

THE CAPITOL REVIEW

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GEORGIA SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

Georgia takes the heat in gender neutral restroom controversy

Nadia Pressley

National media has recently had a lot to say about gay and transgender individuals. The controversy over House Bill 2 (otherwise known as HB2), which banned residents of North Carolina from using any restroom that does not correspond with their biological sex received numerous reactions, both positive and negative. Ultimately, the argument over transgender people and their right to have access to the public restroom of their choosing has led to what looks to be the beginning of a gender revolution, and Georgia is currently at the forefront of this revolution.

About two months ago, Georgia's very own Athens received its 15 minutes of fame when a local Kroger's bathroom sign went viral. The bathroom room sign read "unisex" and was accompanied by a note that explained the reasoning behind the new gender-neutral restrooms.

"I think it's super cool that they did do that because I think it is important to normalize trans issues or non-binary issues in society," said Mariah Manoylov, the director of outreach and advocacy of the Lambda Alliance at the University of Georgia. The alliance works to provide an influential voice for the LGBTQ+ community on campus.

Georgia also experienced time in the limelight this year, when House Bill 757 proposed a law that would allow businesses to deny services to the LGBTQ+ community to preserve their "religious freedom." There was national outrage; even companies such as Disney, the NFL and Coca Cola threatened to cut off business relations with Georgia if the

bill was passed. Although Gov. Nathan Deal did veto the bill, it sparked national conversation about the direction in which this revolution was headed.

"I'm so glad it got vetoed but the fact that it was brought up and that it did, I believe, go all the way up to the senate, the fact that there was so much support for that was scary," said Manoylov. "It would be scary to live in a world, or at least in a city, where people could just simply be discriminated against because of love, the way they love."

Nathan Deal's bill sparked Kroger's bathroom transformation, which has inspired the revolution to spread to college campuses, including UGA. Many universities across the state, including UGA, are making strides to provide facilities for trans students. Manoylov knows for a fact that UGA does have gender-neutral restrooms located in Tate Student Center, she says.

"I think for Lambda we have an importance of gender neutral bathrooms and gender-neutral housing has been discussed as well," said Manoylov. "I think one meeting was just about gender neutral facilities. I think it is something that is important and it is a way for a safe place to be available for every student on campus. They do need that facility, it should be an option."



Grady journalism academy students make presidential predictions

Vincent Knight, Amanda Campbell, Bernarda Cervantes, and Morgan Champion

Fifty two Georgia Journalism Academy students were surveyed on which presidential candidate they would vote for if they were eligible to vote in the 2016 presidential election.

See **BERNIE**, page 2

Photo by GSPA

Swings through the week

Bronlyn Holland

Colby Lance helped lead the Starrs Mill High School golf team to the state tournament in 2015, but that didn't keep him from wanting to improve his game at this year's Chris Haack's Golf Camp.

He wanted to "learn different shots I haven't learned before," Lance said during the first session of the camp at the UGA Golf Course. Lance was one of the 76 golfers during this camp which is in its 20th year.

"We have kids from Dallas, Louisiana, Florida, we've had them from California," said Haack, UGA men's golf coach, "As long as they [golfers] meet the eligibility requirements of age, any skill level, doesn't matter, they can just come."

To attend this camp, the golfer needs to be between the ages of 10 and 18 but need to be at least 12 years old before September 2016 to stay overnight. The first session was June 5-8 and the second session is June 9-12.

During this session, there were 54 overnight golfers and 22 day golfers. Most of the grouping of the golfers is by their age, but some are by their skill level.

"There are a lot of levels here with junior golfers. We basically help them develop their game," stated assistant coach for the women's golf team Whitney Young, who was a counselor at the camp, "Give them tips and drills to work on once they leave camp."

She was designated to work with a specific group of junior golfers between the ages of 10 and 12. Young is hoping they will use these new skills for future tournaments.

At the end of the session, the golfers play a small nine hole tournament. Their parents can come and awards are presented.

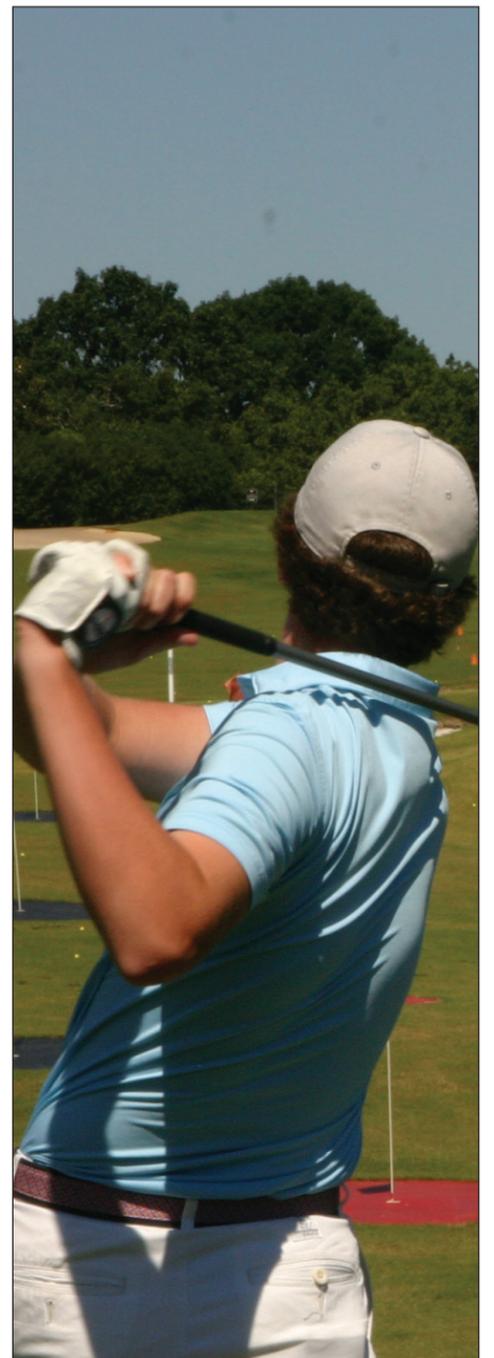
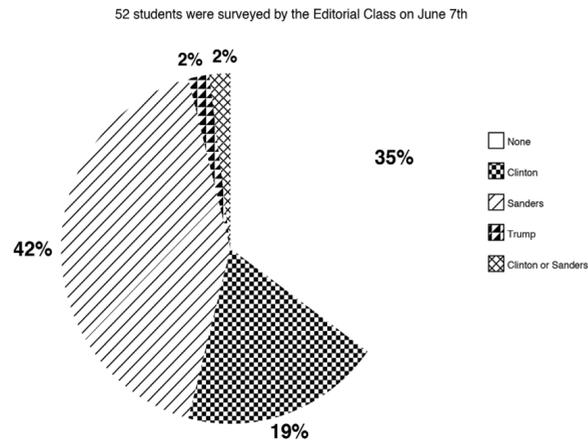


Photo by Jack Nowland

Bernie or bust

Vincent Knight, Amanda Campbell, Bernarda Cervantes, and Morgan Champion

Grady Games 2016 Presidential Poll



To vote or not to vote, that is the question because some candidates are definitely out of the question. According to a poll conducted by the Editorial class, which asked 52 GJA campers who they would vote for if they were eligible, Bernie Sanders is the clear favorite. Or at least 42% thought so. 35% decided not to choose the lesser of two (three) evils and not vote at all. Donald Trump only got one vote (you know who you are). 19% sided with Hillary Clinton.

The reasons for Sanders' popularity among the GJA campers were well stated by Cydnie Cole of Tucker High School, she said, "I'd definitely vote for Bernie. He accepts all types of people, which is what America needs. He understands that diversity is crucial to move on as a country and to gain

more international experience whether that pertains to trading or communication. As a millennial, I look for someone who understands that we want freedom for every person no matter where they come from."

Despite winning our votes at the GSPA, Bernie Sanders was mathematically eliminated from the democratic race. When CNN visited Bernie Sanders's rally in California, they reported that he gave hope to his supporters in his speech. Bernie Sanders said, "All of you know that when we began this campaign over a year ago we were considered to be a fringe campaign. Over the last year I think that has changed a little bit."

Millennials are stereotyped as Sanders supporters and our survey concedes with that generalization.

Block schedule means less stress for students

Ashley Williams

Block scheduling for high schools is a relatively novel idea that has garnered attention as a way to make the school day less stressful for high school students and allow them to delve deeper into course topics.

Students on a traditional school schedule attend six or seven class periods per day in the same courses for the whole school year. On a block schedule, the class periods last much longer, but the courses themselves last only a semester instead of the entire year. This setup more effectively prepares students for college, gives them more credit opportunities, and allows teachers to implement newer instructional techniques that are required by many school systems. According to a study by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, the block schedule gives students 32 opportunities to earn credits during their four years of high school, whereas the yearlong schedule usually only offers 24.

Therefore the block schedule cuts down on the students who have to spend extra time

after school or during the summer earning a credit for a class they may have failed because there is a window during the regular schedule of their four years in which they can retake the class.

The longer class periods on the block schedule also help students who dual enroll for college credit at colleges in their hometowns. Since colleges operate on a semester-long schedule, the block style makes classes more cohesive for the growing number of dual-enrolled students. The extended class periods also allow students to travel back and forth between their high school and their college campus without having to cut multiple class periods from their high school schedule. In addition, starting high school students on a semester plan earlier in their education helps prepare all of them for their college courses, regardless of when they decide to start taking them.

