

Blazer loss leads to QB competition ahead of UWF

Sept 21, 2016

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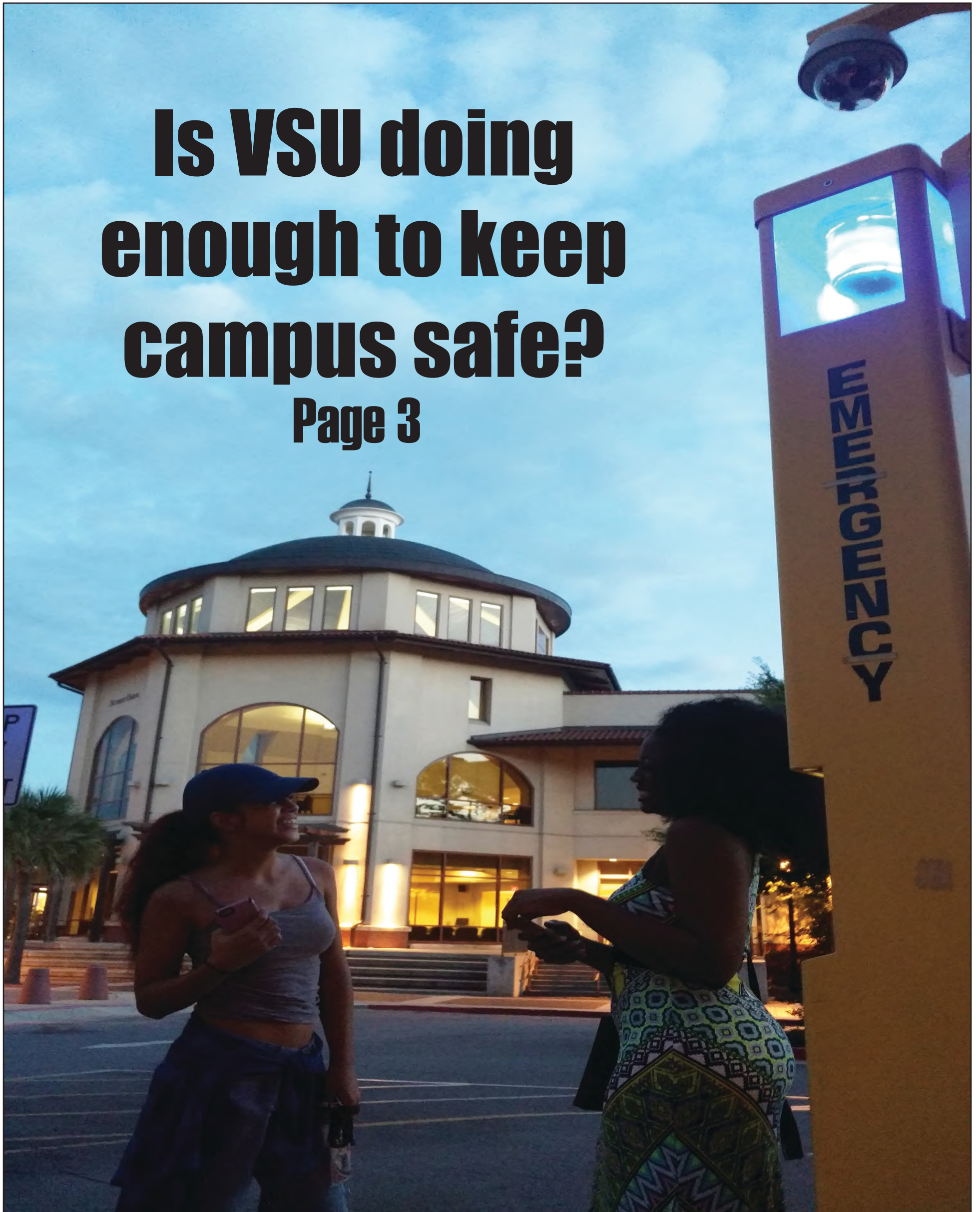
Volume 91, Issue 06

THE SPECTATOR

THE UNFILTERED, UNCENSORED VOICE OF THE STUDENTS.

**Is VSU doing
enough to keep
campus safe?**

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NEWS

VSU gets business honor

Hunter Terrell

CIRCULATION MANAGER

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Georgia Trend magazine's July issue named the top companies to work for in Georgia (2016). Included on the list is The University of Georgia Small Business Development Center, titling VSU a recognized partner.

"Working for the Small Business Development Center allows us to fill the mission of service to others," Lynn Bennett, area director of the UGA Small Business Development Center at VSU, said in a press release.

The UGA Small Business Development Center at VSU provides tools, training and a

plethora of resources that aid small business owners and future entrepreneurs within the area.

Dr. L. Wayne Plumly Jr., Dean of the Harley Langdale Jr. College of Business Administration, said "This is a very meaningful award ... [shared by] Our Small Business Development Center staff makes a major impact on our community."

SBDC VSU staff has already assisted with 18 business start-ups and helped 26 clients gain access to more than \$5 million in loans and equity financing.

"One of the most important things we do for the community is offer continuing business education courses," Bennett said.

Announcements

Parents Weekend

VSU is hosting its 2016 Parents Weekend Sept. 23-24. Check-in is from 4-6 p.m. Friday and 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Student Union. Friday evening activities include free game night in Union, the Student Recreation Center and the showing of "Ghost Busters" in the Union Theatre at 9 p.m. Saturday activities include lunch, library art tours, the football game, another free game night as well as an additional showing of "Ghost Busters."

