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TROPOLITAN

Troy University's Official Student Newspaper

Vol. 88, Issue 05 www.TropNews.com September 11, 2014

Sexual assault spotlighted

Offense a growing problem on college campuses



April Irvin photo

Ashley DeCruize, a junior biomedical sciences major from Atlanta, supports those who have been sexually assaulted. "I feel sexual assault is inhuman," DeCruize said. "Sexual assault is a serious crime that shouldn't be taken lightly. For someone to force themselves on someone else is completely barbaric."

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

protocol for working with local police in these cases.

The scene is all too common. It is emblazoned across the screen as you flip through TV channels, landing on a crime show; it lights up an entire theater with the images of a "classic" college party. It is as easily found in movies and television as it is in real life.

A woman is walking to her car alone late at night, engulfed in shadows between streetlights; the click of her heels is rapidly increasing. A woman is led away from the party, red Solo cup in hand, swaying.

However it is portrayed and no matter the circumstances under which it occurs, sexual assault is a serious crime that is quickly becoming a national issue for college campuses.

Columbia University senior Emma Sulkowicz has gained the nation's attention; she carries her mattress with her for as long as her alleged attacker remains on campus.

At the same time, a bill, The Campus Accountability and Safety Act, is currently going through Congress. It is designed to help to advocate for victims' rights and collect more accurate numbers for this underreported offense.

The bill, if passed, will call for national confidential surveys of college students, to get more accurate numbers of assaults occurring on individual campuses. It would also force colleges to adhere to certain disciplinary actions concerning assaults, make schools appoint an official adviser to coordinate services and provide guidance, and require campus police departments to set up a

There are already several laws in effect on college campuses designed to regulate the handling of sexual assault cases.

One of the most prominent on Troy's campus is the Clery Act, which forces colleges to maintain transparency in regards to the crimes that are reported on campus, making the statistics visible to the public to see.

"We get audited by the Department of Education every so often," said Chief of University Police John McCall. "They pull our reports and make sure that everything jibes. If it doesn't, we're subject to a big penalty."

McCall went on to say that if a school's Clery Report is wrong, it is possible that the school could lose its federal student loan and financial aid programs.

"It's very important for me that my Clery Report is accurate," McCall said.

Troy's report is viewable both online and in the Oracle student handbook. It includes all crimes, not just those related to sexual offenses.

In regard to sexual assault, McCall said, "If that crime comes across our desk, that will be the No. 1 priority. Any crime against a person we feel is extremely serious, and we will try to solve that case to the best of our ability."

McCall also mentioned that if there is a case of a violent attack or an attacker who has not been apprehended, an SOS message will go out to everyone on campus. This will allow students to be aware and take the appropriate

See **Assault**, page 3

SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS



On Campus Forcible Sex Offenses per Year

	2009	2010	2011	2012
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA Total Enrollment: 34,852	1	9	3	7
AUBURN UNIVERSITY Total Enrollment: 24,864	N/A	1	1	1
TROY UNIVERSITY Total Enrollment: 23,290*	0	0	0	1

*Troy University enrollment information from 2012.

Source: Clery report/Taylor Bowser graphic

Workout for clean water

Kianna Collins

Arts and Entertainment Editor

Right now, 783 million people do not have access to clean water, but one event is trying to change that, little by little.

WOD for Water will have its third annual event at Troy University this Saturday. WOD stands for "Workout of the Day," a CrossFit term for daily exercises.

This event spawned from a Birmingham organization called "Neverthirst," which provides clean water for those in India, South Sudan and Cambodia.

"Not only do they meet the urgent physical needs, but also the spiritual needs," said Jason Jones, director of WOD for Water. "They also share the gospel of Jesus."

WOD for Water is similar to a 5K, where people pay to run, but here, people pay to work out.

"Because of CrossFit Ilium (the first affiliated CrossFit gym in Troy), every penny we earn goes to Neverthirst," Jones said.



Photo courtesy of Neverthirst

WOD for Water provides clean water for other countries (above). Jason Jones (right), director of WOD for Water, holds a photo of one of the wells Neverthirst installed in India.

The first year of WOD for Water brought in \$16,000 and built six wells. It had an impact on 2,500 people. The second year resulted in \$36,000 and 14 wells.

The reports have not been completed on how many people it affected, but Jones said they may have provided 7,000 people with clean water.

This year, the organization



Caleb Hicks photo

plans to raise \$50,000. Jones said members are confident that they'll blow through that goal. They are also expecting 50 to 100 people to participate in Troy's event this year.

The event is set up so that even beginners can work out. There are different divisions, ranging from

See **WOD**, page 2

Scandal raises privacy concerns

Ngoc Vo
Opinion Editor

The issue of Internet security was questioned after a recent nude photo scandal with Apple Inc.

Private photos of over 100 individuals were stolen and posted on an image-sharing forum on Aug. 31, according to The Guardian. Among the victims are various female celebrities, including Jennifer Lawrence and Kate Upton.

"This is a flagrant violation of privacy," Lawrence's spokesperson said.

Alana Cook, a junior psychology and criminal justice double major at Troy from Grove Hill, said the targeted celebrities could have done more

to protect themselves. However, it seems that they have been victimized and violated repeatedly by thousands of viewers.

"They are not at fault for having exercised their rights to be the subjects of such information and storing that information under a lock," Cook said.

Apple's iCloud and Find My iPhone services were suspected to have a security breach, posing potential vulnerabilities of which hackers can take advantage. These vulnerabilities allow hackers to run a script called s, which repeatedly guesses user passwords until the correct one is recognized. Apple said it fixed the breach.

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LUNCH SPECIALS

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Discussions highlight Muslim culture

Grishma Rimal
Variety Editor

Islam, Shariah and democracy were the topics of deliberation at the “Let’s Talk About It: Muslim Journeys” book discussion series held Tuesday night.

The first of five events was organized by the Troy University library with the theme American Stories, which includes books highlighting the stories of Muslims in the West, a demographic often ignored while studying Islamic and American history.

“Many people have misconceptions here, and hopefully this will bring them to a better understanding of Muslims and their journeys and how it relates to America today,” said Rachel Hooper, business librarian and program coordinator. “And it’s a good chance to discuss these topics.”

The first reading in the series was “The Columbia Sourcebook of Muslims in the United States.” Speaker Aaron Hagler, associate professor of history, led the book discussion on the chapter “Islam and the Challenge of Democracy” written by Khaled Abou El Fadl.

Hagler went on to explain the major question raised in the chapter, which was whether or not Islam and democracy were compatible. According to El Fadl, it can be, as Shariah law is subject to human interpretation and personal choice.

Hagler explained that he chose that particular chapter from the book because he thought it would be the most interesting. “This was a chance to do something that I thought would be a little more theoretical, a little more abstract and allow for hopefully the kind of discussion that did end up happening,” he added.