Critics of the block schedule often point out that it causes the material from AP courses to be crammed into one semester,

causing more stress for students. However, spending usually 90 minutes per day in an AP class allows students and teachers to take a deeper look into the material. Teachers can spend more with hands-on projects and group collaborations between students, the likes of which are becoming more common in today's schools systems.

Statesboro High School recently transitioned away from the block schedule to the yearlong model, which was upsetting to many of the students. Taylor Bailey, a rising senior at Statesboro High, favors the block schedule because it offers fresh content each semester.

"I feel that block scheduling was better for me personally because I get uninterested and unwilling to learn when I'm stuck on one thing for too long," Bailey said. "Having a brand new schedule each semester kept me interested and involved in my classes. Alongside this, it's much less stressful to have only four sets of information to focus on per day instead of seven."

Bullying isn't going away for the LGBT minority

Bernarda Cervantes

According to the Student Handbook: "The mission of Cartersville High School is to prepare students to become informed, contributing members of society through vigorous instruction in a caring, compassionate culture."

It's noble, and it's what all schools should aspire to do. But what happens when that culture isn't caring or compassionate to all students?

It's universally agreed upon that bullying

is wrong. Schools treat bullying as a serious offense, and all 50 states have laws against bullying. In Florida, following the highly publicized case of Rebecca Sedwick, a 12 year old driven to suicide by bullying, a statute named after the teen, Rebecca's Law, has made cyberbullying punishable by a year in jail in the case of a second conviction.

Bullying has been recognized and treated with the severity it requires, but

according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, in a written testimony submitted for public briefing on "Peer-to-Peer Violence and Bullying" for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights there is particular concern, "...about the bullying of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender – or LGBT – students. It is one of the few remaining forms of bigotry that can go unchecked on campuses."

Unfortunately, cases of anti-LGBT bullying have occurred within Cartersville High School. A gay student was at one point locked in the closet of a classroom for his sexual

orientation. Oftentimes students have used anti-LGBT slurs while talking to classmates in a joking fashion, which only reaffirms that Cartersville High School has a serious problem—the school environment is not compassionate or caring at all times, or for all students, as the school's mission statement describes.

But what can we do? It's time to take action as a community to stomp out bullying based on sexuality or gender. This isn't a problem the administrators can make go away alone. Everyone at school is responsible for creating and maintaining a safe and

respectful environment for all of our students. Being more careful in what we say and how we treat each other is one step. Another, and one that is overlooked, being more aware of LGBT issues. Further education on the subject would go far, since the best way to combat ignorance and bigotry is education and communication.

Cartersville High School is a tight knit school with a total enrollment of 1,115; Cartersville is a tight knit community with a population of 19,731; this community can go farther to make it a more inclusive environment for everyone.

Excessive security won't save our schools

Ian J. Smith

Breaches in security at public schools- as major as the 2012 Sandy Hook shooting and as minor as the "break-in" last school year at my school- have schools attempting to increase security. How they are going about it, unfortunately, does not make much sense.

Our local paper can sum up the story of what transpired last October. The problem with these statements is what Safety, Discipline and Athletics Coordinator Ted Lombard said referring to the trespassers' entrance, "...and entered through the front doors around 10:50 a.m. Note that the other exterior doors are kept locked during the school day." The subject of our school doors has unsettled me all year. A series of doors enter into the commons area, which I have to assume are left open all day due to the arrival of students through it all day. The front doors are located in the lobby to the auditorium, whose doors are usually kept unlocked and provide entrance to the rest of the school. Neither

entrance is within view of the front office or attendance office, so it would be easy to enter the building without being spotted. A series of other doors- one exit to the bus loop, gym doors, the art room doors, and science hall exit- are left open or unlocked most days. To be fair, they likely don't know about all of these doors, but most students know the ways to discretely enter school. Practically anyone could enter the school without being spotted.

My school system's response to this? Entry control systems on the front door, which have been in place at the elementary school level since Sandy Hook. This works over there because there are few people coming in and out during the day. With many juniors and seniors dual enrolling, students pass through high schools all day. The only way to know that teenagers are actually students of this school would be to require student to present IDs. This would significantly inconvenience students and attendance officials.

In all likelihood, the person controlling access would eventually begin to allow any teenager in.

In a survey of Georgia Journalism Academy students, there is no clear trend towards entrance control systems improving safety. One student with an entry controls system reported "there are a lot of slip-ups that happen at my school so I could see there being a security breach". Another reported multiple break-ins and trespassing incidents. Results of students with security systems averaged a rating of 92.5% on how safe they feel at school. Students without entrance controls system averaged 89% safety, with only one student without an entrance controls system reporting break-ins.

So would an entrance controls system improve security at my high school? It is likely that it would deter trespassers from using the front door, but not from gaining access through one of many other entrances. The money spent on installing them would be wasted.

Construction takes a toll on student life and the accessibility of campus

Morgan Champion

With North Forsyth High School's extensive four-year construction project beginning to demolish, build, and pave the way for multiple new roads and buildings, both student life and the layout of campus have dramatically changed—sometimes for the worse.

Construction on a new cafeteria and library as well as new classrooms have resulted in the former carpool entrance and main office being relocated to the English building in the back of the school, making morning traffic worse and disabling more than two hallways of classroom space.

To compensate, administration has replaced indoor learning areas with trailers, and two of the biggest ones were installed in important parking lots beside the performing arts center and athletic fields. This loss of space in frequently used places forced students to find longer and less accessible routes to class, and handicap access ramps are often blocked and/or not fit for use.

Rising junior Katherine Strube spoke up about the matter. "The construction made it harder to get around, and it took longer to get to class."

There is also a sanitary concern among students. "There can be a lot of debris," says rising junior Katelyn Champion, who has witnessed the before and after effects of the project. Often, there is dirt everywhere, and people tend to get dirty, especially on rainy days, and with such a big campus, it is hard to prevent walking out-

side.

So, is the renovation of North Forsyth High School taking a toll on students and the accessibility of campus? The answer is absolutely. Although the school will be gorgeous, renovated, and perfectly fit for thousands of students and faculty once completed, the construction "will not be resolved until high school No. 6 (a new high school) opens in 2018," states Forsyth County News, meaning that the classes of 2017, 2018, and 2019, will have to endure constantly changing landscapes, overcrowding, and muddy roads at some point during their high school careers.

This is obviously a problem. Although the needs for most of the construction are legitimate, they should not be overpowering the daily routines of students or distracting them from learning. In one school year alone, North Forsyth experienced over three power outages, and often; the Internet was slow and didn't work because of technical difficulties with the construction. Therefore, students and teachers were unable to proceed with classroom activities because, in this day and age, almost everything relies on electricity. There's also the issue of traffic, among other things.

Construction is not a bad thing; but for the sake of the student body, there needs to be accommodations for the space and time lost in the process, or consider the time, the money, and the work spent over these next four years to be for nothing.

Uniform policy needs consistent enforcement

Amanda Campbell

Uniform policy is a legitimate issue in private schools. It certainly divides students at The King's Academy in Woodstock, Georgia. The range of who monitors the dress code invites inconsistency and preferential treatment.

During an average day at school, the teacher's assistants are primarily responsible for noticing dress code violations. The offender is asked to remove the garment and receives a demerit.

However, there are students who constantly receive demerits for dress code violations, while there are others who violate the policy simultaneously and do not receive the same treatment. "Repeat offenders" are sought

after by assistants, and students who "lay low" have the opportunity to get away with breaking the rules due to the assistants' preoccupation with the "more concerning" students.

Junior Karley Willman, who has never received a demerit in her high school career, has only violated the policy twice. She was told her dress was too short on a Dress As You Like Day (DAYL) and was asked to take her "non-traditional" sweater off. Although the TKA Handbook states that, "a minor dress code violation constitutes a Class A demerit," Willman did not receive one for either offense.

Lindsey Pulvino, also a junior, has had three dress code violations in which she re-

ceived demerits. In one incident, she was wearing a skirt previously approved by the Student Programs Director, when a group of assistants huddled together to point out her skirt length.

Clearly, this is a complicated issue to tackle. So much so that our school administrators are at their wits end—they have even considered doing away with uniforms entirely. Yet that would only open up a Pandora's box of new issues.

The key to simplifying the matter is consistency. Robert Kennedy, private school expert would agree. In his article published by About Education, he said, "The real secret to success is consistently enforcing rules and regulations."

We need our sleep, less homework will help

Giana Levy

Homework is to blame for the late nights and early mornings for all high school students. The significant amount of homework is a main factor towards sleep deprivation amongst teenagers. Though it's crucial to successfully complete your assignments as a student, the long-term effects of lack of sleep are quite troublesome, specifically for your mental health. Consequently, the lack of sleep due to too much homework contributes to high school students' mental instability.

When you talk about a person's mental instability, you are referring to the way they think and perform throughout daily activities that are not necessarily "normal." Effects that sleep deprivation can have are depression, weight gain, drug abuse, and others that are too many to list.

