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Stadium beer coming Saturday

Jill Odom
Sports Editor

Beer and football are a common pairing as fall rolls around, and this football season beer will now be sold in Veterans Memorial Stadium.

A variety of beer will be served from 16-ounce cans poured into cups. The alcohol will cost \$5 a cup and can be purchased two at a time. Students will present proof of being 21 and then will be given a wristband to wear.

Due to logistics, draft beer will not be sold at the football games but it remains a possibility in the Trojan Arena.

According to Athletics Director John Hartwell, it is estimated that Troy will be

able to generate \$200,000 on an annual basis from selling beer at football, men's basketball, women's basketball and baseball games.

Last baseball season, alcohol was served at Riddle-Pace Field but due to less than ideal weather not as many fans were present and the sale of beer was not widely publicized. The total revenue from last season was around \$7,000.

Proceeds from the beer sales will be used to help fund the North End Zone Project at the football stadium.

The university's board of trustees approved a resolution in December 2013 after considerable thought and study of other colleges that had implemented alcohol sales.

"There were two primary reasons for doing it," Hartwell said. "One is to enhance the fan experience, and two is to provide another amenity to fans."

Troy plans on following the sports industry's standard practices of safely allowing alcohol sales, such as checking IDs and cutting off sales after the third quarter at football games.

"Certainly we want to make sure that all of our athletic facilities are both fan-friendly and family-friendly. We're making sure we take the precautions in terms of our security folks and making sure that everyone who purchases or transports or consumes within our venues is of age."

For those afraid that games will lose

the family-friendly atmosphere, Hartwell used the example of how Ruby Tuesday remains family-friendly despite the fact it sells alcohol.

"People may choose to or choose not to purchase a beer, but that doesn't mean people are getting crazy at Ruby Tuesday," Hartwell said. "We'll take the safeguards to make sure that it will remain a fan-friendly and a family-friendly environment."

According to Detective James Taylor, if a person is caught giving alcohol to a minor he or she will be charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor and will be faced with possible ejection

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App links students, teachers

Lilly Casolaro
Staff Writer

According to Troy's Educational Technology team, "staying connected and receiving timely information from Troy is important for student success."

Blackboard Connect allows students to receive course updates, important instructor information and Troy updates via text message, voice or email.

Once logged into Blackboard, Troy's software for online course management, students are able to locate the resources labs, which provide helpful tips for new students, and tutorials on how to use software and programs for Blackboard Connect, including how to sign up for alerts using multiple phone numbers and email accounts to ensure a timely and informative alert.

Even if a student is taking a course on campus not available in Blackboard, helpful information can still be found regarding available technology and resources for Troy students, said Kimberly Shaver, director of educational technology. "Blackboard Connect is

See **Blackboard**, page 2



Caiflin Collins photo

Troy's soccer team celebrated a win Sunday. The game ended in a 3-0 win over Tennessee Tech. Natalie Melillo (left), #12, and Alissa Jones (right), #16, hug each other after the win. Alissa Jones assisted with the winning kick. See story on Page 8.

Rental program offers different transport option

Cassie Gibbs
News Editor

The car rental company Enterprise has worked with Troy University to help set up a program for students to be able to "rent" a vehicle for a low price.

The carshare program allows people as young as 18, with valid drivers' licenses, to reserve vehicles for a low rate. With the current fall promotion, it is around \$5.

The program is available to students and faculty. A membership fee, which is currently \$10 with the promotional offer, is required in order to reserve vehicles with this program.

"Yes, I think I'll take advantage of it because it's a good program," said Jasmine Myles, a sophomore secondary education major from Birmingham. "It's not that much, but it's beneficial, especially when you don't have a car."

This rate includes all fuel costs and physical damage and liability fees in case of an accident during the promotional period.

With the program, those who wish to reserve a vehicle can do so for any

length of time, from an hour to overnight.

Troy already offers Troy Transit, a system of buses and routes provided to help those without vehicles travel to campus and other areas around the city.

Billy Lee, the Enterprise area rental manager, said that this is just another option to help people go off campus.

"This also gives an edge with recruiting students," Lee said.

According to Lee, few universities around the state offer a program like this.

The vehicles can be found in Barnes and Noble's parking lot in designated parking spots. After someone joins the carshare program, the membership card will allow the driver access to the vehicles. The driver must reserve the vehicle online for the amount of time it will be needed and return it to the designated parking spot when finished using the vehicle.

"This car share thing is actually a pretty sweet idea," said Marlon Jones, a junior English major

See **Car**, page 2

Prizes given for sporting event attendance

Cassie Gibbs
News Editor

Larry Willis
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association discussed the fall football season and events that will happen throughout.

According to Heath Barton, the vice president of campus affairs, the first pep

rally will be held this Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. The theme of this week's pep rally will be "Blast Out the Blue Devils." Students are encouraged to wear school colors and dress in the fashion of past decades.

The Trojan Walk will be held this Saturday at 3:45 p.m. "We encourage everyone to attend. We encourage other organizations to attend as well, because this is a big game," Barton said.

SGA discussed homecoming and home-

coming queen elections. Applications and fees for organizations that wish to participate in homecoming events are due Sept. 8 by 5 p.m. Applications for homecoming queen are due Sept. 9.

The SGA is promoting the Trojan Affinity Points System, which counts points for every sporting event attended. Different events will be worth a different point value. At the end of the point season, usually after

See **SGA**, page 2



April Irvin photo

Senator Faith Mote speaks about the Trojan Affinity Points System that awards points per sporting event.

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New assistant dean appointed

Jojo McBride
Staff Writer

Tamara Jones, formerly the Troy campus registrar, has been appointed assistant dean of first-year studies.

Jones said she intends to bring along some of her former duties into her new position, such as inputting schedules and certification of athletes.

However, Jones is also taking on new tasks as she enters this office.

"The new duties are going to include some special projects, working with retention, at-risk students, doing some special reports, doing some analysis and seeing where we can go to help our students," Jones said.

She said she is excited about becoming the assistant dean of first-year studies.

Having worked in records for 25 years, Jones said it's going to be something new and challenging but she is interested in helping the students.