VSU President Search Update

The Presidential Search and Screen Committee is working with Parker Executive Search in its effort to find the next VSU president. The Committee encourages students to suggest nominations. All recommendations must be submitted by Sept. 30. The finalists will be hosted on campus in late October.

National Hunger Awareness Event

Cantasia, a competitive fantasy-themed event to benefit Second Harvest of South Georgia, will be held Sept. 28. All campus groups are encouraged to participate. Prizes will be awarded in two non-perishable food donations. Registration is open at www.valdosta.edu/cantasia. For details, contact Aaliyah Houston at ashouston@valdosta.edu.

Language and Culture Fair

Spanish professor Victoria Russell and her department are hosting a "Language and Culture fair" in the West Hall Rotunda at 11 a.m. Sept. 28.

Want to have your event featured in our Announcements section? Email your information to Editor-in-Chief Gabe Burns at gcburns@valdosta.edu.

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Health Tip of the week

A healthy tip from the VSU Student Health Center: Did you know that “more than 80,000 women in the US are diagnosed with gynecologic cancers each year?” Call 229-219-3200 to schedule a wellness or gynecological exam.

SGA discusses sponsorships, legislation

Jada Dukes

STAFF WRITER

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VSU SGA's most recent meeting included talks of sponsorships, officer positions, campus events and new legislation.

The meeting began with a presentation from two members of the on-campus fraternity, Kappa Alpha Si. Two members came before the senate to ask for a co-sponsorship from SGA in the amount of \$350 for their annual leadership conference titled “CLASS.”

After a thorough discussion, the senate ultimately decided to refrain from voting on the topic until more information was given.

The senate also discussed a sponsorship for the on-campus dance fraternity, Delta Phi Delta. The dance fraternity sent SGA a letter asking for support for a community service event called “Mummy Madness.” The senate, after another round of thorough discussion, decided to donate \$50 of candy.

Afterward Comptroller Erin Shaw reported that the current balance for the SGA allocation account is \$8,493.03.

SGA President Maya Mapp spoke

to the senate about sending their letter of approval to the rec center to affirm that SGA is supporting their decision to increase intramural fees to \$10.

Secretary Jasmine Jackson probed the senate for ideas for their weekly ‘energizer booth’ that will be taking place in the student union every Wednesday from 12-2 p.m. The senate decided Wednesday the energizer booth would be used to poll students about their thoughts on topics such as dining.

During the Vice President report, Vice President Othellious Cato conducted a vote for two officer positions. Two Senators were voted into the position of President Pro-Tempore and Parliamentarian.

Toward the end of the meeting, Senator David Silas spoke of two bills he needed help with: The first being an inclusive bill for student with disabilities and the second being a bill pushing for water filtration systems to be installed in the residence halls.

Senator Christopher Slayton spoke about a form of legislation he and a few other senators were working on that would extend the 45 minute parking spots to 60 minutes.

The next meeting is Sept. 26 at 8 p.m.

Zika wave crashing into Georgia Nationwide epidemic diagnosed in the Peach State

Tiana Foster

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As of Sept 12, 2016, there have been 80 confirmed travel-related Zika cases in Georgia. The virus was initially discovered in Uganda in 1947 and its presence in the United States was confirmed May 2015. Traveling to South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean could put people at a risk of infection. Although the virus has not been spread by mosquitoes in Georgia, it has been transmitted in surrounding Florida areas such as Miami and Dade County.

The Zika virus has raised a high level of concern which has resulted in The World Health Organization declaring the virus as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.

The virus is commonly spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* are the two types of infected mosquitoes that can be found in Georgia. Although the virus is primarily transmitted through the bite of an infected mosquito, it can also transmit through unprotected sex. Males or females can carry the virus and possibly put others at risk.

People infected with the virus have experienced mild symptoms such as: fever, rash, aching joints and headache. But there has not been any life threaten-

ing symptoms reported. The symptoms typically last for several days to a week. Many people don't know they are infected because they weren't sick enough to have to go to the hospital. The virus doesn't severely affect the body.

The virus remains in the blood for about a week and once a person has been infected, it's likely they are protected from future infections.

Doctors are monitoring pregnant women very closely for any signs of the virus because it is known to cause a serious birth defect: microcephaly. It causes the child to have an unusually small head and suffer from low brain development.

According to Lynette Lewis, Health Services administrator, the cost to test for the Zika virus is expensive. The local health department has requested that if there is any suspect of a patient to have Zika, that the health center refer the patient to the health department for testing.

In late July of this year, Reggae artist Beenie Man contracted the Zika virus and because of his illness, he was denied access into Canada.

Detroit Tigers pitcher Francisco Rodriguez also became infected with the virus after visiting his home country, Venezuela.

Due to the virus' ability to transmit so easily, students were asked whether or not they ever heard of the virus

and if they are aware of how to take certain precautions against contracting it.

“I don't really know a lot about the virus, I just know that it got to the United States,” Alexis Brooks, sociology major, said.

Some students have just recently learned the news about the virus while a few states have already been exposed for several months.

“I maybe have heard about the virus like last month,” Allen Igwebuikwe, business major, said. “There was like 50 cases.”

On the other hand, there are some students who are well aware of the virus and know some of the precautions they can take.

“Yeah I've heard about the virus and I know that it's some basic mosquito repellent you can use to prevent yourself from getting it,” Jamal Rosario, history major, said.

Even though a vaccine hasn't been created yet to treat Zika, according to the Department of Public Health, there are a few hacks to prevent contracting it.

Using an EPA-registered repellent, wearing long-sleeved shirts, pants, socks and properly discarding any standing water around your house decreases chances of becoming infected.

