The Saber wishes a welcome back to students, professors, and everyone else who makes up the Columbus State University family! It’s unbelievable that we once again find ourselves at the beginning of a new semester. It was a year ago that I became The Saber’s Editor-in-Chief and here I am, back again now as a graduate student, looking forward to more stories and news which impact our community.

In this back to school issue we spotlight CSU’s new president Chris Markwood, and have the inside scoop on his goals in this issue as well as the next which will be published on Sept. 23.

Other articles to look out for in this first issue include the calendar of events in the art, music, and theatre departments, changes spotted in CSU Dining, and attractions around Main Campus.

This semester The Saber will be welcoming a whole new group of staff members that will be making appearances in future issues. We look forward to their prospective enthusiasm and dedication in learning new skills and bringing in fresh perspectives to this publication.

Good luck to everyone in their classes and in managing the beginning semester stress.

-Catherine Saavedra
Editor-in-Chief
President Chris Markwood, Ph.D., has been leading Columbus State University since June 1, 2015.

After moving to Columbus from Corpus Christi, Texas following a several month long selection process, Markwood has accepted a $5,000,000 gift to CSU by Total System Services (TSYS), saying that “These agreements and these gifts are a testament to the strength of TSYS’ commitment to CSU and its students.”

In his capacity as president, Markwood also cut the ribbon at the grand reopening of Howard Hall and spoke at the freshman convocation, among other events and activities.

Additionally, Markwood writes a CSU-centered blog called “Posts from the President’s iPad,” which details the president’s impressions of his time at the university as well as events and interactions on campus. Among such posts, Markwood has written that he plans “to personally be out and about on campus during the first few days to help” with parking issues on campus as the student body and faculty adjust to the recent changes.

Moving forward into the full fall semester, presidential activities included a reception for Tiffany Means, who served in the office of the president and will now be working with the Board of Regents office. As the semester continues, Markwood will serve as a member of leadership to the CSU community.

In the next issue of The Saber, a full profile of Chris Markwood will provide a personal look at our university president.
The English Department has undergone quite a few alterations since the last semester. These changes include some new faces and saying goodbye to others. One of the major changes in the English department is the departure of Carmen Skaggs, Ph.D. as the department head. Skaggs moved to Kennesaw State University and to take the position of Associate Dean for Academic Support, as well as Associate Professor of English.

Currently Patrick McHenry, Ph.D. is the interim chair for the English Department until the new department head is chosen. An additional professor, Marlene Allen, Ph.D. has left Columbus State University permanently for the United Arab Emirates. She has taken a position as a literature professor at a university in Dubai.

On the other hand, Michael Parker, Ph.D. is visiting from the United Kingdom. He is a Fort Foundation Visiting Scholar for the fall semester and will be returning to the United Kingdom in December to prepare for classes at Oxford University. At Columbus State he is teaching two upper level courses: Modern Irish Drama from 1890 to 2000 and British Literature from 1890 to 1945. On Sept. 15 at 12:30 p.m., Parker will be giving an open lecture entitled “Dreams of Redress: The American Civil Rights Movement and its Impact on Northern Irish Politics and Culture 1960-72.”

Also in English Department news, Columbus State has acquired the Carson McCullers’ house in Nyack, New York, marking the university as being one of few institutions to own two homes by a single author. In Columbus, the Carson McCullers Center is now under the direction of Nick Norwood, Ph.D.

In an article by the Ledger Enquirer, Norwood is cited as saying, “I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as director of the McCullers Center—I envision the McCullers Centers becoming the university’s major hub of creative endeavor.” Joining Norwood as his assistant at the McCullers Center is Cailee Davis, a senior English literature major and professional writing minor.
Changes to CSU Dining Services
Improvements to the café and to service

Over the summer, the Aramark Corporation invested nearly $3,000,000 in renovating and improving Columbus State University’s Dining Services. Improvements include the addition of a Mongolian hibachi-style grill, a new island, a new pizza oven, an expanded salad bar, a larger deli, a larger dessert bar, and an increase in seating capacity. Plans to add a Moe’s and Panda Express were tabled by the Board of Regents, but may be revisited later.

