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SNEAK PEEK

WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT

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"POMPEII" ACTORS DISCUSS INTENSE TRAINING REGIMES

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KSU'S ACE

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29 SIGN TO PLAY FOR THE BLACK AND GOLD

Football Coach Brian Bohannon announces first KSU football signings.

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

Mike Foster Sports Editor & Daniel Miller Staff Writer

Head coach Brian Bohannon, Director of Athletics Vaughn Williams and the rest of KSU's football coaching staff convened around the fax machine bright and early on Wednesday morning. The time had come. At 7:01 a.m., Bohannon eagerly pulled the first document to transmit to the football offices.

"First signee, Chandler Burks," Bohannon said. Bohannon's announcement was followed by a roar of cheers and high fives. KSU had signed its first-ever football player. By the end of the day, KSU would receive letters of intent from 28 other high school seniors prepared to play football at KSU.

"This is a monumental day for Kennesaw State University," Bohannon said. "This is another huge step in the process of building the football program and brings us one step closer to getting out onto the field and preparing for that first game in 2015."

For Williams, who has been instrumental in making football a reality at KSU in the past few years, the day couldn't have been more overwhelming.

"I'm excited. I'm a little emotional," Williams said. "I'm counting down the days to the first game. I can't wait to get these young men on campus. I can't wait for them to integrate with the student body. I can't wait to see them practice for the first time in Owl uniforms and shoulder pads and all of those good things. It is an exciting day and I'm just fired up."

Three marquee quarterback signings highlighted KSU's inaugural class. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution's All-Classification Player of the Year, Jaquez Parks, surprised the state when he committed to KSU on Jan. 30. Parks, who passed for 3,640 yards, rushed for 1,329 and scored 45 total touchdowns, played for Bohannon's alma mater Griffin High School. Parks led the Bears to a 56-35 win over Carrollton

in the GHSA AAAA state championship game this past season, where he accounted for 554 total yards.

Joining Parks under center will be two other of Bohannon's most prized recruits—Burks, who amassed 3,944 yards and 42 touchdowns in his first year as a starting quarterback for South Paulding, and Monroeville, Ala. native Jake McKenzie.

"The three (quarterbacks) we got are outstanding, and we could not have done any better," Bohannon said. "These guys bring the intangibles and leadership and it should be a great competition."

McKenzie is one of three signees who come from outside Georgia's state lines, along with Braylon Young from Alcoa, Tenn., and Devin Pughsley of Hoover, Ala.

Aside from skill position players, KSU signed 13 offensive and defensive linemen. For Recruiting Coordinator and Defensive Line coach Liam

Klein, it couldn't have been a better day.

"These will be guys that lay the foundation for the rest of the team," Klein said. "We have to establish a tough, physical presence. Every one of them wanted to come here and compete, they aren't selfish, and they're up to the challenge."

KSU signed two interior linemen in Auzoyah Alufohai (Alpharetta HS) and Joseph Alexander (Tri Cities HS) that register at least 300 pounds. The two will help add considerable size in the trenches for Defensive Coordinator Brian Newberry's 4-2-5 hybrid defense.

Two Cobb County products decided to stay home, with long-time commit Taylor Henkle (Kell HS) and McEachern defensive end McKenzie Billingslea signing on Wednesday.

The rest of the team's 2015 roster will be supplemented by walk-ons from team tryouts, which will be held in March of

this year, and next year's signing class. This year's signees will practice against each other in the fall and redshirt by default.

Bohannon also added five coaches to complete his staff on Thursday, including Cody Worley (Quarterbacks), Stewart Cook (Tight Ends and Tackles), Mike Daniels (Receivers), Kevin Downing (Defensive Ends) and Chris Bland (Cornerbacks).

KSU added two more games to its inaugural schedule during the week with the addition of NAIA members Edwards Waters College and Point University, who will visit Fifth Third Bank Stadium on Sept. 12 and Oct. 10, respectively. The Owls' schedule is now up to ten games, including six Big South Conference contests and the program's first-ever game, which will be played against East Tennessee State on Sept. 3, 2015 in Johnson City, Tenn.



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Undergraduate Admissions

STUDENTS DIVE INTO DEAF CULTURE ON DEAF AWARENESS DAY

Kaitlyn Lewis & Carley Cole Staff Writers

#KSUDeafAwareness

Attendants of the second annual Deaf Awareness Day were invited to "Take a ride on the Deaf side" at KSU Monday, Feb. 3. The event, organized by the OWLS American Sign Language Club, took place in the University Rooms of the Student Center and featured several guest speakers advocating for ASL classes, mental health services, and global Deaf human rights.

From 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., speakers were invited to give presentations to inform attendees of various topics within the Deaf and hard of hearing community. According to Senior Psychology major, Kelly Stockdale who the president of OWLS ASL, many people don't understand what it means to be deaf. Stockdale spoke with the aid of an interpreter, "The [disconnection], or the problem, is that many professors and many people are unaware of deaf and their language skills."

Stockdale added that because ASL is a different language than English, many deaf students struggle with reading and writing in English. Speakers presenting about Deaf culture and communication included Rebecca Cowan-Story, Christopher Patterson, MeLissa Dennis, Dr. Gregory Fargalo, Jamaica Villegas, and Kevin Steffy. Topics discussed were introducing ASL as a foreign language credit in schools, how Deaf and hard of hearing are treated in public and the workforce locally and internationally, and how to communicate with a Deaf and/or blind individual. Story, the State Coordinator for Deaf and Blind Service, provides support for individuals and the family and friends of individuals that deal with combined sensory loss. Story stressed the idea that ASL is a culture, not simply a language. It connects a group of people and supports the Deaf culture. Story explained that the key to communication is the two way delivery of an idea. Dana

Tarter, a Deaf woman who lost her vision in 2011, was also present at Story's presentation. Tarter communicates through a special type of ASL that allows her to feel with her hands the signs made by an individual. Tarter also travels around with special braille technology in which people can type a message using a keyboard, and the technology translates the message into a braille message for Tarter to read.

Another set of topics included the business and career aspect of Deaf culture. Presenters included Dr. A. Barry Critchfield, Dr. Patricia McHatton, Russell Fleming, and Kevin Henderson. Critchfield, a representative from the Georgia Department of Behavioral Disorders and Developmental Disabilities, discussed the availability of behavioral health services form the Deaf community in Georgia. Critchfield discussed a five year roll out plan that included sensitivity training and informational services, regional intervention and recovery

programs for Deaf individuals with addictive disorders, and other mental health services funded by state dollars. Also in attendance were students from the Cave Spring Center, a vocational rehabilitation center in Cave Spring, Georgia. According to the website, the mission of the Cave Spring Center is to "Help individuals with disabilities develop good attitudes, self-discipline, work ethics, and marketable job skills so they can become successfully employed, contributing members of their communities." Fleming discussed the main goals of the center and how the students live every day. The center provides employability skills like how to fill out job applications, how to develop an acceptable resume, and work ethics, budget shopping skills, and life skills training. "There's a variety of needs for deaf; it's important to know how to communicate with them," Stockdale said.

OWL EVENTS

Daniel Lumpkin
News Editor

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

Museum of History & Holocaust Education 2014

- Event Type: Meeting
- Location: KSU Center KC460 (40) Classroom

Thursday

How to Maximize the KSU Scholarship Application Process and Develop a Winning Scholarship Essay

- Event Type: Academic Event
- Location: Leadership Room of the Student Center

Friday

An Oriental Monsoon

- Event Type: Performance
- Location: Bailey Performance Center PH100 (624) Morgan Concert Hall

Saturday

Confucius Institute Workshop

- Event Type: Meeting
- Location: KSU Center KC300 (100) Meeting Room

Sunday

GYSO Concert #2

- Event Type: Performance
- Location: Bailey Performance Center PH100 (624) Morgan Concert Hall

Monday

Philosophy Student Assoc - Mike Ryan Lecture Series

- Event Type: Lecture
- Location: Student Center Addition STA180 (123) University Room B

WOULD YOUR LIFE BE ANY DIFFERENT IF YOUR ANCESTORS HAD WON THE LOTTERY?

