

THE SENTINEL

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KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY | THE SENTINEL

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SNEAK PEEK

goodbye
VISTA
hello
D2L

Story Starts On Page 2

APOCALYPSE
...
LATER

Story Starts On Page 7

OWLS
beat
BEARS

Story Starts On Page 20



A sign memorializes victims in downtown Sandy Hook in Newtown, CT.

Greg Bieger | The Sentinel

The school shooting that took place at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, CT has begun new discussions about gun legislation and mental health policy in the US.

Twenty elementary school students and six of their teachers were fatally shot at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut on Dec 14.

The shooter, 20-year-old Newtown resident Adam Lanza, then took his own life.

The shooting has been memorialized and seen a wide array of response from around the country.

The Newtown shooting is the 31st mass shooting in the US since the Columbine School Shootings in 1999. It is the 16th shooting since President Obama took office in 2008.

"That was the worst day of my presidency and it's

not something I want to see repeated," Obama told David Gregory on Meet The Press last Sunday. Obama has already spoken several times on the subject of gun legislation reform since the tragedy. "Something has to work," Obama said. "It is not enough for us to say 'this is too hard, so we're not going to try.'"

Differences of opinion on the regulation of firearms and how to change current gun legislation vary widely. "I am for more strict gun reform," said Sophomore Communication student Erica Baldwin. "There is no reason for a civilian to have a military grade rifle, anything that holds enough rounds to clear a room doesn't need to be available."

Many fear that the president wishes to enact legislation that targets Assault Rifles and high round magazines.

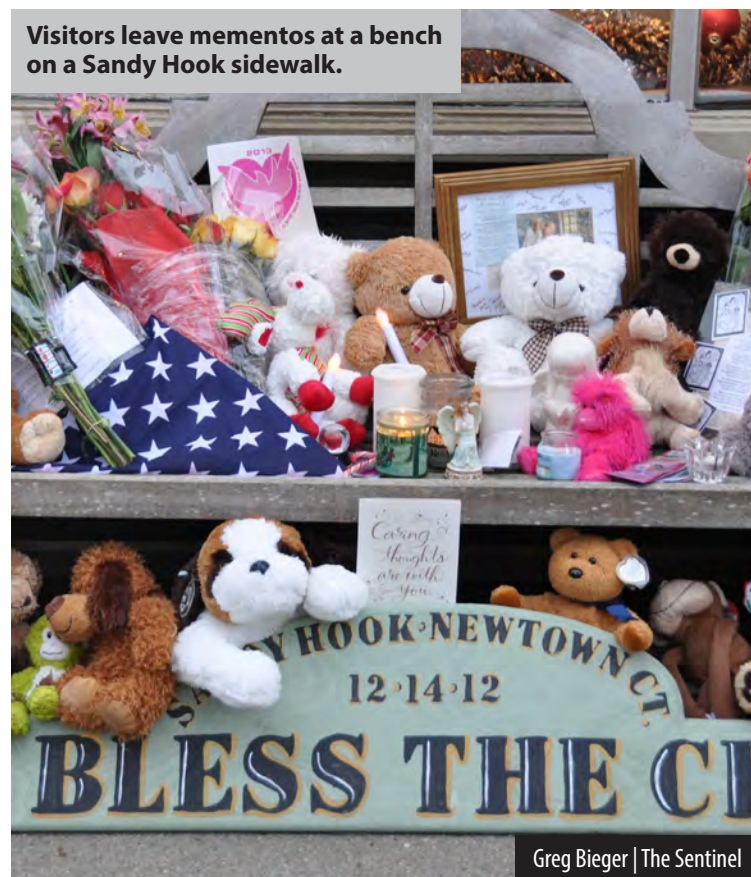
"These criminals are going

to hurt people regardless of how they acquire the weapon," said Luke Crawford, a Freshman who has been working on starting a chapter of Students for Concealed Carry on Campus at KSU. "The Oklahoma City bombing was done with items you can get at the hardware store."

"All of these [school] shootings happened in places where guns were not allowed," said Crawford. "Getting rid of these gun free zones would get rid of places where these evil people can go without opposition."

Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy has already set a two-month deadline for a commission to address Connecticut's gun laws, mental health policies and public security issues.

Visitors leave mementos at a bench on a Sandy Hook sidewalk.



Greg Bieger | The Sentinel



MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR FRESHMAN TRACK-STAR to be announced

Greg Bieger News Editor

Freshman student-athlete, Jonathan Garner, died Friday Dec. 21 of unknown causes.

The 18-year-old track and field athlete recently placed 12th and 13th in the 60-meter dash as a member of KSU's 4x400 team at the BSC Panther Indoor Icebreaker in Birmingham.

"We affectionately called Jonathan, Lil' Johnny, but there was nothing little about him," KSU track and field head coach Andy Eggerth said in a press release. "Jonathan had a big heart, he ran big, and he had big things in store for him."

A four-year track standout at Roswell High School, Garner also competed as Junior Olympian and earned All-American Honors in the 4x100 meter relay.

Born in Chicago, Ill., and a resident of Roswell, Ga., Garner is survived by his father, Michael, mother, Karon, and younger sister, Taylor.

