Gumbo Yearbook, Class of 2017

Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College

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In Memory of

Steve Buttry...

Director of Student Media and Manship School of Mass Communication Instructor

Buttry's post. Buttry also taught media writing and advanced print news gathering at Manship School.

As Student Media Director, Buttry worked closely with student leaders in The Daily Reveille, Tiger TV, LEGACY Magazine, the Gumbo Yearbook, and KLSU.

Buttry served as an advisor to student media leaders and offered guidance to individual students.

Buttry indicated that he received three major awards while on staff at the University: the Glamann Award from the American Copy Editors Society in 2015, the Rich Jaroslovsky Founder Award from the Online News Association in 2016, and the Chairman's Citation from the National Press Foundation in 2017.

Buttry's family held a memorial in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and requested that memorial tributes be made to the Stephen Buttry Scholarship Fund, which has been established in Buttry's honor by his friends and family through the Manship School. Buttry is survived by his wife, Mimi, his three sons and daughters-in-law, and two granddaughters.

Design: Taylor Grossolin
In Memory of Mike VI

Obituary

After nine years of frolicking in his enclosure, swimming in his pool and devoting intricate designs made from meat, Mike VI was humanely euthanized in his night house Tuesday, Oct. 11. Although there was to be no formal service, LSU Student Government hosted a memorial the following afternoon in front of Mike’s habitat. The LSU Tiger Band played the alma mater at sunset.

Mike’s death came shortly after he was moved into hospice care.

LSU veterinarian David Baker held a press conference after a press release announced Mike’s cancer had spread to his legs and lungs. At the press conference, Baker said Mike might have one-two months to live, though he would be euthanized before he succumbed to the cancer.

Over the summer, Mike was diagnosed with spindle cell sarcoma and received radiation treatment. A University press release said the tiger might live one-two years with the treatment. In the weeks following Mike’s diagnosis and with the recent update on his condition, students and community members adorned Mike’s habitat with notes and words of encouragement.

Sports administration senior Clay Cardenas was at Mike’s enclosure after his passing to remember the tiger and “everything he served.” Cardenas said seeing Mike was a peaceful stop on his way to class.

“He was something more than just a tiger for all of us students,” he said. “He was a symbol for all of us to remember and to see everyday — something different most campuses don’t get.”

Marissa Soulier, a sports administration sophomore, said she was saddened by Mike’s loss and didn’t expect to lose him during her time at the University. While bittersweet, he’s in a better place now, she said.

Clinical psychology graduate student Paige Ryan said she’ll miss visits to Mike, where merely the sight of the tiger would improve her mood. “I always came to visit Mike during study breaks and in between classes, and he always made me smile and lifted up my day. I’ll miss him,” Ryan said.

Psychology junior Khristian Guidry and pre-vet junior Kayla Me were also present at Mike’s former home subsequent to his passing. Although they knew of Mike’s importance to the Baton Rouge community, the two said they did not expect such a strong reaction from people at the news of his passing. Although said Guidry, it was cool to see how many people cared about Mike. In a statement released the day of his death, PETA said the University should honor Mike by making him the last live tiger mascot.

Motin agreed, saying that after the death of Mike VI, the University should not adopt another. “I don’t like the fact that we even have a tiger. I feel like it’s a very small, little box for a really big animal,” Motin said.

Bradley Champagne, a junior in mechanical engineering, said it would be for the tradition of the University and a live tiger mascot to continue. “I would like to think that LSU would keep it going but then I don’t truly know if they would.” Champagne said.

Mike VI made his debut on Oct. 6, 2007, at a home game against the University of Florida. Baker announced last week that the school had been searching for Mike VII.

Photo - Eddy Perez
Design - Taylor Gontoulou
...and Dedicated to the Victims of the "Great Flood" of 2016

"Worst U.S. Disaster since Hurricane Sandy"

Photo - Chad & Jeanie Lynch
Design - Taylor Gonsoulin & Marlie Lynch
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Fall Semester
Under Water

It never rains in Tiger Stadium

Louisiana in August. Though campus did not sustain much physical harm, many University employees and students were affected. While the University's damage was less significant than other areas, the faculty and staff had to put in work to make up for the losses.

"From the facilities and the grounds of the campus, we were affected not very much," Layzell said. "Obviously we had some flood-related damage, we had some buildings that got water in them, but none of them were inhabited buildings. So I would say that maintenance, the campus was ready. While there were only problems in the area, the flooding caused little to no damage to the majority of campus.

Buildings such as Pleasant Hall, Hunter Hall, Middleton Library, the Student Health Center and the Edward Gay apartments were not affected by the flooding itself, but by the severity of the rainfall said David H. Maharrey Jr., executive director of Facilities Services. "A lot of the rain events that all depend on how the rain comes," Maharrey said. "A lot of times, it's not the inches, it's when they come.

Most of the buildings affected were built with basements, originally intended for use by mechanics. As the University has grown, these basements now house rooms used for classes. Maharrey said buildings were also left vulnerable because of improper sealing of the basements, meant to prevent water from entering.

For example, Middleton Library's basement, which houses state government documents, had been sealed halfway for water intrusion, but still lacks sealing around the other half of the building, said Linda Kehey, director of Library Communications and Publications.

"We have had problems with leaks in the past. Every time we have heavy rain, water comes in to the basement of Middleton," Kehey said. "Each time it happens, flooding leaks that did not pose immediate threat, still remain on a list of repairs. Even made-campus-wide at any given time, Kehey said. Other significant issues were the leaks in which the University's facilities and staff were personally affected by the flood. Most in Baton Rouge and surrounding areas making their residences susceptible for flood.

Layzell said. Amid the devastation, some University offices reported only being staffed amount of personnel who the campus flooding. Those things we're working to get sorted out when it's done," Maharrey said. "There are certain projects that are waiting to be fixed up."

Since the week before students' return to campus is usually a critical time for University preparation, being understaffed forced administrators to reevaluate for an appropriate end date for many projects slated for completion at the beginning of the semester, Maharrey said.

Assistant Vice President of Residential Life and Housing Steve Waller said those able to make it back to campus following the flooding, some of whom had been left at their homes, helped out with understaffed move-in day activities. "The thing is our staff stepped up," Waller said. "Our graduate assistants, our live-in protect and resident life coordinators, they were out there moving the traffic and stuff with the volunteers."
Flood waters started to recede after the rain stopped.

Saturday, August 13, 2016, flooding around LSU campus.

Story · CJ Carver
Photo · Caroline Magee
Design · Madelyn Curtis
As students returned to campus in August to kick off the fall semester, some made their back-to-school outfits a top priority. While most students chose their outfits based on comfort, these Tigers sought other inspirations.

Statement Sneakers
Spotted on celebrities such as Rihanna, Kanye West and Kylie Jenner, a pair of bright and bold sneakers can transform any simple outfit into a memorable one. Mason paired his statement sneakers with a simple outfit, enhancing his hat and shoes.

Jeremy Mason, 21 Marketing Senior
"I was going for a casual look that wasn't just a great outfit, but it was a cool and relaxed outfit to move around campus in."

Pop-Up Dress
Although some trends go out of style, others never die, and the pin-up girl look is one of them. Classic and feminine, Stone’s dress is timeless — whether it is worn in the 1940s or the 2010s, her dress will always be in style.

Amanda Stone, 19 English Sophomore
"I really love the '40s, '50s and '60s sun dresses, so I think that kind of inspired my outfit."

Business Casual
The phrase "look the part, be the part" doesn't only apply to professionals, but also to students. Johnson wore black jeans, a tucked-in button-up and completed her business look with pointed-toe flats.