Daniel Lumpkin News Editor

#LandLottery

In 1832, the Georgia government elected to remove members of the Cherokee nation that lived in the north east part of the state. This movement, now forever known as the Trail of Tears, also created the largest land lottery in United States history. The Georgia government held a lottery for white males to win plots of land that potentially were rich in gold and other valuable resources.

How, after nearly two centuries, is the 1832 Georgia

Land Lottery still relevant today? For a KSU student, it could be pertinent for several reasons. First and foremost, the land that KSU's campus is on, and surrounding areas, was originally part of the Cherokee Nation and given away in the land lottery. Also, data shows that KSU still has a strong commuter population within the student body and a majority of those students come from regions that were also formerly owned by the Cherokee Nation. The truth is, many of KSU's students could be descendants

of the largest land lottery in the nation and not even know it. Is a winning descendant of the 1832 Land Lottery any different from a losing descendant? This is what economists Hoyt Bleakley and Joseph Ferrie were looking to answer in their popular paper, Shocking Behavior: Random Wealth in Antebellum Georgia and Human Capital Across Generations.

"A lot of people would generally think that [the 1832 Land Lottery] would result in a permanent divergence into the trajectory of both of

those individuals and also of their descendants because it would also open up a lot of opportunities," Bleakley said from his home near Princeton University, where he is currently serving as a visiting professor. "We tracked the outcomes of [the winners and losers] over the decades through the census information. "I assume that this free money, this wealth [from the 1832 Land Lottery], would have made a big difference. Instead

Lottery continued on page 4

Lottery continued from page 3

what we find is that over fairly long time horizons, we don't see any differences."

The Actual Winnings

"The numbers we come up with was between \$400 and \$900. Now, that's 1850s money, but we also compared it to the wages of an unskilled laborer. In that equation, the winnings were anywhere between four and ten years of wages."

Did the Lottery Pull Georgians Out of the 'Poverty Trap?'

Bleakley and Ferrie's findings directly opposed one of the founding reasons the 1832 Land Lottery was carried out in the first place. The Georgia government thought, at the time, that the winners would be better off, and the some would be pulled out of poverty. Another interesting piece that Bleakley and Ferrie found was an argument against a popular theory in economics called the "poverty trap."

"You might have this idea that the poor, people who are starved of resources, in what economists call the poverty

trap: people who are stuck in poverty because they have no wealth and have difficulty saving any money," Bleakley said.

"But if you could somehow be lifted out of poverty with resources that could better yourself... There is little evidence of this land lottery really lifting anyone out of poverty."

"The winners who didn't have very much wealth before the lottery had nearly identical numbers just two decades after. It just evaporated for them."

"People who only had ten dollars before winning only had ten dollars two decades later. And that's considering that they won thousands and thousands of dollars. They may have lost it or spent it but they certainly didn't use it to transform themselves into the middle class."

Now, knowing that information, where do KSU students, the potential descendants of the 1832 Land Lottery, go from here?

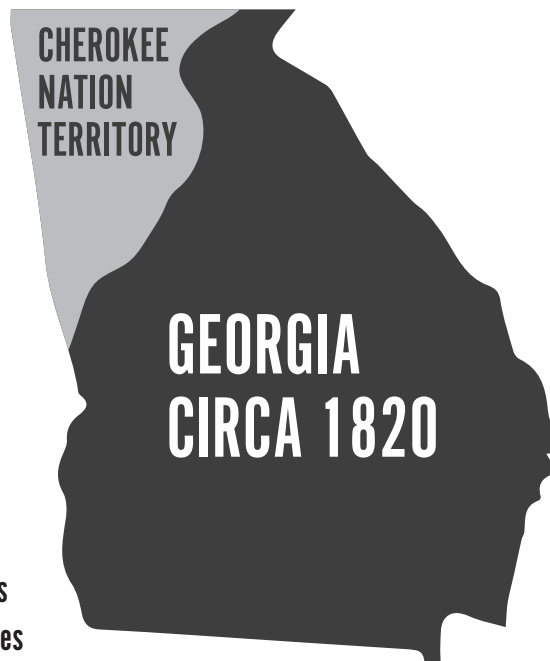
"You could take the angle on it [that the data and information is depressing] or you could take

another angle," Bleakley said. "It appears like it's not just a matter of being lucky, right? It's not just a matter of winning a lottery or winning money that determines success. It's hard work, discipline, patience and so forth. Those things are rewarded."

If you would like to learn more about the 1832 Georgia Land Lottery, you can find Bleakley and Ferrie's paper online at the University of Chicago's website. Also, the Sturgis Library will be opening an exhibit this fall that will display several original deeds from the 1832 Land Lottery.
Current counties in North Georgia whose lands were distributed in the Cherokee Land Lotteries of 1832/1833 are:

- Bartow
- Catoosa
- Chattooga
- Cherokee
- Cobb
- Dade
- Dawson
- Fannin
- Floyd
- Forsyth
- Gilmer
- Gordon
- Lumpkin
- Milton
- Murray
- Paulding
- Pickens
- Polk
- Towns
- Union
- Walker
- Whitfield

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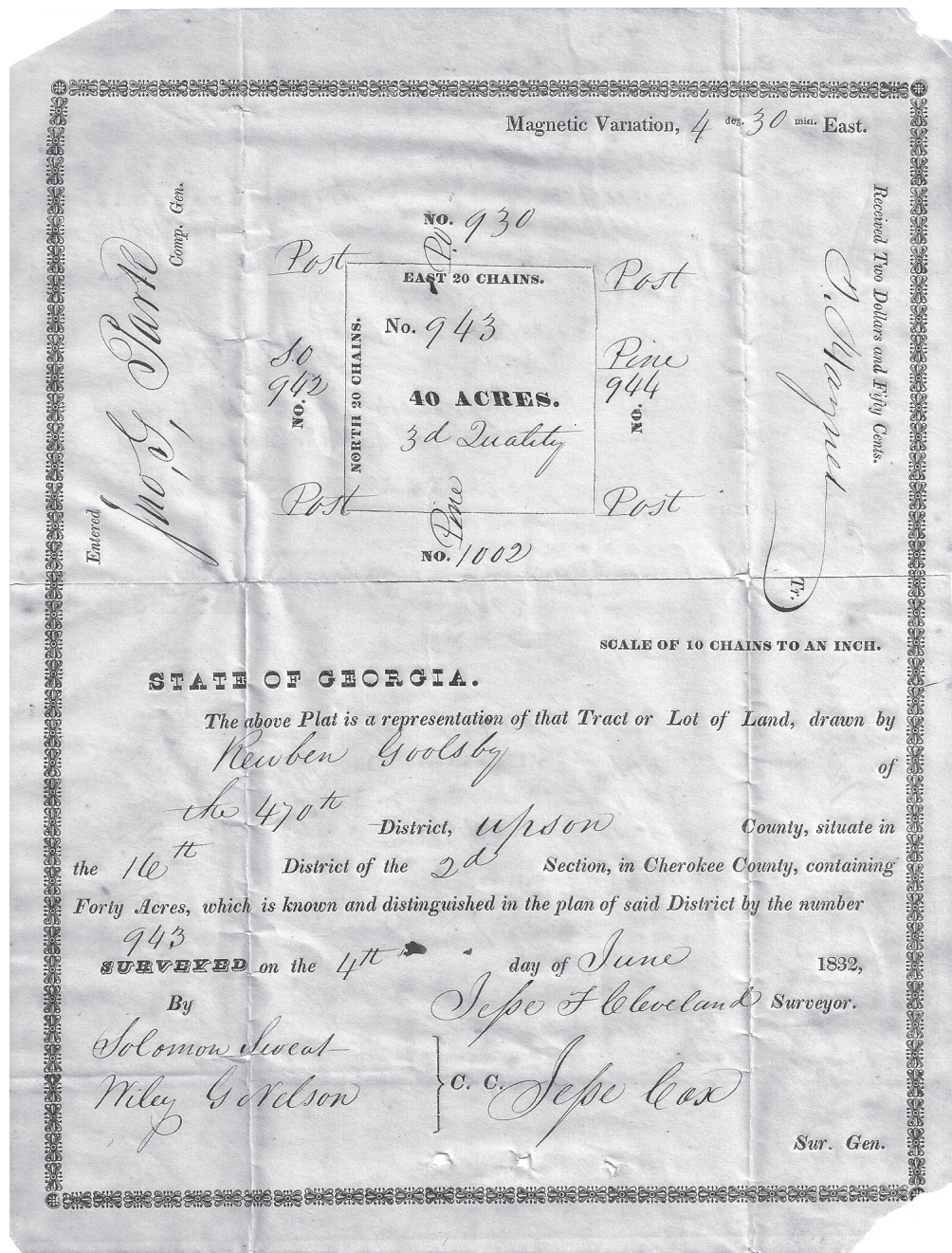
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One of the original deeds from the 1832 Georgia Land Lottery.

