

Sept. 2016

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SPECTATOR

THE UNFILTERED, UNCENSORED VOICE OF THE STUDENTS.



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NEWS

Barton introduced as new CIO

Bryce Ethridge

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Out with the old, in with the new: with the departure of Brian Haughbrook, Isaac "Ike" Barton takes over as VSU's new chief information officer.

Barton has worked at VSU for more than 25 years and was enrolled in 1991. Barton is a family man who has a wife and two daughters. He is a graduate of nearby Thomas County Central High School and Andersonville Theological Seminary. His areas of expertise include management, strategic planning, wired and wireless networking, servers and

storage, and project planning.

"While every new opportunity is met with its own unique set of challenges, I am prepared and excited to move IT forward," Barton said.

He also expressed thankfulness to work alongside technological experts and to have a supporting management team.

"I am also fortunate to have the full support of our outgoing chief information officer, Brian Haughbrook," said Barton. He then praised his predecessor, stating he "laid a strong foundation for innovation and success" with many of his "transformative technology solutions and services."

Barton said he wants to "culti-

vate and strengthen new and existing relationships with campus constituents" so he can tackle all technological needs around VSU. He added he is passionate about improving VSU's IT division, so in turn they can help improve VSU's "connectivity and wireless access."

Barton also states that IT has implemented several major projects that support student recruitment and retention, as well as classroom innovations, campus safety and improved Wi-Fi.

"I will remain in this position as long as the university's administration entrusts me to serve in this capacity," said Barton.

Announcements

Don't Forget Daylight Savings

Time changes Sunday, Nov. 6 at 2 a.m. Enjoy the extra hour of sleep.

Campus Rec Events

- The "Big Pink Volleyball Tournament" will be held Nov. 5 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. 6v6 teams. There's a \$15 entry fee per team, which will be donated to Breast Cancer Awareness.

Register on IMLeagues and pay at check in. Winners receive a prize.

- The "Blacklight Dodgeball Tournament" will be held Nov. 17 at the racquetball courts. Registration ends Nov. 15 at Midnight on IMLeagues.

Graduate School Info Fair

The Graduate Schools Info Fair will be held at the University Center Magnolia Room today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Graduate school representatives will be on hand and all students interested in pursuing higher education are invited to attend and ask questions.

"Are We Alone?"

The VSU Planetarium is hosting its second show of the semester with "Are We Alone?" Nov. 4. It is presented by Dr. Cecilia Barnbaum and will be shown at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. Admission is free but seating is limited to 47 guests per show.

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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Ads should be sent to the *Spectator* or delivered to our office in 1238 Hopper Hall. The deadline is 5 p.m. Thursday, a week prior. If payment applies, it should be submitted in a sealed envelope at the time the ad is placed or paid via Mastercard, Visa, Discover or electronic check online through Aimee Napier,

Advertising Manager. Email Aimee Napier at Spec_Advertising@valdosta.edu to pay online.

Ads must be accompanied by the name and phone number of the person submitting the ad. Students must also submit their VSU Student ID number. Ads must be resubmitted each week, as necessary.

The *Spectator* address is: 1500 N. Patterson St., Valdosta, GA 31698. Our email address is spec_advertising@valdosta.edu.

The *Spectator* reserves the right to reject any classified ad. All ads are subject to standard editing procedures. The *Spectator* is not respon-

sible for mistakes due to a submitted error. The categories for classifieds include: For Sale, For Rent, Sublease, Wanted, Roommate, Services, Personals and Employment.

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1 BD/1 BTH for Rent \$400 in 3 Bdr/2 Bth house w/pond access on cul-de-sac off Bemiss Rd. Totally electric, w/d, full kitchen, DSL. 2 mths up front (1/mth dep) Text 229-200-3061 or email acnapier@valdosta.edu if you are interested. Must love cats.

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Health Tip of the week

A healthy tip from VSU Student Health Center
“It is not too late to get your flu vaccine. Call us today at 229.219.3200 to schedule your vaccine before you go home for the Thanksgiving break.”

Remerton shooting leaves questions unanswered

Gabe Burns
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A man was injured by gunfire and the perpetrator remains at-large after an incident near campus Wednesday.

The Valdosta Police Department responded to a shooting at Jackson Square Apartments on Melody Lane. Investigator Derrick Sinclair confirmed a male victim was shot in the leg by an unidentified male aggressor. The wound was non-fatal, and the victim was taken to South Georgia Medical Center.

The men’s names have not be publicly disclosed.

Building C, where the incident occurred, and part of Building D were evacuated, according to the Vpd and resident witnesses. The police said the suspect was not found in the apartment building.

Apartment residents Megan Allen and Shannon Kelley said “five or six” gunshots were heard and the apartments were soon evacuated. They added they heard the police went to VSU to search for the suspect.

Student witnesses attested to campus police visiting the communications build-

ing Wednesday afternoon, searching for Detavian Daniels, a VSU student and Jackson Square Apartments resident. Daniels said students in his class told him police were searching for him. He said when he returned to his apartment, he approached police and was put in hand-cuffs outside the apartment for roughly five minutes.

“I heard someone was

“I fit the description of the shooter, so I was detained for a few minutes until I was cleared.”
-Detavian Daniels

shooting around my home, so I came home,” Daniels said. “I fit the description of the shooter, so I was detained for a few minutes until I was cleared.”

VSU Police Chief

Charles ‘Alan’ Rowe confirmed his department visited classrooms in search of

a student, but he said they believed the individual was a witness, not a suspect.

“Initially, we believed a possible witness could be a student,” Rowe said. “One of our officers did go to that communications building to see if he was in class. Not a suspect; he had some key information we needed to know at the time. He had a little background information that helped us out.”

Rowe said it was “an isolated incident between two known people” and he was on the scene for much of the afternoon to assure VSU would be safe.

“At this point, due to the investigation, there’s absolutely no connection to this university,” he said. “We do not believe there is a threat to the university or to the community at large. The Remerton Police Department and Lowndes County Sheriff’s department do not believe there’s any threat to the public at this point.”