The KSU Athletic Association (KSUAA) is working with Garner's family to hold an on-campus memorial service in his honor. Details are still in the planning stages and will be released when finalized.

GIVING STUDENTS a desire to learn

Alexandria Walton Contributor

Kennesaw State University is abandoning GeorgiaVIEW Vista for a new learning management system, Desire2Learn (D2L). Students gained access to D2L on January 7th and are expected to transition into the new system just as easily as they groggily transition into their first week of classes from winter break.

D2L promises features that are worth a week or two of trying to log into an outdated GeorgiaVIEW Vista. D2L hosts over 700 clients and over 8 million learners in higher education, K-12, healthcare, government, and corporate companies. The program will function similarly to the university's previous learning management system, but the software claims to be more user-friendly which will allow

for a heightened online learning experience.

Students can login to D2L by entering their Net ID and password at D2L.kennesaw.edu. Logging in will direct students to a homepage that displays links to each course's individual home page. Course home pages contain easy to find tools pertaining to class content, discussions, assignment drop boxes, quizzes, and a course checklist.

If students are worried about being lost in a sea of new content, all they have to do is click on a course calendar that will show upcoming exams and projects or look at the 'news' box, a place where professors can post announcements for the entire class to read. Students can also edit their notifications so they can be

sent an email or text message whenever a new message is posted in a forum, news items are posted, or a dropbox folder end date is two days away. D2L is also compatible with Android and Apple.

While D2L is a widely used system, KSU is still preparing to help students out with the transition. The KSU Student Service Desk is offering in-person D2L workshops, D2L Mobile Device workshops, and online tutorials. Students are encouraged to call, email, and receive walk-in support.

The KSU Student HelpDesk is located in BB 475 and information on workshops can be found at <http://its.kennesaw.edu/techoutreach/d2l/students>.



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OWL EVENTS

Cydney Long
Contributor

Don't miss any OWL Events! Check back each week for a new calendar of KSU's upcoming events. Don't see your event? We want to know! Please send event information to newseditor@ksusentinel.com.

Wednesday	9	Sunday	13
• First Day of Classes		• Sing It or Wing It (Lip Sync) University Village Center 7:00 p.m.	
Thursday	10		
• SGA Meetings 3:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.			
Friday	11	Monday	14
• Strumming Under The Stars Kennesaw Place Courtyard 8:00 p.m.		• KSU Swing Dance 4:30-7:00 p.m.	
Saturday	12	Tuesday	15
• Magic With a Side of Comedy University Place Multipurpose Room 2:00 p.m.		• Campus Awakening Fellowship 7:30-9:30 p.m.	

MORE ATTENTION, RESOURCES focusing on homeless college students as numbers rise

MCT (WIRE SERVICE)

PALM BEACH, Fla. - Over the summer, Nikki Maclaren sat down at her computer and opened a browser.

In the search box, she typed: "how to get through college when poor."

Maclaren, now 18, was homeless her senior year at Palm Beach Central High. But the dark-haired, soft-spoken teen was determined to make a life for herself through education.

In May, Maclaren graduated with a 4.2 weighted GPA and an acceptance letter to the University of Central Florida.

She's made it work so far, using financial aid and scholarships to pay for part of her tuition; taking out loans for the rest, and joining the Army National Guard to help pay off those loans.

Maclaren's situation isn't unique. Experts say the number of homeless students is a growing _ albeit not often discussed _ issue at colleges and universities across the country.

"It is a very hidden problem," said Barbara Duffield, policy director for the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth. "There's an assumption that, if you're homeless, how can you think of going to college? But these students know their college degree will help them get out of their situation."

There is no good data and no easy way to track the number of homeless college students.

More than 33,000 students nationwide identified themselves as homeless in the 2010-11 school year, according to a newly expanded section of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

But Duffield and others say those numbers are "just the tip of the iceberg," since many homeless students either don't want to identify themselves or don't know about some of the financial aid resources available to them.

Florida public colleges and universities offer fee exemptions for students defined as homeless according to state statute. The number of students at community colleges using this homeless fee exemption has risen dramatically in recent years, from 155 in the 2006-2007 academic year to 638 last year.

Homeless college students can run the gamut from a single mother staying in a shelter and taking college classes to better her life, to a high school grad like Maclaren with no permanent residence living in the dorms and going to college full time, said Mary Cunningham, a senior researcher with the Urban Institute, a Washington think tank.

She said that, many times, homeless college students become more visible during holiday breaks, when dorms close and students find themselves without a place to stay.

There are a number of structures in place to help homeless students in K-12, but fewer for homeless college students, said Jennifer Martin with the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators.

Martin said some of the biggest challenges for these college students is finding housing and identifying resources to help them through college, whether it's financial

assistance, finding health care options or navigating required paperwork.

"A lot of those things that other kids would take for granted, like buying textbooks or getting a college ID, are harder for homeless college students," Martin said.

She and others said the federal College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 has made it easier for schools to identify and help homeless students. But enforcement of the law is spotty, Martin said, with some administrators either not understanding the law or being suspicious that the student is trying to "game the system."

"Some financial aid administrators will make homeless students jump through extra hoops, force them to go over every sordid detail of their story, which can be incredibly difficult and painful," Martin said. "It could make these students stop wanting to go through the process and give up."