Courtesy of Gary Grice

KSU PROFESSOR FEELS OVERWORKED... BY PAPERWORK

Sierra Hubbard Staff Writer

#ProfessorPaperwork

The Marietta Daily Journal online published an article on Feb. 2 by a columnist and KSU professor about the hindering downsides to increased paperwork.

Professor Melvyn Fein has been teaching Sociology to students at KSU for 23 years. Every week, he submits an article for his column in the Marietta Daily Journal online. Last Monday, his headline read, "College profs and other singing the paperwork blues".

Professor Fein expresses in his article his resentment toward paperwork, especially concerning recent increases to the amount and complications with the methods. "Increased levels of administrators demand so much paperwork that this becomes our primary product," he writes in his article. "Forget about teaching, learning, researching, or creating. What matters more is the appearance

of each."

Fein points to the annual reviews that are currently in progress as his motivation for writing this article. These reviews are used to evaluate a professor's performance during the previous year, and they have been used for decades. The changes, however, have not been received well.

"Because I'm a member of the College Faculty Council, I hear from representatives from other departments, and there's been a lot of complaints about it because it just requires so much additional work and it's so confusing and they keep on changing this all the time."

While understanding that the college has to stay up-to-date technologically, Fein believes that it would help if there was a little more consistency.

"Yes, we need improvements, but we don't need to be tweaking everything all the

time," Fein said.

His second point of improvement upon this review system address is the amount of information. "In other words, because the computers allow people to put in all kinds of extraneous data, they start asking for it," Fein said. "But this additional information doesn't help them make better decisions; it just makes it more and more complicated."

This also applies to the portfolios professors are required to submit to apply for tenure or promotion. Fein recalls when he first started working at KSU and a professor was limited to two portfolios.

"Now there's no limit on the supporting documentation, so people turn in so many portfolios that they literally have to use carts to move them around." He sees this colossal amount of paperwork and believes no one can actually

read through all of that from several applicants.

"It would be so much better if people did a little editing. Don't put everything; put in the most important things."

Fein's main issue with this overly detailed amount of supporting documentation is its interference with other tasks. "I mean, if you've spent days wading through these things, those are days that you could've been doing scholarships or teaching or service."

Fein has a book coming out next month "Redefining Higher Education: How Self-Direction Can Save Colleges" is being published through Transaction Publishers.

"The idea is to try to get colleges back on track. They have been getting much too expensive as bureaucracy has gotten bloated. It's costing everybody, including students, our time and money. We, on

many different levels, need to understand what colleges are about and concentrate on the important things and not get sidetracked with all of this paperwork."

Professor Fein gives the theme of his book in a few resounding sentences. "College should be creating a democratic elite. We should be creating the leaders of the future and helping people develop the motivation and skills to be leaders. That's our main focus and we seem to be forgetting it in favor of all kinds of things, not the least of which are these bureaucratic boondoggles."

To prove the varying scope of his column for the Marietta Daily Journal, Professor Fein adds the subject of next week's article.

"It's going to be on St. Valentine's Day," Fein said with a laugh. "Totally a change of pace."

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SGA BEAT

Jackson Walsh Staff Writer

The Student Government's general body meeting was held on Feb. 6 in the University Rooms, focusing on general questions and concerns from the student body and how the government can work better to achieve those goals.

"We're currently in a planning stage" said Khy Chestnet, Vice President. "We're just here to collect the data so we can work better for our constituents". A particular emphasis was put on the amount of school spirit for our athletic teams in the light of the 29 new football players signed. Also, Friday night's rivalry basketball game against Mercer was advertised. Garnering more school spirit

for the Owls teams was mentioned adamantly as a step forward for the success of the different programs. Among the upcoming events is the student climate survey Diversity and Inclusion scheduled for Feb. 19 at Prillaman Hall. There is an online campus wide survey that is geared toward making a more inclusive and welcoming campus community. Students who enter early have a chance to win a \$50 gift card. The survey can be found on the school website at <http://www.ksuignite.com>. Also, a Dollar Draw will take place on Feb. 20 in the University Rooms, first floor of the student center. The event is a fundraiser for the beautification for a grand

entrance to the student section of the football stadium. Donations to the event have been made by former SGA senator Flora Lowe-Rockett, 2nd and Charles, Skyview, and Sony. Future discussions with the Board of Regents will involve the issue of smoking on campus and the designated areas for which students can do so. The Board recently voted on a proposal for a new Atlanta Transit system to provide more efficient transportation for students. Applications for SGA president can be found on the Student Life webpage. The deadline to turn in applications is March 3.

POLICE BEAT

Police Beat is compiled weekly from Kennesaw State University's Safe and Sound Police public records. Names are removed for privacy.

Stuart Morrison Staff Writer

On the evening of Jan. 18, Officer Shepherd notified Officer Nelson of a red Honda Accord on Campus Loop Road that failed to stop at a stop sign. Officer Nelson initiated a traffic stop on a red, 2001 Honda Accord and spoke with the driver. While speaking to the driver, the officer noticed the odor of marijuana. Sgt. Dicks arrived as backup, and Officer Nelson asked the driver to step out of the vehicle and administered a field sobriety test, which the driver failed. Sgt. Dicks

asked the driver if there was any marijuana in the vehicle, and the driver admitted, when asked where, the driver stated that it was in the arm rest. Sgt. Dicks found a grinder with marijuana inside, an empty pill bottle, a glass pipe and a homemade device that the driver indicated was for smoking marijuana. The driver was arrested for failure to stop at a stop sign and for possession and transported to Cobb Adult Detention Center.

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Brandon White Staff Writer

THE RIGHT TO LOVE

It is common to see people hold hands in public.

At face value, however, this is a mild display of affection. For many of our peers, it is a symbol that the person you hold hands with is your significant other.

Take a second and reflect on your Twitter or Facebook and you will see countless posts about a tumultuous relationship, or on a rare occasion it seems, a post about a good a relationship. So, what is this thing that can cause the highest of highs or the lowest of lows that we call a relationship?

Merriam Webster defines a relationship as "the way in which two or more people, groups, countries, etc., talk to, behave toward, and deal with each other." To stay in the Valentine's Day mood, the second definition they use is "a

romantic or sexual friendship between two people."

This type of relationship can describe an intimate, interpersonal relationship.

Now that we know what a relationship is, what does it mean to be in one? For many of us, it means somebody who is there for you. For whatever reason, we all want somebody to be in our corner, to cover insecurities, to laugh with us, to make us feel important or to have an extraordinary bond. Some of the reasons listed might be seemingly superficial, but it is reality.

A majority of the intimate relationships that students, as well as nearly everybody on the planet, will experience only last for a season. A relationship starts, couples have fun and then the fun is over: rinse, wash, repeat. The dream of high

school sweethearts is just that, a dream.

The hope for a brighter tomorrow is what propels us into the future.

Nobody is perfect, but we do have power over maintaining our relationships. Livestrong's Miguel Cavazos writes, "You can control the strength of your interpersonal relationships by acting or neglecting to act on the needs of the people that you interact with... You can enhance or weaken the relationship by either filling those needs or neglecting to fill them." Before you decide to maintain or repair your relationship, you have to make sure the relationship is worth the effort.

If you have weighed the benefits of your relationship and decided to keep the person that makes you happy, embrace

them. Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to put aside petty arguments at least for one day.

First, confront the crisis in your relationship because "love relationships also experience crises that, if left unaddressed or handled ineptly, can damage a relationship beyond repair," writes Steven McCornack in his textbook "Reflect and Relate". Now that you have made a conscious effort to patch things up, you have the creative license to have a nice evening. Personally, I would make spaghetti with toasted garlic bread while sipping on some Chardonnay with a classic love movie playing, unwatched in the background (Love & Basketball is always a winner).

