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Library hours survey begins

Madina Seytmuradova
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association's academic life committee presented its library survey, which can potentially change how and where Troy students study, at its meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Farrah Gaston, a junior biomedical science major from Camden and SGA academic life committee chair, said that the survey will show the students' need for extended university library hours.

According to Gaston, Christopher Shaffer, the dean of library services, turned down the initial request to extend library hours earlier in the semester.

"At this point, the numbers of students who are in the library at night tend to be in the single digits by 11 p.m., which makes me question how many would use



Hannah Crews photo

Members of the SGA academic life committee at Tuesday night's meeting.

the library at even later hours," Shaffer said in an email to the Tropolitan.

"A lot of people don't go because they start studying by 10 p.m. or 11 p.m., so by the time they get to the library, they have to get up in an hour and leave," Gaston said. "So they say it closes too early. They'd like to see it open till 2 a.m. and 24 hours during finals."

A total of 468 people had taken the survey as of Tuesday night. Gaston was unavailable to provide the latest numbers as of Wednesday night.

According to Gaston, 72 percent of those votes were cast in favor of keeping the library open 24 hours at all times, and 80 percent in favor of having it open 24 hours at least during the finals.

See **SGA**, page 2

Student-choreographed dance production opens



Holly Ammons photo

Scott Wheat, a senior dance major from Chicago, and Angelene Kendall, a junior dance major from Hershey, Pennsylvania, performed at the opening of "Reflections: A Student Choreography Showcase" on Wednesday, Nov. 4. The show is the department of theatre and dance's first main-stage dance production of the semester. The show will be performed at the Trojan Center Theatre at 7 p.m. on Nov. 5-6, and at 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 8.

Are you registered to vote?

Francesca Perez
Staff Writer

A voter registration drive was held on campus by the Student Teams Advocating Realistic Solutions, or STARS, in partnership with the Student Government Association on Thursday, Oct. 29.

Members of the STARS committee and SGA set up a table at the Trojan Center with voter registration forms and provided help to students filling out the forms.

According to Ansley Markwell, a senior human services major from Montgomery and director of the STARS committee, approximately 50 students were successfully registered through the drive.

To be eligible for voting registration, one must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old by the time of the election and a resident of the jurisdiction where the registration is taking place. State-specific felony conviction laws may also apply.

The registration drive was held in preparation for the upcoming primaries for the Republican and Democratic parties on March 1, 2016, as well as for the general election on Nov. 8, 2016.

"As a whole, our generation is not characterized by political involvement," Markwell said, discussing the importance of students' political involvement. "Many would rather post on Facebook and complain about what

needs to change rather than doing anything about it.

"It seems like almost everyone is calling for change. I believe that change can start with one person — you. You never know how your actions can affect the world around you."

Hayden Lee, a junior biomedical sciences major from Dothan and director of public relations and marketing for STARS, said she had similar thoughts.

"I think it is important for college students to vote because we are the future of this country," Lee said. "Unless we want to inherit a mess when it comes time for us to be

See **Voter registration**, page 2



Holocaust survivor shares stories

April Irvin photo

Kat Rogers
Staff Writer

"We had air, and if it was raining, we quickly licked the rain, and food, no food. It was unusual and terrible. And then we ended up in Auschwitz. It was the ugliest of ugliest of ugliest."

Ann Rosenheck, a Czechoslovakian Holocaust survivor, recalled this memory from the time she and her family were put on a train and taken to the Nazi concentration camp.

Rosenheck, 84, is on the Troy campus this week, and she spoke to a workshop for high school and middle school teachers about the complexities of the Holocaust on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

She spoke to the Tropolitan about her life before, during and after the Holocaust.

Rosenheck grew up in the Carpathian Mountains in Czechoslovakia, where she said she had a fairly normal childhood with three brothers and two sisters. She went to a regular school with both Jews and non-Jews.

While she was in school, her parents encouraged good grades and studying.

However, during the year of the German invasion, she went to school in three different places — Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland — within one year.

During the occupation, she said, she could not venture out too far from her home without

fearing for her safety. As in other occupied areas, Jews did not generally attend school or shop during certain hours.

Her oldest brother, Joseph, was taken into the military and sent to a camp in Russia. While there, he was chased onto a land mine and was killed.

A letter came to Rosenheck's family from one of her brother's friends in Switzerland telling them that Joseph was killed. Rosenheck kept this from both her parents and her sister-in-law, who had just given birth to a child. Her parents never knew what happened to their son.

Her second brother was in his second year at a university in Prague. Two professors helped smuggle some of the boys into

Russia, but once there, they were questioned as to why they ever left.

For seven years, she did not know that her brother was in the Gulag camps. It wasn't until after the war that she received a letter saying he was alive.

Rosenheck's uncle and aunt were able to board the last boat to the United States before being forcibly removed from their homes.

Rosenheck ended up living in a ghetto for a short time with her father and mother. Later, her sister and her children found them. They were all put on a cattle car on a train sent to Auschwitz.

Once taken off the train, they were divided into groups of men and women. Her father told her to take care of her mother and sister, so she stayed with her mother, sister and nieces while they were lined up.

"We were put in front of the Angel of Death, we call them, the worst of the worst, and he had a cane, and we would have to approach him in the line," Rosenheck said.

The guard then gestured for her to step aside, away from her family.

"My mom and my sister realized that they took me away, and they started to scream," she said. "My sister started to scream to me."

"She said: 'Don't be afraid. We are going to be together. We are going to be together.'"

"My mother said the same thing. Meanwhile, three minutes later, they were put in the crematorium."

At the time, she didn't know what became of her family, but

later that night she overheard women speaking about how those who stayed were killed. She said she did not want to believe them.

That night while going to bed, she said, a blond girl lay next to her. The next morning, someone said she was dead. Rosenheck said she did not believe them because she saw that the girl had open eyes.

"Thirteen years old, I did not know that open eyes meant dead," she said. "A beautiful girl. Dead."

In the camp, the women were often kept nude and with shaven heads. A man would shave them, she said.

"In the beginning nobody undressed, nobody let anybody cut their hair, nobody let anyone touch them, but they started, the SS, somebody was shot or beaten," she said. "Then all of us would undress. Whatever they said, we followed."

They were then given gray dresses and taken to the crematorium to take showers. Afterwards, they were again put into groups.

About 39 of them had their clothes taken from them and had to spend the night naked.

The next day, they were supposed to be killed, but the crematorium was burning so they couldn't get in. During this, a group was being separated to leave the camp.

However, the group was all tattooed. Rosenheck was not. To get through, she was told to say that they had simply run out of ink if asked.

See **Ann Rosenheck**, page 4

Ruck-a-thon to support veterans

Destiny Hosmer
Online content editor

Troy University's Student Veterans Association is hosting its second annual Ruck-a-thon on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

During the Ruck-a-thon, teams of four to six participants will walk in a relay-style walk-a-thon, and one team member must walk the track at all times with a 20-pound rucksack.

