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Journalism students bring home awards

Staff Report

Troy University student media placed in various divisions of the Southeastern Journalism Conference's (SEJC) "Best in the South" 2013 contest.

Together, Troy University students involved in the Tropolitan and Trojan Vision earned 13 awards.

Media students in the Tropolitan accounted for six of the awards given to students by SEJC.

Karli Mauldin, a senior multimedia major from

Franklin, Tenn., ranked ninth in the division of best news writer. Mauldin is currently the assistant news editor of the Tropolitan.

Zachary Winslett, a senior history major from Calera, ranked eighth in the division of best arts and entertainment writer. Winslett is currently the arts and entertainment editor of the Tropolitan.

Kelcie Hathcock, a 2013 Troy University print journalism graduate from Geneva, ranked second in the division of best press photographer. Hathcock currently

works at Enterprise State Community College as the coordinator of marketing and media relations.

Brandon Murray, a 2013 Troy University graphic design graduate from Montgomery, ranked fifth in the division of best news-editorial/illustrator. Murray is currently working at Books-a-Million.

Carson Brown, a senior graphic design major from Daphne, ranked second in the division of best newspaper. See SEJC, page 2

Dedicated Trojans wanted

'We are looking for people that will carry forth the mission of Troy University' -Burks



Jennifer Carlisle photo

Nekio Lane (left), a senior graphic design major from Opp and Trojan Village resident, speaks to Cesar Jauregui (right), a junior broadcast journalism major from Pell City and current Trojan Village resident assistant. Housing and Residence Life recently announced the beginning of the 2014-2015 resident assistant selection process.

Ngoc Vo Staff Writer

According to Sara Jo Burks, the assistant director of housing, there will be no consolidation in resident assistant positions.

"We will be limited in the number of positions, but we will be hiring," Burks said.

With the exception of 16 resident assistants from Alumni Hall, the office will hire the same number of staff in fall semester 2014 as they currently employ.

"There will be a shift in the hiring dynamics because we are losing 16 male RA positions and making the three female positions in Gardner Hall male," Burks said.

The housing office will hire a total of 57 resident assistants next semester, including six for the Newman Center, which will have a separate hiring process due to the nature of the dorm, according to Burks.

Applications are available Feb. 24, and are due next Monday.

Burks said the housing office plans to hold the interview rounds on March 25, 26 and 27, depending

on the number of applications.

According to Burks, the number of new applicants they are hiring has not been decided. The housing office will announce their selection of both new and returning residents on April 28 or shortly after.

The decision on returning resident assistants will be based on performance evaluations and the number of people who have indicated they will not continue with the job, Burks said.

"As of right now, we have 19 people informing us they will not return for RA positions," Burks said. "But this is probably not the final number we end up hiring. The fact that current employees indicate they want to return doesn't mean they will be hired."

Burks said their resident assistant evaluation is a lengthy process. It is up to the area director to sit down with their staff members in one-on-one sections to decide who stays and who goes.

"You'd want the best

See RA, page 2

Society offers scholarship geared towards female education majors

Cassie Gibbs Asst. News Editor

Troy University's Delta Kappa Gamma Society for Women Educators is offering a scholarship for female education students on Troy's main campus.

Delta Kappa Gamma is a society that was created in 1929 in Texas by a group of 11 women whose goal was to help women succeed in the field of education and provide a network and support system for women educators.

Delta Kappa Gamma helps teachers in many areas of their career, such as financial support, social support, networking and in some cases help female teachers through legislative means.

Troy University's Eta Chapter of Beta State Delta Kappa Gamma Society for Women Educators was founded on April 15, 1935.

The scholarship is provided through the fund raising efforts of the Troy University chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Students who wish to apply for this scholarship do not have to be a member of the society.

To apply, students must be female education majors who have been accepted into the teacher education program.

Students must also write a clear, well-written letter to the organization explaining why they want to become a teacher.

It must also contain the student's name, email address and phone number.

This letter can be sent to the Delta Kappa Gamma Scholarship Committee no later than Monday, March 5 by 5 p.m.

A committee, composed of leaders within the organization, carefully considers each letter.

Delta Kappa Gamma typically gives out two scholarships every year.

Shannon Thompson, a lecturer in the English department at Troy, said, "although our scholarships are not large, they would certainly defray the cost of textbooks, LiveText subscriptions, professional clothing required for an interview and so forth."

Students who would like to know more about the scholarship can contact Thompson at 334-670-3677, sthompson292236@troy.edu, or visit Smith Hall Room 187.

Student Counseling Center raises awareness about eating disorders



April Irvin photo

Miranda Carlee (left), a junior psychology major from Chelsea and Student Counseling Center peer educator, and Morgan Grove (right), a clinical mental health counseling graduate student from Tampa, Fla., promotes National Eating Disorders Awareness Week Wednesday in the Trojan Center. The event is sponsored by the Student Counseling Center.

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Hannah Crews photo
Emily Crisp, a sophomore nursing major from Prattville, enjoys nature at the Arboretum. Troy University was recently recognized by Tree Campus USA as being a tree-friendly campus.

University recognized for arbor efforts

Grishma Rimal
Staff Writer

For its effort in building and sustaining healthy community forests, Troy University has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Campus USA.

Arbor Day Foundation, which is a nationally recognized nonprofit, works to promote tree plantation through education and conservation programs. Tree Campus USA, a program launched in 2008 and sponsored by Toyota, honors colleges and universities working to plant, promote and preserve tree resources.

"This is one of those distinctions that emphasizes that Troy has shown a real commitment towards care and attention for trees," said Mark Salmon, director of the university's Physical Plant. "This is an opportunity to showcase and recognize the effort so many people put forward in maintaining this campus' greenery."

According to the Arbor Day Foundation website, the criteria needed to be distinguished as a Tree Campus USA includes: having a campus tree advisory committee, a campus tree care plan, a dedicated annual expenditure for tree-care, an Arbor Day observance on-campus and a student-engaged learning service project—all five standards that Troy has been able to achieve.

According to Josh Slaven, grounds manager for the university's Physi-

cal Plant, Troy's campus tree advisory committee includes himself, associate professor for freshman biology Wayne Morris, coordinator of Service Learning and Civic Engagement Jonathan Cellon, director of Troy Parks and Recreation Dan Smith and two students including SGA president Cody Farrill and Parker Reiss.

"We have an annual expenditure of \$32,000 including material cost and staff and contacted labor," Slaven said.

He also mentioned activities like the removal of invasive species from the arboretum, which was an initiative taken in conjunction with the environment club last year as examples of student-engaged service learning projects.

Salmon also said that the establishment of the Janice Hawkins Park has been a jewel in highlighting what Troy has done for its college environment.

"Five or six years ago, that area was just completely over-run," Salmon said. "To give you an idea, it was like the park near the Arboretum now. We could not really see the trees; it was filled with unwanted plants and species.

We developed it into an area with a park and a trail and even an amphitheater. We turned it from something unusable to something beautiful." Salmon says that the park very well represents Troy University and its

namesake, Mrs. Hawkins.

An official ceremony will be organized on March 5, at 1:30 p.m. when the university will hold its Arbor Day observance. University officials will be presented with a flag and a Tree Campus USA plaque by a representative from the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Although the details are still in planning, according to Slaven, the event will include a free-tree giveaway, which comprises of giving out Japanese maple and oak seedlings. "Hopefully the Chancellor and a couple of other officials will be involved in receiving of the award, and, we may be installing a tree either near the main quad or the math and science building," he said.