Melody Lane was re-opened around 6 p.m. Wednesday evening. The suspect is at large and there’s an ongoing investigation. The Spectator will provide updates as they come.

Michaela Leung contributed to this story.



VSU students and Jackson Square residents Shannon Kelley and Megan Allen wait to be allowed access to their apartments. Police surrounded the parking lot of the apartment complex. All traffic on Melody Lane was blocked while police continued their investigation. PHOTO CREDIT: MICHAELA LEUNG & DARIAN HARRIS

Millennials should check facts before voting Clinton, Trump prepare for upcoming Election on Nov. 8

Mayah Cantave
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The state of the country is at the mercy of its people in five days, when the United States holds its 2016 Election for its 45th president.

Former First Lady and Democratic nominee, Hilary Clinton, and business man/former reality

television star Republican nominee, Donald Trump, are making their last rounds convincing the American people why they should be the leader of the Free World. In order to make the right decision, Americans should be armed with factual information to make their decision.

Millennials, ages 18 to 35, have the power to dominate and take control of the election. According to the Pew Research Center, as of July 2016, 126 million Millennials and Generation X, ages 36 to 51, are eligible to vote.

The problem lies in where Millennials receive their news. About 62 percent of

young Americans get their news about government and politics from social media, according to a Pew Research Center study. Millennials should fact-check and make sure the information they receive is factual.

Among the information to fact-

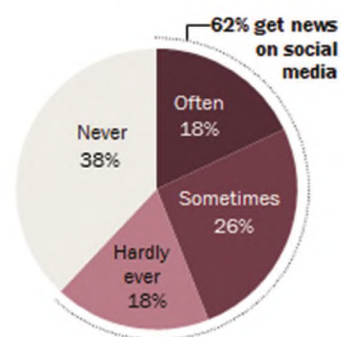
check is registered polling places and what to bring with you to cast your ballot. In Georgia, to be eligible to vote you must be a citizen of the United States and at least 18 years old by Nov. 8, 2016. A prove of citizenship,

such as a government-issued ID is also required. Polls will open on 7 p.m. and close on 7 p.m. on Nov. 8. It is not recommended to wait until Election Day to check if you’re registered to vote.

It is not required to vote on Nov. 8. Early voting started on Oct. 17 and will continue until Nov. 4. Ensure that you show up to the right polling place. You will only be able to vote at the registered polling place. If you can’t make it to the polls on Election Day, citizens are able to vote using an absentee ballot.

About 6-in-10 Americans get news from social media

% of U.S. adults who get news on a social networking site ...



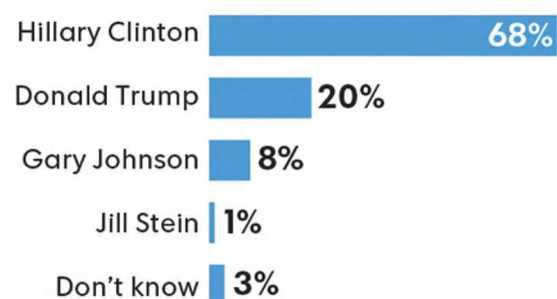
Source: Survey conducted Jan. 12-Feb. 8, 2016. “News Use Across Social Media Platforms 2016”

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Americans do not have an excuse to not cast their vote. As The Spectator’s editorial says, educate yourself and let your voice be heard.

NO CONTEST

Presidential support among Millennial likely voters



SOURCE USA TODAY/Rock the Vote online poll taken Oct. 11-13 of 400 likely voters ages 18-34. Credibility interval ±5.5 percentage points. Veronica Bravo, USA TODAY



| The Issues | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Clinton | Trump |
| ABORTION ✓ | ABORTION X |
| GUN CONTROL ✓ | GUN CONTROL X |
| HEALTH CARE ✓ | HEALTH CARE X |
| EDUCATION (COMMON CORE) ✓ | EDUCATION (COMMON CORE) X |
| IMMIGRATION X | IMMIGRATION ✓ |
| LGBT RIGHTS ✓ | LGBT RIGHTS X |
| GLOBAL WARMING ✓ | GLOBAL WARMING X |
| TAXES INCREASE FOR WEALTHY ✓ | TAXES INCREASE FOR WEALTHY X |

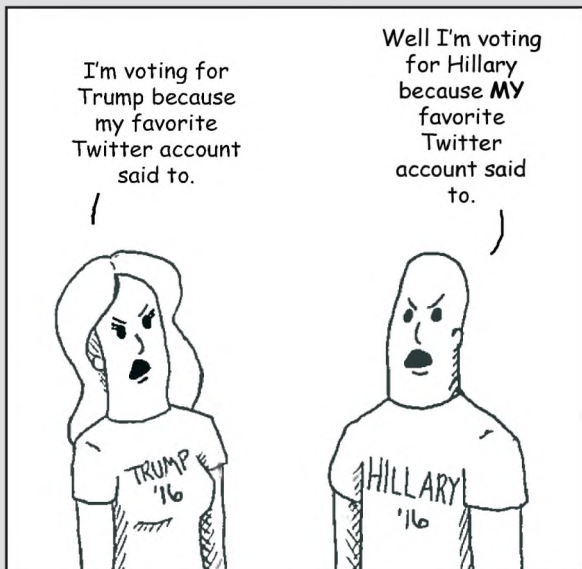
Election Day: Nov. 8
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Graphics by Mayah Cantave

OPINIONS

Our point of view...

Be an educated voter



Julia Rodriguez/SPECTATOR

Social media can be a great place to get the latest updates on what goes on if individuals follow or 'friend' the right pages. However, most of what people see on their news feeds are memes, rants, propaganda or highly biased opinions without facts to back them up.

Voters need to be able to weigh the pros and cons of each candidate coming into presidency before making a final decision.

To be a properly educated voter on the presidential campaign, individuals need to watch speeches and debates, read credible, unbiased articles on both candidates, and fact check wild accusations.