It is OK to switch things up. If the opportunity presents itself, do something extraordinary

that they will love. Take them where they've never been, but where they want to go. There is a vast array of ways of figuring out what gift they want or what dish they would like to try. Be creative and have fun!

No matter the dynamics of your relationships, remember to be safe. Nobody wants any unexpected news. For those of us fed up with relationships, get over it for one evening. For those of us who feel like our relationships are routine, take my advice and get out of your comfort zone. We are still young and for most of us relationships are still an exciting and new thing. Last but not least, remember the word "PINEAPPLES!" as my friend Kevin Hart would say.

Brandon White, Junior Communication Major

LOVE FEST

Toni-Ann Hall Staff Writer



Flowers, teddy bears,

chocolate and flowers. Those are the words that come to mind when I think about Valentine's Day. Most people don't think about the history of the Saint that allowed Feb. 14 to be revered internationally as a day of romance.

On television, magazines and with experience, there is an obvious nature to this holiday and the emotions that emerge out of its celebration. Even children participate in this romantic day, handing out goody bags, cards with

hearts and candy marked "be mine." The excitement and anticipation built around the second month of a new year, is the second most popular card-sending holiday, according to history.com. Unfortunately, there is probably an even amount of those who enjoy this day with those who loath it. Apart from the resounding "#teamforeveralone" trending on various social networks, this day also serves as a reminder to many that they don't have a significant other or even someone that treats them as if

they were.

There are huge superficial debates surrounding this day because it can perplex people into only displaying a desired level of affection when this day rolls around. Even if one doesn't participate in this day, it is recognizable. Relationships and compatibility become even more of a "now" issue pushing those that want a relationship to feel as if they have not accomplished anything. It reminds me that although sharing a life with someone else might be an

enjoyable experience, it is not the only thing worth your time because if you don't invest in yourself, how can someone else invest in you? Even in its innocence, it brings forth a variety of emotions and the opportunity for self-reflection and assessment.

Regardless of the differing opinions surrounding Valentine's Day and the level of prevalence that it holds, it is an excuse to be more positive and appreciative toward those we love, even if it is not a boyfriend, girlfriend, fiancé or

spouse. It is used as a commercialization scheme by many companies, yet we excuse it. Although the significance of this day, in terms of what it means, people still find a reason to critique or to obsess over this day. One can go with it, hate it, or ignore it and patiently wait for Feb. 15 to arrive.

Toni-Ann Hall, Freshman Communication Major

PENNY SAVING vs. STOCKPILING

Danielle Ryan Staff Writer

“Oh God, this lady has coupons. Let’s move to the other line, it’s going to be a while.”

We have all experienced this at one point in our lives. You are at the supermarket, and all you may have in your cart is bread, milk and eggs, while the person in front of you not only has a cart that makes it seem like they cleaned out the entire grocery section, but has presented the cashier with a cornucopia of coupons from the confines of their wallet. Inevitably, this attempt at saving money ends up slowing down other grocery store patrons and annoying them to no end.

But, what if those thrifty slowpokes have the right idea?

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, “Between 2000–01 and 2010–11, prices for undergraduate tuition, room, and board at public institutions rose 42 percent, and prices at private

not-for-profit institutions rose 31 percent, after adjustment for inflation.” That’s crazy!

Of course, I realize that universities are constantly improving and growing to keep up with current technology and growth in population. Therefore, it makes sense that tuitions for these institutions would increase to accommodate for new amenities and additions as well as services provided by each individual university.

So, with tuition ever increasing and the struggling job market, what are college students who are forced to provide for themselves supposed to do in order to get by? Here at Kennesaw State University, we have the privilege of meal plans that allow us access to places like The Commons, The Hoot and most recently, the Freshens located on the first floor of the Burruss Building. However, a lot of students end up with

smaller meal plans after their freshmen year with 128 swipes, not only because it is cheaper, but because of the automatic downgrade to 16 swipes after students have become sophomores (i.e. when they have completed 30 or more credit hours). Therefore, these students have to go grocery shopping and, for the most part, prefer it in lieu of falling into a rut.

Thankfully, cheap college students have no need to fear. Websites like Pinterest and YouTube can be a virtual Eden for penny-pinchers. Pinterest is a website dedicated to sharing of ideas, recipes, tips and tricks, and to show off a users personality and creativity through user-organized collections or “boards.” Specifically, the “pins” or ideas on Pinterest can be searched based on categories such as Women’s Fashion or DIY and Crafts. The latter category

contains pertinent information and solutions for students struggling to save money. For instance, a user can type in something like, “DIY laundry detergent” and Pinterest will generate an array menagerie of pins dedicated to that specific search phrase. Seriously, there are hundreds of different recipes for homemade laundry detergent!

There are so many Internet blogs specifically devised to cater to young, thrifty consumers. Inspired by shows like TLC’s “Extreme Couponing,” blogs such as “The Crazy Coupon Lady” and “Southern Savers” post couponing opportunities for dedicated blog followers and fellow savers. They even offer first-time or potential couponers advice on how to start a coupon binder or how they like to organize what extreme couponers like to call their “stockpile.” As seen on TLC’s “Extreme Couponing,” miserly,

men and women dedicate their free time to shopping and building said stockpiles with things like hundreds of packs of toilet paper, cleaning supplies, canned goods and anything that could be useful should, say, the zombie apocalypse rear its ugly head.

Though it may seem crazy, couponing can be very beneficial and I encourage students to think about grabbing a newspaper and seeing what deals they can find. And for those of us too advanced for the daily paper, you can print coupons from websites like grocerycouponfree.net. So good luck and Godspeed to all of you future tightwads!

Danielle Ryan, Sophomore English Major



Heart-Shaped Box

Danielle Ryan Staff Writer

Valentine’s Day is usually a time that brings to mind heart-shaped boxes of chocolate and flowers given to you by your significant other. When I was a kid, I loved Valentine’s Day because it meant I would get paper valentines and candy from my peers and teachers. At the end of the day when I would get home and empty my box, I was elated to find dozens of valentines and treats piled up on my bed. That’s what you learn to expect on Valentine’s Day in elementary school. Everyone buys valentines for their entire class because they don’t want to feel left out of the whole ordeal.

I don’t know when my opinion of Valentine’s Day began to dwindle exactly. I

guess it was in middle school, when everyone started getting “too cool” for childish things like handcrafted valentines cards made from construction paper, doily hearts, and markers. At my middle school though, there was Carnation Day. Student volunteers and staff members of Creekland Middle School would pass out slips to students—however many the student wanted—and tell them to write the name of the person they wanted to give a carnation or multiple carnations to. On that fateful day, the flowers were distributed to each homeroom class and I would usually get one or two, since I didn’t have a lot of friends and no one was obligated to give me anything. Sure, I was disappointed that none of my crushes or a “secret

admirer” sent me one, but I hadn’t joined the lonely-hearts club yet.

Getting older meant that Valentine’s Day was just another school day. If you got something, it was because you had generous, spirited friends or a boyfriend/girlfriend. I stopped finding the novelty in Valentine’s Day. Maybe I think I’m too old to really put much effort into celebrating it, or maybe it’s because I don’t have anyone to share it with. I might as well become the head of the planning committee for Bitter Ball 2014. I have other single friends, so maybe we can relish in our bitterness together!

I’m not knocking Valentine’s Day necessarily, but I never have plans for that day except for watching chick flicks or baking

cupcakes. To those who do celebrate Valentine’s Day wholeheartedly: good for you. Seeing people excited to celebrate this holiday or hearing about what my friends’ plans are with their significant others makes me happy. And, I still have hope for myself because thanks to my friends, I’m actually making valentines this year. Woo Hoo!

I walked to the Commons to ask people about their opinion of Valentine’s Day. A lot of people said what their plans were and while some of them had the same plans as me, others stated they didn’t really think Valentine’s Day was worth celebrating. Kelley Curry, an early childhood education major, summed up her opinion of the holiday perfectly. “I think it’s cute. You have to show your

love for people whether you have a special somebody or not. You can show it to your friends,” Said Curry. “What I plan to do on Valentine’s Day is go around giving my friends the valentines I made for them and maybe watch something cutesy like a romance movie.”