It's best to see a doctor if you have experienced any of the symptoms described and avoid traveling to locations where the virus is being transmitted.



Jada Dukes/THE SPECTATOR

Senator David Silas makes a motion to table a co-sponsorship proposal by Kappa Alpha Psi at Valdosta State's Student Government Association's weekly meeting on Monday September 19W. He believes that more information on the proposed event should be made available before voting can begin.

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OPINIONS

OK to wear white after Labor Day

Our point of view...

Safety is a collective effort

There are numerous policies and procedures in place for keeping VSU students and community safe.

Some procedures are working well while others are turning out to be better in theory than in reality. Some have worked, such as the use of color cards, but others have not, such as text alerts. Others are supposed to work but became damaged without being repaired.

There was an armed robbery at Sustella Market on Nov. 14, 2015. In the report, it was stated that the authorities were not notified until almost 45 minutes after the robbery due to alert system malfunctions. The Spectator sent two reporters to investigate the scene and found that the security camera behind the register appeared molded over. Campus safety stated that the security footage would be reviewed, and text and call alerts made mandatory.

The Spectator recently sent out reporters to see how much has changed in a year. Unfortunately, not much has. The camera behind the register still appears molded over and some of the employees don't believe the alert system works. In addition to this, many students across campus have complained that they're not receiving text alerts even though they're sure they signed up for them.

This is not to say campus safety is not doing their job to protect us. There are plenty of procedures that have been implemented on campus that have made VSU a safer place.

On Nov. 18, 2012, VSU student Jasmine Benjamin was found unresponsive in Georgia Hall. She was later pronounced dead by the Lowndes County coroner. The cause of death was asphyxiation and her killer, Darien Meheux, was arrested approximately two months later.

VSU now requires all residents to carry a color card and show it in order to get into their dorms. This safety measure is to ensure only residents are entering residence halls. Additionally, the security cameras around campus have been upgraded.

However, there are still crimes that go on everyday. A look at the daily crime reports will show that theft often occurs. According to Charles Alan Rowe, Chief of VSU Police, the most commonly stolen items are texts books and electronics; the items are usually taken when left unattended. Students can go to the police to have their items marked, but should try to keep their valuables with them at all times to avoid theft in the first place.

We need to be aware that there are steps to take to ensure our own safety before leaving it to campus procedures to protect us. However, if one of the steps we take is signing up for text alerts, campus safety needs to make sure we will get them.

Most of us keep our phones with us at all times, but when an alert was sent out that classes were cancelled do to the storm Hermine, many of us were not aware until logging onto a computer. This was not a huge issue because we had a lot of time to find out classes were cancelled before showing up for them the next day, but if it had been an incident that required immediate action, many of us would have gone unaware of the danger.

The existence of safety measures is great, but they need to work. Crime cannot be eliminated, but it can be reduced further if we avoid vulnerable situations and campus safety ensured all systems work in addition to just installing them.

This editorial was written by a member of the editorial staff and expresses the general opinion of The Spectator.



Hunter Terrell

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The leading American tradition of not wearing white after Labor Day, used to be more than the suitable; it was a social standard established in the late 19th century after the Civil War.

Recognized women of higher society established this fashion decree to determine if someone was of a previous respectable title or results of new money.

Labor Day was recognized as a national holiday in 1894, rendering it as the closing for all summer trends.

Over the decades, this rule began to apply to every member of American society, with constant regard to social class.

Wearing white was reserved for weddings or an expensive summer getaway, not fall get-togethers.

"I like looking at old images of American upper-class women

and their attire anyways. I can look at something taken during the summer and see women decked out in light colors and white, and then a winter gala, dark blue or emerald greens. It's pretty remarkable how closely they followed fashion rules," Ashley Edwards, sophomore anthropology major, said.

When the 1950s introduced itself, fashion magazines made it clear to middle-class America that white clothing would come out on Memorial Day and end abruptly on Labor Day.

Popular figures tried to knock the fad, Coco Chanel being most recognized. She was noted as wearing white year-round. After surviving bell bottoms and the later neon and shoulder pads, over the last two decades the no white rule has "dyed" down.

Scott Christian of Esquire magazine wrote, "The point is, times have changed. And with them, the antiquated notion that you can't wear white after Labor

Day. The truth is, even if your name isn't Tom Wolfe, you can wear white any damn time of year you want."

Trevor Parks, junior said, "I really did not know it was a thing until a teacher mentioned it in middle school. I don't think people care as much now, so I guess that's a good thing—we are becoming fashionably liberated."

Now that we are in the middle of 2016, I do believe we should not have to adhere to such fashion/social standards. If I want to wear white pants or jacket a few days into October, then I will.

Jaden Smith wore a skirt for Vogue magazine, and Lady Gaga continues to wear inanimate items as clothing. Fashion has pushed boundaries and there are trends that are making big comebacks. This generation is innovative and welcoming to any and everything that makes people's style truly unique despite previous criteria.

Athletes are getting overheated in practice

Juston Lewis

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Every summer, athletes in the south are subjected to practices in scorching temperatures. These temperatures range anywhere from the high 90s to the low 100s, and can be detrimental to the health of the players. The symptoms include confusion, dizziness and fainting. What makes matters even worse, players often do not realize these symptoms until it is too late.

A study showed that 31 high school football players died of heat stroke complications between 1995 and 2009. That same study showed that 64 percent of athletes that had heat related illnesses were overweight or obese. It is not fair to put student athletes who can be well over 250 pounds through grueling practices in the middle of the summer.

