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THE NAUTILUS

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New name, who dis?

By Bubba Nelson, '25

The College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies is most certainly the largest change for our campus in many years. Formerly, Texas A&M University at Galveston or TAMUG didn't have a college it could call its own and was often mistaken for a system school separate from Texas A&M University College Station, The College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies is a fresh and more accurate take on what TAMUG truly is.

First things first, we are still TAMUG, however, we house the College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies, meaning we are just Texas A&M University (Yes, the College Station one). If you are confused, so is the majority of everyone who heard about TAMUG for the first time in the past 50 or so years. For many years now, Texas A&M has had a campus in Galveston for the specific Marine based education and the Maritime Academy. However, it is not a system school like others in the Texas A&M System like Texas A&M Corpus Christi or Texas A&M University-San Antonio, but the name given to this Galveston based campus made it seem like a system school when it wasn't, this school of course being Texas A&M University Galveston. Hence, many years of confusion as to what TAMUG actually was to a large majority of people who would hear about it.

Thus, the "name change". The name, as previously stated, did not change. We are still TAMUG! But now, there is much more clarity surrounding what that really means. Instead of a system school, TAMUG is the home of the Maritime Academy, the College of Engineering, and The College of Marine Sciences and Maritime Studies, which are all Texas A&M University (The Main Campus), this

makes it more clear the difference between a "Branch Campus" and a "System School" in which we are a branch campus extending its reach to better educate future leaders of industries, not a completely separate school with a similar name. So when someone asks where you go, you'll say Texas A&M University and you are in the College of Marine Sciences and Maritime studies (which just happens to be in Galveston).

Whew that's a lot and kind of confusing! Hopefully that makes things more clear for everyone. But just to be sure, I interviewed Maroon Delegate Vice President Ashton Whittington for his thoughts, where he states that the creation of this College "Not only represents a shift in the Texas A&M Systems focus on our campus, but a unification of our goals and community" which prompted me to ask more about how this will affect our role in the ever growing Blue Economy where he exclaimed "The blue economy has more importance than perhaps it ever has before, and our school teaches the next generation of leaders of the industry [in which the new college] makes clear our ambition and why we do what we do".

So needless to say, TAMUG has now gained a new found ability to be better recognized as the official Texas A&M University that has worldwide influence, especially with our place in the Blue Economy. So I asked Ashton what the Administration thought about everything and he said that "The administration has been re-energized and is excited to start this new era of [Texas A&M Galveston]... and the future of the blue economy", and honestly I couldn't have said it better myself. I'm very excited as to what the future holds for our amazing campus and newly founded college and Dean of the College Dr. Debbie Thomas, WHOOP!

2 Welcome back, Aggie football

By Cooper Lee, '28

A failed 4th down conversion attempt deep in the fourth quarter sealed defeat for the Aggies in their season opening football game against Notre Dame. Naturally, the loss is disappointing and has revealed some flaws in Mike Elko's new vision for the team. Despite the sting of defeat in the first game, there is much to look forward to this season, both as a football fan, and as a fightin' Texas Aggie.

College football is undergoing its greatest change since the transition to the 4-team playoff system introduced in 2014 to properly crown a national champion. That system has now expanded to 12 teams, allowing more programs to compete for trophies and keep up in recruiting. Recruiting itself is no longer the only way to team build with the rise of "Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL)" and the transfer portal which allows players to jump between teams far easier. Said teams also have had a huge shake up in the alignment of conferences, with the Big Ten and the SEC gaining several powerhouse programs, including a certain school in Austin. These changes completely mess with schedules, rosters, and national rankings, which all lead into and impact the new playoff.

With all these shake-ups, what better way is there to experience this new and exciting college football landscape than through the eyes of a fightin' Texas Aggie? Regardless of how the games go, nowhere else can you have the collective enthusiasm of singing the Aggie War Hymn, the locking of arms as we saw off Varsity's horns, and ever increasing anticipation for Saturdays. All of which is accomplished at the always energetic Midnight Yell. This year on the field, there will be things Aggieland hasn't seen in quite a while, such as the beginning of

a new era with the instatement of Mike Elko as the new head coach. With his impressively stout defense, and offense that Ags everywhere hope will continue to develop.