Hagler said that since Islam has often been misconstrued and some people like to talk about only the extremist and terrorist side of it, it is essential to “shine light on other aspects.”

“It’s very important to remember, especially as we move into a future where Muslims themselves are kind of struggling over who they are and what their religion is, to make sure that we don’t lump them all together,” he said.

Mohammad Abu Ali, a junior accounting and management major from Amman, Jordan, said that he finds tons of prejudice against Muslims, right here at Troy. “People think that Muslims would kill anyone who insults Islam, which is not true,” he said. He recommends students attend these discussions to understand and know enough about Islam and not judge it.

“In a program like this which is so focused on experience, having students who are from the Middle East provides exactly the kind of perspective that we are trying to talk about,” said Hagler. “But it’s more than just origin or ethnicity. It’s about knowledge. It’s about understanding.”

Hagler said that understanding the Muslim population in the West or America specifically can provide a perspective that students may not otherwise have. “Exploring their experience makes us better Americans because these are other Americans or people living in America,” he said.

Lawrence Fogelberg, assistant professor of finance, said that although he thought the discussion was a movement in a good direction and productive, he still has his reservations. “One of my primary objections is to treating Islam just as another religion because it’s not,” he said. “It’s a religion, but it’s also a political ideology.”

“They started the workshop with this article by El Fadl that said Islam and democracy are completely compatible; it’s not. I wish that we had more time (for this discussion).”

“I think it was actually very enlightening considering I didn’t know much about Muslim history,” said Kevin Reaves, a senior computer science major from Greenville. “We have a large Muslim population on campus, so it might help out with some of those stigmas. Also it doesn’t hurt to understand the people around you.”

The program at Troy is a part of a larger project put together by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Library Association called “The Bridging Cultures Bookshelf: Muslim Journeys.”

Of the six themes offered by the Muslim Journeys project, Troy chose the theme “American Stories.”

“We thought it would be good to tie it in with the history department here,” said Hooper. “Religion, sociology, those different areas would just be a good fit with the people we have on campus and the different departments.”

Four other books will be discussed throughout the fall semester with three Troy professors and one guest speaker from Auburn University leading each session. A limited number of these books are available at the library for students.

According to Hooper, the library at the Dothan campus had received a fund from the program a few years ago, and the success of it prompted the Troy campus library to bring it here after receiving a grant for \$1,000.

According to the Muslim Journeys website, the program is currently running in 953 libraries across all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The grant for the project is provided by the Carnegie Corp. of New York.

Privacy

continued from page 1

“We take user privacy very seriously and are actively investigating this report,” said Apple spokeswoman Natalie Kerris to technology news site Re/code.

Apple’s press release on Sept. 2 claimed that the iCloud and Find My iPhone services were not responsible for the recent attack:

“After more than 40 hours of investigation, we have discovered that certain celebrity accounts were compromised by a very targeted attack on user names, passwords and security questions, a practice which has become all too common on the Internet.”

Although this data theft is labeled as a “targeted attack,” anyone can be a victim. With the iBrute program, hackers can get into an account and retrieve photos and information if they have the user name.

However, this password-guessing attack does not break into large numbers of accounts at the same time and steal data. Because hackers have to target an account specifically, celebrities are more likely to become victims.

“Hacking is always illegal,” said Susan Sarapin, assistant professor who has experience teaching and researching mass media law. “And the distribution of stolen intellectual property is not legal, I am sure. Redistributing (such material) is as much of a crime as the original distribution of it.”

Apple refers to a two-factor authentication process as a way to protect users’ accounts from such methods. To log into an account with this process, users are required to use a numerical code and a regular password. Because the number constantly changes and is sent to the user’s phone or another device, it is more difficult for attackers to gain access to the account.



Jennifer Carlisle photo
Megan Donald, a senior physical education major from Foley, spends time on her iPhone between classes. A hacking spree of celebrities’ Apple iCloud accounts has raised concerns as to whether users’ information is safe.

Major future changes for library?

Starbucks and other renovations are possibilities

Jill Odom
Sports Editor

The Student Government Association swore in its 11 new senators for the 2014-2015 academic year.

The new Freshman Forum members were presented at the meeting, and Ashli Morris, freshman broadcast journalism major from Athens, was announced as their president.

Senator Bert Schulingkamp, a sophomore global business major from Auburn, met with the new Dean of Library Services Chris Shaffer to discuss possible hour changes and Shaffer’s plans to update the library.

Shaffer’s plans for the library include having the government documents section on the main floor taken out and turned into databases and putting a Starbucks in its place. The databases will allow more government documents to be on file and provide easier access to students.

“He (Shaffer) said it would actually be a franchised Starbucks, so I would assume that means that it’s going to be a full-blown Starbucks, with gift cards and all,” Schulingkamp said.

Shaffer is also trying to change the library hours. Schulingkamp and Shaffer discussed changing the hours so that on Sunday through Thursday, the library will be open for 24 hours and regular hours for Fridays and Saturdays. If this 24-hour library schedule is approved, there may be a fee taxed to all of the students to pay for the 11 workers who would be needed, which would be around \$20.

The SGA also discussed upcoming service projects sponsored by the office of service learning and civic engagement. The Fall Days of Service are set for Sept. 11-13. These events promote community service in remembrance of 9/11. This is Troy’s fourth year of offering

service projects.

Different projects during the event include painting the Boys and Girls Club, a beautification project at Murphree Park, participating in activities with children at the Head Start Program, working the food pantry at the Salvation Army or cleaning at Sav-A-Life.

Saturday projects will last from 8 a.m. to noon at Habitat for Humanity, the Pioneer Museum and the Noble Manor Senior Center. For students interested in signing up, further information can be found in Eldridge Hall.

The SGA then discussed homecoming, which will be on Oct. 11. There are currently 19 homecoming queen applicants and 31 groups taking part in homecoming this year. Voting for homecoming queen will be Wednesday, Sept. 24, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students can vote in Trojan Center Room 125.

WOD

continued from page 1

beginner to RX. There are male and female divisions as well.

Competitive registration is closed, but beginner registration will be open through the day of the event.

People who do not wish to participate in the event can contribute on WOD for Water’s website (wodforwatertroy.com).

A raffle will be held for a beach trip, provided by Sanders Beach Rentals, in which all participants will be automatically entered.

WOD for Water simulates what it would be like to go through the struggles that people from India, South Sudan and Cambodia go through daily to get clean water.

Common exercises such as push-ups, sit-ups, lunges and squats will incorporate a jerry can, which is a yellow container filled with water. Jerry cans weigh about 40 pounds and are used to transport water from wells far away from homes.

There will be four WODs for all scaled and RX teams, and the top three male and female teams in each of these divisions.

There will also be a walk around the quad for those who want to participate without doing the heavy workouts.

WOD for Water will begin at 8 a.m. on Sept. 13 on the Bibb Graves Quad.

