'll be broadcasting in a way that best suits the unique nature of the station and our DJs," Nix said.

Owl Radio is available online 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Broadcasting online gives Owl Radio more freedom with their material and shows, but the station abides by FCC regulations in order to prepare their DJs for future jobs in radio.

If its main studio relocates, the station wants to transform its old space into more offices, and possibly into a production outlet for a new television project.

"We have a lot of cre-



Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel
Owl Radio may acquire the space that once housed Midnight Owl.

New surveillance system planned to thwart thieves in North Deck

Current cameras fail to help capture thefts from student vehicles



Photos by Adeolu Adebayo | The Sentinel
The outdated security cameras in the North Parking Deck, shown above and below, have failed to capture the multiple break-ins that have taken place in the last year. A new system will be in place by the end of 2010.

CAITLYN NEWMAYER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A new camera system is planned for the North Parking Deck (NPD) before the end of 2010.

The outdated technology and poor video quality of the existing cameras in the NPD make it difficult for campus police to identify criminals who steal items from vehicles parked in the deck.

Since January 2009, 42 cases of theft from vehicles on campus have been reported, but no arrests have been made.

"The cameras currently in the North Deck are often difficult to get a picture on," said Beth Tindel, director of Parking Operations. "They jump, which causes discontinuity in a recorded image and students know where they are and will cover them up."

The cameras in the NPD also have trouble adjusting to changes in light, which causes images to come out a solid white or black.

"The North Parking Deck has the highest rate of break-ins of all the KSU parking decks," said Robert Lang, assistant vice president for Strategic Security and Safety.

The installation of an updated

camera system could alleviate the number of thefts and crimes in the NPD if thieves are easier to identify. Strategic Security and Safety has researched how to improve cameras systems in the NPD and Central Parking Deck.

J&A Engineering, an outside company, has been hired to assess how many and what type of cameras are needed in the North Deck. All NPD exits and entrances will feature cameras that capture license plates to help police identify vehicles.

Parking and SSS officials say there are 16 cameras in the NPD and about 50 in the CPD. Surveillance includes areas such as elevators, exits, entrances and emergency phones. However, some vehicles still remain out of a camera's sight.

"Once the NPD camera project is complete, camera surveillance coverage of the entire parking deck will increase threefold and image quality will be greatly enhanced," said Lang.

Although cameras are not actively monitored, campus police can view the cameras at any time. University Operations will fund the new camera system.



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www.ksusentinel.com



Hoo's Hoo: Birgit Wassmuth, Chair of Communication Dept. Grad program, new concentration in the works

AMIE FLANAGAN
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Birgit Wassmuth, chair of the Department of Communication, dreams of a graduate program, a new concentration and eventually a school of communication.

The department, with Wassmuth's guidance, is working toward making these dreams a reality.

The department has proposed a graduate program, a Master of Arts in Integrated Global Communication. The program, if approved, is projected to begin in fall 2011.

The proposed program is described in its prospectus as "an innovative, contemporary and relevant post-graduate education opportunity to communication professionals interested in advancing their professional pursuits."

"It is a logical next step," Wassmuth said. "Students and alumni have been asking why we have no graduate program. It is ideal for professionals who would like to advance their careers. Studies have shown that people with a master's degree have a better chance of being promoted."

The program is an expedited degree that will take 16 months to complete. The \$28,000 cost includes tuition for four terms, books and travels overseas. Participants will study abroad over the summer, which is what makes this program unique.

"We have established a preliminary partnership with Shanghai International Studies University in Shanghai, China, and we hope to have a similar agreement with a university in Europe before the end of the spring 2010 semester," said Associate Professor Charles "Buddy" Mayo. "We are also exploring opportunities with universities in South America and Africa, as well as Asian and European countries. We are targeting institutions that teach graduate courses in English."

Mayo pointed out that the curriculum proposal passed through the various levels of approval on the KSU campus during the fall 2009 semester. The process included obtaining approval from the Department of Communication Curriculum Committee, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Policies and Curriculum Committee.

"The next step will be to submit the formal proposal to the Graduate College at KSU," Mayo said. "Although we do not anticipate any problems, the program proposal has not been approved by the Board of Regents."

