

What's Inside:

Chancellor Jack Hawkins Jr. talks about his wife and life
Variety, pg. 7

Troy alumni get opportunity to perform in London
A&E, pg. 5



TROPOLITAN

Troy University's Official Student Newspaper

Vol. 88, Issue 20

www.TropNews.com

February 12, 2015

Hill Harper, others speak on leadership

University's Leadership Conference focuses on history of African-American culture

Lilly Casolaro
Staff Writer

The 14th annual leadership conference, held on Feb. 5-6, focused on the theme: "Century of Achievement: A Salute to African-American History and Culture." The conference served as a celebration of February as African-American History Month.

Mark T. Griffin, chair for the leadership conference, said the mission of the conference is to "bring individuals together to promote dialogue that fosters multicultural collaboration to strengthen relationship and empower diverse leaders with tools to better serve their organization and community."

Hosted by Troy University, the conference included community leaders, city council members, students and Troy faculty from satellite campuses who gathered for the weekend to hear from key speakers and presenters. Students and adults were placed into separate sessions for Saturday morning and reunited for the final keynote speaker, Rear Adm. Fernandez Ponds.

Jason A. Reeves, mayor of Troy, said that the conference would inspire those in attendance to do great things.

"You are going to be uplifted," Reeves said. "You are going to be educated, and you are going to be inspired to action"

See **Lead**, page 2



(Top, bottom left) April Irvin photo, (bottom right) Brenna Patrick photo

(Top left): Hill Harper, the keynote speaker for the 14th annual Leadership Conference, sings "This Little Light of Mine" with Jared Henderson, a sophomore computer science major from Pensacola, Florida.

(Top right): Harper and Chancellor Jack Hawkins Jr. take pictures after the opening events of the conference.

(Bottom left): Patricia Barnes, aka "Sister Schubert," speaks about overcoming obstacles on the way to success.

(Bottom right): LiDarryl Clarke, a junior physical education major from Mobile, stands next to Carl Cunningham Jr., director of multinational affairs at the University of Alabama, as he speaks about leaving a lasting legacy.



Women health clinic opening

Destiny Hosmer
Staff Writer

Medical Center.

A new health clinic, specifically geared to the needs of the female student population on campus, is coming to Troy University.

Troy's Student Health Services will open the doors to the new Women's Health Clinic on Wednesday, Feb. 18.



Paul Dulaney, M.D.

The clinic, which will be available from 8 a.m. to noon every Wednesday, is located on the bottom floor of Hamil Hall. It will include the services of local gynecologist Paul Dulaney.

Dulaney is a board-certified gynecologist with over 14 years of experience and specializes in women's services and gynecological surgery. He currently serves as chief of staff at Troy Regional

In light of Troy University's low ranking on Trojan Condoms Sexual Health Report Card, this Health Clinic will provide Troy's female students the opportunity to stay educated and healthy.

"Many girls don't know who to go to with their health care issues, and this will give them access to a professional in that field," Dulaney said. "This clinic will also provide knowledge to girls who may not have been formerly familiar with female health care issues."

According to the Centers for Disease Control's 2012 Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance, 1 in 4 sexually active adolescent females have an STD, such as chlamydia or human papillomavirus.

"There has been a spike in STDs on college campuses nationwide, so there is a push to get students aware and treated," Dulaney said.

Dulaney said that he is hopeful that the availability of an on-campus women's clinic will draw more young women in to seek help.

See **Health**, page 2

Journalist talks black issues

Cassie Gibbs
News Editor



Jason L. Riley

Jason L. Riley spoke to Troy University students and faculty about powerful people using racism as a tool to ignore the true problem behind black issues. This problem, according to Riley, is black culture and attitudes.

Riley, a 20-year veteran opinion and news writer, Fox News contributor and member of the Wall Street Journal Editorial Board, spoke to Troy University students on Tuesday about perceptions within the black community and the cause of continued issues in black culture.

Riley began with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which he said may be "one of Martin Luther King's greatest achievements."

As a result of this, from 1964 to 1966, the black voter turnout grew from 7 percent to 60 percent in Mississippi alone, according to Riley. He said that today, black voter registration is greater in the South than in other parts of the U.S.

Though these great achievements have helped black people, Riley said that there are still problems that can be found within black culture, education being an example.

"New York City has the largest school system in America, more than 1 million kids," Riley said. "Eighty percent of the black kids in New York City schools are performing below standards. The problem is a black subculture that rejects attitudes and behaviors that are conducive to academic success."

Riley said that this subculture helps support the negative connotation that young black people

associate with "acting and sounding white." He used comments from his niece about his white way of speaking as an example such an attitude.

Quinta Goines, a junior multimedia journalism major from Needham, said that this part of Riley's speech really stood out to her.

"That is something I can identify with, because that's a phrase that has been directed toward me my whole life," Goines said.

Another part of the problem found in black culture today, according to Riley, is that those in power are not saying something about issues in black culture.

"Many black leaders have a vested interest in blaming black problems primarily on white racism," Riley said. "Racism has become an all-purpose explanation for all bad black outcomes, either social or economic. If you disagree and are white, then you're a bigot. If you disagree and are black, you are a sell-out."

Riley said that though achievements have been made within the

black community and with black culture, differences remain between races that are perpetuated by black politicians and leaders.

"(President Barack) Obama has been doing exactly what liberalism has been conditioning blacks to do since the 1960s, which is to blame black mythology on the legacy of slavery and Jim Crow," Riley said. "This sentimental support has turned underprivileged blacks into playthings for intellectuals and politicians who care much more about clearing their conscience or winning votes than they do in advocating behaviors and attitudes that have allowed other groups to get ahead."

Riley said that it is important for university students to hear these ideas because it brings a different perspective to the campus and the discussion of race.

"I admire Troy for inviting someone who brings a different perspective to the campus because it's not something you typically get," Riley said. "You typically get, in regards to race and race issues, people who want to blame bad outcomes on the legacies of slavery and Jim Crow. It's a good thing to expose the kids to different perspectives. There's certainly more than one way to look at those histories."

James Day, an English professor, said that he agreed with Riley that different ideas should be represented to college students.

"Whether you are a liberal or a conservative, you need to know the arguments," Day said. "He is a very good proponent of a very different

See **Issues**, page 2

STUDENT FLAVORITE!

Two Medium 2-Topping Pizzas,
3-Cheezr Bread with dipping sauce
and a 2-Liter

ORDER ONLINE HUNGRYHOWIES.COM

\$17.95

Plus sales tax.
Delivery extra.
Expires in 30 days.
Premium toppings extra.



Hungry Howie's
FLAVORED CRUST PIZZA

1111 US 231 S.
Next to Sherwin Williams

334 **807-9998**



Hannah Crews photo

From left to right: Josh Carter, a senior criminal justice major from Decatur; Patrick Stephens, a junior risk management insurance major from Auburn; Caleb Lolley, a junior nursing major from Geneva; and Rob Evers, a senior economics major from Baker, Florida, walked 16.5 miles around Troy to practice for Alpha Tau Omega's Walk Hard philanthropy event, which is a 128.3-mile walk to Panama City Beach, Florida, from Troy.

Fraternity preps for six-day walk

Josh Richards
Staff Writer

Troy University's Alpha Tau Omega fraternity prepped for its annual Walk Hard event with a 16.5-mile practice walk around Troy on Saturday.

The walk was a simulation of the sixth and final day of Walk Hard.

Walk Hard is ATO's signature philanthropic event, in which a group of ATO brothers volunteer to walk from Troy to Panama City, Florida. The event was initially created to raise money for juvenile diabetes.

Last year, ATO decided to change the focus of the walk to help the Wounded Warrior Project.

"We're walking for Jeep Sullivan's Outdoor Adventures, a certified nonprofit organization based in Bonifay, Florida," said Logan Wagner, a senior psychology major from Baker, Florida and ATO's Walk Hard director. "Basically what they (the Wounded Warrior Project) do is take guys with traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder or missing limbs, and they take them out into the woods and let them de-stress and relax.

"It helps them get their feet back under them and build their confidence back up. A lot of guys feel pressure when they come home from overseas, and this is just a great way to build a support network in the community."

The week before Walk Hard, ATO will hold a series of fundraising events, including a Chick-fil-A spirit night, a raffle party and a kickoff party. All money raised from ticket sales will go straight to supporting Jeep Sullivan's Outdoor Adventures and the Wounded Warrior Project.

Walk Hard will begin on March 6 at 8 a.m. and will end at Pier Park in Panama City Beach, Florida, at 3 or 4 p.m. on March 11.

"It takes six days, and it's 128.3 miles," Wagner said. "It's grueling. It's tough. You think about quitting, but it's also very rewarding, and that's why we do it."

ATO also takes donations and allows advertisers to do sponsorships. Advertisers can buy signs to advertise their businesses at each mile of the walk.

"It's a really, really awesome event, and it's honestly one of the biggest reasons I joined ATO," Wagner said.

Those who wish to donate can do so at ATO's Walk Hard Gofundme account, gofundme.com/atowalkhard.

Health

continued from page 1

"I think this clinic will spread awareness and education regarding women's health and sexual health on campus," Dulaney said. "A girl may do something on Friday night and then think, 'Maybe I should talk to someone about this.' Now I think these girls will really feel that they have access to that person to come talk to."

Dulaney said that young women need to stay safe when it comes to their health.

"So many girls have no idea that they need to be treated, so having this clinic available to them could save them a lot of future complications, grief and money," he said.

The Women's Health Clinic will accept insurance and be open to walk-ins or appointments.

Issues

continued from page 1

way of looking at social justice. I thought it was well worth hearing him so that you would know what to either refute or to accept."

Goines said that Riley's speech was not a good attempt to inspire the change in the black community that Riley suggested throughout the speech.

"The speech was given on a college campus with only a handful of black people present," Goines said. "If Riley wants to shed light on the black communities that he called the hood and the ghettos, he should speak there. Instead of talking about us, Riley needs to talk to us in an effort to progress and change, not to demean and degrade."

Lead

continued from page 1

through this conference."

The keynote speaker for the conference was actor and author Hill Harper.