This year's Ruck-a-thon proceeds will go toward "K-9s for Warriors," a nonprofit that provides dogs to veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disability, traumatic brain injury and military sexual trauma as a result of military service post-9/11.

According to a press release from the university, SVA chose this philanthropy because not only does "K-9s for Warriors" assist veterans, but it also helps save shelter dogs by providing them a new home and "another chance at life."

The purpose of the SVA is to provide military veterans with resources, support and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and post-graduation.

Casey Bell, co-director of the Ruck-a-thon and SVA representative, said that significant thought is put into where SVA's money goes.

"Every organization that we choose to give money to here is well-researched ahead of time and is voted on by a board," Bell said.



April Irvin photo

Parker Hale, a senior exercise science major from Springville, at last year's Ruck-a-thon.

Bell said that a lot of time and effort has gone into putting together the Ruck-a-thon over the past year, and it should not disappoint.

"This year's Ruck-a-thon is going to be on a whole different level," Bell said.

Compared to the first Ruck-a-thon, this year's event should be on a larger scale, according to Bell.

"This year we've tripled the scale of last year with everything: events, people, participation and support," Bell said.

During the Ruck-a-thon, minigames will be held for viewers and children.

Entry to view the event is free, and all concessions will cost \$1.

Teams and participating individuals have the chance to earn a range of prizes, including vacation tickets, gym memberships, spa vouchers, food vouchers and T-shirts.

There is a \$10 entry fee per team member, which includes a free meal at the event.

Team registration forms can be picked up in the Troy for Troops Center, located in Room 122 of the Trojan Center, and are due back no later than Monday, Nov. 9, at 1 p.m.

The Ruck-a-thon will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 11, from noon to 4 p.m. at the Troy University track.

For more information, contact the Student Veterans Association at studentveterans@troy.edu or visit the Troy for Troops Center.

Voter registration

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leaders, whether it be on a local or national level, we need to start getting involved now."

There are several ways students can register to vote. The first way is to visit vote.usa.gov to look at the procedure of voter registration in your state.

Many states like Georgia and Virginia have an online voter registration portal.

For other states like Alabama and Florida, one can fill out the national mail voter registration form available on the website, print it and mail it to the local election office where he or she would like to vote.

For students who would like to vote in Pike County, individuals can pick up registration forms from the registrars' office, located in the courthouse at 120 W. Church St. in room B2.

Upon successful registration, the voter will receive a card in the mail acknowledging that he or she is registered to vote.

Eligible citizens may register to vote all year, except during the 14 days prior to an election and on election day.

The 2016 voter registration deadlines are Feb. 12 for the primaries and Oct. 24 for the general election.

The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement, or CIRCLE, reported on its website that only 19.9 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds voted in the 2014 elections.

According to CIRCLE, that statistic is the lowest youth percentage ever recorded in a federal election.

While Alabama does not have provision for early voting if voters are unable to go to the polls in person on Election Day as do states like Florida and Georgia, they may be eligible to vote by an absentee ballot.

According to Alabama's official election center website, an individual can vote by absentee ballot by applying to the County Board of Elections.

If your application is approved, the County Board of Elections will send a paper absentee ballot to the voter.

An individual is considered eligible for an absentee ballot if he or she is absent from the country, is ill or has a physical infirmity, is a registered Alabama voter living outside the county, is an appointed election office or poll watcher or works a required shift which has at least 10 hours that coincide with polling hours.

The ballot can be returned in the mail, postmarked by the day of the election.

Deborah Teal with the Pike County Board of Registrars' office encourages students to vote, whether it is in person or by absentee ballot.

"It is essential for college students to vote to let their voices be heard," Teal said. "Many people have lost their lives to give us this privilege — a privilege that so many take for granted."

According to Teal, there are approximately 21,264 registered voters in Pike County, and 2,899 of the registered voters are between the ages of 18 and 24.

For more information, visit the Pike County Board of Registrars' office in the courthouse or call (334) 566-1757.



April Irvin photo

From left to right: Members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity Christian Knight, Nick Barnett and Kurt Hale at "Pie your favorite Alpha" event held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. It cost a dollar to pie a fraternity member, and the money raised will be donated to March of Dimes, a nonprofit that works to promote health of pregnant women and premature babies.

Simulation of negligent driving to be organized

Lilly Casolaro
Staff Writer

According to the Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "each day in the United States, more than nine people are killed and more than 1,153 people are injured in crashes that are reported to involve a distracted driver... Almost 30 people... die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver."

In order to increase awareness of this phenomenon, the criminal justice department will hold a drunk and distracted

driving simulation on the Troy campus on Monday, Nov. 9.

The free event will be held on the Social Quad from 8 a.m. to noon and is open to the public.

A full-size vehicle will be brought in from out of state and set up to allow participants an opportunity to simulate either driving with drunk goggles or texting while driving.

The purpose is to illustrate the effects of drunk and distracted driving and show the harmful effects of impaired driving.

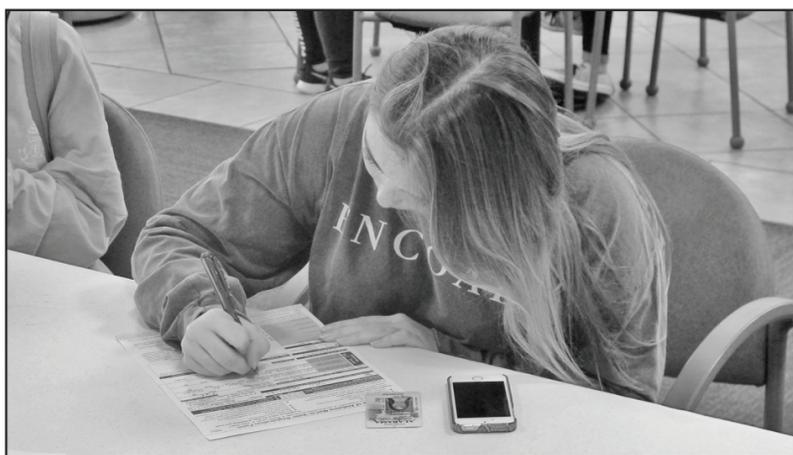
According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, "distracted driving

activities include things like using a cellphone, texting and eating."

Darius Davis, a senior criminal justice major from Panama City, Florida, is one of several students who is organizing this service learning project through his senior seminar class.

"We decided to pursue this event because we felt that it was important to find something that most students would be interested in and that could be beneficial to the student body," Davis said.

"We hope that this will bring awareness to the dangers of drinking and driving as well as texting and driving," he said.



Holly Ammons photo

Shelby Solie, a freshman political science major from Enterprise, fills out a voter registration form at the drive on Thursday, Oct. 29.

