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Parking mayhem upsets Trojans

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Contributor

Over 200 students had a less-than-pleasant start to the semester.

They were ticketed for various parking issues on the first day of classes, and at least four cars were towed as well.

Student outrage has poured out over social media; and an online petition to build a parking deck has brought more than 1,200 signatures since it began circulating two days ago.

Christopher McCluskie, a senior psychology major from Prattville who started the online petition, explained his personal experience of having to drive around campus for 30 minutes looking for a spot made him late for his class. This made him initiate the petition.

"I take early classes (8 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.), so I can get to school about 30 minutes early just so I have a glimmer of hope of parking," he said. "Some days, I have no luck and wind up parking in the middle of nowhere."

The uproar has prompted the Student Government Association to collaborate with the university police to review the parking tickets issued last week for "parking on the grass" or for "parking with no decal."

In an email sent to the student body on Monday night, SGA president Heath Barton, a senior global business major from Opp, said that tickets issued for those reasons may be brought by the SGA office no later than Friday, Aug. 21, for review.

"Unfortunately, if you received a ticket for any other reason besides the ones mentioned above, we are unable to review your ticket and you will have to go through the appeals process if you wish to appeal the ticket," Barton said in the email.

However, review does not guarantee that the ticket will be voided, according to university police Chief John McCall. He said that there may be a reduction in fine depending on the case but all tickets being canceled "is simply not the case."

"They have a list of rules to help them to decide whether or not the ticket should be voided," Barton said.

According to McCall, around 4,500 decals have been issued to faculty and students this fall, and the final number is expected to range anywhere from 6,000 to 8,000.

The number of total parking spots on campus, as provided by the office of student services, is 4,311.

Despite the issues seen this week, McCall said that he expects the situation to de-escalate in the upcoming weeks, as students sort out the best place for them to park.

Raven Pasibe, a senior broadcast journalism major from Dothan, said that she thinks that parking on campus is a big issue because students are being forced to either miss a class or get a parking ticket, both unfair choices.

"Although I have not received any tickets yet, I know plenty of people who have because they've been forced to park in the grass, because they've been looking for parking for 40 minutes, and they end up spending more time looking for parking than they do in class," she said.

Herbert Reeves, dean of student services, said he believes there are several factors contributing to the issue of parking on campus.

"We've witnessed about 400 residents who did not live on campus last year move back this year since the new residence hall opened, and unfortunately, there is not a space for everyone who parks behind that building," he said.

"On the parking map, the parking lot by the Trojan Arena is not marked as commuter or open, so I believe that may have been a confusing point to people as to whether or not they could park there."

See **Parking mayhem**, page 2



Palladium photo

The 1998 Palladium included a special feature on the lack of parking spaces available at the then Troy State University.



Hannah McGaha photo

Vehicles parked on grass on the first day of classes in front of the Sorrell chapel. Many students were forced to park in prohibited areas due to a shortage of parking spaces.



April Irvin photo

Members of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority performed at the step-tease show organized by the University Activities Council. Full story on page 5.

General studies becomes flexible

Chase Robinson
Columnist

Gone are the days of mandatory biology credit requisites at Troy University.

A new general studies program has been introduced in the 2015-16 academic catalog that provides students with more choice and flexibility.

The new program moves away from requiring students to take specific classes, instead focusing on specific discipline areas.

"A good general studies program is laying the foundation for, really, the rest of your life's learning," said Hal Fulmer, associate provost and dean of undergraduate and first year studies.

Fulmer said the program was changed to be more flexible and more in line with guidelines established by the Statewide Transfer and Articulation Reporting System, and the Alabama Articulation and General Studies Committee.

Fulmer said that the program will allow the acceptance of transfer credits from a wider variety of classes from other institutions.

"We wanted to have something that would be a little easier for transfer students," he said. "We wanted to be much closer to the STARS guide."

According to Fulmer, this general studies program will create 15-30 hours of choice.

"Students who are brand new this fall will get the benefit," Fulmer said.

The program still requires 59-64 hours of general studies courses in five areas. The first

four areas constitute about 42 hours, and STARS specifies about half of those, according to Fulmer.

The general studies program detailed in the 2014-15 academic catalog specifies about 52 classes that can be used for various general studies requirements.

The new general studies program specifies only six classes, thus allowing 1000-2000 level courses to meet requirements in a variety of disciplines.

"Imagine a student who says they're thinking about criminal justice as a major and they're going to take intro to criminal justice," Fulmer said. "If they love it and want to major in it, what they have to do is replace that class with another social science class for general studies. The same is true if they want to minor in it."

"If they don't like it but they completed the course, they get general studies credit. They haven't wasted their money."

Departments may still have specialized general studies requirements, according to Fulmer.

Alexander Brassington, a sophomore physics major from Georgetown, Guyana, said that although he thinks that a well-rounded education is essential, some people did not benefit from a lot of the general education classes.

"It's nice to have more freedom, flexibility to study what you want," he said. "I have not finished my general studies yet, so yes, I think it benefits sophomores like me."

See **General studies**, page 2

Mobile app replaces Trojan Today emails

Priyanka Sharma
Staff Writer



The mobile application Corq is replacing Trojan Today as the primary source for listing all campus events and activities.

"I think the idea came about because there was a lot of confusion with the message sent from Trojan Today," said Patrick Rodgers, a junior global business major from Dothan and SGA vice president of campus activities.

"A lot of time, they (the messages) got sent late or might not be sent. So it (Corq) centralizes all the events on campus and plugs students in to what is going on on campus from one central location."

Sadaris Williams, assistant coordinator of student involvement, started work on setting up the application this past summer.

Corq lists all programs, trusted and sponsored by the campus, that are happening on any par-

ticular day. Corq also shows directions and locations to these events. It allows events to be posted directly on social media sites via the app.

According to its website, "Corq helps college and university students discover and locate engaging co-curricular opportunities on and around their campus."

Corq is associated with CollegiateLink, which powers the website version of the app. Trojan Connection is the name of Troy's Collegiate-Link website.

In addition to listing all campus activities, the app and website include a directory for all campus organizations and residence halls. Each group and residence hall gets its own personalized page to promote itself.

See **Corq**, page 2

SGA gears up, aiming to enhance academic life

Franchesca Perez
Contributor

Several developments and proposals were presented at the Student Government Association's first meeting for this academic year on Tuesday night.

Farrah Gaston, a junior biomedical sciences major from Camden and head of the academic life committee, discussed several potential areas which the SGA hopes to work on this year in order to further improve students' academic lives.

Some of those plans include keeping the library open 24/7,

repairing the broken plugs in the library, improving internet access around campus and fixing the heating and cooling system in MSCX.

In addition, two purified water fountains have been purchased by the university and will soon be installed on campus.

The implementation of these fountains is aimed at encouraging students to reduce their plastic water bottle usage.

The amount of positive feedback concerning the water fountains will determine whether or not more will be purchased and installed throughout campus.