Jalyn Johnson, 21 Psychology Senior
"My first day back look was inspired by me becoming a senior this year, I wanted to dress for success and still be cute."

Skater
Rips, tears and baggy clothes essentially make the skater style. Robinson completed the skater look by creating a green theme, displayed in her Vans, tie-dye shirt and crochet hat.

Kerrell Robinson, 22 Communication Studies Senior
"My favorite part of my outfit is my shirt because it's tie-dye, so you can't resist that it's wrinkly."

Grunge
Grunge trends didn’t end in the '90s — now, they’re just as popular as ever. Mallow layered her dark top and skirt with a leather jacket, tied a long-sleeved shirt around her waist and finished the outfit off with combat boots.

Bella Mallow, 21 Forensic Anthropology Senior
"My look today was inspired by my desire for autumn because I love layers and it's so much easier when it's not sweltering outside. Since it's super hot, I had to find a way to make layers somewhat bearable in the heat, by having my legs exposed and only wearing the jacket inside."

Story: Cynthia Corfas
Design: Karsyn Young
Jalynn Johnson rocked this business casual outfit in class.

Bella Mallow wore her leather jacket and combat boots in style in Barnes & Noble at LSU.

Kerrel Johnson showed off his eye for greens and whites in the Student Union.
Chef on the Rise
Healthy Eating, Healthy Living

Though University alumnus Craig Lawson, Jr. only graduated this year, his experience in the kitchen is on par with more seasoned chefs. Known as "Private Chef Craig" to his faithful clientele, the LSUBRCC Culinary Arts School graduate's star is on the rise.

Serving athletes like LSU running back Leonard Fournette, LSU safety Jamal Adams and LSU Shooting guard Jenna Deemer, Lawson gives back to his alma mater community through the most delicious means possible.

While in school, Lawson worked at Sullivan's Steakhouse. During his two-and-a-half-year stint there, he said he took all the information he learned in classes and enhanced his teachings to fit the needs of a fast-paced work environment.

"The most important thing you can do is practice," Lawson said. "Never stop cooking, and just follow your dreams."

Inspired by MasterChef Junior, Lawson said his interest in food sparked from his simple love for the actual taste of food. Although he was raised in Louisiana, he said he loves Vietnamese and Asian cuisine more than anything.

Lawson, who describes his food as having a "cool, tasteful swag," has been featured as a vendor for multiple Baton Rouge community events. He also catered for the 1st Annual NOLA Basketball League in New Orleans, where he said his seafood pasta nachos were the talk of the event.

"Catering the event was fun for me, and everyone talked about how good my food was," Lawson said.

Not only is Lawson familiar with catering for large crowds — experience with detailed meal preparation. His clients have enjoyed everything from blackened chicken pasta with steamed broccoli to lean beef lasagnas topped with a chunky tomato sauce served with fresh sautéed spinach. A cured chicken wings served with yellow rice and green beans occasionally from blackened chicken pasta with steamed broccoli to lean beef lasagnas topped with a chunky tomato sauce served with fresh sautéed spinach. A cured chicken wings served with yellow rice and green beans occasionally.

When Lawson prepares meals for LSU athletes, he especially focuses on individual athlete's health goals, designing food to help his clients gain or maintain weight.

Women's guard Jenna Deemer experienced Lawson's cooking comfort of her own kitchen over the course of four days. Lawson prepared Deemer's meals, which she said she thoroughly savored.

"I enjoyed being able to eat healthy while still maintaining the proper amount of proteins and carbs to perform each day," Deemer said.

While he hopes to open a restaurant someday, Lawson said he does not know what he would name it. Despite his success, Lawson still looks uncertain future for motivation.

Though unsure about what the future holds, Lawson is certain about several things.

While he generally endorses healthy eating, he said his last meal would be a cheesburger from Raoul's. He plans to debut a food truck and between he and his mom, he is the better chef.
Craig generally enjoyed cooking healthy meals while adding his own twist to make it different.
After receiving the new title of LSU Assistant Professor of Voice, Brandon Hendrickson plans to share his knowledge of music with students but also learn more himself.
A New Voice on Campus

The School of Music welcomes a new assistant professor of Voice

Brandon Hendrickson, the new assistant professor of voice, was welcomed this fall semester to the LSU School of Music. After instructing for four years at the University of South Dakota, Hendrickson, a University alumus, decided to continue to teach as well as perform. Hendrickson brought with him a resume of operatic, vocal and teaching experiences he plans to use in his new position.

Not only did Hendrickson always have music around in his childhood home, but his mother, father and sister are all music educators. "One could say I was just born and bred for music education," Hendrickson said.

Outside of general music education, Hendrickson has a particular passion for operatic performance, which he said began his freshman year at l'lien College in Iowa. Coincidentally, this is the same university where he lived about what he described as "the greatness of LSU."

Operatic performance not only involves singing, but also includes a host of dialogue, costumes, scenery and sometimes dancing. These performances are typically accompanied by an orchestra and are performed in an opera house.

Hendrickson said that associate professor Dugg McDonough, the artistic director of LSU Opera, would move during the summer to assist with the School's annual season in Indiana, Iowa. After meeting McDonough, Hendrickson decided to pursue his graduate degree at the University from 2004-2006 then go on to complete his doctorate in 2010.

"It's truly an honor to be serving with a faculty of this nature," Hendrickson said. "I hope to be able to give what I can and share my knowledge with the students here and continue to learn while I'm here as a faculty member."

The LSU School of Music expects professors to continue practicing their craft in addition to teaching in the classroom, something Hendrickson is happy to oblige. He added that, coming into the semester, he already had about one performance lined up per month and plans to actively audition for more in places like New York City.

"I hope to bring, through the different performances that I have around the country, a network back to the students here, the knowledge that I'm gaining on those performances, different performance ideas, styles and techniques, while I'm meeting with different performers around the world," Hendrickson said.

Although Hendrickson carries a lengthy resume packed with a variety of performances, he said his favorite moments are when he sees his students being impressed by his teaching. Hendrickson said this is because, as much as he loves to perform, he is an educator at his core.

Upon his move back to Baton Rouge, Hendrickson lost his car and the home he was slated to buy in the historic flood. But Hendrickson said, "much of the beauty of southern Louisiana is in her people." After Hendrickson put it, it is the joie de vivre, or the exuberant enjoyment of life, that provides a source of inspiration.

"The culture's great, the food's great, there are lots of artistic opportunities down here but the beauty truly lies within her people," Hendrickson said.

Story - CJ Carrier
Photo - Michael Palmer
Design - Chloe Bryan
The new building sign at the Child Care Center is shiny, bold, and inviting to its new students.

The play area of the Child Care Center is safe and exciting for the students.
New Changes

The Child Care Center upgrades

A committee headed by Dan Layzell, vice president for Finance and Administration, convened last fall to discuss transferring the University's Child Care Center from Auxiliary Services to another source. In early May, the committee decided to house the Center under the College of Human Sciences and Education. After deciding on a bid, the transfer to CHSE brought out changes that have affected the Center's day-to-day operations. "We were looking at this as an important service that we provide for our faculty, staff and students who have children, but it's really not our core mission," Layzell said.

"It might make sense for us to partner with an outside organization that has expertise in running these kinds of facilities on college and university campuses." The process began by creating a committee of on-campus experts and the Center's management. The committee then solicited proposals from outside organizations to be considered. The committee's criteria for consideration were expertise and experience with handling similar centers on or off campus.