SGA
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The survey is up on the Troy SGA Facebook page and will be open for the next two weeks. If the overall response of students is positive, SGA will meet with Dean Shaffer again and request to have a trial of the proposed schedule during the last week of the semester.

"We have experimented in past years with staying open later, and very few students took advantage of those hours," Shaffer said. "I feel certain that

the results of the survey will indicate students want later hours. However, I question how much they would take advantage of those hours should we stay open later."

He added that he is "not necessarily opposed to the concept of 24/5, or 24/7," but the resources at hand do not allow for change at this time.

SGA also elected Margaret White, a sophomore elementary education major from Madison, as the new president pro tempore.

White's responsibility will include presiding over the weekly meetings in case of the absence

of the vice president of legislative affairs and regulating SGA's internal functions such as senators' office hours.

SGA's publicity committee also encouraged senators to participate in the Home Sweet Troy online campaign, designed to showcase the beauty of the Troy campus by posting a photo of their favorite places on campus with the hashtag #HomeSweetTroy.

During the meeting the constitution of the Oxfam Club, which is a student initiative against hunger and injustice, was also brought to the floor.

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Chorale to perform diverse set

Lacey Alexander
Staff Writer

The Troy University Concert Chorale will be presenting a diverse collection of songs, including a tribute to a late Troy pastor, in its fall concert this Sunday.

The concert, titled "Rise and Sing," will take place at Bush Memorial Baptist Church on Nov. 8. The choir, which grants entry by audition only and includes 36 students, will be performing pieces with a range of styles and time periods.

Diane Orlofsky, director of choirs for the music department, said only about a third of the students are music majors.

"It's a very select group," said Orlofsky, who also serves as the conductor of the Concert Chorale.

"I try about a year in advance to start choosing music for the concert," she said. "I was at a convention in Salt Lake City... and I heard the piece 'Batter My Heart, Three-Personed God'... it literally took my breath away."

Orlofsky said she started building the concert around that piece and some others that she had chosen.

"I knew the direction that I wanted to take," Orlofsky said. "The direction of this concert is to show basically the many aspects of praise... whether it's meditative, reflective, jubilant... there

are many faces of praise."

Orlofsky said that only two of the pieces in the concert are accompanied. The rest will be a cappella.

"(Unaccompanied music) requires a specific skill set," Orlofsky said. "Many times it splits into eight (vocal parts), and sometimes it splits into more than eight. You might have only one other person on your part."

While the choir mainly rehearses in its assigned class time, the different sections also meet outside of class once a week to rehearse.

"I like the fact that the group works together as a family," she said. "There's a wonderful spirit in the group."

Orlofsky also said that she would be using student conductors in the concert. Both of the student conductors, seniors Hannah Moore and Kayla Boston, will each conduct one piece in the concert.

Boston will conduct "Love's as Warm as Tears," a contemporary setting of a C.S. Lewis poem, and Moore will conduct "Canticum Novum," a piece by Swiss composer Ivo Antognini.

"Conducting my peers has been a great opportunity to improve my leadership skills," said Moore, a senior music education major from Niceville, Florida. "These people are my friends, but when I am in front of them, I have to become their leader. It's a difficult balance,



Diane Orlofsky contributed photo

The Troy University Concert Chorale will perform on Sunday, Nov. 8, at Bush Memorial Baptist Church at 3 p.m.

for sure, but it has been an amazing experience."

The final song of the concert, a piece titled "Prayer" by American composer René Clausen, with words by Mother Teresa, will be performed in honor of the late Ellis M. Bush, a man who served as interim pastor for a multitude of churches and other ministries in the Troy

area, including Bush Memorial Baptist Church, before his death in September 2015.

"This concert is a reward for hard work," Orlofsky said. "The performance is not the end all, be all... the journey is in the rehearsal."

The concert will begin at 3 p.m., and admission into the concert is free.

Tuvan throat singers perform at Troy University

Sable Riley
Staff Writer

The award-winning Alash Ensemble of Tuva, masters of Tuvan throat singing, brought the sounds of its homeland to Claudia Crosby Theater on Tuesday night.

Tuvan throat singing is a vocal technique for singing multiple pitches at the same time.

The Tuesday night concert was open to the public.

Audrey Driver, a sophomore biomedical sciences major from Rose Hill, attended the concert.

"At first, I had no idea what to expect," Driver said. "I thought the men would just be making noises with their throats, but turns out they were making actual music and the sounds they created were very unique."

"The overall experience gave me a deeper appreciation of differences in music and culture and was definitely worth attending."

Members of the band,



Johanna Kovitz photo

From left to right: Ayan Shirzhik, Bady-Dorzhu Ondar and Ayan-ool Sam brought their unique Tuvan throat singing to Claudia Crosby Theater on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Bady-Dorzhu Ondar, Ayan-ool Sam and Ayan Shirzhik, have all won numerous international awards in Tuvan throat singing.

Their style of music is based on their traditional Tuvan musical heritage infused with Western elements. Alash members played a variety of Tuvan

traditional instruments such as the igil, a two-stringed, teardrop-shaped instrument that is played like a cello.

The members of the band wore traditional Tuvan attire with long braided hair.

The Troy Arts Council brought Alash to Troy in an effort to educate

students of all ages in Pike County and show them a different culture from a distant place.

"It would be a shame not to share this gift with our students," said John Jinright, associate professor of music and member of Troy Arts Council. "I spent the last three days in area schools

as Alash's 'roadie,' and just watching the jaws drop in astonishment when they began to sing is confirmation that I made the right choice."

"At the last school today, Alash's departure was delayed 20 minutes as children wanted autographs. The group would not leave until every

child had an opportunity to meet them and get an autograph."

Sean Quirk, who studied music in Tuva for 12 years and is the present manager of Alash, travels with them to provide commentary in English.

"They had a great time visiting Goshen High and Pike County Elementary today and were especially impressed by the enthusiastic singing of the elementary students, though everyone at each school was having a good time," Quirk said.

They draw inspiration for their songs from their homeland of Tuva, which is a federal subject of Russia.

Quirk said that the band members really appreciated their experience in Troy, as "they are always happy to bring the music of their homeland to places that for them are far away and mysterious."

To learn more about Alash, Tuva and Tuvan throat singing, students can visit alashensemble.com.

ADVERTISEMENT

Troy University offers veterans tools for success

By: Rickey L. Jones

Have you heard of the "VSOC" program? It stands for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) VetSuccess on Campus program – and Troy University is a location spot! Through the VSOC program, VA places experienced vocational rehabilitation counselors on college campuses to assist the growing number of service members, Veterans and dependents attending school under the Post-9/11 GI Bill® and other VA educational programs.

These VSOC counselors are trained to provide academic and vocational guidance to Veterans, and help connect them to other VA benefits, including health care and mental health services. The VSOC counselors maintain close relationships with local VA Vet Centers and VA medical facilities, referring service members, Veterans and dependents as needed and providing assistance applying for VA medical and non-medical benefits. Troy University's VSOC counselor can be found on campus at the Troy for Troops Center, 122 Trojan Center.