Harper is best known for his role on the CBS crime drama "CSI: NY." He played Sheldon Hawkes for nine seasons and received the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series for three consecutive years (2008-2010) for his portrayal.

Harper has also written several books such as: "Letters to a Young Brother: MANifest Your Destiny," "Letters to a Young Sister: DeFINE Your Destiny" and "Letters to an Incarcerated Brother: Encouragement, Hope, and Healing for Inmates and Their Loved Ones."

Harper paraphrased a quote from Robert F. Kennedy and used it as a basis as a central theme for his discussion.

"The future does not belong to those who are content with today, apathetic toward common problems and their fellow man alike, timid and fearful in the face of bold projects and new ideas," Harper said. "Rather, it will belong to those who can blend passion, reason and courage in a personal commitment to the ideals of American society."

Harper challenged the audience to put their passion and action into energy.

Carl Cunningham Jr., director of multicultural student affairs at the University of South Alabama, was one of the student session speakers who discussed the importance of mentoring and leaving a legacy behind.

A Mobile native, Cunningham attained his undergraduate degree from Jackson State University in urban studies. He then received a master's degree in geography and a Ph.D. in higher education ad-

ministration from the University of Southern Mississippi. Cunningham personally mentors 10 male students in Mobile.

Cunningham said that a "legacy is something that happened in the past or that comes from someone in the past."

Students were encouraged to leave a legacy and protect that legacy. They were then given five phases to carry out their legacy.

According to Cunningham, leaders must be connected to their legacy and self-identify, train, compete, socialize and strengthen it.

"Leadership development is an important and strategic way to build relationships and trust while equipping leaders with the skills and practices to increase their impact and sustain themselves over the long haul," said Cunningham.

Sheyann Web Christburg is an author, civil rights activist and dedicated youth advocate who spoke for the first adult session.

Christburg is the co-author of "Selma, Lord, Selma: Girlhood Memories of the Civil Rights Days," which recalls her childhood experiences with the civil rights movement and Martin Luther King Jr.

Christburg founded KEEP Productions a youth mentoring and modeling program, in 1980. The program seeks to provide personal growth and build self-esteem for children and teenagers aged two through 18.

Patricia Barnes was one of the speakers for the adult sessions at the conference. Her talk focused on achieving success despite roadblocks and speed bumps. Sister said the most important thing about achieving success was her believing in herself.

"The most important thing is to believe in yourself," Barnes said. "Once I took that first step, I

never looked back. If you're a great leader, people will follow you."

Barnes, known as "Sister Schubert," began baking her famous rolls in 1989 in the kitchen of her Troy home for friends and family. Since then, Barnes has three bakeries located in Luverne, Saraland, and Horse Cave, Kentucky, which produce over 9 million of the homemade rolls.

Jasmine Younge, founder and chief operating officer of Havah-Younge Inc., spoke in one of the final student sessions about the opportunities that are available to African-American leaders today.

Younge said that leadership and a desired result could not be fully achieved until solid leaders listen, are open, and lend themselves.

"Leadership is not an individual thing," Younge said. "You cannot lead others until you lead yourself."

Rear Adm. Fernandez Ponds, the final speaker for the conference, spoke on building character and achieving a vision.

Rear Adm. Fernandez "Frank" Ponds, Commander of Expeditionary Strike Group Three is a native of Alabama and has had various assignments serving the United States as Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific and more.

His personal declarations include: the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various service and campaign awards.

"Adversity does not build character," Ponds said. "It reveals character and shows who you really are. If you want change, then you have to make change. Don't ever stop dreaming."

Hopes for Hoopcoming tradition

Freshman Forum wishes to have event become homecoming of the spring

Lilly Casolaro
Staff Writer

Freshman Forum, in conjunction with the University Activities Council and the Student Government Association, will hold the first Hoopcoming.

Hoopcoming, a spring semester take on the traditional Homecoming, will be held on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 7:30 p.m., during the men's basketball game against the University of South Alabama in Trojan Arena.

Tremain Crutcher, a freshman global business major from Huntsville and a member of the Freshman Forum traditions committee, said the inception for the event was a combination of multiple ideas and past experiences.

"I tried Hoopcoming at my high school, and Sam Moody had a similar plan, so Hoopcoming here at Troy will be a combination of these ideas with the overwhelming support from many organizations," said Crutcher.

Several raffle prizes at the game will include a \$150 gift card to Barnes and Noble, a bike and a possible chance to win an Apple TV.

The men's basketball game will be televised. The event is a way to get the students and community involved and excited about school events and athletic programs, according to Sam Moody, a freshman risk insurance major from Montgomery, vice president of Freshman Forum, and co-creator of Hoopcoming.

Moody said he hopes that this event promotes campus and community involvement.

"The same energy displayed for Homecoming is desired for the event to create a maximum amount of support for the game while also motivating others to raise finances for our community," Moody said.

Campus organizations were asked to submit a male candidate for the Hoopcoming All-Star competition. These men will compete for a local charity of their choice by participating in the doughnut-eating contest during halftime.

The winner of the doughnut-eating contest will receive a gift card to Trojan Donuts.

Throughout the week, a table was set up in Trojan Center for students to "vote" for their favorite candidate by placing money in the candidate's jar.

The nominee who received the most funds will be considered the "All-Star" and donate all of the funds raised, including those raised by other participants, to the local charity of their choice.

"It is important for students to donate because 100 percent of the funds go back to the community," said Moody.

Zack Himes, a freshman undeclared major from Ariton and a member of the Freshman Forum traditions committee, said that he sought to create Hoopcoming as a tradition for years to come.

"I hope that a new tradition is created through Hoopcoming at Troy similar to homecoming festivities," Himes said. "This event gives Troy students an event to look forward to in the spring, supports rivalry against South Alabama and raises money for an excellent cause."

Destiny Hollis, a freshman risk management insurance major from Gulf Shores and head of the publicity committee for Freshman Forum, said that she desired complete campus involvement for the event.

"Hoopcoming is a very big task and finally seeing it all come together and getting the campus involved and organizations excited about the event is the biggest reward," Hollis said.

Outstanding women recognition

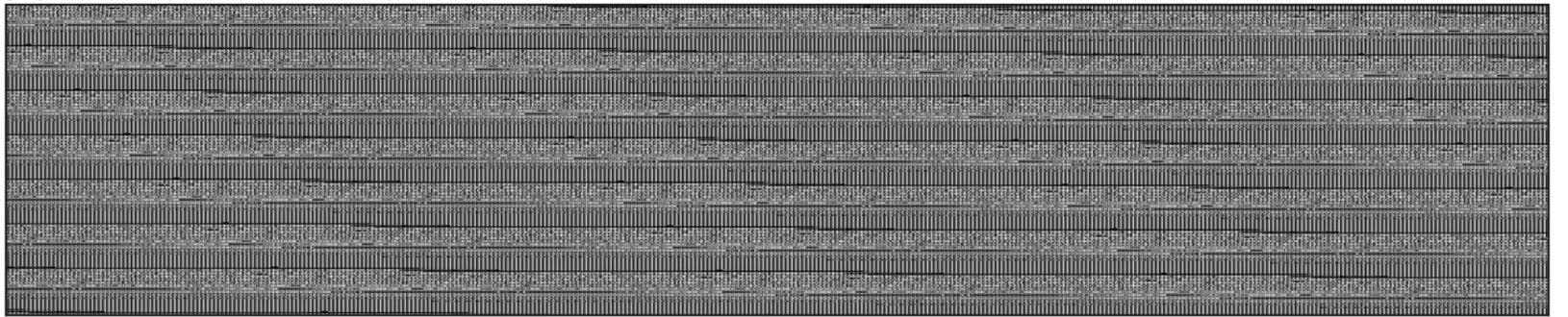
Cassie Gibbs
News Editor

application to nominate any "outstanding" women on campus.

The nominees will receive a second application by email. A selection committee will pick 10 women out of all nominated to be interviewed.

The final five "most outstanding women" will be chosen after interviews.

Applications for Most Outstanding Woman are due by Tuesday, Feb. 17.



Worshipping the Bast goddess

Troy student pays tribute to ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses in her religion, Kemeticism

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

In the heart of the Bible Belt, churches can be more numerous than gas stations or even Wal-Mart.

But these churches typically cater to Baptists and, less frequently, other branches of Christianity.

Elizabeth Garrett, a sophomore anthropology major from Banks, doesn't head out every Sunday morning for church. Her altar is in her home, and her religion is shown through her daily actions.

"I wouldn't call it a religion so much," Garrett clarifies. "But more like a spiritual path."

Practicing a form of Paganism known as Kemeticism, Garrett worships, or honors, ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses.

"I've always felt connected to Egypt," Garrett said. "Even when I was practicing

Christianity, I just never felt right in that religion. So I branched out and did my research and found my niche, which was Kemeticism.

"Everybody thinks it's super serious, but the ancient Egyptians were really full of puns and jokes," Garrett said — "I guess mainly because the gods are not seen as perfect beings. They're seen with imperfections, unlike the Christian God, which is seen as being perfect. It's more relatable."

Garrett also likes the fact that honoring her gods and goddesses can be integrated into her daily life and actions.

"I deal with Bast, and how I worship her is by feeding stray cats and keeping water out," she said of the Egyptian goddess of cats. "I'm honoring her while taking care of them."

Honoring the gods also involves the setup of her altar. It consists of statues of Anubis, the god of embalming and the afterlife, and Bast, as well as gemstones, two goblets, an offering dish and candles, and an incense burner.

Food and drink offerings can be made here.

"It's like, 'so-and-so god, this chocolate is for you,'" said Garrett, explaining the process. "You leave it out for a little bit, however long you feel is good, and then you eat it. They look down on wasted food and drink."

She said that rituals can also involve cleansing of self and prayer.

Garrett also enjoys the changes she has seen within herself in the over two years that she began practicing Kemeticism.

"I actually feel like I've been happier, more fulfilled, on this path," she said. "It's calming."