Being in the heat is not just dangerous for athletes; coaches are also at risk for heat illnesses as well. Most coaches have suffered heat rashes, heat exhaustion or heat syncope which occurs with prolonged standing or sudden rising from sitting position. If a player or a coach is not hydrated he or she is at an even higher risk for one of these episodes.

Hydration is a major key to



Blake Clark/THE SPECTATOR

Athletes regularly deal with heat exhaustion.

avoiding heat related illness. Unfortunately, most athletes do not stay hydrated. According to the Southwest Athletic Trainers' Association, two out of every three athletes come to practice without proper hydration. This leads to heat cramps which are an early signs of heat exhaustion.

With all of these dangers most coaches still do not cancel or relocate practices indoors. In many cases they are not held accountable for players that are injured under their care. That is because it is the call of the director of sports medicine or head athletic trainers to officially call off any practice or game. There are several tests to measure the heat index but in all honesty it comes down to a

common sense.

More coaches need to step up and take care of their players rather than just being concerned with their personal agenda of winning. If a player becomes ill and dies, then nobody wins. Coaches should be concerned for their players health and find a balance of getting them acclimated to high heat and making sure they are not at any risk. Sports are already dangerous enough, there's no need to put young athletes at an even greater risk.

A national policy needs to be put into place to protect players from heat illnesses.

If policies can be made for head trauma, then policies should be made to prevent heat related injuries.

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OPINIONS

Trigger warnings help VSU does not require warnings

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The Chronicle of Higher Education submitted an article late Aug. in regard to the University of Chicago's lack of the trigger warnings and intellectual safe spaces.

The dean of students at UC, John Ellison, signed off on a heavy-worded letter stating that the university has no use of "trigger words" and does not stray away from controversial topics.

Published and sent to the school's incoming freshman, the letter reassures students that the university is committed to free speech and overall academic freedom. The letter concludes that some courses and professors could "challenge you and even cause discomfort."

When it comes to Valdosta State, the academic freedom policy is included in the Statutes of VSU.

Last revised in 2007, in a 57 page catalog, there is a chapter dedicated to VSU's rights regarding academic freedom.

Section one states that teachers are entitled to conduct research on whatever they would like. Section two mentions that teachers are entitled to discuss their subject in class. Section three concludes that teachers are regular citizens as well as "officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from censorship but there are obligations imposed."

Asking students, most people do not know what trigger words are and did not know professors are not obligated to use them.

"I believe trigger words are necessary. You never know how

a specific topic could affect someone." Mollie Stovall, junior public relations major said.

A little more personal, Maddie Townsend, junior art major, said "Being a victim of sexual assault, yes trigger words are definitely appreciated. A topic like sexual assault or violent matters, it can really catch you off guard and it can sometimes make you feel pointed out, even though no one

Professors having free range to speak on whatever they want with little discretion keeps classes interesting.

really knows that about you."

Opposite of Townsend and Stovall, Michael Duren, sophomore history major, said "I like that professors don't have to censor their material. It keeps students engaged and things interesting all together."

With VSU policy in mind, it's safe to say, "no trigger words" has been working fine, and should continue to do so.

Professors having free range to speak on whatever they want with little discretion keeps classes interesting

Our policy is no different than other state institutions like Kennesaw and Georgia State.

This policy is accurate and well-suited.



Julia Rodriguez/THE SPECTATOR

Some students use credit cards too often.

Credit cards help and hurt 18-year-olds should mind dangers of reckless spending

Cynthia Papailler
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College students quickly learn that college is a very expensive endeavor.

Students are told that by the time they graduate they will be buried in debt from loans. Many college students complain about the lack of financial education they receive prior to coming to college. So when a credit card offer comes in the mail with their name on it, it's hard to tell what the next step is.

Are 18 year-olds responsible enough for credit cards? Yes and no. It is never too early to learn about financial responsibility. Credit cards are a major key—ode to DJ Khaled—to transition into the world of adulthood.

"Adulting" is hard enough and twice as hard without money. Young adults learn that they have to pay for books and that the

refrigerator doesn't magically fill itself. Taking all of these factors into consideration, a credit card sounds appealing but there's always a catch.

Credit needs to be paid back and if it isn't paid back in time it collects interest and can lower a credit score.

It is very important to keep a credit score as high as possible; this is what determines if someone can buy a car or home later on in life.

It's been a while since I've been 18 years-old and I still feel clueless about credit cards. It's hard to keep up with payments when students are worried about books, rent, gas and food. Yet, a credit card can be used to pay for all of those things. It's hard to budget money, but according to Consolidatedcredit.com, it is best to start off with a checking account.

With a checking account, new credit card users can learn how transactions and budgeting works.

Also, a job would be very handy too and if students are unemployed perhaps their parents can come to the rescue.

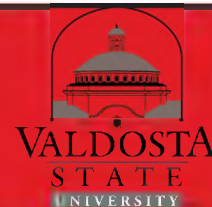
It is best to use credit cards on gas or small everyday transactions to keep tabs on how much spending is done in a month.

Set up a spending cap for credit cards based on how much you'd be able to pay back by the end of the month. Just because you have \$500 or \$1000 in credit doesn't mean you have to spend all of that—spend what you can afford to pay back.

To determine whether an 18 year-old is ready for the responsibility of a credit card is entirely up to them. If they feel responsible enough to keep track of their expenses and when their bills are due, then they should go for it.

Credit is a necessity in order to get by in this world. Seek out guidance and make sure to read what you sign up for before committing to a credit card.