The committee also looked at the salaries and benefits the organizations pay to recruit and retain high-quality teachers and staff and the fit in which the organizations could enhance opportunities for students and staff, Layzell said. "We're bringing somebody in to be a partner with University, not just a vendor," Layzell said of the proposals. While one proposal met the criteria posed by the committee, members decided that sourcing the job would not be best for the Center.

German assistant professor Gundela Hachmann, the parent of a child at the Center, was a member of the committee representing the University's Faculty Senate. "The committee reviewed, very thoroughly, and discussed the offers that were available and the committee decided that these offers were not what we wanted for LSU," Hachmann said. After that decision, a separate committee was formed to evaluate the bid presented by CHSE, which already houses the LSU Child Development Laboratory Preschool and University Laboratory School.

Not only did CHSE offer expertise in the field, operating two other on-campus learning environments, but taking control of the Center would also create research opportunities for students studying early childhood education. The transfer to CHSE brought many efficiencies in the consolidation of the Child Development Laboratory Preschool and the Child Care Center, Layzell said. Because the Center had been without a director for some time, appointing the Child Development Laboratory Preschool's director and staff resources to take over the operation allowed the Center to have more direction, Hachmann said.

In addition, new teachers have been recruited, and renovations have been made to the facilities. "It's not just superficial changes," Hachmann said. "They're also changing the way they think about the education, the way that they want to teach the children. They're doing extensive training for the staff that is there ... so all of these things are really good, positive changes."

Story - CJ Carson
Photo - Linda Whittington
Design - Madelyn Curtis, Taylor Gosselin
Miriam Buckner uses chemical plants as art inspiration

Studio art senior Miriam Buckner opened her photography exhibit in the University's Art Building on Aug. 22. Buckner's exhibit entitled Somnium, is featured in Gallery 229 and includes a series of chemically degraded photographs in a monochromatic scheme.

The conceptual work featured in the exhibit was drawn from her childhood dreams about chemical plant leaks.

"I grew up nearby in Plaquemine, Louisiana," Buckner said. "When I grew up there are a lot of chemical plants really close by...so I think that's what caused me to have these nightmares.

Throughout her childhood, Buckner found inspiration by looking at fashion photography and its conceptuality. Additionally, her mother was a children's book illustrator, which peaked her interest in narratives.

Buckner said photography has allowed her to more realistically interpret narratives in her work.

These narratives can be seen throughout her exhibit. The pieces displayed in the exhibit depict color-drenched people, places and objects distorted as though veils were draped over all the images. At first glance, the pictures may not even come across as photographs but rather, as paintings.

The distorted look given to the photographs was an intentional decision made by Buckner. To achieve this specific look, she developed the pictures in certain chemicals.

"First, I took the photos digitally, and then I printed transparencies," Buckner said. "And then it gets complicated."

She used the negatives to print silver gelatin prints, giving her photographs a metallic tint. Buckner used a process called mordanting to finish the photographs.

Mordanting gives silver gelatin prints a degraded look. Not only does this process chemically bleach the photograph, but it creates veils-like patterns on the surface of the photograph. The veils can then be brushed off, creating dream-like patterns in most of her photographs.

Out of all the photos in the exhibit, Buckner's favorites are the ones which she says are almost like one piece — a street view. A figure in one of the photos has a shadow drifting onto the street of the next shot, which Buckner says is her favorite aspect.

Looking ahead, Buckner is scheduled to graduate from the College of Art & Design with a degree in studio art, focusing on photography, in December. After graduation, Buckner says she may look into photography, but her hope is to keep making fine art that-compels her.

"I really wanted to create so that people could experience too dreams," Buckner said.

Story: CJ Carver
Photo: Mykel Chambers
Design: Karyna Young
Miriam Buckner glances at a piece of her artwork on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2016 at Gallery 229.
Right: Founded in 1851, Alpha Delta Pi is the oldest secret society for college women in the world.

Alpha Delta Pi returns to campus after a period of absence on Monday, September 5, 2016, located on West Lakeshore Drive. LSU is the last SEC school to currently have an Alpha Delta Pi chapter.
Delta Pi was active on LSU’s campus for 70 years, until the Omega chapter of Alpha Delta Pi ceased in 1985.

Making New Memories

Photo: Caroline Magee
Design: Ashton Breeding
And Still We Rise

Randy Jackson and Harry Connick Jr. host "Louisiana Rising," a flood benefit concert

A night filled with music, performances, laughs and support. A night that took away the pain of the Flood of 2016. A night that Louisiana rose.

Native artists from all over came together to help and support Louisiana after the Great flood of 2016. The flood took 13 lives and 154,000 homes and left tens of thousands of people in need of help.

"Louisiana Rising" was a concert created to benefit victims affected by the flood. It was hosted by Baton Rouge native Randy Jackson and New Orleans native Harry Connick Jr. Many more local artists also came out to support the hurting city. There were performances by Hunter Hayes, Aaron Neville, Rebirth Brass Band, and Luther Kent. Although unable to attend, Louisiana native entertainers such as Ellen Degeneres, Bettye Spears, and Tim McGraw also made their presence felt through video testimonials that played for the people on hand.

Many artists mentioned that they were moved by Louisiana’s courage and wanted to help this great state in any way possible. Quiana Lynell, a local artist that performed, said "I’m honored to be apart of this program. I’ve written this song called Baton Rouge and I’m dedicating it to the city of Baton Rouge, and any artist that was affected by the flooding and Louisiana in general.”

Throughout the concert both hosts constantly encouraged everyone watching to donate money to Red Cross and help flood victims recover this tragic event.

Concert attendees Zach Tompkins and Lauren Lambert-Tompkins acknowledged that this concert was a great way to bring attention to what happened in Louisiana. Zach noted that Louisiana needed some help get national attention and this concert was a great way to do that.

Many first responders and local community members who helped out during the flood were also honored during the concert.

"It is great that they are honoring our first responders because it shows that we really took care of ourselves and that our first responders are amazing," said Lauren Lambert-Tompkins.

Natasha Strickland, who also attended the event commented on local artists who performed at this show. She also mentioned that if she had the opportunity to speak to the acts, she would say thank you and that she appreciated the exposure.

Both Jackson and Connick agreed that they will not give up the efforts to help flood victims in Louisiana and that the state will always be strong. Actor John Goodman in his testimonial said "Louisianians are resilient but even the strongest communities can't do it alone."
Guitarist and front man Kevin Griffin from the band Better Than Ezra performed at the Louisiana Rising concert for flood victims on Monday Sept. 5, 2016, in the Baton Rouge River Center Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Singer and guitarist Zachary Richard performed at the Louisiana Rising concert for flood victims on Monday Sept. 5, 2016, in the Baton Rouge River Center Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Randy Jackson and Harry Connick Jr. hosted the Louisiana Rising concert for flood victims on Monday Sept. 5, 2016, in the Baton Rouge River Center.

Story: Raykael Morris
Photo: Haskell Whittington
Design: Chloe Bryars
LSU Assistant Professor of Pathobiological Sciences, Rebecca Christofferson, explains her research on mosquito-borne viruses, including Zika and chikungunya. 

Sept. 6, 2016. She has been awarded a $1.2 million dollar grant to study the viruses, effective from September 1, 2016 to August 21, 2019.
Swamp Monsters
The bugs you don't want Bayou

While increased exposure to the Zika virus is a valid concern amongst Baton Rouge residents due to the recent flooding in the region, three University experts agree that West Nile, not Zika, is where people should focus their attention.