VetSuccess on Campus services are available to service members and Veterans eligible for any of VA's educational programs, including the Post 9/11 GI Bill and Montgomery GI Bill, as well as VA's Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Program. VSOC counselors can also assist dependents of Veterans who are receiving VA education benefits, including eligible spouses attending school through the Post 9/11 GI Bill and eligible children.

In addition, VA's Education and Career Counseling Program offers a great opportunity for transitioning service members and Veterans to get personalized counseling and support to guide their career paths, ensure most effective use of their VA benefits, and help them achieve their goals. Visit Rickey L. Jones VSOC counselor on campus to learn more about this program.

VA's GI Bill website (<http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/>) offers tools to help Veterans transition from military service to student success. For career assistance, including connecting to employers looking to hire service members, Veterans and dependents, the new Veterans Employment Center on eBenefits (<https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs>) is a one-stop-shop offering online tools and resources.

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1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50

SPECTRE
007

WOODLAWN
1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:35

BURNT
1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:35

THE PEANUTS MOVIE
1:10
4:10
7:10
9:30

DREAM BIG NOV 6

Stigma surrounds sexual assault

Tori Roper
Staff Writer

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

According to a report by the National Institute of Justice, 20-25 percent of women will be a victim of rape or attempted rape during their college careers. And 33.7 percent of these rapes will occur on campus.

For the 2013-2014 school year, no incidents were reported in the Troy University Clery Report.

"Is it something as an administrator I want to hear? No," said Herbert Reeves, dean of student services, of rape on campus. "But it is a reality."

"The problem we have here is we may have issues that are reported to the counseling center but the victim does not want to make a (police) report," he said. "They fear for potential retaliation."

Reeves said that those who go to the police after a rape are "few and far between."

He noted that there are several reasons why victims may not wish to report a rape, and why victims on the Troy campus specifically might be hesitant.

"Troy is a smaller campus — more people know each other," he said. "There's this culture that 'if I do report it, especially if it involves a young man of a particular group or organization, will I be ostracized?'"

Reeves said that he wants the attitude toward sexual assault on campus to change.

"There's no justification for sexual assault to occur," he said. "Alcohol is not an excuse. The way the young lady may dress is not an excuse."

"If you're a victim, you're a victim." Reeves said that changes are being made on campus to help victims.

The Clery Report, the yearly report on campus crime, is now required to contain cases of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

He said that students should practice bystander intervention. If someone sees

a crime occurring anywhere, he or she should call the police if he cannot stop it, according to Reeves.

"We're trying to get people to be engaged," he said. "I think the challenge here is to get people to a comfort zone in reporting."

"We cannot refuse anybody to make a report if they want to have it on file," Reeves said. "I don't think many young ladies would report something like that without something having happened."

"If they're not comfortable going to the police first, go to the counseling center or go here," he said. "Wherever their comfort level is."

Reeves said that the university's main concern in the case of rape is with the victim.

"This is something we take very seriously — our concern is twofold," he said. "First is that the victim is protected and taken care of. Second is that the person that is committing these acts is removed from the university environment."

"The most important thing is the victim. We do everything we can — counseling, assistance in a hearing, temporary suspension (of the accused)."

Reeves said that the Troy University students arrested last semester in

connection with a rape in Panama City, Florida, are still suspended and not allowed to return to campus because they never requested a hearing from the school.

"It's the reality that those things are going to occur, and we need to be reporting," he said. "I would encourage people, that when things happen, to report them."

Reeves said that every assault reported at Troy appears on the Clery Report and that Troy University has been audited by the Department of Education in the past and no problems were found.

"Only 1 in 10 cases of sexual assault are reported nationally," said Fran Scheel, S.A.V.E. Project coordinator. "This is consistent with Troy University."

According to Scheel, sexual assault is a largely underreported crime.

"Many women who are sexually

assaulted do not realize that their situations are classified as rape," Scheel said. "They fear not being believed, thus being victimized again by society."

According to Scheel, physical evidence is an important part of being able to prosecute the perpetrator.

"A sexual assault examination kit is crucial," Scheel said. "It can be performed at any emergency room."

Troy Regional Medical Center is supplied with the examination kits.

"It is more difficult, but not impossible, to prosecute without physical evidence," Scheel said.

Scheel said that evidence can be compromised when the victim showers or washes his or her clothes before being examined by a doctor.

Many students choose not to report attacks if they had been drinking, according to Scheel.

"Our primary concern is for the safety of the victim and to hold the perpetrator accountable," she said. "Alcohol and underage drinking are not our primary concerns in a situation like sexual assault."

Acquaintance rape involves sexual assault in which the victim knows the perpetrator.

"They may not want to get the perpetrator in trouble," Scheel said. "The victim has to understand that the perpetrator made his choices and should be held responsible."

"We strongly encourage them to report it, but we cannot force them into doing so," Scheel said.

"We can initiate the report with the university police or go with the victim if they would feel more comfortable," she said.

The Student Counseling Center offers free and confidential counseling as well as a place to recover.

"Students should understand that their names will not be released if they report a sexual assault crime," Scheel said.

Each year, the Sexual Assault and Violence Education (S.A.V.E.) Project receives federal grants that the university matches financially, according to Scheel.

"There is an understood importance by the university for this project," Scheel said.

"The stigma associated with sexual assault all boils down to the issue of blame," said Abena Adaboh, a sophomore biomedical sciences major from Kumasi,

Reasons rape goes unreported

- Unfamiliarity with the legal definition of rape or sexual assault
- Fear of being re-victimized by society
- Embarrassment
- Familiarity with the abuser
- Situations causing the victim to blame him or her self

Source: Fran Scheel

Alyse Nelson graphic

Ghana, and president of the campus organization Women's Initiative.

"No one wants to be held responsible for anything: neither the school or administration for not setting up enough security measures to protect students nor the perpetrators, who are usually students," she said. "Accepting responsibility or even recognizing when a sexual assault has occurred often means school administrations have to enact some changes in addition to punishing the culprit — which would be great, except that some higher ups view that as tarnishing a school's reputation or hurting the future of the culprit."

Adaboh also noted alcohol's involvement in some attacks.

"There is alcohol involved in many cases of sexual assault, which makes the account of events murky," she said. "Rather than receiving whatever psychological, physical or legal help needed, some victims have to endure people questioning their judgment for putting themselves in unsavory situations, getting intoxicated or not being modest enough."

"Basically the blame gets shifted back to the victim, and that's when the stigma arises."

Adaboh was not sure whether Troy is an exception in the blame shifts.

"From what I've seen and heard so far, sexual assaults don't appear to be as common on Troy campus as on other campuses, but I could be dead wrong," she said. "Maybe the victims don't feel comfortable speaking up."