According to Huffington Post, there has been studies that prove teenagers who suffer from lack of sleep because of homework are three times more likely to be depressed due to the fact the body hasn't been given an opportunity to restore to its balanced state. Without restoring, you may find yourself sleeping in class, not being

"It's stressful when you have homework from class and on top of that you have to study for other classes for the quizzes and test the next day." – Sydney Smith

able to concentrate as easily, anxious, irritated, etc. Along with depression, weight gain is a risk. Through research from Daily Mail, lack of sleep slows the metabolism and boosts hunger. As a result, calories are harder to burn since not enough energy is being produced. In addition to the other symptoms, a growing epidemic that is facing the youth is the use of amphetamines, specifically Adderall. A study from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) shows that in 2015 7.5 percent of high school students used Adderall as a study aid.

A solution to this growing issue - make a limit on how much homework a teacher can give. Students have had enough. Sydney Smith, a junior from Arabia Mountain High School wanted to express her thoughts.

"It's stressful when you have homework from class and on top of that you have to study for other classes for the quizzes and test the next day. Sometimes I fall asleep in class and miss important details. It's not that

I do not want stay awake; it's just that staying up late from too much homework have an effect on my performance in school. There should really be a limit on how much homework a teacher can give."

Another junior, Caroline Franklin from Milton High School, gave her thoughts on how too much homework affected her too.

"As a student with multiple mental illnesses, it makes my life very difficult when I cannot sleep for more than 7 hours. I am more prone to panic attacks, anxiety and depressive spells if I am up into the night doing homework."

As you can see, the students themselves have spoken, and there are plenty more students out there who feel the same way. We need less homework so sleep can be an option! We have spoken our truth, and all we can do is wait to finally be heard.

To our superiors, the ball is in your court.

Procrastination enhances learning

Andi Breitowich

You look at the clock and realize its already 9 at night. That essay that you have known about for two weeks is due tomorrow. You have continually reprioritized your responsibilities time and time again, but now its crunch time. Procrastination has overcome you, yet again.

In today's society speed is often rewarded. We strive to be the first, the quickest, and the one who gets the most done. Procrastination is often frowned upon and deemed an "irresponsible action". Although procrastination clearly has some disadvantages it is not all bad. In school they teach you to always work hard and not wait until the last minute. They attempt to expel this "horrible" habit of procrastination. But in reality is it honestly that bad? The answer is no.

According to research by Adam Grant published by the New York Times, about 20 percent of adults report being chronic procrastinators. There are some true benefits that will enhance your education and learning experience. A term known as "active procrastination" can be good when used in a correct and beneficial way. One major benefit to procrastination is it allows you to be more productive, because you automatically ignore the unnecessary. If you are an "active procrastinator" then you will clear your list of tasks quickly because you are under a deadline. By powering through the to-do

list, you will soon realize the value of importance of each task. You can evaluate your list of tasks and this will allow you to realize whether the task is still relevant. Procrastination also allows your creative juices to flow. Procrastination provides an opportunity to be more reflective, to develop questions, to let thoughts percolate, and to discover fresh ways to tackle what has to be done. Procrastination is a catalyst of sorts because it gives "bonus" time to synthesize ideas, change them, and develop a plan of action. When you are aware that something is due, or needs to be completed, your mind is subconsciously searching and collecting ideas. When you remember that you only have three hours to complete a daunting task your mind attempts to set you at ease and think of ways to complete the task with innovative ideas.

When people procrastinate, attitude and volition can determine how or if they will ultimately move forward and complete the project. This is the time where you allow your mind to dream up innovative solutions to allow you to complete your to do list before the deadline. So next time you find yourself in an idle moment on a creative project, unsure whether to push yourself harder or chill out in search of inspiration, remember what Rita Mae Brown said, "If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done."

Prestige of honors society being diminished?

Sarai Abraham

There was a time when belonging to honor societies was not a common occurrence. Today, almost everyone belongs to an "honor society", which diminishes the prestige.

I think of an honor society as a select group of students that share high grade point averages, high class ranks, and had to undergo an extensive acceptance process. Everyone belonging to an honor society takes away the prestige of being affiliated with the society. Eastside High School in Greenville, South Carolina is subject to this. Eastside High School has many honor societ-

ies including Beta Club, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, French Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta (Math Honor Society), National Art Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, National Forensic League, International Thespian Society, and Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society will be included next year. The idea of so many societies takes away the exclusivity of being a member of an existing few.

Some of the requirements to be invited into these honor societies are less demanding at Eastside High School than other

schools. This makes it no longer a challenge to get into honor societies. There shouldn't be different requirements for the same honor society at different schools. This does not create a level playing field for all students. The basic requirements for Tri-M Music Honor Society, for example, are to "...maintain a B average in their music classes, maintain a B average in all of their academic course...enrolled in music course at their school...recommended for membership by their schools music faculty" whereas at Eastside High School, the only requirement is to show up

to meetings.

Inconsistencies in the guidelines for the same honor societies at different schools are not the only reason for the lack of prestige. A lot of students at Eastside High School have no motivation to belong to a challenging and selective organization. According to the Eastside High School website the grade point average necessary to be invited into Beta Club is 3.5, whereas to be invited into National Honor Society the requirement is to have a 4.0. Because of this, National Honor Society is more distinguished. If one attends Eastside High

School, they will constantly hear, "Why do I need to try harder? I have Beta Club," or "The other honor societies are too difficult so I will stick with Beta Club". Beta Club is a lot easier to be accepted into, so students are not attempting to pursue membership in societies of a higher order.

The prestige of honor societies is being threatened by requirements and guidelines. Those who have worked hard to keep up their grades deserved to be recognized in such important organizations. Being accepted into an honor society should not be an easy task. It should be an honor.

Public High Schools Need to Get it Together

Caroline Franklin

High School bathrooms are often a place that sets fear in the very heart of students. At Milton High School, it is no different from the rest of the world. With a severe lack of janitorial staff, it seems impossible for Milton to get it together. Colleen Williams, the Sophomore Class President said it herself, "We are extremely short on janitors, we are short about 6-10 janitors, and that sets us behind so much more and puts more work on the other janitors." However, in planning budgets for schools (especially at Milton, where the enrollment is 2,000 plus,) it can be assumed that the administrators account for the fact that they will need more janitors than a

typical school does. One would think the school board would also budget for things like soap, paper towels, and toilet paper.

All through last year at Milton, students would walk out of the bathroom with sopping wet hands, others would dry their hands with the very limited toilet paper the school provides, since the hand dryers are at least ten years old, and very faulty. Some of the time, the most students can do to cleanse their hands is run water over them, in sinks full of other student's hair and other questionable substances. Not to mention, about one half of all of the bathroom stall doors at our school do not close.

This causes students to feel unsafe, where-

as using the bathroom should be a perfectly easy, mundane thing to do. Students do not think that accessibility is the case in the bathrooms, though.

When asked about the state of the bathrooms, Paulina Osenenko, a junior, said; "I think the bathrooms at Milton can be very disturbing sometimes. People do not flush the toilet, many doors do not lock, and we don't even get paper towels. The fact that many doors don't lock, and they go for multiple months like that is ridiculous and disrespectful. Students should feel comfortable in the bathroom and it is rather inappropriate for many of the bathroom doors to be in the state they are in."

"Students should feel comfortable in the bathroom and it is rather inappropriate for many of the bathroom doors to be in the state they are in." – Paulina Osenenko

Administration explicitly said to Colleen Williams that there are three reasons they chose not to supply hand towels for students. The first is that students flush paper towels down the toilet, the second describes that they cannot afford paper towels, and the third is that (again) the school is extremely short on janitors. The risk this issue poses is detrimental. According to the Arizona Health Department, just a few of the diseases that

dirty hands spread include Hepatitis A, E-Coli, Strep Throat, among others. Bathroom surfaces are covered in all kinds of filth, usually other bodily fluids, etc.

Students have tried to protest on this issue, only to be told that there is no funding for the necessities in the bathrooms. Since there is no law that makes it mandatory for schools to provide soap, towels, or working hand dryers, they can say that. All us students want is a reliable way to wash our hands, really.

Tickets more feasible than passes

Emmett Schindler

At North Cobb High School in Kennesaw, Georgia, students rush to school to get a parking spot each morning. However, many of them fail to purchase a parking pass at the beginning of the semester, but still drive their car to school, rarely getting caught. But when they do get caught, the ticket proves to be an easier fee than the actual pass.

Like many high schools around the country, North Cobb requires students to buy a parking pass for \$50 a semester in order to have access to the parking lot.

Many students complain about this, claiming the pass costs way too much. The rest of the students take an easier path by not buying a pass and hoping to not get caught. Lucky for them, North Cobb rarely checks the parking lot for passes on cars and even when they do check, the consequential ticket ranges from \$10-\$20, significantly lower than the actual pass.

"Over the past four semesters, it would've cost me \$200 to park with a pass," Andrew Lubbers, a recently graduated student at North Cobb, said. "Since I didn't get one, and received two parking tickets, I paid a total of \$30 for four semesters of parking. So it saved me a lot of money and made more financial sense than paying \$50 each semester."

The problems with North Cobb parking lots continue when they decided to not assign park-

ing spots and instead allow a "first come first serve" system for the spots. This infuriated the seniors, as they are known to receive the closest spots to the school, because they now risk getting a further spot if they arrive to school later than others. But, instead of seniors taking the spots further away, some decided to park in places that are not actual spots. Not surprisingly, North Cobb failed to realize this, so they faced no consequences. Recently graduated student Adam Kovel reflects on the problem.