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COLLEGE LIFE

REVIEW

Aramark improves Einstein's

Bagel shop remains open on campus, remains a student favorite



Customers wait in line at Einstein's for food. Prices have increased, but students and employees are pleased with Aramark changes.

Jada Duker/THE SPECTATOR

located on north campus.

While the north campus location serves as convenient dining options for students taking business classes, the main campus location is also held in high regard by students taking classes in the education building, the fine arts building and Jennett Lecture Hall.

"I like the location and usually I come in between classes," Deborah Stevens, sophomore music major, said.

Stevens also said she can count on Einstein's to be quick and a break between classes.

Welburn also says that the hot sandwiches and the signature sandwiches are among the most popular menu items.

Welburn also says that the hot sandwiches and the signature sandwiches are among the most popular menu items. She suggested that I try the tasty turkey which is one of the signature sandwiches. The "Tasty Turkey" sandwich is 500 calories and comes with roasted turkey, spinach, cucumber, lettuce, tomato with onion and chive smear on an Asiago bagel. The "Tasty Turkey" is delightful and I highly recommend it.

Jada Duker

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Einstein Bros. Bagels is now more expensive but the bagels are still delicious and students seem to be content with that.

Einstein's is one of the four on-campus eateries that hasn't been removed by the new campus food provider, Aramark. Students seem to be unbothered by the increase in prices and student employees are pleased with the change in management.

"It's way better than Chart-

wells," Wynter Welburn, junior chemistry and pre-med major, said.

Welburn says that she has been working at Einstein's for just under a year and she has seen improvements in the management team. She stated that Aramark is "more professional" than Chartwells. Welburn also acknowledged that the prices have risen after the partnership and that new items have been added to the menu.

There doesn't seem to be any change in student satisfaction with Einstein's.

"I haven't had anything that I

don't like yet," Darby Mcwhorter, sophomore communications and public relations major, said.

Mcwhorter said that she likes that Einstein's is so convenient because she is able to put in orders through Tapingo, the mobile food delivery app.

The increase in prices seem to have had no effect on sales either. Welburn said that the shop is the busiest from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. stating that "The lines are out the door."

Even students who don't visit the restaurant often are still pretty fond of it.

"I think it's a really good

healthier breakfast and it's nice to have bagels you can customize on your own," Michael Bosworth, junior electrical engineering major, said.

Bosworth said his favorite menu items were the blueberry muffins and bacon egg and cheese bagels. He says that while he is a fan of Einstein's he's only dined there a few times during his three years at VSU.

Einstein Bros. Bagels has been on VSU's campus for only a few years and has two locations, both in the Dewar College of Education and the Health Sciences and Business Administration Building

'Eurydice' tonight

Kimberly Cannon

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The first showing of VSU's performance of the play "Eurydice," will be held in the Lab Theatre in the Fine Arts building tonight at 7:30 p.m.

The play "Eurydice," by Sarah Ruhl is a retelling of the myth of Orpheus, the Greek poet and musician, through the perspective of his wife Eurydice.

In the play, Eurydice finds herself in the Underworld and is reunited with her father but Orpheus journeys after his wife; wanting to take her back to Earth with him. Eurydice must choose whether to return to Earth with Orpheus or to stay in the land of the dead with her father.

Autumn Denmark was cast as the female lead, Eurydice, Connor Holtz as Orpheus and Brady Whitehouse as Eurydice's father.

"I knew about the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice but this show takes the perspective of Eurydice and I found that fascinating," Denmark said. "I liked hearing her side of the story,"

Denmark said that a lot of time went into creating the set, and the show has an imaginative concept.

Eric Flexer, a senior theatre major with an emphasis in performance, is the stage manager for "Eurydice."

With all of the responsibility of being stage manager, Flexer said he is both nervous and excited about the play's performance.

"In a very scary kind of way, you [the stage manager] control the whole show," he said.

Flexer encourages students to come out and see this interest-

ing show that combines tragedy, happiness, and humor. "It's very out there," Flexer said about the play's performance.

The schedule for the play is 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22-24 and 26-28, with a matinee this Sunday at 3 p.m.

Tickets are free for VSU students with a valid VSU ID.

VSU students who wish to reserve a seat can do so by leaving a refundable \$5 reservation deposit

Tickets for adults are \$17, tickets for children and non-VSU students are \$11, and tickets for senior citizens are \$14.

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DID YOU KNOW?

According the VSU website, art was first taught at VSU when it was still named Georgia State Normal College. The first classes were taught by Frances Ruth Carpenter in 1913.

Art under one roof



Material Transformations

Students and faculty were invited to attend the opening of Material Transformations in the Dedo Maranville Fine Arts Gallery on Sept. 19 from 6:30 to 7 p.m. The work featured in the gallery comes from four female artists from around the country who were invited to showcase their work to Valdosta State students and staff, as well as to the community. Material Transformations will run through Oct. 7. The gallery is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Photos by Micheala Leung for The Spectator



Jazz does Count Basie

The VSU Jazz Ensemble had its first performance Sept. 20, at 7:30 p.m. The program was inspired by the Kansas City-based Count Basie Orchestra, popular in the late 1930s and early 1940s. The show featured solos from several students, one VSU alumnus and one faculty member. The jazz ensemble will perform at the Pops in the Park concert and scholarship fund raiser on the Fine Arts Building lawn on Oct. 13 at 6 p.m.

Photos by Kelsey Dickerson for The Spectator



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DID YOU KNOW?

According to CNN, on October 1, 1982, the first commercial compact disc, Billy Joel's "52nd Street," was released in Japan.