Garrett says that Kemeticism is different from the more well-known type of paganism, Wicca. Wicca deals more closely with nature, she says, and employs such rules as the threefold law, which is similar to the belief in karma.

Though both are forms of paganism, it is not like comparing Catholicism to the beliefs of Baptists, says Garrett. They are much more varied.



Jennifer Carlisle photo

Elizabeth Garrett, a sophomore anthropology major from Banks, explains her unique religion. Having begun in modern times during the 1970s, Kemeticism is mainly popular in the U.S. and France.

Members of Kemeticism are also fewer in number.

Garrett says that she has met only one other individual who shared her beliefs in person. It was a passing meeting at a mall, and it was over just as quickly.

"I've never met anyone else," she said.

She is involved in online communities dedicated to the practice, though, citing Tumblr as having a "really friendly community."

"I connect with other Kemetics, and that's where I get a lot of help and information when I'm stuck," she said.

Garrett is usually not too open when discussing Kemeticism.

"If I'm comfortable with a person, I will tell them," she said. "But other than that, I just let the person default believe that I'm a Christian."

"I don't let on that I'm 'different' because of how closed-minded they are, but if they are open-minded I will say, 'Hey, I'm a pagan!'"

When she does discuss it with someone, she says that she mostly gets interested reactions and not many negative ones.

"They are genuinely interested in my religion, and they're not, 'Oh my God,

you're the devil!' or anything," she said.

The only negative response she made note of was a woman who thought Garrett's forearm tattoos were related to Satanism.

Garrett's life also revolves around her 3-year-old daughter. For now, her daughter goes to the nursery at church to play with the other children, but she is also aware of Garrett's altar and the statues on it.

"I'm letting her explore her own religion," Garrett said. "Find her own path. She's getting different tastes of religions right now."

As for herself, Garrett hopes to continue honoring her gods and raising awareness of the religion.

She said that she would like to see people realize that there are other religions that are just as peaceful, "especially in the Bible Belt."

She also wants to work on her offerings, which involve rituals that can last up to an hour, depending on the individual.

"With being a full-time student and a full-time mom, I don't have a lot of time to do a proper offering to my gods."



Alyse Nelson photo

Garrett displays the tattoos on her arms — the Eye of Horus (left) and Anubis with the Ankh (right).

UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES COUNCIL AND TROY UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS PRESENTS

JAC SPRING CONCERT

FEATURING

NEED TO BREATHE

SPECIAL GUEST

BEN RECTOR

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015
TROJAN ARENA AT 7:00PM

Student Tickets \$15.00 | General Public \$30.00

Stop By The Trojan Center Room 231 For More Info.

Website To Purchase Tickets:

Students for Liberty hopes to engage wider array of students in organization events

Jamie Bennett
Staff Writer

Students for Liberty is an active organization on campus, sponsoring trips to places such as New Orleans and Washington, D.C., while informing students on its philosophical beliefs.

"Students for Liberty is a Libertarian philosophy group," said Jeremiah Baky, a sophomore political science major and vice president of Students for Liberty from Dauphin Island. "We hone in on the philosophy of free market and free people."

"We are purely philosophically based," President Ryan Lee, a senior history major from Enterprise, said about whether the group is a political organization or not. "We take no political action. We are more concerned with student activism."

"We have tabling events and biweekly meetings. Overall, we are socially liberal and fiscally conservative."

"We try and spread our ideas of anti-war and non-aggression," Baky

said, further discussing the organization's beliefs. "We believe in ending drug wars, financial freedom and social liberties."

The officers shared their views on gay marriage in Alabama.

"Government should not make regulations on personal choices, such as marriage or marriage licenses," Baky said.

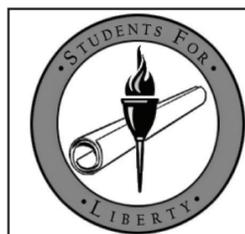
"We support all social liberties," Lee added. "We are trying to work

"We are purely philosophically based. We take no political action. We are more concerned with student activism."

closely with Spectrum and get involved in any events that they do."

Spectrum Alliance is an organization on campus that promotes LGBT awareness and equality on campus.

Justin Blowers, a freshman undeclared major and a member of



Contributed graphic Students for Liberty from Montgomery, shared his experience in joining the organization.

"At first I was dragged along to it by Ryan, but as I continued to go to the meetings I realized I agreed with most of the things they stood for," Blowers said. "We tackle both social and economic issues utilizing the Libertarian philosophy."

Lee invites everyone on campus to join in the next Students for Liberty meeting.

Meetings are held every two weeks on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in Bibb Graves 129. There will be a meeting tonight.

Editorial Board

Marriage license

A legal right, not a matter of faith

As the nation looks on, Alabama is still struggling with U.S. District Judge Callie V. “Ginny” Granade’s Jan. 23 same-sex marriage ruling.

Roy Moore, chief justice of the Alabama Supreme Court, issued an order Sunday telling probate judges not to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples nor to recognize same-sex marriages. Moore’s stance has been saluted by a chapter of the Mississippi Ku Klux Klan.

Many probate judges, including Pike County’s own Wes Allen, have been refusing to issue any marriage licenses. Allen and others have cited the conflict between same-sex marriage and their religious beliefs as a deciding factor in this choice.

If religious concerns are so important, it seems strange that the probate judges of Alabama haven’t had to stop issuing marriage licenses sooner. Surely some of these judges have issued licenses to divorcees though the Bible says in various places that to marry a divorced woman is to become an adulterer.

Some of these judges are also likely to have issued marriage licenses to people of different faiths or no faith at all. How could a judge so concerned with the Christian institution of marriage oversee the marriage of non-Christians?

While the theological conflict Allen and other probate judges face is understandable, if their faith so conflicts with the execution of the duties they were elected to perform, perhaps they’re in the wrong positions.

If a judge refused to try any criminal cases because the enforcement of one law was in opposition to his or her faith, it would be treated as a ridiculous dereliction of duty.

So is the decision of some probate judges to get out of the marriage business until they get their way. At best, it is an inconvenience to all the Alabamians they are meant to serve. At worst, it is an intolerable refusal to acknowledge the rights of same-sex couples.

Rather than ignore Granade’s ruling and force all couples in Pike County and more than 20 other counties in the state to seek marriage licenses elsewhere, they could better make their point and better serve their communities by resigning.

Judges maintain and apply the law. It is not their right or their duty to use their positions to enforce their religious beliefs.

Issuing a marriage license is a governmental matter, not a matter of faith. The probate judges are being asked to recognize same-sex marriage on behalf of the state, not on behalf of God.



Seth Nicholson

Difference between romance and abuse in relationships

Alyse Nelson
Feature editor

“Fifty Shades of Grey” opens tomorrow, and I’m sure we’ll all be flocking to the theater to see which juicy scenes were cut out for decency.

Or you could be like me and have no intention of seeing it or picking up the book.

There has been a lot of recent controversy over the abusive aspects of Anastasia and Christian’s precarious relationship.

That’s not why I won’t go see it. To have an unreliable narrator justify his or her actions and almost convince the reader that it’s acceptable is an interesting approach and the reason I appreciate “Lolita” for what it is.

But “Fifty Shades” is not that. It’s just bad fan-fiction that got lucky.

The first time I heard about the book, I was at a shower celebrating the fact that my aunt was becoming a grandmother. Ten women gathered in a kitchen, and one brought up her recent reading of the novel with a sheepish grin.

The few in the room who had read it blushed and recommended it to everybody else.

I went home with no interest in it, as it has been labeled something that makes my older relatives blush and those are the types of things I have no interest in exploring further.

And then it became insanely popular, so I did some research.

Anastasia doesn’t cover

black eyes with makeup or mumble excuses to worried co-workers and family members. Christian doesn’t threaten to harm her or himself if she were to choose to leave, not even in the contract he presents her.

While it is unusual for literature so erotic in nature to become so widely popular and openly discussed, these factors do not inherently make it a good representation

of literature, and neither should it be boycotted on the grounds of its contents alone.

It’s fiction. It’s not a handbook for teenage girls looking for a sugar daddy. It’s not a bible for a cult. It’s a story, and those are meant to entertain or they do not sell.

Dozens of movies open every year depicting drug rings, war, murder and real abuse and control. What makes this any different?

Because it’s a woman choosing to conduct her life in a way that most of us do not? What’s wrong with that?

As I said earlier, it would even be interesting if James, the author, took a few pointers from writers like Nabokov and gave us a more perilous story and a narrator more desperate to ensure that this is a normal life and normal actions.

But as it stands, I will not be avoiding “Fifty Shades” this Valentine’s Day on the grounds of abuse or feminist duty, but because it sucks and my aunt liked it before I had heard of anyone else fawning over it.

Gross.



Focus Features photo

A poster for “Fifty Shades of Grey,” which will premiere in theaters on Friday for the Valentine’s Day weekend. The books and their movie adaptation have come under criticism for their portrayal of BDSM relationships.

Perks of being single

Anyone can enjoy Valentine’s Day

Hannah Hartline
Staff writer

Valentine’s Day does not have to be just for the lovers.

Feb. 14 goes by many names: St. Valentine’s Day, Valentine’s Day or Single Awareness Day, depending on whom you talk to.

According to CNN, approximately 151 million Valentine’s Day cards are exchanged every year.

While billions of dollars are being spent in the name of love, some of Troy’s single students are using the day to love themselves and their friends.

Haley Baker, a senior Spanish major from Jay, Florida, said she actually had more fun being single and with friends than being in a relationship on Valentine’s Day.

“I know I never had a relationship in high school and I hated Valentine’s Day, but when I finally had my first relationship my first year of college, I was super excited for Valentine’s Day,” Baker said. “But when it came around, I was actually disappointed with our plans.

“So the next year, after we’d broken up, I actually had more fun going out with my friends.”

Sam Sizemore, a junior elementary education major from Geneva, said that her plans didn’t include a significant other, but rather a day with her roommate.

“My plans are to eat dinner and see ‘Fifty Shades of Grey’ with my roommate,” Sizemore said.

Cory Ray, a senior social science education major from Georgiana, had similar plans of just being with friends on the holiday.