"If they would have ticketed from day one and consistently, the problem would stop because multiple tickets result in a higher penalty cost and they'd nip it in the bud for the entire year," Kovel said.

Other schools in the Cobb County district resemble the North Cobb parking fiasco. Cobb County requires a \$50 parking pass, but gives schools the freedom to choose the ticket prices. Allatoona High School explicitly say their ticket situation on their website, at cobbk12.org, giving a \$10 ticket and adding \$1 every day the student fails to pay it.

These standards for parking are not effective as many students do not buy the passes and end up paying less for the ticket, if the staff actually checks for them. Until ticket prices rise or the parking lots are monitored more effectively, parking passes prove to be an ill-advised purchase.

Transmetropolitan, a great restaurant

Santiago Rojas

The Transmetropolitan is a great choice for anyone who likes Italian food and not spending a lot of money. Walking through the doors you will see a beautiful cozy setting followed by an amazing scent smack of some very tasty cuisine. Even though there was a line to be seated, both of the waitresses tended to each individual or group rather quickly making sure everyone was properly situated. It was a bit busy at the moment so giving them our order did take some time but we were given our food shortly after placing our order. Overall the customer service is friendly and fast, which are critical attributes for a restaurant.

Walking through the doors you will notice the perfect lighting that creates a calm mood in the midst of all the noise because again they were busy. The noise did not affect the experience at all however. Everyone was having a great time conversing with one another all while faintly listening to music that carried a very relaxed and fun vibe.

Not only did my friend and I receive our food rather fast, but everyone else did too. The chefs seem to have a really good chemistry among each other as they work efficiently to produce some mouth watering Italian food. The food was hot and the bread given to whoever ordered any kind of pasta is very different but was fresh and slightly

crispy and it compliments the dish very well. Other students there as well as families that were there at the moment seemed to be having a great time chatting and dining. The experience has two best parts; the food and the bill. For a heaping delicious plate of chicken Alfredo I spent a whopping \$10. You cannot ask for a much better price for the high quality found here.

Emmett Schindler had a slice of supreme pizza and described it as absolutely delicious. He said, "I would definitely go again and try new things just because my first experience was that good."

Angela McKelvey also had a slice of pizza and said it really filled her up and she stated "It was a cute little restaurant that had a small town vibe to it with pretty good food and service." She said she would also return just because her experience with the food and her friends was superb.

So far you know that the pizza and pasta taste great but their entire menu is filled with dishes that sound equally if not more tasty than the ones listed.

In all, the Transmetropolitan is a stylish restaurant with great customer service and chefs that whip up some great food. It is a perfect experience for anyone into the Italian food scene who is looking to make both his or her stomachs and wallets happy.

Humans of Athens

Taylor Bailey, Statesboro High
Sophie Nitsche, Savannah Arts Academy



Photos by Kaela Moore

Gaylon Vaden

Striking blue eyes look down sadly as the man is asked about the biggest struggle of his life. “Overcoming a rare type of blood cancer,” answers Gaylon Vaden, a homeless man sitting in front of a Five Guys restaurant. “My mother wanted me to be a doctor, but I ended up on the wrong side of the scalpel.”

When asked if he is happy, Vaden answers, “I never get depressed. I always smile. I might not

always be happier... but I’m pretty happy. I try to find a way to help someone every day.” Showing off a book on molecular biology, Vaden tells me, “I used to be an astrophysicist working on something called the Space Defense Program.

One day... I just snapped. I had an epiphany. I walked out with nothing and started hitchhiking. Then thirteen weeks ago, I found out gravitational waves exist, and my brain turned back on.”

Movies Captain America: Civil War Review

Cam Moore, Glynn Academy

In the weeks leading up to “Captain America: Civil War,” trailers answered some questions comic book and Marvel fans had about the film, and raised about twice as many as they answered. No one was quite sure how close it would follow the 2006-2007 Marvel comic book storyline of the same name (minus the Captain America heading, which we’ll talk about later).

Although it wasn’t 100 percent accurate to the comics, as most of the Marvel movies aren’t, Marvel Studios worked very well with what they had. They obviously can’t include things that belong to 20th Century Fox, such as the

Fantastic Four, and members of the X-Men. Being a superhero nerd at heart and having seen a heavy majority of the movies and television shows of the Marvel Cinematic Universe myself, it can be said with confidence, that this movie didn’t need any of those things anyway. It provided a great story that worked well as a continuation of the universe, as well as a launching off point for things to come.

It was also heavily rumored, but still unknown, whether or not Spider-Man would make an appearance. That is, until the second trailer release finally revealed he in fact would be in the movie, as well as



Pamela Lackay

“The hardest part of my life was when my grandmother died. And I have a real hard time makin’ it on my own... but somehow. I don’t get to see my daughter none. That’s the hardest part, right now.”

Lackay twists her red hair through her fingers nervously and adjusts her sun visor. I ask her if she considers herself happy, despite all the hardships.

“Am I happy? Sometimes, and sometimes I’m not... most time I’m not anymore. I used to be happy all the time.”



The Boone Family

Robert Boone and his wife Gwendolyn seemed to be enjoying a day out in downtown Athens with their two toddlers, Genevieve and John Arthur, and baby Emily Katherine who was strapped into a harness on her father’s back for transportation. They sat at a patio table, just outside of Ben & Jerry’s ice cream shop on College Avenue. Genevieve happily informed me that her ice cream was “fruit berry” flavored.

The couple made eye contact with each other when asked if they were genuinely happy, then looked back at us to reply in unison.

“I guess.”



Gabe Newman

Attracted to the gemstone jewelry for sale at a table on East Broad, we approached two men and asked them if they felt that they could consider themselves as genuinely happy. Gabe Newman nodded his head, ran his hands through his hair and rubbed his eyes underneath his black framed glasses before replacing his cap.

“I lost everything. Homelessness [has been my biggest struggle] and I’m still doing it. I’ve been on these streets for ten years and I’m much happier than I ever was when I had all those material things.”

what the MCU web-slinger would look like. And he looks, no pun intended, amazing. The wall crawling, web slinging and agile motion of the web-head that is featured in some of the best looking and most accurate that has ever been put on the big screen.

Although viewers may find his voice a bit too juvenile, Tom Holland as our third live-action iteration of Peter Parker/Spider-Man does not disappoint. Although there’s no doubt that there will still be endless debate of which actor played the role best, Holland really made this iconic role his own, and got hard-core Spidey fans, such

as myself, excited to see what else he has to offer in the upcoming film, Spider-Man Homecoming. Since the movie’s release last month, it’s been said that the movie portrays Tony Stark/Iron Man as the antagonist of the film, rather than showing either side as a relatable one. This is true to some extent. The movie does focus slightly more on Cap and his team of heroes rather than Iron Man and his team; it is called “Captain America: Civil War,” after all.

However, Iron Man’s view was not was not portrayed as the wrong side. His motivations were very coherent and felt like

a very reasonable stance to take.

So much so, actually, that if you’re going into this movie on Team Cap, you might find yourself questioning your loyalty throughout the film at various different scenes. Even the motivations of the main villain of the film, Baron Zemo, although they were understood and also seemed reasonable by the end of the movie.

If you’re a fan of the Marvel movies, and all the superhero action and fighting that comes with them, you’ll enjoy this one.

Reviews

A new favorite?

Coles Ehlers, Clarke Central High School

Everyone’s heard of frozen yogurt places where you choose your own toppings, but have you ever done that in a donut shop? Zombie Donuts recently expanded from its Washington, DC location to Athens and has become a community favorite.

Opened recently in Athens by University of Georgia alumnus Tony Raffa, the business is built around the idea of customer’s choice and knowing what you’re paying for. All donuts cost \$1 no matter how many toppings you choose. This goes the same for drinks too, there are no added costs.

Zombie Donuts also has a coffee bar and all the barista gives you is a cup. However, for those who prefer the barista experience, specialty drinks are available. For those who like iced coffee they fixed the problem of the ice diluting the coffee when it melts with the simple solution of coffee ice cubes.

The donuts themselves are also unusual; you order them by filling out a paper sheet with what you want and simply hand it to the worker. They then send it back where the donut is assembled and then give to you.

“The donuts are made fresh every twenty minutes or

so, and when you order one a worker takes it off the belt and adds your toppings,” said employee Julie Hong. “Everything is made fresh and here in the store.”

The donuts are very thick and fluffy and covered completely with toppings. The cinnamon sugar donut is sweet but doesn’t have the syrupiness of the glaze which appeals to some more than others. The maple bacon was the perfect combo of sweet and salty and had a great cakey texture. They melt in your mouth and are crazy sweet. One donut will fill most people up and they’re not exactly health food.

As a new cafe they have attracted a lot of attention from both Athens and non-Athens citizens.

Nefeteri Newman, an Atlanta resident, tried Zombie Donuts for the first time and was impressed.

“It’s delicious,” Newman said. “I would love to come back here again. The service is nice and I really liked it.”

For those interested in trying it for themselves, the shop is located on 350 E. Broad St. and open from 7 p.m. to 10 a.m.. The phone number is (706) 850-2526 and they cater and deliver.

UnFiltered

Allie Norris, Upson-Lee High School
Crystal Fox, Clarke Central High School

When it comes to Snapchat and other social media, Syd Calhoun has seen first hand how a business or person can create their own reality.