“There’s no justification for sexual assault to occur.”
—Herbert Reeves

Ann Rosenheck

continued from page 1

Two days later, the final selections were made. Ann was told she would have difficulty getting through because of her size and to run through quickly while waving her shoes. The men would notice her shoes rather than her. She managed to get into the middle of the group so the guard could not see her. Staying with that group, she got out of Auschwitz.

She ended up in a factory where she was to file the propellers of airplanes. After an incident where she stole a turnip to eat, an SS woman called her out. She was then assigned to care for the women's room.

Slowly, Germans began to move out of the area. At this point, Auschwitz had already been liberated by the Russians.

They were then taken to another camp in Dachau, where she still worked for the SS woman. There she was often punished by being forced to hold up bricks.

Once while she was standing along the gate, a man in a white coat walked up to her and asked her questions in half Czech and half German. She told him she was Czech. He wanted to know who she was and why she was being punished.

"So I told him the whole story," she said. "He told me that tomorrow he was coming with an entourage of doctors and you stay there at this and this hour. Make sure you stay there because I am going to do something."

The next day, another Czech doctor came to her and brought her out to another big group of Czechs. She was then hidden under beds from the SS. Then, the

Americans came.

"The first American, you don't have to believe what he looked like," Rosenheck said. "All this, whatever he had on, to me, it was gorgeous. That was it. The Americans came and chocolates were thrown."

"The Czechs were the first to be taken out of concentration camps and back to Czechoslovakia. That was a dream."

Looking back, Rosenheck said that there was one German who was kind. One man in the very beginning, every time he was on duty, while he was walking them to the factories to work, would give them a sandwich.

After being liberated, she began to search for which of her family members were still alive.

"While I was in Budapest, a train would come in every day, and survivors were on that train," she

said. "I used to stay there and wait every day when the train came."

Finally, she recognized someone from her hometown who knew of her brother in Russia. He said that her brother was very sick. Two boys from her city ended up helping her brother by nursing him back to health and getting him out.

She told the U.S. soldiers the names of her aunt and uncle who had immigrated to the U.S., and the soldiers were able to locate her family. She and her brother then worked to get their papers, but because of a strike, she had to stay in Europe for six more months.

While waiting in Munich, her childhood friend and now husband found her.

"I promised him then that if he cannot come to the United States that I would go back to Israel with him," she said.

Rosenheck began publicly

speaking about the Holocaust 21 years ago when someone asked her if she could write a letter to the United States. Then more and more people asked for her to write or speak on the topic.

"It's quite a lot. Don't forget, first of all, that I as a child lost almost all of my family," she said. "But then, whoever was kind, that helped a lot, helped quite a bit. I only want to tell them what happened to all of us — how come 6 million Jews were killed."

"So many Americans lost their lives," she said. "So many country people lost their lives. I speak about it, I talk about it, I tell about it because it shouldn't be forgotten. That's what keeps me going."

Rosenheck will be giving a lecture, open and free to all students and the public, at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5, at the Claudia Crosby Theater.

Sudoku

Directions: The objective is to enter a digit from one to nine in each cell so that each row or column contains each digit exactly once and each sub grid contains each digit exactly once. The solution to this puzzle will be printed in next week's paper.

	7		1					
			6		7	9		
			9		2	3		
	6							8
			3					
5	4		9					
9			5		1			
	8			2				
	4	3						8

Last week's solution:

5	2	8	1	9	6	4	3	7
6	7	1	3	2	4	8	5	9
9	3	4	5	7	8	6	2	1
2	5	7	9	4	3	1	6	8
1	8	9	6	5	7	2	4	3
3	4	6	8	1	2	7	9	5
4	1	3	7	6	5	9	8	2
7	6	5	2	8	9	3	1	4
8	9	2	4	3	1	5	7	6

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Books behind bars

Alyse Nelson photo

The women of Tutwiler participate in class discussion. The class is taught weekly by two English professors at Tr

Benefits noted from the new reading initiative sponsored in part by Troy University

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

Just as you would see in a classroom on a Troy University campus, students are waiting for class to start. Many are focused on the tablets in their hands. They all look ready for class with their hair and makeup neatly done. As class is called to order, the students put their devices away and a discussion begins about the book currently being read.

The only difference between this class and one on campus is that each student is dressed in a white jumpsuit printed "Alabama Dept. of Corrections."

As class continues, the women clamor for a chance to speak and state their opinions on the reading. For some, this means more than just talking in class.

"I was not a reader until I got into this class," said Deckrice Morrissey, an inmate at Tutwiler and a participant in the reading initiative sponsored by Troy University, with a copy of the class's current book clutched

in her hands. "I've learned so much, being able to speak and have a voice."

Morrissey said that the reading and writing in the class have improved her grades in a GED program that she is currently enrolled in. Her exam date is Nov. 18, and she is confident

that she will pass now.

Each week, Noel Kaylor, a professor of English, and Priya Menon, an assistant professor of English, lead a class with these women, giving them reading for the week and asking that they write self-reflective responses to the readings.

"I have learned much from the ladies of Tutwiler," Kaylor said. "I have especially learned that the ladies have much to contribute to the positive correction of our challenged society. True correction is accomplished only by the efforts of the corrected themselves."

"Initiatives such as Tutwiler's reading program can help the ladies develop skills to articulate their experiences — skills that can help themselves and others to understand the heroic value of

deciding for the right," Kaylor said.

The reading initiative, a class held from August until December of this year, is being sponsored by Troy University as well as Ingram State Technical College and the Alabama Humanities Foundation.

"In many ways, Tutwiler is our proving ground for innovative ways of education," said Hank Dasinger, president of Ingram State Technical College.

"I'm glad this has gotten so much attention, but I have a longing that one day it will not be exceptional," Dasinger said. "We certainly cannot keep doing things the same."

"Education is one of those key pillars enabling these ladies to be future productive citizens of Alabama," said Jeff Dunn, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Corrections. "We're hopeful programs like this will lead to a better life and, most importantly, a life outside of the fence of Tutwiler."

Multiple studies show that education in prisons lowers the likelihood of an inmate returning after being released. A study by RAND found that those in prison education programs are 43 percent less likely to return to prison.

"They ask us to relate," said Tonya Brown, another inmate. "They also encourage us to write our own story."

Brown said that all of the

women in the class are able to keep the copies of the books read in their dorms. She said there is often a line of people asking to borrow them.

"I'm hoping they can keep it going because it helped me. There's a lot of people interested in the book club," Morrissey

said. "I consider Dr. Kaylor and Professor Menon a blessing."

"Through the book club, they have brought me a little more hope inside these prison walls."

"We must continue to fight to be heard," Morrissey said. "I too have a voice, and that voice matters."

