

THE FALCON FORUM

Enlightening minds. Broadening perspectives. Informing a community.

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2015-16:

What's new?

As we start the new year, The Falcon Forum takes a look at some of the things that are different around campus



Issa Glivens

Stadium will be ready for action

By Issa Glivens

This season marks the official opening of the George Williams Athletic Complex here on Saint Augustine's campus. Construction crews are still finishing up work, but five home games are scheduled for the stadium, which has long been in the works and has experienced substantial delays.

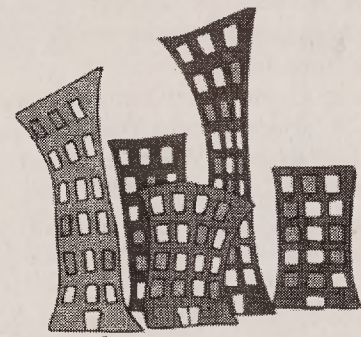
The first home game for the Falcons will be on Sept. 12, against Virginia Union University. (For a full schedule, as well as a season preview, see Page 4.)

An experiment in dormitory life

By Johna Mitchell and Cianna Fisher

Saint Augustine's University has begun an experimental program that aims to make students' experiences more enjoyable and more meaningful, and to create tighter bonds among them. Ultimately, the goal is to reduce the number of students who leave the university before graduating.

LIVING, Page 2



Residence Life
live • laugh • learn

SAU alumna hopes to lead library to new heights

By Charles Gilchrist

The Prezell R. Robinson Library is not an unfamiliar place for its new director. Tiwanna S. Nevels is a Saint Augustine's University alumna and used the library often. In fact, she was a reference librarian and a research assistant in library during her years here as a student.

"I look at this job as an opportunity to come back to the school and give back," Nevels said. "I'm glad to be back. It feels like home for me. It feels like this is where I need to be."

Nevels attended Saint Augustine's from 2004 through 2007, graduating in only three years. After leaving the



Tiwanna S. Nevels
Jaquan Leary

Falcon's Nest, Nevels worked in various library positions with increasing

LIBRARY, Page 2

A familiar face rises to the top spot in campus police

By Johna Mitchell

There's a new sheriff in town.

Interim Chief William H. Headen will lead Saint Augustine's University staff of three campus police officers and 15 security guards this fall. He is replacing longtime Chief George Boykins, who is out on medical leave until January.

Known as "Officer H" to many on campus, Interim Chief Headen is well known to many on campus. "We are glad to see a promotion from within the unit," Officer Randy Nelson said. "To have our very own moving up is great."

"I am glad that's Officer H was picked," said senior biology major Jus-



William H. Headen
Jaquan Leary

tin Jones. "It's good to see someone that knows the students and cares about us is

CHIEF, Page 2

Plan will transform neighborhoods near campus

By Charles Gilchrist

More jobs, new and better housing, more programs for youth and seniors, a new child-care facility – these are among the improvements the neighborhoods surrounding Saint Augustine's University would see under a plan the City of Raleigh is putting together.

"This is a holistic plan for revitalization," Larry Jarvis, the city's director of housing and neighborhoods explained at a

neighborhood meeting last month at the Tarboro Community Center. Working with residents, community leaders and elected officials, the city is developing a Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan (NRSA). The strategy, which must be approved by the City Council, allows city officials to be flexible and creative in its use of federal funds.

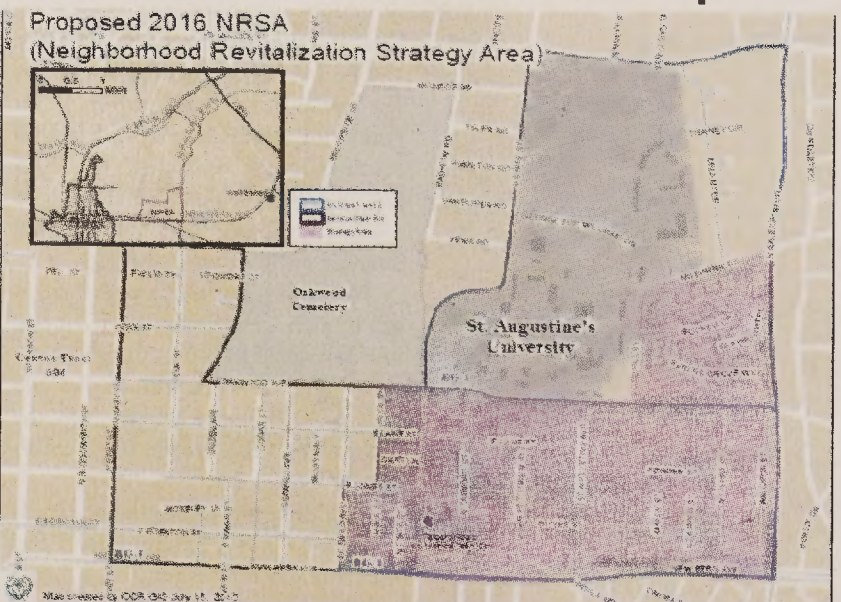
"These flexible funds can transform economically disadvantaged neighborhoods into

sustainable communities with mixed-income housing, safe streets and economic opportunities," according to city documents.

At the meeting at the Tarboro Community Center, residents said the area needs such improvements as more supermarkets, better transportation, programs to fix up housing, and recreational programs to keep youth out of trouble.

The plan targets two neighborhoods on either

NRSA, Page 2



So...did you learn anything over the summer?

By Adonica Stewart

EDITOR'S NOTE: Saint Augustine's students had many experiences over the summer. While some were fortunate to participate in internships that gave them a peak into their career fields, others had jobs that were fun or paid well – or at least helped them appreciate the value of getting a good education that prepares them for a good job. Below, profile three students whose experiences were representative of how students spent their summers.

Gentel Blair, a senior at Saint Au-

gustine's University, participated in an internship for the USA Track and Field Entertainment Properties. Gentel traveled all the way to Indianapolis, Indiana, this summer to apply the skills she has learned as a communications major (with a concentration in broadcasting).

Blair's job was to interview different athletes after each meet; as well as shoot and edit videos. In addition, she joined athletes and traveled to different track meets and events all around the world.

Her first meet was in Oregon, where she spent seven days. "In Oregon, the

USA Entertainment Properties were back-up for NBC Universal because they had the live talent," Blair explained.

After her experience in Oregon, Blair went to her hometown, Lexington, Kentucky, where she was able to spend time with her family and friends before she went off to her next adventure.

Her next adventure took place on the campus of Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois, where she covered the USA Track & Field's Hershey Youth Outdoor Championships. Blair shot

SUMMER, Page 3



Gentel Blair, on the job