Passion does not equate to credibility.

Just because Grandma wrote a long detailed post about how much she loves one of the candidates, does not necessarily mean that candidate is the best. Just because Dad posted a funny meme about a candidate being horrible does not mean that candidate is actually a poor choice.

Additionally, don't define a candidate by his or her supports. An individual may have very skewed or misplaced reasons for supporting a candidate that do not actually reflect what that candidate stands for.

Sometimes the crazy posts about Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are true, but those instances are few and far between. Most of the negative statements said are stretched or misconstrued truths from a supporter of the opposite candidate. Be skeptical of all posts, good and bad, about both Clinton and Trump.

In fact, dig deeper on everything. When a candidate says they care about a certain issue, don't just stop there. Why do they care about it? What are their plans to fix it? What side to do they take on it?

Looking at social media for political information is not enough. Click on the articles, look who wrote them. Chances are voters won't find an unbiased article about Trump from a Republican website, or one about Clinton from a Democratic website. Find neutral outlets to get information from.

Not everyone on the internet is a reporter, so stop treating their pages like renowned news agencies and their posts like credible articles. Don't just be a voter, be an educated voter.

The Spectator has chosen not to endorse a candidate. Rather than throw support behind an individual, the editorial staff strongly encourages everyone to make their own well-informed decision. The students at VSU will play a large role in the future of this country. Do not take that for granted.

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

Registration can be simple

Ask the right questions and trust advisers

Evelyn Dunn
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Many students are frustrated with their advisers messing up their class load, so individuals take matters into their own hands, only to end up with the same results.

Registration has begun and students are trying to get the perfect class schedule. But in order to sign up for classes, students must meet with advisers first.

It is vital to meet with advisers because they're the ones who will make a student account eligible for registration. If the flag does not get lifted, then a student can't register for classes.

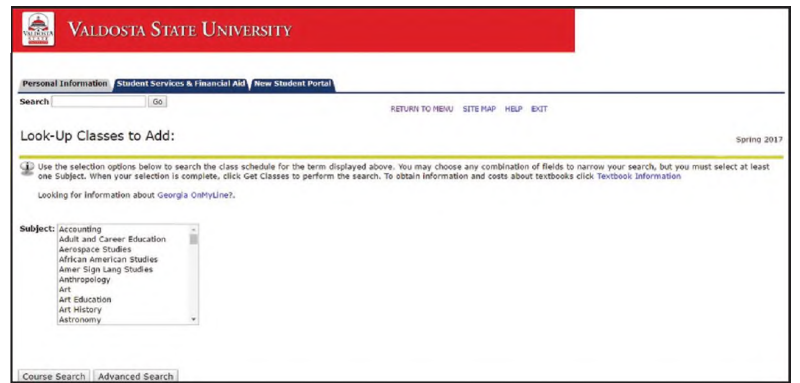
Advisers are there to help and offer suggestions to students for their upcoming registration dates. Their goal is to point individuals in the right direction so they can get their desired schedules.

Sometimes, mistakes happen and students are left with errors popping up when they try to register.

Others realize that a class is too hard or the course load is too much and they have to drop something in the middle of the semester, which sets them back with classes.

Students in the past years have vented about how their advisers have no idea what they're doing and don't know what they want at all.

It's up to the students to let advisers know what they are striving for and what they want



Evelyn Dunn/SPECTATOR

Screen shot of one of the steps in class registration.

to accomplish. That way they can offer the best advice for specific needs.

I've switched majors a couple times, so I've had my fair share of advising advice. One advisor wrote down the wrong class for my core. I noticed that my classes didn't add up, but made the decision not to worry about it.

On registration day, I woke up at 7 a.m. and it said I had a prerequisite error when I tried to register. By the time I emailed my adviser and figured out the correct class to take, it was already full.

So, it is not always one party's fault. My adviser at the time made a mistake, and I made the mistake of not double checking when I had doubts.

Students should trust their advisers opinion, if anything, just taking it into consideration will help when picking the classes you want.

When I signed up for classes last year, many that my adviser picked overlapped with

one another. So I decided to pick other classes in their places that I thought were easier to take.

I did not ask my adviser if this was wise, so when I did sign up for classes some of them came up as prerequisite errors.

That's when I learned if I want to take a different course than the ones suggested to me, I should double check with my adviser first.

Bottom line, students should be putting a little more faith in their advisers.

They have a lot more experience and generally know what they are doing. And if you have a preference or concern, they should be happy to help you figure out how to get that desired course load.

Don't forget that advisers and advisees have a common goal. We want to make it to graduation, and our advisers want to help us get there.

Ask for help, ask all questions you may have and trust your adviser's guidance.

More colleges need sexual assault prevention

Tiana Foster
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The Greek community at UC Berkeley agreed to place a ban on all parties as a safety precaution in response to reports of sexual assault.

The ban has been lifted and a new set of guidelines have been set in place.

According to the Mercury News, one of the new guidelines states that partygoers will now be greeted at the door with two to three minute "consent talks."

The consent talks will end in a quiz that each partygoer will have to pass in order to gain entrance into the party. There will be "sober monitors" at every party making sure everyone is abiding by the new guidelines, according to The Mercury.

Each sober monitor will be trained on "affirmative consent" as well.

In order to deal with the issue of sexual assault there needs to be multiple discussions held amongst all students not just those who are a part of Greek Life.

The university also requires members of all fraternities and sororities to regularly undergo sexual assault prevention training.

It is refreshing to see a community of students working together to protect their fellow classmates, but hopefully this goes further than giving two minute consent talks to drunken students trying to get into a college party.

In order to deal with the issue of sexual assault, there needs to be multiple discussions held amongst all students, not just those who are a part of Greek Life, and there should be an absolute no tolerance level when it comes to offenders.

A two to three minute quiz may keep sexual offenders from getting into frat parties, but what about the other parties? What about the other students?

These students have given other schools a great example of what it means to show concern for their students. Hopefully their actions will inspire a similar change on other campuses.

