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Bottoms up: Carrollton's first brewery set to open



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Carrollton's first craft brewery, Printers Ale Manufacturing Company, is set to open next month. Located on Columbia Drive, the Brewery shares a building with Printed Specialties Inc, a company that has been in Carrollton since the early 1980's.

30 years ago, when his business started, owner Greg Smith was focused on his print company and enjoyed home brewing on the side. Printed Specialties has two separate facilities on Columbia Drive, but the second building was hardly ever utilized. It was more so a storage and overstock warehouse for the main building of Printed Specialties. It dawned on Greg one day that part of his building was the perfect setup for a brewery; it has a good water supply, trench drains in the floor and a natural gas supply that all aids the brewing process. Printer's Ale followed soon after that. "A couple years ago Greg came to me and said, 'I'm starting a brewery, would you like to get involved?'" and my answer was immediately yes," said Managing Partner Elliott Hall.

One thing led to another and Smith soon asked Hall to help him build and manage the brewery. "About a year ago we started construction on the back third of the building and have been working ever since" said Hall. "More than half of the building is still used to house print equipment and do

some printing, but we have plenty of space in our third of the building."

The Smith Family has been in the print industry for four generations. The family business started in Scranton, Pennsylvania as Keystone Print Company. Greg and his family made the move to Carrollton in the 1980's and started Printed Specialties. Coincidentally, Smith's Great Great Grandfather was a brewer in Germany; so brewing is in their blood.

When opened for business, Printer's Ale will be the only brewery for 30 miles in any direction.

The local brewery is unique for many reasons. Not only does the ambiance of an old fashioned print shop make for a great drinking atmosphere, not only do you get the 'business in the front, party in the back' vibe with the print shop on the other side, but also there will be plenty to do while visitors taste the unique brews. A large patio is being built along the side of the building, which will have cornhole boards, a bocce court as well as Frisbee. "There is going to be all kinds of things to do aside from the tour," said Elliot.

Printer's will also feature a brand new tasting room where guests can enjoy the different kinds of beers the brewmasters are concocting. Behind the bar, there is a large mural across the wall that shows the original Keystone Print Company in Pennsylvania. There will also be a lounge room and merchandise shop. They also grow their own hops, which is very unique for a craft brewery, especially in Georgia due to the dry climate. "We don't

harvest enough to use it in all our beer," said Elliot. "Our goal is to have at least one beer a year that features the locally grown ingredients."

Head Brewer Brian Quinn is the mastermind hophead behind all the unique flavors in each new brew. He and Assistant Brewer Nick Moran have been racking their brains with recipes trying to get a unique flavor that people will like. "We will be rolling with four core brews and always be coming out with seasonal beers and one-offs," said Quinn. "People like variety."

The brewmasters are currently working on a one-off brew that should pique the curiosity of beginning and advanced beer drinkers. "It's going to be a Gose beer with hibiscus tea," said Quinn.

The four core beers will consist of a Porter, Amber Ale, Golden ale, and "The IPA, of course," said Hall. Ideally we would like to release a new seasonal beer or one-off once a month on top of the core brews."

Smith and Hall plan to have a soft opening to the public on Mar. 9 with the grand opening on April 8. "We wanted to make sure we go ahead and open our tasting room to the public to start trying out our beers and showing our brewery to the community," said Hall.

Hours for the tasting room will be Thursday and Friday 4:30 pm-8:00 pm, and Saturdays 1:00 pm-6:00 pm. You can find them on Facebook at facebook.com/printersbeer. They can also be found on Twitter @Printersbeer. Show your excitement by using the hashtag #PickPrinters on Twitter.



Photos: Daniel Forte

An Exhibit on a Civil Rights Activist

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The Jackie Robinson exhibit is on display in the lobby of Ingram Library. Opening on Feb. 20 and concluding on Friday, March 17. The exhibit showcases Robinson's life, courage and triumphs in his athletic career, while also focusing on the racism in America during his era and his hard work during the Civil Rights struggle in the 1940s and later. The exhibit is sponsored by Ingram Library's Penelope Melson Society in collaboration with the Center for Diversity and Inclusion.

Following the Kennedy Assassination exhibit in the fall, the Robinson exhibit is meant to gain the attention from students as well as the people in the Carroll County area.

"This is the 10th exhibit and the very first was held in September of 2008. We never know if what we choose is going to interest people or not," said Dr. John Ferling, UWG Professor Emeritus of History and president of the Penelope Melson Society. "We had one of the Kennedy Assassination in the fall and kind of came away with the feeling that the students were not particularly interested, but we had a large turnout from the town."

The display cabinets set up for the exhibit present a wide range of items that consist of significant moments in Robinson's career. The material in the displays all belong to Ferling's collection over the years along with a few items that he bought

specifically for the exhibit.