“I followed a store in Southern California. I followed their Snapchat and Instagram because their photos are really cool,” says Calhoun, who lives in San Diego. “I went into it at Pacific Beach and asked if they had a pair of shorts a size bigger. There was a banner that said sizes fit all. The lady said it looks like ‘our clothes only fit most.’ I unfollowed their Snapchat and realized the store wasn’t meant for all body types. I kind of moved on from it and learned about certain businesses and their prerogatives...”

Businesses might misrepresent themselves on Snapchat or Instagram, but so do people.

“The Kardashians are a good example,” says Calhoun. “Kylie Jenner

has started to use a waist trainer, basically Spanx, so she’s been wearing and promoting. I know a few friends of mine who have actually bought them, even though I’ve read studies show it moves your internal organs...because the Kardashians promote it.”

Calhoun uses filters herself but not for any ulterior motives.

“Honestly, I use the filters because I think they’re cool,” she says. It’s not because I want to look cuter, it’s just out of a force of habit and trend.”

Indira Cunningham, a senior at Woodward Academy, also uses filters, especially one that makes her eyes bigger. “For me personally, I would put the most interesting parts that I think people want to see.”

“Honestly, it’s just cool that they can do that,” says Calhoun.

Research shows, however, that using filters can be more meaningful.

Starbucks: The Not So Secret Menu

Mikayla Ladson, Marietta High School

“Hi what can I get you?” This is the generic response I got at my local Starbucks.

“Can I get a tall Strawberry acai refresher with coconut milk and two pumps of vanilla, please,” I said.

She keyed my order in with a sure whatever look and gesture, asked for my name and then took the next customer. What she did not know was that I had just ordered off the secret menu.

The Starbucks secret menu is a hidden menu made up from drinks that already exist, whether its a few more ingredients added to make a new one, or some ingredient swapped for another.

The menu is a result of experimentation by Starbucks lovers and baristas, trying new things with their own drink choices, creating the “secret menu” and sharing with others. Starbucks secret menu has gained a boatload of attention in the past few years after several media outlets like Fox News and Seventeen Magazine. Even fans have created websites devoted to this topic, like secretmenustarbucks.com and starbuckssecretmenu.net, which both have over 200 Starbucks drinks that people have created.

After ordering my drink I walked around the downtown area and surveyed people from ages 21 to 56. I learned that people of an older age range are not too

familiar with the Starbucks Secret menu. For example, Victoria Rebeck, a 56-year-old from Nashville, Tenn., says she’s been drinking Starbucks for “16 -17 years,” but hadn’t heard of the menu. Similarly, Erin Boyette, a 27-year-old from Watkinsville, Ga. hadn’t heard of it either: “I don’t know anything about that,” she said.

“I read a Buzzfeed article about the secret menu, but I don’t know if it exists,” said Jessie Lamay, 23 years old from Athens. “I hear there is a Pink Drink that’s supposed to be good.”

However, younger people are more aware. Jordyn Burrell, a 15-year-old student at Hilgrove High school has ordered from the menu. “I had the Cotton candy Frappuccino, Oreo, Twix, and the Strawberry acai refresher with coconut milk.”

Kayla Smith, a 15-year-old from Greater Atlanta Christian school says “yes,” she’s heard of it. “Yeah, I think it’s pretty cool, but I feel it’s so unnecessary, why can’t it be on the menu? There are flavors people like but don’t know about.”

The Pink Drink, Butterbeer Frappuccino, Cookies and Cream Frappuccino and the Three Cs are four of the 200-plus options you have when ordering off the Starbucks secret menu. The Pink Drink is a Strawberry acai refresher with coconut milk in-

stead of water and two pumps of vanilla. The Cookies and Cream Frappuccino is a double chocolate chip frap with white mocha sauce instead of the regular mocha sauce. The Three Cs is a cinnamon dolce latte with mocha and caramel syrups added. There is an endless amount of options.

When ordering a drink from the secret menu, there is no whispering or “wink, wink.” Instructions are a must; read them the ingredients. Let’s say I wanted a Butterbeer Frappuccino. I would say, “Can I get a Vanilla bean Frappuccino with caramel syrup, toffee nut syrup and caramel drizzle on top.” It’s all about how you say it otherwise dirty or annoyed looks will come your way.



Photo by Kaela Moore

In an interview with Huffington Post, Dr. Gary Glass, director of counseling and psychological services at Duke University says, “People tend to publish the most impressive, entertaining...or attractive versions of themselves on social media platforms. This can create a false impression of how much happier or more successful others are.”

According to British company Photoworld, around 200 million Snapchat users share around 9,000 photos per second. There are just as many reasons why they’d be sharing those images, say researchers at UGA.

“I think they’re doing any of the following: killing time with a jokey activity; expressing something symbolically about themselves or someone else,” said James Hamilton, department head of the University of Georgia’s Entertainment and Media Studies. “Something that isn’t obvious on the surface, and hence needs to be expressed symbolically.”

Sometimes, people may use filters “because people construct a different image instead of using theirs. They do it for artistic reasons,

a reaction in viewers, to entertain them, to be racist, or to be harmful,” said Welch Suggs, associate professor of journalism at UGA. “Social media is just tricky.”

According to the Pew Research Center, 91 percent of young people go online daily. Taylor Bailey, a senior at Statesboro High School, is one of them, and she uses it “every time I open my phone. Fun filters accent my face and make me cuter. I just want to have stars float around my head. I don’t think you should edit your pictures to change your appearance, but a little filtering is OK. Everybody does it.”

“Honestly, I use the filters because I think they’re cool,” she says. It’s not because I want to look cuter, it’s just out of a force of habit and trend.”

– Syd Calhoun

Issues

Minding the Mentality

Nithya Mahakala, Northview High School
Sophie Nitsche, Savannah Arts Academy

When Michelle Nelson walks into her fourth year college classroom at the University of Georgia, she knows that, statistically, a handful of peers struggle with a mental disorder.

"I've had a couple of friends who've had like panic attacks and breakdowns over college and grades," Nelson said.

The stress of deadlines and projects may contribute to depression, anxiety or other severe mental health problems. According to the UGA University Health Center, 1 in 4 UGA students indicated that lack of sleep has impacted their academic performance in a negative way and increased their chance of having panic attacks in an annual survey.

The Centers of Disease Control and Prevention reported that 16 percent of teenagers had seriously considered suicide in the past year, and 8 percent had actually attempted it. Thirty percent of adolescents will experience a depressive episode by the time they turn 18; and out of all who need help, 70 percent will not receive adequate care.

"There's a major increase of anxiety and depression in younger and younger kids. They can't just play anymore. There's no way to decompress," said Rebecca Stanchfield, a child and adolescent play therapist in Savannah, Ga.

The range of illnesses encompasses everything from depression to suicidal ideation. The trend of declining mental wellness is facilitated by intense academic pressures to succeed, the emergence of adulthood, and broad societal expectations.

"School absolutely has an impact on that. Twenty years ago, you could get into any college if you tried," Stanchfield said. "But now... the requirements are

ridiculous, even if you have a 4.0 GPA... School competition crushes them."

In a recent poll taken by the Gallup Youth Survey of high school students, the top 50 percent of teens chose "stressed" and "tired" when it came to describe their school careers.

To battle mental issue obstacles, many colleges and universities have started to offer counseling or psychiatric services on campus. Health centers now provide 24-hour crisis hotlines and offer training for students, faculty and staff. The UGA University Health Center has its own support in the form of the Counseling and Psychiatric Services.

Support organizations have been created around campus to remove the negative connotation surrounding mental health. One such group is UGA's chapter of Active Minds, which works to inform students about symptoms and treatment of disorders, says the group's president Colleen Keeler.

"This is vital, as it can help many students get on the path to recovery that they might have otherwise never found," she says.

The UGA chapter has hosted several events on campus to promote mental health knowledge, the most prominent being a display consisting of more than 1,100 flags on Tate Lawn, each one representing a college student who had taken their life in the past year.

"People all over campus were impacted by this display, and I heard students discussing it for several days after it went up," said Keeler. "The more people get used to discussing and hearing about mental health topics, the less stigmatized the issues will become, as they will begin to realize how prevalent these issues truly are."

Don't Subtract the Plus

Emma Sollenberger, Campbell High School

"We know a lot about homosexuality—ok, cool," said Mariah Manoylov, a freshman at the University of Georgia. "But there's so, so many more things on the sexuality spectrum and the gender spectrum that exist, but not many people know about."

Homosexuality isn't the only LGBT+ group to receive national attention recently. The "bathroom laws" attempting to bar transgender individuals from certain restrooms have generated enormous controversy, bringing transgender issues into the light.

However, while trans men and women are gaining recognition, other LGBT+ groups, such as nonbinary genders and unknown sexualities, still do not receive as much attention and acceptance.

"Polysexuality, demisexuality, asexuality," said Manoylov, when asked to list identities she considers lesser known. "If you want to expand that to gender-agender, I don't feel like a lot of people know about that. Trigender."

Unless you have done research or participated in an LGBT+ organization such as UGA's Lambda

Alliance, of which Manoylov is a member, you may not recognize the terms she mentioned.

Asexuality, or the lack of sexual attraction towards any gender, is one of these underrepresented sexualities. Due to the near nonexistence of asexual representation, some people never realize that they may be asexual, and feel broken and left out in the sexualized world we live in. Discovering the existence of asexuality, or any sexuality that applies to a person, can be a step towards better self-expression and understanding.

