



THE NAUTILUS

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

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S.A.L.T. Camp attendees enjoy the great weather in Trinity, TX while meeting fellow Aggies and exercising their team building abilities.
| Photo: Kelsea Janak, '17

Annual S.A.L.T. Camp introduces the next generation of Aggies to university traditions

By Savannah Mehrtens, '19

Being unfamiliar with your new surroundings, your class schedule, or your new university traditions can be frightening. TAMUG's freshman orientation camp known as S.A.L.T. Camp aims to ease this difficult transition into college and teach incoming students what it means to be an Aggie.

As the S.A.L.T. Camp web-page notes, "Many lifetime friendships and strong Aggie traditions have since found a place here at TAMUG."

S.A.L.T. Camp is held during the first two weeks before move in day. Each camp is similar, but for those who are required to move in early for extracurricular activities such as rowing, Checkin' Crew, or the Corps must attend the first

camp to accommodate their other activities.

This camp is led by counselors hired through means of the student activities department. Students often times apply due to their previous positive experiences at their own introductory S.A.L.T. Camp.

Marcus Wade, '18, attended S.A.L.T. Camp his incoming year and enjoyed it so much he became a counselor for the 2016 session.

"What sparked my interest in S.A.L.T. Camp was being able to have fun and bond with the incoming students and making them feel welcome into the Aggie family," Wade said. "When I was a camper last year, I was able to meet and get to know so many of the new students and I

was able to meet some lifelong friends."

Wade was not the only student and counselor to become interested through a previous camp. Victoria Reese, '19, became involved in campus activities and later on became a part of the S.A.L.T. Camp counseling team.

"As a freshman I attended SALT Camp and had a great time," Reese said. "Later on in my freshman year I became pretty involved on campus and a few upperclassmen mentioned that I should be a counselor for S.A.L.T. Camp."

In order to make the camp experience the best it could be, all camp staff went through training with the Step Up and Aggie Ally programs.

"We learn how to ensure that everyone feels involved and comfortable," Wade said. "We practice games and dances to incorporate into camp that will help the students open up and actively participate."

This training ensured that campers would be safe and feel secure at Camp Cullen, a very isolated camp location in Trinity Texas. Students took charter buses to Camp Cullen and stayed in the open, air-conditioned cabins located in the camp.

While there, students were able to enjoy a weekend meeting their new colleagues and bonding over majors, small groups, and multiple daily activities.

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Parking policies move progressively toward College Station model

By Amanda Barbato, '19

Beginning August 12, 2016 a new designated parking plan was put in place on campus. This new plan features sectioned lots marked by new signage and stencils on the pavement in which resident students, commuter students, and faculty and staff must comply. In addition to designated parking, changes have been made to the TAMUG parking violation policies and fines.

The Texas A&M University at Galveston campus has been moving into compliance with the College Station Transportation Department Parking business model yearly. Beginning September 1, 2016, parking fines were raised from \$20 to \$30 with a \$10 late fee if the fine was not paid within 14 days of issue. The fine for parking in a handicapped space without proper documentation has been raised to \$100.

In addition to raising fees, the TAMUG Police Department has also launched a new parking fine escalation standard. Having more than four citations a year makes the driver a habitual violator increasing fines by half. More than ten citations a year makes the driver a chronic violator and doubles fines. Vehicles with three or more unpaid citations, \$100 balance due, or any balance older than 90 days may be booted or towed at the owner's expense until the account is paid in full.

Those who live on campus and are considered residents received a maroon colored pass designating them to

Parking page 3

“Mariner Mall” Sea Camp provides hands on experience for future scientists

By Sarah Bordelon, '19

Now that Mariner's torn down the big question is what will replace it? Trick question, it's not being constructed into anything.

TAMUG barely has any open green space for students to hang out on like most universities do. Now, we will. There will be a place right next to the dorms to lay out a blanket, hold fall fest, and just hang out outside with friends.

The “Mariner Mall” will provide a big, open space to hold meetings and relax. In order for the grass to grow green and full, people cannot walk on it. At all. The sod was just laid in mid-August and takes 30-40 days to set. Until mid-September, the grass needs two inches of water every day, meaning if you step on it you will sink in. Which is not fun for your shoes.

There is talk of planting trees and creating a hammock farm but plans are still being made, since trees take a year to set.

If you have an idea for this green space, contact the Student Government Association and give suggestions! Administration including Neil Golemo will listen as well. So get your picnic baskets and blankets ready to enjoy the coming fall season.

By Savannah Mehrtens, '19



Sea Camp students gain first-hand experience with biology and conservation research at the Sea Turtle facility located behind San Louis Hotel.

[Photo: Daisey Dailey]

Students may be familiar with the freshmen orientation camp known as S.A.L.T. Camp, but not everyone has experienced or even heard of Sea Camp. Sea Camp is a summer program aimed for campers between the ages of 10-18 to learn about the school and its studies.

The school's website promoted that Sea Camp “is a week-long residential adventure exploring the wonders of the marine and estuarine environments.”

Daisy Dailey, director of Educational Outreach, explained the long history behind the camp and its growing success.

“Sea Camp was founded in 1986 by Dr. Sammy Ray. Since then we have had over 25,000 campers attend the week-long, residential program,” Dailey said. “Campers come from all over the United States and from other countries to attend Sea Camp.”