“This is the first year in six years I haven’t had a valentine, and it’s refreshing to not have to take your girlfriend out to dinner and not buy chocolate or any other traditional Valentine’s Day gift,” Ray said. “So, I decided I am going to celebrate Valentine’s Day with one of my friends, by taking ourselves out to dinner and treating ourselves to a night out.”

Valentine’s Day does not have to be all about being with people whom



Caleb Hicks photo

Jasmine Philyaw, a junior communication major from Evergreen, enjoys Valentine’s Day cupcakes from the Hall School of Journalism and Communication, although she is currently single.

you are in love with, but it can be about being with people whom you love in general. It doesn’t have to be roses and romance.

My roommates and I are having our own holiday because each of us is either single or cannot spend the holiday with her boyfriend.

“Gal-entine’s Day” is our theme, and it is going to be a day of doing whatever we feel like doing, whether it be dinner and a movie or Netflix and chocolate.

Students shouldn’t feel like they have to be with someone on Valentine’s Day to make the day the

best that it can be. The day is about love, but how it’s interpreted is up to the student.

“If you don’t have a good friend to spend time with, then treat yourself! After all, no one knows what you like best and will take care of you like you can,” Sizemore said.

And of course, there is one other perk of being single on Valentine’s Day.

“Chocolate,” Ray said. “The day after Valentine’s Day, when every store sells their chocolate for half off, is every chocoholic’s dream.

“You don’t have to share.”

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

103 Wallace Hall
Troy, Alabama 36082

newswire@tropnews.com

TropNews.com

Editor-in-Chief
Chase Robinson
Business Manager
Kira Oliver
News Editor
Cassie Gibbs
Sports Editor
Jill Odom
Opinion Editor
Ngoc Vo
A&E Editor

Kianna Collins
Features Editor
Alyse Nelson
Variety Editor
Grishma Rimal
Photo Editor
April Irvin
Cartoons
Seth Nicholson
Chief Copy Editor
Laura Hutto

Copy Editors
Jane Morrell, Nik Knighten, Thomas Gleaton, Jessica Smith, Beth Hyatt
Staff Writers
Tori Roper, James Bennett, Valario Johnson, Lilly Casolaro, Wally Pendergrass, Michael Shipma, Destiny Hosmer, Pierce Godwin, Hannah Hartline, Ty Ammons, Wes Fortson, Lacey Alexander, Josh Richards
Photographers
Jennifer Carlisle, Caitlin Collins, Hannah Crews, Caleb Hicks, Brenna Patrick, Trey

Walker
Graphic Design Editor
Taylor Bowser
Ad Sales
Alex Lewis, Kendall Carbonie
Web Master/Social Media
Joshua Thurston
Adviser
Steve Stewart

Cains Trio going to London

Lacey Alexander
Staff Writer

A trio of Troy University alumni will be going international in early March to showcase their musical and vocal talents.

The Cains Trio, a band composed of three siblings who all hold degrees from Troy University, have been invited to perform at the Country to Country festival in London. This festival, often abbreviated to C2C, is the largest annual country music festival in London with 50,000 people estimated to be in attendance.

To help with funding the trip, The Cains Trio started a donations account on the popular fundraising website Kickstarter on Jan. 29, where friends, fans and family of the trio all donated to help the musical group reach their goal of \$5,000.

Upon meeting the \$4,000 mark of their goal, they announced on the Kickstarter page on Feb. 7 that they had secured travel accommodations and were officially headed overseas to perform.

Logan Cain, 22, is the youngest of the trio and the most recent graduate of Troy University. He was formerly a broadcast journalism major and a member of the cheerleading squad. Cain's biography on the bands' website states that he "relies on his unwavering faith in God for confidence, direction and success in life."

Cain said he is confident that this opportunity could be what escalates the trio's career. "London is a chance that

not every band gets but every band needs," Cain said. "Someday, we might look back at this opportunity and say, 'that was the thing that really broke it open for us.'"

"We know that God has been opening doors all along the way . . . we are so excited to get to go and meet new people and impact lives," said the oldest sibling, Taylor Cain, who is the lead vocalist for the trio and a graduate of Troy with a degree in music industry.

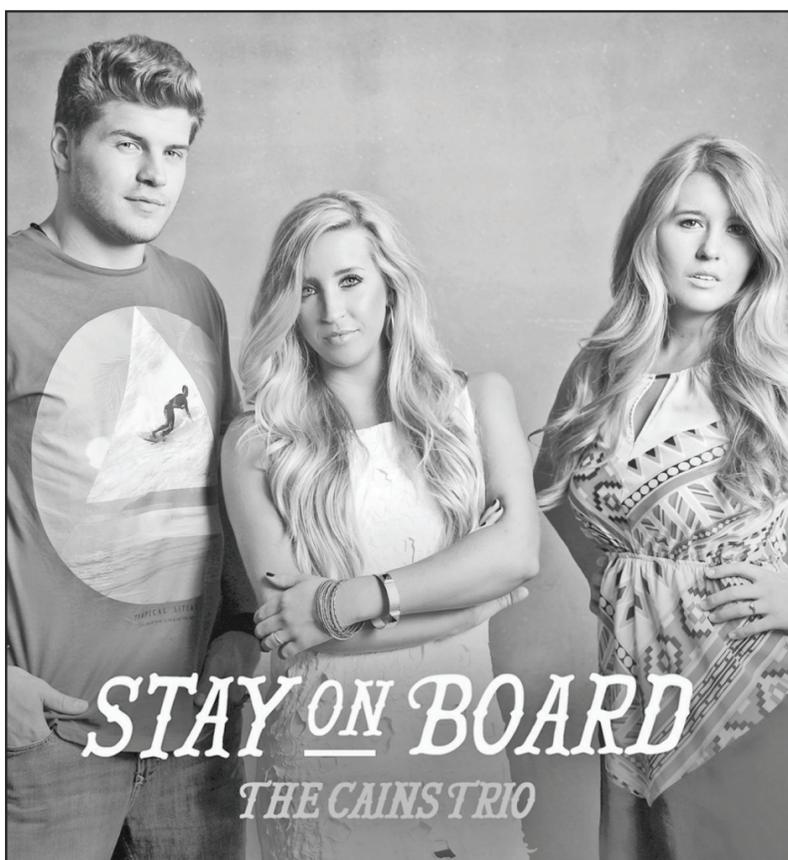
Madison Cain, the middle sibling who was an active member of Troy University's chapter of Chi Omega and graduated with a degree in broadcast journalism, expressed her gratefulness for the amount of support the group has received.

"Every day, it seems people are coming out of nowhere just to encourage us," she said. "We can't express how much it means to us to have our Troy family behind us."

The Cains Trio will leave for London on March 5, and will perform at the festival on March 7 and 8. The Kickstarter page is still open for donations of any amount equal to or over one dollar, and the page will be updated as more information about The Cains Trio's trip becomes available.

Information about the band and the trip is also available on the band's pages on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

The Cains Trio will be performing at The Boxcar in Troy on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, from 10 p.m. to midnight.



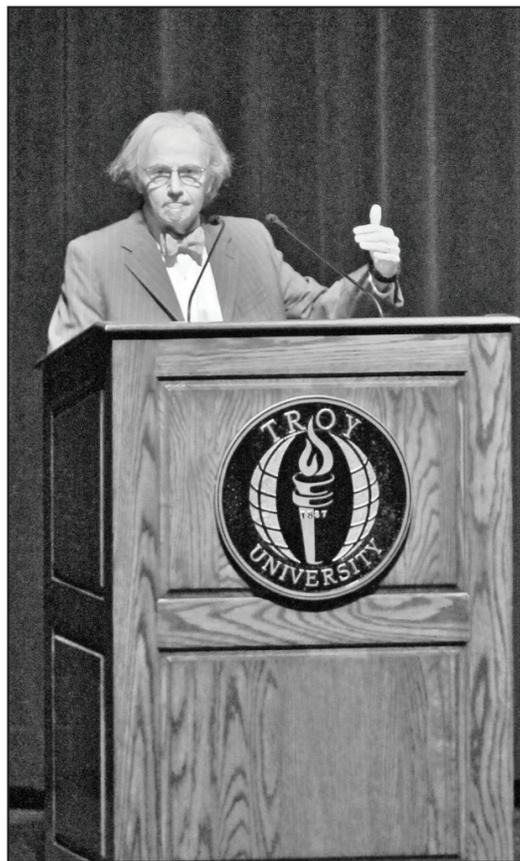
Amanda Chapman photo

The Cains Trio are all alumni of Troy University, and they're making their way to London to continue their careers in country music. They've been raising money for the opportunity to perform at Country to Country.

James C. Cobb lectures at Troy University

'The South Is Where You Find It: Contours of Southern Identity, Old and New'

Valario Johnson
Staff Writer



Caleb Hicks photo

James C. Cobb was brought to Troy by the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society. He lectured on the intricacies of Southern culture.

Troy University's department of history and Phi Alpha Theta, a history honor society, hosted a lecture on Monday on Southern history as a part of its series of history lectures centered on the South.

The McPherson-Mitchell lecture, entitled "The South is Where You Find It: Contours of Southern Identity, Old and New," was presented by James C. Cobb.

Cobb is a B. Phinizy Spalding professor at the University of Georgia and the former president of the Southern Historical Association.

"We are pleased to host Cobb and hear his perspective of the changing sense of how Southerners define themselves and the region," said Timothy Buckner, assistant professor of history.

Cobb has authored four books, with his most recent being published by Oxford University Press in 2010.

His books focus on the cooperation of economy, society and culture to create the identity of the South.

Monday's lecture focused on these aspects, illuminating what makes the South particularly special.

Focusing on statistics, Cobb painted the picture of what it means, now, to be considered Southern.

"A homicide victim in the South is more likely to have been killed

by someone he or she knew," Cobb said, "And in a recent study, over 62 percent of restaurant sales were fast food sales."

To continue with his statistical background of Southerners, Cobb said that those in the South are less likely to get their teeth cleaned, representing the most toothless states in the country.

Taking it back to the beginning, Cobb discussed the formation of Selma clay, which he said made Southern soil very viable for cotton growth.