The Zika virus is spread by the bite of infected Aedes aegypti and Aedes albopictus mosquitoes, also known as the yellow fever mosquito and Asian tiger mosquito. Mosquitoes breed in standing water from flooding and heavy rainfall, leading some to believe Louisiana could be more vulnerable to contracting Zika.

Residents should focus their attention on Zika, according to Rebecca Christofferson, an assistant professor in virology and infectious diseases at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Christofferson leads the research on the Vector-borne Disease Laboratory at the LSU SVM.

"Zika has been in the news for a long time, and we know there are no local transmissions in Louisiana," Christofferson said. "For other diseases and those types of things, you actually are more concerned about West Nile because West Nile is in Louisiana, and mosquitoes do affect those mosquitoes."

For Zika to be locally transmitted, the mosquito would have to contact the host from a human or animal host who has the disease and spread it to others. An infected Aedes mosquito can travel over short distances and to other areas, spreading the disease back to humans.

Louisiana has seen reports of imported Zika, but no locally transmitted cases have been confirmed.

To prevent against West Nile, Christofferson advised people to wear bug spray with DEET or Illume, dump out standing water, and wear protective clothing when possible.

Christofferson's research centers on the transmissions that drive mosquito-borne diseases, and how temperature affects the efficiency of the virus in mosquitoes. Christofferson has received a $1.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences. The grant will last until Aug. 21, 2019.

Christofferson is looking to characterize some of the variability of Zika in mosquitoes by using math modeling to regulate transmission outcomes. With predictive modeling, the researchers can compare the model's predictions to well-developed models that can be used to predict transmission.

"We are currently doing a paper that predicts the transmission of the virus and how long it takes for the virus to get out of the ecosystem, and we've done that for the past few years," Christofferson said. "We are now working on the transmission of the virus and how long it takes for the virus to get out of the ecosystem."

Christofferson's research could predict what conditions would have an impact on transmission of viruses and where mosquitoes could potentially spread. Another University expert on Zika, Kristen Healy, is a mosquito biologist and assistant professor in medical entomology and public health entomology at the LSU AgCenter.

Rather than looking at the virus like Christofferson, Healy studies the mosquito itself. She looks at variables such as mosquitoes' temperature dependency, development rates, and the effectiveness of pesticides.

With over 60 species of mosquitoes in Louisiana alone and 3,000 worldwide, not every mosquito is a potential vector of the disease. So Healy looked at the reasons why some insects are infected and others aren't. To test this, she infected the mosquito with the virus and collected data on which are capable of transmitting the virus, and which are not.

"It takes a lot of painstaking work," Healy said. "We look at the individual population species and what host practices are that are on those mosquitoes that contribute to their ability to spread the disease."

In past research projects, Healy studied different strategies to better control mosquitoes to prevent their spread. In the United States, it is better to trap them, what type of habitat they thrive in, and source reduction.

Healy's stance was similar to her colleagues, in that Louisiana residents shouldn't be worried about contracting Zika from floodwater.

"To have a chance of Zika, you need more imported cases and a higher population of infected mosquitoes. In this case, we're just as far from seeing that as many people don't have the virus and we don't have these high levels of mosquitoes," she said. "We should always work on mosquito control. We're better at controlling that in Louisiana and the rest of the world, and it's never going away."

Alma Ray is the assistant director of the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, which works to improve public health and prevent mosquito-borne infections in people.

LADD collects mosquito pools from areas across the state and tests them for three different viruses: West Nile, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and West Nile. Western Equine Encephalitis is more prevalent than any other mosquito borne virus in Louisiana right now, Ray said.

Testing yields a positive or negative result, and if positive, the lab reports back to the parish and county where the pool is infected. The lab is able to identify exactly where the sample originated from and from there, provide preventative measures such as spraying the affected area.

"We don't have a case in our mosquito population, so we're not too concerned about it. We're watching it carefully and following it. We're not on our radar right now," Ray said. "It's a bit of good news for decreasing the number of mosquitoes and the potential for the same infestations in the future."

"It's not an issue here in our mosquito population, so we're not too concerned about it. We're watching it carefully and following it. We're not on our radar right now," Ray said. "It's a bit of good news for decreasing the number of mosquitoes and the potential for the same infestations in the future."

Story: Lauren Heffler
Photo: Anjana Nair
Design: Marlie Lynch
According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, one in six Louisiana households struggle to put food on the table. Kitchens on the Geaux helps to alleviate some of that burden. While the food pantry has existed since 2013, during the fall semester it was undertaken as a project under Kitchens on the Geaux in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Students.

The mission of KOTG is to eliminate local food insecurity through sustainable means and community partnerships. Members sign up for volunteer opportunities the club offers throughout the year, such as its annual potato drop and bringing leftover food from University dining halls to Baton Rouge shelters.

KOTG adviser and higher education administration graduate student Natasha Rivera-Ruiz describes food insecurity as students who do not know where their next meal will come from. After the flooding devastation in Baton Rouge, the food pantry underwent a resurgence. Donations poured in by the cartful every day, and more students discovered the pantry's existence.

"I think people now see the genuine need for LSU students here for it, so I think it's kind of a revival a little bit," Rivera-Ruiz said. "As much as I don't want to use a natural disaster, it assisted in that manner to bring us exposure, and now we're a somewhat well-known resource on campus, and we're going to continue to push forward for that." University faculty and staff now use the food pantry temporarily as a resource for those affected by the flood.

Camille Prejean, volunteer coordinator for KOTG, said the club is glad to assume responsibility of the food pantry as it perfectly with KOTG's goals. "It's been nice to see how many people are using the food pantry, especially since the flooding," Prejean said. "It's a great way to be proactive about fighting hunger on the LSU campus and not just in the Baton Rouge community."

The pantry is a choice pantry, meaning students can pick and choose their leisure up to twice a week. At the food pantry, students swipe in with Tiger Cards and have the option to fill out a confidential form to request assistance from the Office of Student Advocacy and Accountability. "We will come in, because the more you come in, the more we see a reason to come to campus," Rivera-Ruiz said. "It's the essentials we're trying to provide — we want to get those basic needs completed and taken care of as much as LSU can, so you can be a successful student here in whatever capacity that is.

The pantry is located in the Student Union. Its hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations and traffic are going well — the only thing I'd say was struggling is volunteers," Rivera-Ruiz said.

The LSU Food Pantry has canned goods and soft drinks available for pick-up on Sept 6, 2016 in room 350 of the Student Union.
The LSU Food Pantry has shelves of canned goods, as well as non-perishable items available to students.

Plenty of canned goods are collected and ready to be distributed to students in need.

The LSU Food Pantry receives a shipment of items for students on Sept. 6, 2015 in room 358 of the Student Union.

Photo - Ryan McCarble
Design - Taylor Gonsoulin
LSU students fit everything they can into their clear bags to follow the new "Geaux Clear" bag policy in order to get into the game quickly and safely.
Clear Bag Policy

"Geaux Clear" or Geaux Home

A rainy home opener against Jacksonville State University provided a launch for the University’s new “Geaux Clear” bag policy at Tiger Stadium, and the change was apparently accepted by fans, athletic officials said.

Assistant Athletics Director and Game Event Manager David Taylor said the pre-kickoff rain helped ease bag checkers and fans into the new policy.

"When the rain came, it kind of changed the dynamics a little bit," Taylor said, noting the crowd was lighter than usual but still "busy." The crowd arrived at different times, he said, instead of the normal tidal wave in the 30 minutes for to the game starting.