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OPINIONS

Americans need to focus on politics

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Social media is a huge part of our lives especially when it comes to televised events like the presidential debate.

On the second presidential debate an uncommitted voter in a red sweater by the name of Ken Bone was introduced to the world when he asked a simple question to the presidential candidates.

“What steps will your energy policy take to meet our energy needs, while at the same time remaining environmentally friendly and minimizing job loss for fossil power plant workers?”

Social media wasted no time making Bone the star of presidential debate. People on social media seemed to be more worried about him than the candidates. Bone’s question brought up actual concerns but that is not at all why the internet went crazy over him.

Many people want to take their mind off of the actual election, and Bone was just the person to do that.

They seemed to be intrigued by his Mr. Rogers, friendly neighbor image, and they just loved the way he snapped a picture at the end of the debate with his disposable camera.

Memes about him are everywhere; some memes even joke about him winning the debate.

Bone went from only having a few followers on Twitter to having hundreds within 24 hours of the debate. Now weeks later he



MCT campus

Hillary Clinton speaking at the second Presidential debate.

has gained thousands of new followers, all for just being himself and asking one question during the presidential debate.

While it's all fun and games now, our country is going to be left in the hands of one of the two candidates in less than a week...

While his rise to fame may have come by surprise, he’s using it to encourage people to go out and vote.

It’s nice to shed a light on the election every now and then, and we appreciate all the memes

about Ken Bone, but we seemed to have lost focus of what the election is really about. This is the future of America we’re talking about, and many people have taken this presidential election for a joke.

While it’s all fun and games now, our country is going to be left in the hands of one of the two candidates in less than a week; whether we agree with or like anything they do.

The fate of our country is solely dependent on us to elect the right person.

It’s our job to get out to the polls and vote for the candidate we think will make our country whole.

As young people it’s our job to not only go out and vote, but to encourage our peers to do so as well.

With the election less than a week away, it’s our duty as citizens of this country to exercise our right to go out to the polls and vote.

Remember all cancers More cancers need raised awareness

Tiana Foster
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Big or small, save them all. Save the tatas.

October is famously known as Breast Cancer Awareness month. Even though breast cancer gets the most recognition, October is also dedicated to liver cancer.

Pancreatic, lung and stomach cancer awareness are all recognized in the month of November. That’s just to name a few. Almost every month in the year has been dedicated to several different types of cancer.

Specific months dedicated to different cancers give survivors and patients a sense of comfort. Being recognized and appreciated as a strong person, willing to fight and overcome the battles of cancer, brings joy to the ill ones.

After 31 days of pink ribbons, athletes wearing pink to show their support and local breast cancer awareness walks the people soon forget about any other cancers.

Some cancers are even more life-threatening than those that get the most attention.

According to the CDC, lung cancer kills more people than any other cancer, including breast cancer, and comes in second to heart disease to all causes of death.

Not saying that breast cancer is any less important but in terms of fundraisers and research, breast cancer receives the most attention. There has been some tension between how much awareness is brought to breast cancer in comparison to all other cancers.

Breast cancer is so heavily focused on women that some men are unaware that they are too at risk.

The unawareness results in a lower survival rate for men because they catch it later on. Just because men’s breast cancer



MCT campus

Man raising awareness for skin cancer.

affects a smaller population doesn’t decrease the importance of knowing.

So the real question is how effective is October’s Breast Cancer Awareness month?

Cancer has always been life-threatening and should be recognized as a whole. One cancer does not deserve more recognition than another because some patients and survivors share some of the same battle wounds with different stories.

Raising awareness to the various types of cancers would show the importance of knowing how deadly each disease is.

It’s always important to know what to look for and the symptoms of each.

Let’s not focus mainly on breast cancer and start bringing awareness and acknowledging the men, women and children affected and fighting the disease, every day.

Next time you or your group wants to do a fundraiser for breast cancer, consider the cancers that get less attention.

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DID YOU KNOW?

According to NPR, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November has been the day U.S. citizens vote for the president since 1845.

Odum throws novel party

Librarians kick off National Novel Writing Month

Olivia Studdard

STAFF WRITER

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One thing many people aren't aware of is that November is National Novel Writing Month, often abbreviated as NaNoWriMo.

On Nov. 1, writers who participate will begin working towards the goal of completing a 50,000-word novel by 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 30. There have been over 250 published novels that were spawned during NaNoWriMo, one of the most famous being "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen.

This year, Odum Research Librarians Samantha Paul and Catherine Bowers decided to join in the fun by hosting a preparation party on Oct. 26. Students were invited to come to the party to read and gather plot ideas and more for their potential stories.

This wasn't just a night for novel writers. The night also included instruction for students

to come work on any academic papers they might have to complete. One of these students was Sara Barrera, a graduate student who came to the preparation night to work on her thesis paper.

"I've been working on it, but this is like time where I actually have to sit down and do it," said Barrera. "I'm here to work on a paper, but I want to write it as a story. Academic writing is so boring; I want to spice it up a little."

The class was two hours long and consisted of seven minute intervals where participants had the chance to rotate through stations set up throughout the room. The stations had various books set up to spark inspiration about the details of writing a novel including who, where, when and why.

After an hour, Paul and Bowers took the reins and gave pointers on how to quickly develop a plot for your writing.