Slaven also said that other student groups and clubs, wanting to be engaged in Troy's conservation work, may be involved in the ceremony by having tables or booths or volunteering.

For the upcoming year, Troy also plans to do more of tree planting within the community if not necessarily on-campus, according to Slaven. He also says that they plan to begin a campus tree assessment project, which would include inventorying the trees on campus, categorizing them according to their species and corresponding numbers, and even mapping their locations.

Scholarship awards two instead of one

Kelsey Barcomb
Staff Writer

velop a relationship with Jane Beasley."

The Marion Horne Beasley Scholarship of Troy University, which previously was awarded to one student per year, will be given to two students in the 2014-15 school year.

Alumna Jane Beasley of Jupiter, Fla., established the Marion Horne Beasley Scholarship in her mother's name. Her mother earned three degrees from Troy over the course of 40 years, one of which was in elementary education. She was a beloved teacher in Barbour County from 1936-1981.

Dianne Gossett, associate dean of the College of Education, said that granting two students this scholarship has not been done before. The scholarship will allot \$1,500 per semester for each winner.

Gossett said that it is a great honor to receive the Marion Horne Beasley Scholarship.

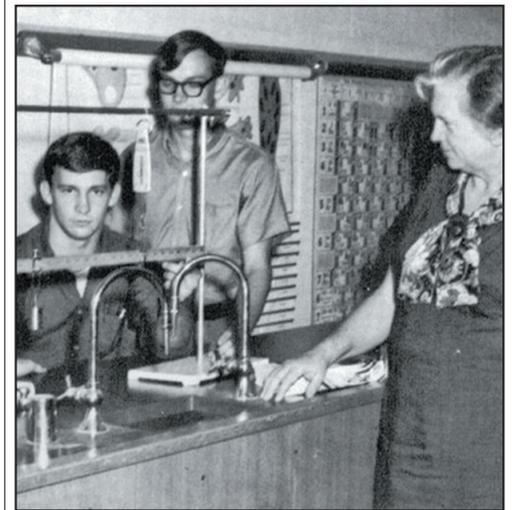
"Recipients write a thank-you note," Gossett said. "They usually de-

Kristen Messick from Troy is the most recent recipient of the scholarship. Soon after graduating and working in an office, Messick realized that she would prefer to work with young people. She decided to go back to Troy for her education degree.

"Mrs. Beasley was a remarkable woman and to receive a scholarship that celebrates her memory is an incredible honor for me," Messick said.

Preference for the Marion Horne Beasley Scholarship is given to those who are residents of Barbour County. There is also preference for students who are currently employed. Applicants must be female, in financial need and enrolled in the College of Education on the main Troy campus.

Students who are interested in the scholarship can apply through Gossett's office in 339 Hawkins Hall or call 334-670-3460. The deadline to apply is April 30.



Troy University photo

Marion Horne Beasley (right) teaches science to high school students. Beasley's daughter, Jane Beasley, started the scholarship in honor of her mother. This scholarship provides financial support to students in the College of Education. The deadline to apply is April 30.

SEJC

continued from page 1

page layout designer. Brown is currently the graphics designer for the Tropolitan.

Brittany DeLong, a 2013 Troy University multimedia graduate from Goshen, and former co-business manager for the Tropolitan, ranked seventh in the division of the best advertising staff member.

Media students in TrojanVision accounted for three of the awards given to students by SEJC. TrojanVision ranked sixth in the division of best college television station. Trojan Vision ranked fourth in the division of the best college video news program.

Christina Cook, a senior broadcast journalism major from Mobile, ranked third in the division of best television hard news reporter.

Troy Radio students and staff accounted for four of the awards given to Troy University media students.

Danielle Percival, a senior broadcast journalism major from Wetumpka, ranked fifth in the division of best television journalist. Percival is currently a sports reporter for TrojanVision.

Nathalie Boyd, a 2013 Troy University broadcast journalism graduate Mobile, ranked second in the division of best radio hard news reporter and second in the division of best radio journalist. Boyd is currently working as an administrative assistant for the American Occupational Therapy Association.

Paul Boger ranked first in the division of best radio news feature reporter.

The awards were chosen from 440 qualified entries.

Daybook

Mar. 1, 2

Hansel and Gretel performance, 7 p.m., 3 p.m.

Hansel and Gretel will be performed this Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. in the new band room in Long Hall (between Trojan Dining and Smith Hall). Admission is free. This is a family friendly show and a treat for all audience members. It is directed by Christi Amonson.

Crime Log

Feb. 11

Burglary, Third Degree

An Acer Mini Pro laptop was stolen from the extended learning center. Stolen property totaled \$400.

Feb. 13

Theft of Property, Second Degree

\$70, health insurance card, debit card, driver's license, and a university I.D. were stolen from Trojan Dining. Stolen property totaled \$145.

Feb. 23

Burglary, Third Degree

A door was kicked in at the Natatorium. The damage totaled \$500.

RA

continued from page 1

[for RA positions]," Burks said. "If they are no longer effective or they are burnt out, it is the best for them, and for us, not to continue with the job. We are looking for leaders. We are looking for people that will carry forth the mission of Troy University and Troy University housing office."

"The best way to be an effective RA is to be a leader that people enjoy following," said Aaron Walker, a sophomore business marketing major from Birmingham. Walker has been a resident assistant for Alumni Hall for a year.

"Sixteen jobs will be lost. Fortunately, I had already planned to resign," Walker said.

Aaron is moving into

Farmhouse to "try to have a greater impact on the lives of my brothers."

Hannah Stone, a junior graphic design major from Huntington, Md., has a more optimistic view on this semester hiring. She is applying to a resident assistant position for the first time.

"I really have my heart set on Paden House," Stone said. "I have lived there this year. The personal environment and house-like feel fits me very well.

"The ultimate situation for me would be to live in the Paden House as the RA for my senior year."

The resident assistant training takes place this summer.

Selected applicants will return on July 27, two weeks before housing is set to open, which is scheduled for Aug. 9.

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Student digs up ancient remains in Israel

Alyse Nelson
Assistant Features Editor

Traveling across the world to spend half of the summer in a subtropical climate and taking day trips to snorkel and explore local cities sounds more like a vacation than an academic trip.

A select group of students have been enjoying these benefits every year as they travel to Ashkelon, where a decades-old archeological site has been the source of education and entertainment for Troy students during the past five summers.

Working alongside other schools such as Harvard University and Boston College, Trojans have spent long days digging up clues to the past.

Joel Jackson, a senior anthropology major from Millbrook, discussed the amazing opportunities he had during three summers at the archeological dig site in Ashkelon.

"Usually, I arrive a week before or stay a week after," Jackson said of the six-week trip that takes place in June and July. "This past year we got to go down to the Red Sea and a few of us went snorkeling. I've basically seen every part of Israel in the three years."

Working his way up in the ranks, last summer Jackson participated at the site as an assistant staff member.

"Our main objective last year was digging toward the Philistine period," Jackson said. "My job was to make sure all the artifacts were mapped out and make sure it got plugged into our database; as well as keeping up with the volunteers."

But before that mental image of a good time vanishes, it isn't all sweating

in the hot sun, taking orders from your supervisor and typing away at a computer for nothing.

Grantham, a social sciences professor over the Troy trips to Israel, spent a ten-year period excavating Ashkelon and other sites around Israel. Sharing his favorite part of the digs, the professor said, "always finding new things every day."

Ashkelon is a vast site that organizations have been exploring for many years. Still, uncovering thousands of years of human history, one layer at a time, has proved to be a daunting task.

Though not as common as remains of farm animals and other artifacts, human skeletons have been found by the Troy team.