Recently, some colleges, recognizing this population of students in their midst, have moved to do more to help their homeless attendees.

Valencia College in Orlando writes off more than \$3.5 million annually in tuition and fees for homeless students and other students in need, it said. Pensacola State College over the summer teamed with the Santa Rosa County Public School District to offer a college field trip day to 18 homeless students so they could learn about opportunities and resources for them to attend college.

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ANOTHER YEAR OVER AND WE'RE STILL HERE

Megan Emory Editor-in-Chief



Surviving a term as a college newspaper Editor-in-Chief isn't easy.

The Sentinel staff could identify a number of defining moments from my first term as editor-in-chief that would probably embarrass me to no end. From learning how to manage stress to hysterically crying in my office, I feel like I've seen it all and have come back for more.

I have compiled a staff that I am confident will continue the tradition of a Sentinel that reports on information that matters. We are growing and expanding, just like KSU.

We are working toward a bigger social media presence. We would like to establish blogs for each section to provide timely updates. We are also working on building our KSUSentinelTV YouTube channel to showcase events around campus. Most important, we are working weekly to bring you a paper that you can all enjoy.

I could tell you how hard we all work and how much time and effort goes into making the paper each Monday, but you could probably guess that.

The Sentinel puts in the effort because we truly care about the KSU community, but we need your help to do so.

"WE are working weekly to BRING you a PAPER that YOU can all ENJOY."

The Sentinel needs you to send in tips about stories, responses to articles and applications to become a part of our staff. We grow and evolve because of the input we get from our readers. If you take the time to give us your thoughts, we are more likely to understand what you want from our publication and can

make changes to better reflect that understanding.

Our purpose at The Sentinel is to provide the KSU campus with hard-hitting information in our news, informed views in our opinion, stories of accomplishments and human interest in our features and up-to-date coverage in our sports.

If you are interested in getting involved, go to ksusentinel.com and fill out an application. We are always looking for dedicated writers, photographers and copy editors.

If you have any questions or concerns or just want more information about The Sentinel, feel free to email any of the section editors or me. Our email addresses at The

Sentinel are simply the section name followed by the word editor before the standard @ksusentinel.com. For example, to email the opinion editor you would email opinioneditor@ksusentinel.com.

If you would like to contact me, my email address is eic@ksusentinel.com.

If you prefer face-to-face conversations, we are one door past the Student Life office in the Student Center, Room 277, probably where all of the noise is coming from. Stop in, say hi and meet your Sentinel staff, but don't be scared if you find someone in tears, someone wearing a costume and someone with a Nerf gun in hand. That's how we make it through the day.

RAISE *HELL* ONE ARTICLE AT A TIME

Carl DeBeer Opinion Editor



For those who have turned to this section seeking the fair-haired previous opinion editor,

I am sorry to tell you she has moved on to greener pastures. I wish her the best in her endeavors, but I am here to bring change. Long-time readers may remember me as the opinion

editor from Spring 2012. Our EIC has allowed me to return to The Sentinel and I plan to make my last semester as a KSU student count. Gone are the pieces about umbrella etiquette or high-five scenarios. I want to see people informed and impassioned by what they read in this section.

Chicago Times owner Wilbur Storey in the 1860s once said, "It's a newspaper's duty to print the news and raise hell." The Sentinel already has a fine news section that covers campus better than ever. Now it is the opinion section's turn. I want to publish the articles you need to know about. Professional newspapers are tasked with

keeping a watchful eye on our world to route our corruption. The Sentinel is no different. You pay fees and tuition to this school and it is your right to know how those fees are being used.

Writing about how money is spent is not an easy task and it is a great way to make enemies. My section won't back down. In the following weeks you will see The Sentinel publish stories that may upset other students, faculty or staff, but it will not be because of a satirical article about yoga pants; it will be because the articles are telling it to you straight.

Groups that have access to student fees for their use will

be under scrutiny. I believe it is the responsibility of The Sentinel to ensure that any form of misuse, either accidental or intentional, be brought to light. This includes RSOs, line-item groups and even departments. We will not be attacking individuals or groups; that is 'gotcha journalism' and is disgraceful. That being said, we will follow the story no matter where it goes or whose feathers get ruffled.

I promise to follow any lead I hear or that you email me. If you think your money is not being put to the best use, please email me at opinioneditor@ksusentinel.com with any tips or hints you

hear. If you feel that an article was unjust in its coverage of an event or organization, feel free to write a letter to the editor for us to publish.

Now let us go and raise hell one article at a time.

"It's a newspaper's duty to print the news and raise HELL."

A DAY OF RECKONING

Ryan Hames Contributor



Well, we survived!

I'm not talking about finals last semester, not about Aunt Bessie's inescapable cheek-pinches over Christmas dinner and not even about the cork-popping, peach-dropping, hangover-inducing hullabaloo we all know and love: New Year's. No, the recently averted catastrophe to which I refer is a new year of a different sort – none other than the apocalypse that never was: the last cycle of the Mayan long count calendar ending on Dec. 21, 2012.

Try to think back to this time last year. Remember when everything seemed so possibly finite for once?

