Cheer on Panthers at first CAA games

With students out for the Thanksgiving holiday, Panthers need faculty, staff support to cheer Georgia State Panthers on to victory

Panthers’ coaches shout to “Move, move!” and yell so “Keep your arms up!” were the only sounds breaking up the squeak of players’ Nike shoes on the basketball court at a recent practice. For the most part, this practice was indistinguishable from those in past seasons – with the exception of three things: the letters CAA strung near the court’s foul lines. Those letters speak volumes on just how different this season will be from those in the past – this year marks the first time the Georgia State University Panthers will compete in the Colonial Athletic Association. Coaches and players expect tougher competition in the CAA than what they faced in the Atlantic Sun Conference last year.

“The men’s opener, Nov. 22 at home against Delaware, which is ranked eighth by a CAA preseason poll to start the season, will mark the basketball team’s first CAA contest. CAA Commissioner Tom Yeager will be on hand for a ceremonial tip-off to welcome Georgia State into the CAA. Because the game, and another on Nov. 20 against Charlotte, falls around the Thanksgiving holiday, support from faculty and staff will be key in making sure the Panthers have plenty of noise backing them.

“Student-athletes appreciate faculty and staff coming and showing their support that way,” Georgia State Athletics Director Mary McElroy said. “It’s important for these particular games because we’re expecting to have a smaller number of students because of the holiday weekend. We want to make sure we have good crowds.”

A supportive wave of blue and white from the stands will make a difference, whether the Panthers are up against a CAA competitor or one from another conference, especially when well-known teams such as Georgia Tech (from the Atlantic Coast Conference) take on the Lady Panthers Nov. 30.

“The crowd is a huge part of what your team’s atmosphere is all about,” said Lea Henry-Manning, head coach of Georgia State’s women’s team. “Our players play hard, and it is as rewarding to them when they have a large, vocal crowd behind them. It gives them that extra incentive. The crowd is such a factor when athletes play close games. It creates a better atmosphere.”

Ticket sales for some games, including the one against University of Georgia, an SEC team, on Dec. 10 at Gwinnett Arena, have been brisk, McElroy said. She may have to make more tickets for that game available if the trend continues. The Panthers hope the hype about ticket sales will bring new fans to cheer them on through this year’s intense competition.

Though the Panthers have some tough fights ahead, they are far from unprepared. Both teams have been practicing for weeks, reviewing tapes and working to fix any weak areas before the season gets underway. McElroy hopes to see the men’s and women’s teams reach the NCAA tournament. To do that, the Panthers must take home the NCAA title. Last year the Old Dominion men’s and women’s teams won the CAA, and both teams are picked to win it again this year. The Old Dominion women have been the CAA champions for 14 straight years. The Lady Panthers host them at the end of the season.

“I believe the focus of the team is to win and to be successful,” Henry-Manning said. “We have a lot of young talent on the team, and we believe we have a chance to turn around the basketball program this year.”

With the game in Atlanta this year, the Panthers expect a big turnout of faculty and staff. Supportive fans could be a factor in the outcome. “People in those big crowds enjoy the atmosphere,” Perry said. “But what they don’t realize is they contribute to that atmosphere. If we can get people to see what an outstanding impact a big crowd can have, then they have a chance to make that environment very special.”

— Michael Perry, Panthers’ head coach

“Why all the hype around Dec. 6 game against Kentucky?”

That game just signals or blows the trumpet that Georgia State basketball has arrived. It’s a [game of] tremendous significance. It can take on an even greater significance with a win. I think for the program, it’s great to have that game.

Other than practice and looking at film, what else happens in a regular day for you?

I like to go out and look at classes. I like to go down to our kids that academics matter as much as basketball.

What do you hope your players get from your coaching?

I want the guys to be able to win and to be able to win championships, not only to win a lot of games. I want guys to leave the program in better shape than when they came in. I want guys to have as many options as they can. Sometimes they have options to play for money [in professional leagues]. I want them to have as many options of offices as they do on the floor.

Lea Henry-Manning
Georgia State Women’s Basketball coach

What’s a typical day like for you as a coach?