“ I too have a voice, and that voice matters. ”

—Deckrice Morrissey



Alyse Nelson photo

Deckrice Morrissey, a Tutwiler inmate, waits for class to begin.



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

Dear Trop,

3/5/14

Dear Trop,
How can buses be prevented from stopping in roundabouts to let off passengers?

Almost every morning, I get stuck behind a tram marked "Pike Area Transit System" that stops in the roundabout by Saga. I've also seen buses stop in the roundabout by Saga. I've also seen buses stop in the roundabout to let off schoolchildren visiting campus.

Why do they block all traffic instead of pulling out of the roundabout and letting off passengers further up the street? Are they inconsiderate or just ignorant? If they're ignorant, how could we help?

Maybe "Don't stop in the roundabout!" signs. Maybe some attention from campus police.

Cheers,
Stuck

Dear Stuck,
The campus police station might be a good place to start.

That is behavior a student would get ticketed for or at least warned about, but visitors to our campus usually get a free pass, which is understandable.

Troy is a small campus, but we have a lot of streets, parking lots

and roundabouts, but not really any places to stop. The bus stops are for the Troy buses, and everywhere a tram or bus could stop will conflict with other vehicles driving or parking.

This doesn't alleviate the problem, though.

I would say your first stop would be to campus police, and if the problem persists, trying to work your schedule around avoiding this problem would be better than being stuck every day.

Dr. John M. Long Drive runs parallel to University Avenue and could be used to avoid the roundabout.

Or, if you're feeling creative, simply buy a wrecker and tow the tram next time it's blocking the road.

(Though we recommend you just go to the police and make it their problem to deal with.)

Cheers,
Trop

Dear Trop,
This year is the first year that I've lived off campus.

I'm in a house, and there are some nights when I'm there alone and I'm always too scared to go to sleep. Whenever I close my eyes, all I can think about

are the 10 ax murderers who are definitely standing over my bed readying to attack.

How can I not be so paranoid and maybe get a good night's sleep?

—Home Alone

Dear Alone,

You can't just change the fact that you're afraid, but you can make changes to put yourself more at ease.

First, there are things that would make your house less attractive to break into.

Most home intruders do not want to break in when someone is home, so leave clear signs that you are: have a car in front of the house, leave a light on or anything else that would let them know you're there.

Make sure your outside lights work, and installing motion-detected one could deter someone from sneaking around.

Now, if you're truly scared, you could try to adjust your schedule as much as possible to not be there alone. Go to a friend's place, or stay on campus.

If you have to be there alone, just make sure all the doors and windows are locked. Distract yourself with something so you have more to think about than murderers.

Purchasing a lion would be difficult, but this is also recommended. Take it for walks around the neighborhood, too — let everyone know not to mess with you.

In fact, take the lion to class with you. Forgot to do your homework? Lion! No Flex Points to get food? Lion! It's the perfect solution to any problem.

Cheers, Trop

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April Irvin Photo

Cracked sidewalk between Wallace and Patterson halls. These cracks can tear up wheelchairs and cost disabled students fortunes.

The desire to change for the better is apparent throughout the university

Tyler Wooley
Staff Writer

There is no doubt in my mind that there are some places on campus that create problems for handicapped students, but Herbert Reeves, dean of student services, said students should voice their concerns.

If you are like me, then you are wondering why some of these problems go unnoticed for so long. It's because nobody says anything about it.

"We don't have anybody that goes around on a regular basis to check the elevators and door openers to make sure they're working," Reeves said. "We depend on people to report them if they're not working."

There are two main reasons, I believe, that students should not be whistleblow-

ers for maintenance issues.

The first reason is that most students do not know that they should be the ones to call attention to the issues.

The second reason is that the students who want to do something do not know what to do.

Since the first issue is now out in the open, we can move on to the second drawback. It's OK; I did not know what to do, either.

"There's not a centralized system to be able to report things," Reeves said. "Some stuff goes to Adaptive Needs, some stuff gets reported here, some stuff gets reported in the residence halls, and some stuff may just be reported to a faculty or staff member."

This is why it has been confusing for so many students wondering when the elevator will work again.

Luckily, Reeves offers some clarification.

"If it's a maintenance issue, like an elevator, I recommend they call here," Reeves said.

The Student Services Office phone number is 334-670-3203.

Reeves understands the importance of these accommodations, and encourages any student who sees an unmet need to speak up.

"We need to know what the concerns are," Reeves said.

"I don't want a student to ever feel like nobody's ever going to be responsive to their need."

I believe that Reeves, and most of Troy University, are genuinely working to make this a better campus for handicapped students.

Heath Barton, president of the Student Government Association, and the rest of the SGA participated in a night walk to find places on campus that could be dangerous for students.

Although the main focus on the walk was lighting, accessibility was also a concern.

The desire to change for the better is apparent throughout the university.

When asked about problematic issues on campus for handicapped students, Barton said that "ease of access to buildings on campus" is one he saw. He added that there need to be more access points.

Barton and Reeves both welcomed students wanting to help make this campus a better, safer place. Now it is our turn to bring it to their attention.

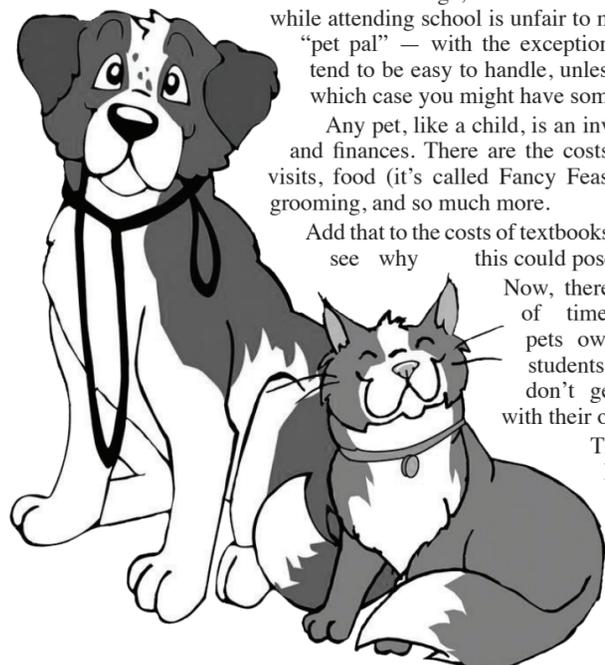
With animals comes great responsibility

Jane Morrell
Staff Writer

The term "puppy dog eyes" exists for a reason. When a dog — or any pet, for that matter — gazes up at you with those sad, begging eyes, this act is a tug at the heartstrings of your soul.

Thanks to TV shows from the '90s like "Pound Puppies," it has been ingrained in our heads to rescue every animal we see in danger. This might not always be a good idea for college students — however honorable it may seem at the time.

I love animals, and I hate seeing those commercials of abused or lost pets. If I had the money, I would save all of those critters! I swear, Sarah McLachlan!