"Geaux Clear" is a new initiative instituted by LSU and most other FBS schools for all athletic events. Approved bags include clear totes that are 12-by-6-by-12 or smaller, Ziploc bags a gallon or smaller and small clutches 5-by-6.5 or smaller. Other items allowed inside Tiger Stadium include seat cushions, diaper bags no bigger than 12-by-6-by-12 and binocular cases. Taylor said nothing on game day or the morning after indicated fans reacted negatively to the new rule. "I am waiting to see if we get emails or any kind of complaints at week that weren’t reported," he said.

The game against JSU was the first time the company worked with Benchmark Event Staffing Services as the stadium’s bag checkers, Taylor said. "Benchmark Event Staffing Services has been on campus since late August in preparation for the home-opener. Taylor said the bag checkers have experience with the same sort of security procedures at New Orleans’ Mercedes-Benz Superdome with the NFL’s clear bag rule.

These men and women were prepared, so I think from the bag checking standpoint, having this group was a huge asset for us," he said. LSU’s Athletic Department had about 5,000 clear bags and 20,000 large Ziploc bags to hand out to fans who were not aware of the new policy. Boy Scout volunteers, internal staff, student interns and parking attendants were instructed to approach fans with noncompliant bags, inform them of the “Geaux Clear" policy and offer a free bag as an alternative, Taylor said.

He isn’t sure everyone received the message, but he said word of mouth is spreading. "Season ticket holder Patricia France heard about “Geaux Clear" on Facebook. The New Orleans resident was prepared for the new policy, already owning a clear bag from attending Saints games. "Don’t say you weren’t informed," she said, noting the policy’s heavy coverage on social media. Brenda Smith first heard about the policy on the news and then saw it on Facebook. Terry Huber wasn’t aware of the new policy, but France and Smith got her up to speed prior to the game, they said, and loaned her a clear bag.

LeAnn Paternoster, a digital advertising LSU freshman, said at first she didn’t see a lot of coverage on “Geaux Clear" until school sporting events started to pick up. The policy has been in use at LSU soccer games for the past three weeks. "I’m hoping that it’ll get us in the stadium a lot quicker," she said.

Political science junior Cassina Broussard decided not to attend the game, but she was out on the Parade Grounds in the afternoon. She said she sees how the policy will make checking bags quicker, but she doesn’t intend to purchase a transparent bag. "I won’t bring a bag, most likely," she said.

Story: Meg Ryan
Photo: Reveille Photographer
Design: Mark Lynch
Valencia Jones sworn in to Board of Supervisors

Jones brings diversity and passion for service position
The LSU Board of Supervisors swore in University Alumna Valencia Jones as its newest member this year. Jones is Gov. John Bel Edwards’ fourth appointment to the Board of Supervisors since he assumed office in January. She will replace former Board Chairman Ray Lasseigne as a representative for the Fourth Congressional District. In May, Edwards announced the reappointment of New Orleans businessman Stephen Perry as a member-at-large, as well as the appointments of New Orleans attorney James Williams and Lafayette attorney Glenn Armentor.

Jones said not many people outside of the University’s faculty and staff understand the complexity of University operations or the full depth of the challenges the University faces. Her first meeting was an eye-opening experience, she said. The meeting included the approval of the 2016-17 fiscal year budget, a report from President F. King Alexander highlighting the University’s accomplishments in facility compensation and retention and a briefing from the LSU Foundation addressing below-average alumni giving participation among institutions in the Southeastern Conference. Board members also entered into an executive session to review Alexander’s performance as system president, forward calling his review overwhelmingly positive.

Improving the University’s fundraising efforts and facilities are two issues Jones said she’d like to focus on during her term. Ensuring students of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport receive the best possible education and resources is another issue worth significant attention, Jones said. On Aug. 4, the Louisiana Board of Regents released a financial health report identifying LSU HSC Shreveport as being under significant financial stress, well below the system campuses. Jones said she sees a number of opportunities for the University system to become stronger and hopes to be an asset who can help drive the growth as much as possible during her term. Leadership, business experience, and a willingness and aptitude for service are several of the characteristics Jones hopes to bring to the position, she said.

Jones also brings diversity to a Board composed overwhelmingly of white males. Jones is the second woman and third African-American currently serving on the Board. Jones said it’s important that all students feel equal ownership of the University, and increasing diversity on the Board is one way to achieve that goal. "Sometimes, when people are not minorities, it’s difficult to see something from the perspective of a minority," Jones said. "There are a lot of minority students that we serve, and we hope to bring more here, and we need to make sure that we are properly engaging those students.”

The University graduated its most diverse class in University history this May, including 697 African-American graduates and 3,485 female graduates, according to the University’s media center. Ensuring all students’ needs are met will be important as the University aims to continue growing, Jones said. Jones said her colleagues on the Board have openly welcomed her, and she’s honored to serve the University. Service is one of her greatest passions, and being able to serve students and advance the status of the University is an incredible opportunity, she said.

"Education is one of the ways that people are able to elevate themselves in life, and get the things from life that they need," Jones said. "I was amazed just to have this opportunity because I’m able to touch the lives of so many young people, in hopes that it will help them have more opportunities.”

Outside of her service on the Board, Jones is a financial services professional with New York Life Insurance Company and NYLIFE Securities, according to the Board of Supervisors’ website. Jones also serves on the board of Nachitoches Jazz and Gospel Festival and volunteers with the Les Amis of Nachitoches service organization, she said.

Story - Katie Gagliano
Photo - Mykell Chambers
Design - Taylor Gourley
Two LSU students helped the community recover from devastating events by laughing through the pain.

Best friends Nam Vu and Omar Finley have done comedy together for almost a year now.

The duo started off by doing performances every week at local venues’ open-mic nights before their first appearance at a venue called the Guru located on Government Street. Vu stated that the venue liked them so much the owners offered them a permanent gig.

Since then, Finley and Vu have started their own comedy show called “NO show” that happens once a month at the Guru.

The comedians had an idea to combine the initial letter of their first names for the title of their show.

Finley and Vu had their first show in May, and according to the comedians, the show has been a huge success. After their first show, Vu said that he realized that “this comedy show was going to be bigger than I could imagine.”

The show has a natural comedic chemistry due to the fact that the comedians are best friends and they understand each other’s sense of humor, Finley said.

Vu and Finley have had several comedians featured at their shows including local comedians Reggie Raw, Tim Smith, Mike Honore, and Hall.

Even though the comedians have had great success, they remained humble.

Seeing that Finley and Vu are Baton Rouge residents, they felt compelled to help the community after the devastating floods in August.

The comedians were able to raise almost $500 to donate to the American Red Cross during that month’s show.

Finley thinks that their comedy show is important to the city because Baton Rouge had a “long and eventful summer” and he believes their show will help unite the community. For this reason, they will be hosting a roast in December where they will donate all of their proceeds to three charities.

Finley stated that Baton Rouge is a great place to live and felt that their comedy show is a great way to showcase local Baton Rouge. Finley added that “I just want our comedy show to be something that our community can be proud of and look forward to every month.” They agreed that they plan on expanding their show to New Orleans, and constantly aiming to improve.

Story - Raykuel Morris
Photo - Ryan McCarble
Design - Madelyn Curtis
LSU graduate student Nam Vu on Sept. 12, 2010 in the Greek Amphitheater. His comedy show premiered on Sept. 19, 2010 on Government Street.
With the discovery of a new species, post-doctoral fellow Sara Ruane is helping define the evolutionary patterns of snakes in Madagascar.

In February 2014, Ruane and a team of researchers from the American Museum of Natural History and the Universite de Mahajanga in Madagascar discovered a new snake species in Madagascar's Ankarana Reserve. The team named the species Madagascarophis loko, derived from the Malagasy word for “ghost,” because of the snake’s distinctive pale gray coloring and elusiveness.