The season is very busy. In the morning, the coaching staff comes in and prepares for prac- tice. We evaluate a lot of film and evaluate our own team. Then we’ll have practice. After prac- tice, we’ll talk about how we’re doing as a team.

What are your goals for the season?

We want to have a 20-win season. We want to win our regular-season championship. We want to be prepared when tournament games around to play our best basketball and win the conference championship. We want to advance to the NCAA championship, and we would like to enjoy the process along the way.

How do you balance on-court goals with academic goals?

We have to have priorities in life. Our players understand what’s expected of them. They’re here to graduate, number one, and prepare for the rest of their lives. Number two, they are here to represent the university in a professional way.

How do you relax after a game?

I really don’t. The only way you do is if your team played well. You have a tendency at that point to just mentally let go. But if your team doesn’t play well, and if your team isn’t successful, you can’t re- lax. What I look to do after a game is have dinner with my family. It’s important to have balance.
children. For instance, Patton works with Central Atlan-

taland Atlanta's Neighborhood Development Partnership. His desire to serve

can help students to see the
cyclist, graduate of the Robinson-Cati

and 17 percent), when a similar survey

n, which is a tough job

tight contact of violence.

is open and to the

public and scheduled for 3 p.m. on Dec. 8 in the

the Health Science Academy.

Another group of interns is conducting an

and work what and doesn't work. How
do you know if you are winning the battle if

against, or what works and what doesn't. How
even harder if you don't know what you are up

are involved in a community service project between May 15,

or student groups that have been involved in a

community service project between May 15,


How do I get a nomination form?

Send 404/463-9043 or e-mail Lovell Lenons, director of community

service, at lenons@gsu.edu.

What other materials must I submit?

• Information about the project

• The names of the project's organizers, activities and

people who participated in the project how it benefited others

What is the nomination deadline?

Dec. 16.

Who's eligible?

Faculty, staff members, students or student groups that have been involved in a community service project between May 15, 2004, and Dec. 1, 2005.

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What other materials must I submit?

Supporting material should include:

• Information about the project

• The names of the project's organizers, activities and people who participated in the project how it benefited others

Additional information may include:

• how many people were affected by the project

• how the project benefited the

• media coverage of the event, such as newspaper clips or video

Where do I submit the nomination packet?

Send materials to the Office of Community Service, Student Center, Suite 320 (Community Service, PO. Box 3973, Atlanta, GA. 30302-3973).

President's Awards recognize community service efforts

By Wendy Bigham

If you have been involved in a project that improved the well-being of a community on a local, regional or international level, Georgia State University's Office of Community Service wants to know. The office will present its first President's Awards for Community Service and Social Action next year and is accepting nominations until Dec. 16.

The Office of Community Service, which promotes opportunities for community service and service learning, established the awards to honor faculty, staff and student groups that have given back to the community.

"As a citizen, you have an obligation to your fellow human beings," said President Carroll F. "Butch" Patton, who created the Office of Community Service. The awards underscore the university's and Patton's philosophy of serving Georgia State's students and community.

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Speakers address hurricanes' aftermath

More than two months have passed since Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc on the nation, killing hundreds of people and leaving millions more without homes. To address the psychological, religious and social impact of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, the College of Arts and Sciences is cosponsoring a speaker series called "Natural Disasters: Reflections and Responses." The series, which also is cosponsored by Georgia State University's Jean Beer Blumberg Center for Ethics and the Center for Neighborhood and Metropolitan Studies, began Nov. 8 with a panel on "Religion, Disasters and the Problem of Suffering." Moderated by Andrew I. Cohen, center for ethics director, the panel included a rabbi, Buddhist monk, imam and a Christian minister. The panel addressed the philosophical questions raised by natural disasters.

