

THE FALCON FORUM

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VOLUME 5, No. 2

The Student Newspaper of Saint Augustine's University | www.thefalconforum.com

November 2018

SAU alumni is vying to become sheriff

Gerald Baker is a 2014 Extended Studies gradu-

Until a couple of years ago, Gerald Baker was a student at Saint Augustine's University. Now he wants to be Wake County Sheriff.

Baker graduated in 2014 from Saint Augustine's Extended Studies Program. He already had a lot of career experience when he attended Saint Augustine's. He had worked for the sheriff's office for more than 20 years at the time he attended SAU.

But he credits the university with giving his career a boost.

"I love Saint Augustine's University," Baker said in a video he made to promote SAU. "I started my education here years ago. My experience as an Extended Studies student was great. It was challenging and it allowed me to apply life's lessons and things I have learned in the career that I was in and to bring those things together and that was really, really, really beneficial."

Baker majored in organizational management and was glad to finally get his degree. "To have that degree takes confidence in yourself to another level," he said. "Having that education to go with the training and skills

that I have obtained in the field that I was in was just great. It was tremendous."

Baker, a Democrat, is running against the Republican incumbent Donnie Harrison. Baker joined the North Carolina State Highway Patrol at age 21 and served in the patrol, assigned to Wake County, for 26 years.

Baker's website lists his campaign's goal as changing the direction of the sheriff's office. "It's about 'restoring its integrity, its values, and, restoring and maintaining its standards. This election is about electing a leader who is equally concerned and focused on fighting crime, as well as, crime prevention, organizational integrity and accountability, community outreach and involvement, and

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Students will march to the polls

Events begin at the Boyer building at 11 a.m.

Saint Augustine's University's traditional March to the Polls begins on Election day -- Tuesday, Nov. 6 -- at 11 a.m.

The SAU community will meet in front of the Boyer Building at that time. With the Superior Sound Marching Band in the lead, and top administrators including President Everett B. Ward following, students, faculty and staff -- and whoever else wants to join in -- will march to the nearby Tarboro Community Center, where polls are located.

According to the state Board of Elections, if you've voted in North Carolina before, you don't need to show ID to vote.

If you're a first-time voter who registered by mail, and didn't provide your driver's license number or the last four digits of your Social Security

number on your registration form, you will need to show ID to vote. Acceptable forms include: a driver's license or state ID; US Passport; employee ID; student ID; military ID; or a copy of a utility bill, bank statement or paycheck.

Voters without ID: If you are unable to provide ID, you will be able to vote a provisional ballot.

There will be refreshments for participants at the Tarboro Community Center across from the election polls. That event is sponsored by Common Cause North Carolina.

Tuesday from 8 to 10 p.m. the SAU community will have a Watch Party on the second floor of the Martin Luther King Building. There will be games and refreshments, also sponsored by Common Cause.

Any student who is not motivated to vote should consider the words of Dr. H.C. Crockett, Associate Professor Political Science at Saint Augustine's University and interim chair of the Department of Social Sciences: "The blood and tears of our ancestors paved the way for our right to march to the polls."

SAU's app goes live and is already getting good reviews

By Briana Snipes

On Oct. 15, Saint Augustine's University's first ever mobile app went live.

"This has been a large project in the making for the past few months" said Cianna Fisher of the Office of Marketing and Communications.

The app began a few months ago when Ready Education reached out to faculty member Dr. Derrick Sauls with the idea. Dr. Sauls then contacted the marketing office.

The purpose of the SAU App is to

help students stay engaged and aware of what is happening on campus. It is meant to target the freshman class. Especially with the campus map and navigation feature included among the many features, the app is designed to help students transition a little better upon arriving in Falcon Land.

Students not only have access to their CAMs portals and FAFSA information but the app also gives them access to a campus-wide calendar, club and organization information, athletic calendar, campus services, Academic

Services, and campus safety.

The reaction so far has been positive. Brandon Holmes, a freshman majoring in psychology, finds the SAU app very helpful. "The app helps you know things that are happening on campus," he said. "It keeps you updated."

One of the application's most popular tools among students is the portal. Coriana Wiggins, a freshman public health major from Spring Hope, NC, is grateful for this feature.

"I like it because I can go to my portal without having to type the school's

web page in," Wiggins said. The portal also allows students to directly sign into CAMS, the school's main platform for grades and other functions.

Rayven Mobley, a junior majoring in Computer Information Systems, also considers the portal as a time saver. "I like the app because it is easier and faster to sign into CAMS," she said.

This app also allows students to connect. "It's like having our own little Facebook community," Fisher said.

To get the app, go to the Google Play Store and search for Saint Augustine's.

Student Spotlight:

Getting hurt may have been a blessing in disguise

By Ja'Dareah DeBerry

Jovan Gladden came to Saint Augustine's University to play football, but when he got hurt he had to change plans. He had to focus on other activities and he found out he could be as successful off the field as on the field.

The sports management major from Baltimore has amassed many titles, Gladden is the 2018-2019 Mister Senior, president of the Gamma Omicron Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., and vice president of the NPHC, Honor Council of Alpha Kappa Mu.

He is also active in the Sons of Saint Augustine's University.

When Gladden graduates, he plans to attend graduate school for psychology and become a sports psychologist. He said his goal in life is to be financially stable and set an example for those coming behind him to follow.

"My motivation in life is to make my family proud and set an example for my nephew to achieve in everything because I know that if I can do it, he'll have somebody to look up to," Gladden said.

He said SAU has helped prepare



Jovan Gladden

him for his career by showing him that he could become better than what he was. "My biggest achievement was becoming the president of my chapter," Gladden said. "It's my biggest achievement because of the leadership role I must adhere to and my contributions to give back to the school through my fraternity."

At Saint Augustine's University, Gladden is a leader inside and outside

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Student-athlete Spotlight:

One of the smallest players with one of the biggest hearts

Office of Sports Information

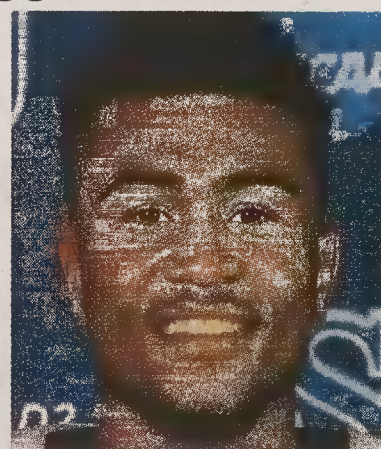
No one fits the description of "student-athlete" better than Lenwood Joyner.

On the field, Joyner leads the Falcons' football team in receptions (30), receiving yards (242) and receiving touchdowns (4). In the classroom, he sports a 3.43 cumulative grade point average.

Passing a test excites Joyner as much as catching a touchdown pass. Professional football is his goal but Joyner understands a degree gives him career options.

"There is nothing wrong with being smart," said Joyner, a senior wide receiver from Miami, Fla. "People perceive me differently because I play football. They think my grades are bad but I go to class. It is very important to get your degree."

In 2017, Joyner gained recognition for his academic prowess. He and fellow teammate Zack Jenkins were named to the NCAA Division II Academic All-District Super Region 2 Football Team. The 28-member squad was selected by the College Sports Information Directors



Lenwood Joyner

of America (CoSIDA). Each selection on the all-district team had at least a 3.3 cumulative grade point average.

Joyner understood the importance of education at an early age. His mother Chameka Clark instilled study habits in her son that would carry him through high school and college. She knew that learning was the key to surviving the tough streets of the Liberty City neighborhood of Miami.

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