For each week, there are different programs for different age groups. The rigor of the camp's educational aspect depends on the educational level of each student, and then into different topics relating to marine studies or interests. Usually the students are divided by age groups, but there are also camps for Talented and Gifted Students that provide a more rigor-

ous curriculum.

Classes are conducted by professional staff, including students and some professors. They give access to hands-on experiences in laboratory facilities, research vessels, and oceanographic equipment. Gabrielle Seshier, '17, was one of many students to participate as an instructor.

“I became involved with Sea Camp because my older sister had been working there as an instructor for around three years before me,” Seshier said.

“This year was my third summer working for Sea Camp. After I was interviewed and hired on, I began the training process which was basically shadowing more experienced instructors until I was confident enough to lead activities on my own such as shark lectures and dissections, boat trips, seining at the state park and various other marine related activities,” said Seshier.

There are various levels of instruction for Sea Camp leaders, first being the full-time or part-time support staff, second being the counselors, and third the instructors. Each level is a key to making sure that the process of camp goes smoothly and provides an excellent experience for everyone involved.

Often times the experiences from camp are so success-

ful that campers eventually become Texas A&M University at Galveston students. Seshier was one of these types of campers, and was able to enjoy even more years of Sea Camp as an instructor.

“I would definitely say sea camp is the reason I am at TAMUG,” Seshier said. “I fell in love with the campus and I couldn't wait to come to school here.”

Both Dailey and Seshier plan to enjoy watching Sea Camp grow to encompass many new and returning families and campers. With the use of social media, Sea Camp is becoming more well-known and drawing in many visitors and campers to the campus during the summer break.

On top of promoting marine education and the TAMUG Campus, Sea Camp provides a fun and supportive outlet for current graduate and undergraduate students to spend their summer on campus doing what they enjoy.

“It's like I get to go back to camp for free,” Seshier said. “I will definitely continue to work for Sea Camp. It's a job that I truly enjoy and would recommend to anyone who wants to pursue a career in working with kids.”

Counseling center sponsors eating disorder seminar and support group for recovering students

By Sarah Bordelon, '19

Eating disorders are much more serious and prevalent than we may think. They affect thousands of college students, TAMUG included.

Someone in the seat next to you in class can be struggling to see themselves in a positive light. This is an issue that is too important to be overlooked, so the counseling center will be sponsoring an eating disorder expert, Rachel Eddins.

Eddins will hold a seminar based on the recognition of symptoms of eating disorders, and therapy and treatment on Monday, October 10 at 5 P.M. in the Mary Moody Northern Center next to the dining hall. The seminar will be an hour long. Then the seminar will open for questions and Eddins will be available afterwards to talk about private matters of students.

The presentation will open the door to a support group for students on campus dealing with an eating disorder. The group will meet in the counseling office to talk about their experiences in a constructive way with supportive students who understand and have endured the same pain.

A student leader of the group will help guide anyone struggling into recovery.

For more information, to find a way to help a friend, or to try to get help for yourself, e-mail Ken Bailey, director of Counseling and Career Services, at baileyk@tamug.edu, or make an appointment to see him. Bailey's office is located in the Seibel Building, room 104.

Bailey's advice to anyone struggling with an eating disorder is to encourage people to be aware of symptoms of restriction or gorging, as well as co-morbid symptoms of depression, skewed body image, anxiety, and high level of perfection.

The ideal three ways to overcome eating disorders is to get medical advice, dietary help, and counseling supervision. While not everyone can afford this, the support group on campus will be free, along with starting behavioral therapy, and a medical checkup.

Eating disorders are not something that anyone has to go through alone, and you will no longer have to. With the highest mortality rate of any mental illness, this is something that needs to be addressed in our community.

TAMUG is going to change those statistics one student at a time to make sure no one has to struggle to find themselves loved.

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Gig 'Em Week's "Paint the Town Maroon" helps students get acquainted with Galveston's historic downtown

By Savannah Mehrtens, '19



Yell Leaders Grant Lincecum, '18, Cole Farine, '18, Nick Kistler, '17, and Jake O'Kelley, '18 stop in Hey Mikey's to pep up the crowd.

| Photo: Savannah Mehrtens, '19, Nautilus Staff

On a humid and hot afternoon, Paint the Town Maroon, a growing part of Gig 'Em week, brought out new and returning

students to wander the Strand area of Galveston. In order to draw students out from campus and into downtown, a reward of

a free muscle tank top and the benefit of learning the historic Strand area and surrounding community was offered. Danny Roe, a member of the Gig 'Em week committee, lead the event and was happy with its outcome.

"Last year it rained out and we had to reschedule it, so we had about one-hundred people show up," Roe said. "This year we're having close to 200 total. So we have doubled in size; we thought it was going to be a little better but still, there are plenty of people out here. We had a lot more community partners come out too."

Compared to last year, many more students attended this event, which in turn made it

more competitive in order to receive a tank top. Yell leaders ran up and down designated streets and into shops like Hey Mikey's to heighten the Aggie spirit.

Junior Yell Leader Jake

"My favorite part about Paint the Town Maroon would probably be running up and down the strand and all the surrounding streets and getting all hot and sweaty with all my fellow Aggies."