When Feb. 14 comes around, after I give my own friends their valentines, I want to stuff some chocolate in my face and probably watch the movie “Valentine’s Day.” I would advise other bitter-ballers to do something similar.

Danielle Ryan, Sophomore English Major

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ARTS AND LIVING



Milo (Kit Harington) and Atticus (Adeiwale Akinnuoye-Agbaje) from a brotherly bond, even though they must fight each other to win freedom.

Photo courtesy Sony Pictures

“POMPEII”

stars answer burning questions

Mike Strong Arts & Living Editor

The tragic tale of the Roman city of Pompeii is one that has been told for centuries.

We all hear of the destruction and ash that brought the once great city to a permanent end. But in the simple story that we are told, the erupting Mount Vesuvius is the villain and Pompeii is nothing more than an unfortunate victim. Later this month, Paul W.S. Anderson's film "Pompeii" will tell a much more personal and emotional story set in the titular city's last hours. Actors Kit Harington and Adeiwale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, who recently sat down to talk about what went in to crafting the epic 3-D film, bring this tale to life.

In the film, Kit Harington stars as the main character, Milo. Milo is a slave who must fight as a gladiator in order to win his freedom. Since there is a fair amount of real history relating to a character in these times, Kit was faced with the

task of researching his role and creating the character of Milo, who he was to bring to life on the screen.

"I knew quite a bit about Roman culture before even coming into the film," Kit said. "[The creators] came to the table with very accurate costumes and they did wonderful research and knew what they were talking about. The film is very accurate to the time and how a volcano explodes."

Starring alongside Kit in the film is Adeiwale, who plays his friendly gladiator rival Atticus. The two gladiators have a fascinating connection in the film, as they are both fighting to escape slavery, which will only happen once they face one another in the arena. In order to create this chemistry on screen, the two actors had to build their relationship outside of shooting as well.

"It was fairly organic," Adeiwale

said, regarding developing a true friendship with his fellow actor. "The irony was, we shot the first scenes of us being imprisoned together, so it was quite good for us to go that route because we did not know each other."

"There is a wonderful dynamic that occurs between these two gladiator characters, because they both have a personal quest and are forced to live with each other knowing that they have to kill each other," Adeiwale said.

As expected, there is a large amount of animosity between the characters initially, but the nature of the gladiators' lives brings them to respect one another through battle.

"Through the fight sequences, when they see each other's abilities, a respect is born," Adeiwale said. "Then they are forced to become a unit in order to survive in the arena. And this spawns a brotherhood."

The process of forming a brotherhood with Kit was also helped by the two actors training for the fight scenes together. In order to create a visually authentic action movie, the creators put the actors through grueling training regimens that shaped their bodies and minds.

"Physically it was the most demanding thing I have ever done," Kit said. "There was a lot to learn and at times it was exasperating. But it was wonderfully immersive and it is great as an actor to have something like that for a role."

Adeiwale has had experience in the past playing action heavy roles in "The Mummy Returns" and "Thor: The Dark World." Alongside Kit's recent experience playing a fighter in "Game of Thrones," the two were a perfect fit for a film like this.

"Coming into this, it was somewhat second nature," Adeiwale said. "It was one of the

reasons why I gravitated toward this role. But at the same time, there was a level of intensity and focus to this movie that I had not done before."

This level of intense training is a large factor in making the film so believable.

"Many of these weapons weighed 15 to 20 pounds," Adeiwale said. "So I needed to be not only agile, but physically strong to be able to wield these weapons. So I understand why the gladiators trained so hard and why they were fed and bred like pedigree cattle."

As much as the film is about drama and gladiator action, it cannot deny the centerpiece of what makes this tale so everlasting, the eruption itself. The technical advances in filmmaking and special effects have made this a perfect time to create this destructive spectacle on screen.

Pompeii continued on page 11

Pompeii continued from page 10

"Viewers should look forward to an absolute spectacle," Adewale said. "This movie is a true event in all senses of the word. This kind of feat of 3D destruction in a film has not been seen before. It is overwhelmingly awesome."

Due to the nature of the film, much of it was shot in

a studio to allow for green screen effects to be applied in post-production. Kit's recent work on "Game of Thrones" has made him more accustomed to on-location shooting, with that show filming in beautiful vistas in Iceland.-

"I always like location work and 'Pompeii' was mostly in studios," Kit said. "It was a different ball game for me,

but there were nice things about it. We were always in the studio and in one place, so it felt almost theatrical. It seems like a similar genre, but it was quite different from what I have experienced with 'Game of Thrones.'"

But alongside the expected death and destruction is a touching tale of love between Milo and the beautiful Roman

girl Cassia.

"The drama and the relationships that are played out against this impending doom are a real draw for me," Adewale said.

"There is a great love story running throughout," Kit said. "The film has a bit of something for every viewer, and I particularly enjoyed the great fighting and love story."

With brutal gladiator action, spectacular destruction, political intrigue and a beautiful love story, "Pompeii" truly does have something for everyone. The film hits theaters on Feb. 21 and should not be missed by fans of fantastically eclectic disaster films.



Powerful cinematography and visual effects bring the devastating destruction of Mount Vesuvius to life in "Pompeii"

Photo courtesy Sony Pictures



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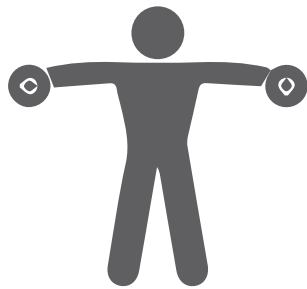
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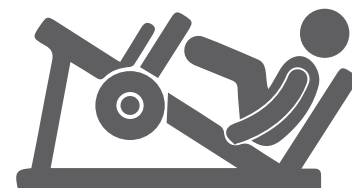
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Sherlock Holmes (Benedict Cumberbatch) opens up emotionally to his partner John Watson (Martin Freeman) more than ever in season three.

Photo courtesy BBC

CRACKING THE CASE: "SHERLOCK" SEASON 3 REVIEW

Mike Strong Arts & Living Editor

After two long years of eager anticipation, BBC's "Sherlock" finally returned in January for its third season.

The usual three episode run remained, which became more of a hindrance than an advantage this season. Since it's beginning, this iteration of the renowned detective series has had a large focus on character depth and development: this takes center stage in the third season. The brevity of the season made this focus all the more apparent, which in turn led to a desire for more sleuthing and less brooding.

Without spoiling the previous season's ending, "Sherlock" had a massive question to answer at the front end of this season. From beginning to end, the season opener, "The Empty Hearse," tackled this question in classic "Sherlock" style. We were given an incredibly shocking answer to the question, only to learn that it was one of numerous theories being thrown around. When it finally came to fessing up to "how he did it," we were still left guessing if that answer was even true itself. The process of figuring out "how he did it" even led to a scene that broke the fourth wall. The show's massive cult following was acknowledged

brilliantly, with the character himself having a large online fan base obsessed with figuring out the big mystery.

Otherwise, the overarching mystery of the week in the first episode was rather forgettable, only leading to the introduction of the season's villain, who disappointingly only appears in the final episode.

The middle episode, "The Sign of Three," was a particularly controversial one, with half of the viewership appreciating its unique tone, and the other half wishing for a more detailed mystery. The episode was surely a departure for the series. It focused solely on Watson's wedding day and used Sherlock's predictably awkward best man speech as a framing device for what eventually became a mystery in the last half-hour of the 90-minute episode.

This episode was a big sign that the creators wish to take the series into an even more character-driven direction, but this unfortunately came at the cost of "The Sign of Three" being perhaps the weakest episode of the entire show. Doubtless, a change of pace is probably a better thing than monotony, so I say bring on the increased character focus, just keep the

mysteries deep and engaging.

A deep and engaging mystery is exactly what the third and final episode, "His Last Vow," delivered. Starkly contrasting the weak second episode, episode three surprisingly became the standout episode of the entire show. After being hinted at in episode one, Charles Augustus Magnussen takes center stage this episode as Sherlock's primary new villain. Magnussen is an excellent foil to the character of

Sherlock. After the flamboyant show we got with Moriarty last season, Magnussen's collected and calculated persona is actually quite off-putting and makes for a fascinating and frightening villain to watch.