Music artist Frank Ocean released his surprise album "Blonde" exclusively to Apple on August 20.

Photo Courtesy of Flickr

Exclusive Albums have become the norm Artists are moving in a new direction in releasing music

Cynthia Papailler

STAFF WRITER

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I think I can vouch for this generation's love of exclusive things. Whether you are staying up for the release of new sneakers or Frank Ocean's new "Blonde" album, people are dedicated to getting their hands on things other people can't normally access.

Recently, many of our favorite artists have been releasing exclusive/surprise albums. Take Beyoncé's "Lemonade," which she released April 23 of this year with only one short promo video on HBO. Her exclusive visual album was first introduced on HBO—which is a channel not included in standard cable contracts—and then released on Tidal, which she co-owns.

This trend isn't going to disappear anytime soon, especially with websites that allow listeners to illegally download music or stream music for free. Physical copies aren't selling like they used to and if you can download a whole album without paying, artists are being cheated out of getting paid. I think from the perspective of the artist it is a smart move

both marketing wise and financially.

Many of these artists have loyal fans who will buy their music no matter what. In the early 2000s, there was a major issue with albums getting leaked. These exclusive albums are an amazing win for these artists because they still manage to keep their projects under wraps in a world where hackers will quickly post your album on YouTube.

One negative that I can think of is when an artist releases an album on a platform you aren't subscribed to. It can be frustrating having to wait for it to hit the normal platforms, while everyone around me is bragging and already humming the songs. Some platforms are retaliating for these artist exclusive albums, though. According to thenextweb.com, Spotify has been making it harder for its users to find some of their favorite artist on its streaming platform. They are also refusing to put these artists on some of their feature playlist, which can help an artists gain exposure.

I think that it's a bit childish and that for major artist it isn't doing much damage. Social media has made it so much easier for artists to promote their music themselves. Music-lovers know their way around failed at-

tempts like that. Despite waiting for a century for Frank Ocean's album, I think exclusive albums can add some excitement to the upcoming musical project.

Aside from exclusive albums, there is also a trend of visual albums. A lot of artists are using it as a tool to release music, but not making the individual tracks available. I thoroughly enjoy them because nowadays we don't see music videos on television anymore. With shows like "TRL" and "106 & Park" being cancelled, we don't get to see visuals for some of these singles anymore. That's what made music in the 90s and 2000s interesting. You anticipated the music videos for your favorite artist to come out. Now, you have to turn to the Internet with websites like Vevo or YouTube to get your visual fix. It's nice to see artists turning to pairing visuals with their music. Not only do you get a music video for one or two tracks, but for a whole album. It helps you better understand the meaning behind the project also.

Exclusive albums are going anywhere anytime soon. In fact, I am looking forward to seeing how today's artists try and change up the game.

Samsung has an explosive debut

Bryce Ethridge

STAFF WRITER

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With the recent recall of Samsung's Galaxy Note 7, the Internet has been filled with memes of people enjoying the new iPhone and others worried about the Note 7 exploding.

Much like most other technology products these days, the Note 7 is powered using a lithium-ion battery, which is rechargeable by storing energy being released and controlled chemical reactions. In a regular lithium-ion battery the separator stops the anode and cathode from touching. This is due to the fact it can cause explosions much like the one seen in the Jeep Grand Cherokee that went up in flames in St. Petersburg, Florida.

As reported by Reuters, there has also been a case where the phone has gone up in flames inside of a man's pocket and resulted in a severe burn on his right thigh. The victim in the incident, Jonathan Strobel, filed a case and is asking for compensation from Samsung for his medical fees, missed days at work and his pain and suffering.

According to CNET, there have been over 35 reported incidents worldwide involving the Note 7 and there are said to have been up to 2.5 million manufactured. The number of explosive phones has quadrupled since the recall was announced but Samsung is working with government agencies and cellular carriers worldwide to make sure all customers that purchased the phone are being provided exchanges as well as refunds.

However, in the meantime Samsung is currently working on fixing the issue with the battery.

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DID YOU KNOW?

According to CNBC, in 2011, Pac-Man was almost adapted into a reality series.



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*Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x2 box contains every digit from 1 to 6 inclusive.

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		8		7		5		
			2				3	7
3	7	5	6					
	5						6	9
			9	1	6			
9	6							2
					8	6	1	4
5	8				1			
		6		9		8		

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B N G M C E I N Y R T H E R Z B D
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G C E J G P O K L S R V D E J V E