Another lesser known identity is demisexuality, where a person does not experience sexual attraction until they form an emotional bond with the person they are attracted to. Pansexuals can feel sexual attraction to anyone, regardless of gender, while polysexuals are attracted to multiple, but not all, genders. Pans and polys are often confused with bisexuality- attraction towards two genders -but are actually their own identities.

Many of the discussed sexualities deal with genders that lie on the gen-

der spectrum or under the non-binary umbrella, neither of which are commonly represented in media.

Non-binary is used to describe any gender that falls outside the male-female binary. Genderfluid individuals are one example, experiencing changing gender identities throughout their life, even shifting genders daily. Bi-gender describes someone identifying as two genders, trigender as three. An agender person does not identify as any gender.

The diversity of labels and definitions leads many to believe that we don't need them, and that we can be who we are without classifying ourselves. Many disagree. Manoylov suggests that these labels may put words to feelings and allow more healthy self-expression.

"Language is the tool that we use to understand our world," she said. "So labels are inherently part of our language, and language inherently helps us understand. I feel like people do need labels to understand ourselves, to understand other people- just to understand the world."

From different angles: short & tall

Coles Ehlers, Clarke Central High School
Amanda Morris, Cambridge High School

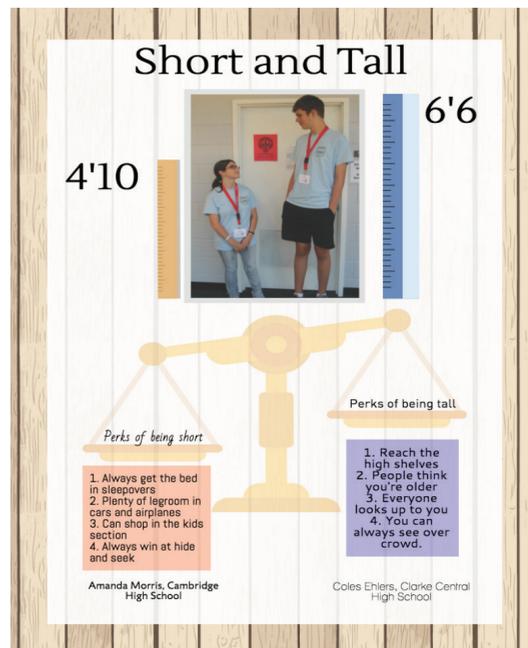


Illustration by Coles Ehlers

Local Culture

A warm welcome to Athens

Sydney Calhoun, at Cathedral Catholic High School

Southern Hospitality...Something Athens, Ga., cultivates in its downtown. A warm smile and glass of sweet tea is never far, and unlike anywhere else locals are not just citizens, but a family of artists, owners and entrepreneurs. With the heart of town being the University of Georgia, Athens serves as home to dawg fans, food critics and coffee connoisseurs. Where college town meets urban, I consider it the Brooklyn of the South.

Born and raised in San Diego, Calif., I've never experienced Southern Hospitality until my trip to Athens. While wandering through UGA's North Campus, I found myself at the Arch and within seconds, a part of the hustle and bustle. I discovered the spots where one interacts with the hospitable ways of Athens.

Food - Ted's Most Best

254 W Washington St, Athens, GA 30601
<http://www.tedsmostbest.com>

With the perfect meal comes tradition, and in a town where recipes are handed down, the restaurants are inevitably mouth-watering. Not only does the food have a traditional taste, and presentation, but the buildings themselves hold a charming history making you feel a little less of a customer, and more of a guest. Ted's

Most Best is more than your average eatery—it was even transformed from an old tire garage.

"The owner's name was Ted, and he actually passed," said employee Andrea Demarcus. "He was the man around town, a huge musician, and he was friends with a lot of people. They always wanted to start a pizza place, and they decided to dedicate it in his name."

Shopping - Fringe Boutique

153 E Clayton St, Athens, GA 30601
[Http://www.shopfringe.com](http://www.shopfringe.com)

Have you ever been into a store and not received help or even a hello? Well in Athens, customer service is their specialty, and you can expect a warm welcome with help to find the right dress, accessory, or antique. From the small details in the packaging down to the windows, one experiences the comfort of a locally owned store.

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Photo by Nerferteri Newman

Vinyl sales up dramatically due to millennials fascination with retro culture

Taylor Bailey, Statesboro High School

In Wuxtry Records, which makes its home in the congenial streets of Athens downtown scene, a variety of people can be found browsing boxes of vinyl LPs arranged collectively by year and genre. In a tie dyed T-shirt displaying the colorful marching bears known to represent 1960s American rock band The Grateful Dead, Tessa Higdon, a millennial, stated that she enjoys seeing others in record stores like Wuxtry because it means they "are listening to music the way it should be heard."

For music sticklers such as Higdon, a phenomenal feat has been tackled in the form of sales statistics, as vinyl has surged back to popularity and revitalized music in its purest form. According to Nielsen's 2015 U.S. year-end report, CD sales, since their prime, have continued to fall which presents vinyls with the opportunity to rise to power. In 2015, vinyl sales were up by 30 percent from the previous year, and have steadily increased since 2005, with independent locations contributing roughly 45 percent of these sales. The record that landed in slot number one on charts in 2014 belonged to none other than Pink Floyd: The progressive musical deity that spanned approximately four decades. The band's fifteenth and final album "The Endless River" was released in November and showcased an ambient tone.

The question is now posed as to the cause of such an increase and can be answered simply: The revival of retro and vintage culture has taken over the minds of millennial's. Suddenly, being old school is trendy, from musical influence to the style of clothing worn by the baby boomers. With distressed and vintage

items becoming more popular within retail stores such as Etsy and Urban Outfitters, it is only fit for the musical influences of these time periods to arrive alongside style and these stores marketing on modernized record players only confirms such a theory. A cultural movement propelled by grunge clothing and thrift shopping has begun to place (arguably) the most stereotypically popular of classic rock albums into the hands of trendy teenagers across America, as "Abbey Road" and "The Dark Side of the Moon" end 2015 as third and fourth on the vinyls sales charts. These are, unsurprisingly, predeceased by none other than Adele's "25" and Taylor Swift's "1989," as listed by Nielsen's 2015 U.S. year-end report.

"I like this [vintage] trend because it's different. In my town especially it's something that not a lot of people have conformed to, and it's even more alluring now that these old 90's things are coming back like the music and clothes and [television] shows," said Isabel Vicens, a 16-year-old senior at Statesboro High School. "Urban Outfitters has a lot of that merchandise and it's expensive. So the appeal is that not a lot of people have it."

On the contrary, Edie Grace Grice, sophomore at Statesboro High, feels differently about why she's interested in the retro movement. She says that she considers herself to be "an old soul" and says she "agrees with how things were in the 70's more than I agree with how things are now."

Urban Outfitters' Athens location, located on East Clayton street amongst mostly quirky locally owned storefronts, houses a more extensive collection of vinyl than some other store

locations. A selection of pastel polaroid cameras and visually appealing record players are on display upon entrance, and in the far left corner of the store, you'll find aesthetically organized shelves of vinyl, arranged seemingly by popularity, with an indie playlist making its way into your ears in the background. A new copy of Led Zeppelin's "Physical Graffiti" is priced at \$39.98.

"While most baby boomers likely remember records as being in the \$10-20 range, a new copy of Bruce Springsteen's 'Born in the USA' today will run you nearly \$40," said Chris Morris, writer for Fortune Magazine.



Photo by Kayla Smith

What it's like to be a Bulldog, as told by Jeb Blazevich

Jeb Blazevich, serves as a tight end on the University of Georgia football team. He will be entering his junior year majoring in Risk Management. Jeb is a loyal follower of God and relies heavily on his faith for a lot of his motivation, as well as inspiration. Jeb tells us about what it's like to be a Bulldog and how UGA has assisted in the growth of his character.

Tori Vincent

Q: What's the feeling when you first walk on the field for a game?

A: A lot of nerve, a lot of excitement, a lot of just anxious energy. I don't know how to describe it, I always just try to look up and take a deep breath and go about my business.

Q: How has UGA football helped shape you as a person?

A: It puts you through the fire, it really tests you. Camp every year is not fun. I played the whole season with a sprained ankle. It makes you understand what is important to you, who's important to you. I feel like God uses those trials in my life, he uses football to mold me by saying "Well if you're a little cocky, here's a little injury, if you feel a little too prideful or if you need to trust me, if you need to fall back on me." Football is a real easy venue to push me back to Him, so I would say

that's the biggest thing, it's helped my faith a lot.

Q: How do other teammates and players help encourage each other when people have bad days?

A: I've definitely had a few, my teammates have had a few, guys dropping touchdown passes. I think the biggest thing is to say, "you know tomorrow's a new day," that's all you can do and it's just a game, it really doesn't matter in the grand scheme of things.

Q: How do you hope to improve this season?

A: Lots of ways. I think my biggest (area) that I'm trying to work on right now is my route running, I feel like I've gone from a better route runner, to a better blocker and now I need to get back on the better route running, but really just in every way. I feel like physically, if I can get where I need to be, everything else will follow, just getting big-



Photo by LeiLani Clemmons

ger, faster, stronger, pretty much like everybody else.

Q: Do you think Kirby Smart will contribute to that?