Upcoming events in the series include:
- A lecture by Fran Norris, a Dartmouth professor of psychiatry and community and family medicine. She will present "The Psychosocial Consequences of Disaster: What We Know, What We Should Know and How We Study This." The lecture, which is part of the College of Arts and Sciences Lecture Series, is scheduled for 1 p.m. Nov. 17.
- A presentation titled, "New Orleans Past and Present: Social Sciences Look at Hurricanes and Cities." Three Georgia State faculty members will consider different factors leading to the disaster in New Orleans. They are Jesty J. Crimmins, history professor, who will speak on "New Orleans: A City Built at a Perfect Location on the Worse Site." Glenn Abney, professor of political science, will speak on "Coordinating Governmental Responses to Hurricane Disasters." Lesley Williams Reid, assistant professor of sociology, will address " Structural Inequalities in New Orleans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen." The presentation is scheduled for 12:15 p.m. Dec. 1.
- Two events will take place in the Tony Moore Library, room 939 of the General Classroom Building. They are free and open to the public.

Plans for new absence-reporting procedure set for next year

The current absence-reporting process for Georgia State University exempt employees may change next year. Human resources and payroll administrators say the new process should be easier for employees and reduce the amount of paperwork involved in the current absence-reporting process.

Now, employees submit absence report forms each time they take time off. Under the new system, employees will submit absence reports only once a month. Employees will fill out an improved report of absence form, which will be an Excel file downloadable from the human resources Web site. Once an employee inputs the date of his first absence, the form will automatically calculate the amount of leave time he has remaining. The employee will update the form throughout the month, after which he can print it and submit to his supervisor for approval.

Another benefit of the new process is that it allows employees to compare report-absences to what appears on their payroll statement. "Employees can keep the form on their computer desktop and compare it to their check stub to ensure we properly posted their leave," said Melissa Bell Brennan, director of human resources information systems.

The new process currently is being tested by several university departments. If the test period goes smoothly, the human resources department will implement the procedure campus-wide on Jan. 1. Initial reaction among those who have tried the procedure has been positive.

Fight the flu with a $15 shot

Faculty and staff members can get flu shots for $15 at the Georgia State University Clinic, located at 147 Sparks Hall, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. The clinic will offer shots through the end of flu season, or until it runs out of vaccines.

Though flu shots are the best protection against the virus, health service providers suggest practicing healthy habits during flu season, including washing your hands often; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth; staying away from those who have the flu; covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; getting regular exercise and rest; and eating balanced meals.

The flu is caused by the influenza virus, which infects the nose, throat and lungs. Symptoms include fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches. The flu season peaks from late December through March.

For details about getting a flu shot on cam-

African-American initiative looking for male staff members

African-American staff looking to advance their careers are invited to participate in the African-American Male Staff Initiative. The group’s mission is to provide mentoring and professional development for African-American male staff.

In October, about 100 people attended the organization's kickoff at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts, where Capital University law professor Floyd D. Weatherpoon discussed the status of African-American men in higher education.

For program details, contact John Day, director of diversity programs in the Office of Opportunity Development and Diversity Education Planning, at 404/651-2567.

Healthy Grandparents holiday program needs faculty, staff volunteers

For several years, members of the Georgia State community have been involved in an annual holiday service project to assist grandparents raising their grandchildren.

The grandparents are participants in the Georgia State-sponsored Project Healthy Grandparents program. Program administrators are looking for departments, colleges, units or individuals to sponsor one of 36 grandparent families during the holiday season. For more information, call Virginia A. Brown at 404/651-3573, or e-mail vhbrown@gsu.edu.

Biomonitoring researchers seek information at Georgia State workshop

Georgia State hosted the Southeast Collaborative Biomonitoring Center’s second annual full workshop on Oct. 27. Biomonitoring is the application of mathematics and computer science to the understanding of living systems. It is fast emerging as an important discipline for academic research and industrial application.

The symposium brought together researchers from a variety of disciplines to discuss issues such as bioinformatic databases, data visualization, gene expression and micro-arrays, molecular sequence analysis, and sequence assembly. The event was sponsored by the Georgia State departments of biology, chemistry and computer science and the Biomedical Computational Center and the Molecular Basis of Disease Program.

Of the games available for guest. Campaign volunteers also offered free pizza and door prizes to attendees.