"We find a number of things," Jackson said. "Anything that came out of the field it was our job to make sure those bones were properly processed, labeled and boxed up."

However, special measures are taken in the case of the discovery of a human.

"If we find a human body it's going to come out instantly, because, well, they're valuable," he said. "If we find a pig, we're just going to slowly uncover it and check out everything around it."

The research certainly doesn't stop when the findings are uncovered.

"We don't just dig things out the ground," Jackson said. "We apply it to the culture. The little clues they leave behind, we thoroughly analyze it to come to a theory as to how they lived. It's a lot of fun. And even the paperwork we have to go through—I've spent 13-hour days sitting at a computer—it's worth it."

A diverse range of information can

be deduced about the culture being studied by examining the bones that are left behind. An inspection of the bones can shed light on everything from the obvious, such as their burial rituals, to the more obscure, like the culture's dietary habits.

One example, Jackson shares, involves pigs with marks denoting butchering in areas where only Jewish inhabitants were known to live. This could indicate that not all Jewish communities followed a strict kosher diet throughout history.

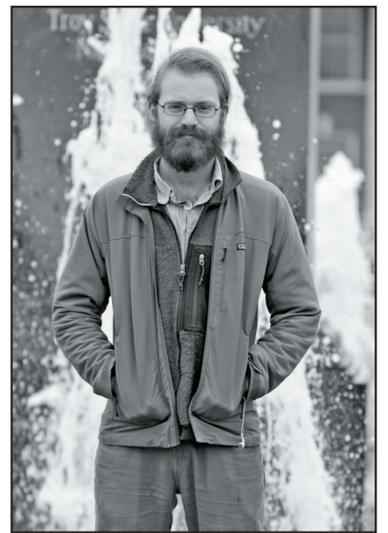
In contrast to the carefully marked grids, exhaustive planning and coordinating that characterizes the Ashkelon site and others, Jackson did not precisely plan his involvement with the programs.

"Actually, I took a class that I didn't need to take and happened to enjoy it," he said about uncovering his passion for archeology and anthropology in general. "Jason Mann was the one that invited me originally to start digging. He led a field excavation in Salem, and I went there for two months."

"When I came in, I knew nothing about archaeology," Jackson said. "Troy has given me such a great opportunity in this department. They really took me in and gave me experience. From what I can see, other universities don't do that. I'm not worried at all about being able to get a job after this."

Hoping to advance far from his beginnings, Jackson has plans of entering graduate school and focusing on bones as his subject of study.

If other students wish to explore their interest in archeology and anthropology, Jackson said that there are many opportunities to do so, and hopes that



Caleb Hicks photo

Joel Jackson, a senior anthropology major from Millbrook has traveled to Israel three times on expeditions while at Troy.

students will take advantage of them.

"We do a lot of volunteer digs—we take anyone who wants to go out and dig."

This gives a lot of students with no experience the ability to easily gain some knowledge.

Grantham confirms Jackson's efforts in drumming up enthusiasm for archeology. "Joel plays a very important part in recruiting students," he said.

In the meantime, the social science department is looking forward to next summer's expedition to Israel.



Emily Jackson photo

Courtney Patterson, a senior multimedia journalism major from Hartselle, shows off her "X" for the End It movement on Feb. 27.

End It Day shines light on modern day slavery

Megan Phillips
Staff Writer

The Global Slavery Index has estimated that there are 29.8 million slaves worldwide.

The big red 'X' on the quad today is there to bring awareness to this travesty.

Today, Feb. 27, is the official "End It" day where organizations like the International Justice Mission (IJM) and ten of its sister nonprofit anti-slavery organizations in partnership with another anti-slavery organization here on campus, Stella's Voice, have come together to raise awareness and support for an official end to slavery worldwide.

"Our groups are not necessarily connected, but we feel very close," said Courtney Patterson, a senior multimedia journalism major from Hartselle.

Patterson, who is secretary of Stella's Voice, said that she is driven to support the End It movement because "there are more slaves than ever today, and people just don't see that."

"Through the End It movement, I hope that we can raise awareness because that is the first step to doing something about it," Patterson said.

Stella's Voice is a nonprofit organization whose emphasis is on sex slavery in the country of Moldova, where they

work to end the problem by building orphanages in hopes that they will be able to provide a safe home for children that may otherwise be funneled into the sex trade.

For today, Stella's Voice has provided the big red X that sits on the quad, as well as ten signs found throughout campus with shocking facts and statistics, to show students just how real slavery has become.

"I wanted to get involved with Troy IJM because so many people

There are 29.8 million slaves in the world today.

go everyday of their lives without a voice; they never find justice," said Angie Lewis, a freshman criminal justice major from Troy.

IJM is an organization focused on ending slavery wherever it may rear its ugly head, and the organization is a constantly growing force. With lawyers, investigators, and aftercare professionals at their disposal, the organization is really making major advances in their fight to end such crimes against humanity.

"I chose Troy IJM because I believe in what they stand for. I believe

that we need to first seek God and then through him seek justice for the poor and oppressed, and I feel that IJM has given me the opportunity to do that," said Mac Delorme, a sophomore human services major and president of IJM from Atlanta.

On the quad, these two crusaders will join forces, marking hands with a big red X to help students show the rest of the world that they care and that they, too, are on board with ending slavery today.

IJM will be selling T-shirts for \$15 each, all proceeds will be going to end slave trafficking, and any interested parties should see the table set up in Trojan Center, or the big red X on the quad.

Students are encouraged to come and take pictures with the X, the clubs only ask that when posting these pictures on social media, students hashtag them with #enditmovement to help get the word out.

Any parties interested in joining the fight are more than welcome to come to a meeting of Stella's Voice Thursday, Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m. in TC Room 224 or to the next meeting of IJM on March 20, at 6:30 p.m. in TC Room 212.

Both groups are on Facebook and Twitter, and encourage students to join them to keep up-to-date with what the club is doing and to stay informed for the next steps in ending slavery today.

Sudoku

How to play:

Simply fill in the blank spaces with the numbers 1 to 9. Every row, column and 3-by-3 box must contain all nine digits with no number repeated. The Sudoku puzzle consists of 81 squares divided into nine 3-by-3 blocks. Some of the squares already have numbers in them.

To solve a Sudoku puzzle you have to use the numbers 1 to 9 to fill in the blank spaces so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 square has all the numbers 1 to 9 appearing once. Some puzzles are quite simple to solve while others are very tricky.

The only thing you need to solve a Sudoku number place puzzle is logic. You don't need any mathematical knowledge.

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Student parents learn from their little ones

Grishma Rimal
Staff Writer

Yen Bui's day frequently begins at 1 a.m., which is when her 3-month-old son James Bui Downs wakes up, usually crying over being hungry.

She spends the night trying to nap as her son naps then proceeds to go to classes in the afternoon.

Once her husband returns from his morning classes, Bui spends the rest of the day completing chores with him and doing her school work while watching the baby.

Bui, a sophomore accounting major from Hanoi, Vietnam, and her husband Chad Downs, a junior marketing major from Santa Rose Beach, Fla., are students trying to adapt to their new life as parents.

One of the biggest adaptations for Bui has just been to manage her sleeping schedule.

"If he sleeps from 1-5 a.m. and gets four hours of sleep, that is like heaven because when he sleeps, I do too," Bui said.

For Michael Merritt, a senior criminal justice major from Blakely, Ga., who has a 1-month-old daughter, Veronica Merritt, time-management has been his biggest challenge.

"There is no more just goofing around at one in the morning anymore," Merritt said.