A: No doubt. I think the men he's hired and the culture that he's creating is perfect for us taking that next step to where we need to get. Coach Scott Sinclair, I love him as a strength coach, and so working with him, I already see a lot of improvements. I didn't get fat, I actually got too heavy, and that's always good to see.

Q: You're the projected starter this year but others are good contenders, what

to be the starter, that's the fun part, but at the end of the day, we're all trying to win games, we all want the best person out there.

Q: What attracted you to UGA?

A: I fell in love with Athens. I felt like God called me to be here and I had a emotional and physical connection with UGA. I loved the coaches here, and they have good tight end interaction.

Q: Who's your biggest influence?

A: Jesus and faith, that's who I wake up and try to be everyday. But in terms of people here, there's a lot of positive influences around me, but probably my girlfriend Addie Lippitt, she's a strong believer, she's a really hard worker, she's on the cross country team here, she works as hard as anybody I've ever seen. She's really nice, I would say she's an expert on other people's strengths, she's always knowing the best in other people. She always brings the best out in me, so I think she influences me the most.

separates you from the others?

A: That's the good thing about our tight end room, we're all in it together.

We're all cheering for each other, like Jackson Harris pushes me, I push him, we do that with Jordan Davis and Isaac Nauta and some of the new guys. I think the guys before me and the guys in there now, have created a culture of, "let me help you get to your maximum, then whoever's the best man we don't care." It's all about the tight end system as a room and we all helped each other get there. Of course everyone wants

In-helmet communication comes to SEC

Liza Bilich

The SEC continues to discuss the implementation of in-helmet communication in the 2017 football season.

Conference officials discussed in-helmet communication at the recent spring football meetings, but want more conversations before deciding how and when to introduce it. Discussions about the cost, how to limit the use, and which players on the field get to use them, would need to be decided before the headsets would be approved.

"We think it could help clean up sidelines because coaches don't have to come out and signal plays," Steve Shaw, SEC coordinator of officials said in the Spring meeting.

The NFL uses in-helmet headsets for

coaches and the quarterback and one defensive player to communicate between plays.

The radio connections are cut off with 15 seconds left on the play clock. Most college teams communicate with signs and hand signals.

Justin Moore, the associate athletic director for football at Texas A&M University, said he's "all for the devices coming to college football."

On the other hand, there are many disadvantages to the devices coming to the SEC.

"There might be an unfair advantage if a team with a lower budget than ours comes in and aren't able to use the headset technology that we have been using all season. I like using the hand signals because

we are all comfortable with them." UGA tight end Jeb Blazevich said.

The devices could speed up the game, eliminating the time used by constant signaling.

The technology also provides more cushion in the player's helmet and allows teams to keep electronic medical records about the player. Trainers on the sideline can spot possible injuries and even concussions because of the use of these devices.

"They could be distracting. In-helmet devices eliminate a top skill that athletes need to develop: decision making," Greg Bowers, University of Missouri sports editor, said.

ACC introduced the idea of in-helmet communication to the NCAA, but it was turned down.

Welcoming in a new era in Atlanta Falcons football

Colton Towe

The Falcons were established in 1966 by Rankin M. Smith in Atlanta.

The Falcons have only been to one super bowl (1998), in which they were defeated by the Denver Broncos, led by John Elway.

Dan Quinn is in his second year as the coach of the Falcons.

This team and fanbase in Atlanta is eager for their first Super Bowl title and a young coach knows how to win.

Atlanta is starting to piece together a championship-caliber team with Matt Ryan as quarterback, Devonta Freeman, running back, and Julio Jones, wide receiver.

Quinn is making interesting moves in this year's free agency campaign.

In the 2015 draft the falcons selected Vic Beasley and Keanu Neal.

Blank will want consistency and results from the falcons. Since the Falcons will be playing in a new stadium in 2017. Quinn and his young Atlanta Falcons team are looking forward to it.

Upcoming icons to keep your eye on

By: Joel Robinson

In the world of sports, every era has icons. These men and women stand the test of time. They are unforgettable figures, worthy of respect from all of their peers and praise from all of their fans.

There is a change happening across the sports world. Names and faces that have been mainstream for decades are beginning to disappear.

Peyton Manning has hung up the cleats, Kobe Bryant laced up the shoes, and "The Captain" Derek Jeter has had his last at-bat.

This loss of the icons of the late 1990s and early 2000s begins to beg the age-old question: Who's next?

A change is coming, and this group of men are surging to the top.

Manning has been the icon of the NFL for nearly two decades. His greatest rival, Tom Brady, is still around, but he only has a couple of good years left before father time finally catches up. The question remains: Who is the next big thing in football?

Many say that it is Manning's fellow New Orleans native, Leonard Fournette. The big bruising back out of LSU is only a year away from being a first round pick in the NFL Draft.

Many have compared him to Herschel Walker or Bo Jackson. Fournette is a scary combination of both.

Walker was extremely fast, but he never had to dodge anyone.

Meanwhile, Jackson was as shifty as a 230 pound back could get. Fournette is just as shifty as Jackson with the same amount of power as Walker. That's like a bullet train on a football field.

Running for nearly 3,000 yards and almost 30 touchdowns in only two years whilst playing the best defenses that college football has to offer is a feat on its own.

But it is not only talent that makes an icon. Being iconic in football is a combination of ridiculous talent and personality. Fournette is as humble as a college kid can be.

Never has there been an instance where he talks smack or retaliates. He simply lets his playing do the speaking. Fournette is an upcoming icon and if you try to stop him, you'll end up like a bug on a windshield, obliterated.

Bryant has been basketball's most recognizable face. "The Black Mamba" is not only one of the most famous players of all time, he is one of the most famous people too.

The next icon of the NBA is Stephen Curry.

He rarely misses a shot which leads him to become one of the greatest shooters in the league.

Not only does he have skill, Curry has all the accolades. He has won the NBA MVP award two years in a row. He is only 28 years old and

been in the league for seven year.

One can only imagine what the future holds for the second generation NBA guard. Fifty years from now, people will still be talking about the man who changed the game of basketball.

In baseball, No. 2 will forever be associated with Jeter. He had so many incredibly iconic moments while wearing the Yankee pinstripes and it is not likely that anyone will ever eclipse him.

Young players who are primed to reach for that brass ring are Bryce Harper and Mike Trout.

A true "five-tool player," Harper has been an icon since he was in high school. There were legends thrown around about this teenage kid who could hit a ball 400 feet just about every time at bat.

Just last season, at the age of 22, Harper hit 42 home runs, and was named the NL MVP.

Meanwhile, Trout was on the opposite side of the U.S., hitting just one less homer than Harper and finishing just a few votes shy of a second straight AL MVP award. He has four Silver Slugger awards and has one of the most iconic home run robberies of all time.

These sports stars are making their mark and its only a matter of time before they are all household names.

Refugees competing in Rio Olympics

Liza Bilich

The 2016 Olympics are coming up and all eyes will be on a certain team. The ROT, or the Refugee Olympic Team, will compete in Rio de Janeiro.

The 10 competing athletes are refugees and will represent four countries: South Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Syria and Ethiopia. The six males and four females will participate in swimming, running and judo.

In hopes of bringing attention to the refugee crisis, the International Olympic Committee created this team.

"These refugees have no home, no team, no flag, no national anthem. We will offer them a home in the Olympic Village with all the other athletes of the world," said Thomas Bach, IOC President, to Olympics.com.

The team will enter the Opening Ceremony on August 5th carrying the Olympic flag and leave the Closing Ceremony on August 21st the same way.

"This will be a symbol of hope for all the refugees in our world, and will make the world better aware of the magnitude of this crisis," Bach said to Olympics.com. "It is also a signal to the international community that refugees are our fellow human beings and an enrichment to society."

The 10 athletes were chosen from 43 total applicants. The ROT will also have a crew of five coaches and five team officials accompanying them.

The athletes are:

Rami Anis (male): 25, Syria, swimming.

Yusra Mardini (female): 18, Syria, swimming.

Yolande Bukasa Mabika (female): 28, Democratic Republic of the Congo, judo, -70kg.

Popole Misenga (male): 24, Democratic Republic of the Congo, judo, 90kg.

Yiech Pur Biel (male): 21, South Sudan, running 800m.

James Nyang Chiengiiek (male): 28, South Sudan, running 400m.

Yonas Kinde (male): 36, Ethiopia, running marathon.

Anjelina Nada Lohalith (female): 21, South Sudan, running 1500m

Rose Nathike Lokonyen (female): 23, South Sudan, running 800m.

Paulo Amotun Lokoro (male): 24, South Sudan, running 1500m.

Refugees even participated in carrying the Olympic Torch. One Syrian refugee, Ibrahim al-Hussein, carried the torch through the Eleonas camp in Athens, Greece, and another, Hanan Dacka, just 12 years old, carried the torch on its first relay in Brazil.

"By carrying the Olympic Torch, people from all over the world will know that refugees are real people, and that we can do positive things," Dacka said to aljazeera.com.

"Their participation in the Olympics is a tribute to the courage and perseverance of all refugees in overcoming adversity and building a better future for themselves and their families," said Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner of Refugees, to aljazeera.com.

Quidditch comes to life

By: Hannah Fogus

Quidditch, the high-flying game made popular by the Harry Potter series, has become a popular past time across college campuses throughout the United States and the world.

Broomsticks are used, but don't have the magical powers to make the players take flight.