He said that with this profitable crop, the South was able to build a status but not without consequences for others.

"Their wealth was overwhelmingly concentrated in slavery," Cobb said. "For example, a slave owner in, say, Pike County was much richer than a man in the North at this time."

Considered the "Cotton Belt," the Southern states culminated the richest stretch of land in 1860, and this is where the wealthiest planters and slave owners called home.

However, the reign of the South did not last long.

"This fact quickly changed with emancipation," Cobb said, "And this created a serious reversal in wealth with the poorest counties being located in the South."

Oddly enough, Cobb said, because the South is always changing, it is inaccurate to define it strictly by its

history.

Since then, the South has had to evolve continuously to create an economy, but still hold on to its culture.

But what defines the South today? "Today," Cobb said. "The further South you go in Florida, the Norther you get. This goes to prove that you cannot define the South by its history."

Cobb said that, today, the South is nothing if not defined by its contradictions.

Small towns with big industry is where the South is headed, Cobb said. With cotton production spread throughout the country today, the South has had to define new ways to produce capital.

"Small towns and counties in the South are now bringing in money by attracting plants, such as automobile plants, to the areas," Cobb said.

"These companies now see the South as this country's 'new Mexico' due to the low cost of production and operations."

However, Cobb said that there will be a turning point soon.

"What the South will realize in the future is that they did not buy these plants but only rented them," Cobb said.

He said that this is because manufacturers will find cheaper ways to produce their products. What defines the South is its ability, when necessary, to evolve.

2/13 - 19

Continental Cinemas

Student Discount with ID
Tickets Available @ kiosk
In The Trojan Center & Theatre

12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35
PG-13
3D

3D 1:15, 4:15
7:15, 9:40
PG

1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40
PG-13

Opens Thursday
Feb 12th
LOSE CONTROL
FIFTY SHADES OF GREY
FEBRUARY 12
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
R

12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30
R

12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30
R

The **Tropolitian staff** meets every Thursday night in room 107 of Wallace Hall at 6 p.m.

All students are welcome!

How do I become a Tropper?

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

Fiasco's newest album speaks

Jamal Carswell
Contributor

Lupe Fiasco released his fifth full-length album, titled "Tetsuo & Youth," on Jan. 20.

"Tetsuo & Youth" was Fiasco's final project with Atlantic Records before his contract expired.

The album is a testimony of the bond Fiasco had with the record company, despite many of his earlier complaints.

"Tetsuo & Youth" exemplifies the hard work that went into not only Fiasco's product, but also his relationship with Atlantic Records.

This dedication to hip-hop resulted in Fiasco's most satisfying project since "The Cool" in 2007.

The album's title, "Tetsuo & Youth," is derived from a combination of the anime, a form of Japanese animation, "Akira," and Fiasco's overall message with his album.

Tetsuo Shima is one of the primary characters in "Akira," the best friend of the main protagonist, Kaneda Shotaro. Tetsuo is regarded as the black sheep of his group in "Akira," a clear parallel with how Fiasco often describes feeling amongst his peers in the hip-hop community.

When asked in an interview, Fiasco simply said, "Tetsuo just sounds cool to me."

Other hip-hop artists, most notably Kanye West, have also made references to "Akira" in their work.

"Youth" helps set the tone for the message of the album: bettering the younger generations for the future. Fiasco has always been synonymous with deep lyricism and pointed thoughts.

Fiasco has not lost any of his lyrical talent, but he has made the messages more subtle. In his earlier albums, "Food and Liquor II: The Great American Rap Album and Lasers," Fiasco is accused of being "too preachy," only giving his points from behind the "pulpit" instead of the microphone.

In "Tetsuo & Youth," Fiasco comes back to weaving his messages into the

lyrics as opposed to forcing his lyrics into the message. The artwork for the album also helps to set the tone, lending smooth hues and shades to the mellow tone of the overall work.

The artwork was painted by Fiasco, and the picture follows the pattern of simplistic and minimal album covers seen from him in the past.

One of the most intriguing aspects of "Tetsuo & Youth" is Fiasco's use of interludes.

Fiasco includes four interludes, each only a minute or so long, named after each of the seasons. These short instrumental pieces set the tone for the next installment of tracks on the album. Each of these interludes perfectly captures the essence of the season it represents.

Most albums, at least in hip-hop, use skits or speeches for their interludes. Fiasco's introduction of simple, yet effective instrumentals adds to his soft and mellow tone, although still not taking away from the depth or message of the album.

The samples and instrumentals used for most tracks in the album have a distinct jazz influence. The most notable of these jazz-influenced tracks are "Body of Work," "Dots and Lines," and "Little Death." The tracks that progress the message of the album are the most interesting and well produced.

"Deliver" is the most popular track on the album, taking the concept of pizza delivery and relating that to the current state of youths in the ghetto. Especially in a college town, pizza delivery is a highly recognizable and relatable subject.

"Prisoner 1 & 2" depicts the prison system, coming from the perspective of the prisoner and the prison guard.

"They.Resurrect.Over.New" takes probably the most popular stigma of youth, video games, and uses that to show that the youth must progress to the next level, both in games and in life.

Combining the jazz and message aspects of his music, Fiasco implements one of the smoothest jazz instrumentals of the entire album to give one of his strongest messages in "Adoration of the



Lupe Fiasco photo

Lupe Fiasco's newest release is also his final release with Atlantic Records. The album artwork was also painted by Fiasco to set the mood for the album, using smooth brush strokes and colors.

Magi."

In the hook of this track, Fiasco asks many questions of his audience, ending each with "...you're just a baby." The last phrase, however, is a statement instead of a question: "Quit chasin' money, never mind, you're just a baby."

This shows Fiasco's acceptance of the inevitable fate of youth today. Despite what he may preach with his music, Fiasco knows the younger generation must learn from its mistakes.

Fiasco also, as with his past albums, employs the talents of many other musical artists. Guy Sebastian, Nikki Jean, Crystal Torres and Ab-Soul are just a few of the talents that lend their gifts to

the making of "Tetsuo & Youth."

"Tetsuo & Youth" is another classic installment to Fiasco's discography. Each interlude, sample, feature, brush stroke and track was carefully thought out to create a mellow, smooth, and enjoyable experience for the listener.

"Tetsuo & Youth" deserves a listen from anyone who claims to be a lover of the hip-hop genre.

With his current separation from Atlantic Records, it is unknown which direction Fiasco will turn to.

But if "Tetsuo & Youth" is any indication of the future, listeners have much to look forward to in the years to come.

PLAYSTATION PLUS FEBRUARY RELEASES



Alienrop photo

APOTHEON

TRANSISTOR >>



Supergiant Games photo

YAKUZA 4



Sega photo

THIEF >>



Square Enix photo

Taylor Bowser graphic

NEW GRILLED CHICKEN - PREMIUM-CUT STRIPS -

All white meat chicken. No artificial flavors or preservatives.

SUBWAY

eat fresh.®



Monterey Chicken Melt

The essence of love and family

Chancellor Jack Hawkins talks about his married life

Grishma Rimal
Variety Editor

In 1974, Chancellor Jack Hawkins Jr. laid his eyes on a young woman who created an impression on him instantly. “She is strikingly beautiful,” he thought.

Thirty-seven years of marriage, two children and two grandchildren later — the imprint his wife, Janice Hawkins, made remains the same. “She is still beautiful,” Hawkins said.

It seemed almost a matter of fate that Hawkins, a native of Mobile, met his wife, a native of New York. According to Hawkins, his wife first came down to the South to attend college at David Lipscomb University in Nashville, which all her siblings also attended.

Though later she moved back to New York, her brother, who was then working in Atlanta, encouraged her to come to the South again. She complied and eventually met the dean of the school of optometry at University of Alabama at Birmingham, who recruited her to work there.

Jack Hawkins also worked at UAB, and it was there at a school of optometry clinic that Hawkins first saw Janice. Hawkins was giving a tour to a photographer one day. When they reached the clinic, Hawkins remembers the photographer saying that he had to see this one young lady.

“And I said why?” Hawkins recalled. “And he said, ‘She is the most beautiful woman I’ve ever seen.’” He could not refute that point when he saw her himself.

“It took me about six months after that to get her to talk with me, but after that I was pretty persistent,” he said. The two were married three years later in 1977.

“Patience will contribute to a successful marriage”

“She was always very, very insightful and challenging,” he said. “I think that’s what I found of interest in her.

“She was challenging. It was a challenge just to get her to talk to me — and she has tolerated me all these years.”

It is Janice Hawkins’ intelligence, compassion and dedication towards her family and community that Hawkins said he loves about her. “She is a very spiritual, thoughtful person,” he said. “She is a very smart person, she is a loving person. She is the best gourmet cook that I have ever known.”

Hawkins said that although she can be tough at times, her robustness makes her independent and being tough influenced their two daughters to grow up as strong individuals.

Hawkins said that his family is extremely close and he regards having



Hannah Crews photo

Chancellor Jack Hawkins will celebrate his 38th marriage anniversary in April. He said that he did not have any special Valentine’s Day plans because his wife, Janice Hawkins, is currently in Japan.

children as the icing on the cake that is marriage. “Well, as you go through life you realize that there are many things much more important than yourself and when you are blessed to have a family, especially when children come, I can think of no greater blessing nor a greater responsibility, and it’s through that sharing that real happiness occurs,” he said.

Regardless of religious foundations, Hawkins said that he believes the spiritual life of a family is essential in weaving the lives of two people into one. “There needs to be a firm understanding,” he said. “That doesn’t mean you have to have the same beliefs. I think you have to recognize life together requires compromise, and you have to want your partner to be happy.”

“I need to place her happiness above my happiness, and I guess there is an old saying that ‘If Mama’s not happy, nobody is happy.’ I guess that’s true. It takes compromise. It takes understanding and in the essence of love, sacrifice.”

But Hawkins does not see his wife just as his life partner; he sees her as an essential component of the college community, who works behind the scenes to help improve Troy. He credits the visual beauty of Troy’s campus to her focus on the uniformity of the appearance of this university. He said that it was her vision and high expectations to make Troy’s campus look just as good as any other top institution in the state.