Sports program helping increase event attendance

Josh Richards
Staff Writer

John Hartwell, director of athletics at Troy University, provided more information about the Troy Affinity Program, or TAP, which allows students to earn a certain amount of points for attending athletic events.

“Our whole premise for starting (the program) is to help increase student participation at all of our sporting events,” Hartwell said. “It’s something to get students engaged and excited about our athletic programs, which gives students an opportunity to win anything from visors to T-shirts, all the way up to tuition for a full semester.” This is the program’s second year at Troy University.

Last year’s grand-prize winner, Yingnan Tao, a senior general business major from China, said the program will help increase student involvement at sporting events.

Tao said that the program helped him

experience new sports.

“I never saw football, baseball or softball games even on TV before I came to the US,” Tao said. “Now, I know the basic rules of them, at least. I saw all the sports because I’ve been in Troy since 2011 and I play intramurals like flag football and baseball.”

Tao was awarded a tuition prize valued around \$10,000, which he used to take 18 hours this semester. Tao said the program was “the easiest way to make money in the world.”

“A lot of people go to football games,” Hartwell said. “That’s obviously a big deal. But we want students to be just as excited about soccer or volleyball, too.”

Hartwell said that there has been an increase in student participation and that the program has thus far been successful.

“It’s hard to tell at a football game whether you’ve got 2,800 or 3,100 students there, but at a volleyball or soccer match you can definitely tell a difference when compared to last year.”

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New organizations on campus

Jamie Bennett
Staff Writer

Following the first SGA meeting of the year, both Troy Ultimate Frisbee Club and Troy Voice of Justice are officially recognized as clubs.

Troy Ultimate Frisbee Club is not new to the Troy grounds. Emily Gorden, a sophomore global business major from Alabaster, said: "We have been playing pick-up games for years, but this year we decided to become an official club.

"We want to gain recognition on campus and get people to join. Also, we want to participate in more Southeast tournaments."

Gorden recommends that people interested in joining should bring water

and a glow-in-the-dark T-shirt. Cleats are preferable, but sneakers are fine.

Troy Ultimate Frisbee Club welcomes people without experience. To learn more about Troy Ultimate Frisbee Club and to find the most recent information and updates, look for the Facebook page titled Troy Ultimate.

Troy Ultimate Frisbee Club meets Mondays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. on the new intramural field next to Trojan Arena.

Troy Voice of Justice is also not completely new to the Troy campus. It is a Christian organization dedicated to ending human trafficking and modern slavery.

Angelica Lewis, a sophomore social work major from Troy, said, "We were originally two separate organizations. We

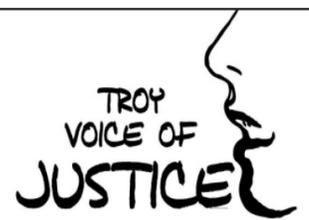
were Stella's Voice on Campus, and Troy International Justice Mission."

"We thought it would be a lot easier to combine them because they were both about international trafficking, since Troy was so small."

Troy Voice of Justice meets every other Thursday. Its next meeting is Sept. 11 in the Trojan Center, room 224, at 6:30 p.m.

This week, a special guest from Moldova will be coming to speak about how Stella's Voice saved her from the sex trade industry.

New members are welcomed, and those who are interested are encouraged to attend.



MEETING SCHEDULE

When:

August 28	October 9	November 20
September 11	October 23	
September 25	November 6	

Where:

TC 224 @ 6:30 p.m.

Sexual Assault by the Numbers

These statistics are gathered from the report produced by the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Financial & Contracting Oversight, at the request of Missouri Senator Claire McCaskill.

- >> According to the Department of Justice, less than **5%** of rape victims attending college report their attack to law enforcement.
- >> **9%** of schools conducted fewer investigations than they reported to the Department of Education.
- >> **20%** of institutions in the national sample provide no sexual assault response training for members of faculty and staff.
- >> More than **30%** do not provide any sexual assault training for students.
- >> About **41%** of schools in the national survey (**6%** of the nation's largest public institutions, where Troy falls) have not conducted a single sexual assault investigation in the past five years.
- >> More than **90%** of institutions state that sexual assault survivors have access to community victim assistance/advocacy programs.
- >> **97%** use expulsion should a student be found to have committed a sexual assault.
- >> **100%** of the nation's largest public institutions reported using the preponderance of the evidence standard (The standard the Department of Education sets to be used in administrative proceedings.)

Source: <http://www.mccaskill.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/SurveyReportwithAppendix.pdf>

Taylor Bowser graphic

Assault

Continued from page 1

precautions for their safety.

In the majority of the cases reported on campus, however, he states that both parties know one another and even those reports are few and far between.

"We average one or two a year that we investigate," McCall said. "We find out that about half of those that were initially reported were not factually accurate."

In regard to the handling of each specific case, both McCall and counselor Fran Scheel made statements on the subject.

"If it is an assault where someone is injured, the first thing we want to do is get medical attention," McCall said.

The best ways to report an assault are to either call 911 or go into the Police Department or Student Counseling Center personally after the attack.

"One of the things that we want students to know is that it is their choice of whether or not they press charges," Scheel said of the Student Counseling

Center and the SAVE Project, which deals with sexual assault. "We do not pressure students. Mainly we offer them support through their ordeal and letting them explore their options."

These options are especially helpful to students who are afraid of the possible repercussions of reporting their attackers but still wish to seek professional help after the incident.

Scheel emphasized that the SCC does encourage students to come forth and file a police report. "We would encourage someone, if they have been sexually assaulted, to report it to law enforcement so the perpetrator is held accountable."

This is helpful in the prevention of repeat attacks and additional victims.

One of the main issues concerning rape is the high number of incidents that go unreported. According to numbers released by the Department of Justice, only 5 percent of sexual crimes committed against college females are reported.

If this is applied to Troy's campus and McCall's numbers, there are an

National Suicide Prevention Week

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

Most college students can recount a story of a friend contemplating suicide or a time in their own lives when depression, and other thoughts, began to form.

Cited as the third leading cause of death among college-aged adults, suicide rates could possibly be reduced through community outreach and education.

The Student Counseling Center is holding a weeklong event in observance of National Suicide Prevention Week.

From Sept. 8-12, the SCC will be taking steps both to draw attention to a serious concern on campus and to educate students more on the topic.

Beginning Monday, 1,000 black flags will be displayed on the North Quad for the entirety of the week.

"They symbolize the lives lost to suicide each year," said Counselor Fran Scheel.

While the SCC was on the Bibb Graves Quad yesterday, Sept. 10, with important information regarding suicide, counselors are always available to talk confidentially about the matter.

The SCC recommends that if a friend is talking about suicide:

- Listen closely without judgment.
- Remain calm. Treat the talk seriously. Show by your tone and manner that you are concerned.