Remember when 2012-related documentaries were showing up left and right on your Netflix recommendations and you just couldn't get enough of them? Theorists from around the globe presented two opposing, yet equally exciting, outcomes of this date. The more extreme of these – the complete and total annihilation of life on polar-shifted and/or solar-flared Earth – raised the spirits of closet sociopaths (like me) everywhere with the hope that all those injustices may finally be accounted for. Meanwhile, the more conservative conjecture – the complete and total reordering of the social consciousness – enriched the outlook of peace-loving vegans (like me) everywhere, believing that everyone would suddenly wake up to a higher level of understanding. With either scenario, it felt good just to have something to look forward to, to know that no matter what, your life had meaning because this life-altering event was going to happen during

your lifetime. Oh, how great the prospect of change, of hope, feels; Obama knows we'll vote for it every time.

Now, do you remember hearing anything about this event on the day that never was to be, Dec. 22, 2012? No? Well, neither did I. The most promising "end of the world as we know it" event of my lifetime (including you, Y2K) came and went with little more than a few tweets of 140 or fewer characters. Where were the survivor stories? Where were the moving pictures of celebratory riots in crowded European streets? Where was the news about 2012? It simply was not there.

At first I wanted to blame the media for not covering it. "What about the end of the world, NPR?" I exclaimed silently to the radio. But then I realized that the lack of coverage was not the media's fault. How could they report on it when nothing at all happened? No, they are not to blame and neither are the Mayans, nor 2012 itself

(Though it could have been a better year overall, I won't hold grudges). No, the blame goes to people like me.

The blame goes to all the people, not just the closet sociopaths and peace-loving vegans, but anyone naïve enough, anyone empty enough to put their faith in something like 2012 – something as manufactured as a date in our miniscule human measurement of time – to change their life. How gullible must I have been to trust that an asteroid or the storm of all storms would suddenly appear and wipe out Earth and all my self-doubt with it? How feeble must I have been to believe that a certain tick of the clock would, overnight, magically fulfill my sense of myself? It's embarrassing to admit, but admit it I must: I wanted 2012 to happen because I was too incompetent to change my life by my own esteem. So this year before you've broken all your resolutions, when that trip to the gym seems too

darn daunting, when you get that craving for a steak on Meatless Monday, remember that nothing – not even the apocalypse – can change life for you. Remember the words of someone much wiser than me, Mahatma Gandhi: "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." It's that simple.

"You must be the CHANGE you WISH to see in the WORLD."

THE SENTINEL SPRING 2013

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1.) The Sentinel will try to print all letters received. Letters should be 200 words long. Exceptions are made at the discretion of the editors. We reserve the right to edit all letters submitted for brevity, content and clarity.
2.) The writer must include full name, year and major if a student, professional title if a KSU employee, and city if a Georgia resident.
3.) For verification purposes, students must also supply the last four digits of their student ID number and a phone number. This information will not be published. E-mail addresses are included with letters published in the web edition.
4.) Contributors are limited to one letter every 30 days. Letters thanking individuals or organizations for personal services rendered cannot be accepted. We do not publish individual consumer complaints about specific businesses.
5.) If it is determined that a letter writer's political or professional capacity or position has a bearing on the topic addressed, then that capacity or position will be identified at the editor's discretion.

6.) While we do not publish letters from groups endorsing political candidates, The Sentinel will carry letters discussing candidates and campaign issues.
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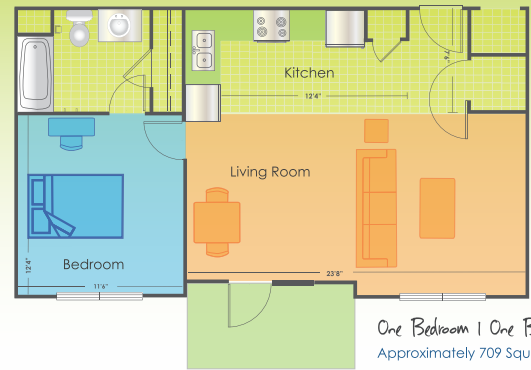
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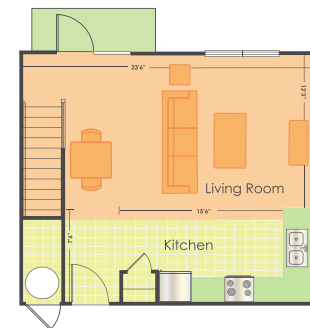
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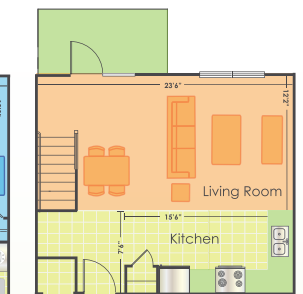
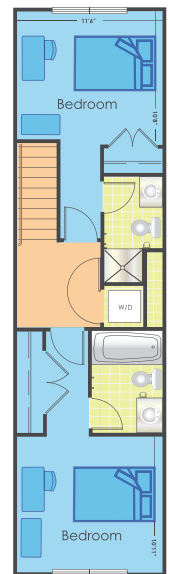
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NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

a revolution of resolutions

Samantha Machado Arts & Living Editor

By the end of every year, it is natural to want to change things. With the beginning of a new year it seems like a perfect time to start new trends.