O'Kelley enjoyed his experience at Paint the Town Maroon by boosting the energy of his fellow Aggies. "My favorite part about Paint the Town Maroon would probably be running up and down the strand and all the surrounding streets and getting all hot and sweaty with all my fellow Aggies," O'Kelley said.

Maddie Stork, '19, enjoyed Paint the Town Maroon as a returning student. Traveling around the downtown area helped her find stores she had previously only heard about but had never stopped by as a freshman. Paint the Town Maroon also provided a fun and memorable experience with friends. "It was fun getting to run around the strand with my friends and take really funny pictures with them," Stork said. "I would definitely go again next year."

Overall, Paint the Town Maroon was a success that will help build relationships between students and the supportive community.

Gig 'Em Week kicks off the fall semester

By Reana Palmer, '18

As you may or may not have noticed by now, Texas A&M is chock-full of tradition. One of those traditions is the famous "Gig 'Em Week." Gig 'Em week takes place the first two weeks of fall semester. The goal of this tradition is to provide students with plenty of opportunity to familiarize themselves with the campus and their fellow Aggies. Each day holds a different event or activity hosted by student organizations, university departments, community leaders or peer educators. The first few days at a new campus can be intimidating, but these events provide chances for socialization. Don't be afraid to join your fellow Aggies for ice cream, recreational sports or even Midnight Yell!

S.A.L.T. Camp

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Incoming TAMUG freshmen partake in "Saw 'em off" swaying during the Aggie War Hymn at the S.A.L.T. Camp cabin in Trinity, TX.

| Photo: Kelsea Janak, '17

Reese believed that her time at week two S.A.L.T. Camp was successful.

"I was at S.A.L.T. Camp week two and the weather was pretty great for the most part so we were able to do all of our outdoor activities," Reese said. "I feel like the freshman really opened up with each other and with the counselors and staff. I know I had a great weekend and I hope they all did too."

With the success of S.A.L.T. Camp each year, students come back to the university campus tired from a long weekend but excited for what their first year

at TAMUG will hold. Wade, Reese, and other members of S.A.L.T. Camp are looking forward to their next year working together to welcome new students to the campus.

"I would most definitely will be a part of S.A.L.T. Camp next year," Wade said. "I just love the opportunity to introduce the new students in A&M traditions, culture, and the Aggie family. It brings the utmost joy of being part of a great group of people who are driven by the Aggie Spirit and have the most upbeat personalities."

Parking

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park near dorms. Students who live off campus received a yellow parking pass allowing them to park in lots near classroom buildings such as the Sea Aggie Center parking lot. Faculty and staff received a light blue parking pass. Faculty and staff have a designated zone, however, according to Chief of Police Anthony Martinez, they are free to park in any legal parking space on campus.

The new parking policy is monitored daily for efficiency. New signage was put up and permit symbols were stenciled on the parking lots to make the transition easier.

Construction is playing a large role in the availability of parking spaces on campus. Martinez understands that some parking areas are small and may not accommodate every student's needs during class hours. These students will have

to make adjustments as the construction progresses and once completed will eventually allow for more parking around the new buildings.

As for the initial results of this new designated parking plan, "It appears that commuter parking is working the first week of school. I have seen full lots during peak class hours and not so full at other times," said Martinez.

Pat Hebert, Auxiliary Services Manager, is the new parking coordinator on campus. Working with Associate Vice President for Administration and Auxiliary Services, Grant Shallenberger, out of the Seibel building, Hebert will handle the physical conditions of the parking lots and most of the administrative work. Campus police will still enforce rules, regulations, and policies regarding parking on campus. The Review



New residential parking lot signage adjacent to the Jack K. Williams Library.

| Photo: Megan John, '18, Nautilus Staff

Board will still be handling appeals.

Payments for parking citations can be made online or by mail. Students also have the right to appeal a citation with the Review Board within 13 days of the issue date.

Chief Martinez's advice to students is "don't wait until you have a lot of tickets to come and talk to us. If you have a parking problem come in as soon as you can, and we will be happy to work with you."

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Next generation of freshmen cadets attend student-run Corps orientation week known as O-Week

By Katie Hansche, '18



Cadre, Asher Spalding, '19, instructs Fish, Spencer Proctor, '20, on the proper placement of his Charlie Noble.

[Photo: Travis White, '16]

The first transition made at the Texas A&M Maritime Academy is from student to fish (freshman cadet) during O-week. About 170 fish made that transition this semester at the hands of motivated staff and faculty members.

The line staff leadership this year consists of Corps Commander Cole Manders, Deputy Corps Commander Dillon

Coale, Commander Buzz Refugio M.Ed., who is filling in for the retiring Colonel Mallahan as the Interim Commandant. Cmdr. Refugio provided some structure for the staff, but, cadet leadership got the semester rolling with the educational orientation week.

The purpose of O-week this year was to educate and transform the freshmen, or fish,

into cadets. The fish spent their first week before classes, marching around campus to jodies chanted by their company staff all while learning basic ship knowledge and Texas A&M traditions.

The fish's knowledge of the Aggie Core Values was tested this O-Week, ensuring fish knew that excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service are all guidelines to be followed on and off campus.

The freshmen also attended a plethora of meetings ranging from vessel security and corps life to a more personal speech by Manders about O-Week. During his speech, Manders explained the meaning behind O-Week. "O-Week [teaches] followership and the values we need to instill for the coming year," he said.