Caitlin Smith, a junior

political science major from Panama City, Florida, and publicity chair for SGA, introduced the Corq app, which will replace Trojan Today.

Students can now view all the events occurring on campus and within different organizations at the touch of a button instead of having to check their emails.

"I believe the Corq app is so essential to students because it's such an easy way to access what's going around campus," she said.

"Students will become more involved because it's just a click away. The world is changing and going green and the SGA is just moving along with it."

Leadership scholars Gabriella Schwartz, a freshman nursing major from Dothan, and Sydney Bailey, an undeclared freshman from Athens, promoted the Trojan Affinity Program and encouraged students to attend athletic events in order to support fellow Trojans.

Upon entry to any home athletic event, students can swipe their Trojan ID to earn points. The more athletic events they attend, the more points they earn.

After earning a certain number of points, students can cash in their points for prizes such as Troy t-shirts and hats.

At the end of the academic year, the student with the most

points receives free tuition for a semester, regardless of the number of credit hours they take or whether they pay in-state or out-of-state tuition.

"I think it's important for our students to stay involved and to have a sense of pride in our school as well as our athletic program," Schwartz said.

The SGA is also holding senate elections for a total of twelve seats on Sept. 2. There are eleven seats representing the different residence halls and one at-large seat.

Applications are available online and in the SGA office. They are due on Aug. 28 by 4 p.m.

Parking mayhem

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McCall said that the gravel lot behind Hawkins Hall being paved and not being completed before school started has absolutely added to parking problems.

Also, some residents from the east side of campus parking in the west side to be closer to the dining hall has also been problematic.

"I think we do have a couple of residents who think it is OK to drive to class, and so they are leaving resident areas and parking in commuter spots. Is that causing a problem? Yes."

"But we still have empty parking on campus," he said. "That's the biggest thing. There is empty parking at the (Trojan) Arena. There is empty parking at the north stadium lot, and people just don't want to park in those areas."

Barton said that he believes those lots have been neglected and ignored due to students being lazy and not wanting to park so far away from classes.

"Luckily, the university has promised a shuttle for students that will pick students up and drop them off near the center of campus," he said.

Campus shuttles will pick students up from these lots and bring them to the quad on campus to minimize walking distance.

Sheri Kotzum, a junior broadcast journalism major from Melbourne, Florida, said that doing away with parking by classification and making it all commuter parking has worsened the situation.

"Last year, I would get to class at 8 a.m., and there would still be plenty of parking during that time," she said. "This year, I can get to the campus at 8 a.m., and find no parking. So I've been forced to walk from my apartment to class every single day, which is fine, but sometimes it's too hot or it may be too cold to walk, and there's no shuttle system from my apartment."

Parents of Troy students are also equally concerned by this ongoing problem, as explained by Karen Daniels from Dothan, whose daughter is a sophomore at Troy.

"I also worry as a parent because she drives to school alone," she said. "Most of the time she is having to park far away, and that is scary to me knowing she is forced to walk that far away alone."

"Second, my daughter has a Troy University license plate that we pay extra for."

"Yet they are being told to use shuttles or park in places that offer shuttles. If this is what the solution is, why is Troy charging for a parking pass if there aren't enough spaces to park?"

Daniels also said that as a parent she would like to know how the funds collected from the parking permits are used, and while grand plans like the North End Zone project are fantastic for the school, basic needs like parking need to be met as well.

"Out of all of the articles and new announcements I have seen as a parent, I have not seen any articles or news snippets from administration about the parking problems," she said.

Reeves said that, although there's not going to be a space for every student right next to campus, the university will continue to work with SGA to see if there are other recommendations or alternatives to ease the parking issue.

"I'm not naïve enough to think that if this is accomplished it will happen in my time at Troy," McCluskie said about his petition.

"Having said that, I want to do something to help the future students of this wonderful school be able to enjoy getting up in the morning and going to school, like I do, without having to worry about something as trivial as parking."



Trey Walker photo

Matt Mosely, a sophomore biomedical sciences major from Chipley, Florida, donating blood at a drive organized by the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. A total of 72 pints of blood was collected through the blood drive on Tuesday.

Suspended students awaiting court trial

Destiny Hosmer
Staff Writer

The two Troy University students who were arrested by the Bay County Sheriff's Office in Florida on charges of first-degree sexual battery are still awaiting a formal court hearing.

Delonte Martistee, 22, and 23-year-old Ryan Austin Calhoun are two of the three suspects facing criminal charges in the attack on an incapacitated 20-year-old female that occurred during spring break this past March.

According to David Angier, Bay County, Florida, public information officer, there is no trial date set.

"The suspects were arraigned on May 12 and pleaded not guilty, which

is standard," Angier said.

"Right now we are still in the process of evaluating evidence."

The assault was caught on video during spring break and was later found on a cellphone by Troy Police during the investigation of a shooting that occurred on March 21 at one of the Waffle House locations in Troy.

The third suspect is George Kennedy Jr., a 21-year-old Middle Tennessee State University student.

Court records show that Kennedy and the victim had known each other since grade school.

The two rented a hotel room in Panama City Beach together, where they were staying during the days leading up to the incident as well as two

days after.

Despite the victim's relationship with Kennedy, she wants to press charges against all involved in her attack, according to reports by the Bay County Sheriff's Office. The victim states that she was completely unconscious at the time.

Martistee and Calhoun are not enrolled in any courses at Troy this semester.

"Neither (Martistee nor Calhoun) chose to have a hearing, so they have been placed on a permanent suspended status with the University," said Herbert Reeves, dean of student services.

"They are not allowed to return to the University without going through the discipline procedure."

Corq

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"I think this (Corq) will be better because it is more efficient," Rodgers said. "I think it is more student accessible. It's more user friendly and easier for students to find out the information. It will be a whole lot easier than Trojan Today."

All campus events can still be found on the old Trojan Today calendar on Troy's official website since the app was officially launched only a week ago.

"However, we are wanting to move more and more into integrating to the app," Rodgers said. "So, we are really trying to spread the word, but there is still a calendar online that students can look at for events."

Any SGA-registered organization can have its events listed on the application.

"They will go on Trojan Connection where there is a list of all the organizations," Rodgers said. "The president of that organization can submit the event. Once they get approved, they will show up on the app."

The link to the Trojan Connection website is <https://troy.collegiatelink.net/>.

WED	August 19, 2015
	Presidents Meeting 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Trojan Center Theater
	Dollar Movie Night 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM Continental Cinemas
FRI	August 21, 2015
	Soccer Match 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Troy Soccer Complex
SAT	August 22, 2015
	Fall Sports Fan Day 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Trojan Arena
MON	August 24, 2015
	Psychology Club Meeting 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Hawkins Hall Room 117

A screenshot of the Corq app, listing upcoming campus activities.

General studies

continued from page 1

"It would affect undeclared majors a little bit because if you wanted to do a biology related field, then you won't be pushed towards doing that," he said.

"But on the other hand, if there is a class you want to take or are interested in, you have spare credit hours to take it now. You have that freedom of exploring your choices."