"Now I get to actually help the students," Jones said. "I get to encourage them to do their best."

Jones' job is focused on student success and retention as well as helping students understand how to deal with probation or suspension.

A goal of first-year studies for the year is keeping down suspensions and following up on students who are already on probation.

"If we can keep 10 to 15 students here that we normally would lose, I see that as a success," Jones said.

Jones said that first-year studies has multiple services available to students who need help in their studies.

There is the Natural Science Center that tutors sciences and math, the Writing Center, student counselors and the placement office.

All of these services are available in the Eldridge Hall Student Services Center.

Jones said she is very excited to be working one-on-one with students.



Tamara Jones

"I'm looking forward to getting over there so that I can actually sit down and talk to the students," she said.

First-year studies has been working on student success and retention rates. However, as of right now there is no one to monitor the students who did not come into the university as conditional but are almost at a point of probation.

One of the things Jones hopes to do is find a way to monitor those at-risk students in their academic career.

Though they concentrate on students in their first year to help students transition from high school to college, the first-year studies program helps students regardless of classification.

"I think if you can get through that first-year then it's not quite as a shock," Jones said.

She explained that students who are the first in their family to go to college do not have someone to help them know what to expect and that's where first-year studies wants to help.

Jones said first-year studies hopes to pilot a program soon that monitors and contacts at-risk students to be able to catch them early on before probation or suspension happens.

Jones said she hopes to get the program in the works this fall.

SGA

continued from page 1

a full academic year, prizes will be awarded.

The student with 25 points will be awarded a t-shirt, 50 points will earn a visor, 75 points will earn a polo, 100 points will earn lunch with the athletic director, John Hartwell, or other faculty members of the athletic department, 150 points will earn an autographed ball of the winner's choice, 200 points will earn a book scholarship, and at the end of a the full academic year, the student with the most total points will win a full tuition scholarship.

This scholarship has no limitations on

the hours it will cover.

"The person who gets the highest amount of points at the end of the semester gets free tuition," Senator Faith Mote, chair of student life, said. "We want to give the students the opportunity to do this."

Sara Voght, a graduate assistant who works with the program, said that the program is a great idea to promote Trojan Spirit.

"The TAPS program is an awards program," Voght said. "We award very deserving and promising students. It's a point system. If they get a certain amount of points, they get a prize, and the person who gets the most points will win full tuition."



Homecoming theme announced

Grishma Rimal
Variety Editor

The Student Government Association announced the theme for this year's homecoming on Wednesday, Aug. 27. With the objective of reconnecting with the history and heritage of the university, the theme will be "Getting Back to Our Roots: We Are One."

Homecoming director for 2014, William Johnson, a senior risk insurance management major from Montgomery, said that the theme this year should help students relate back to the roots of the university and also the organizations they are involved in.

"The idea was to kind of get everyone together," he said. "Not just the Greeks, but everyone else too. The biggest thing we are trying to achieve is the unification of students and more fair competition."

"My big thing about the theme is the focus on Troy coming together as a family," said SGA vice president of campus activities, Heath Barton, a junior risk management insurance major from Opp. Barton said that

since Troy hosts a diverse student population, this homecoming will strive to display the many different walks of life people come from in addition to recognizing the military, athletic and international connections Troy has had.

Barton said that this year's activities provide all students a chance to participate without competing as the real objective is for students to simply get involved and experience the fun of the event. "We have made it very doable," he said encouraging smaller campus organizations to participate and not to be intimidated by the pressure of competition.

One of the changes in rules this year requires homecoming court nominees to run on a platform, one different from their organization's philanthropic efforts. The homecoming queen will be given prize money to donate to the charity or the cause she runs on.

The homecoming competitions will be categorized into four divisions: all male, all female, co-ed and the resident halls. The dance competition theme will be the military and

America while the skit competition will highlight athletics.

According to Barton, the athletic theme was chosen because most people associate athletics with seriousness and intimidation and he hopes that the skit will bring out the lighter and fun side of things.

Another change in guidelines includes dance competition performers not being allowed to perform stunts on stage. Any sort of flips or tumblers is discouraged for safety and liability reasons. The competition will also be held in Trojan Arena instead of Claudia Crosby Theater.

Tailgate for Troops will feature international cuisine from the different countries represented here on campus, celebrating the largest international student population presence in Alabama. The service day will focus on the university itself, with students working in the arboretum to refurbish it.

Homecoming applications are due on Monday, Sept. 8, at 5 p.m. and homecoming queen applications are due the day after at 4 p.m.

Blackboard

continued from page 1

the only text/email system that will allow students to receive messages regarding important course information with no additional work on the instructor's part," Shaver said.

Blackboard Mobile Learn is a supplementary tool that provides student access to Blackboard Connect straight from a mobile phone.

Different from Troy's S.O.S rapid emergency warning system, Blackboard Connect will provide information from university offices or instructors keeping students up to date.

Kasey Freeman, a junior communication major from Nashville, Tennessee, is a frequent user of Blackboard and the Blackboard app and relies on the software for notifications.

"S.O.S. comes straight to a text message," said Freeman. "Blackboard (not Connect) comes in

as a notification. I prefer notifications because I get enough text messages as it is."

Blackboard Connect provides students preference as to how the messages are received.

Blackboard Connect does not automatically send notifications when new material is posted on Blackboard; therefore, students must choose this feature as they would choose to turn on or off Facebook notifications.

In addition to Blackboard Connect, the "Student Resources" tab within Blackboard provides educational tips, technology assistance and a software compatibility guide to name a few.

"All students also have access to the 'Trojan Café' under the 'My Courses' section within Blackboard," Shaver said. "This is an area recently developed to offer opportunities for student engagement, career information, student stories, and so much more."

Trojan Café is an online gathering place that allows students to connect

and communicate whether as an eTroy student or a student at any of Troy's locations.

All students are automatically enrolled in Trojan Café with their Blackboard accounts.

The purpose of this resource is to build community, inspire success and grow the Trojan Warrior Spirit, according to the educational technology student publication.