O-Week this year was student run, unlike O-Weeks past, which gave the O-Week staff more responsibility in the planning and execution of the week. Command staff were responsi-

ble for controlling the companies of fish, arriving at meetings and meals on time, and using the time in between meetings and meals to teach them how to be a cadet. The staff members not only were expected to embody the Aggie Core Values, but to exhibit them and provide an example that all fish can follow.

Now with O-Week completed and classes underway, all cadets can expect changes to the Corps they once knew. The demerit system now reflects that of California Maritime Academy to prepare cadets for summers aboard the T.S. Golden Bear, therefore the amount of demerits given per infraction has gone up.

The haircut regulations are now stricter; under the new system, a cadet could receive anywhere between 10-50 demerits for a simple haircut violation depending on the severity and repetitiveness of the infraction. Another new facet of the new demerits system is the ability of professors or instructors to submit requests for cadets to re-



O-Week Cadre and Fish stand at attention for formation in front of the Corps dorm. | Photo: Travis White, '16

ceive merits or demerits based on their behavior in class.

Each of these new changes were made for a reason. Cadets complained for years about the inconsistency of standards in the Corps, and now, Manders says, is the opportunity to be a part of that change.

Enforcing more strict standards and observing all the rules in the Corps Manual are

the ways that the Corps staff is pushing professionalism and respect back into the Corps, so Texas A&M Maritime Academy can achieve marks on par with its contemporaries.

"We're just trying to give cadets the opportunity to prove themselves in an environment where standards matter," said Manders.

Marine Transportation sophomores reflect on their first of many summers at sea

By Jack Clark, '19



Texas A&M Maritime Academy Cadets aboard the T.S. State of Maine. | Photo: Jack Clark, '19, Nautilus Staff

As summer comes to an end, Texas A&M Maritime cadets reflect on all the memories and sea stories acquired during their time offshore.

As it is known, any cadet enrolled in the license option program is required to spend their summers sailing along

the seas of the world as training. This is their chance to utilize the skills they have acquired all year and apply them to hands on work. As a freshman, there is nothing to look forward to more than earning the salt an upper-classman contains on their covers.

This past summer, four training cruises took the spotlight. Cadets either sailed with California Maritime's T.S. Golden Bear, Maine Maritime's T.S. State of Maine, Great Lakes Maritime's T.S. State of Michigan, or our very own T.S. General Rudder. Few know that the Golden Bear and State of Maine are actually sister ships who were formerly used in the Navy as oceanographic research vessels.

While we have moved away from the romantic days of sails, there is nothing more intriguing than the propulsion plants these ships contain. The T.S. Golden Bear is equipped with twin Enterprise V-16 diesel engines, capable of speeds greater than 30 knots. The sister ship of the Golden Bear, the T.S. State of Maine, donated both engines to California Maritime. The ship was then fitted with a rebuilt MaK six-cylinder, medium

speed diesel engine.

As the legend is told, the MaK engine was found in the backwoods of Germany with a tree growing out of it and was then donated to the school by alumni.

You're not a sailor unless you have stories. If you ask any cadet about their experiences, there are some they will share and some that will stay at sea. If you're asking someone who sailed with California Maritime, they'll tell you all about their adventures crossing the Caribbean and visiting white sandy beaches.

Madeline Salmon, '19, who sailed with California Maritime, said the Panama Canal was "absolutely beautiful. You really get to see how much the maritime industry actually affects

"You really get to see how much the maritime industry actually affects the world."

the world."

The California Maritime cruise was 60 days long and ventured from Galveston, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Los Angeles, and back to San Francisco.

The tales don't stop there. Cadets who sailed with Maine Maritime ventured over 14,000 nautical miles and did two Atlantic crossings on their way to and back from Belgium and Ireland. For Cadet Jack Harrington, '19, this trip hit especially close to home. He was the first member of his family to travel back to Ireland since his ancestors migrated to America due to the potato famine.

"Maine is around 95% engineers, so as a freshman you learn both deck and engine. In

fact, I spent more time in the engine room than anywhere else," said Harrington. "It was an invaluable experience to learn all the systems aboard the ship, and to get down in the bilges."

Last but not least, the fables of the General Rudder. A handful of fourth class cadets sailed with the Rudder, including Andrew Essenburgh, '19. "I stood a ton of bridge watches since I was nearly always the freshman on the helm. Being in the Gulf gives you good experience due to all the traffic situations and rigs," he said.

While at sea for 80 days, cadets often caught fish, and ate fresh sushi right on deck.

Although the summer of adventure has come to a close, the stories and experiences will not be forgotten. From Fish (freshmen) to a Salty Sailors, sophomores plan for their next cruise. Fair winds and following seas Ag's.



What is Zika and should students be worried about Zika-infected mosquitoes on Galveston Island?

By Sarah Bordelon, '19

By now most people have heard about Zika, ultimately leading up to them spraying on ten coats of bug spray just to go to class. However, the majority of the population have only heard the name and the occasional horror story.

No known confirmed mosquitoes carrying the Zika virus have been reported on Galveston Island, and the virus is rarely fatal. While this is good news, there are still worrisome factors, such as 80% of the people infected do not show symptoms, making it difficult to contain the virus. These symptoms can include fever, rash, red or pink eye, and joint pain.