“There was a cute story from years ago, shortly after we came,” he said. “She actually was in the flower bed out in the corner of George Wallace Drive and University Avenue with the maintenance men who were taking care of the landscape.

“And I had a call from a little lady in the community, and she said ‘Dr. Hawkins, did you know that your wife is working with the maintenance men out in the flower beds, in the corner?’ I said

‘No ma’am, but that’s great.’ She never called me again.”

Hawkins said that her contributions to teaching etiquette classes and creating a university cookbook are some other inputs he highly values. Additionally, her insight and wise counsel have also been significant in helping Hawkins perform his duties as the head of the university, even in becoming the chancellor.

“To begin with, it was her interest in the blind that influenced my interest in the blind,” he said. Hawkins served as the president of the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, and it was during his tenure there that he met the Board of Trustees of Troy, who later asked him to come here.

Despite being the chancellor, Hawkins said that his wife probably thinks he is the most naïve man she knows. He said that while he willingly trusts people, his wife is more cautious and she can see things that he easily does not; together, they are able to discern the facts of the matter.

“And I think we’ve certainly been stronger as a team as opposed to me trying to do this in isolation,” he said. “So she has been a great partner.”

Hawkins said that when he served alongside the Korean Marines in Vietnam, they often talked to him about how Americans get married too early. He said that this made a lot of sense to

him, and he thinks that as Americans, it is something the youths must ponder before saying, “I do.”

“Wait, because you need to be mature emotionally,” he said. “You need to be fairly independent, and you need to have a strong financial base. Many people in America, they marry young and they marry for love, which is the right reason, but marriage is a complex institution.” Hawkins was 32 when he got married.

“Too many young people today think that if I don’t get married immediately after college, I may not get married, which is not true at all,” he said. “Life is a long time. I think patience is a virtue and patience will contribute to a successful marriage.”

Hawkins said that although he thinks of himself as a romantic, his wife probably does not think so. “She’d say I could be more so,” he said. “I may not be a romantic in expression, but I am at heart.”

The romantic-at-heart chancellor will not be able to spend Valentine’s Day with his wife, as she is currently in Japan with their elder daughter and her family. Nonetheless, he is sending a gesture of love to her.

“I just mailed my Valentine’s card this morning,” he said. “I hope the mail flies on time. I couldn’t be there to take her to dinner, so I sent her a check so that she can take my son-in-law and daughter to dinner.”



Hannah Crews photo

Inside Hawkins’ office are pictures of his family. From left to right: The chancellor with his grandchild, his younger daughter, he and his wife, and Janice Hawkins and their grandson.

LOCATION
808 S George Wallace Dr.
Troy, AL 36081

CALL IN DELIVERY/CARRYOUT
334.566.1234

ORDER ONLINE: www.dominos.com

The Tropolitan is looking for short fiction and poetry for its **new magazine** to be published later this semester.

Interested in submitting?

E-mail Chase Robinson at crobinson@tropnews.com.

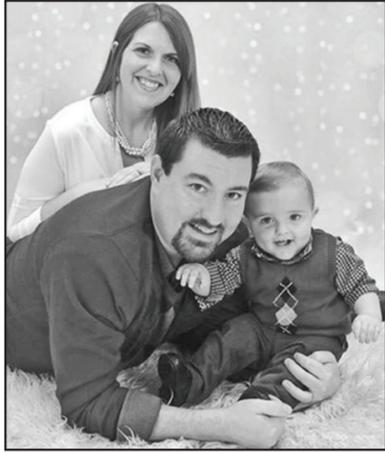
The 'How I met your teacher' story

Grishma Rimal
Variety Editor

The Taylors:

It was an awkward beginning that turned into a friendship and later love for both Aaron Taylor, TrojanVision television production coordinator, and his wife, Robbyn Taylor, lecturer of journalism and communication.

"I met her right here where I am sitting right now," Taylor said sitting at his desk at the TrojanVision News office.



Aaron and Robbyn Taylor have been married for two years and have a 1-year-old boy.

He said that Robbyn had dropped by the then TSU TV office looking to get involved with the television station. He, a senior, was about to go shoot a story and Robbyn, a freshman or a sophomore, wanted to tag along.

"But, I was very mean and rude to her, and she (Robbyn) will often say 'very scary,'" he said. "So I scared her, and she actually wanted to not come back to TSU TV. But her mom told her, 'Don't let some mean boy keep you from being a part of a television station that you want to become a part of your career.'"

Taylor admits that he honestly does not remember this first encounter. "She remembers it vividly because I scared her," he said. Despite that initial interaction, the two became friends.

"Fast forward 14 years later, and her mom was saying, 'You really should date this Aaron guy, he is really a nice

guy,'" he said.

The Orlofskys:

"It all started on June 20, 1988, when I came down to Troy for my interview," said Michael Orlofsky, professor in the English department. He is married to Diane Orlofsky, professor in the music department.

A colleague of his introduced them during his visit, and the three went out to lunch after his interview.

"Big spender, we went to McDonald's for lunch," Orlofsky said. "And it was when I was sitting across the table from her at McDonald's that I was kind of just looking at her and the thought went to my head that 'Hey... this might be a possibility.'"

Orlofsky subsequently got hired and began working in the English department, and his office was right across from Diane's office.

"And I would stay late in the day grading papers, and she would stay later in the day practicing piano," he said. "And then as these things go, we started making small talk and comparing notes, just being friendly."

September of that year, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival came to Troy for a performance of Shakespeare's "Hamlet," providing Orlofsky with the opportunity to ask her out. They went to dinner and then attended the play that night.



Michael and Diane Orlofsky in 1990. They have been married for 22 years and have two daughters.

"And ever since that day, I think it was Sept. 26, 1988, we've been together."

The Ingrams:

Rebecca "Becky" Ingram, assistant professor in the department of education, met her husband, Earl Ingram, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, while she was still dating someone else.

Ingram's love story began through her brother, who worked with her husband in an engineering firm.

"He worked there for two years before



Rebecca and Earl Ingram have been married 47 years and have two sons and five grandchildren.

my brother told him that he had a sister," she said. "And once he did, he met me."

Becky Ingram was teaching Earl how to water-ski while her then boyfriend was driving the boat when Earl first asked her out.

"When we went out on our first date, my boyfriend was at my parents' house to see us off," Ingram said, describing her odd first date where her then boyfriend followed them the whole night. "It was very awkward, but we were married a year later," she said.

Their nuptials were also as atypical as their first rendezvous.

"He was living in Oklahoma (for military) and I was living in Georgia, and we decided to be together," she said. "We decided on a Friday to get married. He drove 24 hours straight from Oklahoma to Georgia. Then he flew to Washington, D.C., to tell his parents and then flew back. We planned the wedding on Monday, and then we were married on Tuesday."

Ingram said that what has kept her husband and her together is their shared

sense of fun. "We do things that we both like, we encourage each other and we support each other," she said. "And I think that has developed into a world-class love affair."

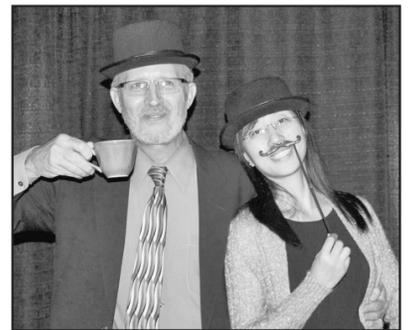
McCall-Li

Joe McCall, senior lecturer of history, and his wife, Xiaojuan "Silvia" Li, coordinator for special international initiatives, have been married for three years now. Li came to the U.S. from China as a visiting scholar, and the two were able to meet.

"I lived in the married student housing with some other visiting scholars," she said. "Joe was living just upstairs."

Li said that her and her friends would throw parties and get-togethers as it is done in Chinese culture. Because McCall was single and lived by himself, they would invite him to join them for dinner and he normally would — they would always have plenty of food.

"He would also take us here and there to go places, and I didn't have to walk to school to go to class," she said. "I'd take a ride with him. And gradually we became friends first."



Joe McCall and Silvia Li have been married for three years.

Li said that even when they both felt that they were attracted to each other, McCall had reservations about expressing it because he thought that Li was already married. When they finally talked about it, Li told him that she was divorced and McCall finally took a sigh of relief. "That's how we started," she said.

Calling all Troy Campus students!
How satisfied are you with your college experience?



THIS FEEDBACK FEBRUARY,
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Troy Campus students are invited to participate in the
Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory
February 9th -28th

Check your @troy.edu email account starting Feb. 9th
for your personal survey invitation

Do you like to win? You could win one of ten \$20 Barnes & Noble gift cards!

Every participant will be entered into a drawing for one of ten \$20 gift cards to be given. The earlier you participate, the better your chances of winning. We will draw for the first name on February 9th, and then draw 3 names each on February 13th, 20th, and 27th for a total of 10 names. For further information, contact surveys@troy.edu

Red Wolves fall to Trojans

Jill Odom
Sports Editor

The Troy men's basketball team finished up its road trip, winning against Arkansas State on Thursday, Feb. 5 and losing to Appalachian State on Saturday, Feb. 7.

On Thursday, the Trojans used their high-scoring first half to squeeze out a tight win against the Red Wolves, 69-64. They scored 42 points in the first half while Arkansas State only made 24 points.

Senior guard Musa Abdul-Aleem and senior forward Kevin Thomas racked up double digits in the first half with 15 and 14 points, respectively. Thomas also had his 12th career double-double by also having 11 rebounds during the night.

After halftime the Red Wolves came out with a vengeance, scoring 40 points in the second half, while Troy only made 27 baskets. However, the rally was in vain -- Arkansas State only had the lead at one point in the game and that was when the score was 4-3.

Other Trojans junior forward John Walton III and freshman guard Wesley Person contributed to the final score by making 22 points together. Troy's 76.2 percent success rate at the free-throw line also helped lift it above Arkansas State, which only made 66.7 percent.