Seeing the new uniform combos the team puts out is also worth looking forward to, like the maroon and white set up from the Notre Dame game which was a welcome change of pace. Then most importantly, finally getting to trade blows with T.U. again for the first time in over a decade.

This season didn't have the perfect start, but don't let it get you down. College football grows more wild by the day, and Aggieland is changing too. We just have to be ready for the ride so buckle up and make sure to have a good time. Gig 'em!



Photo by Sean Chavez, '24

Two new exhibits at the Galveston Arts Center

By April Garza, '25

Tucked into the corner of The Strand and 22nd, once the location of Galveston's First National Bank, now stands the Galveston Arts Center.

This non-profit 501(c)(3) organization seeks to bring various exhibits, art education, events, and public festivals to the Galveston area and community. With admission to the center being free and their hours of operation being 12 to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday, with the exception of federal holidays, I encourage everyone to check it out.

This two-story building currently houses two exhibits: Sacred

Stones by Carole Smith and Fables in Form and Fiber by Troy Dugas. Sacred Stones is inspired by sacred Minoan stones excavated at the site of Gournia in Crete. The exhibition features large and small ceramic sculptures of various colors and textures that reflect on yearning for home. Fables of Form and Fiber features painted ceramic platters and embroidered works that utilize indigenous folk art and motifs to find the balance between strength and vulnerability. Both of these exhibits are on display until November 17th.

For readers who are 21 and older, attached to the Arts Center is a FlorVino Winery, specializing in wine crafted from Texas wildflower nectar. A free wine tasting is given upon request. The winery has 6 different wines to offer visitors, either by the bottle or by the cup.



Photo by Sean Chavez, '24

A look back at Hurricane Beryl

By Sean Chavez '24

Over the summer, on July 8, Hurricane Beryl landed on the Texas coast, beginning in Matagorda County, between Lake Jackson and Port Lavaca and Matagorda. The hurricane then went up the coast, ending in Galveston County. After the hurricane made landfall in Galveston

County, the hurricane brought damaging winds and excess rain, raising the water level and causing mass flooding.

On Pelican Island, when the island made landfall, the campus buildings survived the detrimental winds, but the winds knocked out power for the campus. Conversely, with the water level already being high in certain areas off campus, the addition of the extra rain brought the water level up and over in specific areas such as the small boat basin, which was most pronounced with water brought much farther in from the edge of the dock and the island next to the lifeboat being almost completely submerged. At Shell Beach, the water was on the precipice of reaching the sidewalk near PMEC. After the shock and awe of the storm, power was intermittent on campus, with most buildings without power.

During the hurricane, Sea Camp continued to operate, with parents gradually withdrawing their children from the program. This dynamic presented an interesting experience for the children, who had to face the potential reality that their home situations might be more severe than the conditions that they were experiencing at TAMUG.

As the Week went on, with landfall being Sunday, what mainly impacted the campus was being without power. The most significant areas on campus that were affected were the dorms. During this time, sea camp residents were housed in Pacific Hall and summer school

students in Albatross Hall. Also, Albatross Hall was without water for periods of time since the pumps used electricity and eventually couldn't drain as they were without power. The humidity affected the other dorms, such as TAMMAH hall, increasing potential for mold/mildew. To pass the time while we were without power, we spent most of our time in the waterfront Pavillion.

Arriving at the end of the week, the university had brokered a deal with Galveston Community College to house summer school students in their housing as that part of the island was with power and Pelican

Island was still without power. The housing coordinators assigned rooms and issued keys on Thursday, with the evening arrival time at housing. Once the students were checked in, power was restored to the university that Thursday night. The following day, housing personnel conducted walk-throughs to see if there were any issues with systems returning online and to assess any damage from stagnant humidity living in empty rooms. After the walk-throughs had been finished, the students could return that evening.



It Ends With US ★★☆☆

By Quentin Young-Rittenhouse, '25 and Ethan Brown, '27 *It Ends With Us* is quite possibly the most confusing film I have ever seen, both in marketing, and how it tackles its theme. The film is based on Colleen Hoover's romance novel of the same name, which deals with domestic violence as the central theme. When it comes to how the film is marketed by Blake Lively, the main actress is presented as if she is in a fun rom-com. She says grab your gal pals and go out for a fun night to the movies.