The department is also beginning to look toward its



Karlee Gonzalez | The Sentinel
Dr. Birgit Wassmuth, above, is working to create a graduate program within the Department of Communication.

second goal: creating a concentration in advertising. According to the Department of Communication's Strategic Plan 2007-2012, it will begin as a minor and eventually become a concentration.

Communication students are already teaming up with graphic design students to look at the concentration in their creative advertising class. Discussion of creating an advertising concentration came after the rapid success of the journalism and citizen media concentration.

"[We have] 114 majors in journalism, which is mind boggling," Wassmuth said of the popularity of the concentration that started in 2008.

With the growth of the Department of Communication, having a "school of communication" instead of a department is an idea Wassmuth has considered.

She's moving gradually toward the concept, focusing on getting the graduate program and the concentration in advertising up and running before pursuing the idea.

"I think we have a lot of opportunities to explore," she said. "We are not a department that sits still or dwells on the past. We have a lot of innovative faculty. We always want to move forward."

Wassmuth became the chair of the department in 2006. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Collaboration for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning and participates in the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

CAITLYN NEWMAYER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Masturbator caught red-handed in computer lab

On Feb. 8, an officer was informed of inappropriate behavior in the computer lab in Burruss Building. When entering the computer lab, the officer noticed a male sitting at a computer in the back of the room. The officer observed the male's left hand in his lap under a black scarf. The black scarf fell away as he approached the male. The officer then noticed that the male's belt was unfastened and his pants were unzipped. He saw the male's left hand on his penis moving back and forth in a rapid manner. When realizing the officer's presence, the male quickly closed the window he was watching on the computer monitor and attempted to cover his lap with the scarf. He was arrested for public indecency.

From drug dealing to detainment

An officer arrived at Busbee Parkway after another officer had stopped a Buick for having a headlight out. Police detected the strong smell of marijuana coming from the vehicle. An officer searched the vehicle and found three small clear bags of suspected marijuana in the front console, 10 bags of suspected marijuana in a book bag located in the backseat, a bag containing a white pill, a weight scale, a gray grinder and a box of small

POLICE BEAT

clear plastic bags. Both occupants of the vehicle were arrested for possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and possession of marijuana of less than one ounce.

Criminal Trespass Warning Issued

On Feb. 1, an officer arrived to parking lot B in reference to three white males attempting to sell items out of a van. The males informed police that they were monks and were distributing pamphlets about how to meditate. The males were issued a criminal trespass warning and were informed that they must have permission from Student Life to distribute pamphlets.

Wanted Person Found

On Feb. 2, Cobb County police informed KSU police that a wanted male was last seen on Frey Road running on foot. Two KSU officers arrived on the scene to assist Cobb police. Cobb police attempted to track the subject with a K-9 unit. Later that day, KSU police informed Cobb police that a person matching the male's description was located at the O'Charley's restaurant

on Chastain Road. Cobb police then detained the subject.

Hit and Run

Police met with a complainant in the Public Safety lobby in reference to a hit and run. The complainant stated that he was driving on Campus Loop Road when another vehicle struck his car. The complainant stated that the other vehicle drove away from the scene of the accident without exchanging appropriate information. The complainant sustained minor damage to his vehicle.

Gun bullets but no gun

On Feb. 6, police arrived at University Village Suites in reference to the odor of marijuana. The officer met with RAs who stated that they smelled the odor of marijuana coming from an apartment. Police obtained a search warrant and were allowed in the apartment by an RA. The officer immediately smelled the odor of marijuana, but was unable to locate any marijuana or paraphernalia. The officer did find three .40 caliber bullets, but no gun. A copy of the search warrant was left on the kitchen counter.

CORRECTIONS

In last week's issue, the sports section incorrectly attributed the following quote: "We decided to pick it up on the defense in the second half. We decided that offense wasn't going to win, but defense was." This statement was made by student Angie Smith. Also in last week's story "Students Mourn," Alisa Bennett-Hart's name was misspelled. In the same story, the date of the Cobb Alcohol Taskforce Youth Council was incorrect; the correct date is March 6. Also, Michael Sanseviro was only given one title, but he serves KSU as the director of Residence Life and interim dean of Student Success. It is the policy of The Sentinel to correct errors of fact.

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FEATURES

"Debbi rules."