On Sept. 1, the team published its findings in “Copeia,” a scientific journal dedicated to the study of fish, amphibians and reptiles. The article detailed loko’s alternating light and dark gray scale pattern, smaller, gracile body type and genetic relationship to other species in the same family, Ruane said.

Ruane focused largely on the snake’s genetic composition, comparing the ghost snake’s DNA profile to other snakes in the same genus. Loko’s nearest relative in the Madagascarophis genus was only discovered in the last three years, she said, possibly indicating the snakes are specific to the northeast of the country.

Like many scientific breakthroughs, the ghost snake’s discovery happened by accident. The overarching goal of the two-month expedition was to capture and collect DNA samples from about a dozen predetermined rare snake species. Ruane said. After an unsuccessful weeklong mission in Ankarana, heavy continuous rain forced the team to abandon its search and focus its attention on other areas of the country.

Before returning to camp, the team explored an under-surveyed path near the park entrance that traverses an area of “tsingy” rock, which are sharp limestone spires that mean “where you cannot walk barefoot,” in Malagasy. Ruane said. Malagasy master’s student Bernard Randriamahatanana captured the ghost snake while on the path.

At first, the team gave little consideration to the discovery, she said. The Madagascarophis snake family is common in the country, and the discovery didn’t create much initial interest. It wasn’t until the team conducted further morphological analyses and genetic studies that it realized loko was considerably different from members of the same genus, Ruane said.

She said loko’s discovery illustrates Madagascar’s biodiversity and proves the importance of continued study and species surveys.

“The thing that’s most important about it isn’t necessarily the thing itself, but that it really illustrates that even among these really common species there’s still this hidden diversity that we don’t know about,” Ruane said. “It goes to show that even in a moderately well-explored area like Ankarana, there’s still so much to learn. We don’t know what’s out there.”

Frank Burbrink, the associate curator of amphibians and reptiles for the American Museum of Natural History, said there are 3,500 species of snakes identified worldwide, but it’s possible the true number is about double. Loko’s discovery is one piece of a much larger, complex evolutionary puzzle, he said.

“There are many, many more snakes to be found,” Burbrink said if you think about it in the old record days this is a top single, but the story is going to be coming out soon.”

Madagascar is a hotbed for biodiversity and speciation, prime scientists a living laboratory for the study of evolution, he said. Many species on the island are endemic to Madagascar, including 99 percent of its land.

The rarity of the island’s species means their identification and conservation is especially important, Burbrink said. Oftentimes scientists know evolutionary gaps exist until the missing links are discovered. Sometimes species die out before discovery, it makes it more difficult to trace the evolutionary processes, he said.

Madagascar’s habitats are suffering from deforestation because of the spread of agriculture and the native population’s need for charcoal. Continued discovery of new species is critical for conservation, Burbrink said.

Story: Katie Gagliano
Photo: Ryan McCarble
Design: Karsyn Young
Many snake species awaited further examination on Sept. 13, 2016 in Foster Hall.

A postdoctoral fellow for the LSU Museum of Natural Science Dr. Sara Ruane discovered a new species of snake nicknamed the "Ghost Snake" in 2014 in Madagascar.

A snake species was held in a bucket for further examining on Sept. 13, 2016 in Foster Hall.
Life on Mars
Researching Microbes in Space

Noelle Bryan researcher bugs in space. Bryan, a biological sciences Ph.D. student, has researched and identified the bacteria, or "bugs," as she calls them, surviving in the stratosphere as high as 36 kilometers since 2009 as part of the MARS LIFE project.

MARS LIFE is an acronym for Modes of Adaptation, Resistance and Survival for Life in Habitats a Freeze-dried-radiation-bathed Environment. "We wanted to go back and be able to do multiple samples and verify with multiple measurements that there are microbes and things out there and determine if they're alive — and if they're alive, who are they and how are they surviving up there," Bryan said. Bryan said microbes are captured in a high-altitude balloon and automated mechanical device designed by a team of undergraduate students each year.

The variety of students who participated in the creation of the device ranges from electrical and mechanical engineers to design students. Bryan has consistently worked with adviser Brent Christner, currently an adjunct faculty member in the LSU Department of Biological Sciences and a research professor at University of Florida, and physics and astronomy professor T. Gregory Gutzik and Space Science Research Group researcher Michael Stewart.

The project was funded by NASA's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research and the Louisiana Board of Regents. Bryan said this project is unique because it's attempting research on bacteria higher in stratosphere than any other place in the country.

Bryan said the purpose of sending microorganisms into the sphere is to record and discover the ceiling height of altitude these bugs can survive in stressful conditions, as well as to identify how these bugs can be brought back down to Earth in the lab. Bryan hopes to actually send microbes to Mars one day. "It's a very challenging environment, but we think we've laid some really important groundwork for hopefully one day maybe start giving attention to atmospheric microbiology — that is, there is a reason to look at higher altitudes and maybe not just limited to the first few kilometers of Earth," Bryan said.

Story: Allison Bruhl
Photo: Emily Burger
Design: Ashton Breeding
Noelle Bryan has researched microbes for eight years to learn how they survive in the different atmospheres.
‘Cubiculum (2), (3) and (4)’ by Jacqueline Dee Parker hung on display Friday, Sept. 14, 2016 at the LSU Alfred C. Glassell Jr. Exhibition Gallery. These pieces are made of vintage paper, acrylic and graphite on canvas.

Story - Allie Cobb
Photo - Mykel Chambers
Design - Chloe Bryant
All for Show
The School of Art host their biennial Faculty Art Show

To help bridge a gap between professors and students, LSU’s School of Art faculty members express themselves — just like their students — through art. The School of Art Faculty Exhibition opened in the Shaw Center at the Art’s Glassell Gallery from Sept. 6 until Oct. 16.

School of Art director Peter Parker dubbed the show “a venerable tradition that goes back into the mists of time.” Each of the school’s faculty members have substantial regional, national or international creative practices, Parker said. Ultimately, they did the same work they assigned to their students, he said, even if that work was displayed in a farther venue.

“It is the single biggest opportunity of the year for students to see the work of the faculty with whom they study, and for faculty to show each other what the public the direction their work is taking,” Parker said. The full show opens every two years. With 24 to 28 artists on staff, a full show only allows about one or two works of art each. During odd years, a smaller show opens.

“This is an opportunity for them to show their work and for their students to connect with what their teachers are doing,” Parker said. Leslie Friedman, an artist featured in the exhibit, is the school’s newest staff member. She specializes in printmaking, sculpture and installation. Between her undergraduate and graduate degrees, Friedman spent two and a half years in Buenos Aires, Argentina, during which time she built a screen printing studio in her apartment.

The faculty at the School of Art are talented artists from right here in Louisiana, all over the nation and beyond — a real world class faculty — so having my work in this show really makes me feel like ‘Wow, I’ve arrived,” Friedman said.

An active player in the alternative gallery world, Friedman cofounded NAPOLEON, an art collective comprised of 10 artists and curatorial members, in 2011. Three years later, she completed a fellowship at The Center for Emerging Visual Artists and won the Fleisher Wind Challenge.

“It is always interesting to get to see artists’ work up close, especially after getting to know them personally first,” Friedman said. “It is like getting to see inside someone’s mind.” Her work has been shown both nationally and internationally, with solo shows in Philadelphia, Providence, Rhode Island and Wilmington, Delaware. Focusing on political and social themes, her work often explores identities, stereotypes, gender and religion.