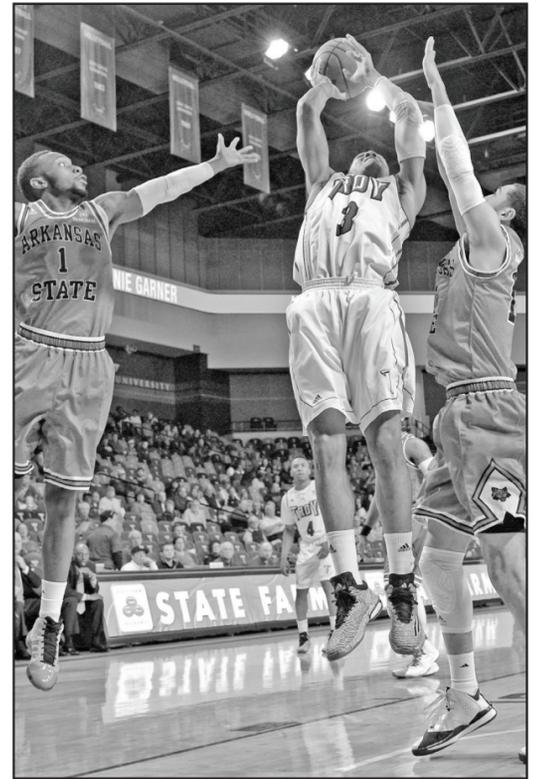
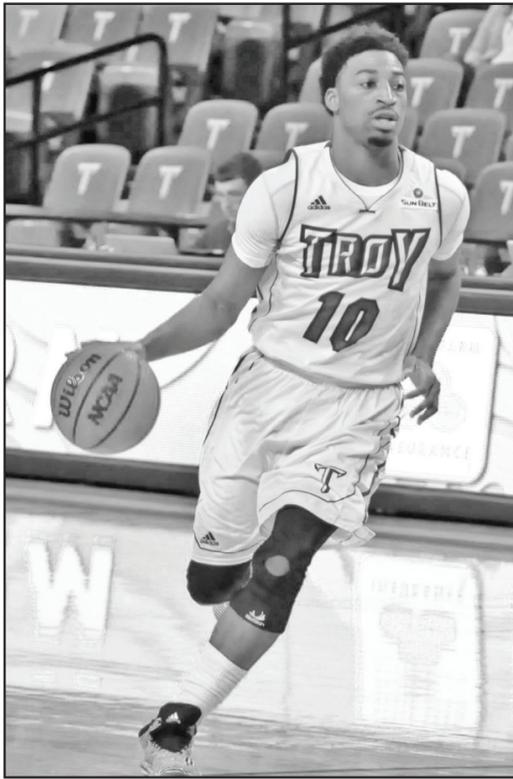
Redshirt guard Sean Gardner led Arkansas State with 20 points and teammates sophomore forward Anthony Livingston and junior guard Cameron Golden both scored 13 points.

The Trojans also made 18 baskets off of second-chance shots, while the Red Wolves only made eight second-chance points.

Troy traveled to Boone, North Carolina, on Saturday to compete against the Appalachian State Mountaineers. The game was a close 65-62, but the Trojans did not half a strong enough second half to overcome the Mountaineers' lead.

Appalachian State led Troy 33 to 27 in the first half, scoring significantly higher in the paint and behind the arc. Despite rallying in the second half and scoring 35 points, the Trojans came up three points shy.

Thomas, Abdul-Aleem, and Person all scored double digits again and junior guard Chris Bilbo also made 12 points, scoring the most free throws for the team.



(Left) Jennifer Carlisle photo (Right) April Irvin photo
(Left) Junior guard Chris Bilbo scored eight points and had six boards during the game against Arkansas State on Thursday, Feb. 5. (Right) Freshman guard Wesley Person made 11 points to help the Trojans defeat the Red Wolves at the Trojan Arena.

High-scoring Mountaineers junior guard Frank Eaves and junior guard Chris Burgess scored 15 points apiece and scored three three-point shots as well.

Troy tied up the lead twice in the first half and in the second half it had narrowed the lead to two points at 13:52. Three-pointers kept pushing Appalachian State's lead slightly out of Troy's reach until Abdul-Aleem made a three-pointer of his own and tied the score up 59-59 with four minutes left on the clock.

Unfortunately another shot behind the arc by Burgess, a basket in the paint and a good free throw by Eaves left the game in Appalachian State's control, despite a valiant three-point shot from Bilbo with one second left on the clock.

Troy returns home on Thursday, Feb. 12, to face off Sun Belt rival South Alabama. The tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

Track and field earns first place

Jill Odom
Sports Editor

The Troy track and field team traveled to Murfreesboro, Tennessee, to compete at the Middle Tennessee Invitational and came away with a first-place finish on Saturday, Feb. 7.

Troy vied for dominance against schools such as Middle Tennessee, Belmont, Chattanooga, Eastern Kentucky, Southern Miss, and UAB.

Junior Zach Douglas was the victorious Trojan who won the shot put after making a 14.74-meter throw in the competition. He also participated in the weight throw and placed

fourth with a 14.52-meter throw.

Fellow junior Myles Charley took home third place in the long jump and placed fourth in the triple jump.

Several of the men's team's sprinters also had a good outing. Sophomore Issac Jennings finished second in the 55-meter dash. Seniors Zach Calhoun and Douglas Dyer finished fourth and fifth place in the men's 55-meter hurdle, respectively. Calhoun finished the run in 8.06 seconds while Dyer finished in 8.22 seconds.

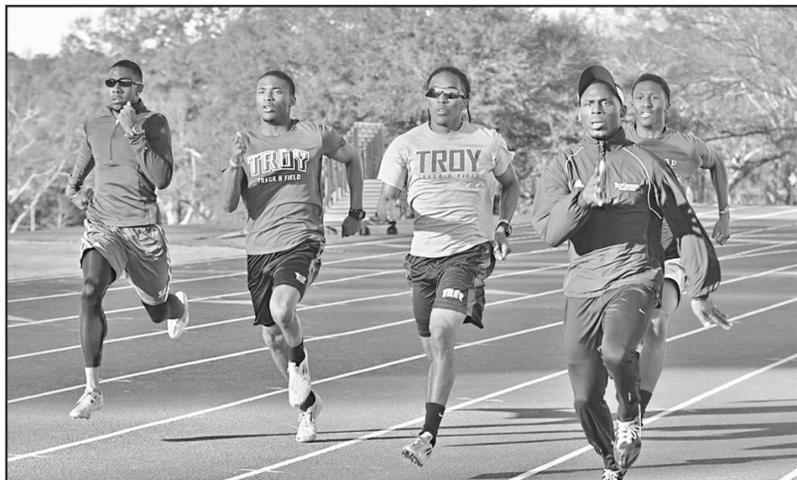
For the women's team, sophomore Allison Taylor finished second place in the weight throw field

event. She made a 16.02-meter throw.

Junior Julia Ostendorf placed third in the women's 300-meter run and set a new season best, finishing in 10:18.18. Sophomores Samantha Smith and Kristina Bokenfohr were close behind Ostendorf. Smith completed in the run with a time of 10:51.54. Bokenfohr crossed the finish line at 11:19.19.

To finish up the invitational, the Trojans placed second in both the men's and women's teams 4x400-meter relay.

Troy will compete on Friday, Feb. 13, and Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Samford Invitational in Birmingham.



Jennifer Carlisle photo

The men's and women's track teams finished second place in the 4x400-meter relay at the Middle Tennessee Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 7.

You win some, you lose some Tennis teams go one for two

Ty Ammons
Staff Writer

The men's and women's tennis teams both played two teams each this past weekend. The men's team played the University of Southern Mississippi Eagles and No. 19 Ole Miss. The women's team played the UNC Wilmington Seahawks and the North Florida Ospreys.

The men's first match at home this season was against the Southern Miss Eagles, and Troy won all of its matches except for the line three doubles match.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, junior Gabriel Dias defeated junior Tarun Surat 6-2, 6-3. Sophomore Hassan Ndayishimye won his third three-set match after defeating sophomore Wen-Po Tseng. Freshman Andy Lau won 6-1, 7-5 against sophomore Chao-Yu Huang.

Junior Daniel Bustamante won 6-4, 6-2 against grayshirt Alex Doleac. Junior Giovanni Samaha defeated junior Rakshit Rishi 6-0, 7-5, and sophomore Pablo Moreno won 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 against freshman Daniel Merker.

In line one doubles, Ndayishimye and Lau defeated Tseng and Huang 6-2. Moreno and Dias won line two doubles against Surat and Doleac 7-5. Merker and senior Brad Marriott defeated Troy's sophomore Andre Baldo and junior William McClelland 6-2.

The men's matchup against Ole Miss was postponed from Sunday to Monday, Feb. 9, in Oxford, Mississippi. Troy won three of its six single matches and lost all three doubles. Bustamante won his line four singles match against freshman Zvonimir Babic 2-6, 6-3, 10-8. Samaha won his line five singles match 6-3, 6-2 against sophomore Ricardo Jorge,

and Moreno defeated freshman Grey Hamilton 6-4, 6-4. The men's record this season so far is 5-4.

The women's team played UNC Wilmington in Jacksonville, Florida, on Saturday, Feb. 7, and won all but one singles and one doubles match. Freshman Sanae Ohta defeated sophomore Annika Sillanpaa 4-6, 6-1, 6-2. Junior Trang Huynh won 6-3, 6-3 against senior Alyssa Ritchie.

Junior Anja Cosovic defeated junior Christine Kharkevitch 4-6, 7-5, 10-4. Freshman Jiayuan Xue won line four singles 6-1, 6-3 against sophomore Alix Theodossiou and junior Margot De Haan defeated freshman Christin Kaupper 6-1, 6-2.

Cosovic and Huynh won line one doubles against Kharkevitch and Sillanpaa 6-4, and junior Brooke Durden and freshman Linnea Skymberg won their match 6-4 against Theodossiou and Kaupper.