Many of the cooking areas are now also visible. “Part of the thrust of what is happening on college campuses today,” said David Mitchell, Director of Enterprise Development for CSU, “is to bring the actual cooking out front. There is an old culinary saying that you eat with your eyes first.”

There is a new “All Access” meal plan that allows students to access the cafeteria for all meals, snacks, and drinks throughout the semester anytime the café is open. This plan is mandatory for freshmen, although there are other plans in place where anyone on campus, including faculty and staff, can purchase the “All Access” plan. “With at least 20 meals a week, that comes out to be $4.57 per meal and you don’t lose any meals like with the old plans,” said Mitchell.

During the first two weeks of the fall semester, the meal plan function of “Cougar Cash” was temporarily disabled due to what Mitchell has described as “a glitch in Aramark’s system.” Following the system errors, all of the areas that can take Cougar Cash were online, barring the Schuster P.O.D. Mitchell noted that as of Aug. 31, “he expects that [it] will be online.”

Another improvement is with the Azalea Room, which now has full audio-visual capability for presentations. This private room is located in the main campus café and student groups may contact Gwen Upshaw in CSU Dining Services at 706-507-8370 to reserve the room. All members of a party must pay or swipe for meals in the café (no outside food) and the reservations might be changed depending on priorities.

Students can download the free CampusDish app that allows access to menus for the week for all three meals, nutritional information, and calorie count. CampusDish syncs with the free MyFitnessPal app to help student track what they eat.

There will be a grand reopening celebration for the Café on Thursday, Sept. 3, from 11:15 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. There will be prizes and free samples. Non meal plan holders are invited to join for the special price of $5.00. For more information on the opening event, please visit http://columbusstate.campusdish.com.
Art, Music, and Theatre, Oh My!
A summary of downtown events this fall semester

A new semester means new events to look forward to in downtown Columbus. This semester’s calendar is chock full of art exhibitions, concerts, and theatre performances to enjoy. These happenings are often at a discounted price for students, and many are even free with a student ID. Here are some of the events students can expect to love this fall.

The first art event for students is Drawn to Horses: A Drawing Event! This interactive experience will be held on Sept. 18 starting at 9:00 a.m. and will run until noon at Woodruff Park in downtown Columbus.

Later in the semester, The Georgia Art Education Association Members Exhibition will be open to the public starting Oct. 5 and ending on Oct. 30. A reception for the exhibition will be held on Oct. 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Illges Gallery in the Corn Center for the Visual Arts. This event is part of the 2015 Georgia Art Education Association Conference.

Nearing the end of the semester, the Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Science in Education Thesis Exhibition will be open from Nov. 31 until Dec. 12. A reception will be held on Dec. 12 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Illges Gallery.

There are also many music events scheduled for the fall semester. The Schwob School of Music’s first Philharmonic Orchestra concert will be held on Sept. 20 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Legacy Hall at the RiverCenter for the Performing Arts. This event will be free for CSU students with a valid student ID.

Guitarist Johannes Moller will make a guest appearance on Oct. 4 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., also at the RiverCenter. An opera performance of “Dido and Aeneas” will premiere on Nov. 13 to the Nov. 15 at the RiverCenter as well. Tickets cost $20 and the show will be performed by students.

The theatre department will be putting on several plays for the fall semester. Running from Sept. 3-5 is the theatrical adaptation of the beloved children’s book “The Velveteen Rabbit.” The play will be performed at the Mainstage Theatre at 10:00 a.m. and again at 7:30 p.m.

Arriving later in Sept. is the play “Good Boys and True,” which will show on Sept. 25-26 at 7:30 p.m., Sept. 27 at 2:00 p.m., and Oct. 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. also at the Mainstage Theatre.

Cult classic “The Rocky Horror Show” will premiere on Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a 7:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. on Halloween and another run on Nov. 5 to the 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mainstage Theatre. Students can receive two free tickets for one performance of each of these productions.

RiverPark has a lot of art, music, and theatre events to expect for this fall semester that students can and should take an advantage of.
An anonymous group of hackers called “Impact Team” has leaked personal information of subscribers from the notorious cheating website, Ashley Madison.