"The two types of writers are the plotters and the planners," Bowers said. "The planners are

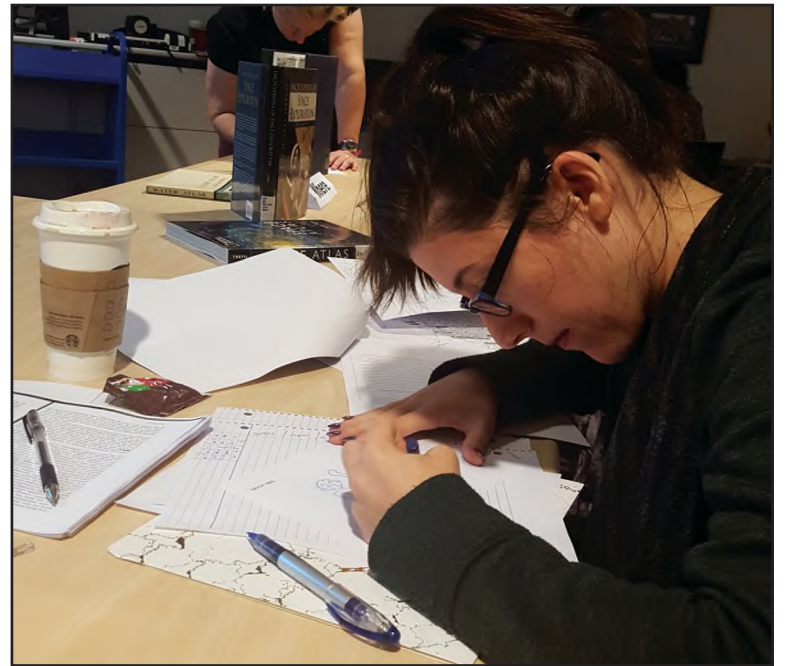
the people who map their entire story out before writing it, probably a very effective method if you actually want to complete your novel in a month. Then there are the plotters, who basically ride by the seat of their pants the entire time they're writing."

The two librarians used their time to brainstorm and show how much writing and libraries should be valued.

"I think people underestimate what the library is," Paul said. "It's a community helping each other, supporting each other. You get what you need to be more successful along the way."

Odum Library will host three more events for NaNoWriMo during the month. However, these will focus more on intense lightning writing, or "getting it done," as Paul said. The three sessions will be held on Nov. 10, 16 and 28.

"I think if more people knew about this it would have so much potential," Barrera said. "It's



Olivia Studdard/THE SPECTATOR

Sarra Barrera works on completing her graduate thesis. She used the session in Odum Library to better formulate the plot of her paper.

about expanding your creativity, organizing and getting ideas for whatever you're working on

while getting support along the journey."

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VSU ponders at the polls

Kelsey Dickerson

COLLEGE LIFE EDITOR

kedickerson@valdosta.edu

"Why don't Millennials vote?" asked one Washington Post article after Sen. Bernie Sanders stepped out of the presidential race back in March.

The article went on to analyze voter participation data gathered by the General Social Survey in 2014. In the end, the data showed that Millennials are no less politically involved than other generations. It seemed Millennials just preferred direct contact with their local governments and participating in protests, marches and boycotts over going to the polls.

Will Valdosta State students participate in this election cycle? Most students say that due to the nature of the election they will participate, but others are still disinterested.

"I am voting, especially be-



Kelsey Dickerson/THE SPECTATOR

Voter turn out is usually low among college students.

cause this is a pivotal election." Alex Persons, junior psychology major, said.

According to Pew Research Center, as of July 2016, Gen-Xer's and Millennials, essentially college-aged people and their parents younger than 51, make up 56 percent of those eligible to vote. These new numbers make the young adult vote more essential than ever before.

Samekh Ward, a senior business major, said she felt encouraged to vote this year even though she never had before. "I feel like this year is a good year to exercise my right to vote," she said.

Other students seemed to want to vote simply to keep an unwanted candidate from office.

"I plan on voting once I get my absentee [ballot] because I'm from Florida," Raven Jackson, a

freshman psychology major, said. "I want to vote because I want to make sure Trump doesn't get into office, basically."

Though Millennials seem to be a large percent of people eligible to vote, whether or not they will make up a large amount of registered voters who come out to this election is yet to be seen.

"I'm not voting because I do not pay much attention to politics," Jacob Carter, a freshman criminal justice major, said.

According to Pew, only 46 percent of eligible Millennial voters participated in the last presidential election, cutting the voting power they could have had by almost half. The same level of turn-out this year could keep Millennials from having any real power in the polls at all.

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Australia

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COLLEGE LIFE

Percussionists share space in concert



The VSU percussion ensemble played their first fall concert in years Monday, according to Dr. Smith, the director.

The performers and audience members were invited to dress in their best costume for Halloween.

Students played an array of songs, one involving only lighters, another which ended with all performers playing on a single instrument called "Shared Space" by Ivan Treviño.

Pictured: Percussion students perform "Machine: from Symphony No. 5" by William Bolcom.

Bryce Ethridge/The Spectator

Students learn the sex signals

Kimberly Cannon

STAFF WRITER

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Students learned about "bro-code" and the dangers of the "friend-zone" on Oct. 25 at Sex Signals, an educational program held at VSU.

According to the program's production company, Catharsis Production, Sex Signals strives to initiate conversations about social issues.

Sex Signals identifies itself as an engaging program that uses laughter and honesty to educate and promote change.

Anne Dufault and David Seeber functioned as both educators and actors in the Sex Signals performance at VSU.

The two acted out improvised situations that the audience helped them create to play out scenes that would inform the audience of consensual sex, sexual harassment, sexual assault and actions that enable sexual predators.

Seeber and Dufault stressed the importance of always receiving verbal consent for sex from a prospective sexual partner.

They talked about the fact that

consent is not an absolute decision because an individual can change their mind and take back consent.

The small crowd at VSU that attended Sex Signals was composed of mostly females, with only two males in the audience.

Reagan Bennett, an English graduate student, said that she thinks most college students are getting consent prior to sex, but the process of asking for specifically spoken consent every single time before sex may be excessive.

"We're one step away from contracts, and I just think that's a little much, but people should know their limits," Bennett said, regarding the issue of receiving explicit verbal consent prior to sex. "I think at the heart of it is [needing better] sex education."

Seeber and Dufault also stated that most sex education classes do not educate students on healthy relationships, and Sex Signals aims to fill in those gaps in education.

Rapists should be held accountable for their actions, and in order to do that, blame must not be projected onto the victim. People must call out inappropriate action,



Kimberly Cannon/THE SPECTATOR

David Seeber and Anne Dufault presented the program Sex Signals, an interactive program on social issues at VSU on Oct. 25.

said Dufault.