- Blend Boil Braise Bread Brown Clarify
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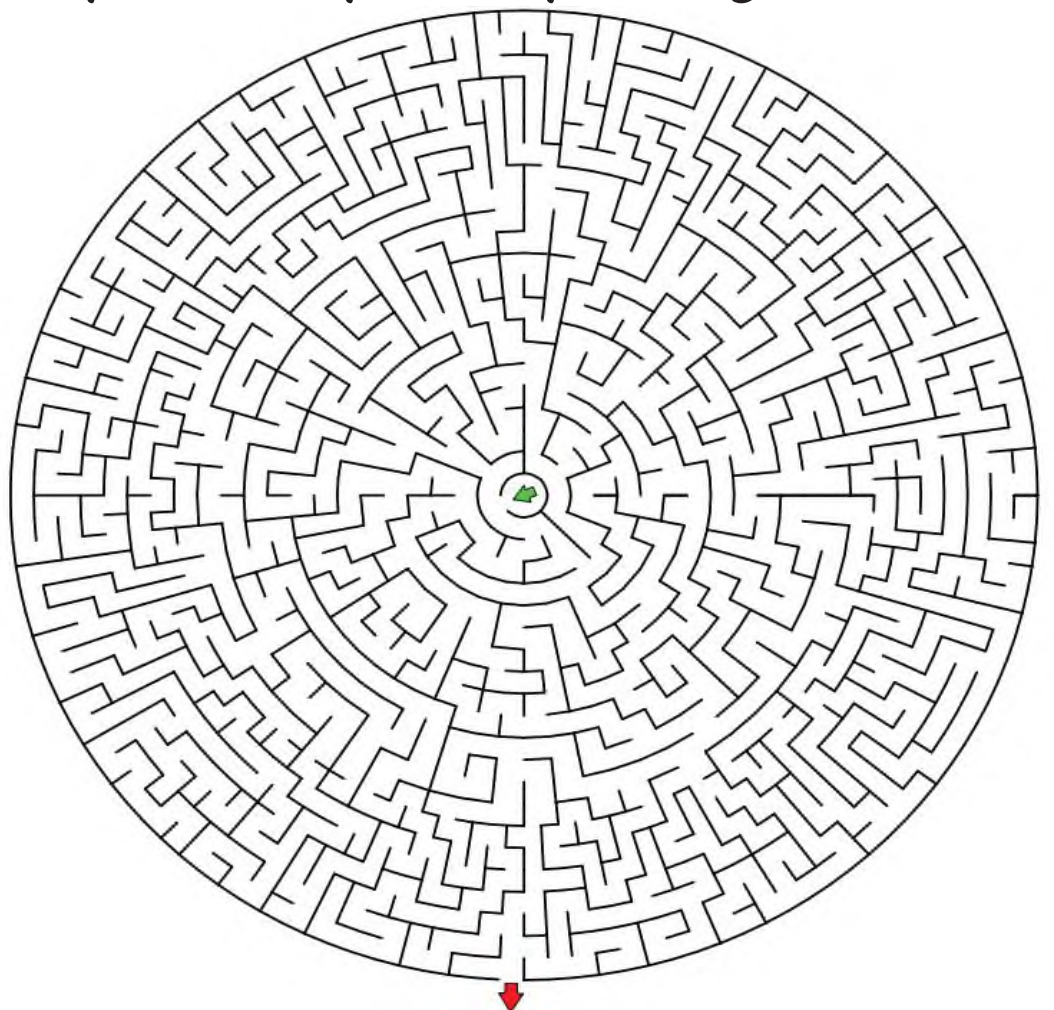
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Can you make your way through our maze?





Next Week:
A look at VSU defensive back, Dante Robinson. Robinson leads the team in interceptions and was the GSC Defensive Player of the Week after the Albany State game.



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Cross country preparing for UF meet

Jonathon Hembree
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Saturday, Sept. 10, while most were asleep, the Valdosta State Cross Country team was gearing up for their second meet of the season in Milledgeville at the Georgia College Bobcat Invitational.

Starting at 8:30 a.m. the men and women's teams took their marks against 14 other schools.

The Blazers finished within the top five teams with a total time of 2:17:49 on an 8 kilometer course, with an average time of 27:33.

Sophomore nursing major Jaison Morning finished 7th overall out of the 98 participants with a total time of 26:40:9.

"I thought I did well," Morning said when asked about his performance that day. "I found a good pace and picked it up the last two miles."

Coach Todd Smoot said he got the results he expected from each athlete.

"Many ran personal bests at Georgia College, and are expected to run to that level again and again and again," Smoot said.

Looking forward to the Sept. 24 meet at University of Florida Mountain Dew Invitational, coach Smoot said he hopes for improvement from all of his runners.

"The first 5 across the line are all integrally important and each must improve upon their last meet time and are expected to," Smoot said.

Morning said his personal goal is to set a new personal record and "run hard." He also plans on keeping his routine the same in preparation for the upcoming meet.

"I run and ice every day, stretching and completing hard workouts on Monday, Wednes-

day and even Friday in some cases." Morning said.

The team has been preparing for not only the next meet, but those beyond.

"In last two weeks they've had a week off and increased work load considerably as they progress to conference and regionals," Smoot said. "[The] entire season is a build up to be better prepared at the conference meet on Oct. 22 and the regional meet at St. Leo two weeks later. It is a building process week in and out to prepare and peak for that meet. Every single week, work hard, let them rest, work hard, let them rest."

Coach Smoot and the men's and women's cross country teams are gearing up for a run at a conference title, but for now sights are set on The Mountain Dew Invitational this Saturday at the University of Florida.



VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Alyssa Curtis will look to break her own record of 14 saves Friday.

Curtis breaks record

Justin Lewis
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Alyssa Curtis is more than a record holder for VSU Soccer. She's an anchor. Curtis recently broke the record for most saves in a single game with 14 against Georgia College

"I had no idea about the record," said Curtis.

It wasn't until after the game, at the team dinner that Coach Nolin informed her of the record.

"It was pretty cool to break a school record, and sign the record sheet,"

Her 14 saves in the double overtime shutout received national attention. This is outstanding as she was named Hero Sports' D2 Women's Soccer Hero of the Week. Curtis said her goal for the rest of the season is to make her team better.

"It would be cool to break my own record but I really just want to be as strong as I can for my team."

In the game following the record setting performance, she amassed 13 saves, almost tying a record that was only two days old.

Curtis has been playing soccer since the age of six. In the 7th grade she made the move to goal keeper permanently. In high school she experimented with other sports but soccer always had a place in her heart.

"I tried playing softball in high school but it wasn't physical enough for me," Curtis said with a laugh.

Curtis credited her teammates on defense for her success.