"When my dad retired 40 years ago, my mom called me and said that they were moving and I needed to come get some stuff in the attic that belonged to me," said Ferling. "I played baseball and followed it along with other sports. I had purchased a lot of sports magazines and I guess I never threw anything away. I began investigating how I could get the rest of the magazines that I missed over the years and one thing led to another. Although, there is a Dodgers cap and pennant in the display that I bought especially for the exhibit, the rest of the items are from my collection."

Robinson was not only an incredible athlete, but a civil rights activist who used his career to bring more integration into sports and particularly, baseball.

"The first thing that comes to mind about Robinson to most people is that he was an extraordinary athlete," said Ferling. "There was another side to Robinson, which was his groundbreaking experience. People saw him as the opening door for others."

Robinson endured several hardships throughout his career. In the first couple of years playing for the Dodgers, he was faced with a significant amount of racism, but his courageous attitude never faded.

"I think the students can learn a great deal about Robinson's character. He was extremely brave and courageous," said Ferling. "Robinson received death threats. He didn't know if every time he walked on the field that some mad man in the stands could have a gun and possibly shoot him."

The exhibit presents Robinson's

braveness throughout the course of his life and the courage it took to face the racist taunts and persecution he endured.

"One of the strong points to the exhibit is that it does teach about his courage," said Ferling. "It was not by accident that Robinson was chosen by the Dodgers. They felt that they had to have just the right person."

People perceived Robinson as a powerful leader who used his athletic ability as a unique approach

to protesting in the Civil Rights Movement.

"Hopefully students will understand not just his character and athleticism, but that he was active in the Civil Rights Movement. It wasn't just Martin Luther King and it wasn't someone making a speech on the steps of the Lincoln memorial," said Ferling. "There was much more to it with many ways to protest against racism, but Robinson did his part and that required courage."



Photo: Victoria Jones

UWG's Major Fair

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The UWG Advising Center hosted the first annual Major Fair on Wednesday, Feb. 15 in the Campus Center Ballroom, from 11am to 2pm. The fair gave students the opportunity to speak with faculty members from all of the departments at the university in order to gain a better insight on what a specific major or minor would entail. The purpose of the event was to help facilitate the decision a student makes about what department would best suit their personal needs as opposed to relying on the advising department to make that decision for them.

"The overall goal is to give students a non intimidating space to go talk with faculty or others in an academic department about being a history major, biology major, etc. So that they're not going into a faculty member's office, with whom they don't know to ask some questions," said Melissa Tarrant who is the Director of the Advising Center. "It's just more of an informal setting for making this information available to students in a low-key, informal format."

Considering that this was the first year that this event has taken

place, there was some uncertainty as to what the student turnout was going to look like. Additionally to help assure that there was a large student outcome, various awards and prizes were given away to students.

"We will ask students to fill out a short survey when they leave and we will use those to draw names for our raffle prizes," said Tarrant. "We've got UWG swag, someone's going to win lunch with the President, and we're going to be giving away priority registration," said Tarrant

Initially, the Advising Center partnered with Career Services due to the fact that there are many students who do not know how to declare or change a major.

"We partnered with the advisors in the College of Education, Richards College of Business and the School of Nursing, and so we just formed a little committee and we made a big spreadsheet of everything that needs to be done, and who was going to do it, and when it needed to be done by," explained Tarrant.

The Major Fair was the first of many upcoming events that will help current and upcoming students at UWG decide which major best suits them. UWG hopes that these events will help students decide on what they want to do for the rest of their lives.

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UWG Fights Against Anxiety

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The millennial generation has been called many names, the newest being the “anxious generation”. As a way to help aid students in their fight against anxiety, UWG adapted the Therapist Assisted Online program (TAO). TAO is an internet based cognitive behavior therapy program that was made to be more convenient for the average college student trying to balance life and school.

TAO started at the University of Florida and is now available at many universities in the south. “We were one of the early adapters of the program 2 years ago,” said Warren Windsor, Electronic Delivery Counselor at UWG. “It was started by the clinical director at the University of Florida.”

Dr. Sherry Benton of the University of Florida had the idea for the program after seeing how many students were on the waiting list for the counseling center at the university. Benton thought that by hiring more counselors, she would see an improvement but after only two weeks, the waiting list was back up. She knew other countries had experimented in online therapy sessions with modules and video session but she knew no one in the U.S had tried it yet so she decided it was worth a try.

The program is available 24/7 and is used to help patients learn how to ease their anxiety. Not only does it offer full access to a counselor, it has a plethora of games and activities to help guide students in their fight. The Scale Activities is one of their favorites. They display two balancing scales on the screen, one is marked “Positive” and the other “Negative.” The game allows you to type different experienced that

you have encountered in your life and rate them on a scale from 1-5 on how much they affected you then you choose whether the experience was positive or negative. It is used to help the used visualize the balance between good and bad things that occurs in their lives.