One of the most popular trends is to spend more time with friends and family. If you are stuck on what to make as a New Year's resolution, a few KSU students have shared their inspiring resolutions.

"My New Year's resolution is to pray more this year. Whenever I become stressed, I often forget to pray for help," Junior Communication major Andres Diazgranados said. "However, it can lead me in the right path. So I chose to lean to this resolution to help me for 2013."

While the religious route may not be for you, another popular resolution is weight loss. While you would not tell by looking at Junior International Business and Spanish major Brandon Comer, this KSU student has lost 103 pounds so far and has set his goal to continue the weight loss in 2013.

"My resolution is to get in shape and work on my relationships with others," Comer said. "I saw things I could improve in my personal life that would have a positive effect on myself and others."

With losing weight a common resolution for this time of year, gyms are offering free memberships. As Comer also

mentioned, working on relationships is also a popular resolution.

While we are busy with class, work and extra-curricular activities, time spent with others can often be pushed aside. It is when we are losing our minds and having a break down that we realize how important those relationships can be.

Being busy is great when it is toward a common goal, but Junior Communication KatyBeth Trotter has found it hard to be on time while balancing school and work.

"My New Year's resolution is to be on time," she said. "I am chronically late to everywhere I go."



Photo courtesy of stock.xchng

Other popular New Year's resolutions are helping others more, getting organized and quitting smoking or drinking. Among all these resolutions, the main goal is the same: self-improvement.

When making a resolution, it is important to make a list

of how you plan to achieve the goal. There is no point in making a resolution if you have no plan for how to achieve it.

As the New Year and new semester start, how will you improve yourself?

TRANSFER STUDENT SURVIVAL GUIDE

key to a fresh start

Samantha Machado Arts & Living Editor

Transferring can be scary for any student. KSU is constantly growing and changing which makes almost every student a transfer student starting out each semester.

With the hassle of finding a new place to live, the cheapest place to rent books and who to go to for help, transferring can be a nightmare.

KSU prides itself on an extremely diverse group of students and professors which can lead to many new challenges. Gainesville State

College transfer, Danny Alzate commented on the topic.

"Come in with an open mind because Kennesaw is extremely diverse" Alzate said.

This is true, some classes you will find yourself in need of a translator to understand some professors. While it can be a beneficial learning experience, it can be an unwanted challenge for some KSU students.

The biggest challenge for transfer students can come when figuring out which course will be transferred and which will be left as "free electives."

Advisors are available for consultations to help each transferring student.

Not knowing where the advisors are located can lead to another challenge; therefore, knowing who to go to for simple questions, like this, is essential. Dalton State College transfer, Justin Rogers had something to say.

"Transferring to Kennesaw means driving an hour to talk to some under-qualified girl with a bad attitude that will look up from their Twilight novel to tell you 'It's on the website!' when

the link you need may only work on KSU's server. This will happen at least twice before you can transfer" Justin Rogers said.

Transferring can be a nightmare for many. Transfer orientations are set up to help inform incoming students of simple questions and procedures like how to register for classes, where computer labs are located and where to go to for help.

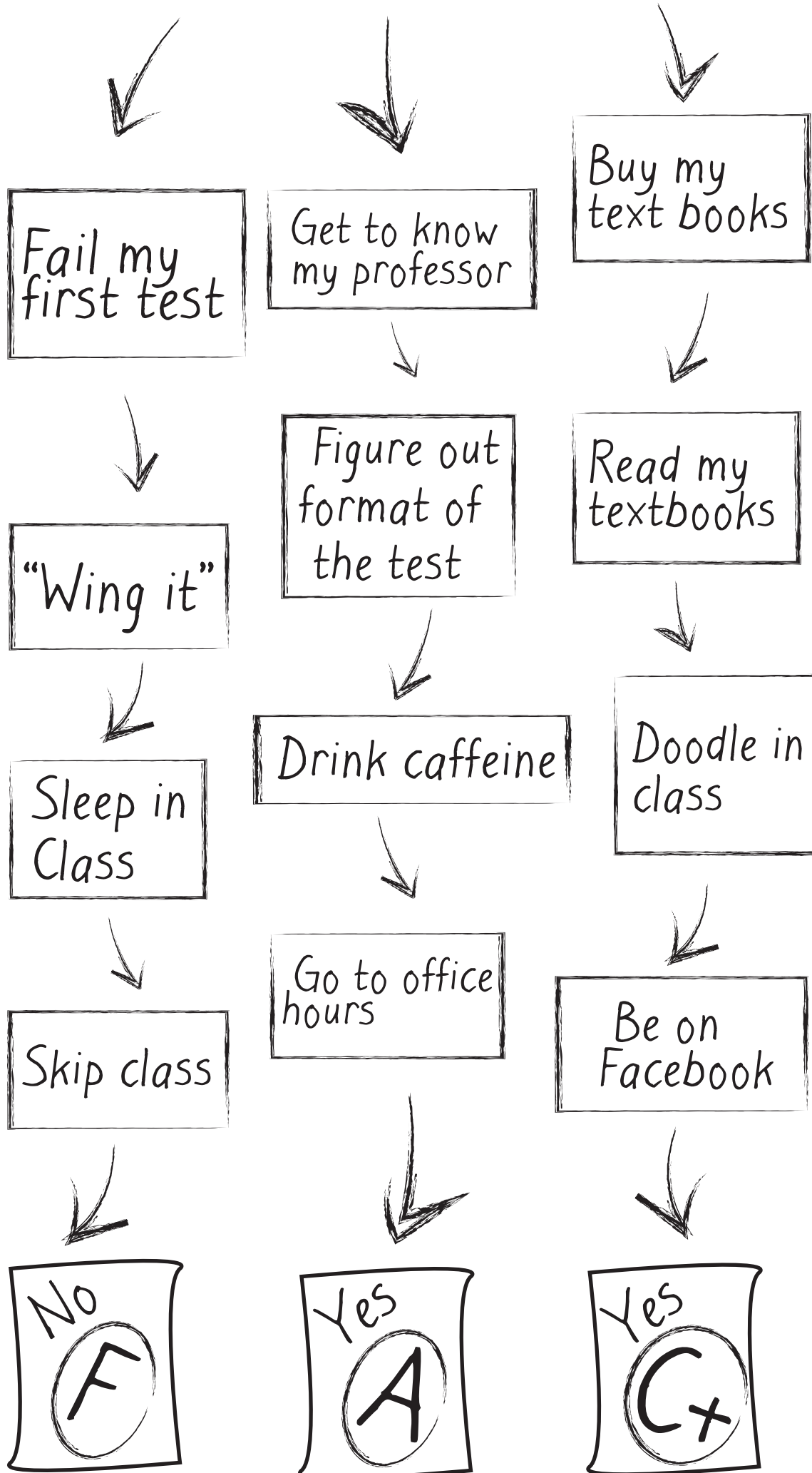
The biggest key to having a smooth transition between different universities is having