He adds that getting married and having kids definitely changes one's priorities.

"School was a number one priority," Merritt said. "It is still important but now I'm trying to finish school and get my career started. Money gets tight."

Merritt also adds that his wife, Alisha

Merritt, a senior graphic design major who has taken a semester off to take care of the baby, is eager to come back and finish her last semester at Troy.

Planning everything from finding a house to a decent daycare, all within a limited budget can be taxing he said.

However, he acknowledges that with support from families and friends, they have been able to manage everything.

"One time when Alisha was pregnant, one of her friends from the art department walked up to her and gave \$60 in gifts," Merritt said.

"One of her professors gave her a Troy collegiate set with a hat, blanket and spit-up cloth. We've had more kindness from friends than we have ever seen."

"I did not know that I could be this strong."

"We have six months' worth of diapers and wipes given by family and friends," Downs said.

"We appreciate their help and couldn't ask for more," he said.

Downs also said that government subsidies from the Women, Infants and Children program has helped in providing food for the baby.

Merritt says that because his wife has been the primary caregiver, his schedule has changed only in that he comes back

home to a baby to take care of.

"They want me to rest as much as I can even though I fight it because I want to help out and play with the baby," he said. "When I get home, if there is cooking to be done, I do the cooking. Alisha is the cleaner. We just do what we can."

According to Downs, one of the challenges as a parent is keeping pace with his son's behavior changes. "He screams now instead of crying when he gets hungry," he said. "It's a new form of communication every week."

However, all the parents describe a positive change brought about by their children in their lives.

"I have become more responsible because I am responsible for him now," Bui said. "I did not know that I could be this strong."

When there are hard days, I think about my parents who raised two daughters, baking cakes every night and delivering them the next morning. Thinking about them gives me a lot of perspective."

"He has taught me about time management and he keeps me out of trouble," Downs said.

"I have definitely become more mature and my mind set has changed to become more vigilant of 'real world problems' for lack of a better term," Merritt said.

And what pushes these students even when things get hard at times?

"There are nights when he maybe just throws up and I haven't slept and I'm tired," Bui said. "And I look at him and he smiles as if he is saying, 'It's okay, Mom, I don't even get mad.'"

"There is nothing better than going in there, picking her up, holding her and playing with her and she just laughs," Merritt said. "It's the best thing."

"I am looking forward to seeing how

she grows up," he said. "It's a completely different life that you get to witness."



Chad Downs photo

Yen Bui (left) and Chad Downs (right) work through the challenges of parenting their first child James Bui Downs (middle).

Merritt hopes that it will be easier to take care of his daughter when she grows up because she will be able to tell him what is wrong with her, if need be.

Bui agrees with Merritt but notes that once her son starts running around, he could be more accident-prone and thus will require more attention.

Merritt, Bui and Downs are all doing their best to adjust to their new lifestyles as caregivers and guardians and when the going gets tough, the tough remember one motto: Make it work.

Professor's journey stretches across globe

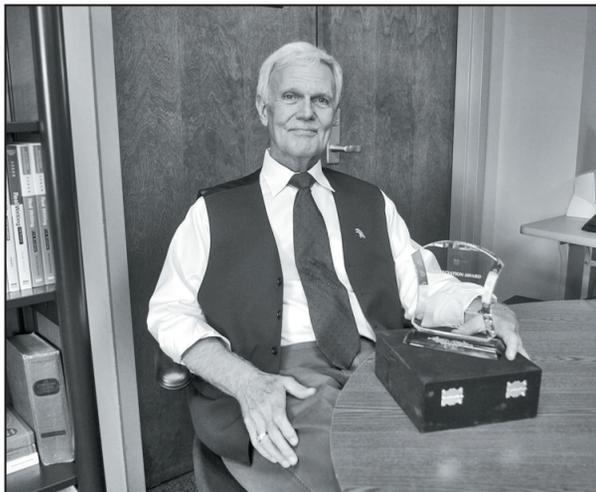
Taylor Foxx
Staff Writer

Noel Kaylor's life has stretched across the globe as he has traveled and taught in numerous countries during his academic career.

Kaylor, a professor of German and English at Troy, studied for his bachelor's degree in France. He studied for his master's degree in Germany. He has taught and given presentations in Vietnam, Poland, South Korea, Chile and in numerous universities across Germany. His travels are an essential part of his job as a professor.

"Truth is what you can observe and prove,"

"Travel is important to anyone who teaches," Kaylor said. "At the university level, research is essential to anyone who teaches. If you have not been to where the story takes place, you don't know it."



Caitlin Collins photo

Kaylor holds the appreciation award he received on Feb. 14 for his assistance and dedication to the "Inha at Troy: A Southern Experience" program.

Traveling to where literature was written or events took place is essential to Kaylor because he believes that it is through experience that one can discover truth.

"Truth is what you can observe and prove," Kaylor said. "Anything you cannot observe or, with evidence, prove, throw it out."

While serving as an army specialist in the Medical Corps during the Vietnam War, Kaylor

encountered the German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche through his literature. After the war, he made it his goal to read Nietzsche's works in their original language. This desire led him to move to Germany to study for his master's degree where he learned German.

Over the past year, Kaylor has worked extensively with Inha University to create the "Inha at Troy: A Southern Experience" program, even

traveling to South Korea to plan the program's specifics.

"What we did with the Korean program is the way I have approached my life. You don't read about it without doing. I learned German to read Nietzsche. Then I went to Germany. That's what I do. I do my reading and I go."

The Korean program followed much of this "reading and doing" mindset. As an excellent example, participants read "To Kill a Mockingbird" in Korean and visited Monroeville and met an individual who knew the author of the novel, Harper Lee. Many see Kaylor's assistance as vital to the success of the program.

"His extensive knowledge of the field, his knowledge of the local area, his expertise in literature, his personal contacts, and his familiarity with Korean culture and with Inha University all lent a great deal to the success of this program," said David Kent, English as a second language program director.

Inside the classroom, Kaylor teaches students to actually seek truth in their text not from other sources. This practice does not make him the right teacher for all students.

"He expects the best from his students," said Cathy

Hutcherson, English professor. "Those who want an easy class or easy credit miss the benefit of

"Dr. Kaylor gave me a glimpse of the beauty of other cultures,"

having a caring professor who helps them learn to think more critically and independently, and they probably don't appreciate his classes."

"Dr. Kaylor gave me a glimpse of the beauty of other cultures, and a hunger for exploring them. Dr. Kaylor always challenged me to be better at writing, and he showed me how. He challenged me to earn his respect, and once I did, he honored that," said Susannah McQuitty, a junior English major from Franklin, N.C.

Kaylor's office is located in Smith Hall Room 272, and he encourages any students interested in conversation to contact him: nkaylor@troy.edu.

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Social media and the effect it has on the United States

Ngoc Vo
Staff Writer

With the increasing accessibility of the Internet and the transition of the media into the digital age, American news coverage and entertainment materials are consumed by people across the globe.

As a non-U.S. resident, when I was in Vietnam, I could have a picture of what was happening in the country through the same media.

I believe the perceptions of the U.S. by informed foreigners are heavily influenced by the information given to them by American sources.

Although foreign attitudes towards the U.S. are as diverse as the topics for news in the country, political news coverage tends to draw out an unfavorable image of America.

Due to America's multiparty political system, there are times when one party poses non-violent, defamatory attacks on another.

Such efforts to find fault with and put party leaders down on illegitimate grounds cost the American political system respect from foreign observers.