Seeber and Dufault also discussed the implications of the term "friend-zone" and "bro-code."

"Bro-code is the devil's hall pass," Seeber said.

Seeber explained that bro-code can force men to feel obligated to help their friends hook-up, even when it might lead to a sex crime.

The word "friend-zone" implies there is something wrong with two people just being friends, he

said.

However, Bennett didn't agree with bro-code being universally perceived as "the devil's hall pass," saying that bro-code has different connotations for different people.

"I don't think that bro-code deals explicitly with rape culture," Bennett said. "I've never viewed the bro-code as a moral issue."

Relatability is an important aspect in the Sex Signals program.

The program uses "straight-forward language and realistic scenarios to build trust and defuse the tension that can arise around the subject matter," according to the Catharsis Production website.

Sex Signals' credibility comes from research-supported content and more than 40 years of expertise in program development, according to the Catharsis Production website.

Sex Signals has been performed at military bases, businesses and college campuses, with more than 3,500 performances on college campuses alone and watched by over one million students, according to the Catharsis Production website.

Check back next week to read:

-A preview of the theater department's Into the Woods

-An article on the "House Calls" program starting in residence halls Nov. 14

-Where your fellow students got their election news and who they voted for

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Imps! by Jeff Harris



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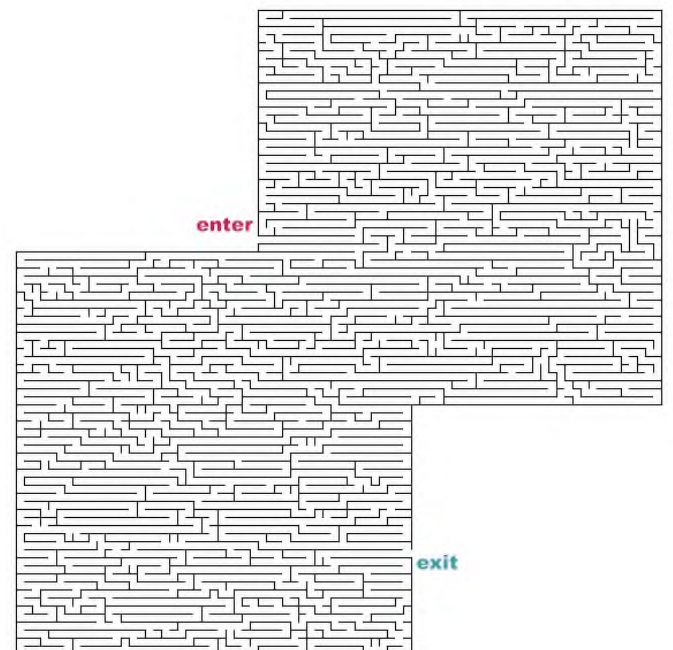
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DID YOU KNOW? According to Android Authority, Samsung is made up of around 80 companies and employees over 370,000 people.

Once the leader, AOL still hangs on Internet service still dialing up business

Olivia Studdard
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Back in the 90s, AOL was one of the biggest dial-up services across America and gave connection to numerous households.

Although most people around America are already familiar with AOL for the Internet connection that it supplied them, 90s kids know it for the annoying broadband sound that your computers made when the connection was messed up. AOL was hugely popular and gave the public access to the Internet, but where is it now?

Your parents had it in your household one day and the next day you had Comcast.

Sometime around 2006 AOL re-branded itself to AOL, LLC, rather than America Online, but also had numerous clients cancel their accounts. In order to stall their clients from cancelling their accounts, AOL gave their email services and other software out for free instead of \$9.95. AOL also increased the price of monthly dial-up connection to \$25.90 rather than \$19.95.

Due to their decline in clients, AOL eventually had to lay off over 40 percent of their employees but included compensation packages for them. AOL even had to cut off services such as Xdrive, AOL Pictures and AOL Hometown to save on costs, but to counteract all that they cut off, they bought the social media network, Bebo. Soon after, AOL decided to rebrand themselves yet again under the name of

Aol, but unfortunately for them, they still lost customers.

They eventually decided to sell Bebo to gain back more money. Right now, you're probably thinking "Oh hey! AOL is definitely dead now!" Well, rest assured that's just what they want you to think. In 2015, AOL was bought out by Verizon, made a deal with Microsoft to take over a majority of its digital advertising business and received news and documentary nominations for their show "MAKERS" and their show "True Trans with Laura Jane Grace."

AOL also received a virtual reality known as RYOT that allows 360 degree views to videos and content for the Huffington Post. AOL works alongside Verizon to operate Go90, which is a free mobile video service aimed at teens that contains

a line-up that includes ESPN, Comedy Central and the Huffington Post just to name a few.

Guess what? If you ever read the Huffington Post, AOL is the reason for it since they are a part of AOL's family of brands. They were even working Google's search services until Bing came along. AOL has effectively become the ninja of media companies, silently controlling nearly everything that people have used or seen over the years. Verizon has recently had an idea to combine Yahoo and AOL into one service.

Well, there you have it folks, AOL has been right under your noses the entire time, silently controlling your life and you didn't even realize it.

Three cellphone options to replace your defect Samsung Galaxy Note 7

Evelyn Dunn
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The Samsung Galaxy Note 7 was one of the best looking phones with the coolest features offered when it was introduced in August. The excitement was paramount--until it started exploding into people's faces. That excitement quickly turned to horror. The phone was recalled swiftly afterwards. Phone carriers are now offering to exchange the Note 7 for a different smartphone, less combustable one. There are tons of options out there. So here are three options to replace that defective Note 7.

Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge

For the stubborn customers that want to stick to the Samsung Galaxy's, the S7 Edge is the most similar to the Note 7. The display and screen are bigger and better, and more advanced than earlier models. The only difference is that it doesn't have a stylus, which maybe a negative to some users. But, the battery won't take anybody's ear off either, so that's plus. It has water resistant coating and the new design helps the phone fit perfectly in a consumers

hand. iPhone

This is an obvious one, the iPhone. It has been popular for years and hopefully many more to come. The new iPhone 7 and 7s are the newest and coolest model that have been introduced this year. It has very prominent features that differ from the older iPhones. For one, it does not have an audio jack, the purpose of it to make it water resistant. Older iPhones work just as well. It just depends on the preference of the user. Either way, iPhones are the way to go for Apple lovers.

LG G4

This smartphone was very popular due to its amazing camera when it came out last year, according to cnet.com. So everyone went nuts trying to get their hands on it. It has multiple picture modes to capture images in different lighting and environments, so that perfect picture is easy to get. According to digitaltrend.com, LG has been working hard to come close to the stuff that Samsung makes. The G4 has a long battery life and other features, like the speaker, work great.

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DID YOU KNOW?

VSU alumnus and former football player Maurice Leggett leads the Canadian Football League in interceptions and defensive touchdowns. Leggett graduated from VSU in 2008 and has spent time in both the NFL and CFL.



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR

Roland Rivers has been a threat in the running game as well as the passing game for the Blazers in 2016.

Beating the odds

Rivers leads VSU down the stretch

Juston Lewis
STAFF WRITER
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Roland Rivers was never supposed to make it this far. Rivers' high school football coach told him he would never be a college quarterback. Now, he is not only the starting quarterback for VSU, but he is gearing up for a run at a championship.

Rivers led Martin Luther King High School to a 7-4 record and a run in the Georgia AAAAA State Playoffs his senior year. During that season, he had more passing attempts, completions, total yards and touchdowns than any other player in DeKalb County. Rivers amassed 3,060 total yards on the season and 29 total touchdowns.

Even though he led DeKalb in most offensive categories, the Division-I schools that wanted Rivers wanted him to walk on.

"When I was offered a scholarship by VSU, I didn't know much about the school, so I did my research," Rivers said.

Rivers researched VSU's academics to make sure it was the place he wanted to pursue his degree. Once he found out about the school's three National Championships, he was sold.

"Being a part of a championship program means a lot to me as well as having a winning tradition with great academics," he said. "That's why I wanted to come to VSU."

In Rivers' first year at VSU, he played behind senior quarterback E.J. Hillard and got sporadic playing time. Rivers was recruited by former head coach David Dean, but Dean resigned in January after accepting a position at Georgia Southern as a co-offensive coordinator. Switching coaches left Rivers and his teammates uncertain for the future of Blazer football.

Rivers spent time working with Dean's offensive strategy the majority of last year and now he would have to pick up a completely new offense before his second season.

Kerwin Bell was named head

coach in late January after coaching at Jacksonville University for nine years. Bell, a former SEC and NFL quarterback, brought his own play style and insight to VSU.

Rivers said he saw this coaching change as an opportunity to better himself by learning from someone who has played at the highest level of football.

"I was excited," Rivers said. "I did my research on him as well and saw he was a Player of the Year in the SEC and had played in the NFL. I saw it as a great opportunity for myself and the team to learn from him and grow so that we all have the possibility of playing at the next level."

Rivers worked through Bell's offense and won the starting job over transfer quarterback Adam Robles. He played the entire game against Albany State and the first half of the North Alabama game. In the second half of that game Bell decided to make a switch to Robles.

The two quarterbacks have been sharing the field and doing well for VSU's offense since that game. Rivers is still the starter, but if the offense gets stagnant or needs a spark, Robles comes in to play. Bell has said while he would prefer just having a single quarterback using both quarterbacks is making the players better.

Rivers has a positive outlook about the competition, and he thinks it is pushing Adam and himself to become a better player.

"I know coach wants one of us to separate from the other, but we just keep pushing each other to get better," Rivers said. "In the end, I just trust coach's decision and control what I can control."

Rivers said he knows the importance of academics and stressed that if he could tell anything to the younger him it would be to focus on his academics.

"Focus on your schoolwork; school should always come first because football can be taken away," Rivers said in reflection. "Focus on the life and the bigger picture outside of this game because it is bigger than that."

Rivers may only be a sophomore but he is looked at as a leader by his team. His coaches expect him to know everything that happens when he's on the field. His teammates expect him to always have their best interest at hand. It could be a lot of pressure for some young players but not Rivers.

"Just lead by example; I don't want to be a guy that does a lot of talking but my actions don't show what I'm talking about," Rivers said.

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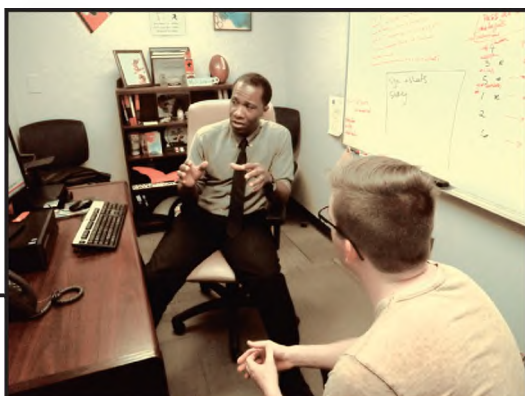
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Next Week:
A look at Sydney Chick. The Blazer volleyball defensive specialist has won Gulf South Conference Defensive Player of the Week twice this season. Chick leads the team in digs with 431 as the Blazers look to make the GSC tournament.



Valdosta State University

Basketball looking for learning experience in opener

Hunter Terrell

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The VSU men's basketball team will start its 2016-2017 campaign against a formidable, Division I opponent. The Blazers will travel to Tallahassee, Florida, on today to face the Florida State Seminoles.

Head Coach Mike Helfer is proud of the progress the team has made during the pre-season, but he said the team can still get better. The Blazers went 17-11 last year, which was an improvement over 2014-2015's 10-18, but Helfer plans to do better.

"Instead of us focusing on a seasonal goal this year, we are just going to take the season game by game and day by day," Helfer said. "If we can win each day, I think that will put us in position to achieve goals at the end of the season. We haven't talked too much about it. We are just like, let's get better today."