Camri Martin-Bowen, a sophomore nursing major from Wetumpka, also agrees that there are advantages to the new changes.

"For people who have already decided their majors, it benefits them because they can pick and choose what they want that is interesting to them instead of just taking class they already know," she said. "And they don't have to spend extra money just to meet the requirements of the university."



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A summer of adventure

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

Becoming a teacher in China and celebrating the two different cultures

Spending a month teaching middle schoolers English while living in Hong Kong isn't any easier than it sounds, but Kirsten Henry spent "one of the best summers" of her life doing just that.

When one of her friends told her about an opportunity to work overseas in China, Henry, a senior biomedical science major from Huntsville, began doing some research.

Henry decided that the English Language Institute/China (ELIC) was a good fit.

"I started looking into it and got in contact with someone from ELIC," she said.

Telling her family was the next step in the process.

"They were surprised but they supported me fully," said Henry. "I told

my mom I was going and she was like, 'what? That's a lot of money why do you want to do this?'"

"I've been on a couple trips outside of the country but this was the first time I'd done anything this intense."

So Henry traveled to Hong Kong, where she was part of a group of about 60 other students there to teach from all over the United States.

"We would teach from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.," she said of the daily schedule. "From 2-2:30 p.m. we would teach them about America."

Henry had her own classroom of 22 students to manage during the day.

"This was the first time I had ever taught, so to teach 22 students English was very challenging, especially when you don't

know how to discipline in the classroom," she said. "It was a little intense but definitely worth it."

Though being in the classroom was what she was there for, Henry said that the time she spent outside of it was her favorite part.

"They took me to restaurants and amusement parks and places they loved to shop," she said of her students.

"I think one of the things that stood out the most was how much they told us they were going to miss us when we left," she continued. "One of my students made a very large card with pictures of us that told the story of us being there. It said, 'I'm going to miss you so much, please come back and visit.'"

After the month in

Hong Kong, the American students got to spend a week in Beijing learning more about what the or-

ganization was doing in other countries.

"I want to be able to travel more and make an

impact across the world. I don't know what it's

going to look like but its definitely in my plans to



Kirsten Henry photo

Kirsten Henry poses with some of the students she taught over the summer before returning home. Written on the chalkboard behind them is "We love you."

Working at a restaurant by day, hiking Yellowstone and the Tetons on the weekends



Selena McEwen photo

Selena McEwen during a visit to Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

While a lot of students spent their summers ringing in orders and waiting on tables, very few got to do it working in Yellowstone National Park.

"I worked at a hotel dining room in Yellowstone," said Selena McEwen, a junior psychology major from Rockford.

After learning about the job opportunity because her grandparents live in the area, McEwen applied at yellowstonejobs.com and found herself as one of the many students from around the country accepted to work there for three months over the summer.

"I just wanted to see something different from Alabama," she said of the decision to go.

The employees were expected to work five days in a row, and then they had two off to travel, or use as they pleased.

"We did a lot of camping, hiking, and fishing," said McEwen of their off days.

"A lot of us didn't have cars since we flew in," she said, "so we just got in big groups and rode together."

McEwen said that a part of the trip she really enjoyed was all the hiking they were able to do in their free time, especially getting to visit the Tetons in a national park next to Yellowstone.

"One of our hikes we were in a cloud and then we were above it," she said of

the high altitudes.

During all the time spent outdoors, McEwen saw moose, elk, buffalo, bald eagles, marmots and well over a dozen bears. Though the bears she encountered kept their distance, others working there were not as lucky.

A couple of the guys came upon a bear that had just made a kill and it became very territorial upon their approach. Though the hikers "thought they were going to die," everyone made it out in one piece.

McEwen found herself underwhelmed by another big attraction of Yellowstone.

"Old Faithful? It's the most overrated thing in the park," she said, citing the huge crowds that gather around the geyser.

But there are some lesser known parts of the park that did prove to be fun.

"There are hot springs all throughout the park," McEwen said. "You can get in some like a giant hot tub in the ground."

Though she enjoyed the trip, one thing made her appreciate Troy.

"Being two hours away from a town, you had to buy a lot of stuff when you went," she said. "Troy is like a mecca compared to it."

A simple destination wedding turned into a 2-week road trip around the country

A road trip turned into a two-week, cross-country trek for Destiny Hosmer this summer with her boyfriend, Zach Swan, and his parents.

"His cousin was getting married in Iowa and his parents don't do anything small," said Hosmer, a junior English major from Enterprise. "So we went from Alabama to Kentucky, through Illinois and Iowa."

From there, they headed west, traveling thousands of

miles and never staying in a single place for more than a night.

"I was an army brat going up, but we stayed in the south," she said of the experience. "I hadn't been anywhere."

"Instead of going to hotels his mom found this really cool website called Airbnb. So we stayed at a whole lot of bed-and-breakfasts because they were posted on there. It made it more of an experience. We stayed in people's houses. We only stayed in a hotel for three nights out of the two weeks.

Traveling in this way, Hosmer said that her favorite part of the trip by far was Yellowstone National Park.

"During the day it was beautiful but at night we were waiting for Old Faithful at like 10 o'clock," she said.

The group also made it to Las Vegas, though it wasn't quite what she expected.

"I figured out it isn't fun unless you're 21 - we couldn't gamble or drink," Hosmer said. "It'd be fun in a couple months."

That leg of the trip was redeemed for Zach, a Fallout fan, as they stopped at a couple of places outside of the city that also appeared in the video game Fallout: New Vegas.

"We went to Good Springs, where the only thing they had was a saloon and a general store. You ate outside and the tables were falling apart," she said.

"The waitress brings out these burgers and they were the best burgers I'd had in my life. She told us they had been on Food Network. I didn't expect that."

Making it to the Grand Canyon, they hiked five miles down into the canyon and then another five miles back up.

"20 feet back I was like, 'leave me here, I can't go any farther.' I learned going down was a lot different than getting back up," she laughed.

Making it to Santa Fe, Hosmer appreciated that there was "an art gallery on every corner." The city also held a ghost for the travelers.

"We stayed at a hotel downtown. We were told when we got there, 'if you see or feel anything, it's just Sally the Ghost.'"

"So we were in bed and between our feet it feels just

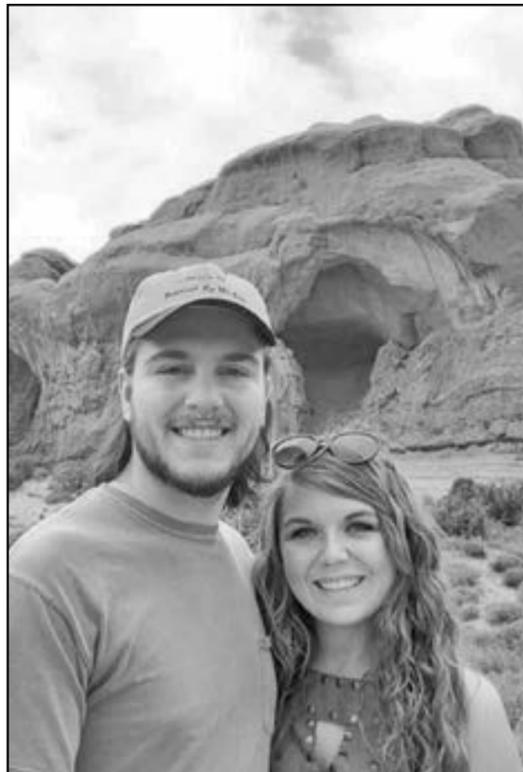
like something sat on the bed and scooted off. You look down and there is nothing there."