The episode is full of twists that make us reconsider the way we think about characters that we have come to know quite intimately throughout the series. And once again, this all goes back to the season's newfound concentration

on character development. The final episode is a brilliant example of how to expertly mix a character-driven plot with intriguing mysteries and shocking twists. If "His Last Vow" is any indication of the direction the creators will take in the newly confirmed fourth season, "Sherlock" fans have a great deal to be excited for. Let's just hope it is not another two year wait.

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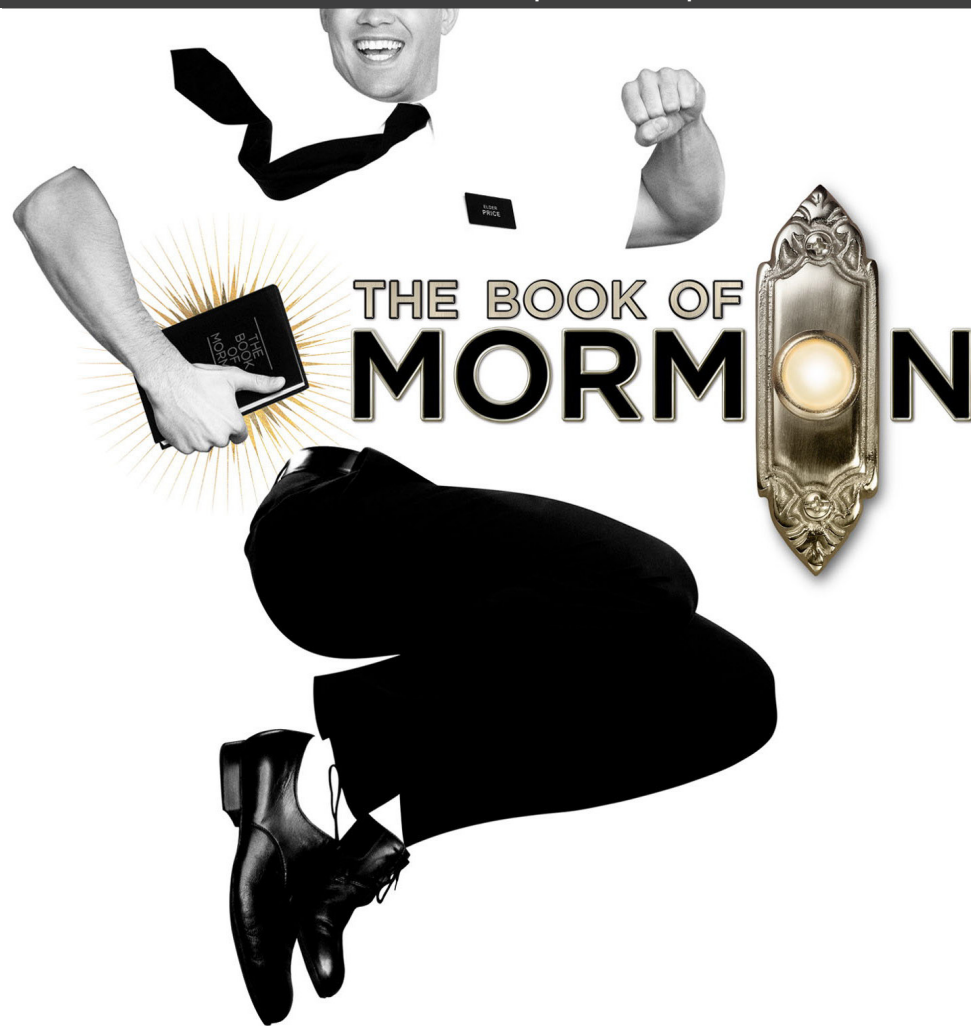
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From the creators of "South Park," "The Book of Mormon" is a light-hearted Grammy Award Winning play about the principles of Mormon faith.

Photo courtesy Brave Public Relations

THE BOOK OF MORMON storms Atlanta

Review by Steven Welch Opinion Editor

I first got to experience "The Book of Mormon" on Broadway back in 2012. I remember not knowing what to expect when I sat down in the audience. This was a show created by the people who brought us "South Park," after all, so I was unsure of what to expect for the next two hours.

What I experienced then was a brilliant take on the principles of Mormonism, and more importantly, I experienced a show that was not afraid to push boundaries. When I learned the show would be touring this year and stopping in Atlanta, I knew I had to see it again. So I bought tickets for a friend and me to attend the opening night.

Due to the snowstorm that shut Atlanta down for several days, the show I had tickets for

was canceled. The Fox Theatre was gracious enough to add a show for the following Monday. After almost a weeklong delay, we finally found ourselves sitting in the theatre, waiting patiently for the curtain to rise and the story of two dedicated missionaries to come to life.

While not the same Broadway cast I saw in New York, the cast of this touring production definitely brought their A-game throughout the performance. Their voices were magnificent, and I found myself remembering a lot of the songbook I first heard a year and a half ago.

There before us, under the bright lights and profanity-laced brilliance, were songs whose mission was to make us all think about the role religion plays in all of our lives.

It was not just about the Mormons teaching an African village about their religion, though Joseph Smith's teachings are the central plot of the musical. It was also about why we choose to blindly follow the paths we take, trusting everything based solely on our faith and religion.

"[The songs'] mission was to make us all think about the role religion plays in all our lives."

The struggle to understand how to best serve their religion is something the two main characters, Elder Price and Elder Cunningham, experience from the get-go, after being paired

together and sent to a war-torn region of Uganda.

One of the most controversial musical numbers is brought to us courtesy of the African villagers, currently dealing with famine, AIDS and war, mirroring a lot of what the area is dealing with on a daily basis in the real world. Their solution is to throw their hands up to the sky and sing "Hasa Diga Eebowai," a phrase we soon learn to be a pretty profane way of cursing God. Despite the blasphemous undertones, the song itself can easily resonate with anyone who has lost all hope and started to doubt everything they believe in. The villagers just want a solution to their problems, and it seems the arrival of Price and Cunningham might be their ticket out of the hell they are living.

I can safely say this show is definitely not for everyone. Topics like bestiality, pedophilia, rape and murder are addressed throughout the production, and a song about baptism with sexual undertones might be too provocative for some people to handle.

If you are able to keep an open mind and see the production for what it is, a show that takes all the problems our world faces and uses humor to overcome them, then this show is for you. Despite it being a comedy, I also left the show thinking more about why I choose to believe the things I do, and my hope is that it continues to open up more minds as the tour continues across the United States.

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Luther Jones
(6'0", 285 lbs.)
Union Co. HS, Blairsville

D'Vontae Bedford
(6'1", 265 lbs.)
McIntosh County Academy, Darien

Joseph Alexander
(6'4", 300 lbs.)
Tri Cities HS, East Point

Braylon Young
(5'11", 265 lbs.)
Alcoa HS, Alcoa, Tenn.

Auzoyah Alufohai
(6'3", 310 lbs.)
Alpharetta HS, Alpharetta

Austin Byrd
(6'3", 230 lbs.)
Calhoun HS, Calhoun

McKenzie Billingslea
(6'4", 240 lbs.)
McEachern HS, Powder Springs

Devin Pughsley
(6'1", 215 lbs.)
Spain Park HS, Hoover, Ala.

OFFENSIVE LINE

Lorenzo Adger (6'2", 290 lbs.)
South Paulding HS, Douglasville

Corey Thomas (6'2", 290 lbs.)
Newton HS, Covington

Chiaza Nwadike (6'2", 290 lbs.)
Charles Drew HS, Riverdale

Ryan Warrior (6'3", 260 lbs.)
Sandy Creek HS, Fayetteville

Brandon Sutton (6'0", 250 lbs.)
Callaway HS, LaGrange

Jae Bowen (5'11", 190 lbs.)
South Paulding HS, Douglasville

Trey Chivers (5'11", 195 lbs.)
Carrollton HS, Carrollton

Melvin Hill (5'8", 175 lbs.)
Washington Co. HS, Sandersville

Dez Billingslea (6'2", 205 lbs.)
Newton HS, Covington

Anthony Gore (6'0", 215 lbs.)
Statesboro HS, Statesboro

LINEBACKERS RUNNINGBACKS

QUARTERBACKS RECEIVERS

Xavier Harper (6'0", 180 lbs.)
Jackson Co. HS, Hoschtou

Justin Sumpter (6'3", 200 lbs.)
Sandy Creek HS, Fayetteville

Chandler Burks (5'10", 175 lbs.)
South Paulding HS, Douglasville

Jake McKenzie (6'0", 190 lbs.)
Monroe Academy, Monroeville, Ala.