Email addresses and account details of up to 32 million individuals were leaked to the public. Users of the site can pay a fee in order to have all their data on the site deleted, but the hack has shown that not all of the data was wiped as promised in these cases, therefore the hackers were able to get their hands on sensitive material and release names of the site’s users to the general public.

Numerous high profile individuals were discovered to be Ashley Madison users, including hundreds of United States federal workers; many with sensitive jobs in the national security field, were shown to be paid members of the site.

Among the number of government workers are a Justice Department investigator, a government hacker and a counterterrorism employee at the Homeland Security Department, and at least two assistant United States attorneys.

Concerns about the possibility of blackmail or the distribution of sensitive government information by the hackers are high among investigators looking into the hack.

Another high profile user is Josh Duggar, the eldest son from TLC’s reality show “19 Kids and Counting.” Duggar is no stranger to sex scandals, as he has admitted to sexually molesting up to five young girls, including his own sisters.

The hack revealed that Josh Duggar had purchased two subscriptions to Ashley Madison. Since the leak, Duggar has checked himself into rehab for a longtime stay. It is unclear as to what type of rehab.

The motive behind the hack is twofold. Impact Team has claimed to be critical of Ashley Madison’s core mission to arrange extramarital affairs, as well as their business practice of requiring a payment from users to have their personal data deleted from the site.

Questions regarding whether the users of Ashley Madison deserve to have their information leaked have been raised, but opinions widely vary. Columbus State University students have expressed confusion regarding the hack.

Chad Small, a junior political science major told The Saber: “People’s right to privately have an affair has been compromised, but opinions widely vary.”

Liz Johnson, freshman general business major said “It’s justice for people that have been cheated on in the past because cheaters get what they deserve and this leak acts like sweet revenge.”

More ambiguous, Hannah Godwin, a senior English creative writing major said: “I think it’s a really horrible grey area. Some people use the site because they’re gay and have to marry someone they don’t love for safety reasons. But not everyone is [gay], and I don’t know if you can know who is or not.”

The leak of personal data from Ashley Madison has resulted in two suicides, which were confirmed by the Toronto Police as being related to the hack.

Additionally, extortionists have taken advantage of the data leak by targeting its victims.

Toronto Police official Bryce Evans stated that, “Criminals have already engaged in online scams by claiming to provide access to the leaked websites. The public needs to be aware that by clicking on these links you are exposing your computers to malware, spyware, adware, and viruses.”

A mass email has been sent to Ashley Madison users reading, “Unfortunately your data was leaked in the recent hacking of Ashley Madison and I now have your information.” The email goes on to demand $225 in exchange for not alerting the user’s significant other about their subscription.

Avid Life Media, the Canadian company that owns Ashley Madison, is offering a reward for information leading to the capture of the hackers involved.

The company is offering $377,000 in American dollars to anyone who can provide tips to the Toronto Police Services. Currently the hackers are still at large.
On Aug. 21, 2015, social media site Twitter shut down U.S. political transparency site Politwoops, as well as sites in 30 other countries dedicated to archiving the deleted tweets of politicians.

Sites that shut down also included the United Kingdom’s branch of Politwoops, in addition to the global network of the Open State Foundation (OSF). A few names in this network were Open Spending, Open Municipal Information, and Apps for Democracy, among others.

The websites that shut down existed to preserve the potentially controversial tweets of political figures internationally, in order to promote what the OSF calls “digital transparency by unlocking open data.”

The tweets in question were archived by this network through access of Twitter’s Application Programming Interface, or API. Once the decision was made, Twitter closed off access to the API.

The official word from the media giant came in a formal statement detailing how the right to permanently delete a tweet is a user right. “Imagine how nerve-racking — terrifying, even — tweeting would be if it was immutable and irrevocable? No one user is more deserving of that ability than another. Indeed, deleting a tweet is an expression of the user’s voice.”

In terms of general users, this particular policy should not be any kind of cause for alarm. That being said, when applied to the tweets of public figures such as senators, congressmen, prime ministers, or presidents, there is a feeling of distress among activists who have been trying to preserve political transparency.