- Genuinely acknowledge the pain and confusion your friend feels.

- Urge your friend to seek professional help. Offer to go along to a crisis center or counseling appointment.

- If the person is in danger, don't leave him or her alone. Remove weapons or other means of self-harm. Call 911. Get someone else to help you.

- Tell a professional about the situation, even if it means breaking confidence. You could be saving a person's life.

If you are contemplating suicide:

- Take it seriously. Treat it as you would severe physical symptoms.

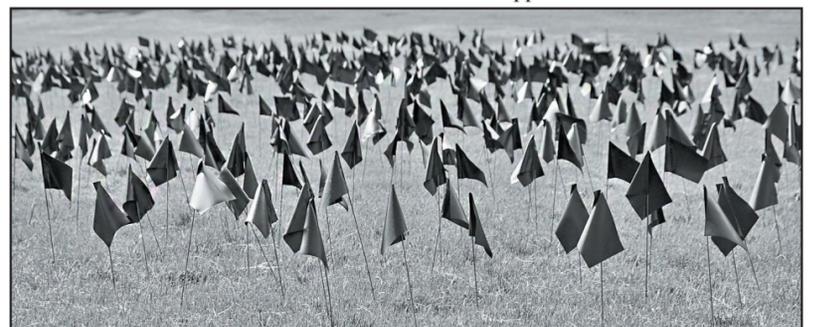
- Don't try to "go at it alone." It can be hard to tell these thoughts to others and ask for help, but it's very important to do so.

- Talk to a mental health professional on campus. Services are free and confidential for all Troy campus students.

- Talk to others who can offer support. Choose people you trust, who won't judge you and will urge you to get appropriate care, such as parents, friends, family, teachers or clergy.

- Avoid alcohol or other drugs. They will increase the risk of you harming yourself.

Students can contact the Student Counseling Center at 334-670-3700 to make an appointment.



April Irvin photo

1,000 black flags placed on the North Quad this week symbolize the college students who commit suicide every year in observance of National Suicide Prevention Week.

average of 19-38 cases of assault that are never reported to the Campus Police Department every year.

Scheel states that one of the main reasons for this discrepancy is the common re-victimization of those that have already been victimized.

"Many times there's the myth that she was asking for it," Scheel said. "Society tends to blame the victim - 'What was she wearing? What was she doing?'"

"'No' means 'no.' It doesn't matter what you were wearing, or if you were flirting or dancing. That person's (the victim's) behavior does not invite or cause rape. If you did not consent to sex and someone took advantage of you and either psychologically or physically forced you, then that is legally rape by law."

While many changes are being made in our justice system, it is clear to Scheel that there also needs to be change in society's opinion and handling of rape.

"It is a highly unreported crime because there are so many fears associated with reporting the crime," Scheel said. "They may feel a sense of shame or embarrassment, or that people will not believe them or that nothing will be done and justice will not be served."

"We don't want to discourage girls from reporting by any means," McCall said about the fears of

victims in admitting to being assaulted. "We want them to come forward so that we can help them."

Until current social stigmas surrounding sexual assault victims are lifted, Scheel said that rape will continue to be a frequently under-reported crime.

On the legal side, she said that it is also common to have students afraid to admit a crime was committed against them because they were under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

"We don't want the fact that they were drinking to stop them from getting help," Scheel said.

She mentioned that if an individual has reached a level of intoxication where he or she is incapacitated, legally he or she is unable to give consent. That will be considered rape in the eyes of the law.

Regardless of the situation, if the victim knew the perpetrator, and whether the victim wishes to press charges, it is suggested that anyone who has experienced a sexual assault on campus go to the Student Counseling Center. The SCC will provide help processing the event, as well as advocacy.

The SCC is located on the edge of campus, across from the Paden House on College Drive. Students can call the center at 334-670-3700 to make an appointment.

If it is a true emergency, students are urged to call 911 or the university police. They are also welcome to go to the Campus Police Department directly to file a report.

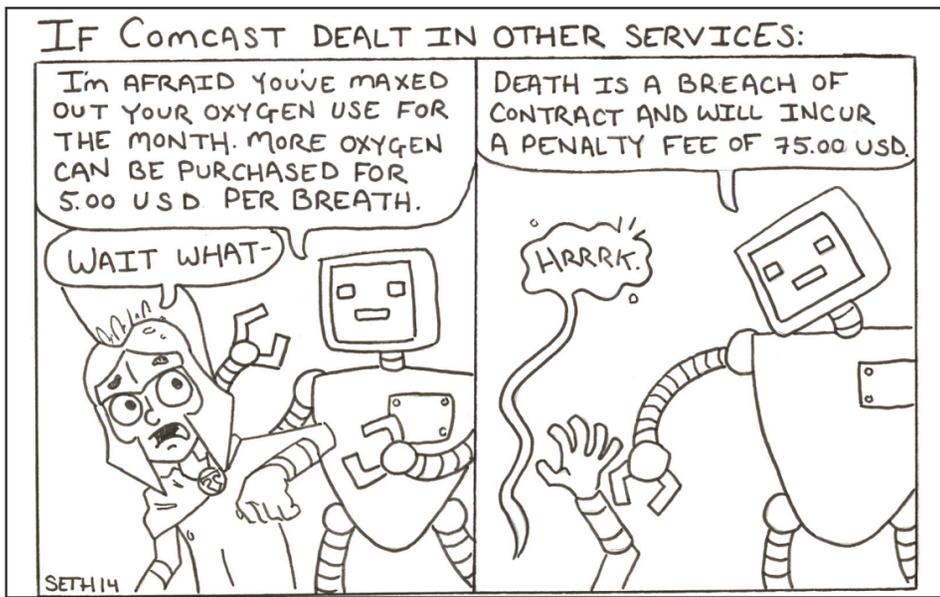
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Seth Nicholson

FCC's proposal may end Net Neutrality, harming customers

Kenneth Tallant
Contributor

I would feel my rights as a customer being violated if my electricity company told me that the electricity used on a Philips brand light bulb would be weaker and cost 5 cents more per watt than it would on ones made by General Electric. Such action from the electricity provider would be absurd, and, in fact, illegal, because the provider is classified as a common carrier.

However, because the Internet has not been recognized as a public utility, you may find yourself in a situation similar to the aforementioned scenario if the Federal Communications Commission adopts the rule to allow Internet service providers to prioritize certain traffic.

After significant lobbying effort and money from cable companies such as Comcast, the proposed rule is likely to authorize ISPs to charge businesses to deliver their content faster than their competitors and charge customers to have "fast-lane" Internet access.

This proposed regulation from the FCC will defeat the principle of net neutrality. Net neutrality means treating all data on the Internet equally. This prevents ISPs from charging differently for the types of content, applications and websites that you choose to use. For instance, it is neither cheaper nor slower to use Facebook than it is to use Yahoo.