Before TAO was invented, students seeing a therapist had to write in a daily log about the things that made them anxious and the ways they tried to overcome the feeling. At the end of the week, they were to take the log into their weekly counseling session to talk about their week. Although this was a great approach, it was not successful among the students. “If I gave a client a journal assignment and told them to write down everything that made them feel anxious during the week, what usually happens is the student forgets and starts writing in their journal while they’re in the waiting room,” said Windsor. “That doesn’t help them.”

Now, students are able to write in their log online, which is more convenient for the student on the go. “TAO is designed to be done anytime, anywhere,” said Windsor. “It can be done on any of your electronic devices and it’s designed to be done in short seconds.”

TAO is not mandatory for every student involved in anxiety counseling. In order for a student to get started with TAO, the student will first have to make an appointment at the counseling center. During the counseling session, they take the assessment. Decisions on the best form of therapy are then discussed. If it is decided that TAO is the best option for you then you gain access to the site.

Since anxiety is more prevalent on college campuses, TAO is a great program to help ease the disorder. It is a more convenient form of therapy than face-to-face meetings and has proven to be more efficient in most cases.



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12:30 p.m.	Keynote Speaker & Honors Luncheon
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news

Carroll County says NO to voter fraud

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The current white house administration has said to have evidence of voter fraud, but they will not find any in Carroll County. After an exciting and controversial election cycle, there was bound to be rumors and discussions about the election and election practices. The Trump Administration has made comments about illegal voting and people voting in more than one state. During the election citizens in different states were also worried that the electronic voting machines were rigged or had been tampered with. Carroll County and the State of Georgia have nothing to worry about when it comes to voter fraud, according to the Secretary of State.

"Thanks to responsible election laws, Georgia had no cases of illegal voting in the 2016 election," said Secretary of State Brian Kemp.

Because of strict voter ID laws, voter verification laws and regular maintenance laws there was no cases of voter fraud. There are many laws and practices that must be put forth to prepare for elections and to prevent any type of voter fraud from happening.

"Carroll County along with all Georgia Elections officials are trained and adhere to strict procedures as set forth by Georgia Election Code and the State Election

Board Rules," said Carroll County Elections and Registration Supervisor Greg Rigby.

All poll workers must be trained on the equipment and they must become extremely familiar with the voting requirements and procedures before each election. No matter if a poll worker has worked one or thirty elections, they must go through training each time.

One massive law that tremendously helps prevent voter fraud not just in Carroll County but also the state of Georgia, is the voter ID law. This law protects your vote and your identity when it comes to voting.

"The Voter ID laws' require that all voters are required to show a photo ID when voting in person is as Secretary Kemp states a common-sense requirement that ensures in-person voter fraud cannot occur at the polls," said Rigby.

The voting machines are another issue. During the 2016 elec-

tions, there were worries all around the country that voting machines were rigged. There is a list of procedures and testing that goes on before every election on every machine to make sure that it is ready and working properly for the election. This type of testing is even open for the public to come and watch. The elections supervisor provided many steps and security features on the voting system.

For example; there is no network connectivity used with any component of the voting system; no component of the system is ever connected to the Internet. There is paper documentation of records that could be checked to show discrepancies of total number of vote if there were any issues. Voting equipment has to be tested (Logic and Accuracy Testing) to demonstrate that it is working properly before each election and all such testing has to be documented.

Voter access cards, a yellow card handed to a voter to cast their ballot, do not contain any personal voter information. The card contains a code that ensures the ballot the voter is entitled to vote is displayed on the DRE, and a counter that is set to "1" when the card is issued to the voter, and resets to "0" once the voter casts their ballot. Simply put voters can only cast one ballot when issued a voter access card.

When a resident registers to vote, there are also measures in place to make sure this is done properly. One must have their license and or a social security number. These numbers are verified and checked with government records before they are registered in the county. When a voter passes away, moves and or has their voting rights pulled under the Georgia law they are removed from the system which also helps prevent voter fraud.

Photo: Jessica Lord



The Gather Project

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The Gather Project was created in 2015, in hopes to reach young women in the West Georgia community and to unite those women regardless of their varying life experiences. This event's main goal is to create an inviting environment where young women can gather and meet new people, while worshipping in freedom. The event is held every other month and once during the summer at West Hills Church in Villa Rica. The Gather Project begins offers treats and coffee before the event begins with worship and the speaker. The women behind this event suggest that you bring your Bible and something to take notes with, or write down any questions you might have afterwards. The Gather Project is meant to help women build their relationship with God, and know that they are blessed despite the trials they might be going through. The creator of the Gather Project, Hannah Ladd, has successfully made her vision come true with the help of close friends and a tight community.

