

# AEOLIAN

2022

THE MAGAZINE OF GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



## *Investing in What Matters*

**Meet Scholarship Donor Tamlin Fortner**





**F**all 2022 has been an exciting time on the campus of Georgia Southwestern State University. The largest freshman class on record has provided for a tremendous amount of energy. And as you might suspect, a tremendous amount of energy requires a tremendous amount of support from our donors in the form of scholarships. You'll read about a few of our wonderful scholarship supporters in this edition of the magazine.

One of those stories is about Mrs. Tamlin Fortner. Her journey as an impactful donor is one of compassion, love and a deep sense of calling to carry on the special legacy of her daughter.

We hope you enjoy reading about Mrs. Tamlin and the numerous updates about GSW. If you're not already, maybe you will become a donor, too!

Enjoy the latest edition of Georgia Southwestern's *Aeolian* magazine.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal Weaver".

Neal Weaver  
*President*

🐦 @CanesPresident  
🔊 *What's in the Cup?* podcast

A promotional graphic for Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) merchandise. The background is a dark blue with a subtle pattern of small white dots and larger 'X' marks. Displayed are several items: a navy blue long-sleeved shirt with "GSW ALUMNI" and "GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY" in yellow and white; a white short-sleeved shirt with a blue circular "HURRICANE CANES" logo; a yellow short-sleeved shirt with "GSW" and "HURRICANES" in blue and white; a navy blue short-sleeved shirt with "born a HURRICANE" in yellow and white; a white baseball cap with a blue "GSW" logo; a tan straw hat with a blue "GSW" band; a navy blue messenger bag with a white "GSW" logo; a navy blue onesie with "born a HURRICANE" in yellow and white; and a navy blue beanie with white stripes and a white pom-pom, featuring a white "GSW" logo. The text "SHOP THE GSW Bookstore" is prominently displayed in large, bold, yellow and white letters, with "for all the latest Georgia Southwestern merchandise." in smaller white text below it.

Visit [gswbookstore.com](https://gswbookstore.com) or shop on campus inside the **Marshall Student Center**.



# AEOLIAN 2022

The Aeolian is published by the  
Department of University Relations  
at Georgia Southwestern State University.

GSW is a member of the University System  
of Georgia and an Affirmative Action/Equal  
Opportunity institution.

The name Aeolian is derived from Aeolus, who was  
appointed by the mythological god Zeus to be the  
keeper of the winds – both to calm and to arouse  
them. He was the King of the Aeolian Islands.

Continuing its mission begun in 1906, GSW serves  
traditional and non-traditional students across the  
state, the nation and the world.

## Editors

Chelsea Collins  
Sydney Scott '17

## Contributing Authors

Chelsea Collins  
Sydney Scott '17  
Rebekah McLeod  
Anita Theiss '04, '07

## Photography

Sydney Scott '17  
David Parks Photography '14  
Chris Fenn '78  
Angela Smith  
Chelsea Collins  
GSW Drop

## Layout & Graphic Design

Sydney Scott

## Printer

Burman Printing

## President

Neal Weaver, Ph.D.

## AVP for Advancement & GSW Foundation Executive Director

Stephen Snyder '04, '10

## Director of Marketing and Communications

Chelsea Collins

## Multimedia Coordinator

Sydney Scott '17

## Web Content Strategist

Hailey Henderson

## Alumni Engagement Specialist

Angela Smith

## Annual Giving Specialist

Kim Comer '90, '10

## Development Officer

Hunter Peak

## Foundation Accountant

Tracy Taylor, '12, '18

## Advancement Services & Operations Manager

Kearston Roland, '18

*Cover photo by David Parks Photography:*  
Tamlin Fortner is surrounded by 11 of the nearly 400  
current and former students she has supported  
through scholarship donations over the years.  
See pg. 14 for full story.



Cheerleaders and ENAC, GSW's mascot whose name was "Cane" backwards, celebrate his first birthday during a 1987 football game.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Campus Updates 2

Florrie Chappell Gymnasium 5

TEDxGeorgiaSouthwesternU 6

Day of Giving 9

Presidential Challenge Coins 10

Faculty & Staff Awards 11

Athletics Features 12

Cover Story 14

Homecoming 18

Alumni in the News 21

Family Tradition 24

2023 Alumni Events 26

Alumni Scene 28

Class Notes 33

In Memoriam 34

2021 Giving 35