SOW planting seeds of knowledge in Benin

Assistant professor gives back to homeland

BERLIN SYLVESTRE
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson knows a thing or two about not taking education for granted. As a child growing up in West Africa's Republic of Benin, she attended a school that, in spite of its lack of a library or a lab, was considered one of the best in her area. After traveling back to her native country and observing the lack of teaching materials in the classrooms, along with the impoverished conditions of the schoolhouses, she was inspired to create and spearhead Seeds of Knowledge (SOW).

SOW is a federally-recognized non-profit organization that supports the educational needs of underserved children in Africa. Her passion has caught on, and last year, more than 100 students from KSU joined the effort by donating times and supplies.

"I knew I could not remain indifferent and carry on with my life as if what I saw and experienced no longer concerned me," said, Viakinnou-Brinson, a KSU assistant professor of French. "Poverty in one country ultimately affects the wealth of another country, and there are so many poor and hungry children all over the world. For me the question is, 'where do we start to make a difference?'"

Taking with her the yield of all the volunteers' work and the assistance of local businesses such as World Gym and Chick-Fil-A, Viakinnou-Brinson traveled back to Benin in 2008. After navigating the terrain of washed-out roads and large potholes, the teacher's team completed the trip of thousands of miles and was able to witness the reaping of their harvest. The response was overwhelming.

"SOW went with the hope of distributing books, textbooks and school supplies to 100 children, but when we left 500 children had received [them]!"

she said.

After putting educational materials into the hands of young African children, Viakinnou-Brinson opened new doors that would have remained closed for them.

"Parents and children alike were extremely grateful," she said. "They were visibly touched."

Viakinnou-Brinson anticipates the assistance of even more students this year. With great ambition and a dedicated team of students at KSU, she dreams of expanding SOW into other countries.

One way she is underwriting the cost of her goals is by hosting the Evening of Shining Hope, an annual event that will be held for the third time on Feb. 27 at the Westin Airport Hotel in Atlanta. The event will feature a three-course meal, African dance, student musicians and a silent auction. Tickets to the dinner are \$70 per person. There will also be a silent auction to raise money for Haitian orphans.

KSU's SOW chapter, though unofficial, is called Seedsowers. Jessica Gates, a senior French major and geography minor, leads the team.

"So far we have made posters to send to Africa," she said. "I hope to build schools one day there."

Gates realizes that when something as simple as a rainstorm can collapse the thatched roofs of their modestly-built schoolhouses, African schoolchildren are especially thankful for rare and luxurious items, such as crayons and books. Seedsowers KSU is planning a chalk, pencil, pen and crayon drive for the children. Donors can contact Gates at seedsowers.ksu@gmail.com to learn about other ways to help.

Monetary donations made at SOW's Web site help the organization purchase textbooks and activity books in the children's native French. To learn more, visit SOW online at seedsofknowledge.org.



Dr. Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson (kneeling center) smiles brightly among a group of students holding their newly acquired school books.



Photos courtesy of Lucie Viakinnou-Brinson

A collection of students sit in the crowded classroom, often having to share desks.

Environmental Alliance takes new direction

Group reaches new peak with name, identity and definition changes

SUMMER BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Members of the KSU Environmental Alliance held their annual retreat Feb. 6 at Mellow Mushroom on Chastain Road. Concerned with making earth-conscious choices in daily life, many of the members walked to the meeting. The group munched on pizza as they discussed their past achievements and goals for the future. One of those goals is a new name.

Founded in 1996, the group has 12 members and is growing as their identity is redefined and expanded. The group members voted unanimously in favor of calling themselves PEAK, Progressive Earth Alliance at Kennesaw.

President Julianee Trew said the new name provides a refreshed outlook and ignites their passion to spread the word of their group across the entire community.

"By 're-branding' ourselves we hope to pull in more people that are passionate not only about sustainability, but all eco-related issues in order to be

able to achieve more," Trew said.

Chris Smith, a junior member of the alliance who is working on his master's degree in American Studies, feels the name change broadens the focus of the group to include more social issues such as the production and sale of organic food, environmental justice and sustainability methods.

Dr. Robert Paul, director of sustainability and professor of Biology at KSU, has been the alliance's faculty advisor for over 10 years.

Paul said the direction of the current leadership emphasizes the human and social facets of environmentalism.

"I agree [these] are inextricably interwoven with efforts to respect and preserve the natural world," Paul said.