Creating in 1982 by the Georgia General Assembly, the SCCP allows state employees to donate to charitable organizations that provide services to citizens and communities throughout Georgia. Donors can contribute through a one-time gift or a year-long payroll deduction. In the SCCP’s 24-year history state and university system employees have donated more than $35 million to charitable organizations. Last year Georgia State University contributed nearly $129,000.

The SCCP committee distributed gift pledge forms to university divisions in September. To find out more about the campaign, which runs through the end of the year, contact Robbe at 404/651-3512 or Greg Jones, campus campaign coach, at 404/651-3025.

GALA HOLIDAY FAMILY CONCERT
Saturday, December 3 - 8:00 PM
Sunday, December 4 - 3:00 PM
Georgia State University Choral Ensembles, Percussion Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra; Robert Ambrose, Stuart Gerber, John Haberlen, Michael Palmer and Alan Raines, conductors

Upcoming Events
**University CALENDAR**

**Applause**

- **Tuesday, Nov. 15**
  3 p.m. Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures
  International Photo Competition. This competition represents the work of Georgia State University’s study abroad and international students. Student Center Ballroom. Free and open to all. Contact Farah Bernardino at farahgb@gsu.edu or 404/654-5810 for details.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 16**

  7:30 p.m. Symphonic Wind Ensemble. Robert J. Andesma, conductor. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. Free. 404/651-INFO.

- **Thursday, Nov. 17**
  9 a.m. Influential Leadership and Ethics from a Compliance Perspective. This seminar, presented by Hamal Mitalini and Maureen Hunter of DBH Consulting, covers responsibilities of an ethical leader in equal opportunity employment. $100. Human resources training room, One Park Place South. Info: 404/651-0875.

  10 a.m. International Student & Scholar Services Open House. Tour the department’s new office at 252 Sparks Hall. Refreshments, trivia and prizes will be offered. For details, call Heather Housley at 404/463-9075.

  7:30 p.m. University Jazz Band. Gordon Vernick, director. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. Free. 404/651-INFO.

- **Thursday, Nov. 17, through Sunday, Nov. 20**
  8 p.m. (Sunday performance at 3 p.m.) “Endgame” by Samuel Beckett. The department of the- 
  atre launches Atlanta’s city-wide festival celebrating Samuel Beckett’s 100th birthday with a production of one of his most popular plays. 55. Alumni Hall Theater. Info and reservations: 404/651-2226.

- **Friday, Nov. 18**
  7:30 p.m. Opera Scenes. W. Dwight Cole- 
  man, artistic director. Kopeloff Recital Hall. Free. 404/651-INFO.

- **Saturday, Nov. 19**
  8 p.m. Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Music of the Master’s. This event features the music of Miles 

- **Sunday, Nov. 20**
  7 p.m. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. Delaware (first CAA game). Sports Arena. $7 with valid ID.

- **Saturday, Nov. 26**
  2 p.m. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. Charlotte (CAA). Sports Arena. $7 with valid ID.

- **Tuesday, Nov. 29**
  7 p.m. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. Louisiana- 
  Lafayette. Sports Arena. $7 with valid ID.

- **Wednesday, Nov. 30**
  6 p.m. Women’s Basketball. Lady Panthers vs. Georgia Tech. Sports Arena. $4.

- **Thursday, Dec. 1**
  5 p.m. First Thursday Downtown Arts Walk. Take a guided tour of local arts venues in historic Downtown Atlanta. Free. 404/651-4727.

  **Friday, Dec. 2**
  1 p.m. Masterclass. Featuring Grammy Award- 
  nominated jazz composer and tenor saxophon- 

  5:30 p.m. Pregame Party: Panthers vs. George Mason. Join the School of Hospitality and J. Mack Robinson College of Business for the pregame party prior to the game. The event will feature food and games. Sports Arena. Organizers encourage attendees to bring a new stuffed animal, which will go to Huggs Spalding Hospital. Info: 404/651-3512.

  7 p.m. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. George Mason (CAA). Sports Arena. $7 with valid ID.