But I am also in college, and I realize that buying a pet while attending school is unfair to me as well as my "pet pal" — with the exception of a fish. Fish tend to be easy to handle, unless it's a shark, in which case you might have some problems.

Any pet, like a child, is an investment of time and finances. There are the costs of veterinarian visits, food (it's called Fancy Feast for a reason), grooming, and so much more.

Add that to the costs of textbooks, and then you'll see why this could pose as a problem.

Now, there is the conflict of time management; pets owned by college students sometimes don't get enough time with their owners.

There is nothing I find more offensive than owners who keep their "fluffy wuffikins" inside for most of the day.



Madina Seytmuradova

This especially is problematic for dogs that naturally have an abundant amount of energy.

Walking, playing, swimming — outdoor activities are one way that pets can bond with their humans.

We have so many loose animals that run around our campus, and some, if not most, are abandoned pets from owners who could no longer afford to care for them.

Animals need love and care, rescues especially, but they need to enter homes in which they do not have the high risk of becoming burdens.

That's why if you want to get your own little furry companion, you need to wait until you are out of college and financially stable.

I speak from experience; when I was a freshman living in Hamil Hall, I rescued a small kitten outside the dorm, whom I ironically named "T-Roy."

He was so little, and it took me an entire two days to catch him and save him from the housing parking lot. When I was finally able to gain his trust, I remember holding him to my chest and carrying him inside to a friend's room in Gardner Hall.

He was so tiny and feeble, and he gave me that look that could make a mountain cry.

I wanted to keep him, I wanted to take care of him, but I had to let him go to another family.

He needed people who could give him more time and care than I could afford.

Rather than buying a pet in college, you can instead help animals by volunteer work, or by helping with rescues.

As hard as it is to say "no" to the puppy dog eyes, please resist — for your sake, and the animal's.

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.

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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 opinions of their authors 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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Cross country closes out its season

Taylor Boydston
Staff Writer

The Trojan cross country teams competed at the 2015 Sun Belt Conference Championships on Sunday, Nov. 1, at Nash Farm Battlefield in Hampton, Georgia.

The men's team earned a disappointing finish in last place out of nine teams, while the women came in eighth place of 11.

Since the start of the season, the teams worked hard to prepare for this particular race. Although both teams made progress throughout their season, their performance at this event did not reflect that improvement.

"We had a real opportunity to improve substantially at the conference meet this year, so the overall result was disappointing," head coach Elliott Blount said. "The success and progress we've made this season simply didn't show on the course today."

The Troy men's team came in ninth place in the 8K race with an average time



Troy University Athletics photo
Senior Julia Ostendorf and the women's cross country team had a disappointing finish at the Sun Belt Championship on Sunday, Nov. 1, as they finished in eighth place out of a field of 11 teams.

of 28:37, almost a full minute slower than the eighth-place competitor. Of the seven Trojan male runners, freshman Ryan DeGale finished first, coming in at 27:26.4.

A minute and two seconds later came freshman Brennan Garriques, and freshman Kyle Norris rounded out Troy's top three at 28:33.4. The rankings for the Trojan men further solidified this year's tendency of freshmen paving the way.

On the other hand, the more experienced collegiate athletes have led the Troy women. Junior Samantha Smith headed up her team, coming in first of the Troy women at 19:32.4. Shortly after was sophomore Sarah Zylstra at 19:46.8.

Junior Mikayla Hodges finished third of her team, with a time of 19:53. The Trojans performed better this year than last, as their seven runners placed eighth of 11 teams in the 5K race and their average time was 20:02.

With a strong base on both sides, especially with the men's team being so young, next season looks to be even better than this year.

Women's tennis team struggles in Tuscaloosa invitational tournament

Ty Ammons
Staff Writer

The Troy women's tennis team played at the Roberta Allison Fall Classic in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on Oct. 30-31.

Four Trojan women competed in the tournament.

Only one singles team and one doubles team made it past the first round.

The doubles team of sophomores Sanae Ohta and Efriliya Herlina lost their first-round match 2-8 to sophomores Madison Harrison and Kristina Vozniak from Mississippi State.

The doubles team of junior Alicia Rodriguez and sophomore Jiayuan Xue won a close first-round match against freshman Sydney Patton and senior Katie Polk from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga 8-7.

Their success was short-lived, however, as Rodriguez and Xue went on to lose in the next round 2-6 to sophomore Naz Karagoz and freshman Elena Muller from Tulane.

In Rodriguez's first-round singles

match, she faced another tough player from Tulane, senior Meredith Maltby, and lost 3-6.

Herlina played Georgia Tech's sophomore Alexis Prokopiuk and lost 6-0, 6-4.

Xue played freshman Marina Cozac from DePaul University, and lost the match in two games, 7-5, 6-1, following a close first game.

Ohta is the one singles player that got through the first round. Not only did she win the first round, but she went on to win the singles flight 6 championship.

Her first match was a routine win, 6-1, 6-4. Her second round was tough, dropping the first set 0-6, but she pulled it together and won the next two 6-0, 6-4.

Ohta then moved on the finals, defeating Vozniak 6-2, 6-4 to win the championship.

The women's team will return to action next weekend Nov. 5-8, when both the men's and women's teams travel to Orlando, Florida, to play in their last tournament this year, the USTA Collegiate Clay Court Invitational.

FBS

continued from page 8

a fickle creature, wanting positive results immediately and rarely calm through transition.

Simply put, fans want victory. If they are willing to lose the luster of the FBS, then that is a bandage that needs to be swiftly removed. If they are content with the weekly disappointment in hopes of future triumph, they will have to stop crying as the bandages are applied.

Pigskin Picks

Week 10
Current Leader:
T. Gleaton



Ngoc Vo
(50-40)



Sinclair Portis
(53-37)



Michael Shipma
(58-32)



Taylor Boydston
(58-32)



April Irvin
(57-33)



Thomas Gleaton
(59-31)



Chase Robinson
(54-36)



Joshua Thurston
(53-37)

The Lineup

Ul-Monroe @ Troy	Troy	Troy	Troy	ULM	Troy	Troy	Troy	Troy
Penn State @ Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Northwestern	Penn State	Northwestern	Penn State	Northwestern
#16 Florida St. @ #1 Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Florida State	Florida State	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Florida State
#8 TCU @ #14 Oklahoma St.	TCU							
#9 Iowa @ Indiana	Iowa							
Navy @ #13 Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Memphis	Navy
#2 LSU @ #4 Alabama	Alabama	LSU	LSU	Alabama	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Arkansas @ #18 Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Arkansas	Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss
#7 Michigan State @ Nebraska	Michigan State							
#12 Utah @ Washington	Utah	Washington	Utah	Utah	Utah	Utah	Utah	Utah

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Troy falls in 3OT

Michael Shipma
Sports Editor

It took three overtimes, but the Troy football team eventually fell 44-41 at Appalachian State on Saturday, Oct. 31, in Boone, North Carolina.