“I am passionate about art because it is the best way I know how to communicate my point of view, my concerns of the day and my feelings,” Friedman said. She has three prints featured in the School of Art exhibit, all of which vary from her usual methodology. The prints are black and white collages from “Viviana” — a body of work she debuts in January — and have a gritty, earthy quality that depicts a utopian society.

Another featured faculty member, Hye Yoon Nam, is a digital media artist. She works on interactive installations and performance video. Nam’s focus is the complexity of social relationships by making the familiar strange and interpreting everyday behaviors in performative ways,” Parker said.

Her work has been showcased in the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C., Times Square, on the Canadian Discovery Channel and in several festivals in places ranging from China to Istanbul to Ireland.

“The faculty exhibition has, for me, always been an awesome opportunity to see, view and experience the incredible diversity and immense talent of my colleagues in the school,” Parker said.
Bengal Reuxbotics

Competition is not just for the athletes

Bengal Reuxbotics is a new organization targeting science students on campus. Within the organization, students build robots to compete "sumo-style" across the country. Sumo-style fighting means that the robots only push without destroying each other. Some of these robots can push with up to 65 pounds of force. Electrical engineering senior Marco de Guzman is the organization’s current president. All of the current members, including de Guzman, are robotics engineering minors.

De Guzman said the organization got its start spring semester in another College of Engineering organization, the Society of Peer Mentors. The organization got help and support from mechanical engineering professor Marco de Queliz from a Society of Peer Mentors meeting. “Overall, the club provides a valuable, professional-like experience that includes engineering design, teamwork in an interdisciplinary setting, leadership, budgetary issues and strict deadlines,” Queiroz said.

De Guzman said the organization is funded by their own fundraisers and sponsors. He said they’re actively looking for more sponsors to contribute financially. The club uses scrap metal from Patrick F. Taylor Hall and de Guzman’s father’s shop to save money when building. De Guzman said engineering students aren’t the only ones limited to joining the club. He looks forward to meeting new potential members with backgrounds in mathematics, design and digital art.

Anyone who has an interest in robotics can give the club a try. Guzman said. He said the club does not require a background in robot and having a range of majors involved in the design plans can provide a new insight on problems and reach solutions more quickly. So far Bengal Reuxbotics has competed in several competitions at conventions as far away as Tennessee.

“We all learn something new through competitions,” de Guzman said. He said working together teaches the members teamwork and how think differently. Recently Bengal Reuxbotics competed and won the round at Dragon Con 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia, over Labor Day week. Right now, we have three projects,” de Guzman said. “One is a combat robot and two are new.”

De Guzman said one of the club’s future projects is creating robot for a photographer in New Orleans. He said that project will be done spring along with the creation of another robot. “Moving forward, my goal is for Bengal Reuxbotics to expand its membership and activities,” Queiroz said. “It would also like to see the club participate in other types of robotics competitions beyond combat robotics.”

Story - Allison Bruh
Photo - Ryan McGarble
Design - Madelyn Curtis
LSU's Bengal Resuobotics prepares their robot "MikeReauxbot" for an upcoming event.
The closets of women on campus just got a little bit bigger. Cursty, an application that allows users to rent casual and formal dresses launched at LSU this month. The app aims to help college women find fashionable dresses for low prices. The application first launched in January at the University of Mississippi. Ole Miss students and roommates Clara Agnes and Sarah Kipp founded the company after realizing they needed dresses for a sorority formal.

Knowing that they had already borrowed all of their friends’ clothes, Agnes and Kipp toyed with the idea of peaking into the closets of other women on campus, said LSU campus representative Margot McNeely. Agnes’ brother, William, suggested that the two create an app, and the business has grown from there. The company’s goal is to offer a cheaper alternative to shopping, allowing women to rent a dress rather than pay full price for something they will most likely only wear once.

“Girls have been sharing their closets with their friends forever; Cursty just allows you to broaden that circle while also making money off your own closet,” said LSU Cursty campus director Virginia Stewart. The application was well received at Ole Miss, and with such high demand, the entrepreneurs expanded to other college campuses. Cursty is now at 13 other universities, including Auburn University, University of Alabama, Mississippi State University and Clemson University.

Cursty is for rent, to save money on dresses while still remaining fashionable. The company creates an environment for students to make money off of their clothes. Cursty offers their users over 15,000 dresses, all for different prices. The prices range from $20 to $100. The users can even change the price.

The app is free to download in the Apple App Store, with a description written from the perspective of a sundress begging to be worn again and asking for a “night off this hanger.” “College women have few choices to rent a dress for the day at a cheaper cost and then return it to its owner.” McNeely said. To make an account and begin shopping, users must register with their campus email address. After, users can begin uploading photos of their dresses as well as the brand, size, original retail price and rental price.

Rental price depends on the original retail price and the user’s personal preferences — some may charge more than others. The company offers “Cursty Coverage” fee for damage or accidents. McNeely said some users can “love” another user’s dress saving the dress to their profile for future rentals. The company operates by the motto, “Their closet is your closet,” as per their website. Users have the opportunity to try the dress on before-hand contacting the owner of the dress in advance.

“I know how hard and expensive it can be to find dresses for a sorority and date parties, so it’s a great way to find dresses right here at LSU,” said. Campus representatives have reached out to sororities and the team plans to hold trunk shows at various sororities’ social events. “Cursty will make it more efficient and more affordable for all college women to have outfit for any occasion,” said McNeely.

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Curtsy App

A way to rent casual & formal dresses

Model is wearing a periwinkle pink dress with a brown bracelet with nude heels.

Story: Allie Cobb
Photo: Haskell Whittington
Design: Karsyn Young
Dear World Tour
A picture is worth a thousand words

Robert Fogarty and Jonah Evans found a way to work around the initial discomfort of self-expression to strangers through photography. Dear World, a photography project with New Orleans roots, came to the Student Union on Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The project allows people to tell their personal stories through body art.

Participants wrote phrases on their bodies that summed up their lives, and then a Dear World crew member captured that story by taking the participant’s photograph. “Dear World is an amazing program, and it is truly your message to the world,” said assistant director of leadership and involvement Kathy Jones. “You can express a dear moment through a photograph.”

Dear World has been telling people’s unique and inspirational stories for five years. Fogarty, Dear World’s founder, and Evans, the project’s executive producer, met at a bar when Fogarty hosted the first Dear New Orleans photo shoot. Evans said the day he got involved with Dear World was the best day of his life because the Saints won the Super Bowl, he met his wife and he met Fogarty all on the same day.

Once Fogarty realized that this photography project could stretch further than New Orleans, Evans said Fogarty decided to name the project “Dear World.” Today, the team has traveled from places like Nebraska and Nepal. “Dear World is a way that people can come together and tell a story that they don’t often talk about,” Evans said. Dear World came to LSU after information systems and decision sciences junior Tyler McMorris reached out to them several months ago.

McMorris said it was important for the University to have a project like Dear World because he felt like the school was not talking about issues that affected students on campus. “There are so many issues in our community, that are not being talked about that should be brought out. More people can be aware of them and fix them in a positive way,” McMorris said. Evans said he felt honored to be able to come to the University.

“Some people don’t like to express how they feel, so it was that this event allows them to write their stories on their bodies and themselves,” said marketing sophomore Carly Leday, Coordinator of Leadership and Involvement Delta Madrid-Nothdurft. The event empowers people to be able to open up at their own pace. “You see everyone’s story and you get informed on what your community is, but also you are vulnerable,” Madrid-Nothdurft said.