Making it through the haunted night, Hosmer can laugh now.

Among everything else, Hosmer got to see badlands, visit Mark Twain's hometown, and feed prairie dogs before they returned home.

"I would say definitely that it helped me figure out where I'd like to live in the future," she said. "The desert areas like Nevada - no. I don't want to live in an oven. I figured out I probably want to settle around the Colorado area. It helped with future goals."

"It was awesome seeing people are the same everywhere. Everywhere we went there were rednecks. They were other state's rednecks, but they were rednecks," she said of final thoughts about the trip. "Families acted the same, people acted the same."



Destiny Hosmer photo

Hosmer and her boyfriend, Zach Swan, a student at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, at the Arches National Park in Utah.

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New laundry solution for Troy

Alyse Nelson
Features Editor

While the dorm laundry rooms can feel more hot and humid than walking to class in August, Troy has been offered an alternative.

Mike Carnley, owner of Trojan Laundry 2 Go, created his laundry service after researching his friend's business model for other schools, such as Duke University.

"There's a lot of things I think a student would rather do than their laundry," Carnley said. "We want to provide a reliable service to free up their time."

This was Trojan Laundry 2 Go's first week in business.

The laundry service is offered for either a "regular" or "big" bag, and can either be picked up weekly or twice monthly, according to the business's website. For a weekly pickup of the regular bag, prices run \$29 for a bag online. Currently, Carnley is running a 15-percent-off special, reducing that cost to \$24.65 a week.

The total for the semester is charged at checkout, but the price is prorated to account for which week the student begins.

With the discount applied, the total for a semester runs \$369.75, remaining competitive with similar services costing \$349 at

the University of Alabama and Auburn University, according to the websites for Bama Laundry and Tiger Laundry.

With drop-off boxes in the new hall as well as Trojan Village, the laundry remains secure during the entirety of its 48-hour turnaround.

"We will not leave it lying around somewhere," Carnley said.

Each student that purchases the service from the business's website, TrojanLaundry2Go.com, is contacted by Carnley to receive a bag and to arrange a pick up and drop off point.

While there are not definite numbers, Carnley said that when packed to capacity the regular bag could reach 17-20 pounds while the large one is around 27-30 pounds.

"It's a lot of clothes," he said.

The bags are then dropped off as arranged, since the service is also offered to students who live off-campus, or into the drop box. The box is the type used to collect charity donations outside of businesses, so that things can be put into the chute but not removed.

Carnley collects the bags from the locked boxes Tuesdays around 5 p.m. and are transported to be laundered and folded. Dry cleaning is also an option for a separate charge.



Hannah Crews photo

Kara Jane Henry, a junior mathematics major from Huntsville, does her laundry in Shackelford Hall. "I would not like to use (a laundry) service only because I like washing my own clothes. It kind of helps me to realize I need to keep up with my own responsibilities as a college student," Henry said.

The bags are returned to the buildings at the same time that Thursday, except upon return they are left with an RA in a secure location to be picked up by the owners that evening.

"I've seen a lot of interest," Carnley said. "I think it's just going to take time to get well established with students

to know that we are there and this is something we do around campus. I think it's going to take about a semester.

"I look forward to it going in that direction."

Carnley said that he foresees the convenience of the service being what wins over most students.

"Now they have clean clothes and everything for the weekend, and now they don't have to worry about that. You just don't have to spend all your time doing laundry," he said.

"I'm sure it's not for everyone but I'm hoping there's a lot of students that will take advantage of this."

Sudoku

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

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.

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,

Dear Trop,
I waited until my senior year to take this boring general education class required to graduate. Now that I'm in here, it seems even more monotonous than I thought it was! The other students, all of them having just graduated high school, ask mindless questions about homework and how to log onto Blackboard. I'm wishing more and more that I had a time machine at my disposal to go back and get this out of the way four years ago. How can I get through this class and not fall asleep as the professor goes over MLA format for the hundredth time?—Boredom and Loathing in Troy

Dear Boredom,
If you had that time machine, it'd probably be put to better use to go back four years and remember how you really were as a freshman. There were probably some moments

during your 1000 classes that left you confused and raising your hand for clarification.

Cut your little Trojan siblings some slack. If everyone went into college knowing everything already, what would be the point of even going? At least applaud their efforts in getting this less than desirable class out of the way early, as you probably should have.

As for your sleeping problem, you could become a mentor for the rest of the class. Next time someone questions the spacing for a paper, whip out an old paper of yours from last year and show them how it's done!

If you see someone just not getting a concept, suggest making a study group to go over the things you cannot stand to be repeated once more during class time. Who knows, you might even see an improvement in your own grades.

Just go into it with a

more positive attitude, and you might find yourself not nodding off quite as often.

Sincerely, Trop

Dear Trop,
I'm starting my second year, and I already changed my major five times and am considering making it a sixth. Soon I'll have to begin courses for my major and minor, but how do I make up my mind?—Maybe I'll Be a Permanent Student

Dear Maybe,
They say college is about finding yourself, so I wouldn't stress too much.

To make this time more productive, look into jobs or internships in fields you're considering. Some real-world experience may provide more insight than the classroom.

Just asking professionals in those fields could give you an idea of what it's really like and what you'd really like

Best of luck, Trop

Troy talks parking

Bo Furlong
4 mins · Change.org ·

The fact that we're running out of parking this semester shows that this is a problem that needs to be addressed. You can't just keep expanding the university and not expand the parking along with it



Dean of Student Services Herbert Reeves: Troy University, Build a Parking Deck - Sign the Petition!
454 signatures are still needed!

BO FURLONG JUST SIGNED THIS PETITION ON CH...

Like Comment Share

Madison Hale @hale_madison · Aug 12
Welcome to Troy University's 2015 "Parking Games" may the odds be ever in your favor

12 40

James Mack @JAMack15 · Aug 12
It is easier to win the lottery than find a parking spot at Troy University

1 17

After a first week back to school that was full of parking tickets, many Troy students took to their social media accounts to let their followers and friends know how they really felt. A petition started on change.org by a Troy student, "Troy University, Build a Parking Deck," had 1,205 signatures at press time.