For step-by-step instructions on how to register for Blackboard Connect, please login to your Blackboard account. Locate the student resources tab and click on "connect with Troy." There you will find the Blackboard Connect icon. Complete the registration instructions and you will be set to receive updates and messages.

For further information check out: <https://troyuniversity.bbcportal.com; helpdesk.troy.edu>

Car

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from Andalusia. "There's a lot of students on campus who don't have cars or access to vehicles, and for a pretty fair price you can use a car whenever you need to. Sounds like a good idea."

The vehicles are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Beer

continued from page 1

from the game or arrest.

As stated in the student handbook, The Oracle, the university reserves the right to contact the parents or guardians of underage students caught drinking alcohol. Underage drinkers will be prosecuted according to state law and fined \$75 by the university if they are first-time offenders.

In the event that a fan does become

rowdy while under the influence, that individual will be escorted out of the stadium and can possibly face arrest, depending on the circumstances.

Hartwell is hopeful that sales will increase attendance of fans and the duration of their stay. Studies of colleges that allow alcohol sales showed that the amount of binge drinking decreased and fans were willing to stay at the games longer because they could purchase beer.

Troy's first home game is Saturday, Sept. 6, at 6 p.m. against Duke.

FRESHMAN RUN

CALLING ALL FRESHMAN MEET AT GATE 101 @ 5:30 PM "ITS T-TIME" TROY UNIVERSITY TRADITION

New SGA president gets settled

Tori Roper
Staff Writer

The current Student Government Association administration is taking a new approach to rallying student support, beginning with the president.

New SGA President Matthew Thompson, a junior accounting major from Montgomery, is determined to be the people's president.

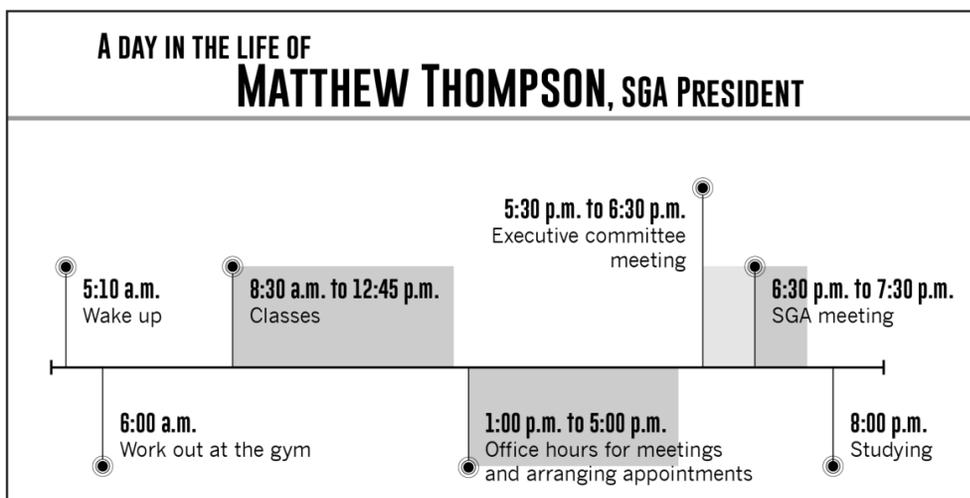
He said that he would love for students to come by and talk to him about concerns or issues. "I enjoy company," Thompson said.

Although his job can be trying, Thompson said he is excited about the new year and the potential that it holds.

A major issue that the majority of the student body is concerned with at the moment is parking. Thompson expressed his plan to lobby for increased parking but noted that the process is a long and strenuous one.

The most important thing, in Thompson's opinion, is the support of the students.

"The SGA is never against the students," Thompson said. "The students should feel like they (the SGA) are trying."



Taylor Bowser graphic

ALS Ice Bucket Challenge—a dangerous way to raise awareness?



April Irvin photo

The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge has become hugely popular in the past several weeks, earning the ALS Association more than four times the amount of donations it received during all of 2013. It has even spread to Troy University's faculty, as pictured on the left is Richard Scott Nokes, associate professor of English, completing the challenge. A wide variety of people have come together for the cause, but the movement has had some unintended consequences. At least two deaths have been linked so far to those participating in the challenge. For more information about this unforeseen danger, visit www.tropnews.com to view the full story.

Troy alumnus, mayor reminisces

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

Mayor Jason Reeves of Troy may have settled close to home, but he has come a long way since his time at Troy University and as president of the Student Government Association.

Like students currently enrolled at Troy, Reeves spent his time living in the dorms, hanging out with his friends and getting involved in extracurricular activities.

Originally from Troy, Reeves began as a traditional student in 1990. Becoming a non-traditional student in 1995, Reeves ran for City Council a year later and served four terms.

He graduated from Troy in 2001 with a degree in criminal justice and took office as mayor of Troy in November 2012.

“You may think that Troy is some place you are stopping off at in the journey, but Troy will be a part of the rest of your life.”

“At that time, I had planned to go to law school, and I thought that if I left town for school and then went to law school, I might never come back,” Reeves said, explaining his decision to remain in his hometown for his college degree.

As a student, Reeves made the most of the opportunities available to him.

“I was very involved on campus,” he said.

First serving as president of his fraternity, Reeves was then SGA senator and later SGA president for the 1994-1995 year. He also served on several committees.

“I guess I started to decide that if I was going to spend my time and energies on things, that I needed to be part of the decision-making process to do that,” Reeves said in regard to his involvement with school politics.

Reeves' SGA presidential platform focused on similar goals to current SGA President Matt Thompson's platform.

“We tried to make the SGA more responsive to the students,” he said.

Given time to reflect, Reeves had several observations from his time in college that could apply to students today.

“You don't realize it at the time, but the opportunity to spend the majority of your time learning is something you'll

look back on and wish you had done more of,” he said.

He goes on to explain the important relationship between Troy University and the city of Troy, and the ways in which they support each other.

“The university has such a huge impact on the economy and the quality of life of the city,” he said. “I think that my interaction there and learning things from people and learning about the university has helped me a great deal in my public service career.”

