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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Trojans Prepare for Homecoming Showdown vs. St. Francis

Upland, Ind. – The Taylor University Trojans football team (4-1) will face off against the Saint Francis Cougars (3-1) on Oct. 5 at 1:00 p.m. in Turner Stadium. The game falls during Taylor's Homecoming Weekend.

The much-anticipated football game comes amid a weekend packed full of activities for Taylor University alumni and family members including reunions and extracurricular activities.

The Trojans have already had a memorable season, enjoying their best start since 1999 and achieving 50 points or more for their third straight game for the first time in team history. That 1999 season, the Trojans claimed an MSFA championship and NAIA playoff appearance.

Several star Trojans have recently received recognition, including linebacker Aven Jones. Following last week's close game vs. Marian, Jones was named NAIA National Defensive Player of the Week. Jones had a career-high 19 tackles in the game, as well as a sack and a fumble recovery.

Additionally, seven Trojans have received MSFA Mideast League Players of the Week honors through the first five weeks of the season: Carter Loveless, Jameson Chesson, Kyle Turanchick, Aven Jones, Reid Messer, Lucas Shilts, and Isaac Hoke.

In their first loss in overtime vs. Marian last week, the Trojans posted a team record of 459 rushing yards. The defense took a total of five takeaways, two sacks, and five tackles for loss.

Wide Receivers Coach Greg Wolfe said the team is focused on consistency and the things they can control about their performance, regardless of whether or not the team they play has a good record.

After their first loss, the Trojans now look to rebound. The Cougars are coming off of their third straight win in a 70-7 blowout vs. Madonna. The team posted 480 passing yards and 113 rushing yards, as well as two interceptions and three sacks.

“They’ve always got a good program,” Coach Wolfe said when asked about St. Francis. “We’re going to have to be sharp in every piece of our execution on offense,” he noted.

The Trojans eagerly await to play in front of the Homecoming crowd, which Coach Wolfe said always brings a lot of energy.

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