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Theater schedule released

Departmental Season 2015-2016

MAINSTAGE

- *The Crucible* – Oct. 14-19
- Fall Dance Show – Nov. 4-8
- *Violet* – April 6-10
- Spring Dance Show – April 21-23

SECOND STAGE

- 29 – Oct 27-31
- Lab Play TBD – Feb. 24-28

LAB PRODUCTIONS & PROJECTS

- *Ten Minute Play Festival* – Sept. 28
- *Fall Shorts* – Nov. 17-20
- Lab Reading Series – Fall & Spring
- Cabarets and Showcase
- Others TBD

Lacey Alexander
Staff Writer

Troy University's Department of Theatre and Dance commences its year with the announcement of the stage production season.

The students, who include theater majors, dance majors and individuals who minor in these areas, were told by Tori Lee Averett, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, that they would be performing four "main stage" shows and a multitude of "second stage" shows.

"Main stage means that the title selected is selected for the most public consumption," Averett said. "The main stage play can be in any theater, but it's mainly in TC (Trojan Center).

"Second stage can be in any space we choose. They have higher standards for higher artistic risk taking. Our second stage titles tend to be something we can play with more."

Averett said that the department's students are the main reason they choose the shows they produce. "We look at what students need what opportunities... Let's look at what they need a taste of," Averett said. "We always ask, what do they need to experience?"

This year's main stage productions include "The Crucible" by Arthur Miller and "Violet," a musical by Bryan Crowley and Jeanine Tesori.

"It's a classic play, it's a great play... It's a standard play that theater students need to study," Averett said of "The

Crucible," a play that runs in three acts. "It has historical significance. It has educational significance.

"It's a community on stage."

The year will also be different for the department as both the fall and spring dance shows will be in the Trojan Center Theatre. In years past, the spring dance show has been presented in the Crosby Theater.

The season's second stage productions include the musical "29," an original musical by faculty member Tommy Newman, and cabaret performances by the Musical Theatre Studio class.

Averett also said the technical faculty has a hand in each of the productions this year. "The design and the technical faculty run all of it," Averett said. "They're super-human beings."

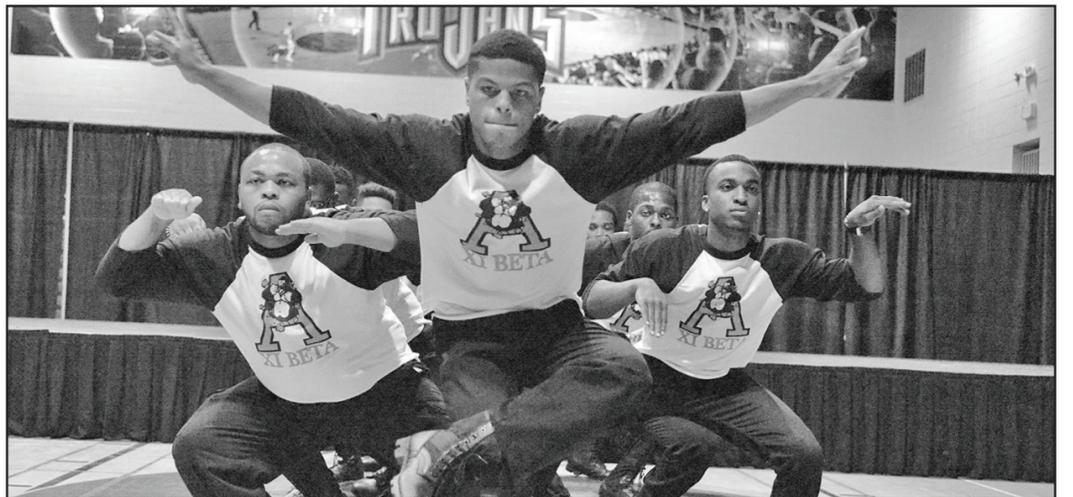
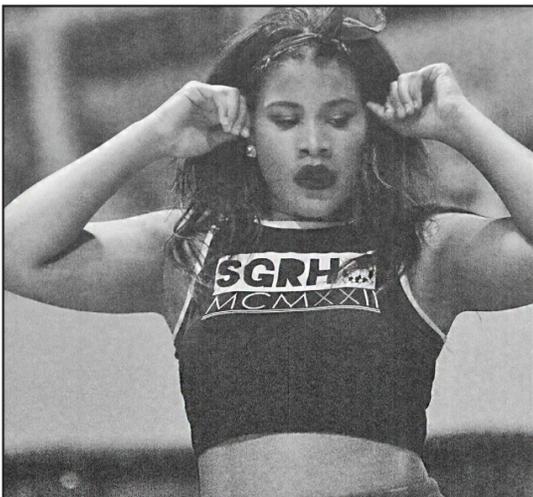
Productions that will go up in the fall include "The Crucible" and the fall dance show in the Trojan Center Theatre as well as "29" in the Blackbox Theatre.

Spring productions will include "Violet" and the spring dance show as the main stage shows.

"We go to the theater to see works of art... We go to performing arts events to be entertained and to be challenged. We need to be reminded of our humanity," Averett said. "The season that we have has all of that in varying doses."

Tickets for productions can be bought at the box office in the Trojan Center up to two weeks before a production opens.

UAC Step Tease kicks off the semester yet again



April Irvin photo

Knyra Ratliff (left) and the fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha (right) perform at the UAC Step Tease on Thursday, Aug. 13, in Sartain Hall. This event is held at the beginning of every semester.

Event brings students together; new faces and organizations come to perform

Kianna Collins

Arts & Entertainment Editor

The UAC Step Tease brings together all students, including some new faces each year, for a night of exhibition.

Troy University has several National Pan-Hellenic Council organizations that take part in the step tease every year, with the recent addition of the Troy Dance Theatre Ensemble.

The step tease showcases the talents of NPHC organizations through an activity called "stepping," which is a form of rhythmic dance.

This year's step tease was Thursday, Aug. 13, and it was hosted by the University Activities Council and

comedian Jermaine "FUNNYMAINE" Johnson.

But what keeps some of these organizations returning to the event?

"Sigma Gamma Rho returns to the step tease each year for numerous reasons," said Knyra Ratliff, a senior business administration major from Birmingham, who is also a member of Sigma Gamma Rho. "One is to expose our organization to the student body, specifically those who are unfamiliar with the National Pan-Hellenic Council."

And for Sigma Gamma Rho, participation has become a tradition, Ratliff said.

"We love to perform and display our passion for our organization on stage through our energy," Ratliff said.

Ratliff also said she noticed a change in the audience. "The audience has become larger and more diverse,"

Ratliff said. "This event has gone from a more prominent African-American event to having more international and Caucasian audiences participate.

"It's an improvement every year."

Among the improvements and expansion, new members of NPHC organizations and new organizations participated this year.

One of the new participants is Matthew Pouncey, a senior interpreter training major from Troy, who is in the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

"I was really nervous; I was shaking and everything," Pouncey said. "Once I got started, it's kind of happening now — you've got to finish it."

TDT Ensemble was invited to participate this year, and this is the first time it accepted.