A statement made in response by OSF director Arjan El Fassed relayed these fears to the public: “What politicians say in public should be available to anyone. This is not about typos, but it is a unique insight on how messages from elected politicians can change without notice,” said Fassed, highlighting the difference between permanently deleting the tweets of civilians versus those of elected public figures.

The lack of access or ability to preserve such forms of speech online should be considered a major blow to journalists and the general population in holding their representatives accountable for their words, especially when highly controversial statements on a variety of topics are made.

While the political season has kicked off in the United States, keeping a close watch on the words of our current presidential hopefuls will now be that much more crucial, and much more difficult following the shutdown of access to such archives.

The Bird Is No Longer the Word
Twitter shuts down political tweet archives

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Uptown Student Discounts and Specials
Save money when you eat out

Got a craving to try some downtown food other than The Den? Here are several restaurants in downtown Columbus offering regular student discounts.

The Social - “UpTown’s Fresh Taqueria” offers students 10% off their lunch order Monday-Friday with a student I.D.

Iron Bank Coffee Company - Located on Broadway, students get 10% off their order anytime with a student I.D.

Picasso’s Pizzeria - Located on Broadway, Picasso’s has a Tuesday special: $2.00 cans of Pabst Blue Ribbon beer and $2.00 1-topping slices with college ID.

Freeze Frame - Located on Broadway, this frozen yogurt shop gives students 10% off their purchase with a student I.D.

The Cantina - This Mexican restaurant on Broadway offers students a 10% discount on any order with a student I.D.

Country’s Barbecue - This popular BBQ joint at the end of Broadway offers a deal for 50% off all orders with a student I.D. on Mondays.

Minnie’s Uptown Restaurant - Located on 8th Street, Minnie’s serves up hot soul food, but only from 10:45 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. All CSU students receive free tea with their meal.

Fountain City Coffee - Located on Broadway, students get a 10% discount on all breakfast items and all day on coffee. Other sandwiches are not discounted at this time.

Phillyosophy - Located on Broadway, get 10% off any order with a student I.D. after 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

Mama Goldberg’s Deli - Located on Broadway, this deli chain offers students half off a sandwich every Wednesday with a student I.D.
Downtown Columbus is great—there are plenty of shops, theatres, restaurants, and other cool places to hang out near RiverPark campus. But what about those Courtyard or Maryland Circle dwellers for whom getting to the riverfront is a hassle? Don’t fret—there’s plenty to do close to main campus, even for those without a car or tons of disposable refund money. Here are the top four things to do near CSU’s main campus.

**Ride the Fall Line Trace with Friends**

The Fall Line Trace is a bike and pedestrian trail that was built over an abandoned railway corridor. With over 11 miles of biking available, the trail is a great way to get some exercise this fall. There are couple of good entry points, the easiest being the park-and-ride rest stop on Manchester Expressway. This stop is also where you can rent bikes (including lie-down and tandem bikes) for yourself or others. The trail connects with several attractions (including several on this list), and ends at Psalmond Road to the north and the RiverWalk to the west.

**See a Flick on the Cheap at the Dollar Theatre**

Carmike Peachtree 8 is one of several movie theatres in Columbus—but it’s the only one where you can see feature presentations for only a few bucks a ticket. Located within easy walking distance right next to Peachtree Mall, the theatre usually only shows movies that have been out a month or longer already in larger complexes—but the payoff for waiting is discounts as high as 60 percent compared to the other guys.

**Reach New Heights at Treadstone**

Treadstone is a rock climbing gym located on Milgen Road, or directly off the Fall Line Trace. With hundreds of square feet of climbing, students of any skill level can give this up-and-coming sport a shot. The gym offers student, military, and church discounts regularly, and you can buy a membership to climb whenever you want if you find out you like it.

**Become One with Nature at Cooper Creek Park**

Cooper Creek Park is a city park located only about a five minute drive from Main Campus. The park is a haven for wildlife, but is most well-known for its birds. The lake is home to several different kind of waterfowl (who love to hang out with you if you have some food to give them), and the surrounding park has bluebirds, sparrows, thrashers, and even owls. The park also offers an extensive walking/running trail, a fitness trail with exercise equipment, a horseshoe court, shelters with BBQ grills and, according to the city, “one of the top clay court tennis facilities in the country.”
The first year of college often brings many adjustments for incoming freshmen. Living away from home in a new social environment can make it difficult for students to eat properly, exercise often, and stay in shape.