a good, reliable, contact at your previous school. Getting all the necessary credits and immunization forms can be more complicated than necessary if you cannot get into contact with your previous school.

Many times, transferring schools means losing the ability to ask your friend where to go for financial aid help. Getting connected to the school by the means of working on campus or student clubs can simplify such questions.

Will I make it through
Spring semester if I....

Samantha Machado Arts & Living Editor



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HOW TO SURVIVE ROOMMATES

Samantha Machado Arts & Living Editor

Roommates can be challenging. While movie nights and game days can be fun, the mess that accumulates between those fun nights can create a tense living situation for all involved.

While getting into college usually marks the date for moving out of your parent's house, the challenges of living with non-family members often does not hit until the first night away from home.

KSU Housing does its best to match students with roommates who have similar situations, often by class year. This does not always end up well.

"I love living away from my parents and the freedom that comes with it," Junior Early Childhood Education major

Kristin Zbikowski said. "My roommates are awesome. Living with your friends is like a slumber party 24/7."

Positive experiences like this do not come without a cost. Living on campus with roommates, KSU Housing mandates paying rent. But for those who live off campus with no written agreement regarding rent, can pose a problem. Nobody wants to live with someone that does not pay rent.

"I've lived with four different sets of roommates now," said Senior Psychology and English major Alyssa Varhol. "Some have been great and some have been awful, but they've taught me a lot about how to get along with people."

The key to living with

roommates is structure. While "everything is everyone's" is an easy rule to make in the beginning, it does not end well in most situations.

Setting rules, like always asking to borrow someone else's property and establishing cleaning arrangements, curfews and quiet hours, are necessary for ensuring that friends will remain friends after being roommates.

It is also important to think about repercussions to breaking the rules. While an imaginary slap on the wrist may be enough for some roommates, a punishment of cleaning the kitchen or common room may work better to ensure a happy living space.

KSU Housing circumvents many of these potential

problems through a formal agreement sheet completed and signed by each occupant. This sheet serves as a constitution of sorts for roommates based on mutual agreement for ground rules in the room.

A simple trick that can keep everyone in high spirits is to say a simple "hello" to each other. This simple gesture can do a lot to keep everyone on good terms in the long run.

Resident assistants, or RAs, are employed by KSU Housing to KSU residents resolve civil conflicts. RA Staci Cook has had much experience dealing with different roommate complications.

"The key to peace among roommates is timely, patient communication. Roommates

who are able to tell each other, 'It bothers me when...' and agree on a solution always have a better experience," Cook said.

Communication is clearly essential in every relationship. Having seen every type of roommate situation, RAs do their best to make each set of roommates have an enjoyable living environment.

"It's when roommates think they can get over it or are scared of confrontation who have the roommate stories that can be made into horror movies," Cook added.

Whether students live on campus or off campus, a noise complaint about laughter is always better than a complaint about fighting.

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WHAT YOU FORGOT OVER WINTER BREAK

a guide to Kennesaw quirks

It is important to decorate your dorm room. Make it your own! If your dorm room does not reflect who you are, it will never feel like home.

The key to dressing each morning is layers. The difference in temperature between buildings can be from the arctic to a desert. Caution should be taken when going from English to Science.

Know when to go to the Commons. The easiest time to go is directly after class but you'll never find a table! Swiping in during off times, like when classes are in the middle of times, the chance of an open table increases.

Getting a job on campus is not too hard. The campus job site is a great place to visit to see what new job listings are available to KSU students: <https://web.kennesaw.edu/campusjobs/>.