Jaquez Parks (6'0", 205 lbs.)
Griffin HS, Griffin

Will Cape (5'10", 180 lbs.)
North Hall HS, Gainesville

Taylor Henkle (5'11", 185 lbs.)
Kell HS, Marietta

Marcus Thurman (5'11", 165 lbs.)
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Mary Persons HS, Forsyth

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Orlando Coleman electrified the Convocation Center crowd on Friday

Brea Boutwell | The Sentinel



OWLS POST STRONG EFFORT, fall in final minutes to Mercer

Chris Raimondi Staff Writer

KSU's men's basketball team went down to the wire against in-state rival Mercer, but couldn't secure a victory in front of a capacity crowd at the Convocation Center on Saturday night, falling 75-68.

KSU held a 66-64 lead with just over three minutes to play in the contest, but the Bears took advantage of a few costly turnovers and free throws, finishing the game on an 11-2 run.

The Owls' guards displayed their offensive firepower against the Bears by scoring 39 of KSU's 68. Orlando Coleman, Delbert Love and Yonel Brown all scored in double-digits, but it wasn't enough to hold off the senior-laden Mercer squad.

"I'm proud of our guys," KSU interim head coach Jimmy Lallathin said. "We're not satisfied by the loss, but every game we have been getting closer and closer. Tonight we didn't fold.

"We looked like a basketball team as much as we have all

season," Lallathin said.

KSU got things started off early with a Bernard Morena layup just 26 seconds into the contest that gave the Owls the initial lead. The season-high crowd of 3,624 was silent until a Myles Hamilton layup marked the Owls' fourth point, which sent the fans into a frenzy of applause on the season's 'silent night.' Hamilton finished with seven points, two rebounds and a steal. Coleman kept the energy going with an alley-oop assisted by Love to give KSU the 6-5 lead at the 17 minute mark.

Mercer then responded with a 12-3 run until a Hamilton 3-pointer brought the game back within five at 12-17. The teams then traded baskets inside of 10 minutes to go in the half, but Mercer never gained a lead larger than eight. With less than five before half time, KSU converted back-to-back old fashioned 3-pointers by both Brown and Tanner Wozniak that shortened the Bears' lead to just one. A series of made free-

throws for both teams would see the half end knotted up at 29.

Coleman came out of the locker room firing by hitting back-to-back jumpers from the elbow, which gave the Owls the 33-31 lead. Mercer then began to establish their dominance inside as they netted 24 points in the paint in the second half. Bud Thomas went for 14 in the second half as did Langston Hall who ended as the game's leading scorer with 20. However, the Owls wouldn't go away without a fight.

Another Coleman alley-oop brought the game within one at the 13 minute mark with Mercer leading 44-45. A quick series of buckets from both teams ensued as 10 points were scored within 40 seconds highlighted by a Brown tear-drop in the paint, an old-fashioned 3-pointer from Nigel Pruitt and a Mercer dunk and 3-pointer. Nate Rucker would heat up

Strong Effort Continued on page 20

Strong Effort Continued from page 19

by sinking two jump hooks on back-to-back possessions, but the Owls couldn't get consecutive defensive stops. Rucker would finish with eight points, three rebounds and no fouls.

With less than 10 to go, Mercer would gain a lead as big as seven at the 7:03 mark. Four Love free-throws inside of five

minutes remaining would tie the game at 62. With 3:25 left in the game, Hamilton made a pair of free-throws which gave KSU a two point advantage. Mercer would earn an and-one opportunity and successfully convert it with three minutes to go which would give them a one point edge.

After a Mercer layup extended their lead to three, the Owls would fail to make a field goal

in the final minutes of the game and were forced to commit a series of fouls. The Bears would sink every attempt down the stretch and were able to escape the Convocation Center with a win by a score of 75-68.

The Owls shot 44 percent from the field while holding Mercer to 40 percent. The close contest featured six ties and nine lead changes.

"I think we saw a glimpse of

what this team can be. I thought we gave everything we had," Lallathin said.

The near-upset could have been instrumental in determining March schedules for both teams as KSU, last in the conference, fell to 1-11 in the A-Sun and 4-21 overall. Mercer stayed atop the A-Sun conference with the win, which improved them to 10-2 in the conference and 19-6 overall.

The Owls will continue their home stand against Northern Kentucky on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. and also Saturday Feb. 15 at noon against Lipscomb. Only six games remain before the A-Sun conference tournament begins in early March.



KSU held its third largest crowd in school history Friday

Brea Boutwell | The Sentinel

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Feb. 12, 2012

4,784 vs. Georgia Tech

Nov. 15, 2010

3,624 vs. Mercer

Feb. 7, 2014

ATTENDANCE RECORDS





KSU HOLDS NORSE TO SIX FIRST HALF POINTS IN UPSET

Kristina Wells helped KSU hold NKU to just six first half points on Saturday.

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

Daniel Miller Staff Writer

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Kristina Wells and the rest of KSU's women's basketball team made history Saturday afternoon as they held Northern Kentucky (12-10, 8-3) to the lowest opponent point total in school history in a 53-39 victory. The Norse were held to just 1-22 shooting in a 6-point first half.

Wells lead the way once again for the Owls as she posted her 14th double-double with 14 points and 11 rebounds. The win moves KSU (6-16, 4-7) into sole possession of 7th place in the conference and within one game of 6th place as they have won back to back conference games for the second time this season.

Opening the game, both teams had a hard time finding the basket as nearly three minutes went by before a jumper went in by the Owls Aareon Smith. The Owls led 8-2 with 10:00 left in the half.

Over the next four minutes, both teams scored just four points. A basket by Norse guard Kayla Thacker cut the KSU lead to 12-5 with 6:03 remaining. That proved to be the last field goal NKU would get as the Owls defense picked up closing the half on a 10-1 run.

Before the game, head coach Nitra Perry knew that the task to slow down NKU would be tough. "They're a methodical team. They really do a good job

of figuring things out" Perry said. "We talked about before the game, it was a new season. We're starting the next round. We wanted to go 2-0".

The second half featured both teams trading baskets as NKU began the second half on a 10-3 run ignited by two Christine Rousch and Thacker jumpers to make the score 25-14. Two Wells free throws and a layup by Lisa Capellan gave the Owls their largest lead of the game at 29-14.

The Norse won the second half 33-31, but in the end the defensive pressure by KSU was too much.

"I am extremely excited," Perry said. "I thought that was the best defensive effort we have had had all year. It was a total team effort."

Along with Wells, Young finished the game with 13 points and four rebounds and Deandrea Sawyers added nine points to go along with four rebounds and four assists.

Thacker, who posted nine points and 16 rebounds, led NKU. Rousch chipped in six points and seven rebounds for the Norse.

The Owls next game is on Thursday, Feb 13 in Deland, Fla, as they prepare to take on Stetson. The game can be seen on A Sun T.V.



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HENDERSON POISED TO BUILD ON SUCCESS in senior campaign

David Almeda Staff Writer

In any sport, a team needs an anchor; a veteran presence to lead the way for the rest of the pack. For KSU's softball team, senior Amanda Henderson fits the bill not only as a true ace of the pitching staff, but as a mentor to the many new faces that have arrived to help carry the program into the future.

Henderson's accolades are numerous. Her 2013 season was simply dominant from every facet. Over 168.1 innings pitched, she compiled an 18-4 record to complement a microscopic 2.00 ERA. She struck out more batters during the season than the number of innings she pitched, punching out 194. Prior to the start of this season, she received Atlantic Sun Conference Preseason All-Conference honors.