Paul has been instrumental as a resource for the students, providing advice and a historical perspective along with assistance in communication with KSU faculty and administration.

"No matter what the changes made



Photo from facebook.com

PEAK members rally against a proposed coal plant in Georgia outside the student center.

to the group, we are the same group of people and we continue to stand for the same issues," Trew said.

Another aspect of identity that was amended to reflect the groups expanding goals was the mission statement. The Web site's the updated statement reads:

"We believe in the gentle use of earth's natural resources and we constantly evaluate our degree of impact on the environment as an organization. We are dedicated to actions that promote a healthy and sustainable future on campus and in the broader community."

The group held a planning session for this semester's activities. The most far-reaching of these plans is the ALL-KSU Earth Day. Smith said that large-scale changes must be driven and accomplished by all groups and institutions in the area.

"KSU has an opportunity and a responsibility to lead in our community," Smith said.

Smith hopes that every organization and department on campus will participate in the Earth Day event this year,

and that each person will make a full commitment to continue the effort to change how we influence our environment.

"I believe that we're reaching the tipping point where the preponderance of evidence for climate change and environmental science is obvious to the average non-expert," Smith said. "I think the period of uncertainty is ending, and people everywhere are realizing the urgency to take care of what we have."

Smith encourages students and faculty to take a positive and serious interest in environmental programs. There are many ways to become environmentally active.

"Take a hike in the woods, or even a park, and think about the fragility of all we have, and join PEAK!" Smith said.

"I am really happy with our new start, and with all the enthusiasm and passion flowing within our group," Sarah Christopherson said. "I have no doubt that we will be able to make great strides toward getting our campus and community to 'go green.'"



Photo from facebook.com

The new logo for the revamped environmental alliance, now called PEAK.

New Literary Club sparks discussion among students

JENNY HARRISON
STAFF WRITER

Students interested in discussing literature with their peers now can find a home with KSU's new Literary Club.

The club was founded by English major Natasha Larivee, a junior who recognized the need to create an organization for students who share the same interests. Although the Literary Club is in its first semester, more than 50 people have joined the group.

"Since the campus is growing and growing, it's really hard to become close-knit with a lot of other people who are in your major specifically," said Larivee. "As an English major, it's all about discussion and communication. We figured if we make this group we can become more comfortable with each other, which will allow information to flow."

Larivee said the club's creation was made possible by three English department faculty members: Dr. Keith Botelho, Dr. Chris Palmer and Dr. Ashley Shelden.

"They're being really awesome," said Larivee. "They're super excited about it. They said it's a really good opportunity for us to build a community within our English department."

Even though the club is run through KSU's English department, Larivee stressed that students from other disciplines are more than welcome to join.

"It's for anyone interested in talking about literature, history or philosophy — all of those things that conveniently tie together," said Larivee.

Patti Gregory, editor-in-chief of KSU's Share Art and Literary magazine and a graduate student in the Master of Art in Professional Writing (MAPW) program, said she signed a petition in the fall to show her support for the Literary Club.

"There wasn't anything like this on campus, so I thought it

would be a great idea to have one," she said. "It's a great way to get in touch with the literary community, network and make new friends."

The Literary Club meets most Friday nights at the Mellow Mushroom on Chastain Road. Larivee also said she hopes to start meeting regularly on Thursday nights as well.

"During our meetings we will set a broad topic that will not necessarily be book specific or time period specific, like religion in so-and-so type of literature," said Larivee. "Whoever is interested in the topic can come to our meeting, and we can just have a big discussion on it."

In addition to the casual pizza nights, the club also attends literature-related events on and around campus. Earlier in the semester, the club attended a showing of "The Canterbury Tales" at the Shakespeare Tavern in Atlanta.

The Literary Club hopes to expand its discussions to include movies and creative writing in addition to more traditional forms of literature.

"We're in conjunction with the cinema society," said Larivee. "We're starting to show literary adaptations in the cinema society as well, and we ask professors to come and talk about that."

Larivee also plans to create a writers' forum through the club for those interested in receiving feedback from other club members.

"Basically it's just a community for us to get together and share our



Greg Ranallo | The Sentinel

Members of the new literary club gather weekly to share ideas and opinions

work and talk about it in a safe environment," she said. "As a writer it's hard to trust other people. It's nice that we can get together and talk about our writing and what influences us. It's constructive criticism and peer review."