“Get involved in organizations on campus, in the community,” Reeves continued. “It's very important. You may think that Troy is some place you are stopping off at in the journey, but Troy will be part of the rest of your life. A lot of people think, ‘I don't really need to be involved,’ but if Troy does not grow as a community, what's that going to do to your degree?”

“Twenty years from now when you're trying to get a job, your degree from Troy will not be what it was when you were there, but what Troy is 20 years from now. So, if you can help improve the community, that will pay dividends for the rest of your life.”

Reeves also went into detail about forthcoming improvements for the city that might interest students.

Concerning the draft beer debate, Reeves said, “I think that is something that students have wanted for a long time.”

Developments are also in the works to improve the downtown squares of the city, making the area “a destination for entertainment and shopping for students.”

Reeves concluded with some final words of advice for students, saying: “Find ways to enjoy yourself. Learn. Learn how to learn. And work hard. That's so cliché but most people get opportunities because they work hard at it — that's one thing that hasn't changed.”



Contributed photo

Mayor Reeves discusses his years on Troy's campus and what he has accomplished since graduating.

SUBWAY

SUMMER BBQ

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

APPLEWOOD PULLED PORK

Troy diversity from a non-religious student's viewpoint

Amber Richards
Contributor

It is important for people of all backgrounds and beliefs to exchange their ideas freely in situations where they are comfortable. Creating a safe, judgment-free environment will encourage diversity on campus. That being said, it is important to understand what diversity means.

True diversity can only exist when there is no established norm. If a particular worldview or faith is seen as the standard and everything else is seen as deviant, students and faculty who fall outside of the norm can feel that their beliefs are undervalued. Unless everyone's choices are equally valued, true diversity cannot exist.

Troy University is a public university, meaning that no particular faith can be established as a guideline for campus life. In an institution of higher learning, the freedom to live with any set of values allows students to interact with diverse sections of the student population. This means that education about the human experience can take place, in real time, outside of the classroom. Furthermore, researching an idea is always an option.

However, if students are not comfortable with hearing or discussing a particular idea, their right not to participate should be respected. No one side is owed an audience, and pressing a system of belief onto an unwilling person does not celebrate diversity. If a student is willing to hear, maybe even engage in a conversation or debate about differing values, that is the student's choice. Choice is

a key component of diversity because it allows for everyone's voices on any particular subject to be heard, not just those of the majority. Our campus is an incredible amalgamation of faiths, lifestyles, nationalities and personalities. Any students willing to experience these diversities, objectively, are sure to learn more about the world and themselves.

Differences should not be seen as an opportunity to change or challenge a person's values or to tell them that they are wrong. To hail any system of belief as the only one that is correct undermines the very notion of diversity. Students and faculty members do not have the right to impose their values onto anyone on campus, nor do they have the right to devalue them or punish them for not sharing their beliefs.

As a non-religious person living in the South, I find that my feelings and beliefs are attacked with incredible frequency. That being said, I never open up any interaction, especially those in which I find myself in a position of authority, with an introduction of my spiritual convictions. Only those close to me, or those who have agreed to participate in agreed-upon circumstances, are aware of my feelings on most religious matters. I do not think that people should have to live with their feelings under wraps. However, I do think that we should all treat our differences with respect and as an important factor in what makes each human a unique individual. Embracing these differences does not mean that a person must change his or her existing values and beliefs; it only means that such changes are not being asked of anyone.

“True diversity can only exist when there is no established norm.”



Brenna Patrick photo

Cristina Rodriguez, a freshman graphic design major from El Salvador, working out at Trojan Fitness Center.

Student shares journey with fitness, self-worth

Faith Karwacki
Contributor

In the past eight months, I have gone from living an unhealthy, sedentary lifestyle to maintaining an active, healthy lifestyle. With this change, I have lost 40 pounds from my heaviest weight and progressed from barely jogging or walking one mile to registering for my first half-marathon, finding a love for strength training, and learning how to have a healthy relationship with wholesome, nutritious foods.

People ask me whether or not I participated in any sort of highly restrictive diet or if I spent my days counting calories or planning meals, and they are usually taken aback when I tell them that I haven't counted a single calorie throughout this journey.

Instead, I focused on why I had such an unhealthy relationship with food in the first place.

I asked myself why I would turn to sweets when I felt emotionally distressed, and I began to research how having a diet high in wholesome foods helped patients who suffered from anxiety and depression.

I decided to make several changes. I cut out the people in my life who I felt were too negative and hurtful to my personal progress, I quit a job that had been causing me stress, I found a new apartment to live in, and I started buying

and preparing whole foods.

Another question many people tend to ask is “What does your boyfriend think of the change?”

I did not do this for him. As a couple, we have a deeper connection than physical attraction and, to be frank, I find the question to be a little insensitive as it implies that he had a problem with my figure or that my weight was a determining factor in whether or not our relationship would remain strong.

Questions like this enforce the unhealthy standards society sets us to regarding our physical health.

We are constantly bombarded with advertisements sending highly mixed messages. We are taught to have an emotional and unhealthy relationship with food, yet our self-worth is determined by the number we see when we step onto a scale; we are unlovable if we don't maintain a certain weight.

Men are told that their self-worth is quantified by their masculinity and how strong they can prove themselves to be, whether by their performance in the weight room or by how stoic their actions are in the face of tragedy. Women are quite a different story, however. From an early age, we are encouraged to look pretty by maintaining a thin frame. When we choose to go on a “fitness journey,” we are told “get thin, but not too thin,” “have curves, but not too many curves,” “lift weights to get toned, but don't lift too heavy or get too muscular.” It is not hard to understand why it is so difficult for women to live a healthy, active lifestyle.

As a woman speaking to other women who want to go on such a journey, I feel the most important bit of advice that I can give you is to do this for yourself. Do not do it because you think you need validation from a partner. Do not do it because you hate your body. Do not do it because of the arbitrary standards society places on a woman's body. Do it because you owe it to yourself to discover how empowering it feels to be healthy and strong. Do it because you deserve to have a healthy relationship with food and to love the food you can prepare for yourself or have prepared for you.