"We say: Gather, Dwell, Abide. We want women to gather together in worship, dwell in His presence, and abide in His Word," said Ladd. Hannah is a former student at UWG and now a wife and mother of three residing in Carroll County. Ladd created The Gather Project in Aug 2015, and held the first one on Oct 8, 2015. Needless to say, it turned out better than she could ever have expected. The Gathers Project has grown tremendously in numbers, and continues to do so each time.

"It's important to me because I've been the insider and the outsider of church. I've felt accepted and I've felt like I've slipped through the cracks," said Ladd. "I believe we can witness revival

right where we are in our area of West Georgia by just choosing to let God use us in our homes and schools and jobs."

The Gather Project focuses on a different topic at each gathering as it relates to the trials and tribulations that women experience during their lives. The topics range from discipleship, relationships, marriage and how to study and understand the Bible.

"I think the first one will always hold a special place in my heart," said Erin Ray, event administrator and organizer. "I loved hearing the stories of women who said yes to God, even when it looked hard."

Before each speaker begins speaking on the selected topic for that month, a local band or artist plays worship songs. The songs played are closely related to the events topic, and are chosen to help the women feel the presence of God. Different local worship leaders have been chosen to lead the worship at the service, including Kyle Edenfield, worship leader at Midway Macedonia.

The women behind this event have also created Bible study groups to continue growth outside of the monthly meetings. These Bible studies are usually held at one's home or a local coffee shop. The women behind the Gather Project hope that having the bible study will continue to have growth within the women themselves, and be able to share their stories and testimonies with the world.

"I love that it is a place that women come to love on one another for God's glory," said Ray. "A place that it didn't matter if you were a college student, professional, mom (working or stay at home), or grandma, the only thing that matters is gathering for His glory,"

The next Gather Project gathering will be held on April 13 at 7 p.m. T-shirts and tank tops will be available for purchase. For more information, please visit the Gather Project's Facebook or Instagram.

Pita Pit prepares for grand opening

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Carrollton's Pita Pit, located on Adamson Square beside Max & Henry's, is currently in the final stages of construction and is set for its grand opening on March 6.

Pita Pit is an international chain which originated in Canada in 1995 and now has over 500 locations in 66 countries. Roughly 250 of these locations are in the United States and thanks to the hard work of UWG alumni John Crossley and Josh Pline, the franchise's newest location will be right in the heart of Carrollton.

Crossley spent much of his time in college visiting other college towns in the Southeastern Conference with his fraternity brothers. He said that the one thing he could always count on was finding a Pita Pit with lines of customers outside of the doors.

"The first one I ate at was in Athens," said Crossley. "I remember going out to eat and there was tons of food everywhere and I came back to Carrollton and there was nothing here. I always told myself that was strange and if I ever made it to graduation and somebody still hadn't put a restaurant in downtown where kids could eat late at night that I was going to do it."

When he was a senior at UWG Crossley took an entrepreneurship course in which the class was instructed to go to entrepreneur.com, choose one franchise and to go through the entire process of opening and running a business. To his sur-

prise, Pita Pit was in the top 10 of the Franchise 500 list and the idea came to him.

After graduating from UWG Pline remained in Carrollton as an employee of Chick-fil-a and Crossley moved away for a few years for his job. Upon returning to Carrollton Crossley found that there was still no late night spot for students to eat in Carrollton so he began the process of bringing a Pita Pit to Adamson Square.

Both Pline and Crossley say they were drawn to Pita Pit because it is a completely different concept from the traditional sandwich.

"We take pita bread and we flash steam it in our steamers so it's really loose and easy to work with, then we rip it open so we can throw everything inside," said Pline. "The person on the grill has refrigerated drawers under the grill so they can pull it open, take out the meat and throw it on the grill. While it's cooking you're going to go down the line and fill out your sandwich and when it's done they will scoop it up, put it in the sandwich and roll it up so that it looks like a burrito."

"The best part about it is that it's really fresh, healthy and lean food," said Crossley. "We don't have anything that's fried and everything is made fresh, sliced fresh and grilled fresh."

Crossley and Pline hope to partner with UWG through spirit nights and other special events in order to help support both the university and the community around it. They also hope to be able to accept Wolfbucks in the future and aim to have the system put in place in the fall of 2017.

Pita Pit will be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and from 10 a.m. to 2:30 a.m. on Thursdays through Saturdays.

news



City Station

Reagan Biddy

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A new community center, City Station, is soon to be added to the Carrollton Community by the local Southern Hills Christian Church. The community center will be open to the public seven days a week and will offer many different resources for the citizens of Carrollton. These features include student housing, a fitness center, daycare, free Wi-Fi and much more.