With the focus of the club spreading across so many forms of literature, Larivee said she is sure the group will meet the needs of several KSU students.

"We're integrating a lot of different things and bringing together a lot of different aspects of literature together — the writing, the movies, the actual literature and the discussions," said Larivee.

KSU students interested in obtaining more information or wishing to join the club should visit the club's Facebook page: Kennesaw State University Literary Club.

Southern author to speak in Student Center March 1

Marietta native returns to metro-Atlanta area for book tour

SPECIAL TO THE SENTINEL

Author Elyssa East will be back in familiar surroundings when she returns to the Atlanta area to introduce readers to her latest work. The Marietta native plans an evening with the KSU community on March 1, when she'll read from her latest work, "Dogtown: Death and Enchantment in a New England Ghost Town."

Though the book takes place in a New England town where a popular teacher is murdered, East draws on her Southern storytelling roots to create a work that has been lauded for its sense of place and character. Renowned author Joyce Carol

Oates describes the book as "richly detailed and remarkably evocative." The New York Times said it was "a true-crime story, an art appreciation course and an American history lesson stitched together."

East also includes mention of northwest Georgia in the book, even including the meaning of the name "Kennesaw."

The March 1 reading will take place at 7 p.m. in University Room B of the Student Center. Along with KSU, East will be reading at various venues around the metro area, including the St. James Episcopal Church in Marietta and A Capella Books in Atlanta.



Photo from <http://www.dogtownthebook.com/elyssa-east>

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EarthTalk: What's being done to address traffic congestion?

E/THE ENVIRONMENTAL MAGAZINE
EMAGAZINE.COM (MCT)

Dear EarthTalk: Short of massive efforts to build a public transportation infrastructure, which doesn't appear likely anytime soon, what is being done to address traffic congestion, which is reaching absurd levels almost everywhere?

— John Daniels, Baltimore

Traffic congestion has gotten way out of hand — and not just in developed countries anymore: Traffic jams and smog plague dozens of cities in China and in many other parts of the developing world. Here in the U.S., road congestion now causes commuters to spend an average of a full work week each year sitting in traffic, according to the Texas Transportation Institute. While alternative modes of getting around are available, most of us still opt for our cars for the sake of convenience, comfort and privacy.

The most promising technique for reducing city traffic is called congestion pricing, whereby cities charge a toll on entering certain parts of town at certain times of day. The theory goes that, if the toll is high enough, some drivers will cancel their trips or opt for the bus or rails. And it seems to be working: The Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) reports that Singapore, London, Stockholm and the three largest cities in Norway have reduced traffic and pollution in downtown areas thanks to congestion pricing.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg continues to push for congestion pricing to ease traffic in Manhattan. The latest proposal — rejected by the State Legislature in 2008 — called for an \$8 toll to enter Manhattan between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., with monies funding public transit maintenance and expansion.

Another way to reduce rush hour traffic is for employers to implement flextime, which lets employees travel to and from work at off-peak traffic times to avoid rush hour. Those who must travel during busy times can do their part by carpooling. Employers can also subsidize



Photo from city.kelowna.bc.ca

employee mass transit costs, and/or allow more workers to telecommute (work from home) so as to keep more cars off the road altogether.

Some urban planners still believe that the best way to ease traffic congestion is to build more roads — especially expressways that can take drivers around or over crowded city streets. But such techniques don't really keep more cars off the road; they only accommodate more of them. Forward-thinking city planners, knowing that more and more drivers and cars are taking to the roads every day, are loathe to encourage more private automobiles when mass transit options are so much better for people and the environment.

And Americans are getting it. According to EDF, public transit usage has steadily risen since 1995, with Americans taking 10.7 billion public transportation trips — the largest number in a half century — in 2008. Light rail, hybrid buses and other promising options are working their way into some U.S. cities. To this end, the Obama administration has committed some \$7 billion in stimulus dollars to help transit systems increase capacity and upgrade to more efficient technologies.

But environmentalists complain that such funding is a drop in the bucket compared to the \$50 billion committed to roads, bridges and highways, and that transit authorities can't use any of it to fund maintenance and operations, meaning that jobs must be cut and routes shut down. EDF is calling on Obama to include significant funding for transit operations in the jobs bill now being debated in Congress.