Galveston has 42 different kinds of mosquitoes, two of them being the vectors for the virus: *Aedes aegypti*, the primary mosquito to spread Zika, as well as *Aedes albopictus*, which has the potential to spread the virus. Both of these are located mainly on the east end of Galveston.

Pregnant women are the main concern and should take precautions when going outside near mosquitoes. Pregnant women infected with the virus have children that are born with microcephaly, a brain defect

that causes the brain and head to be smaller than normal.

Adults who become infected can also develop Guillain-Barre syndrome which is a neurological disorder that causes paralysis. These disorders and illnesses can be potentially life threatening. That is quite alarming coming from something as common as a mosquito bite.

Take these precautions to stay protected: defend, dress, and drain. Defend against mosquitoes by spraying on bug spray when going outdoors, dress in long sleeves and pants, and drain any standing water to prevent breeding grounds.

While most people's concerns are mosquitoes biting them on a daily basis, that is not the primary concern of the Centers for Disease Control. Travel and sexual activities are the main concerns regarding the Zika virus transmission.

When traveling, check to see if it is an area associated with widespread Zika. If it is an area of concern, epidemiologist Sharon Stonum from the Galveston County Health District suggests for people to "make sure they're wearing mosquito spray and try to stay indoors during mosqui-



Wearing long clothing and using bug spray regularly is advised in mosquito-infested areas.

[Photo: Megan John, '18, Nautilus Staff

to's peak hours. It's a day biter. If you're out, make sure to wear long sleeve clothing.

When coming back from the area with widespread Zika, try to avoid being bit by mosquitoes for three weeks. If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, see your provider before traveling. The virus is also spread through sexual contact, according to Sharon Stonum of the Galveston County Health District. If you are showing any sign of symptoms and plan on having sex, wear a con-

dom for up to eight weeks. If you are not showing symptoms this time frame should extend to six months. This is because the Zika virus can remain alive in semen for a longer time period than it would in blood.

If the Zika virus ever does make its way to the island, Galveston County has a plan called the Zika Rapid Response Team for Endemic Cases. This team consists of the Galveston County Health Department, epidemiologists, public health emergency preparedness committees and

more.

In order to prevent an actual epidemic, this team does a 150-meter radius property survey around their home, along with going door to door to give residents information about Zika and surveying their properties as well.

To prevent a case in Galveston, a Community Assessment for Public Health Response (CASPER) committee made up of emergency management officials, students, Medical Reserve Corps volunteers, and community volunteers go door to door for assessment to find out how much residents know about Zika and to educate them further. This is to gather data to help public health and emergency response officials as to how to effectively respond to disasters and incidents.

To determine if Zika is in Galveston or not, Galveston County Mosquito Control traps mosquitoes and eggs to determine if there are viruses being carried and keeps record of what types of mosquitoes are present and where.

So, the big question is: should you be concerned about Zika (especially in Galveston with such high abundance of

mosquitoes)? The answer is no, not now.

Zika-infected mosquitoes are not in Texas according to Stonum. However, there have been travel-related cases of Zika in Texas, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

According to the Texas DSHS website, "Texas has had 181 reported cases of Zika virus disease."

According to the Galveston County Health District's website, three of these cases were in Galveston County. All patients recovered and there was no evidence of local transmission.

Additionally, there are many precautions being taken to notify the public of the virus and its conditions in Galveston County.

As Stonum said, remember to wear mosquito repellent and dress in long clothing to defend against mosquitoes.

Stay up to date on Zika infected areas to avoid travel-related Zika infection. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if you are showing symptoms or have traveled to a Zika infected area, especially while pregnant, be sure to see your healthcare provider.

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Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program

Application deadline: September 21, 2016

Successful applicants will be notified by September 28, 2016 with an official start date of October 3, 2016.

Contact Dr. Liz Borda at ACES@tamug.edu for more information about the application process and eligibility.

New Campus Carry law provides an added security measure within universities

By Ciara Anderson, '16

Gun violence has affected the lives of an innumerable amount of Americans and has frightened students of all campuses, from elementary to college level. Mass school shootings have swept the nation, ultimately leading to a new law being implemented in Texas and seven other states allowing students and faculty alike to conceal carry weapons on campus.

One should notice how often college campuses are under attack by a crazed gun assailant, such as the incident at Virginia Tech University, and even closer to home at the University of Texas at Austin. These events were terribly tragic, but what if there were other secu-

rity measures—like a teacher or peer inside the school that knew exactly how to use a gun for self-defense and had it readily available.

The right to hold a concealed weapon in Texas has been longstanding. The current change across college campuses is that concealed weapons are now allowed inside campus buildings.

The law to have a concealed weapon on public campuses was implemented on August 1st, 2016. In 2017, community colleges will follow its precedent in pursuit of this implementation.

The law states that in order to have a handgun in one's

possession, they must be at least 21 years of age, have no pending felonies or indictment for Class A or B misdemeanors, and must pass a gun test.

"The hope for this idea is that this does not impact anyone in a [negative] way,"

Students are able to take advantage of this law, though statistically students aged 21-25 years of age are less likely to do so.

Texas A&M University at Galveston has not had any instances of gun violence. The small size and tight-knit population sets us apart from other

campuses, playing a huge factor in our safety.

We are Aggies, we must take care of each other whether it be with a concealed weapon or with a state certified on-campus police.