Not everyone enjoys waking up at 5 a.m. on a Saturday to bust out seven miles: Zumba, swimming, strength training, biking, climbing trees, yoga, you name it. Find an activity that makes you happy. Finding a healthy activity that you enjoy will help you stick to a fitness routine better than forcing yourself through an activity you dread facing every day. Adopt a lifestyle that complements your strengths and encourages you to express them.



Seth Nicholson

EDITORIAL POLICIES

As Troy University's official student newspaper, the Tropolitan strives to serve student interests. The Opinion 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. The opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of Troy University or the Hall School of Journalism and Communication.

Editorials stand as the official, corporate opinion of the

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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 fa-

vorable 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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FOX graphic

'Gotham' has potential

Chase Robinson
Editor-In-Chief

Great Batman stories are about archetypes and morality. Batman, a symbol of fear, justice and vengeance, faces off against mad men in tights to protect the innocent and do what the police can't or won't.

Gotham City exists in relation to this extreme figure. Sometimes Batman is the only sane man fighting the city's chaotic underbelly. Sometimes he's one more mad man in tights.

FOX's "Gotham" is set before the Caped Crusader starts fighting crime. Instead we're left with a duo of Gotham's finest: a young Jim Gordon, played by Ben McKenzie, and Harvey Bullock, played by Donal Logue.

McKenzie's Gordon is a war hero turned cop, bent on pulling up Gotham's deep-rooted corruption. Logue's Bullock is a cynical veteran cop who's all-too comfortable with the often-criminal status quo.

The pilot is a fun watch, but its balance falters. The series makes numerous references to the history of Batman, and jokes reminiscent of the Adam West series slip into scenes that would otherwise be right at home in Nolan's theatrical trilogy.

Jada Pinkett Smith stole every scene she was in as crime boss Fish Mooney. Mooney is reminiscent of Eartha Kitt's Catwoman, though more real and much

more dangerous.

David Mazouz plays a grave young Bruce Wayne, a convincing start for the future Dark Knight.

Occasionally, McKenzie's Gordon is given lines that are too grand or philosophical for the scene. An otherwise plainspoken character suddenly sounds like a bad excuse for Shakespeare.

Logue's Bullock seems to alternate between brooding pessimist and wisecracking cynic. Bullock is in turns overconfident, lazy, short-tempered and drunk. It seems the writers haven't quite decided what to do with him yet, but Logue plays all these parts well.

It's Robin Lord Taylor's Oswald Cobblepot, who rages at being called "the Penguin," who reminds us this is a Batman story, even if Batman is still a child. Cobblepot delights in petty villainy. From the time he appears on screen, Cobblepot's veneer of subservience is rubbing thin. Cobblepot is exactly the kind of psychopath that it takes the Batman to deal with.

"Gotham" is cleanly put together and easy on the eyes. However, Fish Mooney's headquarters seem to be the only sets with real personality.

Gotham is no stranger to crime, but, as Carmine Falcone, the criminal kingpin played by John Doman, reminds us, there are rules. Never fans of these rules, Gordon and Cobblepot seem bent on changing them, but it will take more than

a rookie cop and a psychopath in a suit to fight the status quo.

The success of "Gotham" relies on McKenzie. McKenzie's first showing fell a little flat; at times he's too intense, too hardened and then suddenly too naïve.

If he can convince audiences that Gordon is more than a man holding down the fort until Batman arrives, "Gotham" has a chance.

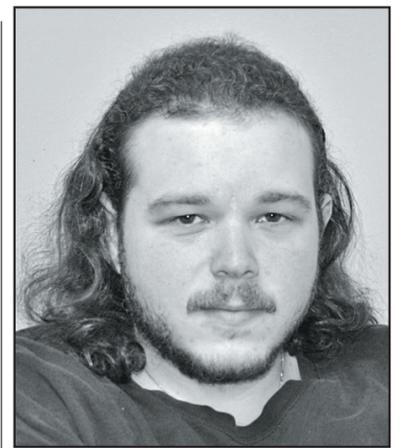
On that same note, "Gotham" needs to surprise us. The familiar story is that Thomas and Martha Wayne were murdered in an alley and for a decade or more, Gotham slides further and further into a world of crime until Bruce Wayne dons the mantle of the Batman and saves the day.

"Gotham" exists in that decade or more of incredible decline, and it's hard to see how Gordon can come out of that a true hero.

"Gotham" may also struggle with the large personalities of its fledgling super villains. Gordon's own personality will have to be big enough to spearhead the fight.

"Gotham" is fun; it's dark, sometimes funny, and it's poised to become a thought-provoking series. It's a police procedural in a world where the inmates run the asylum, but can it make that angle work?

"Gotham" premieres Monday, Sept. 22, on FOX.



PAX shows more content for expectant gamers; new 3DS revealed

Devin Holmes
Columnist

PAX Prime, the Penny Arcade Expo, just took place over the Labor Day weekend, and what better time to have a three-day weekend (for some of us) than one that is packed full of exciting game info.

First up to bat is some downloadable content for "Saints Row 4; Saints Row Gat Out of Hell."

If you have ever played a Saints Row game you know its motto is go big or go home, and that nothing is too crazy to put into its game.

They have successfully done this again in "Gat Out of Hell" by having Satan kidnap the president and forcing him to marry his daughter, Jezebel.

Next, "Borderlands: The Pre-Sequel" has been confirmed to eventually receive four packs of DLC after its release.

If these DLC releases are anything like "Tiny Tina's Assault on Dragon Keep," which was in "Borderlands 2," they will include a ton of new guns and tons of shenanigans to get yourself into, which is exactly what you will play this game for.

Capcom's dungeon crawler, "Deep Down," had a small spotlight at PAX this year.

Even though it isn't a new title, not much has been heard about this game in a year.

The game looks like a less customizable version of its own "Dark Souls."

Even though Capcom hasn't been on the ball recently, this game could have some promise.

"Mortal Kombat X" finally got some gameplay footage shown at PAX and this game is, if nothing else, violent.

Mortal Kombat has been known through the years for the bloodshed and "brutality" that its games are packed full of. This game does not disappoint.