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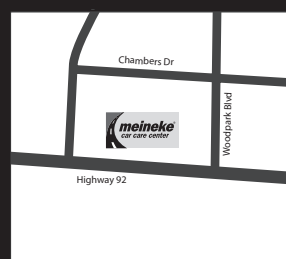
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SPORTS



Hockey beats Georgia Tech 12-1

Derek Wright | The Sentinel

Senior forward Jerry Holden had three goals and two assists against in-state rivals, the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, with a score of 12-1.

ANDREW KASTNER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The men's hockey team beat local rivals Georgia Tech 12-1 at the Kennesaw Ice Forum Thursday, kicking off the final three games of the season with one of the highest scoring games of the season.

KSU set the pace from the start. The first goal was 3:18 minutes into the first period by Ryan Brown.

Freshman forward Scott Frenzel scored at 5:46 minutes in the second period. Five more goals were scored within the next seven minutes, leaving the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets scrambling for another goal.

In a breakaway score, the Jackets made their first goal with 3:22 minutes left in the period.

The Owls answered back with a barrage of shots on the Georgia Tech goalie that put two more points on the board. Georgia Tech made a last minute breakaway, but the slap shot was caught by sophomore goalie Devon Morrison to end the second period.

Georgia Tech checked junior forward Hunter Gahl, who was quickly assisted off of the ice and out of the game. This injury did not dissuade the Owls, who quickly scored three more points.

The hard hits quickly turned to punching and put two Yellow Jackets and one

Owl in the penalty box. The first period ended shortly after both teams returned to full lines, leaving the score 4-0.

Taking a hit from a Tech player, KSU's Jake Garrison was flung into the goalie, knocking the goal off the blocks and stopping play.

Eventually regaining momentum, KSU scored with 2:17 minutes remaining in the game, making the final score at 12-1.

KSU's all-time leading scorer Jerry Holden had three goals and two assists. Tucker Green and Andrew Chelbek also put three points on the board.

Peter Kacer broke the record with six assists. Justin Blais, Andrew Buckner and Jake Garrison each added a point to the

overall score for the Owls.

"KSU's playing in a higher division has a great deal to do with the difference in scores," said head coach Ken Honeyman.

"The true test is against Wright State," said Honeyman.

The American Collegiate Hockey Associations Southeast regional tournament will be on Feb. 27 in Ohio. This tournament will mark the fourth consecutive year KSU has qualified to compete. Currently, KSU ranks ninth in the Southeast region of the ACHA D-2.

The Owl's next game will be an exhibition with the Atlanta Knights on Saturday at the Marietta Ice Center.

Pitching battle in favor of Owls

DEREK WRIGHT
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's softball team won both games in their opening double header versus the South Dakota State Jack Rabbits on Sunday night.

The Owls finished went 2-0 at the K-Club Classic at Bobby Bailey Athletic Complex.

In the first game of the two-game double header, the Owls finished with a score of 5-1. The pitching match-up for the game was Owl's freshman Abbey Meixel versus Jack Rabbits' Pam Nicholson.

This was Meixel's first game as a collegiate athlete, and she only allowed one run, struck-out eight and only had three hits.

"I was nervous when I first started the game," Meixel said. "But once the first inning ended I realized it was just another softball game. Everyone told me it was just a game, but I didn't believe them."

Meixel was one of five freshmen in the starting line-

up for the first game. Second baseman Hannah Graham hit a line drive single to the outfield with the bases loaded, putting the Owls ahead by two in the bottom of the second. Graham only had one hit at her three at-bats.

The next score came in the bottom of the third. The bases were loaded with two outs when freshman pinch-hitter Sharon Swanson came up to bat. Swanson hit a single to center field, giving the Owls another two runs to make the game 4-0.

The Jack Rabbits scored only one run the entire day, which came in the top of the sixth inning by an RBI from the Jack Rabbits' Andrea New.

One last score was made by Owls' senior catcher Jenna Closner, who got the final RBI of the game, bringing the final score to 5-0.

The second game proved to be a pitching duel between Owls' sophomore Jessica Cross and Jack Rabbits' Kori Seidlitz. The Owls beat the

Jack Rabbits with a final score of 3-0.

Cross, who had a season-ending injury year season, had seven strikeouts, one hit and allowed no runs.