That doesn't really vibe well with a film about a flower shop owner being abused by her husband. That's a sentiment shared by the majority of the film's viewers. Many have viewed Blakes marketing, especially the inclusion of her husband Ryan Reynolds, as problematic. Many viewers aren't liking his changes to the script that occurred without the writer's knowledge. One last note is that it really isn't a movie that I enjoyed with other viewers claiming it to be objectively bad. For a movie about abuse there's only a short amount of time where you are able to piece together the abusive central theme and reflect upon it and the message of the movie, which seems to be more of a sub-plot this time around and is a large reason why its handling of this serious topic was not well received.

Deadpool and Wolverine ★★☆☆

Deadpool and Wolverine was... a lot. The film stars long time actors Ryan Reynolds and Hugh Jackman as Deadpool AKA "Wade Wilson" and Wolverine AKA "Logan" respectively. From its opening scene,

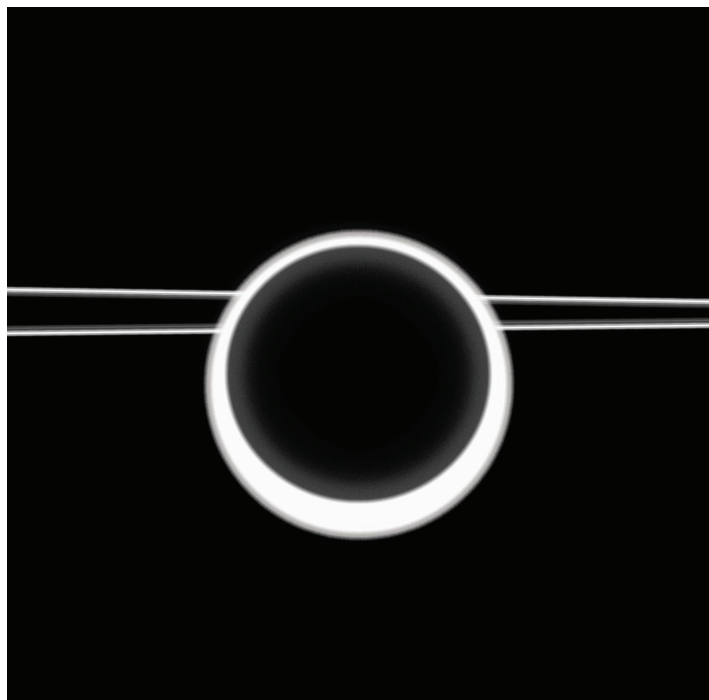
the movie sets a tone that longtime fans have come to expect from Deadpool movies, that of complete irreverence.

The movie surprises fans though as it introduces another more serious tone as a counterpoint, in the form of Wolverine and his dark past. The movie finishes off with a balanced climax, however, as both characters learn from each other. Deadpool learns to take some things more seriously, and Wolverine learns to forgive himself and to be more lighthearted.

Overall, this movie had very strong visuals and plenty of cameos to keep every type of fan interested. From 115 more F-bombs than any other Marvel movie and even a small Stan Lee cameo, this movie had it all, which is why I feel comfortable giving it a strong 8/10.

Now, have you ever heard of Barbenheimer? Last summer's big movie wombo combo? Now there's a new competitor, the two wannabes being *It Ends With Us* & *Deadpool and Wolverine*. Ryan Reynolds tried to promote both films as the Barbenheimer of this year, but many users online were quick to take issue and shut it down. While Barbie & Oppenheimer being the two biggest blockbusters of the summer, each had budgets over 100 million, and *Deadpool and Wolverine's* budget was 200 million, *It Ends With Us* capped out at only 25 million. The smaller budget of *It Ends With Us* reveals itself in not only the production quality but also the marketing. The movie had very few trailers and barely anyone talked about it online outside of criticisms. The author Colleen Hoover has also been very controversial with her past novels and this movie joins the list with its tactless handling of domestic abuse.

Overall the difference in quality in this movie compared to the other 3 is evident, and it's clear that this new "Barbenheimer" was built to fail.