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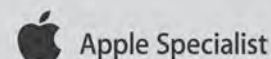
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Parking, if you cannot get to campus but ten minutes before class, expect to be a half hour late. With the campus switching to zoned parking, the chaos has only increased with parking garages shut down due to over capacity.

Beware of the bathrooms. While you may have no choice but to use that specific location, it may not fend well for the safety of your health.

Do not be surprised when you get a walking radio next to you on the way to class. Students are increasingly feeling the need to walk to class with headphones in and their music blaring. Not only is this detrimental to their ears and annoying to the students walking across campus, but look at it like you are gaining a free iPod on the way to class.

With over 200 student clubs on campus, every student should be able to find a club that fits one of their interests.



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Lady Owls *FLIGHTLESS* against rival Mercer

Sarah Woodall Staff Writer

KSU's rivalry weekend began with a lot of excitement, but ended ugly for women's basketball. The lady Owls fell short to Atlantic-Sun rival Mercer 71-46 in the Convocation Center Jan. 6.

KSU senior forward, Semetria Gideon, put forth another solid performance as she produced her second consecutive double-double with 11 points and 14 rebounds. However, it was a long night for the Lady Owls.

The Owls struggled throughout the course of the night and could not find the basket, with a field goal percentage of 25% for the game and only sank two of their 15 shots from behind the arc. To Kennesaw State head coach Nitra Perry, the heart was non-existent.

"I am embarrassed and disgusted by our effort," Perry said. "Every shot is not going to fall every night, but the heart of the game was lost today."

Mercer entered the Convocation Center with the energy of any rival school and set the tempo that proved very difficult for KSU to beat. The Bears shot 44 percent for the game and outscored the Owls 21-3 from the bench. Guards Precious Bridges and Kendra Grant led Mercer's offensive attack with 16 points.

"I think they treated it like a rival game," Perry said. "When you let someone come in your house and bring that energy, like we talked about before the game, just that spirit of the team and the spirit of winning, creating the climate and that atmosphere. They did that and we didn't."

The Owls did manage to create a bit of a spark before halftime, cutting the lead to five with a score of 24-29. However, Mercer answered back shortly with two straight

lay-ups. Freshman guard, Chelsea Mason, led the offensive attack for the Owls with 14 points, but her effort was overshadowed by their inconsistency.

"I want to be there for my team, but sometimes I feel like they are not there with me sometimes," Mason said. "It was a really bad loss."

"I think again it goes to the maturity of the team and not knowing who's going to show up, and right now, we have counted on Semetria and Ashley to bring leadership, not necessarily points," Perry said. "But when they are absent, then the team isn't there."

KSU now has an overall record of 4-11 and is 0-3 in the Atlantic-Sun Conference. The Owls will go on the road once again to Jacksonville, Fla. to play the University of North Florida and Jacksonville University Jan. 12-14. As for the preparation, Coach Perry believes it will be more mental than physical.

"I don't think it was necessarily about the conditioning, I think we are in great shape," Perry said. "But when you talk about the mental conditioning, it isn't there."

“THE
HEART
OF THE GAME
WAS LOST
TODAY.”



Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

Ashley Holliday and the owls failed to close the gap against the bears in the second half.

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11

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WAKE FOREST WINTER
INVITATIONAL
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WINSTON-SALEM, NC

12

WOMEN'S B-BALL
@ NORTH FLORIDA
FRIDAY, 1/12
2 PM
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KSU AT FINISH LINE OF
LAUNCHING FOOTBALL PROGRAM

Michael Foster Staff Writer

Since the announcement in September 2010 that KSU would launch a football team, which included a framework for the development of the program, little has been said about the progress. In fact, as time has gone by without major announcements, students and faculty have begun to wonder if the reality of a team hitting the field in the near future is slim to none.

Finally, after constant questioning on the subject has been met with guarded answers, the university has finally unveiled some good news.

KSU will present a financial plan to the state Board of Regents today in what will be the final step in launching the football program. If approved, President Daniel Papp and athletics Director Vaughn Williams will present the news at a pep-rally, which will be held at noon tomorrow at the Convocation Center.

"We appreciate everyone who has encouraged us, and we eagerly look forward to the board's decision," Papp said. "Whatever the board decides, it will have a tremendous impact on the future of KSU's intercollegiate athletics

program and the future of this university."

The plan includes a \$100 increase in student fees, per-semester that will be added at the beginning of the coming Fall term. Students approved the student fee increase in an SGA vote in November 2010.

According to a Jan. 3 report from the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, there's also the possibility of an announcement of a major donation from a booster—something that was considered vital to jumpstarting the program.

Fielding a football team will also mean the addition of a new women's team, justified by the mandate of Title IX. There is no indication, to this point, of which sport will be added to the women's varsity. KSU fields a women's team in every sport sponsored by the Atlantic Sun Conference except for sand volleyball.

"Many of KSU's students, friends and supporters are enthusiastic about the possibility of adding football and more women's intercollegiate sports at the university," Papp said.

The Atlantic Sun Conference does not sponsor football, which means the Owls will

play in a separate conference for football. There's also a slim possibility that all KSU athletic teams will join a new conference in the process. KSU would participate as a Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) member of Division I of the NCAA.