Helfer said the team has worked on basketball skills as well as team building aspects of the game.

"So far we have worked on fundamentals and we have worked on chemistry," Helfer said. "We have also worked on strategy a little bit, and we try to do a lot of little things that fit in those categories."

Senior forward Justin Simon said he has several goals he wants to focus on this season including "Studying, encouraging my teammates, teaching them the system and doing things right."

Simon said he learns by taking in information and observing his coaches and other teammates during practices.

"At practice, I have been observing and learning, taking mental notes on what coach expects from us, and to execute it right," Simon said.

He said there hasn't been one team leader in particular this pre-

season.

"Saadiq, Jake, J. Hill, Shelton and all the seniors, have been very vocal this season, standing up for everybody, and encouraging everybody to do better," Simon said.

Simon said the mental aspects of basketball are important to winning games.

"You must have a winning mentality," Simon said. "If you come in with some swagger and you believe and you're confident, you can win every game."

Helfer said he expects his seven seniors to be leaders on the team because of their experience.

"We have some guys with a lot of experience and when you have experienced seniors, you expect those seniors to step up in big moments," Helfer said. "Hopefully that will happen, and I expect it to happen because I think our seniors are really good players and really good people too."

In addition to the seven seniors, Beau Justice, a sophomore guard, will have some pressure on him this season. Justice's older brother Blake is a current graduate assistant coach and former shooting guard for the Blazers. The elder Justice led the team last year in field goals, three-pointers and overall points.

"Anytime as a younger brother, when you come to a place where your older brother played, I think you are always in that shadow a little bit starting out," Helfer said. "I think the one thing for me as a coach is I try to treat Beau like his own person and not as the little brother to Blake. I think with him, it has started to grow as a strong relationship between coach and player. It has enabled him to come out of that shadow and kind of be himself."

Simon said Justice is "a great player and teammate and I look forward to this season with him."

Helfer said playing against a larger school seems challenging,



but he doesn't want his team to play beyond their means.

"We are going to go out and be who we are and see what happens," Helfer said. "We aren't going to be scared or intimidated. We are just going to out there and play. They have great players, but I do expect us to do great."

Helfer said he commends the student body for participating last year and hopes it continues.

"School spirit is critical and I encourage the other students to get involved because at the end of the day they can change the outcome."

The Blazers opening game against FSU is Thursday in Tallahassee, Florida, at 7 p.m.



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR

(Top) Redshirt freshman Jake Elliot guards senior Sheldon Zablotny in practice ahead of the FSU game. (Above) Senior Damian Young runs the offense as VSU looks to upset the Seminoles on Thursday.

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SPORTS

VSU needs better QB play ahead of UWA

Justin Lewis
STAFF WRITER
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After a tough 38-20 road loss to Florida Tech, the Blazers will look for more out of their offense as they play down the stretch ahead of the playoffs.

On Oct. 29, the Blazers traveled to Melbourne, Florida to take on Florida Tech after an emotional homecoming win against Delta State. It wasn't deemed as a trap game by many, but it turned out to be just that as VSU lost their second game of the season.

The Blazers have struggled on the road this season on offense. Saturday was no exception. The Blazer offense did not get on the board at all in the game. The only two touchdowns on the day for the Blazers came from the defense.

Head Coach Kerwin Bell attributed the poor performance to the practices leading up to the game on Saturday.

"Sometimes you say we weren't as jived up as they were and it was their game; it was their Super Bowl," Bell said. "However, once we settled in and they settled in, it comes down to who executes."

While the offense did not have their best performance of the season, Bell did commend them on being in a manageable down and distance for majority of the game. Adam Robles started the game for the Blazers, but after being unable to score and taking two sacks, Roland Rivers came in to start in



Seth Willard/THE SPECTATOR
Cedric Hollingshed leads VSU in rushing with 349 yards and five TDs.

the second half.

Gary Simon has been a bright spot for the Blazers in the last two games. Against Delta State, he provided solid punt returns for the Blazers, which gave them good field position. He also scored a touchdown on one return. Against Florida Tech, Simon was put on the kickoff return team. He had a 62-yard kick return to set up the blazers with good field position.

"Anytime you get special teams to start making plays like we have in these last few weeks it is huge," Bell said. "That's going to be big for us on the road. If we can get a big play from our special teams, it will can help us win games."

The Blazers are holding shorter practices this week in hopes that his players will be better rested Saturday. The Blazers will need to put the best team on the field in

order to beat West Alabama on the road this week.

West Alabama is currently second in the Gulf South Conference, and they are two and a half games ahead of VSU in the football standings.

A major reason why West Alabama has seen success this season is their former GSC Player of the Week, senior quarterback Austin Grammer. Grammer has more than 2,000 yards and 17 touchdowns on the season.

The only time UWA has lost this season was when North Alabama came to Livingston. The Blazers will be looking to give UWA their second home loss and get their third road win.

The game against West Alabama will be at 3 p.m. in Livingston, Alabama.

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Who was your high performer from VSU's effort V. FIT?

1. Jamar Simpkins (DL)
2. Egim Etta-Tawo (LB)
3. Gavin Wilson (P)
4. Gary Simon (DB)

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|---------------------------|-----|
| 1. Fumble Rec. TD 3 tkls. | 14% |
| 2. 45 yd. Int. Ret. TD | 69% |
| 3. 6 Pnt 2 in. 20 193 yds | 14% |
| 4. 62 yard kickoff return | 3% |

Defense and special teams were the two bright spots for the Blazers during their loss against Florida Tech. Egim Etta-Tawo wins the weekly poll after he returned an interception 45 yards for a touchdown. Etta-Tawo also had nine tackles, one of which was a tackle for loss. The Blazers will hope to get the offense on track against UWA.

Blazer Stats Leaders:

Passing Yards: **Roland Rivers** (1312)

Rushing Yards: **Cedric Hollingshed** (349)

Tackles: **Kenny Moore** (46)

Juniors & Seniors!

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