“We decided about three years ago to move forward with the vision of City Station,” said Shannon Lovelady, lead pastor at Southern Hills. “The overall concept of using our facilities seven days a week has been something we have dreamed about for years, but the specific vision of City Station has transpired over the last three-and-a-half years.” Lovelady has been the lead pastor at Southern Hills for the past four years, so this is something he has been continually working on throughout his time here.

“We believe that ministry happens in community, so we have designed a building that is made for community,” said Lovelady. “Everything about City Station is multi-purpose, meaning we designed the building to be used by the community during the week and to be used for worship services by Southern Hills on Sunday mornings.”

City Station will be less than a mile from the University of West Georgia, near the Food Depot shopping center.

“There were two key factors (in finding the location),” said Lovelady. “First, we needed to be close to UWG for the student housing aspect of City Station to work. Second, we wanted to be on the Greenbelt so that we were truly accessible to the entire community.”

Lovelady mentioned that one of the most challenging aspects that he has faced thus far in the City Station project is helping the community understand that City Station will be so much more than just off-campus student housing. The housing is just one aspect of the many features the community center will offer.

According to Lovelady the housing will be first come, first serve. To be eligible to live in the off-campus housing students

will be required to sign a covenant to live a Christian lifestyle. Lovelady mentioned that this included being in a discipling relationship with fellow Christian, serve the community, and be involved with a local church. If you are not willing to live by this covenant, then you will not be eligible to live in City Station.

City Station will also offer a state-of-the-art fitness center that will be included for the residents of city station, but will also be offered to the public for a reasonable price. Along with the fitness center City Station will include free Wi-Fi, state-licensed pre-school, recreation and study rooms, a gymnasium, free biblical counseling services and even a restaurant.

“It will be a restaurant exclusive to City Station,” said Lovelady. “We are actually in discussion now with potential local entrepreneurs. The main requirement of the restaurant will be that it is an affordable, healthier option.”

During this process of creating and building City Station the Southern Hills Church team has ventured across the country to find similar community centers to help them along the way.

Lovelady mentioned that there are similar facilities that the church has turned to and relied on for guidance. One facility is adjacent to Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN and is called Faith West. There is one other facility that Southern Hills has visited and turned to for advice is 242 Church in Michigan. They do not have the student housing that City Station will have, but the facilities are very similar in many ways.

Lovelady has hopes that City Station will help generate positive economic development in the Maple Street Commons area and the rest of Carrollton. He also mentioned that City Station and Southern Hills will aide in providing jobs for previously unemployable citizens of Carrollton. “It will help to give our neighbors an opportunity to get out of the negative circumstances in which they find themselves,” said Lovelady. “In short, I believe City Station will be a beacon of hope and unity for Carrollton.”

City Station is set to open in the late spring or early summer of 2018. The first set of students will be able to begin living in the community center in the fall of 2018. If you would like more information about City Station, please visit www.citystation.org.

arts & entertainment

Rising film director showcases talent at Georgia State

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Rising film director Erika Anderson showcased her talent in the Campus Movie Fest (CMF) on Monday, Feb. 13. CMF, which is the World’s largest student film festival, was hosted at Georgia State University. Contestants were given one week to create five minute short films. Over 200 films were entered but only 16 were chosen. What makes this festival unique is that filmmakers were not aware whether or not their films were chosen, and found out upon screening. The shorts were shown in four rounds of four ranking from lowest to highest scoring.

Among the contestants, Erika Anderson submitted her film “Kitty” which follows the journey of Kitty (Kita Clarke), an exotic dancer and student, and her loyal customer Max, whose lives intersect in more ways than one. “I got my inspiration from a lot of things,” said Erika Anderson. “When I thought about college students who become strip-

pers, I thought about a girl I went to high school with. I also transferred to Georgia State and you see that a lot,” Anderson continued. “There’s a lot of girls that are strippers that you don’t know are.”

Anderson has her own production company named Reel Form Media. “I’m going in this direction of making films about situations that people really don’t talk about and that people really don’t see,” said Anderson. “I just want people to think. It’s a way of being aware of your surroundings in a different way. Besides the storyline, I want people to see my directing skills, my cinematography skills.”

Creating a film under such strict time constraints proved to be quite a task for filmmakers.

“The biggest challenge was getting the strip club. Because Atlanta has this strip club culture, some clubs were charging to film at them,” said Anderson. “Kitty” was shot at Rumors, a strip club in Jonesboro, Georgia. “The hardest thing besides location was finding a girl willing to dance who didn’t want to get paid,” Anderson admits. “Autumn was real-

ly cool and open about it. I don’t think I could’ve made it without her.”