It is too early to say for sure, but this game may go above and beyond its predecessors.

Finally the release that made the biggest wave in the pool is the "New Nintendo 3DS."

With an upgraded processor, a new design, and a better screen for 3D, this seems to be every hand held gamer's dream.

It also eliminates the need for the Circle Pad Pro addition to the current 3DS.

But with all of the fancy "improvements" come a few drawbacks.

This is basically a new system.

With the improved processor, games created for the new 3DS, such as the upcoming Xenoblade Chronicles, will not be playable on the older 3DS models.

How is this different from any other time a new system has come out?

It isn't, except we got the 3DS in 2011, only three years ago.

The original DS was released in 2004, and that is a seven-year difference in handheld generations.

Have we really already gotten our money's worth out of our regular 3DSs to justify getting a new 3DS? Maybe, and then again maybe not.

The new "Super Smash Brothers" is still being released on the current 3DS, and that is all we really need for the time being.

New Doctor shows dangerous side

Chase Robinson
Editor-In-Chief

Peter Capaldi's version of the Doctor on "Doctor Who" is still taking his first steps. The first episode of Series 8 of the revival premiered Saturday, Aug. 23.

Since the British series premiered in 1963, there have been 13 incarnations of the Doctor, an alien capable of regenerating into a new body. Capaldi's Doctor is the latest incarnation, though he's considered the 12th Doctor due to a series of plot twists.

The Doctor travels time and space in a ship called the TARDIS that, due to a longstanding malfunction, appears as a blue British police box. Usually along for the ride are one or two of the Doctor's companions, most recently Jenna Coleman's Clara Oswin Oswald.

This Doctor seems to be struggling with his identity and trying to figure out just how far he'll go to protect the universe.

The first episode, "Deep Breath," begins with the TARDIS being vomited up by a tyrannosaurus rex in the middle of the Thames in London. Capaldi keeps the episode afloat as the Doctor struggles with his chaotic and confused identity.

Despite strong performances, and an interesting premise, "Deep Breath," written by showrunner Steven Moffat, struggles to find its center. The episode harkens back to one of Moffat's previous "Doctor Who" episodes: "The Girl in the Fireplace."

As the 12th Doctor struggles with his identity, the episode struggles to synthesize Victorian London, lost robots that use humans for spare parts, and the tyrannosaurus rex.

The wild mash of themes and elements is similar to some of

the high-energy romps seen during Matt Smith's tenure as the Doctor, but Capaldi just doesn't fit.

The second episode, which premiered Saturday, Aug. 30, sees Capaldi truly settling into the role of the Doctor.

The Doctor and Clara find themselves shrunk down to repair a sick Dalek, one of the Doctor's recurring enemies.

The Daleks are programmed to be xenophobic killing machines, but this Dalek has turned his rage against his own kind due to severe damage.

Capaldi reveals his Doctor to be far more callous than many previous incarnations, shrugging off three deaths in the course of an hour.

We see him falter, though, when he reveals his mind to the Dalek and the Dalek finds a deep-seated hatred for his kind.

Capaldi's Doctor is refreshingly introspective, more aware and frightened of his flaws than Matt Smith's portrayal, but the 12th Doctor still has the power to keep audiences guessing.

Introduced in the second episode is Danny Pink, veteran, schoolteacher and possibly a companion for the Doctor. Pink, played by Samuel Anderson, may put on a tough front for his students, but he is quickly revealed to be sensitive, kind and haunted by his past as a soldier.

Michelle Gomez provides what is likely to be a long-term mystery in her role as Missy. It's still unclear as to who or what Missy is; an announcement from June calls the character "the Gatekeeper of the Nethersphere." She's appeared in both episodes welcoming people to heaven or paradise.

The next episode is scheduled to air Saturday, Sept. 6, at 7 p.m. on BBC America.

<p>9/5-11 Continental Cinemas Student Discount with ID Tickets Available @ kiosk In The Trojan Center & Theatre</p>	<p>TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES A SPY IS NEVER OUT OF THE GAME</p>	<p>THE NOVEMBER MAN FENICE BRIDGEMAN LEEA BRACLET 1:00, 4:00 7:00, 9:35 R</p>
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The **Tropolitan staff** meets every Thursday night at 5:30 p.m. in room 107 of Wallace Hall.

All students are welcome!

How do I become a Tropper?

We're glad you asked. Let us begin by saying not everyone is cut out from the same sterling Tropolitan mold. If you think you are, though, we want you on our team. Also, we have candy.

Sound of the South gears up for the season

Valario Johnson
Staff Writer

Troy University's Sound of the South marching band is rated as one of the top college bands in the Southeastern region, but current members said that without the sacrifice, dedication and leadership from everyone involved, the band's success is not possible.

Jeremy Burgess, a sophomore history education major from Enterprise, said that he has always had a passion for the musical arts. "I thoroughly enjoyed the band program at my high school," he said. "So when I decided to come to Troy, I had always heard good things about the Sound of the South, so it seemed natural to join. Plus, the scholarship doesn't hurt."

The scholarship amounts for individuals person vary based on talent, with the minimum award equaling \$325, which, if you are an instrumentalist, you automatically qualify for. However, with the acceptance of this money, all scholarship recipients are expected to perform at their best, even in smoldering heat during band camp.

"Band camp is hell," said Cinnamon Wilson, a senior nursing major from Troy and a fourth-year trumpeter. "There is no nicer way to put it, but it is a vital part in making the SOTS the best band this side of the Mason-Dixon line."

Band camp usually ranges from the Tuesday or Wednesday of the week before the start of the fall semester until that Sunday, with rehearsals ranging from about 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily, on average, with meal breaks scattered throughout.

Burgess, a second-year band member, said that band camp this year was "hot!" Yet, he understands that this type of hard work is necessary.

"(It's) some of the most fun you never want to have," Burgess said. "We need it, though, because it establishes the basis for marching each year and allows a lot of work to get done in a short amount of time."

Though Burgess said that band camp is the most difficult part, he said, "If you get through camp, nothing else should bother you the rest of the season."