While the convenience of having both a Chick-fil-A and Subway on campus tempts many students into eating lots of fast food, a smarter option is to eat healthy, balanced meals in the Cougar Café. Students who have a knack for the culinary should also consider cooking healthy meals at their dorm or apartment.

However, freshmen worried about staying in shape should make sure that they don’t eat too little. “I was in good shape my freshman year until the end of the semester,” said a junior Psychology major who requested to remain anonymous. “I stopped eating, I became very unhealthy and it was not a good decision,” the student continued. “But I bought a cookbook specifically for college students and started eating healthier. Now I’m healthy and in shape.”

Alcohol is another contributing factor to freshmen weight gain. Incoming freshmen might be tempted to party and drink alcohol in an attempt to conform to their expectations of college. “I drank often as a freshman,” remarks a former Columbus State University student. The student, who also requested to remain unnamed, added, “I gained about ten pounds from drinking and it also took a serious toll on my studies. I failed several classes that year.”

Alcohol isn’t the only beverage that incoming freshmen should avoid. Although new college students often worry about studying for classes, drinking excessive amounts of coffee or energy drinks to stay up later is not a good idea. These drinks could contain high quantities of possibly unhealthy ingredients, such as sugar and caffeine.

Fortunately for students, the Recreation Center on campus offers many ways for students to exercise and stay healthy. Lifting weights, swimming, running, and rock climbing are just some of the options available to them. “I run about two miles every day and I lift” Shelby Williams, a sophomore Chemistry major stated. “I gained five pounds during my freshman year, so I started training for a 5k.”

Cougars Go Pro

Two of CSU’s own basketball players go pro

Columbus State University’s very own DeAngelo Kirkland and Shane Heyward went pro this season overseas. Men’s Cougar basketball Coach Robert Moore sat down with The Saber to talk about his players going off to the next level.

Who went pro?

“Shane Heyward ended up going to Finland and we had DeAngelo Kirkland going to Argentina. These guys were seniors last year and they played a lot of minutes for us and did some good things for the program. We’re just happy those guys got an opportunity to play overseas.”

As a Coach how does your players’ success make you feel?

“I just finished up my fifth season, [if] we could get the right type of guys in here who put education first, basketball second, that we could get some guys to go pro.

Our biggest thing is getting the graduation rate up, making sure guys get a quality education, and CSU has so many things to offer. We just felt like Shane and DeAngelo took advantage of it as far as an opportunity for an education and also got better on the basketball court and that says a lot for our program.

We do a lot of individual drills, make sure they get proper training in the weight room, proper conditioning, and they made good use of that. Now they make money playing professional basketball.”

These two basketball players are proof that hard work pays off. CSU and The Saber wish them luck in their future endeavors.
Sign up dates for the Campus Recreation Outdoor Adventure trips have been extended until Sept. 10.

For those who want to break the monotony of campus life, there are plenty of upcoming outings.

The first trip, a hang-gliding excursion, will take place on Sept. 19 in Rising Fawn.

On Oct. 3, students can ride along with NASCAR drivers as they complete three laps at Talladega Superspeedway.

On Oct. 9, students looking for some Halloween fun can enjoy zombie paintball at Fort Benning.

If hang-gliding isn’t your style, learn to fly a helicopter on Nov. 14.

In December, a three day skiing and snowboarding trip in North Carolina will be offered. “I’ve always wanted to go skiing, but never got the opportunity,” said Andrew Montano, a junior exercise science major. “Now that the school is offering the chance to go skiing, I am certain that I want to try it.”

Each Outdoor Adventure trip will have a meeting prior to the trip date. These meetings will be located in the Wet Classroom in the Student Recreation Center.

Students interested in participating in the Outdoor Adventure Trips should contact Koby Garick at Garick_Koby@ColumbusState.edu as soon as possible for pricing and more information.
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