There are security measures in place for gun violence, but who knows our campus better than we do? We are both the eyes and ears of this university and it is ultimately up to us to look out for one another.

Weapons remain prohibited in only three areas on the Galveston campus; the counseling center, anywhere there is an administrative or disciplinary hearing taking place, and on marine vessels. Students and

faculty are able to appeal to other locations for review if they feel necessary.

"The hope for this idea is that this does not impact anyone in a [negative] way, the whole point of a concealed weapon is that no one should know it is there," said Todd Sutherland, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs.

The men and women who have taken advantage of having a concealed weapon are shown to be responsible and have a strong knowledge of Texas law, and because of this we shouldn't see it as a threat to our campus—but as an extra security blanket and a freedom that we have every right to act upon.

Transgender Bathroom Law creates controversy regarding federal state funding

By Savannah Mehrtens, '19

Hearing a child say "Mom, I need to go to the bathroom" has never been frustrating until recent events. Often times the mother could just take her child into the women's restroom no matter the child's gender. However, if it is up to the child to make their own decision of which door to enter through ('male' or 'female') then it can get more complicated due to politics and social norms relating to transgender laws.

One might never find that there would be a correlation between a politicized transgender bathroom law and FAFSA. Texas is well known for their large funding towards education for every student, and many parents relocate their family to the state for this reason. When the basis for a child's future strongly correlates to their primary education, it becomes clear that money will never go to waste.

However, the hushed conversation relating to a child's gender identity was not an issue for public education until now. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick refused to accept the proposal to allow transgender students of all ages to use bathrooms that they identified with, which puts the educational future of all students, even those in college, at risk.

"This will be the beginning of the end of the public school system as we know it," Patrick told NBC 5 according to The Washington Post.

He was not referring to the ending of federal funds if he did not accept this seemingly simple request from the national government. Instead, he was presuming that students who identify as transgender would ruin the public school system by using the bathroom of their choice.

The funding for the FAFSA and federal funding for schools would be cut-off until the state leaders change their mind. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 allows for the federal funding to be withheld until decisions can be made by Texas leaders such as Governor Greg Abbott, who also added his part to the law.

Abbott and Patrick found a clear opportunity to attack the president for his goal of social reform. During the Obama administration, LGBT/PQ rights have come to the forefront of social reform, followed closely behind by minority progress and immigration reform. However, Patrick and Abbott chose to represent outdated social norms rather than fighting for

the reformation largely impacting the youth.

Patrick told NBC 5, "President Obama, in the dark of the night – without consulting Congress, without consulting educators, without consulting parents – decides to issue an executive order, like this superintendent, forcing transgender policies on schools and on parents who clearly don't want it."

The leaders in the Texas government are not the only ones to blame for the failure to allow children to define themselves without disgrace. This responsibility has also fallen onto superintendents, principals, and administration of the public school system. Port Neches-Groves Superintendent Rodney Cavness will have no part in the president's directive and in turn would limit the funding for students in his school district.

"He ain't my president and he can't tell me what to do," Cavness explained to 12News. "I have five daughters myself and I have 2,500 girls in my protection. Their moms and dads expect me to protect them. And that is what I am going to do. Now I don't want them bullied, but there are accommodations that can be made short of this. He is destroying the very fiber

of this country. He is not a leader. He is a failure."

Under no circumstance is President Barack Obama not Cavness's president by law. He may choose to fight against this bill, but the students that he claims to be protecting will only suffer from his poor decisions and unprofessional words. Girls are not the only people that need protection, and this pure discrimination of others isn't "protecting" anyone.

Even though the LGBT/PQ community has progressed in leaps and bounds under the Obama administration, we still must help and protect those who only have a very small voice in a world too large to hear them.

No matter what gender identity someone associates themselves with, of any age, race, or location, should be allowed to not be bullied or refused access to a bathroom.

If you want change for the generation following outlived social requirements, contact your governor Greg Abbott at his office number (512) 463-2000 and tell them you want equal rights to a bathroom for any person that needs one so you can receive FAFSA funds.

All quotes were taken from a public article released by The Washington Post.

Take advantage of your right to vote

By Savannah Mehrtens, '19

Along with becoming an adult in the state's eyes, voting is one of the most important parts of turning 18. Most students located on a college campus are of age to vote. Sadly, many students cannot vote in their campus districts, forcing them to go home in order for their voices to be heard.

If you are concerned about your voting abilities, check what address is on your license and vote in that district. You can also obtain a different certificate allowing you to vote in your universities district.

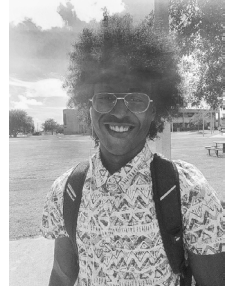
The national voting day for the presidential election is only two months away on November 8. The swing states have already started to lean towards their chosen presidential candidate. Currently according to recent CNN/ORC poles, Hillary Clinton is leading with 45% of the vote, with Donald Trump coming in second at 37%.

If you want to vote, as is your right, there are a few details you have to have in order first.

1. You must be registered to vote in Texas and bring a photo ID.
2. You must be a US citizen.
3. You must be 18 by the Election Day.

NAUT ASKS:

What's your opinion on campus carry?



"I'm fine with it. I'd hope that if we were in real danger, the person who did possess a firearm would protect us all."