Great success, however, requires exceptional leadership, which, Wilson said, is abundant throughout the program. "The leadership this year is great," she said. "Dr. Walker did a great job choosing section leaders and band officers, and he does an exceptional job leading the band."

"The office staff, graduate assistants and Amanda Taylor are essential," said Mark Walker, director of bands. Walker said that Taylor serves as an administrative assistant, while the graduate students can serve, in full capacity, as assistant band directors. "The band could get along without me, but it couldn't without them," he said.

The implementation of great leadership translates into successful performances and public appearances, which rings true, from the apparent gratitude of the SOTS's fans. "My favorite moments absolutely have to be the



Jennifer Carlisle photo

The Sound of the South practices at the band field for the first home game of the football season.

crowd's reaction to the fanfare," Wilson said.

She said that many times after a performance, people would come up to her and congratulate her on a great performance and express to her how much they love the band. "In general, being in the SOTS makes me feel like a superstar," she said.

Each Thursday night, the SOTS and its staff have a dress rehearsal that is all but ordinary. Wilson said that Thursday theme nights are when each section dresses up in some type of obnoxious get-up.

"So you'll come to band and be surrounded by drag queens, frat boys, or even ninja turtles," Burgess said.

Allie Bowen, a junior sport and fitness management major from McDonough, Georgia, and a third-year horn player, said that she loves Thursday theme night because while theme night can get a little crazy, "it shows unity within each section and as a band."

Just as theme night serves as tradition, home games bring even more. Like many other college bands across the country, the Sound of the South members start the game day out bright and early, fine-tuning the pre-game performance, the stand tunes, and the halftime show.

"I personally like Saturday morning practices," Bowen said. "It calms me down because I get so nervous on game day."

The morning rehearsal starts off with a good stretch, in a block-style formation. Following stretches, the remaining interval between rehearsal and the game is filled with crowd-pleasing music and pep rallies.

The SOTS pre-game is a Trojan tradition that begins

with band members circling the "bowl," which is the general admissions section behind the goalpost. This is followed by the horde of band members furiously running down the steps to the field.

This being her first pre-game performance, Angela King, a freshman music major from Panama City Beach, Florida, and a first-year trumpeter, said she is excited but is expecting to fall down the steps while running down alongside her fellow band members.

The game starts, the halftime show is performed and the game ends. Win or lose, the day continues on for the Sound of the South members, as the band heads to the field for a final performance known as the post-game show. The band forms into arcs and plays multiple tunes and, sometimes, multiple shows.

To end the day, the band sings Troy University's alma mater and performs part of the fanfare, both home game traditions. Each rehearsal or performance ends with a call to attention, a furious chanting of "T-R-O-Y" and a single, loud burst of "Break!"

"I am so proud to be a part of something so wonderful and loved," Wilson said.

"Everyone is a big family, and we all seem to love each other," King said. "It's just awesome."

"It's a lot of hard work and time commitment, but it has been a very positive experience," Burgess said.

Students can experience the Sound of the South spirit and traditions this Saturday, as the band opens up the fall season with "Americana," a halftime show tribute to America.

College: A whole new ball game

Lilly Casolaro
Staff Writer

College is like technology. There are so many opportunities, figuring out where to start can be overwhelming. There is no set pattern or track. Each person is aiming for the same goal, yet the way to achieve this goal is not universal.

With pursuing that ambition comes independence in determining how to reach it. No longer are parents holding your hands, nor reminding you to complete assignments or get to school on time.

When Christian Carlton, a freshman history major from Brewton, was in high school, his parents encouraged him to succeed. In college, he said, his scholarship pushes him to do his best, but the lessons his parents taught him are still with him.

"Having my parents motivate me in high school forced me to prove to myself that I could make good grades, maintain my scholarship, and just succeed in general without them right there with me," he said.

The high school bubble leaves little room for personal exploration or discovery. Students in high school are largely participating in the same pattern of taking the ACT, applying for colleges, completing scholarship applications, and anticipating graduation.

College, however, presents limitless opportunities. From classes to community service, college offers a broad yet individualized approach to connect with others. The flexibility and responsibility that come with choosing one's classes allow one to home in on personal interests while fulfilling academic expectations.

High school is consumed with thoughts, chatter and anticipation of events, such as prom and ball games. The hallways are filled with fliers and

announcements of the next production or club meeting. Whispers and snickers fill the classrooms as students gossip over who is dating whom or which athlete will be the next MVP (most valuable player). While such chatter may seem harmless, it can lead to the creation of a competitive environment revolving around cliques and self-image rather than boosting individuality and promoting connections with those who have similar interests.

Conversely, with a focus on the individual and his or her personality or qualities, college takes on an atmosphere of acceptance and inclusiveness that high school lacks. There is no extreme social pressure forcing you to identify with one group or the other. College rather allows integration, exploration and involvement in a variety of endeavors. With more than 100 organizations on campus, there is bound to be an option that is appealing and satisfying.

For Julia Orcutt, a freshman physical education major from Helena, that option was the marching band. "I really wanted to be in band in high school, but we didn't have a band," Orcutt said. She wanted to try something she had never done before and found support and new friends from fellow band members.

The mindset, especially evident at Troy University, is centered on the relationships one is able to build with others.

"I am a shy person, but college encourages me to be more open," said Alanna Chatman, a freshman business major from Talladega. Chatman said she attended Welcome Week activities and on-campus events that helped her make new friends.

She initiated introductions and conversations with new students that she otherwise would not have in high school, due to the accepting and welcoming nature of the student body in college.

Daily, you see students mingling in the dining hall, holding doors open for

one another, exercising on the quad, and participating in campus activities, all to build connections and relationships with fellow Trojans.

This type of relationship building is evident on the high school level, but the motivations that compel such interactions are not as meditated and intentional as in college.

"One of the reasons higher education persists and is popular is that people consciously or unconsciously see it as a place that their children will make long-term relationships with the right sort of people," said Alan Dahl, a sociology

adjunct. "It's the function of college as a place to build social networks."

The dynamics that drive high school and college students differ in their overall mindsets and attitudes. High school students concentrate on fitting in, whereas college students are about singularity and more focused on networking through relationships, whether for personal gain or for selfless motives.