- **Saturday, Dec. 3, and Sunday, Dec. 4**
  8 p.m. (Sunday performance at 3 p.m.) Gala Holiday Family Concert. The School of Music presents its eighth annual Gala Holiday Family Concert featuring more than 200 student and faculty musicians. The program will include traditional holiday favorites, spirituals and a Hanukkah medley. Rialto Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets start at $16. Info: 404/651-4727 or www.rialtocenter.org.

- **Monday, Dec. 5**
  7:30 p.m. Faculty Recital. Kenneth Long, clarinet; Paula Peace, piano. Kopeloff Recital Hall. Free. 404/651-INFO.

- **Tuesday, Dec. 6**
  8 p.m. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. Ken- 
  tucky. Phillips Arena. $15 with valid ID.

- **Wednesday, December 7**
  Noon. FASA Lunch n Learn: Holiday Budget- 
  ing. E. Tyrone Burke, president/CEO, Georgia State University Federal Credit Union, will 
  speak. Lunch will be provided. Free. One Park Place South, basement level conference room. Registration required at 404/651-4741.

- **Thursday, Dec. 8**
  9 a.m. Title IX Guidelines. Presented by 
  the Office of Civil Rights, this workshop will 
  discuss Title IX of the Education Amendment 

- **Saturday, Dec. 10**
  Noon. Men’s Basketball. Panthers vs. Uni- 
  versity of Georgia. The Arena at Gwinnnett Center, Duluth. $15.

- **Tuesday, Dec. 13**

Carolyn Curais, assistant professor of mar- 
keting, cochaired a committee for the 2005 
Association for Consumer Research Confer- 
ence. Curais presented the paper, “Maybe It Is Your Father’s Oldsmobile: The Symbolic 
Dimensions of Internationally Transferred 
Possessions and the Adoption of Correspond- 
ing Possession Meanings.”

Sarah Cook, assistant professor of psychology, recently has had a research paper on the impact of traumatic events on incarcerated women 
published in the journal, Women & Crimi- 
nal Justice. Georgia State graduate students Shari G. Smith, Chantay White, Taech 
and Jerris Rafford contributed research and 
co-authored the paper.

Karen Gibling, associate professor of real 
estate, presented the paper, “Valuation Adding Attributes of Corporate Real Estate Manage- 
ment,” at the American Real Estate Society 
meeting in Santa Fe, N.M. She also participat-
ated in a panel discussion on medical facilities 
and chaired a session on brokerage.

Coe Grindel, professor and associate director for graduate programs in the Brydie F. Lewis School of Nursing, and Pat Clark, associate professor of nursing, have been admitted into the American Academy of Nursing. The AAN is a national nursing organization that tracks health care trends. As fellows, Grindel and Clark will have the opportunity to work with health care leaders on current issues.

Wesley Johnston, Center for Business and Industrial Marketing RoundTable Professor and CBIM director, co-authored an invited es-
tate to introduce a special section of 11 articles in the October 2005 Journal of Marketing. The section is titled “A Customer Relation-
ship Management Roadmap: What is Known, Potential Pitfalls and Where to Go.”

William Messier, professor in the school of 
accountancy, chaired a panel session at the American Accounting Association’s annual meeting on “The Future of Auditing 
Research.” He also presented a paper at the meeting titled “Do Performance 
and Documentation of Business Process Analysis 
Influence Auditors’ Risk Assessment?”

Yi Pan, professor of computer science, deliv-
ered two keynote speeches and one invited 
speech during a trip to China in September. 
He gave a keynote talk at the 60th International Atlantic Economic 
Conference on Computer and Information 
Decision Sciences in October in New York. 
James Alm, professor and chair of the econom-
is department, co-authored the paper.

Owen R. Wed, professor of counseling and 
psychological services, received the Lifetime 
Achievement Award at the International Life 
Care Planning Conference in San Francisco. 
Earlier this year, Wed received the Lifetime 
Achievement Award from the International 
Association of Rehabilitation Professionals.

Yali Zhao, assistant professor of early child-
hood education, presented research at the 60th 
International Atlantic Economic 
Conference in October in New York. 
Sally Wallace, associate professor of economics, presented “Which Elasticity? Estimating the Re-
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