The Trojans (2-6, 1-3 Sun Belt) refused to be put away by the top-ranked Sun Belt team, and were able to tie the game in the closing minutes of regulation, forcing the game into overtime. Sophomore quarterback Brandon Silvers had another productive outing, going 27-of-41 for 265 yards, one touchdown and two interceptions.

The Mountaineers (7-1, 4-0 Sun Belt), following a key victory over Georgia Southern last week, continued their conference success against Troy at home. Appalachian State wasted no time getting on the board, as senior defensive lineman Ronald Blair intercepted a Silvers pass and returned the ball 30 yards for a touchdown. The score came just 55 seconds into the contest.

Senior running back Brandon Burks responded with a six-yard TD run of his own, capping off a seven-play, 75-yard drive. This drive tied the game 7-7 at the 8:11 mark in the first quarter.

Appalachian State was able to maintain a slim lead throughout the rest of the first half, and senior kicker Austin Matics' 29-yard field goal with 1:09 left in the half gave the home team a 17-10 lead going into the locker room.

Right away, the second half showed itself to be an offensive shootout, with both teams combining to score 58 points after halftime.

Sophomore quarterback Taylor Lamb led the Appalachian State offense in the second half, throwing for one touchdown and running for another. Lamb finished an impressive showing for the Mountaineers by completing 16 of 24 passes for 184 yards and two touchdowns, to go along with another pair of rushing touchdowns.



Troy University Athletics photo

Senior wide receiver Teddy Ruben finished with nine catches for 83 yards and a key touchdown reception late in regulation to force overtime at Appalachian State on Saturday, Oct. 31.

Likewise, Silvers was responsible for all three touchdowns that the Trojans put on the board in the second half. In the closing minutes of the fourth, Silvers found senior wide receiver Teddy Ruben on a screen pass, which Ruben then took 11 yards for a touchdown. Ruben's touchdown came with just 3:49 left in regulation.

As the game went into overtime, the shootout continued, with both sides swapping touchdowns and field goals in the first two overtimes, respectively.

In the crucial third overtime, the

Trojans attempted a fake field goal on fourth-and-2 at the Mountaineer's 5-yard line. The play went for no gain, and on Appalachian State's ensuing drive, Matics put a 24-yard field goal attempt in between the uprights to secure the victory for the home team.

"I'm just really proud of our team," head coach Neal Brown said. "I knew they were ready to play... These games are never lost or won on a single play."

Troy will return to Veterans Memorial Stadium on Saturday, Nov. 7, when it takes on UL-Monroe. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.



Troy sports is right where it needs to be

Scott McLendon
Staff Writer

The Troy University football team has had a dry spell of victories in recent seasons, despite an impressive start to its FBS tenure, bringing some to question the Trojans' place in college football's top division.

But before getting into that, it is important to know where the team came from.

Troy University football had its beginnings under the moniker of Troy Normal School in 1909. The team ended its inaugural season with a win and two ties. In the era of Trojan lore that predates its entrance into the hallowed FBS, the team claims three national titles. The years of those triumphs are etched into the structure of Veterans Memorial Stadium.

The Trojans officially began competing as a Division I team in 2001 under Larry Blakeney. Before the transition, the Trojans found victory in 57.8 percent of their games, excluding ties. That percentage dropped to 50.6 percent after 2001.

Troy's collegiate football history spans 92 years before the dawn of the FBS. The Trojans were marginally more successful in their FCS lifetime, from a wins-versus-loss viewpoint.

The marriage of Trojan football with the FBS system is but 15 years old. In that time, the Trojans earned five bowl appearances, garnering two victories in those appearances. The same amount of time in the prior tournament system yielded a win percentage of 52.3 percent.

Along with the divisional transition, the Trojans' home stadium was given its most recent face-lift. Veterans Memorial Stadium completed its most recent expansion in 2003 to encompass 30,000 fans, an attendance number the Trojans have yet to reach for a home football game. They've gotten close, setting a record of 29,013 attendees in September 2012 against the Mississippi State Bulldogs. The stadium has seen 24,000 of its seats filled only six times.

Of late, the wins column for the Trojans has been as bare as the stands forced to bear witness to this year's dismal display. Should the Trojans revert back to an FCS team? Different stats give myriad answers to this question.

Is it better to throw funds at a program until it becomes successful or drop down to avoid potentially temporary embarrassment? The Trojan football program benefits the school financially, but how well does it quench the fan's thirst for victory?

To answer those questions is to only look at the surface of the problem. The query that should be posed is: What is the purpose of athletics on a collegiate level? Does it exist to entertain fans and students while filling trophy cabinets? Or is its purpose to fill the school's wallet?

A pragmatist would say a common ground can be found between these extremes. A realist, however, would tell you that common ground has yet to be found.

The picture of college football is far from two-dimensional. Rather, it is a fresco painted by short patience and long memories. The college football fan is

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April Irvin photo

Sophomore defender Haley Roberson (center) fights for possession in Troy's final home game against UALR. Roberson and the Trojan defense recorded their 10th shutout of the season against Georgia Southern on Wednesday, Nov. 4, as they advanced to the SBC semifinals.

Troy soccer off to fast start at SBC tourney

Scott McLendon
Staff Writer

The Trojan soccer team is off to a successful start in the Sun Belt tournament, putting up a trio of goals against Georgia Southern to seal an impressive 3-0 first-round victory on Wednesday, Nov. 4.

The Eagles (6-11-2, 3-5-1 Sun Belt) made a 12th-minute defensive substitution to try and cope with early pressure from Troy (14-4-1, 6-2-1 Sun Belt), but to no avail.

Three different Trojans found the back of the net when dismantling the Eagles. Senior defender Payton Donley of Woodstock, Georgia, gave the Trojans the lead in the first half.

First-team All-Sun Belt midfielder Alissa Jones provided the assist in the 21st minute.

Fellow first All-Sun Belt teammate and sophomore goalkeeper Mikki Lewis recorded her 10th shutout of the season

in front of a strong Trojan defense.

Troy's defense allowed only five shots. None found the back of the net, and three were denied by Lewis.

The Trojans reeled off nine shots on the afternoon, forcing the opposing keeper into three saves, and beating her just as many times. The sides evenly split the 18 fouls, making for a physical encounter.

The dominance continued after the halftime whistle. Junior forward Abby Reynolds made a goal past the keeper in the 76th minute.

Claire Taylor, the freshman midfielder, assisted the late goal, but the Trojans were not finished just yet.

The third and final goal of the match was delivered by Natalie Melillo, from Nutley, New Jersey. The sophomore forward nearly extended the lead to 4-0 when her shot hit the post two minutes later.

The Troy soccer team will now advance to the semifinal round on Friday, Nov. 6. Play begins at 7 p.m.

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