What this all would mean for the consumers, if the FCC's proposal is passed, is that for the same download speed, users will be offered the opportunity to purchase "premium" or "plus" Internet service packages at a higher cost.

The more dangerous and long-term effect of this tragic proposal would be that small Internet businesses would no longer be able to compete with larger companies due to not being able to pay the ISPs to stream their services with priority over

another source. Just imagine an Internet where we all still used Myspace because it had more capital early on to give to ISPs to ensure its website loads faster than Facebook.

This creates what is known as a "closed Internet," which is detrimental to the unique aspect of the Internet that allows for anyone with a good idea to get it out to the rest of the world regardless of financial capability.

"What you've been seeing is some lobbying that says that the servers and the various portals through which you're getting information over the Internet should be able to be gatekeepers and to charge different rates to different websites," said Barack Obama during his presidential campaign in 2007. "And that, I think, destroys one of the best things about the Internet—which is that there is this incredible equality there."

The FCC has been considering the decision either to pass the proposal or to legally classify the Internet as a utility service, like electricity, protecting the freedom and opportunity the Internet has always provided consumers with.

The agency has been welcoming public comments for 120 days since May. The 120 days are nearly up, and the deadline will be Sept. 15. There is still time to send in your opinion to the FCC and your local members of Congress.

Many groups have established websites online, notably savetheinternet.com, to inform people on the subject by showing the approximately 10-minute process of making your voice heard. I believe something that you use every day, most likely all day long, is worth 10 minutes of your time to ensure that it is preserved for our use as well as for the use of future generations.

Kenneth Tallant is a junior liberal arts major from Troy.

Student questions SGA's resolution allowing prayer

Opening doors for a religious practice at university-sponsored events further alienates students and poses other problems

Stephanie Clinton
Contributor

Troy University is often referred to as "the international university," stemming from the fact that the student body consists of students from many different countries and cultures. Moreover, students of Troy University have the opportunity to travel and study in many different parts of the world. Despite this seemingly accepting cultural focus, a few of Troy University's policies continue to alienate many students.

With the recently-passed resolution from the Student Government Association, prayers are allowed at any Troy University-sponsored events. While it was communicated that the intention of the resolution was the celebration of diversity and equal representation, the SGA may have failed to recognize some consequences of such action.

I find the resolution disheartening because prayer is a specifically religious practice, and while prayer does not specifically refer to the attempt of communicating with the Judeo-Christian God, it is still the act of attempting to communicate with a god, which alienates students who do not have a religion.

Troy University Secular Student Alliance is a recognized organization on campus that is primarily for atheist and agnostic students. The organization's principle reads: "We believe in the importance of providing a community for open-minded students and promoting tolerance and a civil exchange of ideas. Everyone is welcome." At the time of the writing of this article, the group had 49 members. That is a minimum of 49 students whom the SGA chose to

ignore. Furthermore, not all prayers fit all religions, which creates another problem. Troy University has students from all over the world who all have different religions and pray to different gods in numerous ways. At university-sponsored events, where most students

rethink its decision and re-evaluate the consequences it may have on the students who are uncomfortable with religion, or who disagree with the god(s) being prayed to at the events.

In order to have the title "the international university," we must earn it, and we do that with inclusive policies and open-minded practices, not with isolationist tactics that leave students alienated.

An appropriate alternative would be a "moment of silence" before or after the Pledge of Allegiance at all events sponsored by the university, allowing prayer to be completely optional. It is a respectful way to join as a student body in the stillness and quiet and to reflect on what life, or religion, means to you, the individual student.

Stephanie Clinton is a sophomore theater major from Hueytown.

“The ability to exercise or not to exercise religious practices is a right, not a privilege.”

are welcome, there will more than likely be an assortment of students from various backgrounds.

According to Jorge Solis, SGA vice president of legislative affairs and a junior political science major from Pell City, the decision to have a prayer at an event is at the discretion of the event organizer. The ability to exercise or not to exercise religious practices is a right, not a privilege that can be granted by public-school-sponsored event organizers. The SGA's authorization of prayers hence denies students such a right.

It is also difficult to allot a time before every university-sponsored event to pray to all of the students' gods with due respect. Therefore, only one or two gods will be allowed to reap the benefits of this resolution, further alienating students and causing discomfort among the students.

I am a firm believer that religion must be kept out of non-affiliated schools in order to create a more education-focused environment. A classroom overwhelmed with gods is a place to neither worship nor to learn.

I humbly ask that the SGA



Brenna Patrick photo

Tristen Presley, a freshman business major from Ozark, praying at Troy University's Sorrell Chapel.

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

Tropolitan. Our opinions are not influenced by campus organizations 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 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.

THE TROY UNIVERSITY TROPOLITAN

Troy University's Student Newspaper

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Big Read hosts film festival



April Irvin photo

Elaine Bassett was among the members who chose the book "Fahrenheit 451" for the Common Reading Initiative. The CRI and The Big Read are in conjunction this year.

Jill Odum
Sports Editor

Troy University, for the first time, has received a grant to host The Big Read, a program whose main goal is encouraging the value of reading for pleasure and learning. Troy is the only city in Alabama that received the grant this year.

This program is part of the National Endowment for the Arts and focuses on exposing citizens to valuable works of literature. The NEA has around 20 books to choose from, and the committee selected "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury before the Common Reading Initiative book was chosen.

The decision to make the Common Reader the same as The Big Read was so both would be able to pool resources and have more activities.

"We chose 'Fahrenheit 451' because it is so appropriate," said Writing Center Coordinator Elaine Bassett. "It was written over 60 years ago, but it is all about the oppression of ideas and the superficial nature that people take on when they don't think."

Kickoff for The Big Read will take place at the Johnson Center for the Arts downtown on Tuesday, Sept. 16, at 7 p.m. Speakers including Hal Fulmer, associate provost and dean of undergraduate and first-year studies, and Priya Menon, assistant professor of English, will be present to talk about The Big Read.

The kickoff will explain to locals what The Big Read is, why "Fahrenheit 451" was chosen and what events will be hosted this fall. Fire-related refreshments will be served.

A film festival will start on Tuesday, Sept. 23, and will continue to take place every following Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Patterson Hall Room 101.

The series focuses on book-to-movie adaptations, and

the first movie shown will be "Fahrenheit 451." The other films that are included are "Capote," "Girl Rising," "Dead Poets Society," "The Name of the Rose," "The Book Thief," "The Princess Bride," "Educating Rita," and "Wonder Boys."

"They're all about that freedom of thought, allowing the mind to expand," Bassett said. "Some of them like 'The Princess Bride' are fun ones, but even underneath that there are some serious themes that are going through."

Each film will have a different discussion leader who will talk about the film and its relation to "Fahrenheit 451." Discussion groups will be held across campus and in the community. Other events The Big Read will host are a used-book sale in Eldridge Hall on Oct. 9-10 and a 5K race on Oct. 18.