-Ariyah Woods, '20



"That's cool. I mean if you want to participate then do your thing, man."

-Brooke Sanchez, '18



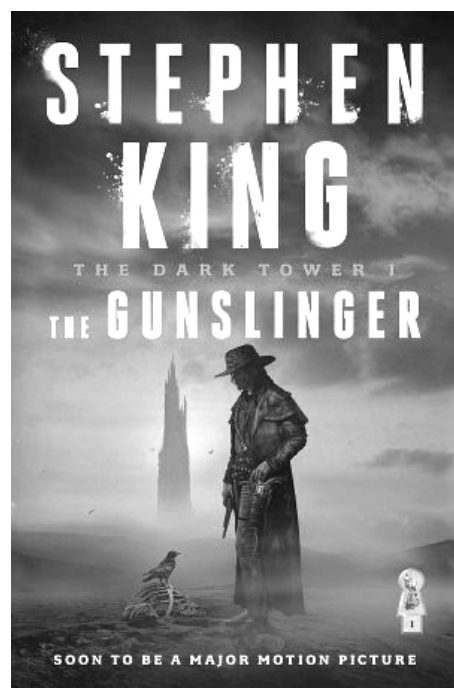
"I'm all for it. I think the campus would be safer if the students permitted to have firearms were allowed to do so."

-Nick Taylor, '18

Want your opinion heard? Look out for THE NAUTILUS around campus for your chance to be featured in the next Naut Asks!

Book Review: The Dark Tower: The Gunslinger (A+)

By Ciara Anderson, '16



Book cover for Stephen King's, *The Gunslinger*, soon to be a movie.
[Photo: Viking Press, June 2003]

For those who are hardcore Stephen King fans, reading this series should be a no-brainer. *The Gunslinger* is the first novel of the series and will be a movie in 2017 with Idris Elba portraying the main character; Roland Deschain and Matthew McConaughey as The Man in Black. This novel is a true fantasy that fans of King's work would be impressed with. *The Dark Tower* series centers on the last Gunslinger and his quest to find "The Man in Black".

The best part of the novel is the fantasy and thrills that come along with reading it; there is no comparison when it comes to King's other works. This novel took 12 years to finish, and it is obvious as to why. This story takes place in a parallel universe where it seems that everyone has abandoned. The reader gets an "Old West" feel and it would be fitting seeing as how gunslingers are usually depicted in that time period.

It takes a bit of reading to meet some other important characters such as Jake Chambers who will trek the journey with Roland, and a few other fantasy like creatures. In this

parallel universe it is shown that Roland has magic powers such as hypnosis and immortality. This novel sets the story line for Roland and the man in black, but there are many twists and turns throughout the entire series.

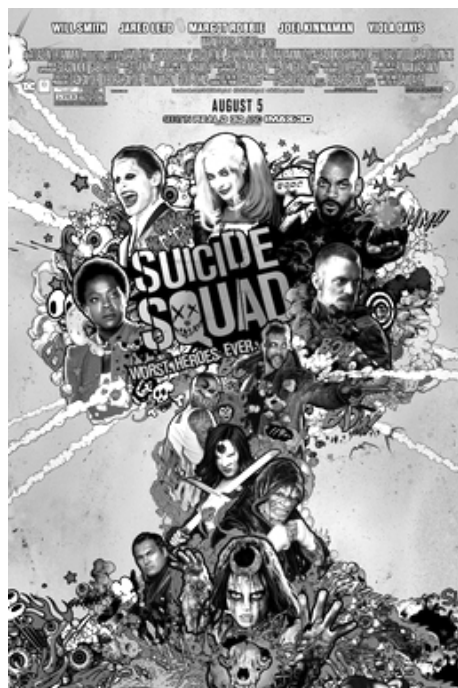
When it comes to creating the film adaptation of this book, it is a wonder how well they will pull it off. There is not much action in the first book and it is also the shortest, at about 200 pages. It is a wonder if they will tie in some key facts from the remaining novels or if they will keep the film as the novel portrays.

There are seven books in the series; *The Gunslinger*, *The Drawing of Three*, *The Waste Lands*, *Wizard and Glass*, *Wolves of the Calla*, *Song of Susannah*, and *The Dark Tower*. King also created an eighth novel to tie everything together by using short stories called; *The Wind Through the Keyhole*.

If you need to find some new reading material look no further, Stephen King packs enough adventure, fantasy, and magic in this series to keep one busy for a while.

Movie Review: Warner Bros. Suicide Squad (C+)

By Ciara Anderson, '16



According to Fandango, *Suicide Squad*'s pre-sale tickets have broken the company's record for most pre-sale tickets sold in August.

[Photo: Warner Bros. Pictures]

One of the most highly anticipated movies of the year brought the DC Comic fans together with Marvel fans. The film was colorful eccentric and full of action; something that most DC Comic movies have been lacking, but it was not exciting.

It can be described as a monotonous video game that one never finishes because they already know how it ends. The obvious love story between The Joker and Harley Quinn made for a boring plot line and shoved some amazing characters such as El Diablo, Katana, and the Enchantress out of the spotlight.

When it comes to DC Villains they are among the best. One decent quality the DC Universe has is how well it depicts its storylines, this was lacking in the film and it suffered because of it.

Some positives from the movie is the fact that Margot Robbie depicted Harley Quinn very well. She made the character believable, and outshined the Joker in many ways—one being

her wit and craziness overall.