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Our Next \$1.00 Movie Night Will Be Wednesday Sep. 2nd

University Activities Council

FANTASTIC 4	1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
AGENT 47	1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON R

ICE CUBE DR. DRE EAZY-E DJ YELLA MC REN
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30

UNCLE PG-13

1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 9:45

1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40

AMERICAN ULTRA R

Opens Tonight

SINISTER II R

1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

Letter to the Editor: New Residence Hall causing concerns

Justin Blowers

Contributor

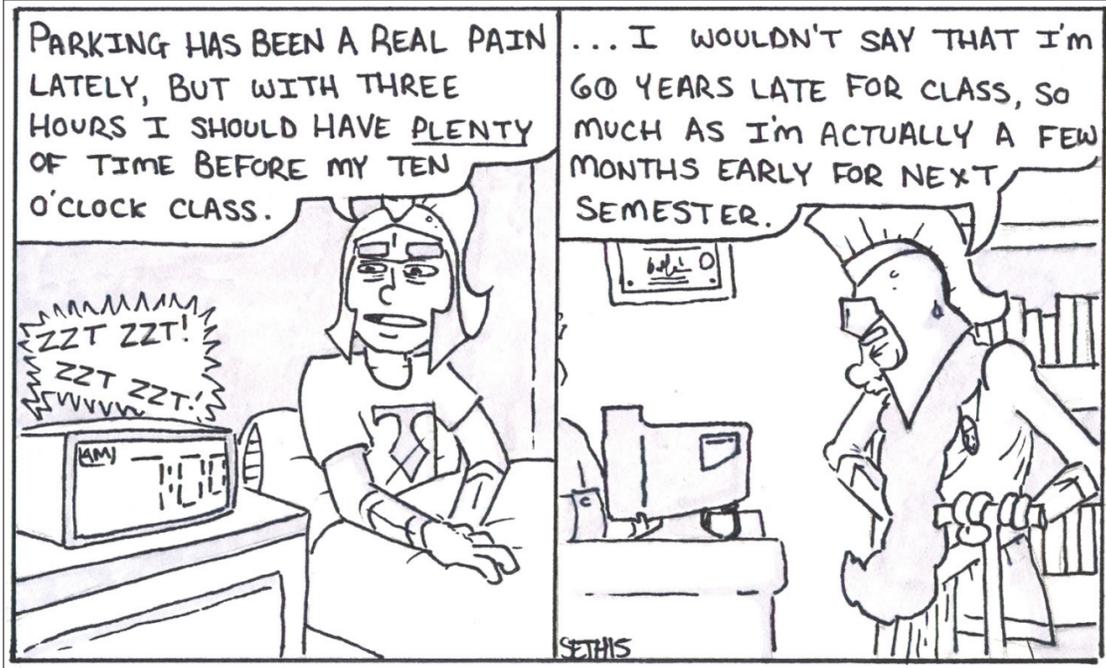
The New Residence Hall is the incomplete “luxury” dorm on Troy University’s campus. While it was supposed to be finished in time for students to move in before the fall semester began, work still continues on many parts of the dorm.

Many things will stand out to someone who observes the dorm from the outside. The ongoing construction to build the back portion of the dorm is the most apparent of the many aesthetic problems. The grass seems to have been hastily thrown down to meet a completion date; it does not look healthy and has many dead patches.

Moving inside the dorm, the situation is mostly masked, but it remains the same. The tornado shelter, which has inexplicably appeared in place of the advertised 3-D theater, is filled with chairs that one can only assume will be put in the unfinished common area, the arch. The work on the arch seems to have made very little to no progress in the week that I have stayed here, and the inside work looks like it was not even started until very recently.

The finished portions of the dorm leave much to be desired from the \$2,600 minimum price tag. The elevator for the men’s side feels like it’s an old one from Shackelford Hall or Clements Hall instead of being new. The most jarring issue is not the slipshod installation of the floorboards or showers, but the actual water itself. In a test done by my roommate and me, for three days we have filled a clean cup with shower and faucet water from the sink. Every test resulted in different-colored particles in the water. This is completely unacceptable for a dorm, new or otherwise.

Aside from the broken promises, the New Residence Hall has the potential to be great, but falls short in many aspects. In its current condition, the price tag on the dorm is too high for what we have been provided. Once the construction is completed and the other issues addressed, the dorm may meet the standard of the Trojan Way, but it currently fails to live up to the “luxury” it was advertised as.



Seth Nicholson

Harper Lee’s new novel falls short

Whitney Cale

Staff Writer

One of the most highly acclaimed novels in history, “To Kill a Mockingbird,” was the only published work accredited to Harper Lee for 55 years — that is, until she published the so-called “sequel” to this Pulitzer Prize-winning best-seller.

Originally written in the mid-1950s, Lee’s second work, “Go Set a Watchman,” was not actually published until July 14, 2015, 55 years and three days after the publishing of her first book on July 11, 1960.

Ironically, “Go Set a Watchman” was the novel that Harper Lee submitted to her publishers before “To Kill a Mockingbird.” However, the manuscript was assumed to be lost and, therefore, “To Kill a Mockingbird” was the first and only book published by Lee at the time.

“To Kill a Mockingbird” reached staggering heights in its fame and fortune. It was published during the civil rights era and dealt with issues such as racism and genderism; it is no surprise that the public took an interest in the book.

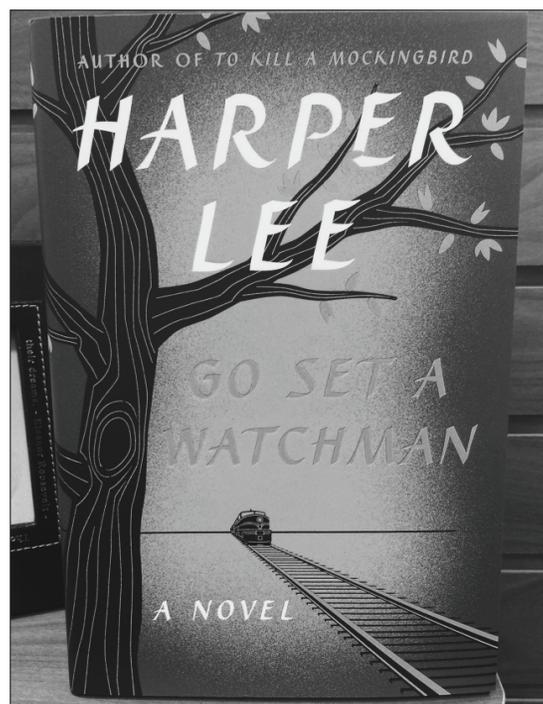
The same cannot be said, however, for Lee’s new novel.

“Because ‘Go Set a Watchman’ is Harper Lee’s second novel, naturally there is a tendency to compare it to her masterpiece, ‘To Kill a Mockingbird,’” said Katherine Connolly, a freshman nursing major from Bay Minette. “It’s not ‘To Kill a Mockingbird.’ This book, to me, is based on today’s American views. It has a ton of potential but not as much as ‘To Kill a Mockingbird’ had when it came out.”