A variety of books have been donated by professors and locals for the sale. The book sale is cash only, with paperbacks being sold for 50 cents and hardbacks for \$1.

Students are encouraged to talk to Bassett if they have any ideas involving the book or if they want to help with any of the activities.

Bassett's advice for students wanting to participate in The Big Read is to read, discuss and be engaged with the different events, such as the film festival.

"Read anything," Bassett said. "Just read, find something you're interested in. Eventually, you'll come across something that fits your attention and you want to know more about it."

The Big Read will last until mid-November. Depending on how well the program does, Troy may apply again for the grant. To stay up to date with The Big Read events, follow them on Twitter @troybigread and check out the Facebook page "Troy Big Read."

Vivace to serenade Troy

Jamal Carswell
Staff Writer

The word "vivace" is Italian for "lively," a term that the music group Vivace aims to live up to.

Its brand of music, classical crossover, is a blend of classical music with pop culture influences.

It allows the listener to experience classical music, while still hearing familiar music and references from today's entertainment.

Vivace is the premier classical crossover group that started in Vancouver, Canada.

It is composed of six members: four singers, a pianist and a violinist. The singers are Melody Courage, Tiffany Desrosiers, Marc Devigne and DJ Calhoun.

Combined, they offer a unique sound while still appealing to students. Their high-quality feel allows their listeners to experience a show that they would normally have to go to a big city to see.

The group opened for the Winter Olympics in 2010, gaining much fame and recognition.

On Tuesday, Sept. 16,



Vivace Music Group photo

Vivace, a pop group, will be performing in areas around Troy as well as in Claudia Crosby Theater next week. Members describe themselves as a "popera" classical crossover group.

Vivace will be performing in Claudia Crosby Theater at 7 p.m.

The concert on Tuesday will also be a passport event, allowing those needing stamps to fulfill school requirements while having a fun evening. Tickets for the event can be found in the SGA office, and are free for students.

The Troy Arts Council is also bringing other talents to the Pike County area throughout the year. Some performers are Sally Mayes, a Broadway singer who will be giving workshops on campus, the

Harlem String Quartet, who will be performing and speaking at Charles Henderson High School, and the Vienna Boys Choir, one of the longest running all-boys choirs in the country.

The Troy Arts Council aims to bring high quality performances to Troy and to get them involved in the schools surrounding the area.

Vivace will also be performing at Goshen High School, and this will be its first show at that location since the building of the school's new performance building.



FOX Entertainment photo

The "Red Band Society" comes to FOX this season, and the series showcases the diverse lives of six teenagers in a hospital.

'Red Band Society' will pull on heartstrings this season

Kianna Collins
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Sometimes in life, people get dealt the worst kind of punishment for no reason. Sometimes, it's for a good reason — but in FOX's new television series the "Red Band Society" there's a little bit of both.

Viewers will recognize actress Octavia Spencer from "The Help," and Dave Annable from "Brothers and Sisters." The rest of the cast is filled with new, young actors who flesh out the patients.

The "Red Band Society" opens with a child telling viewers about different patients at the hospital.

Everything was OK emotionally until he started describing their ailments, ranging from an eating disorder to cancer.

The show has some quirky moments that are sure to catch the viewer's eye. Within the first few moments, some of the patients are caught smoking marijuana in a supply closet before class.

It seems that these teenage patients have the run of the hospital, which may or may not be something seen in reality. However, it seems logical that this would happen given that they may not make it out.

There are some emotionally touching scenes, and the fact that these characters all start off as teenagers gives the writers a lot of wiggle room for character development.

Let's hope that the writers don't swing

into the typical love triangle—which can already be predicted—and actually write interesting stories for these youths.

That being said, a few of the characters do seem a little typical so far. There's a bit more of a challenge here because everyone has more than likely seen the same thing thousands of times.

The premise of "The Red Band Society" is still extremely interesting, and, if anything, I'm going to continue to watch it because of what's going on around these characters.

It's also really important to note that this is giving representation to those who are actually confined to a hospital, or have these problems actually happening in their lives. There's really not enough of that in the media as it stands.

Another cool thing to note is that this story is based on a man named Albert Espinosa, who is paid homage to by the character Jordi Palacios. He spent 14 years of his life in a Spanish hospital and said that his experiences there were some of the best times of his life.

This show is definitely something to watch out for in the upcoming season, and hopefully it'll live up to expectations.

"Everybody thinks that when you go to a hospital, life stops, but it's just the opposite," said Charlie, the coma patient. "Life starts."

"Red Band Society" will air Sept. 17, at 8 p.m.

9/12-18
Continental Cinemas
Student Discount with ID
Tickets Available @ Kiosk
In The Trojan Center & Theatre

100, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
LET'S BE COPS R

realD 3D
MARVEL
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY
PG-13
12:50
2D 3:50
6:50
2D 9:25

1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45 R
As Above, So Below

IDRIS ELBA
TARAJI P. HENSON
PG-13
1:10, 4:10
7:10, 9:35
NO GOOD DEED

WINTER'S amazing true story...
now has HOPE.

**OPENS THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 11th**

Dolphin Tale 2 PG
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

SEARCH FOR TRUTH
FIND FREEDOM

1:15
4:15
7:15
9:40
EVER PG-13

How not to upset your teachers

At the end of every semester, students talk to their peers to find out which teachers are the best to take for their upcoming classes. However, have you ever stopped to ask yourself which sort of students professors would choose to have in class? Staff writers Jessica Valverde and Kasey Freeman interviewed a few professors around the campus to find out the kind of students that they would prefer not to have in their classes by finding out their classroom pet peeves.

“Son, based on the ineluctable laws of mathematics, you’ll be lucky to get a C.”

Michael Orlofsky, professor of English, was eager to share his pet peeves inside and outside the classroom. Orlofsky gave this as a scenario. “A student comes into my office,” he said. “I just wanted to tell you that I won’t be in class because I’ve got mononucleosis. Can’t the kid just call?”

Orlofsky went on to say that it bugs him when a student enters his office without knocking. Even if the door is open, he believes it is just common courtesy to knock. He also said that students often will come to him on the last day of class and ask what they can do to get an A. He said that he usually replies with, “Son, based on the ineluctable laws of mathematics, you’ll be lucky to get a C.” However, he went on to say, “All in all, in spite of the pet peeves, I’ve got the best job in the world.”

Ava Tabb, lecturer of multimedia journalism, was quick to admit that her biggest pet peeve, and the rule for her classroom that she spends the most time reiterating to her students, is that there should be absolutely no texting or using cellphones at all in class. Tabb also expressed her disapproval for students who choose to talk at the wrong time. She said that students often-times will talk out of turn and that “basic courtesy is extremely important in a classroom setting.” She also said that she encourages her students to reach out to her and ask for help when they do not understand what is going on in the classroom with lectures or assignments. She stressed the importance of never being afraid to ask



Hallie Dodds photo

Lecturer of multimedia journalism and communication David Kirby’s biggest pet peeve is students using cellphones in the classroom. Tyler Hickman, a sophomore biomedical sciences major from Alpine (front row right) and Seth Calloway, a freshman criminal justice major from Ariton (last row right), demonstrate what not to do by using their cellphones during Kirby’s lecture.

questions.