Troy lost its matchup against North Florida on Sunday, Feb. 8. Troy only came away with two singles wins and one doubles win. Huynh defeated senior Esther Zuniga 6-2, 6-1 and Cosovic won 6-3, 7-5 against senior Marina Cunningham. Cosovic and Huynh defeated Cunningham and senior Taylor Hollander 6-2 in line one doubles.

The men's tennis team's next match is against Florida Gulf Coast at Daytona Beach, Florida, on Friday, Feb. 13, and plays Stetson in DeLand, Florida, on Saturday, Feb. 14.

The women's tennis team's next match is Sunday, Feb. 15, against Auburn, and then it has its first home match on Tuesday, Feb. 17, against Jacksonville State at 2 p.m.

♦ TEXTBOOK BUYBACK
♦ 100 FULL Color Flyers \$39.00
♦ Professor & Student B/W Copies @ .06¢

SELL your textbooks HERE

We can print your banners and signs!

Grand openings • Graduations
Corporate events • Parties

The UPS Store

You've read what we write. Now hear what we have to say. The **TropCast** will be a 15-minute program available at **tropnews.com** every Wednesday.

Softball splits home series

Trojans dominate Florida A&M and University of Buffalo at Troy Classic

Wes Fortson
Staff Writer

After a hard loss in Auburn on Thursday, Feb. 5, the Trojan softball team hosted the Troy Classic at the Troy Softball Complex and split the series 2-2 on Feb. 6-8.

Troy opened its season on the road and suffered a loss at the hands of the Auburn Tigers, 15-5. Auburn came out with bats on fire in the bottom of the first, scoring 10 runs. It tacked on additional runs in the bottom of the second and third innings.

The Trojans managed to get on base and advance teammates in the first inning, but they were held to four runs until the fifth inning when senior first baseman Michelle Phelps reached home plate.

Returning home, Troy hosted the Troy Classic and finished the weekend with wins against Florida A&M and the University of Buffalo.

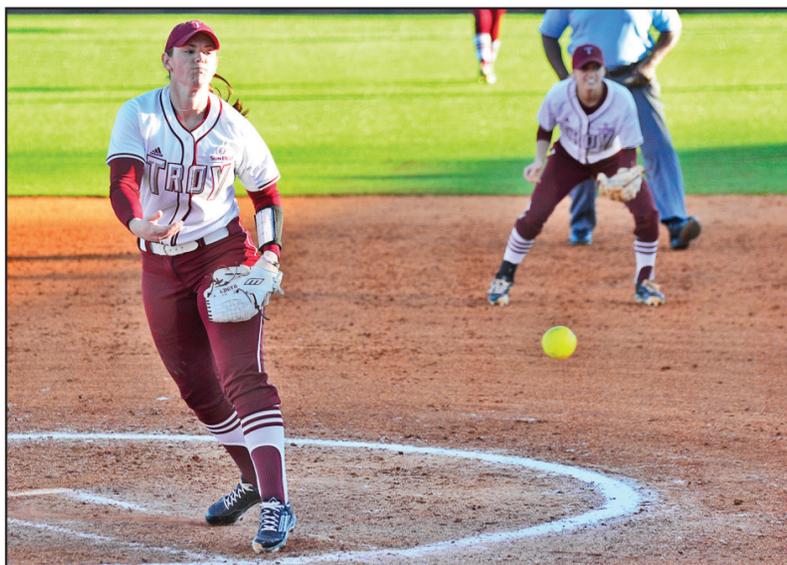
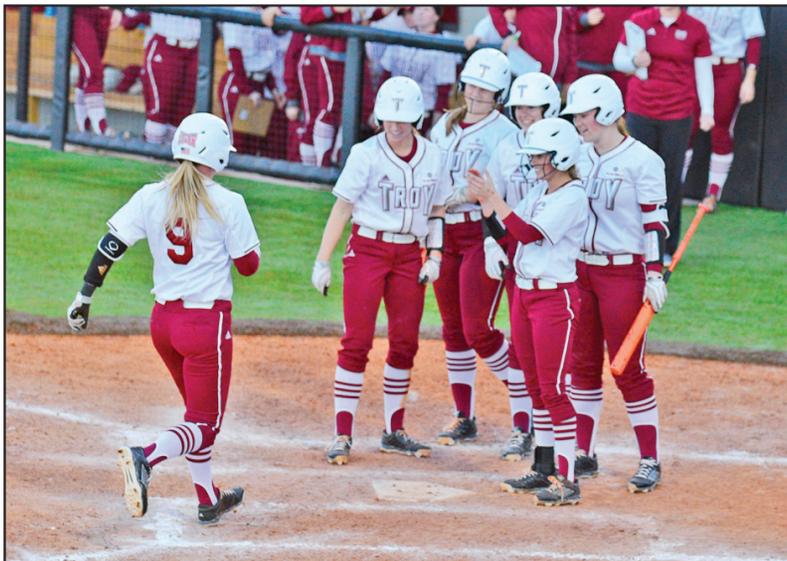
On Friday night, Feb. 6, Troy opened play with an 16-4 victory over FAMU. In only five innings, head coach Beth Mullins had her first career win with Troy and as a head coach.

The Trojans started off the game with a powerful lead of eight runs in the bottom of the first. Phelps and junior right fielder Amanda Winters combined for five RBIs and six hits during the game.

"I told the girls yesterday after a tough loss that it's obviously not about me, but I asked them to get a little bit better today and they did," Mullins said. "I think the fight they showed after a tough loss yesterday, I think it shows a lot about them. I'm excited that we got the win."

On Saturday, Feb. 7, the Troy Classic continued with another dominating win for the Trojans. The softball team took down Buffalo in five innings with a score of 11-0.

The Trojans gashed the Bulls by adding three runs in the beginning of the



(Top) Senior first baseman Michelle Phelps hit a grand slam in the bottom of the third against the University of Buffalo on Saturday, Feb. 7. (Bottom) Junior pitcher Ashley Rainey had two strikeouts each in the games against Auburn, Florida A&M and University of Buffalo.

third inning, so Buffalo attempted to stop the bleeding by bringing in sophomore reliever Madison Vaught.

Phelps had other plans. She launched a grand slam over the left center outfield wall only two batters later to bring the final score to 11-0.

Unfortunately, the Trojans awaited a much tougher competition Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

Saturday night Troy faced off against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers and senior pitcher Miranda Kramer. Kramer is the current active NCAA leader in strikeouts and set a career high, when she struck out 19 batters.

Troy struggled to get on base against Kramer on the mound, who dominated the entire game.

The Hilltoppers only needed to score in the first inning, finishing the game 4-0.

"We came out today really well in the first game," Mullins said. "Our pitching today, I thought was incredible."

The final game of the weekend for Troy was a battle against the University of North Florida.

The Trojans fell 3-0 in the pitching duel between Troy's junior Sara Mock and UNF's senior pitcher Kayla Goff.

Troy managed to land only four hits and one walk, while the Ospreys accumulated eight hits and one walk.

Mullins complimented pitchers junior Ashley Rainey, senior Jaycee Affeldt and junior Sara Mock. The trio combined for a total of 23 strikeouts on the weekend.

"There's always good and there's always bad," Mullins said. "The bad is that we gotta get better at making adjustments at the plate. We just did not do a great job of that the last two games."

Troy softball resumes play in Athens, Georgia, at the Bulldog Invitational on Friday, Feb. 13, versus Elon University.

April Irvin photos

Troy scores triple digits, season first

Wally Pendergrass
Staff Writer

The Troy women's basketball team hit triple digits for the first time this season in a win over Appalachian State, after losing earlier in the week to Arkansas State.

The Trojans faced the second place Red Wolves in Jonesboro, Arkansas, on Thursday, Feb. 5, where they were unable to overcome a first half 20-2 run.

The Red Wolves got hot in the first half, kept it going the rest of the way and defeated the Trojans 91-72.

The Trojans shot only 36 percent in the game and never got closer than 14 points to the Red Wolves in the second half.

Junior guard Ashley Beverly-Kelley led the Trojans with 26 points, while senior forward Ronita Garrett had 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Garrett recorded her fifth straight double-dou-

ble, and becomes the first Trojan to do so since Troy moved to Division I.

The Trojans continued their road trip, taking on Appalachian State in Boone, North Carolina, on Saturday, Feb. 7.

Troy dominated this game, leading the whole way while shooting 54.3 percent from the floor, winning 108-87.

The Trojans shot 52.4 percent from the three-point line, their second best effort on the season.

"We came out with incredible energy after a long road trip," said head coach Chanda Rigby.

Garrett led the team with a career-high 28 points while Beverly-Kelley scored 25, her fourth straight game with 20-plus points.

Junior guard Lacey Buchanon grabbed 10 assists, which is the highest mark for a Trojan so far this season.

"We are looking forward to two games at home next week," Rigby

said, "and we need our supporters to come out as we make a run at a Sun Belt Championship."

With seven games left in the regular season, Troy is closing in on a berth to the Sun Belt Conference Tournament.

Troy is currently tied for third with Texas State in the Sun Belt standings, with the top eight teams making it into the tournament.

Troy hosts South Alabama in Trojan Arena on Thursday, Feb. 12. Thursday will be the first meeting this season against the rival Jaguars, who are currently in last place in the Sun Belt.

On Saturday, Feb. 14, the Trojans will host UL Lafayette in Trojan Arena. The Trojans hope to be a bad Valentine's date and get a season sweep over the Ragin' Cajuns, whom they defeated earlier in the season 60-55.



April Irvin photo

Senior forward Ronita Garrett led the Trojans in points, making 28 baskets.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A

WOMEN'S HEALTH CLINIC

WEDNESDAYS 8:00 AM To NOON

STUDENT HEALTH CENTER, HAMIL HALL



Dr. Paul Delaney
Gynecology

Dr. Dulaney joins TRMC as a Board Certified Gynecologist with over 14 years of experience, specializing in women's services and gynecological surgery. He performed his residency at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, NC. He currently serves as Chief of Staff at Troy Regional Medical Center. Dr. Dulaney's office is located in the Medical Office Building located on the TRMC campus.

- Clinics will begin **Wednesday, February 18, 2015**
- Walk-ins are welcome
- Appointments will be accepted
- Insurance will be accepted