Despite these complications, Erika managed to produce an edgy, contemporary piece which can start dialogue about the taboo culture of student strippers. “The thing I learned the most was patience and how to deal with stress,” said Ander-

son. “When employers ask how do you handle stress, I feel like I can finally answer that question.” The film “Kitty” is available for viewing on YouTube as well as other entries from the Campus Movie Fest. Find CMF on Twitter, Snapchat, Facebook and at their website to stay updated on events and opportunities.

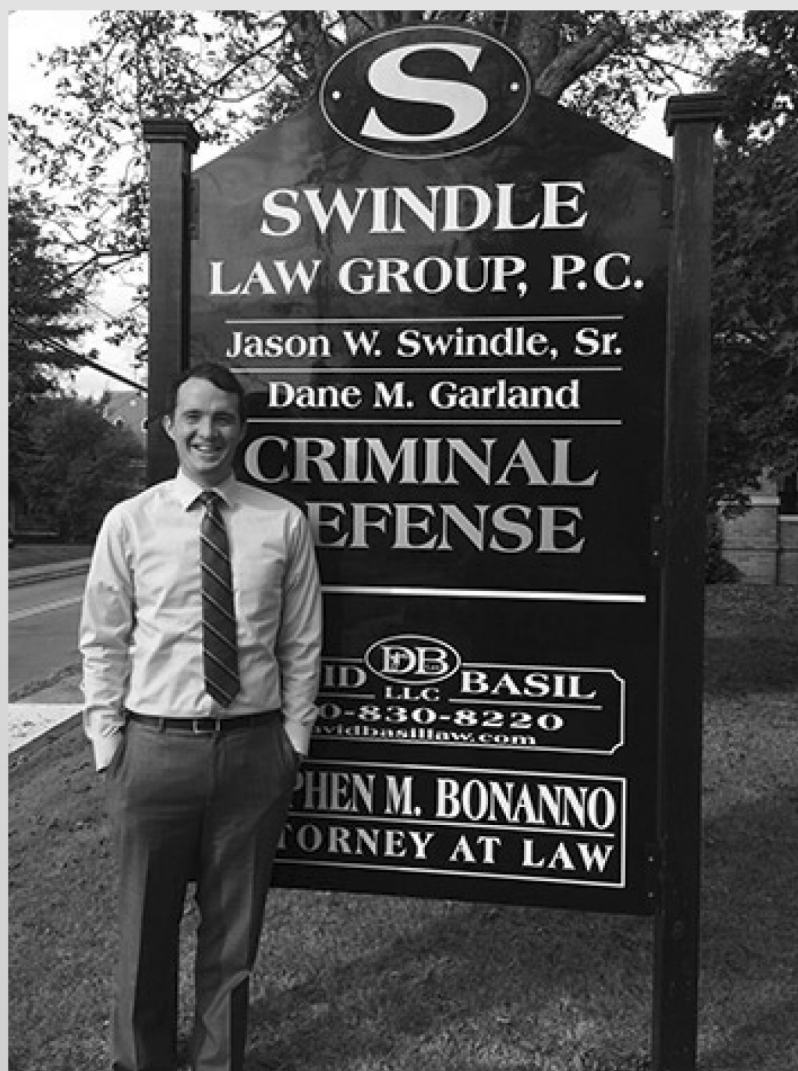


Photo: Erika Anderson



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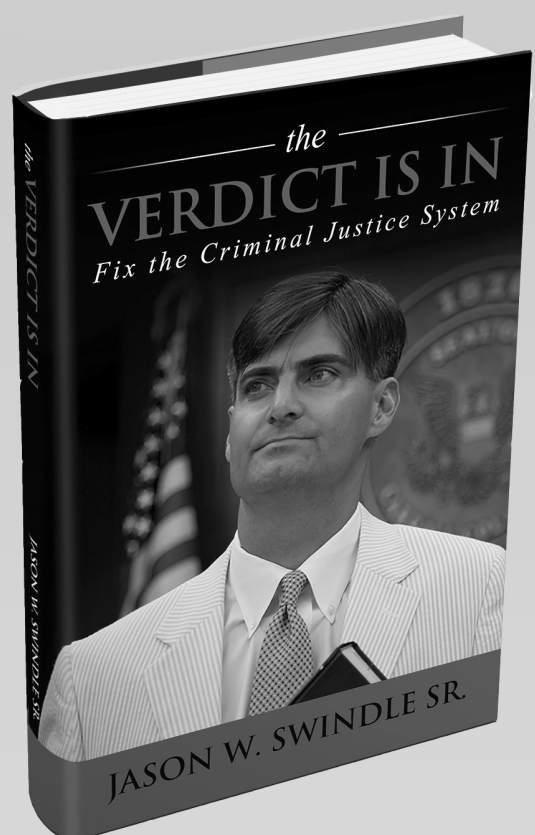
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Calling All Future Actors

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Selah Avery, an actor on a recent episode of Fatal Attraction, will be hosting a background acting class with nationally renowned casting director, Cynthia Stillwell, near the University of West Georgia campus. The class will take place on March 18 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Selah is hosting the background and set etiquette class to help educate

the community on how they can book several movies filming in and around the Atlanta area professionally. “I like to empower people,” said Selah. “I just enjoy helping people when it comes to acting because I know they are capable.”