During the 2012 presidential election, which received intense media coverage, in response to Romney's questions regarding President Obama's birthplace, Obama's campaign staff jokingly produced a mug with the president's birth certificate on it.

Actions like these, though trivial, can invoke a negative impression from people whose culture holds national leaders in high esteem.

The 2012 presidential election is also a great example for how the media's use of advanced technology affects foreign perception on the U.S.

Take, for example, Romney's leaked video in a private fundraiser at Boca Raton on May 17 saying to his sponsors that he had no regard for the 47 percent of the population who were dependent on the government and who refused to take personal responsibility.

This not only served as a blow to Romney campaign but also as a negative image presented to anyone following the presidential race.

People with Internet connections from all over

the world could easily find the video on Mother Jones website or their U.S. political news feeds.

Similarly, tactless remarks from U.S. government officials of high positions circulate internationally, dampening American political reputation.

Rep. Todd Akin's legitimate rape" comment offended many foreign feminist communities.

In addition to reading news coverage of current events in the States, people outside the U.S can observe and virtually participate in live occurrences.

Live streams on various platforms, especially YouTube, enable audiences regardless of location to watch what is going down.

The filibuster of Rep. Wendy Davis covered by the Texas Tribune cast political outrage among viewers.

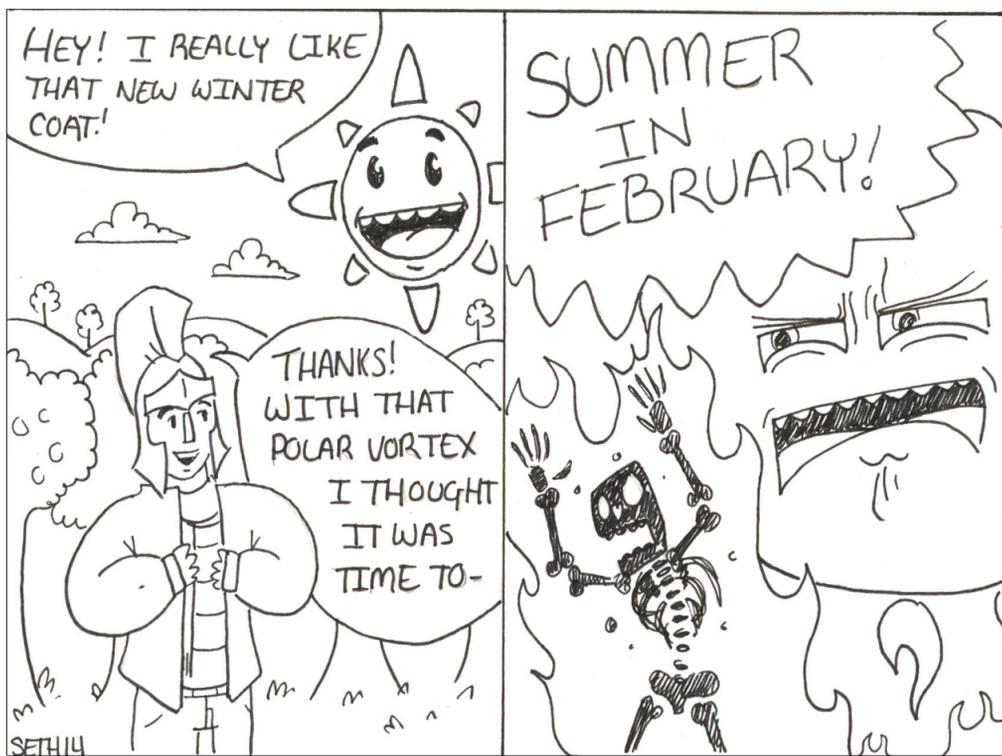
Although foreign audience's opinions on the abortion matter may vary, the incident brought American democracy under a bad light when the date of the voting on record was changed to make it look like the Republicans got their votes in on time.

Thanks to social media, this undemocratic and illegal action by the state officials was obvious not only to the people watching the live stream, but also to a broader audience.

Via Twitter, reporters for the Texas Tribune and the Austin American-Statesman blogged about the record change, along with a screen caption from the Texas Legislature Online History website.

News commentary is another feature that leaves a destructive effect on how foreigners perceive the U.S.

Even though to some Americans, the Colbert Report and The Daily Show with Jon Stewart are entertaining to watch—my personal favorite—the way politicians and American politics are ridiculed on the shows convey the sheer disapproval and frustration of Americans of their own country.



Seth Nicholson

Students should step outside social comfort "YOLO" becoming a positive method for living life

Cory Ray

Carpe diem was first recorded in Horace's lyric poem "Odes 1.11" over 2,000 years ago.

"Seize the day" has since then been modernized (or bastardized, depending on who you ask) to the simple four letter acronym, YOLO (you only live once).

The lifestyle that the simple acronym has portrayed for young people is that they can do whatever reckless, unsound activity without repercussions because they are young, wild and free.

This lifestyle is mocked by the

media, political figures, and people in this country over the age of 20, and rightfully so.

Even so, I believe that at its core, YOLO can be a very powerful and positive ideology to living life.

This semester I am pledging Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

I have not played a musical instrument in over six years, nor have I ever sung in front of anyone or anything other than my bathroom shower head.

I woke up one morning near the end of last semester and realized that socially I had not accomplished what I wanted in college.

As a first year senior I was dis-

traught; my collegiate career is nearly over, so what could I do with what little time I have left?

Anything that I want.

I learned this lesson last semester from a 60-year-old male cancer survivor student who told me it's never too late to live your dream.

I use this as inspiration to seize the day, to try new things, to be proud of the person I am in the mirror.

You only live once, so make sure everything you do is done with pride, and every person you meet is treated by you with integrity, respect and love.

Cell phones main source of communication

Faith Karwacki
Staff Writer

Students using their cell phones while waiting for their class to begin is a common sight in the halls of any university.

Older generations or particularly pretentious peers scoffing at the seemingly constant use of cell phones is nearly as commonplace.

"Modern technology is making this generation antisocial!" is the oft heard battle cry of social network opponents.

While a certain legitimacy may be attributed to the argument that emotion can be difficult to assess and communicate over a non-vocal medium, the argument that people are losing touch with their ability to successfully interact is ill-founded.

Now more than ever,

people are communicating, interacting and building relations with a larger number of people than before the social media boom.

The freedom social media, blogging and news sites allow for the exchange of ideas enables its users to experience a higher awareness of issues common to people of all walks of life.

I believe that to the open mind, such an exchange of ideas allows the newly aware peer to sympathize with an individual that is experiencing a hardship the other may not be aware of.

To be aware and sympathetic of the struggles a person or group of people whose experiences differ from yours strengthens interpersonal skills.

Skills that will be seen as highly useful in our economic climate

and its much-needed rehabilitation.

The freedom of ideas has radically altered social justice, activism and the overall awareness of the numerous injustices suffered by marginalized people.

As a feminist and environmentalist, online mediums have greatly aided personal research and opened my eyes to the struggles of feminism and environmentalism over a broad range of socioeconomic statuses and the legislative concerns faced by international citizens.

Smart phone technology and social media networking also benefits users who tend to struggle with socialization.

As someone who suffers from crippling shyness, I am so grateful for the opportunities offered by texting and

instant messaging.

I find it much simpler to skip the anxieties caused by painful silences and avoided eye-contact of a fledgling relationship in favor of online and cell phone communication.

My closest friendships started from brief face-to-face introductions and blossomed from online and text discussions.

Without the aid texting and social networking, I wouldn't have dreamed of being able to muster up the courage to ask a friend for an impromptu cup of coffee.