"Aghori Mhori Mei" by The Smashing Pumpkins ★★☆☆

By Sean Holmes, '28

The Smashing Pumpkins new album, *Aghori Mhori Mei*, has received generally positive reviews since its release. I feel like that's because they went for how they used to sound back in the early 90's. Still nowhere near as grunge (or good) as their earlier albums, but I'd say *Aghori Mhori Mei* is a decent album and worth a listen for any Smashing Pumpkins fan.

My favorites in this album were Edin, Sighommi, and Goeth The Fall. Those three songs in particular I feel stand out because they're all very catchy with the addition of the best instrumentals in the album. Honestly, the rest of the songs are forgettable, so you're not missing much if you don't end up listening to the rest of this album. I guess that's what happens if you've been making music for close to forty years. Sorry, Smashing Pumpkin fans.

Also I'm not familiar with the symbolism of the album cover, but isn't it pretty lackluster compared to their other releases? Nearly all of their cover art has immensely creative designs, and then they come out with this simple black and white ring. Modernism kills.



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Advice for a freshmen?

Dear Aggie, I am new to college and finding myself scared about the upcoming semester. What is some advice you could give to a fellow Freshman? - Sue. D. Nim

Dear Sue. D. Nim,
Going to college can be quite a drastic life change, it's only natural to seek a helping hand getting used to your new lifestyle. Let's get all the boring academic

stuff out of the way first since I'm sure you've heard it all already.

For most freshmen, the library will be your friend, providing a (relatively) quiet place to study as well as hosting our lovely studio and writing lab all full of your peers. Now let's talk office hours, don't be scared to go to them. If you need help, you need help, there's no shame in that. If you don't fully understand the content from a lecture or just want some more guidance on an assignment, that's what office hours are for, you can only benefit from going (same goes for tutoring). Lastly for this academic tangent, DO NOT SKIP CLASSES. Trust me, I get that sometimes you just aren't in the mood to show up, but it will only hurt you in the long run. As obvious as it sounds, I would only miss class if it falls under excused absences and you notify your professors in advance. Even when excused, I'd try not to miss any more than two lectures in a row since it gets really difficult to catch up after that point.

Now that we got all the responsible junk out of the way, let's get to the actual life advice; there's more to college life than just classes. We're

college students, we don't exactly have a lot of expendable income. Learn to budget and recognize that if something is more of a want than a need, you should probably save your money. That's not to say don't treat yourself now and then, depriving yourself isn't the solution, you're looking for moderation. Treating yourself once a month should be fine whether that's going out with friends or just getting a nice meal. I promise that's it for the responsible advice, for real this time, now let's talk about the casual stuff.

You should probably keep your study space clean, I know this sounds like more responsible garbage but if you let it pile up you won't want to study. Most people don't like going back to their dorm with a pile of assignments just to see a messy desk and room. Cleaning up as you make messes is a good habit to get into, it makes each mess seem smaller and if you're anything like me, less work immediately is way better than a lot of work later.

Speaking of dorms, they aren't home but try to make it feel as close to it as you can get. Homesickness is real, even if you don't think you'll get it, it tends to come for us all sooner or later. Decorate your dorm, hold on to keepsakes that remind you of home, and call your family now and then. Life is hard and there's only so much advice I can give in one response so make sure to stay in contact with your friends and family!

The Dear Aggie column will answer questions on all matters of interest to students at TAMUG Submit a query by emailing tamugnautilus@gmail.com. Names will be kept confidential.

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The mission of the *Nautilus* student newspaper is to accurately and fairly report on news and issues relating to the student body at Texas A&M University at Galveston. The *Nautilus* strives to be inclusive of all sectors of campus life, issues, and events. The *Nautilus* is a forum of discussion among the student body, faculty, staff, and peers, a place to voice opinions, concerns, and relay accurate information to the best of the reporter's and editorials staff's knowledge.

JOIN THE NAUTILUS!

We are looking for motivated students to join our team and expand our efforts.

You'll have the opportunity to gain practical experience, build an impressive portfolio, and join a community of dedicated student artists and journalists.

We have open positions in news, sports, lifestyle & arts, opinion, graphic design, advertising, and photography.

Training is part of each position, so no prior experience is required and all majors are encouraged to join.

Contact tamugnautilus@gmail.com if you are interested.

Meetings are Thursdays at 6:30 in the library, room 108B, located in the hallway behind the front desk. New staff are welcome throughout the year.