KSU softball head coach Wes Holly, Jr. sees the luxury of being blessed with a player with

that kind of potential.

"It means that you have an ace on your staff that can take you deep into your season," Holly Jr. said. "She's been the backbone of this staff for a couple of years now. Amanda's a focused young lady when she steps on the mound. She doesn't let that many things distract her. She's very consistent. She's learned here, a lot about pitch control and how to stay focused within the game. She doesn't get rattled too often. She's able to bounce back pretty quick."

Indeed, it's that calm and collected demeanor that Henderson says has been the driving force behind her performance.

"I think the key to success for anyone is having a strong mental game," Henderson said. "That's something we're really focusing on now with a lot of the younger girls. That's

something that coach harps on every day is being able to mentally and emotionally handle the arena that we're playing in."

Henderson is the lone senior on a pitching staff that includes freshman Logan Viers and sophomore Morgan Sikes. In addition to being the leader of the staff, she sees an opportunity to be an example to all of her younger teammates.

"Any time you have freshmen coming in, whether they're pitchers or not, as an upperclassman you have to be a mentor and just kind of show them the ropes," Henderson said. "That was one thing Abbey [Mixon] was great about. She had that outgoing, peppy personality and she was really good about bringing people under her wing. Now that she's gone, I'm just trying to step into that role and really help

these younger kids get to that emotional state that they need to be so that they can handle the games that we're playing in."

This isn't the first year that Henderson has been challenged to lead, both in mentoring and in production. As far back as her freshman year, coach Holly challenged her to do just that.

"I actually really asked her in her freshman year to really act like an upperclassman," he said. I remember we had a couple of good pitchers here on staff as well back when she was a freshman. I believe she's risen to the occasion. I'm constantly challenging her. I looked at her and I said 'Hey, I don't care that you're a freshman. Why can't you pitch like you're a senior?' She really resonated on that her freshman year, and that's what really started, I think, challenging her to another realm of her own. And she's come into a realm of her own."

In her final season, Henderson is not just simply looking to be a champion. She believes that the team's reach can be much more profound than that.

"In the position that this program is in, and the position that the school's in, it goes beyond winning a championship," she said. "This is something that coach Holly

and I have talked about a lot. It's creating that legacy and starting to lay the groundwork for what is a dynasty; the dynasty and legacy of having a strong softball program. We want Kennesaw State to have that reputation."

Coach Holly has challenged Henderson for all of her years at KSU. It doesn't look like that mindset is about to die down, and he hopes that he can send her out with a bang in her final season.

"I don't want her to get content," he said. "I want her to strive. I'd like to see her finish her career taking us to a regional tournament. We're trying to set a mark for this new Division I era. We're looking to really step up into that realm and this young lady has a big part of that. She can really help us get there. I want her to stay focused and mentally into the game and stay in tune to what we're trying to do."

Being the leader of a young team could be the source of a lot of pride for some. But according to coach Holly, Amanda has not only embraced that role, but has also been modest about it.

"She's a humble young lady," he said. "She's always been humble about her success."

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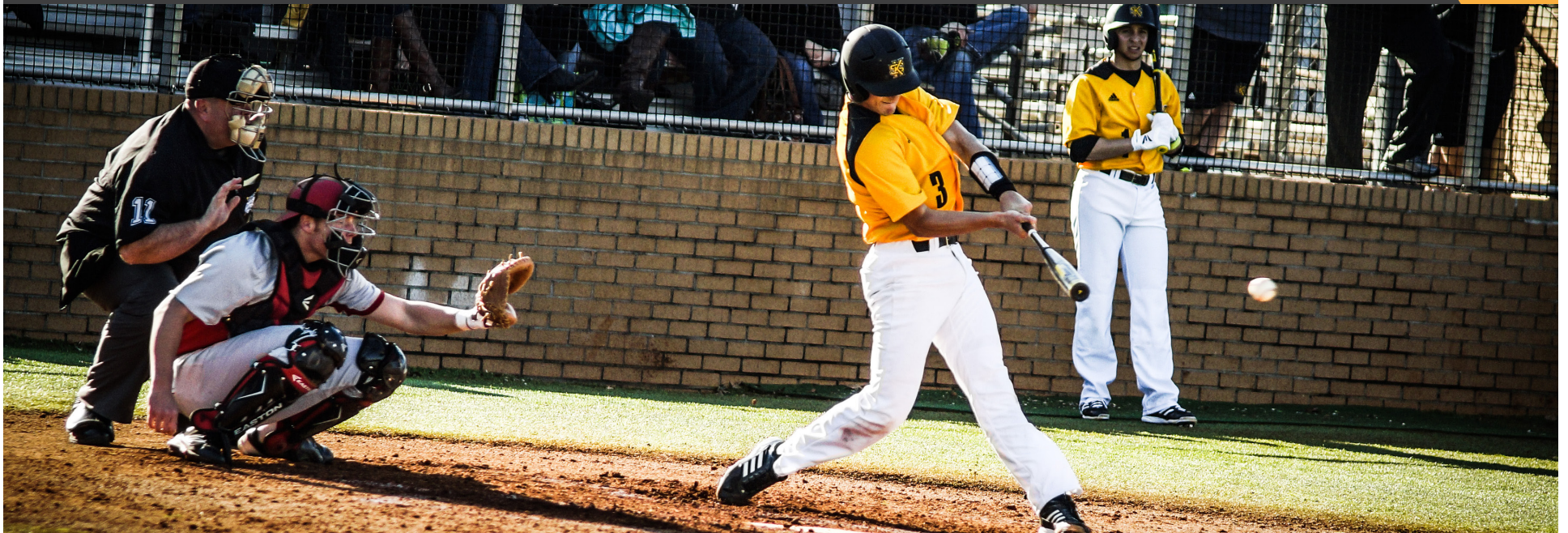
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Amanda Henderson has gone 18-4 as KSU's ace.

Courtesy of KSU Athletics



Max Pentecost enters the season as an All-American.

Matt Boggs | The Sentinel

PENTECOST AN ALL-AMERICAN FOR OWLS baseball prepared for Friday opener

Mike Foster Sports Editor

After falling in the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament championship game two years in a row, KSU's baseball team has reason to bud with confidence, even after finishing at .500 in the regular season last year.

"Every year it is our goal to make a regional," head coach Mike Sansing said in an interview with ksuowls.com. "Whether that be through the conference tournament championship or a regular season conference championship."

KSU will open its season with a three-game series against Middle Tennessee State this weekend, with the first game set for 4 p.m. on Friday at Stillwell Stadium.

Leading the Owls will be junior catcher Max Pentecost, who was named a second team all-American by Baseball America on Feb. 3. Pentecost already had been tabbed on the All-Atlantic Sun Preseason team, as well as the Perfect Game Collegiate Summer Player of the Year and the Cape Cod League Player of the Year. Pentecost hit .302 last season with 14 doubles and three homeruns.

"This is an outstanding achievement for Max," Sansing said. "It brings a lot of deserved recognition to him as well as our program. He had such a great postseason for us last year and a terrific summer and he's carried that over into the spring and hopefully it continues into

the season for us."

Shortstop Kal Simmons, who was named to the Louisville Slugger Freshmen All-America team last year, adds to KSU's firepower. Simmons recorded 27 RBIs while batting a .289 clip last year, while also finishing the season with a .929 fielding percentage.

New faces for the Owls include junior college transfer Matt Bahnick and Chris Erwin, who was a selection in the 2013 MLB draft by the Minnesota Twins. KSU has 15 new players on this year's squad, including nine freshman.

"We are looking for some of our young guys to push the veterans and even hope to get a few on the field," Sansing told ksuowls.com.

Nathan Harsh will take on a new, lead role for the pitching staff after the Owls lost Stephen Janas, Kevin McCoy, and Travis Dean to the MLB Draft.

Harsh, a 6'6" junior, started seven games in 2013, allowing 18 runs in 36.1 innings and recording 40 strikeouts.

KSU's schedule will once again feature big matchups, including an upcoming road game against the Georgia Bulldogs in Athens on Feb. 18. KSU will face the Bulldogs, Georgia Tech, Auburn and Georgia State in home-road two-game series.

Along with the opener on Friday, KSU also hosts MTSU Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 1 p.m.

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