Love it or hate it, social networking and its technology is constantly at our fingertips.

The choice is yours to adapt and take advantage of these changes or remain woefully behind in an era of fast-paced change.

EDITORIAL POLICIES

As Troy University's official student newspaper, the Tropolitan strives to serve student interests. The Perspectives page is an outlet for Tropolitan editors to question university policies that do not benefit Troy's students, praise those that do and call attention to national and state issues that relate to students.

Editorials stand as the official, corporate opinion of the Tropolitan. Our opinions are not influenced by campus organiza-

tions or societies, university administration or political parties. The first copy of the Tropolitan is free to any student or employee of Troy University. Each additional copy costs \$1.

Guest Columns

The Tropolitan encourages students, faculty and staff at Troy University to express opinions in a guest column of 500-700 words. Dissenting opinions are

welcomed, but all expressions are the sole opinion of their author and do not reflect the beliefs of the Tropolitan.

Letters to the Editor

The Tropolitan welcomes letters from students, faculty, staff and non-Troy affiliated persons. Dissenting opinions and corrections are welcomed.

The Tropolitan does not exclusively print letters favorable to the newspaper.

Letters to the editor must be signed by the author, and a phone number must be included.

All submissions must be word-processed and emailed to the Tropolitan by 5 p.m. on Monday. All submissions may not be published.

Submissions bashing groups or individuals on the basis of race, gender, age, ethnic group, orientation or religious belief will not be printed.

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Slakey captivates campus

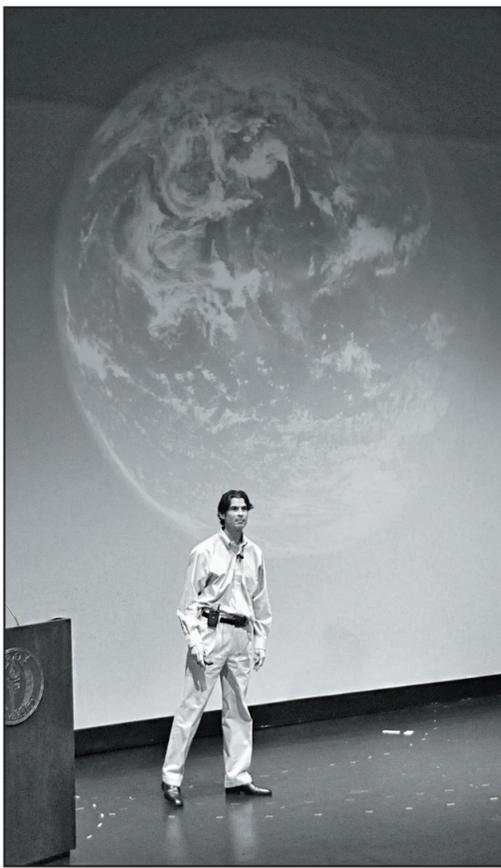
Madison Griggs
Staff Writer

The Writing Center was filled with chatter and coffee Wednesday morning, Feb. 26. Author of Troy's 2013-2014 Common Reading Initiative, Francis Slakey, visited campus to meet with students and share some insight on his story, "To the Last Breath."

On couches and cushioned chairs sat Writing Center tutors, faculty and eager students alike, and Slakey sat comfortably as one of them. The close and casual atmosphere made asking questions and getting in-depth and relatable answers easy. Slakey showed endless interest in the students—their jobs at the Writing Center, personal projects they were working on, what books they were reading, etc. When he humbly got around to discussing his book and its publishing process, Slakey admitted that he had never thought of writing a book.

"If you can't download something on the Internet, it never happened," his wife, Gina, pointed out to him. He wrote a short piece that was published on the online magazine, Slate—and it attracted a lot of attention. Slakey received voicemail after voicemail from interested agents.

"It felt sleazy," Slakey said about his first experience with agents. "Like they were marketing my



(Left) Slakey speaks to an audience of students and faculty in Trojan Center Theatre. (Right) Slakey speaks to a select group of science majors in Bibb Graves. He discussed global energy efficiency.

life."

Eventually, he found one that, instead of talking business and book covers, asked the serious and important questions. Slakey was eased into writing "To the Last Breath," and he enjoyed it.

"Writing is a lot like golf. You can absolutely suck at it, but, when you get that one perfect

shot, it's worth it—like when you get that perfect sentence," Slakey said.

When asked how he thought students benefited from meeting and speaking with him, Slakey said "They can see that it's not a black box — it's approachable."

Almost immediately following the intimate chat, the book signings, and the pictures, Slakey



April Irvin and Caleb Hicks photos

and even had an audience member try on all of the gear he had to wear on his right foot alone—which was a lot.

Then Slakey went into detail about being ambushed in Indonesia. He single-handedly proved and published that the Indonesian military was to blame, and with the help of an ambush survivor, convinced Congress to withhold funding until a deeper investigation could be conducted.

"When you push for justice, not another mountain to climb, not another wave to surf—when you push for justice you can make things right. It changed me."

After his journey, Slakey saw the world in a different light. It was no longer just a list of geographical challenges to conquer.

Before his epic journey, Slakey was a physics teacher who looked only at the facts. He stood with his back to the class, talking and scribbling on the chalkboard. His teaching was changed and inspired by his adventures, and he now encourages his students to go out and see the world and to try to change it for the better.

"Education doesn't just live within the walls of a university. The universe is clothed in formulas, but it speaks in stories."

ADDY Awards honor Troy students

Eight Troy University students win awards in local ADDYs

Parker McCann
Staff Writer

During this past week, winners for the ADDYs in the regional area were announced. There were eight students from Troy University who received awards: Nolan Odom, Tabitha Mixon, Saraya Williams, Mairead Sheffield, Kaitlyn Franklin, Elizabeth Jenkins and Heather Allerman.

The ADDY, established in 1993, is an award for graphic design presented by the American Advertising Federation for professionals ages 40 and under. While it is for professionals, many students enter as well and even win their own awards.

Nolan Odom, a senior graphic design major from Troy, who has participated

in the two previous ADDYs, submitted three pieces and won a Silver ADDY, a Gold ADDY, the Best in Show award and Designer of the Year award. Previously, he won a Gold ADDY in 2012 and another Gold ADDY and Best in Show award in 2013.

Odom's Gold ADDY was for his thesis project.

"I was given a mission to see through until the end, and it felt good. It was nice to make all the decisions and be the creator and the client," Nolan said.

Odom's piece was based on unemployment in Alabama. He wanted to do something with infographics, and it gave him a chance to see Alabama's recent history and how other countries affect this state.

There were a total of 43 entries in

the Montgomery division. Of those 43 entries, 12 participants won awards, and, of those 12, eight were from Troy University. Having two-thirds of the award winners come from Troy meant a great deal to Odom.

Odom personally tries not to let the awards affect him much.

"The hardest thing for me is to not be pious about it," Odom said. "Winning awards looks good on a resume, but it doesn't affect the work. If you let it make you pious, you'll only make work as good as that."

Tabitha Mixon, a senior graphic design major from Ashford, submitted one entry and won a Gold ADDY and Best in Show for Packaging Collateral. Her and Mairead Sheffield, a senior graphic design major, were the two students from

the Dothan division who won awards.

Mixon was surprised to have won Best in Show with one entry in her first year.

Saraya Williams is receiving a Gold ADDY for her piece, which she is very confident in. Her project was to design a logo and make packaging for a product under ten dollars, which was light bulbs this time.