Eighty college quidditch teams recently took part in the World Cup 8 of 2016 on April 11-12 in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Fans of the popular Harry Potter series are well acquainted with quidditch. For those who don't know, quidditch is a game in which one rides a broomstick around a field, throwing balls through large hoops for points, dodging large bludgers, and racing to capture the tiny, golden snitch that will win the game.

This popular game in the Harry Potter books has come to life as it has become a worldwide sport in numerous colleges and communities.

In the books, players fly on broomsticks with magical flying balls and bludgers. In real life, the game takes place on the ground with broomsticks in between player's legs with normal balls to shoot in hoops for points.

This intramural sport requires a variety of different skills, such as coordination, speed, endurance and strength.

"From what I've seen, the game isn't easy. They work their players in practice, just like any other sport, and the games are usually a challenging win," Texas A&M student Heather Berger said.

From the uncommon rules and layout of the game, multiple college students and bystanders enjoy to watch the quidditch team's practices and games.

"It's fascinating to watch," University of Texas student Amber Williams said, "If I'm ever having a bad day or I know I just failed a test, I go over to where the quidditch team is practicing and I sit and watch and then my day just gets better. I get a real kick out of it."

Broomsticks are required for all players to keep in between their legs at all times during the game, and if a player doesn't have a broomstick, he or she must play with one arm behind their back.

Quidditch on college campuses in the United States started with seven teams in 2005. This year 60 teams participated in the 2016 World Cup 8.

J.K. Rowling, the author of the Harry Potter series, has not only created one of the most successful book series, but she has also introduced a new sport that has the world buzzing with excitement.

Satellite camps: ingenuity or unfair advantage?

Joel Robinson

Who's that guy in the Allen Iverson jersey?

Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh and his traveling circus of football camps, ranging from Alabama to Australia have been causing plenty of controversy in the college football world. These satellite camps allow coaches from the Big Ten, Big 12 and Pac-12 to go around the globe and introduce their programs to elite high school talents.

The problem: There's a major loophole in the NCAA's ruling against satellite camps. Coaches can't host camps outside of a 50-mile radius of their school.

So how is Harbaugh allowed to do what he's doing?

He's not hosting the camps. Harbaugh, who has been showing up to these camps wearing the jerseys of local sports heroes in effort to connect with the kids of the area, is simply traveling to these various camps and helping out. According to the Big Ten, this is perfectly legal, but most other conferences do not allow their coaches to help or host camps outside of the 50-mile radius.

This leaves coaches like Ala-

bama's Nick Saban and Auburn's Gus Malzahn helpless when Harbaugh is helping at a camp in the state of Alabama, just outside each coach's respective radii.

Saban has been the loudest voice in resistance to Harbaugh's tactics, saying, "It's bad for college football," at the SEC spring meetings. Saban also said, "This is the wild, wild West at its best. There have been no specific guidelines relative to how we're managing control of this stuff."

Of course, it did not take long for Harbaugh to fire back at Saban by highlighting the allegations of recruiting violations by the Crimson Tide and basically calling him a hypocrite.

The cold war that has been brewing over the subject of satellite camps since Harbaugh's epic shirtless performance in Prattville, Alabama, last summer has finally seen an opening of fire.

The lines have been clearly drawn. There's no turning back. University of Georgia tight end Jeb Blazevich is for satellite camps.

"At the end of the day, if a student-athlete is just paying to get coached, I think that's exactly what it

needs to be," he said. "Like, these kids that can't travel all across the country to get coached by who they want to get coached by, I think it's a great thing in terms of accessibility.

"I think it's a good idea. I think it's tough for recruiting. I think it's a lot more work for those guys, but in the same sense it's great for them. I think it's great for Georgia"

When asked if coaches like Nick Saban were overreacting to the camps, Blazevich responded, "I would say, all you're (referring to satellite camp coaches) doing is informing these players of another option...I think the more informed they are, the better it is for them as a person."

Some of the campers here at the Grady Games share the opinion that satellite camps are just fine.

"The camps open options for the kids. It lets them see that there are places outside of their area that are just as good if not better," LeyLani Clemmons said.

Tori Vincent agreed that the camps are good for the kids, but added, "It is not beneficial for the coaches." Oklahoma State head coach Mike Gundy's camps take place across Texas

and will have coaches from the Big Ten, Big 12 and Pac-12.

While most Big Ten coaches are fully in favor of the satellite camps, Rutgers head coach Chris Ash is much against them and has sided with Saban. He is upset about Harbaugh coming into New Jersey and helping at a camp at Paramus Catholic, home of the premier high school football team in the state. Ash believes that the camps take coaches away from their own program and hurts relationships with players and their development.

He held a camp on the same day as Harbaugh at Fairleigh Dickinson University at Madison (NJ) with guest coaches Urban Meyer and Greg Schiano. The Rutgers faithful did not take kindly to Harbaugh.

Are the satellite camps ingenious or unfair? That answer is hotly debated and will continue to be debated as long as Harbaugh parades around the globe

Harbaugh's traveling circus is just beginning. So I suggest you put your seat belts on, folks. This summer is going to be a long one, and we're in for a bumpy ride.

SEC VS Mississippi

Tori Vincent

Jeffrey Simmons, an 18 year old football recruit, caught on video repeatedly beating a woman, will soon be a Mississippi State Bulldog, thanks to head coach Dan Mullen. The safety of the female students could be resting in the hands of Mullen.

It seems as though winning football games has surpassed the safety of the campus.

Mullen has stated he believes Simmons deserves a chance and will be admitted under condition. He must sit out the first game of the season.

The SEC states that transfers who were convicted of a crime or pleaded guilty to a felony at any time in their college career, are banned from playing for the university. However, this statute does not include incoming freshmen due to the fact their juvenile records are sealed.

The coaches who are considering signing those who are 18 and younger face the serious issue of being unaware of the crimes and affairs they could've taken part in, which was exactly the case for Simmons. SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey stated these types of issues can be extremely

difficult to address due to the sensitivity of underage students.

The opinion expressed by Sankey is one many people share. He feels uncomfortable.

Sankey is a man of great power, he understands the consequences the school could face when making a decision like this.

By doing this, MSU is sending a message to people: Football is more important than the safety of women.

Prospective students will begin to shy away from Mississippi State, especially if you are a woman. The bad publicity that's already coming out of this situation will only get worse once the season starts.

UGA tight end Jeb Blazevich stated he agreed colleges should be more selective when recruiting and pay attention to character traits and the various ways their personality would come out in specific situations, such as this one with Simmons.

UGA faced a similar issue with defensive lineman Jonathan Taylor in 2014. He was dismissed for being charged with aggravated assault/family violence charges. Taylor then signed with Alabama and was later

dismissed when his girlfriend said he assaulted her. She later recanted but he pleaded guilty to a charge of criminal mischief.

In a country where sports, especially football, are worshiped by most citizens, it can be easy to become blindsided by that and put the game over the players.

However, the fact coaches have become okay with people who exhibit this kind of violence representing their team is an idea many people can't wrap their heads around.

It's hard to believe colleges are willing to ruin their reputation in order to win a few more games, rather than work a little harder with players who are only violent when they're going after the ball, not when they're frustrated and take it out on innocent people who were caught in the whirlwind.

The question stands as to whether it's worth losing prospective students, fans, alumni support and various other forms of backing, just for a player who will be gone in four years.

Players are replaceable, but reputations are not, and once the reputation of a university is challenged, it's hard to build it back.

College football rivalries

Hannah Fogus

Sometimes it is hard to hear the commentary from the press box of a football game over the roaring cheers and screams of the fans. These screams are heightened if it is a game between college football rivals.

Rivalries are all over the United States, however there are some rivalries that are intensified from the fans who have been following these rivalries since they were set in place. The top three rivalries in the country are Alabama-Auburn, Michigan-Ohio State and Oklahoma-Texas.

Stepping foot in the stadium of an Alabama-Auburn game means you must make the straining decision to chant "War Eagle" or "Roll Tide." Alabama fans represent the chants of "Roll Tide," which refers to the school's Crimson Tide of their crimson and white colors that are bleed deep in the hearts of Alabama fans.

The other half of the stadium consists of Auburn fans chanting "War Eagle." The chant dates to 1892, when Auburn met Georgia for the first time on the football field, and it refers to a veteran in the Civil War. These universities are the two largest in the state of Alabama, making them born rivals who are represented by the diehard fans and athletes.

Known as "The Game," the Michigan-Ohio State rivalry is one of the greatest. The rivalry between the Wolverines and the Buckeyes has been going on since 1897 and was renewed in 1918.

The Michigan stadium can hold up to 109,901 people, with Ohio State holding up to 104,944 people. With both stadiums full for a game, the screams of the thousands of people will leave ringing in your ears for days.

Everything is bigger in Texas, including football and its rivalries. Boomer Sooners and the Longhorns are long time rivals, known as the "Red River Showdown." The two states are separated by the Red River, giving meaning to the nickname. This big rivalry has created tension among the states.

As a Texan, I can vouch for the fact that Texans and Oklahomans have a strong sense of pride for their state with little appreciation or respect for their neighboring state. There is no such thing as a Longhorn and Boomer Sooners fan. You must make the choice to bleed burnt orange or red and white, there is no in between.

Rivalries have existed for as long as sports have been around. If you're a sports fan, you most likely have a favorite team with a rival that you can't stand to see win. This puts a little extra buzz in games to make the energy on and off the field between players and fans more exciting.