According to Selah, this will be the first class of its kind. Avery is from Carrollton and thought it would be best to help her community first. She plans on having the background acting class in other places as well.

“We wanted to focus on the surrounding area,” said Avery. “Our next

stop will be in Douglasville and we will work our way to the Atlanta area.”

The casting director encourages people to come to the event camera ready because the casting director will be taking pictures. Headshots and resumes are welcomed.

“Being a Background Actor can be fun and a great way to make a living while networking your way through the movie industry,” said Selah. “You never know when you could be called to be on set as a background actress.”

Avery has been an

actress for six years. She recently was on television as one of the actors in the show, Fatal Attraction on TVOne.

Cynthia Stillwell has been a part of several movies. She is known for her work on Selma (2014), Remember the Titans (2000) and Road Trip (2000).

Selah elaborated on the different things that will be taught during the background acting class. “I will be teaching how to act on set, how to behave around celebrities and what pictures to submit and not submit,” said Selah. “I will also teach certain terms that are used

while on set and how to fill out vouchers, which is how the talent would make sure they get paid.”

The background and set etiquette class targets people who are 18 or older. People are able to register online on Paypal to stillwell-beaware@gmail.com for \$25. The price will be \$30 at the door. Information will be taught to help educate the community on how to professionally get into movies filming. You will learn how to get in and get paid in the industry. Several people are able to make a living off of acting and so can you.



Seeking comic artists!

Contact thewestgeorgian@gmail.com for further information!

sports

Senior Defensive End to Participate in NFL Draft Combine

Jake Thelen

Guest Writer
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Senior defensive end at the University of West Georgia Dylan Donahue is preparing for the annual NFL Draft Combine. Donahue’s record breaking senior season turned the heads of professional scouts, earning him an invitation to the 2017 Combine.

Such honors are rarely given to a player at the Division II level of competition. Yet, after accumulating some of the most impressive stats in Gulf South Conference history, Donahue has proved that he can compete at the next level. On Jan. 21 the Billings, Mont. native participated in the NFL-PA Bowl along side some of the top recruits from throughout the nation. This was also a great opportunity for Dylan to catch the eye of some of the NFL scouts in attendance. He performed well among the elite and furthermore proved his right to compete as a draft-ee.

None of these opportunities would have been possible without the incredible career Donahue had as a West Georgia Wolf. The 24-year-old senior capped off his career with a record setting season and finished third on the team with 67 total tackles. More impressively is that 20 of those tackles were for a loss. With such an ability to explode past the lineman into the offensive backfield, Donahue set a new Gulf South Conference single season sack record with 13.5 sacks. With such an impressive senior display, the dominant defensive end now holds the all-time sack record at the University of West Georgia with 25.5 sacks. As if he could shine any brighter, Dylan was named Gulf South Defensive Player of the Year, First Team All-Gulf South Conference, AFCA All-American, and an AP Little All-American. Thus, making him a finalist for the Gene Upshaw DII Line-man of the Year Award.

Donahue has spectacularly separated himself from the rest of the pack on the field of play. Opposing teams would fear his gnarly speed and aggressiveness while his fellow pack of Wolves would in turn embrace his impressive skillset. Even some of his (now former) teammates admit that Donahue is a force to be reckoned with. Former University of West Georgia defensive tackle Demarkus Trice played alongside the hopeful pro on the defensive line. Not only did Demarkus recognize the on-field dominance of Donahue but

also his character off of the field. “Not only is Dylan one of the greatest athletes I’ve ever played with, but he also possesses leadership skills unlike any other,” says Trice.” He always put the team before self” and “would act almost as a big brother figure to the younger guys on the team.” This is a quality that any NFL scout would love to implement into their defensive huddle.

Another former West Georgia Wolf, Adam Holley, played quarterback for the Wolves from 2011-2016. Holley also felt the pressure of Donahue’s vicious outside attack on a near daily basis. “Right when he stepped on the field you knew he was going to be a special player,” says Holley. “The whole defense would rally around his energy and tenacity.” Holley and Donahue only played one full season together for the Wolves but gradually became brothers on and off the field.

Although some analysts classify Donahue as undersized, his former teammates believe that he will fit into a 3-4 defense as an outside linebacker.