Govind Menon, professor of physics, was also more than happy to speak about his classroom pet peeves. “Students tend to show up for help the day before the test,” he said. Menon encourages his students not to wait until the very last minute for assistance. He expects his students to read their textbooks and be prepared for lectures in class. Menon said that, in his classes, the good manners of the students pretty much outweigh the bad, and he really does not have any major complaints.

LaKerri Mack, assistant professor of political science, also shared a couple of her pet peeves. “My pet peeves are that students don’t bring technology to class,” she

said. “It is a great resource if used wisely.” She said that students not coming to class regularly also bothers her. “Our job is to teach students responsibility, and a part of that is being responsible for their own attendance,” Mack said.

“I really don’t have any significant pet peeves as long as students are not disruptive in class,” said Steve Grice, professor of accounting.

Kenneth LaBrant, assistant professor of Spanish, said he had no pet peeves at all. “I don’t really have any pet peeves because my students are of a higher caliber and they want to be in class,” he said.

Editor’s note: If any student has questions he or she would like for our staff to tackle, feel free to email variety@tropnews.com with “Dear Trop” in the subject line. All students who send in questions will remain anonymous.

Dear Trop,

Dear Trop,
How do I approach this girl I really like? I have only known her for a few weeks, but I’m pretty infatuated with her. The problem is that I am a shy person and have very little experience in the whole “dating” field. I can’t even imagine telling her how I feel. I think I’d die.
— Hopelessly Infatuated

Dear Hopelessly Infatuated,
We’ve all been there. Sometimes it is not easy to express yourself, but there is a way out. Since you have only known her for a few weeks, why not take the time to know her better? If you continue to spend more time with her, it will also help her to know you better and get you both to a place where you are comfortable with sharing things with one another. Females are also known

to be quick on taking hints. So she might even learn of your crush before you tell her. The dating field is scary only from the outside. It is fairly simple once you enter it, so do not fear taking that first step. Once you get comfortable enough with your special person, telling her your feelings might not look so taxing of a task.
Cheers,
Trop

Dear Trop,
I don’t seem to be able to get a hold on my spending habits. I go to Walmart; I buy unnecessary things. I am in my room; I shop for clothes online. I know that I should save my money, but I just can’t control myself. When I see a cute maxi dress, I gotta have it. What do I do?
—Shopaholic

Dear Shopaholic,
The Trop wishes it had the money to have your problems, but alas. Jokes aside, we commend you on at least recognizing that you need to change your shopping habits. Put yourself on a budget allowing only a certain amount to be spent every week or every month. With a number on your limit, you might stop yourself from crossing that margin. Do not buy things that you do not need. Think about the money you could save for other

things like school, a nice meal at Golden Crane or even an eventual trip to Disney World. If you know that your money can be put to better use, always remind yourself of that before you spend it.

Cheers,
Trop

Dear Trop,
I am finding it very hard to fit in college. I don’t have many friends or much of a social life. I think the problem is that I am a transfer student from a community college and don’t know many people. I talk to a few people from my classes, but they have their own thing going on and I just feel out of place.
—Should I Transfer Again?

Dear Should I Transfer Again,
Please don’t transfer again, not without at least trying a little more. We understand that coming as a transfer student can be a challenge if people you are surrounded with already have their friend circles. But college is not high school. It is not as cliquey, and making friends is easier. Join a campus organization or club that matches your interests. You will be surprised at how many new students you can meet and interact with by getting involved. Make an effort to hang out with more people. Just ask. Even if you are an introvert, this requires minimum effort and the benefits can be emotionally and mentally rewarding for you. College is about new experiences. Stepping out of your comfort zone is the just the beginning.

Cheers,
Trop

SUBWAY

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1003 U.S. 231
Troy, AL
(334) 566-7944

511 S Brundlge St
Troy, AL
(334) 770-0247

1420 U.S. 231
Troy, AL
(334) 670-6399

Italian B.M.T

Trojans break program record

Troy volleyball team is off to the best start in its Division I history

Wally Pendergrass
Staff Writer

The Trojan volleyball team continued its amazing start to the 2014 season with a 3-0 record in the Trojan Invitational and was the tournament champion. The team's 8-1 season is now the best in the program's Division I history since 1993.

The Trojans hosted the tournament Sept. 4-5, with the Mercer Bears, Alabama A&M Bulldogs and Jacksonville State Gamecocks participating in the event.

The Trojans are now 8-1 and off to the best start ever under head coach Sonny Kirkpatrick.

"We've battled, playing eight matches in seven days," Kirkpatrick said. "We build a schedule for a reason, to test their limits and make them mentally strong, and they've really had a great week and I couldn't be more proud."

The Trojans had four players on the All-Tournament Team, including tournament MVP junior outside hitter Blair Winston.

Winston was joined by fellow junior middle hitter Darby Griff and sophomores Kiah Cheatham, middle hitter, and Symone Shaw, outside hitter, on the All-Tournament Team from Troy.

The Trojans opened the tournament with a five-set, two-hour nail-bitter against Mercer. The first set of the match lasted 64 points, with the Trojans finally taking the set 33-31. After taking the second set 25-15, the Trojans headed into halftime with a commanding 2-0 lead.

The Bears responded with two close set wins in the third and fourth sets, 25-23 and 25-21, respectively, to tie the match at 2-2.

The Trojans dug deep as they pulled out a fifth set win 15-9 to secure the first match 3-2.

Shaw led the team with 16 kills, while Griff had the highest attack percentage with a .318. Junior setter Tineille Waggoner had 56 assists and three service

aces while junior libero Ali Dowdell led the team with 21 digs.

"It was a good test of composure," Kirkpatrick said. "We've worked on our mental toughness quite a bit this season. Luckily, everything we've been working on in practice helped us make some plays in the end and win in five."

Following the five-set thriller, the Trojans took a dominating 3-0 win over Alabama A&M on Friday morning.

Shaw led the way again with 10 kills, 24 total attacks and an attack percentage of .375.

The Trojans had some freshmen get playing time in the game against the Bulldogs, and they responded well. Freshman setter Reina Terry had 24 assists, while freshman libero/defensive specialist Avalon Nero had four service aces.

In the final game of the tournament, the Trojans faced the Gamecocks, who were also 2-0 in the tournament at the time, setting up a championship match.