Other new football programs that have started as FCS Division I members in the region in the past five years include Georgia State, Savannah State and South Alabama.

If the Board of Regents approves of the plan, Williams said he will begin a search for a head coach that could end by February, as well as a search for conference to play in.

The 2010 plan set the target date for kickoff as 2014 at the earliest. However it has now been set for 2015.

Williams confirmed in an interview with The Sentinel last Fall that the Owls will begin play at KSU Stadium, which is an 8,000-plus-seat stadium that is the current home to the women's soccer and lacrosse teams. The stadium was built to support football but, despite architectural features that offer room for a phase II, will not be expanded.

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ELECTIONS

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Requirements

To run for an Executive Board position (President, VP, Secretary, or Treasurer), see the following requirements:

1. You must have attended seven (7) meetings in one semester as documented in the SGA minutes.
2. You must hold a minimum adjusted GPA of 2.75.
3. You must have earned and received credit at KSU for a minimum of 12 semester hours for an undergraduate seat. Graduate students running must have earned 9 KSU hours.
4. You must be enrolled in enough hours so that candidate meets the above earned hour requirements by the end of spring semester 2013.

To run for a Senate seat, see the following requirements:

1. You must have earned and received credit at KSU for a minimum of 12 semester hours for an undergraduate seat, and be currently be enrolled as a KSU student.
2. You must be enrolled in enough hours so that you meet the above earned hour requirements by the end of spring semester 2013.
3. You must hold a minimum adjusted GPA of 2.5.

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For more information, please contact Kathy Alday in the Department of Student Life.



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OWLS SOAR IN FIRST CONFERENCE WIN

Eric Fuller Sports Editor

When KSU head coach, Lewis Preston, was asked what he told his guys at halftime to keep them ahead in the ball game, he took a long pause and smiled.

"That's a good question," he chuckled.

Delbert Love and Markeith Cummings combined for 53 points and the Owls survived a gritty second half against the Mercer Bears to grab their first conference win of the season by a score of 83-75 at home on Saturday.

"I just told them there were going to be runs. I just told them we needed to keep attacking," Preston said. "We had more energy coming out in the second half."

The Owls lost their previous three games despite leading each game at halftime. Against Mercer, the Owls were able to cling onto the early lead they built in the first half.

"We actually showed the game here from last year. I had it running in the locker room the entire time. It must have been the most energetic game we played all year, so for these guys to see themselves in that environment with that much energy, there is no excuse to not come out with that same kind of energy all the time," Preston said.

The play worked. The Owls came out in the first half and made their first five attempts, all from beyond the arc, and never lost the lead en route to beating the Bears in their first meeting of the season. The Owls posted season-highs in points and field goal percentage.

"When you put 40 minutes together and you play with great energy and great effort and you hustle, you can impose your will," Preston said. "Don't get me wrong, some of the three's that we knocked down early kind of helped set the tone for us."

Love scored a career-high 32 points, and set the tone early for the Owls. The sophomore guard went 7-for-12 from the field, including 4-for-7 from

beyond the three-point arc.

"We ran offensive breakdowns everyday, and coach told us after watching film, they were going to give us looks. We ran hard and we cut hard. We made vertical cuts that allowed people to get open and we had good drives from Markeith and Myles that opened up shots for other people," Love said.

Love's play fueled his teammates, as his early baskets set the tempo and got the crowd into the game.

"He's a competitor," Preston said about his sophomore guard. "He's done a great job of taking over more a leadership and a vocal role with this team and today was the byproduct of that."

At the start of the second half, the Owls opened with a 9-0 run after entering the locker room with a 39-35 lead. Mercer battled back, as play between the two teams got intense. In a half that saw flagrant fouls called on both sides, a number of players foul out, and the Bear's head coach Bob Hoffman ejected, the Owls were able to keep their composure and hang onto the win.

"I brought everybody in and told them to just keep playing hard, and that it didn't matter what they did," Cummings said.

Cummings, who became the leading scorer in KSU basketball history early in the season, dunked the ball off an alley-oop pass from Myles Hamilton in the first five minutes of the second half. The play sent the crowd into a crazed frenzy and sapped all the energy from the Mercer bench.

"I think the crowd helped us from the start," Cummings said. "The freshmen have never seen the crowd like that and that gave us a boost. We just came out and played really hard for 40 minutes."

Despite the size of Mercer, the Owls were able to outrebound the Bears, grabbing 31 boards, three more than their larger opponents. Cummings and forward Aaron Anderson combined for 11 rebounds. Freshman Nigel Pruitt came off the Owl's bench with 5 rebounds.

The Owls snapped a 12-game losing streak with the win against Mercer. KSU has played a tough schedule, with road

games against Tennessee, Notre Dame, and Pittsburgh. Playing those quality opponents will benefit the Owls as they continue with conference play. "Being able to adjust and do some different things on different sides of the floor. Being able to disrupt an opponent. All those things

have helped us a great deal," Preston said.

Kennesaw State will continue A-Sun Conference play on Thursday, Jan. 10, when they travel to Florida to take on Jacksonville at the Veterans Memorial Arena beginning at 7 p.m.



Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

Markeith Cummings scored 21 points in the win against Mercer.

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