The excitement for “Go Set a Watchman” can be attributed to the reputation of “To Kill a Mockingbird.”

“I think ‘Go Set a Watchman’ sold easily because of the popularity of ‘To Kill a Mockingbird,’” said Hannah Ray, a junior nursing major from Holtville. “It received a lot of media attention.”

According to records from Troy University’s campus



Samantha Bankester photo

Harper Lee’s new novel, “Go Set a Watchman,” can be purchased at the campus bookstore.

bookstore, 47 copies of “Go Set a Watchman” have been sold.

“When it first came out, it was a big buzz,” said Aliza McGee, store manager of Barnes and Noble at Troy University. “Other than that — after a week — it’s died down.”

I think it’s clear that people hold high expectations for “Go Set a Watchman,” which is evidenced by the hype it received prior to its publication. According to various readers’ opinions and the recent decline of sales, I think it is also clear that “Go Set a Watchman” will never reach the same heights that “To Kill a Mockingbird” reached.

Reaching out and exploring diversity in Troy

Casey Watson

Staff Writer

As a transfer student from a small town about an hour and a half from here, moving to Troy is both comforting because the small-town lifestyle is very familiar to me and nerve-racking because my group of friends is in this town, which consists of my two dogs and the very few people whom I know who reside here.

We all have beliefs, standards and morals that we value and want to stand by. While my views are of a Southern Methodist turned non-denominational, others have different views. There is a diverse range of cultural values due to the large number of national and international students on campus.

Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Islam and Paganism are just a few of the different religions that are practiced here on our campus. We have so much diversity within our student body, but some students do not feel comfortable practicing their beliefs publicly.

A co-worker recently opened up to me about her beliefs. She practices Paganism, which is something that was unfamiliar to me.

She didn’t want me to tell anyone because previous friends judged her and tried to push their own beliefs to change her; they thought she was unfit.

After a lot of thought and research, I realized that though we believed in different ideas, there is no reason that our friendship should end due to our individual beliefs.

Rather, our mutual respect for one another and what we do believe should allow us to be more educated about not only one another but others whom we may encounter.

Our nation has come so far in its freedom of what we can and cannot believe, so why should a 21-year-old college student feel ashamed of what she believes?

This university has thousands of students with many different cultural backgrounds from all over the world who come to this one tiny town in south Alabama. Daily, we are exposed to newness, strange ideas and the possibility of meeting someone who can influence you to change your mind about a certain culture that you may not fully understand.

This cannot happen unless everyone

feels completely comfortable in who she and what she believes.

With the first few days of class behind us, we take the opportunity to interact with the thousands of new students on campus. A student can turn around and make friends with the foreign exchange student from China who may have questions for him or her about living in Alabama and being from America. He or she can reach out to others and allow unspoken ideas to then be heard.

We have the chance to change the way others view themselves and to grow as both individuals and as a university. Students should feel comfortable no matter what they believe or practice, and we need to break this silence of rejection and judgment. We need to allow cultural diversity to overwhelm this small Alabama community.

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.

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Volleyball looks to rebuild program

Ty Ammons
Staff Writer

The Troy volleyball team hopes to improve from its disappointing season last year with the addition of some new key players.

The Trojans started fall practice on Aug. 5, and the season opener is on Aug. 28 at the Chattanooga Classic in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Their first match is against Eastern Kentucky.

Head coach Sonny Kirkpatrick said that the first practice showed a lot of issues with setters' timing, along with a few other problems, but nothing that could not be fixed with more practice. He said they had a decent first day of practice though.

"We've got a long way to go," Kirkpatrick said.

The Trojans looks to come out aggressively this season, with their top two kill producers returning in senior outside hitter Blair Winston and junior outside hitter Symone Shaw.

At the end of the year, the team will compete in the Sun Belt Championships in Statesboro, Georgia, at Georgia Southern.



April Irvin photo

Senior defensive specialist Madeleine Bouillion looks to get back on track after missing the last 10 games of last season. Last season Bouillion recorded 153 digs in 22 games played.

There are nine new players on the team this year, and seven returning players.

Kirkpatrick also said that 15 of the 16 players were together over the summer, so they have good chemistry together.

"They got a chance to really know each other," he said. "They have formed some really good bonds already."

He said that the first thing that he looks for in the next three weeks before the season starts is quality first touches.

Kirkpatrick also mentioned that a lot of the returning players have been helping out the younger players find their way around campus, and helped them with study hall hours which all student athletes have to complete.

According to Kirkpatrick, they were not asked to do any of those things.

The team's home opener takes place on Sept. 1, as they take on UAB.

Men's golf team is hoping for back-to-back successes

Michael Shipma
Sports Editor

The Troy men's golf team hopes to continue its individual and team success from last year when it starts the season on Sunday, Sept. 13, at the College of Charleston Invitational at Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

Last season, the Trojans had a league-high four individual golfers named to the All-Sun Belt team. Despite losing some of these key athletes from last season, head coach Matt Terry said he is optimistic going into this season.

"It's going to be tough with the loss of our four seniors from last year," Terry said. "But I feel like a lot of the guys that didn't get as much time to play last year are really going to come in and be able to make their own mark."

This year's younger players look to be the difference makers this season, and Terry said that he is looking forward to see how these players handle the tougher courses they will have to play this year. Freshmen Calum Masters and Sam Prater will both play important roles early in the season as they hope to match the play of the upperclassmen.

"This year's team will be totally different than last year's team," Terry said. "It'll be interesting to see what kind of team they push themselves to be. They look to be more explosive than last year's team, maybe a little inconsistent, but that's okay. They'll find their niche."

The Trojans look to be challenged this year at tournaments hosted by Georgia State and Auburn. With official practices yet to start, the remainder of the offseason will determine the success of this year's team.

Junior Jared Bettcher looks to be



Caleb Hicks photo

Junior Luke Moser looks to be a key contributor this season, as the Trojans and he look to build on last year's success.

a leader this year after he finishes up play at the U.S. Amateur Championship, which, if he places first or second, would land him a spot in the Masters and the U.S. Open, among other tournaments.

Overall, Terry said he is looking forward to this season, and that if each individual can handle their own business, they will have

success.

"There's going to be team's out there that are going to be working hard," Terry said. "They all want the same thing that we do. The question will be how bad our team wants it personally. And I feel like our guys want it bad."

Troy Men's Golf
Monday, Aug. 24 1:30p.m.



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Clarification from the editor

Michael Shipma
Sports Editor

required to complete the project.

A bit of clarification is needed after the publication of last week's story regarding the new facility being built at the north end zone.

Jim Bookout, Ed.D, the senior vice chancellor of finance and business affairs, is the chair of the North End Zone project, and is not necessarily in charge of the fundraising

Furthermore, the artist's rendering that accompanied last week's article was released in 2013. Because the university has not released another graphic, that rendering accompanied the story published last week.

However, since the original rendering was released, design changes have been made that may not resemble the original rendering.