Troy University exhibits a balanced environment where students are readily encouraged to adapt and engage in a variety of enhancing activities while maintaining personal interests.

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Troy volleyball season starts and soars

Wally Pendergrass
Staff Writer

The Trojan volleyball team is off to its best start in years under head coach Sonny Kirkpatrick. The team went 3-1 in the Big Orange Bash in Clemson, South Carolina, over the weekend and defeated previously undefeated Southern Miss on Monday, Sept. 1, in Trojan Arena, starting the season with a 4-1 record.

Troy started the Big Orange Bash with a couple of 3-0 victories over Austin Peay and UNC Asheville. Senior outside hitter Maria Zelenovic, who had 16 kills and a .481 attack percentage against Austin Peay, led the Trojans.

"I couldn't be more proud of this team," Kirkpatrick said. "We had two total team wins today. We've got some things to clean up for tomorrow, but I really like our focus and intensity today."

The Trojans would take a close 3-2 win over USC Upstate before losing to Clemson 3-1. In the win over USC Upstate, the Trojans would overcome a 2-1 deficit and win the fourth and fifth sets to take the match. Junior outside hitter Blair Winston led the Trojans in that game, as she finished with 14 kills and a .440 attack percentage.

The Trojans would start strong against the Clemson Tigers, winning the first set. However, Troy then gave up three straight sets and lost the match 3-1. Winston led the team in kills with 13 and in total attacks with 39, but she also led the team with 10 errors. Zelenovic had 10 kills, 36 total attacks and seven errors.

Both Zelenovic and Winston made the Big Orange Bash All-Tournament Team. Zelenovic finished the tournament with 52 kills, 129 total attacks and a 3.47 k/s ratio. Winston had 44 kills, 103 total attacks, and a 2.93 k/s ratio. Junior Tineile Waggoner finished the tournament with 101 assists.

On Labor Day, the volleyball team had revenge on its mind. The Trojans hosted the Southern Miss Eagles, who swept the Trojans 3-0 last year in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on their home court.

The Trojans returned the favor as they swept the previously unbeaten Eagles 3-0. The Trojans now have a record of 4-1.

Troy won the first and third set by six and four points respectively, but the second set was a tightly contested set that the Trojans would win 27-25.

Winston led the team with 12 kills, but Zelenovic had a better attack percentage at .333. Junior setter Tineile Waggoner added 28 assists in the match.

"I don't think we came out and played as well as we did last weekend, but it's a great win," Kirkpatrick said. "The crowd was phenomenal. I couldn't be more thankful."

The Trojans will host the Trojan Invitational this Thursday and Friday. Troy will play Mercer on Thursday night, Sept. 4, at 7 p.m.

The Trojans also play Alabama A&M at noon on Friday, Sept. 5, and they wrap up the tournament that night at 7 p.m. against Jacksonville State.



April Irvin photo

Junior defensive specialist Ali Dowdall led the team in digs, with a total of 16 during the game against Southern Miss on Monday, Sept. 1.

Trojan soccer home streak is on a roll

Michael Shipma
Staff Writer

The Troy soccer team came away with two wins this weekend during the first half of the Trojan Classic, beating Kennesaw State 1-0 and Tennessee Tech 3-0. The two wins extended the Trojans' current win streak to three, and brought their home record to 3-0 so far this season.

The Trojans (3-2-0) came out on fire in the tournament and were able to score early in the opening match against Kennesaw State on Friday, Aug. 29.

The Owls (1-2-1) were able to regroup and maintain the majority of the possession, but they were unable to score. Despite getting six shots off in the game, none were on goal, giving Trojan freshman goalkeeper Mikki Lewis the shutout without a single save on the night.

Junior midfielder Alissa Jones scored in the sixth minute to give the Trojans the early lead, and thanks to the defensive pressure from the Trojans, it was all they needed.

"We wanted to start fast," Troy head coach Jason Hamilton said. "That was the message during pregame and



Caitlin Collins photo

Sophomore forward Annabell Simpson, right, assisted junior midfielder Alissa Jones in scoring the only goal in the game against Kennesaw State on Friday, Aug. 29. The Trojans play the Gardner-Webb Runnin' Bulldogs at Boiling Springs, North Carolina, on Friday, Sept. 5. Troy returns home on Friday, Sept. 12, to play the Jacksonville State Gamecocks.

halftime. We knew it was going to be a battle. When you have a one-goal lead in a game that is tight, it's going to be physical. We had to be ready for that and we're happy with how we finished that game out."

The Trojans continued their success in the Trojan Classic by recording another win Sunday afternoon, besting Tennessee Tech 3-0. Troy dominated the Golden Eagles (0-3) on all fronts, and finished the first portion of the Trojan Classic with a solid win at home.

Troy's offense was lively throughout the match, getting off 12 shots and scoring three times. Jones scored her fourth goal of the season in the 20th minute off an assist from senior defender Georgia Wallis, to put Troy up early in the match.

Twelve minutes later, junior midfielder Jasmine Fahrnbauer headed in a corner kick to score her first goal of the season, putting Troy in control by halftime 2-0.

Jones almost scored her second goal of the match during the second half, but it was called back when the referee raised his flag to signal that she was offside.

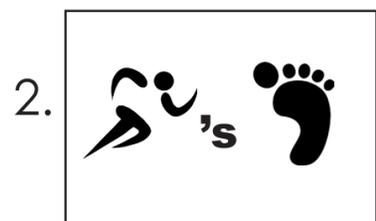
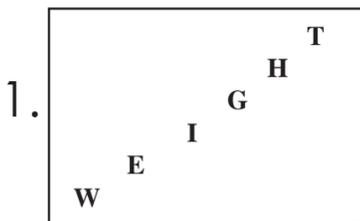
"I want to look at the film and see it

See Soccer, page 7

Word Games

How to play:

Each of these word games represents a sports saying or is related to sports in some way. Think literally to solve. Answers are in the lower right corner



Solutions

- 1. Weightlifting
- 2. Athlete's foot
- 3. Corner kick
- 4. Sin bin

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