Currently, the former Wolf is training for the NFL Combine in San Diego, Calif. He is training at the Exos Training Facility and working with some of the best trainers in the world – Brent Callaway and Roy Holmes. Donahue credits much of his success and motivation to his father. “Well, my dad played 6 years in the NFL for the Atlanta Falcons, Denver Broncos, and the San Francisco 49er’s,” says Dylan “...so really I accredit my motivation and success to the drive that my dad has always instilled in me.” Mitch Donahue (Dylan’s father) was a standout player at the University of Wyoming and was a two time Western Athletic Conference (WAC) Defensive Player of the Year. When asked about his recent participation in the NFL-PA Bowl game he said, “it was a humbling experience to be able to sit there and pick the brains of some of the top players in the nation, but I wasn’t there to make friend, I was there for business.” He went on to talk about how everybody participating in that game was about to have to go, “take a grown man’s job.” He also said he, “...will miss his coaches, teammates, the people, and the atmosphere in Carrollton.” when asked what he would miss about West Georgia.

Dylan Donahue grew up as a Denver Broncos fan and mentioned that it would be an extreme honor to play for one of the teams his father played for. Regardless of how Donahue performs at the Combine, his story is the perfect example that dedication and heart is exactly how to achieve your wildest dreams. The linebackers will display their talents on Mar. 5 on the NFL Network.

UWG Lacrosse

Reagan Biddy

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The University of West Georgia recently added their first lacrosse team to its list of organizations. The team was brought to campus by a group of West Georgia students. Justin Wahl, president of the team, started the team with fellow friends and classmates.

Wahl started his lacrosse career in high school and carried it over into his college career beginning at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. “I took over and set the foundation for the University of Alabama – Birmingham club team,” said Wahl “My sophomore year I was acting president where we played three games our inaugural year.” While at UAB Wahl was also the head coach for a local high school JV lacrosse team.

When transferring to UWG Wahl realized that the school was lacking a lacrosse team, he saw an opportunity that he had to take advantage of.

“Having the experience from my time at UAB, my friend Zack Amoroso and I talked about having lacrosse at West Georgia all last spring and eventually started the process to bring lacrosse to West Georgia,” said Wahl. Wahl and Amoroso then began the process by starting their club at the Center for Student Involvement located in the Campus Center.

“To start a club sports team one must first start the club as a student organization,” said Wahl. “After going through that process you can then go through the University Recreation Center and proceed as a club sports team.”

Wahl mentioned that when starting a team you want to find a group of people who have the same vision and passion as you. Another key element in starting a club or organization is to hold each other accountable and to stay on the same page.

“Zack Amoroso, the Vice President, and I were the ones to formally found the club,” said Wahl. “Chase Wieland was one of the first guys to step up and Stephan Santa Marie joined shortly after we started the club. Storey Mizzell also showed a lot of dedication and came on as an officer early fall. The rest of the team is every bit as important, If we didn’t have them to field the team, we wouldn’t be able to do much.”

Wahl has faced some adversity while trying to get this team started.

“Getting enough people to actually make this season happen was a challenge I faced,” said Wahl. “Since this is the first year it is easy to not take things seriously but with the work that myself and my fellow officer group put in, we were able to make a decent schedule for our first year on campus.”

Despite the hardships Wahl said he met many incredible people through this experience and is excited that he gets to continue his lacrosse career.

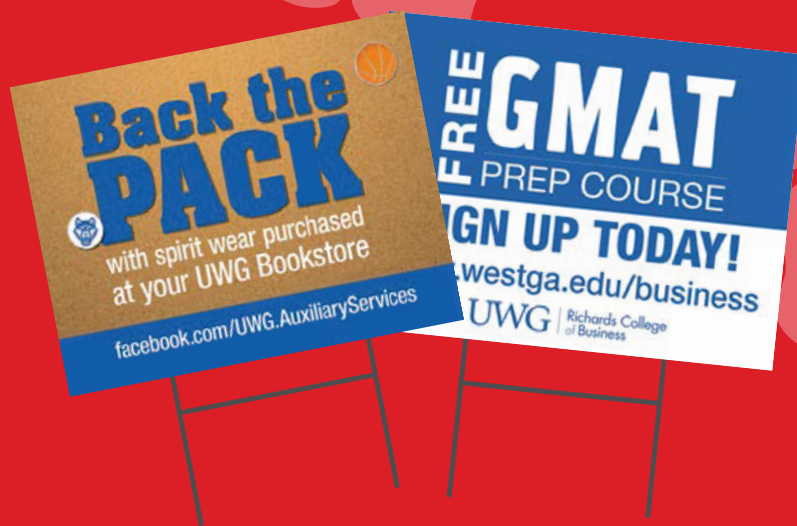
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