Troy Football 2015 - 2016 Season



Sat. Sept. 5 @ North Carolina State
 Sat. Sept. 12 vs. Charleston Southern
 Sat. Sept. 19 @ Wisconsin
 Sat. Oct. 3 vs. South Alabama
 Sat. Oct. 10 @ Mississippi State
 Sat. Oct. 17 vs. Idaho (Homecoming)
 Sat. Oct. 24 @ New Mexico State
 Sat. Oct. 31 @ Appalachian State
 Sat. Nov. 7 vs. Louisiana-Monroe
 Sat. Nov. 14 vs. Georgia Southern
 Fri. Nov. 27 @ Georgia State
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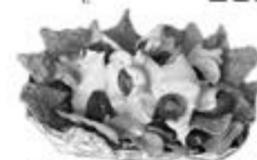
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Troy announces new athletic director

Michael Shipma
Sports Editor

Just call him the boss. Chancellor Jack Hawkins Jr. announced Friday morning that Jeremy McClain, the former deputy athletic director at the University of Southern Mississippi, is the new Troy director of athletics.

McClain, who has worked at Southern Mississippi for the past three years, will fill the vacancy that John Hartwell left in July.

The process was not easy by any stretch, but Hawkins stated his confidence in the decision, despite the large list of names that were considered for the position.

"We selected Jeremy McClain from a deep pool of applicants that included senior administrators from every major athletic conference in the nation," Hawkins said. "He has the right combination of experience, passion and leadership skills that we were seeking in our new AD."

"I am certain Jeremy will build on an already solid foundation and take Troy's program to an unprecedented level of success."

McClain received a standing ovation as he took the podium, and started his speech by expressing how humbled he was to receive the position.

"I didn't have to be sold on anything; I knew who Troy was and what it was about," McClain said to a packed Rane



Hannah McGaha photo

Jeremy McClain served as deputy director of athletics at Southern Mississippi before receiving the athletic director position at Troy.

Auditorium in the Davis Fieldhouse. McClain, who is married with three

children, was the primary fundraiser at Southern Mississippi, raising funds for

new sports facilities at USM. He was also responsible for scheduling games for the football program, securing future games against Mississippi State, Kentucky and BYU.

In addition to his success in scheduling, McClain acquired the funds necessary for renovations and construction of new facilities for the Golden Eagles. With his fundraising, the athletic program began projects that included track renovations, new football turf, updated baseball training rooms, a new golf practice facility, as well as the basketball arena renovation project.

Prior to his work at Southern Miss, McClain served as the athletic director at Delta State University, where the athletic programs enjoyed success during his tenure.

Under McClain, DSU captured seven Gulf South Conference championships, five NCAA regional titles, and 21 NCAA postseason appearances, including an appearance in the NCAA Division II football national championship game.

McClain said that he is optimistic for the future of Troy athletics, particularly the new north end zone project that will start "soon," according to McClain.

"I want us to be the premier program in the Sun Belt across the board," McClain said.

McClain's energy and ambition were as evident as his optimism was.

"I think Troy's best days lie in the future," he said. "I think we are headed in the right direction."



April Irvin photo

The Troy football team held its second fall scrimmage of fall camp on Saturday, Aug. 15, as it hopes to bounce back from a lackluster season last year.

New coach, new season

Troy football prepares for 2015-2016 season

Michael Kastner
Staff Writer

This season will have a different outlook for the Troy football program.

A lot of big names from last year's team look to improve this season and are already making noise in the Sun Belt Conference as well as nationally.

Three Trojans, including senior safety Montres Kitchens, were named to the Sun Belt's preseason all-conference teams.

Senior offensive lineman Dalton Bennett was selected for the Rimington Award Watch List for this upcoming season, an award given to the nation's top center. Senior running back Brandon Burks made the Doak Walker Award Watch List, an award given to the nation's top running back.

Surrounded by a strong supporting cast and a rejuvenated fan base, sophomore quarterback Brandon Silvers is also hoping to have a strong season this year, particularly under first year head coach Neal Brown's up-tempo, aggressive offensive.

Needless to say, both players and coaches are confident in their capacity to perform at the highest level this season. The Trojans' record in 2014 was a forgettable 3-9, and the players are humbled yet hungry.

"Our goal right now is to be the most improved team in the country," Brown said after Troy's 2nd scrimmage of the season.

The scrimmage showed the healthy internal competition between players and certain players' ability to make explosive plays.

The athletic department has invested heavily in the future of the football program by hiring Brown and new Director of Athletics Jeremy McClain.

Coach Brown recognizes the talent on the field, and he has put an emphasis on concentration in order to eliminate the mistakes that burdened the team last season.

"I don't think we fumbled with the first string in there," Brown said. "We played the music tonight. The reason I did it tonight was I didn't want the players to be able to hear the coaches. I told the coaches at our staff meeting, 'I'm going to play the music loud. I don't want them to be able to hear you.'"

"Scrimmages are moving days," Brown said, referring to the depth chart. "You either move up or you move down."

The battle between the offensive line and the defensive line highlighted the night. Coach Brown was quick to compliment the progression of the players on the offensive line.

The defense has improved in stopping the run game with better form tackles, and the defensive backs were frequently getting their hands on the ball. The wide receivers showed glimpses of brilliance, but consistency in route-running and blocking will decide the depth chart.

With newcomers like UAB transfer senior cornerback LaMarcus Farmer and freshman safety Tron Folsom, the team is consumed by preparation for the challenging season ahead.

"Seeing this team and how everybody plays, everybody's energy, it feels good," Folsom said. "It feels like everybody wants to win."

Soccer picks up exhibition win

Scott McLendon
Staff Writer

A flurry of goals in the second half propelled the Troy soccer team to a 3-0 victory at Murray State on Saturday, Aug. 15.

The match was the last of the pre-season exhibitions for the Trojans before they begin regular season play later this week. After losing their first exhibition match, they looked to bounce back against the Racers.

The Trojans started out aggressive offensively, and as a result had two goals disallowed in the first half due to offside calls.

Senior midfielder Jasmine Fahrnbauer opened up the scoring in the 50th minute to get the Trojans going. Eighteen minutes later, Fahrnbauer followed up with a header to score her second goal of the game. Sophomore defender Layna Hatfield recorded the assist for the goal with a well-placed free kick.

Sophomore forward Natalie Melillo put the game away with her own goal in the 73rd minute when she drilled a free kick past the Racers' keeper to give Troy a three-goal advantage.

"I thought the team



April Irvin photo

Junior forward Annabelle Simpson (right) ranked second in assists in the Sun Belt Conference last year.

played well and I'm proud of where we're at," head coach Jason Hamilton said. "Overall, I was very happy with the performance today and it was a great way to wrap up the preseason and get us ready for next weekend's home opener."

Sophomore goalkeeper Mikki Lewis and the Trojan defense recorded

their first shutout of the year, a feat they hope to repeat as the regular season commences. The Trojans had 13 shutouts in the 2014 season.

The Trojans begin their regular season when they play at home against Gardner-Webb on Friday, Aug. 21. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

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