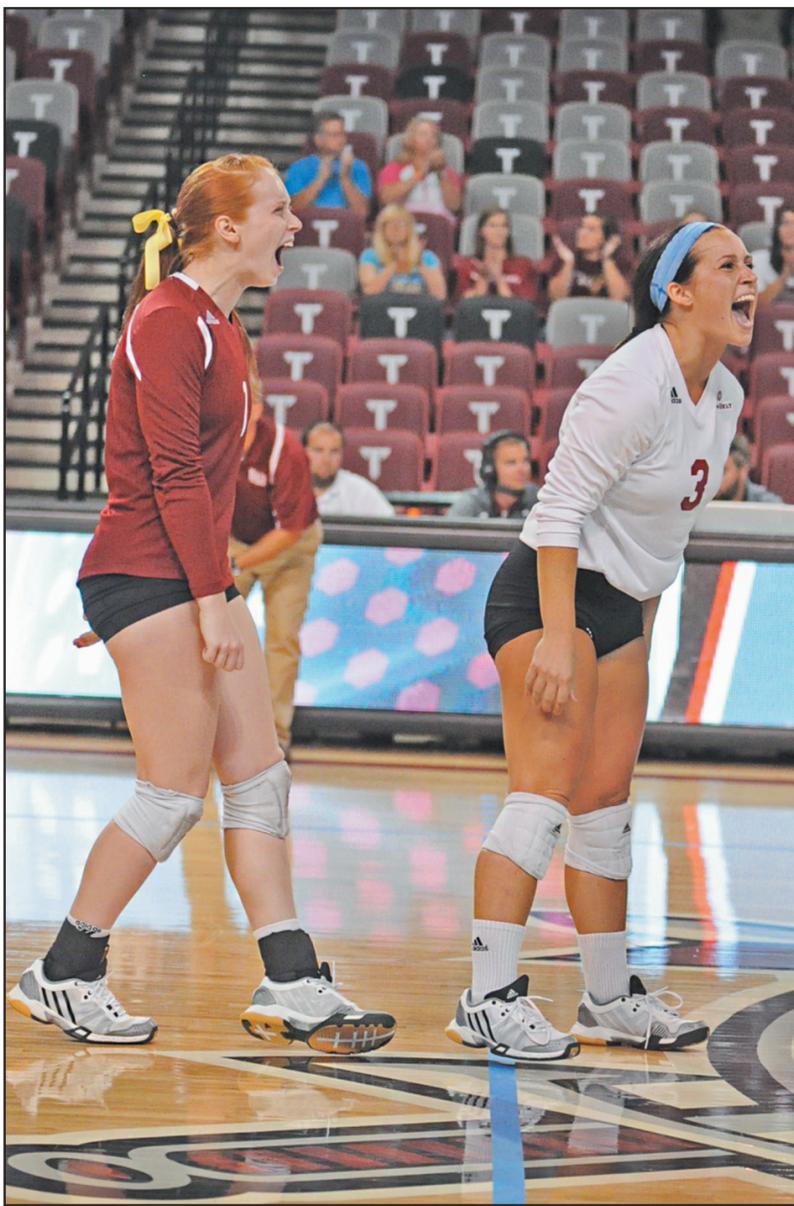
The Trojans got off to a quick start, winning the first and second set, 25-13 and 25-17 respectively.

The Gamecocks took the third set 25-19. The fourth set was close for most of the match, with five tied scores and two lead changes, but the Trojans pulled away late and won 25-15 to take the match and the championship 3-1.

Winston led the team in kills with 18 and total attacks with 39. Cheatham had an attack percentage of .526. Waggoner had 42 assists, and Dowdell led the team in digs again with 13.

The Trojans swept the Alabama State Hornets, 3-0, in Montgomery on Tuesday, Sept. 9. This win was the fifth straight for the Trojans. Winston led the team with 12 kills, and Waggoner had 32 assists.

Troy will travel to Auburn to take part in the Active Ankle Challenge on Sept. 12-13.



April Irvin photo
Senior defensive specialist Kelley Curran (left) and libero Ali Dowdell (right) celebrate after scoring a point. The Trojans' current season, 8-1, is the best in the volleyball team's Division I program history.

Soccer stays on fire



April Irvin photo

Senior midfielder Kailani Decock (left) and sophomore forward Abby Reynolds (right) try to take the ball away from sophomore midfielder Taylor Sutton.

Troy wins fourth straight game

Ty Ammons
Staff Writer

The Troy soccer team defeated Gardner-Webb 1-0 in Boiling Springs, North Carolina, on Friday, Sept. 5.

Late in the second half, junior midfielder Jasmine Fahrnbauer and junior defender Kirsten Rendall assisted with the only goal. The goal was headed in by junior midfielder Alissa Jones in the 84th minute of the game. This goal is Jones' fifth of the season.

"We knew going into this match that they were a tough team to play against, especially on the road," head coach Jason Hamilton said. "But I think our girls responded well and did what they needed to do to win the match."

The Trojans had a total of 12 shots, and five of them were on goal. Jones had the most shots on goal for the team with a total of three. Jones received the Sun Belt Offensive Player of the Week award on

Tuesday, Sept. 2, for her goals, shots and assists.

Troy was able to keep Gardner-Webb's total shots to three, and only one of them was on goal. Redshirt senior defender Jessica Casper is responsible for their only shot.

Freshman goalkeeper Mikki Lewis was able to save the one shot on goal from Gardner-Webb.

If not for graduate goalkeeper Kristen Chauvin saving four of Troy's shots on goal, the score difference might have been greater.

Troy improved its record to 4-2 with the win, while Gardner-Webb fell to 1-4 on the season. Troy's next game will be at home on Friday, Sept. 12, against the Jacksonville State Gamecocks.

Jacksonville State has a record of 3-3, and it lost to the University of Alabama 2-0 on Sunday, Sept. 7. Troy looks to extend its four-game win streak to five against Jacksonville State.

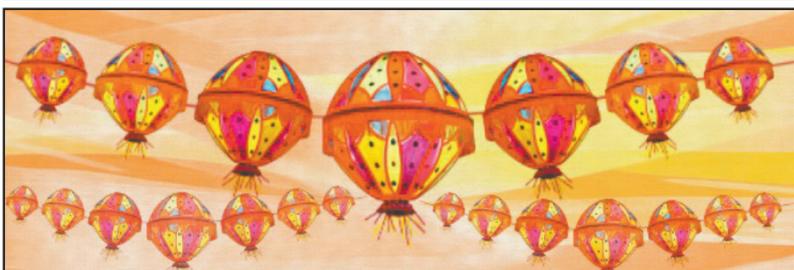
Word Games

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. Dime defense
2. Backswing



Pike County Fair
College and Student Night
September 30th

\$3 Gate Pass with Student ID

Rides, Food Fun
and More!

Look for the student coupon in The Tropolitian, and receive \$5 off the \$20 wrist band to enjoy all the rides for an entire night!

Hosted by the Troy Shriners