Williams, a senior fine arts major with a concentration in digital studio from Goshen, said that the entry process was simple for submitters. The art department sent out an email about the ADDYs and students could submit anything done this year to the intern of the department. They would then submit it to the American Advertising Federation.

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ENDLESS LOVE
PG-13

Road teams get the best of men's basketball

Gabe Sadetsky
Staff Writer

Troy men's basketball fell to Louisiana-Lafayette on the road in a key Sun Belt matchup, 78-63, this past Thursday, Feb. 20, and lost to rival South Alabama as well on Saturday, Feb. 22.

The Ragin' Cajuns were led by senior guard Bryant Mbamalu with his 21-point performance and four steals. UL-Lafayette was stronger in the paint, scoring 46 points while Troy only scraped up 28 points.

Troy yielded a poor 38.9 shooting percentage, including a miserable 29.2 percent from the three-point line.

The Trojans' leading scorer, senior guard Antoine Myers, gained 14 points on 5-6 shooting along with 4-6 at the charity stripe. Junior forward Kevin Thomas, senior and freshman guards Hunter Williams and Kelton Ford each contributed 11.

Things didn't get much better for the men of Troy on Saturday, losing to No. 10 Sun Belt team and in-state rival South Alabama, 86-78. The Trojans, trailing by 26 points late in the first half, couldn't complete the comeback and now moves to 3-11 in the Sun Belt (9-18 overall).

The Jaguars' leading scorer, senior forward Augustine Rubit, didn't disappoint his team tacking on 22 points with 8-15 shooting. The 6-foot-7 leader also had a double-double thanks to a team-high of 10 rebounds while adding two blocks.

Troy, after falling behind 45-24 at the half, fought back to score 54 second-half points, only to see South Alabama ice the game on late free-throw attempts. All five of the starting Trojans, with an exception of Thomas, scored in the double-digits. Williams led the team in points with 24



Caitlin Collins photo

Senior guard Hunter Williams scored double digits during both away games. Williams was able to put 11 points on the board and made three 3-pointers during the UL-Lafayette game on Thursday, Feb. 20. He led the Trojans against South Alabama, scoring 24 points and had five out of 10 3-pointers on Saturday, Feb. 22.

on 7-18 shooting with 5-10 from three-point land.

Troy's loss had a lot to do with their first-half performance, shooting a mere 28 percent from the field.

"I thought we were flat," said head coach Phil Cunningham, "As we left the huddle to go to the floor for the first half I felt like we were flat. I sensed at half time that we could get back in the game

because of that little run we made in the last couple minutes of the first half."

Troy improved their shooting immensely in the second half with a 58.8 field-goal percentage, adding 58.3 percent from beyond the arc. The Trojans also shot an impressive 87.5 percent from the free-throw line. Senior guard Jeff Mullahey led Troy in rebounds with eight, but the Trojans were out-rebound-

ed as a team, 39-31.

Troy will try to regain momentum in the Sun Belt conference, as they return home to Trojan Arena this Thursday, Feb. 27, to take on the Arkansas-Little Rock Trojans. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. and will be one of the last three home games remaining on Troy's schedule before heading to New Orleans for the conference tournament.

Softball struggles during Lipton Invitational

Megan Phillips
Staff Writer

The Trojan softball team traveled once again to the sunshine state and lost 3 out of 5 in the Lipton Invitational hosted by the University of Florida in Gainesville last weekend ending the series with a tie game.

In game one of the tournament, the Lady Trojans faced the Lady Eagles of Georgia Southern University on Friday, Feb. 21.

The game saw an early lead for Troy with a single from senior utility player Kacie McAllister in the bottom of the first, keeping the bats hot and seeing a solid lead for the Trojans through the bottom of the fourth.

Unfortunately, the top of the fifth saw the end of the Trojan reign and the start of the Eagle rally as they came back with a 4-run lead, thanks to a grand slam.

Although the Lady Trojans were able to score once again in the bottom of the fifth, it wasn't enough, and the game ended in a 4-3 loss.

For their next game, Troy went up against No. 1 ranked Florida.

Despite obviously intimidating circumstances, the Lady Trojans more than held their ground in the field, keeping the Lady Gators to only three runs in seven innings of play.

However, Troy just was not able to compete at the plate, and took a 3-0 loss.

Saturday, Feb. 22, was a new day for the Trojans as they opened play against Coastal Carolina University with a vengeance, winning 4-1.

Despite a slow start in the first inning,

the bats were swinging in the top of the second, and Troy gained a 4-run lead that they would maintain throughout the game, only allowing Coastal Carolina to score once in the bottom of the sixth.

This win was made possible largely in part by senior outfielder Ebony Wright, who was a driving force for the Trojans with her three hits, one stolen base, and contributing one run to the scoreboard.

In their next game of the day, the Lady Trojans were once again pitted against the intimidating Florida Gators who, coming off of the close game the day before, now had something to prove.

The game got off to a fair start, with both teams canceling one another out and maintaining a stalemate until the top of the third when the Gators put themselves on the board with a 2-run lead.

It was all downhill for Troy from there as Florida continued their forward momentum into the next inning, adding five more runs in the fourth and then five runs on top of that in the seventh.

By the time the Lady Trojans began their scoring game in the bottom of the seventh, it was too late, and they took the 12-2 loss.

For the final game of the tournament, the Trojans battled bad weather as well as Indiana and subsequently came home with a 3-3 tie, marking a game of intense play due to Troy forcing the game into extra innings.

Next, the Troy softball team will be traveling to Statesboro, Ga., where they will be competing once again in tournament play in the Eagle Classic, kicking off play with Middle Tennessee at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28.



Joshua Thurston photo

Freshman shortstop Becca Hartley batted in her teammates sophomore outfielder Amanda Winters and senior second baseman Taylor Smartt, with a single out to left field in the game against Coastal Carolina University, on Feb. 22, in the top of the second inning.

Tennis team upsets No. 72 Nicholls State

Wally Pendergrass
Staff Writer

The Troy women's tennis team lost a tight match to North Florida on Thursday, Feb. 20, but came away with an upset victory over No. 72 ranked Nicholls State 4-1 on Saturday, Feb. 22.

The Trojans lost the doubles point early against North Florida but rallied to take a 2-1 lead thanks to singles wins from sophomores Tranq Huynh and Anja Cosovic.

After North Florida (3-0) tied the match at 2, the Trojans would lose two tightly contested matches and eventually lose the final match to get the final

score of 5-2.

The Trojans started off the Nicholls State matches right by winning the doubles point thanks to Cosovic and Huynh winning 8-2 in doubles match No. 1.

That win makes the doubles pair 4-2 on the year.

Senior Lyubov Dorofeeva and sophomore Brooke Durden took doubles match No. 3, 8-3 to clinch the doubles point. Huynh and Dorofeeva put the Trojans up 3-0 with wins in their singles matches.

Nicholls State would take the next match, but Cosovic clinched the win by winning singles match

No. 4 and gave the Trojans a huge road win. The loss moved Nichols State to 2-3.

"I couldn't be more proud of the girls today," said coach Rawia Elsis. "They fought so hard as a group to win this match for Troy. They played as one team and this is a great win for them against a ranked team."

With those two results, the women's team moves to 3-5 and hosts Kennesaw State on Friday, Feb. 28 and Arkansas State on Sunday, March 2, in Troy.