The game was scoreless until the top of the seventh. Closner, the first batter of the seventh inning, scored first run of the game with a home run to left field. Three more runs were scored in the seventh inning.

"I was waiting for my pitch," Closner said. "She threw me the one that I was waiting for and I made contact with it."

At the bottom of the seventh, head coach Scott Whitlock decided to pull Cross and put Meixel back into the game.

"She pitched well all game," Whitlock said. "We had a fresh arm sitting in the bullpen that could finish the game for us."

Meixel struck out two batters to finish off the Jack Rabbits with a score of 3-0.



Greg Ranallo | The Sentinel

Freshman pitcher Abbey Meixel struckout eight batters in her first collegiate game.

“Once the first inning ended I realized it was just another softball game.”

Tennis wins both in double header

MATT BRADSHAW
STAFF WRITER

The mens' and womens' tennis teams won last weekend in their double headers against Alabama State and Alabama A&M.

"I'm happy picking up two wins today," head coach Brandon Padgett said. "The ladies played as well as could be expected in the very cold weather."

The lady Owls defeated both teams by a score of 7-0.

The Lady Owls' number-one singles player, sophomore Vera Shkundina, only dropped four games in her two singles wins. Shkundina was also able to partner

with sophomore teammate Alena Sergeychik for both number-one doubles matches. The Russian duo won both matches without losing a single game.

Shkundina and Sergeychik weren't the only winners in doubles as the Lady Owls dropped only one game in all five doubles matches played Saturday.

"We are still searching for that first match where we play a full, healthy group of players, but it is always nice to see others step up and do what needs to be done to get the win," Padgett said.

The men's tennis team dropped one point as they defeated Alabama State 6-1 and Alabama A&M 7-0.

"Our players came in here and got the job done in very tough conditions," head coach T.J. Greggs said.

"I was pleased that we were able to finally figure out a combination for doubles which I think will work for the rest of the season," Greggs said.

Sophomore Tyler Mills was able to win in both of the number one doubles matches, partnering up with sophomore Justin Suesserman to win against Alabama State in a tiebreaker, and winning against A&M 8-2 with freshman partner Elliot Kahler. After having won the first set, 6-0, Mills lost the number-one singles to Alabama State's Denys Alyksyeyeu in a third set tiebreaker.

Number-two singles player sophomore Simon Janik dropped only four games in his two singles matches. Janik partnered with sophomore Michael Langel to win the number-two singles against Alabama State 8-0.

Men's basketball loses two in a row

JOHN MORBITZER
STAFF WRITER

The KSU men's basketball team (12-14, 7-8) suffered a 45-66 road loss to East Tennessee State University (14-12, 10-5) in a regionally broadcast game on Comcast Sports Southeast.

Jon-Michael Nickerson scored the first points of the game, but the Buccaneers quickly responded with a 13-0 run.

KSU made the next basket to cut the lead to eight with 15 minutes left in the half, but it was the last time the lead was in single digits.

ETSU missed all seven of their second half 3-point attempts. Justin Hubbs connected for 5-7 shooting from the 3-point line, scoring 17 of his game-high 23 points in the first half.

Shooting only 26 percent from the field in the half, KSU could not fend off ETSU and went into halftime with a 17-point deficit, 37-20.

After cutting the lead to 12 early in the second half, the Owls found themselves down by as much as 26 with fewer than seven minutes to play.

Redshirt freshman Markeith Cummings led KSU in scoring with 10 points, and was the only Owl to score in double digits. LaDaris Green led with 11 rebounds, as Cummings recorded nine rebounds.

KSU committed 20 turnovers, leading to 19 ETSU points—a key reason for the loss. ETSU shot 39 percent from the field for the game, only seven percentage points better than the Owls' 32.

The Owls lost to ETSU at home earlier in the season, 43-66 as the Bucs completed the season sweep.

With the win, the Buccaneers move into a four-way tie for first place in the Atlantic Sun conference with Jacksonville, Campbell and Belmont. All have clinched a berth in the conference post-season tournament, along with Lipscomb.

KSU is one of four remaining tournament-eligible teams that has not clinched a spot.

The Owls return to host conference leader Jacksonville on Thursday and North Florida on Saturday, ending the season with road games at Lipscomb and Belmont.



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