Some comic book favorites such as El Diablo, Katana, and the Enchantress also made the film flop a bit less. El Diablo was a sweet villain who ended up sacrificing himself, unfortunately. Katana was arguably the best female in the movie, and yet she was only portrayed as a glorified bodyguard! The Enchantress is an amazing female villain and was portrayed to near perfection.

The worst part of the movie was the Joker. The hype was a complete waste of time, as he only has a few scenes in the film. Also, when it comes

to the Joker's portrayal he did not perform better than the late Heath Ledger, despite what *Suicide Squad* fans want to believe.

The Joker is meant to be a dark character. He's crazy, deranged, psychotic, and a tad bit relatable. The new, and not so improved, Joker was a complete flop and it would be smart to end the Joker charade here and let Harley Quinn shine.

The hype was a complete waste of time,

Upcoming Movie Release Dates:

Friday September 23
The Magnificent Seven (PG-13)
Storks (PG)
The Age of Shadows (NR)
Beauty and the Beast (PG-13)
Chronic (R)
Closet Monster (NR)
The Free World (R)

Friday September 30
Deepwater Horizon (PG-13)
Masterminds (PG-13)
Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children (PG-13)

Upcoming Concerts:

Sept. 22 Beyonce @ NGR Stadium, Houston
Sept. 24 Slayer @ Houston Open Air, Houston
Sept. 25 Avenged Sevenfold @ NGR Park, Houston
Oct. 3 Thalia @ Revention, Houston
Oct. 28 The Fray @ House of Blues, Houston
Nov. 4 Lindsey Stirling @ Revention, Houston
Nov. 4 Sia @ Toyota Center, Houston
Nov. 5 Evanescence @ Revention, Houston
Nov. 8 & 9 Adele @ Toyota Center, Houston
Nov. 10 Black Sabbath @ Toyota Center, Houston

COFFEE & TALK
CONNECT • SHARE • LEARN

Who: International Students & Faculty
What: Speaking & Writing Practice

Thursday September 22
11am-12pm Library 107D

Hosted by Writing Lab Staff



- Participate in cultural exchange;
- Build lasting relationships; and
- Become more familiar and comfortable with the English language.

Ireland
France
China
India
Nigeria
Hungary
Australia
Germany
Greece
Italy



Featured Photo: Sailing team attends Collegiate Nationals



Megan Ferguson, '18, participating in a regatta at Collegiate Nationals, in San Diego, California over the summer. The team finished 12th in the semi-finals.

[Photo: Robert Migliaccio]

Sporting Events Schedule

Football:

- 9/24** Texas A&M vs Arkansas (away)
- 10/1** Texas A&M vs South Carolina (away)
- 10/8** Texas A&M vs Tennessee (Kyle Field)
- 10/22** Texas A&M vs Alabama (away)
- 10/29** Texas A&M vs New Mexico State (Kyle Field)
- 11/5** Texas A&M vs Mississippi State (away)
- 11/12** Texas A&M vs Ole Miss (Kyle Field)
- 11/19** Texas A&M vs UTSA (Kyle Field)
- 11/24** Texas A&M vs LSU (Kyle Field)
- 12/3** SEC Championship (Georgia Dome)

Rowing Regattas:

- 10/1** 5000 m head race (Oklahoma City)
- 10/15** 5000 m head race (Austin)
- 10/29** 5000 m head race (Arkansas)
- 11/12** 5000 m head race (Tennessee)

Lacrosse:

- 11/6** Aggieland Classic lacrosse tournament
- 11/7** Aggieland Classic lacrosse tournament

Rowing prepares for their upcoming season with preparatory “Hell Week”

By Reana Palmer, '18



The Rowing team participating at The Heart of Texas Regatta last spring located at Festival Beach Park in Austin, TX.

[Photo: Tristan Martin, '18]

With any collegiate sport comes hard work and responsibility. Texas A&M University at Galveston's rowing team captain, Dylan Andrews experiences this first-hand.

This past summer, rowing team freshmen devoted their time to the sport before classes even began.

They spent a full week, known as “Hell Week,” waking up at 5:00 A.M. to do various workout routines. These included sprints on the Seawall Beach, circuit cardio reps, weight lifting at the gym, and above all learning the dynamics of rowing.

As captain, Andrews oversaw all of the freshmen and made sure they knew exactly how to row with ease. In total there are 34 members of the Aggie Crew this year, 20 of which are freshmen/transfer students.


Andrews is also in charge of all practices. He

designates boat assignments, and chooses who gets to participate in the matches, known as regattas.

There are four regattas planned for this semester, including locations such as Oklahoma City, Austin, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Individual boats have won awards at regattas in the past. The Crew also won the title of “most improved organization” at TAMUG last year during the leadership banquet.

“When you work hard, you see results,” said Andrews, commenting on the award. It is these results Andrews and his teammates hope to see more of in the semesters to come.



OUTDOORS 101

Free workshops to help you learn skills for the outdoors

Workshops will be held in Atlantic unless otherwise stated

September 14 - Fire Building and Cooking in Dutch ovens - Gazebo

September 28 - Trip Planning

October 12 - Backpacking Basics

October 26 - Building Wilderness Shelters

November 9 - Food on a stick

www.tamug.edu/recsports/outdoorprogram