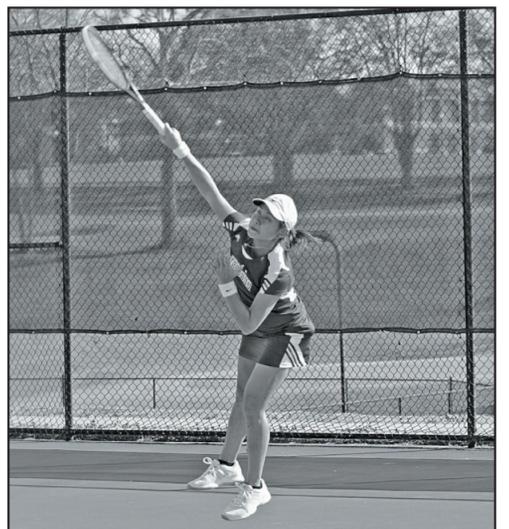
The men's team lost a tightly contested match at Nicholls State on Saturday. The Trojans (1-6) lost 4-3 despite sophomore Gabriel

Sciacca Dias getting an impressive victory over the No. 69 ranked ITA national singles athlete Nico Mertens.

Dias won in straight sets 6-3, 7-6 (3), giving Troy a 3-2 lead at the time. Nicholls State (4-3) would take the last two singles matches to come away with the narrow victory.

Both teams were scheduled to take on New Orleans on Sunday, Feb. 23, but the matches were called due to rain.

Neither match will be made up. The men's tennis team will hit the road to Hattiesburg, Miss., play Southern Miss on Friday, Feb. 28, and Lamar on Saturday, March 1.



April Irvin photo

Sophomore Trang Huynh was named Sun Belt Tennis Athlete of the Week for going 2-0 in her singles match of the week, including a win at the No. 1 position as Troy defeated Nicholls State on the road.

Trojans fall to ULL, sweep South Alabama

Gabe Sadetsky
Staff Writer

Troy's women's basketball team came up short Thursday, Feb. 19, in a pivotal conference game on the road against Louisiana-Lafayette, 62-57. The game was one of only six games all season in which the Trojans failed to reach at least 80 points and the first such game since Feb. 6.

Troy had one of its worst first-half shooting performances of the season trailing the Ragin' Cajuns 32-15 at the half. The Trojans had a weak field goal percentage of 29.4, making 20 of 68 attempted shots.

Troy gained a surge in the second-half; outscoring Lafayette 42-30, with 23 of those coming from senior guard Joanna Harden. Junior forward Ronita Garrett had a double-double for the game with 14 points and 10 boards.

However, the late Trojan push still couldn't overcome the team's first-half deficit, moving the Trojans to 9-15 overall and 5-8 in the Sun Belt. Harden's 27 total points led both teams in scoring while Ragin' Cajuns red shirt sophomore guard Brooklyn Arceneaux led Lafayette with 17 points.

Saturday's road game against South Alabama on Feb. 22 saw the Trojans complete a successful second-half comeback, beating the Jaguars 86-76. The win gave Troy their first road win since beating UT-Arlington on Jan. 22.

"We have to prove that we can win away from Trojan Arena if we're going to doing anything down the stretch," said Troy head coach Chanda Rigby. "We did that tonight."

Harden, for the second straight game, led both teams in scoring with 26 points. Her performance placed her atop Troy's single-season scoring records with a total of 635 points, a record that has lasted more than 24 years. Harden is now averaging 25.3 points per game, leading the conference and ranking fifth in the NCAA.

Harden also led the team with 5 assists and 6 steals



Joshua Thurston photo

Junior forward Ronita Garrett was on fire while on the road, ending each night with a double-double. Garrett totaled 14 points and 10 rebounds against the Cajuns and had 15 points and 12 boards against the Jaguars. Troy returned home Wednesday, Feb. 26, to play UALR at 7 p.m.

while shooting 5-8 from the free-throw line. Sophomore guard Ashley-Beverly, one of the other season-leaders of the high-powered Trojan offense, finished with 11 points and 9 rebounds.

The Trojans' bench made one of their biggest contributions of the season, particularly from Garrett, who had another double-double, leading the team with 12 rebounds and finished second with 15 points. Junior guard Aissata Maiga joined Garrett with a big day off

the bench, scoring 12 points and finishing second with 4 assists while earning 3 steals on defense.

Junior guard Breanna Hall, who scored 17 points and earned 8 rebounds, led South Alabama. The Jaguars, as a team, also out-rebounded Troy 52-44.

Troy returned to the court Wednesday, Feb. 26, to take on the Trojans of Arkansas-Little Rock at Trojan Arena. Tip-off was set for 7 p.m. and gave Troy a chance to avenge its road loss to UALR on Jan. 11.

Baseball splits the series

Amy Austin
Staff Writer

After two losses to open the four-game series, the Troy baseball team came back to split the home stand against Central Michigan 2-2.

The Trojans had a rough opening to the series as the team took a 4-1 loss from Central Michigan on Friday, Feb. 21.

Troy had only two hits in the game, one being a solo home run by senior infielder Matthew Howard, who scored the Trojans only run. The other hit was a double off the wall from senior second baseman Garrett Pitts.

Central Michigan scored 3 runs off senior pitcher Tanner Hicks in the fourth inning. Hicks pitched seven innings allowing 4 earned runs but also struck out six.

"I thought we played okay on Friday night," said head coach Bobby Pierce. "Central Michigan pitched extremely well. Tanner pitched a pretty good game."

Troy split the doubleheader with Central Michigan on Saturday, Feb. 22.

The Trojans were defeated by the Chippewas in game one on Saturday. Troy left 12 runners stranded on base, and took a 3-2 loss.

Senior pitcher Shane McCain started for the Trojans. McCain had three runs, only two earned and 10 strikeouts. Outfielder Jo-El Bennett and catcher Jake Harrell, both juniors, each had two hits in the game.

"Shane's game on Saturday, I think he struck out like 13," Pierce said. "I think we struck out about 16 or 17 of their guys in a loss. We haven't seen that very often

here so they got the first two wins."

The Trojans took the second game from the Chippewas, 5-4.

Troy fell behind when Central Michigan took a 3-run lead in the fourth. Troy would then tie the game after Pitts hit a 3-run homer in the fifth. Trevin Hall then reached base on a throwing error, and scored on Bennett's single.

In the eighth, the Chippewas tied the game on a passed ball, but Troy would limit Central Michigan to only one run.

In the bottom of the ninth, Pitts blasted a walk-off homer as he was the first batter to open the inning.

"It was a pretty good day," Pitts said. "If I glory, I glory in the Cross. I'm excited to get the opportunity to compete."

On Sunday, Feb. 23, Troy scored early and it paid off. Troy defeated Central Michigan 3-2 to close out the series.

In the bottom of the first, junior outfielder David Hall doubled and scored fellow junior outfielder Clay Holcomb. Howard singled later in the inning to score Hall and Bennett.

"We scored three in the first," Pierce said. "I wasn't really happy with how we lost our intensity after those three runs, but they did hold up due to the fact that we pitched really well."

Sunday's victory marked head coach Bobby Pierce's 400th win with Troy University. He is 34 wins away from tying the career record set by Chase Riddle, who had 434 victories.

The Trojans hit the road to face Florida A&M and won, 7-6, on Tuesday for their first road game of the season. Troy will head to Southern Mississippi for a three-game weekend from Feb. 28 to March 2.

Spring football practice: Battle of the quarterback



April Irvin photo

Spring football practice started on Monday, Feb. 24. These practices will be crucial to determining who will take on the mantle of quarterback for the fall season. There are currently four players competing for the slot. Troy's 15 spring practices are open to the media and general public.



Jennifer Carlisle photo

Sophomore shortstop Peyton Fuller scored one run during game two of the Central Michigan doubleheader, adding to the final score of 5-4 Troy.

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