"I have a really good relationship with all of the defenders and without them I couldn't do my job," Curtis said. "They all leave their heart on the field each game."

Curtis also said her coaches Rebecca Nolin and Corey Har-

bison help her to become better each game.

"My family is a big key to me being motivated, they are always there for me," said Curtis.

At Andrew College, Curtis collected 149 saves in 17 games started. This season she is already at 51 saves through six games played. She said another one of her goals is to make it to the NCAA tournament.

"Whatever I can do to help my team win games and get to the postseason, I'm willing to do," Curtis said.

Curtis and her teammates will be looking to get their first win of the season when they take on West Florida Friday at 7 p.m. at the Athletic Field House.

Soccer looks to keep rebuilding against UWF

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VSU soccer added a pair of losses to its record after the Blazers fell to Alabama-Huntsville in heartbreaking fashion on Friday and West Alabama on Sunday.

In the team's 1-0 double-overtime loss, the Blazers managed to keep the Alabama-Huntsville Chargers scoreless throughout 90 minutes. The Blazers amassed 12 shots against the Chargers, seven of which were on goal.

Megan Muffley, had two shots on goal while Logan Lindy, Kayla Robles, and Aubree Denton all had one. Alyssa Curtis made five

saves, but was beat in the second overtime period.

During Sunday's contest versus West Alabama, VSU held the Tigers scoreless until the 29th minute.

Just before halftime, the Tigers extended their lead to three after they were awarded a penalty kick and converted on the attempt.

After the half, UWA scored another goal on the 59th minute with a final score of 4-0.

VSU only had six shots on target against the Tigers, while UWA had 12. UWA also earned five corner kicks in the loss.

VSU's only non-loss came after earning a draw against Georgia College and State University. The Blazers have only managed one goal on the season.

The Blazer's lone bright spot

this year came in their draw, when Curtis broke VSU's single game saves record with 14.


This year has been a building year for VSU soccer under head coach Rebecca Nolin who has not lived up to her debut year in 2014 where VSU went 12-7-2 and won the conference championship. From 2015 on the team has only four wins in 23 games.

The team is very young, with only three seniors, and VSU also has not had home field advantage but once this year. The traveling has been hard on the young team, but six of the team's 10 remaining games will be at home.

The Blazers will look to keep rebuilding as they play the University of West Florida Sept. 23 at the Athletic Field House at 7 p.m.


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SPORTS



Ray Pack Jr./THE SPECTATOR

Roland Rivers and Adam Robles are battling for the starting QB spot in Saturday's game against UWF. Rivers was pulled last week at halftime after turning the ball over three times.

Blazer loss leads to QB competition ahead of UWF

Juston Lewis

STAFF WRITER

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VSU football is coming off a devastating 44-19 loss to the University of North Alabama that has created a quarterback conundrum for Head Coach Kerwin Bell.

The stats were not indicative of the final score. The Blazers had 433 total yards while UNA only had 369. The Blazers also won the possession battle and scored five of the six times that they were in the red-zone.

Kicker Andrew Gray made a career high four field goals including a 35 yarder, a 25 yarder and two 30 yarders.

Bell attributes the loss to not converting their opportunities.

"We did a great job of moving in between the 20s but when you're on the road you have to convert," Bell said. "That was the big key, not scoring (touchdowns) but getting field goals."

Bell decided to make a quarterback change midway through the game after Rivers, who finished the night with 137 yards and 20-27 completions, had two

interceptions and a fumble at halftime.

Adam Robles, a sophomore from Ocala, Florida, was put in for the first time this season, and he flourished. Robles racked up 187 yards, no interceptions and a touchdown pass to Dallas Baldner, which was the only touchdown for the Blazers.

Bell said he'd let the two quarterbacks compete in practice this week for the starting job.

"They're both really good players and they both deserve to be competing," Bell said.

"They're both going with the first team, rotating."

In practice the two quarterbacks split reps with the starting offense. Bell said there was a noticeable intensity on the field, not just from the offense but the whole team overall.

"This was the best practice of the year," Bell said of practice on Tuesday night, "We're really picking our game up and I'm proud of these guys."

Bell said such a strong response in practice is the true mark of a champion.

"Everybody gets knocked

down, not many teams go undefeated, its about what you do once you get knocked down," Bell said.

The Blazers are going to have to put in work if they want to claim the fourth National Championship in school history. Coach Bell believes that his players are ready.

"It's just going to take work. You'd love to go through the drive thru and have it happen like that but sometimes, being a football team it takes a while to get that confidence with each other," Bell said.

In order to win, Bell believes his team has to eliminate unforced errors that can affect field position.

"On Saturday, I want to see a good clean football game and

above all else just playing at a high level," Bell said.

The Blazers take on West Florida for the first time ever Saturday, Sept. 4. This is the debut year for West Florida's football team, but the Argos are averaging 40 points a game. They'll come to Valdosta with a 2-1 record on the season, and VSU will be the team's first conference game.

The Argos' quarterback, Kaleb Nobles played at VSU for three years before transferring. Nobles has over 1,000 yards passing already on the season. The Blazer defense will have to step up handily if they want to slow down West Florida's offense.

The game against UWF will be on Saturday, Sept. 24, at Baze-more-Hyder Stadium at 7:30 p.m.

Blazer Stats Leaders:

Passing Yards
Roland Rivers (340)

Rushing Yards
Roland Rivers (142)

Total Touchdowns
Dallas Baldner/Roland Rivers (2)

Tackles
Dante Robinson (11)

Interceptions
Dante Robinson (2)

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