Story - Paytael Morris
Photo - Haskell Whittington
Design - Ashton Breeding
LSU anthropology junior Latosha Maddox during the Dear World event on Thursday Sept. 22, 2016, in the LSU Student Union.

Dear World event staff helped students with writing their messages before getting their photo taken during the Dear World event on Thursday Sept. 22, 2016, in the LSU Student Union.
Students and faculty speak during the Office of Diversity open house on Sept. 21, 2016 in Thomas Boyd Hall.

Vice Provost & Chief Diversity Officer Dereck J. Rovars, Sr. meets with attending faculty members on Sept. 21, 2016 during the Office of Diversity open house in Thomas Boyd Hall.

Story - Lauren Heffker
Photo - Jordan Marcell
Design - Chloe Byars
Diversity is Good for Everyone

The Office of Diversity holds open house

On an annual open house on Sept. 21, the Office of Diversity opened their doors to University students and faculty to discuss and promote diversity on campus. Students were able to learn about programs the Office of Diversity has to offer, such as the events at the Women's Center, African American Cultural Center and Office of Multicultural Affairs.

The Office of Diversity aims to make the University comfortable for students who are different. By celebrating diversity with its motto "Diversity is good for everyone." If students haven't learned to live, play, and study with those of different background, they won't be prepared for a diverse workplace. Vice Provost Diversity Derek Rovaris said, "If you come to LSU and you leave this place and you don't have an understanding about diversity, then we've failed." Rovaris said. Although the University saw a slight tick in overall enrollment, diversity continues improving. Every year, LSU President F. King Alexander said. "This incoming freshman class as the largest African-American class in the University's history and the second Hispanic entering class."

In the next lifetime, many of our graduates are going to be working for the United Nations," Alexander said. "I think part of our educational process is ensuring that our students know what the world is going to be like.

University administration is working to close the gap between minority students and the white student population. Alexander said. Students are more likely to respect each other when they know each other. It's important to be an ally, he said.

Fostering a diverse learning environment, students are ill-equipped to enter the real world at the fault of the University, according to

Baton Rouge had a tumultuous summer, from state budget cuts to the shooting of Alton Sterling and three police officers and the flooding of epic proportions in August. With the start of the semester and return to routines, the effects of these events can become an afterthought in people's minds.

"We get on with life, and that's good, because it is a sense of normalcy for many of those that are affected," Rovaris said. "But, we always have to remember those that are still hurting."

Rovaris said he thought many were forgetting about the racial tension in the community, until media reported the recent shootings of Keith Scott in North Carolina on Sept. 20 and Terence Crutcher in Oklahoma on Sept. 16 both African-American men.

"There seems to be this pervasive interaction of police officers and African-Americans, particularly males, that ends in death. That is just not acceptable," Rovaris said.

King said access to education could have prevented Sterling from ever being in the situation in the first place, and blames the opportunities he didn't have for his death. Not acknowledging the tragedy and the apprehension surrounding it means the conflict may never be resolved.

The Office of Diversity sponsored a community meeting regarding the protests following the Sterling shooting.

As part of continuing the conversation, the University will host a presidential symposium, "Memento or Movement? A National Dialogue on Identity, Empowerment, and Justice for All" on Oct. 3 and Oct. 4.

The symposium will discuss and examine the events of the summer and their effects on the community. Paying attention, practicing an open dialogue and addressing students' concerns about the shooting will be vital as decisions regarding those involved are made, Rovaris said.
Dr. Bouchard awarded Boyd Professorship

For Dr. Claude Bouchard of the University's Pennington Biomedical Research Center, there are not many more awards left to be won.

"In the fields of obesity and exercise science, I have received all the honors and awards that one can aspire to," Bouchard said. Now, Bouchard can add one of the University's most prestigious awards to that list.

The LSU Board of Supervisors named Bouchard an LSU Boyd Professor earlier this month. To be awarded a Boyd Professorship, a faculty member must be recognized on both national and international stages.

"It is clearly a restricted circle and a very prestigious one. It means a great deal to me," Bouchard said. "Given the number of people [who] have had the chance of being recognized this way in history, it is particularly important and dear to me."

Bouchard specializes in studying the genetic differences related to obesity and human variability.

"It is an exciting field because there is no limit," he said. Bouchard has been at Pennington for 17 years. For the first 11 years, Bouchard served as the research center's executive director of the research center. He has devoted the past six years to scientific research. Before Pennington, Bouchard was involved with Université Laval in Quebec City, Canada, for about 30 years.

In 1962, he received his bachelor's degree from Université Laval. He then went on to the University of Oregon to earn his master's degree.

Bouchard received his doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin, after which he conducted postgraduate research in Germany and postdoctoral research in Montreal.

Bouchard was the president of both the Obesity Society and the International Association for the Study of Obesity. He has also been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from universities in the United States, Europe, and Canada. Bouchard has mentored roughly 25 doctoral students and around 50 post-doctoral fellows.

"My students are largely responsible for the little success that I have achieved and the recognition I get because they were doing the work," Bouchard said. "They made a big difference."

Bouchard said he reminds students to stay mentally engaged all times because training is not a one-time experience. Bouchard also insists students be passionate about the studies they are pursuing. Passion is the key to success, he says.

"If you are lucky enough to feel that passion, you are going to have a fantastic life," Bouchard said.

In a news release, LSU President F. King Alexander congratulated Bouchard on becoming the University's 73rd Boyd Professor and the first from Pennington.

"We are honored to count Dr. Bouchard, one of the world's prominent experts in the field of exercise science, among LSU's faculty," Alexander said in the release. "It is our great privilege to bestow upon him the title of Boyd Professor — LSU's most elite honorific — in acknowledgement of his expertise within the global obesity research community."
Genetics and Nutrition Professor Claude Bouchard speaks about being honored as a Boyd Professor on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016, at Pennington Biomedical Research Center on Perkins Road.
Newly appointed interim head coach Ed Orgeron's wife, Kelly Orgeron (left), and son, Tyler Orgeron (right), eat in at the press conference on Monday Sept. 26, 2016 to support Ed.

LSU athletic director Joe Alleva spoke to the press about the changes being made to LSU staffing and about the new interim head coach Ed Orgeron on Monday Sept. 26, 2016 in the press conference room in the LSU Athletic Administration building.

Story - Christian Boutwell
Photo - Haskell Whittington
Design - Karryn Young
LSU fires Les Miles
Ed Orgeron new coach

After LSU's second loss of 2016 to Auburn, coach Les Miles and offensive coordinator Cam Cameron were relieved of their duties, the University confirmed in a news release.

The news came less than 24 hours after LSU's five-point, 18-13 loss at Jordan-Hare Stadium in Auburn, Alabama.

"Everyone is going to miss him," senior wide receiver Travin Dural said.

Miles' athletic director Joe Alleva and interim head coach Ed Orgeron announced the decision to the team in a meeting following the game.

"He was very emotional," defensive safety Jamal Adams said of Miles. "I'm shocked right now."

Alleva, running back Leonard Fournette said.

"It's always difficult when a coach makes the other decision difficult among athletic director Joe Alleva, LSU's Board of Supervisors and LSU president F. King Alexander," Alleva said.

"It's never easy ones to make," Alleva said. "Coach Miles has done a tremendous job here and he's been a great ambassador for our University, which makes this even more difficult."

"It's apparent in evaluating the program through the first month of the season that a change is needed to media that former tight ends coach Steve Ensminger would be named new offensive coordinator.

"We have an obligation to our student-athletes to put them in the best position to succeed on the football field each week and we have great confidence that coach Orgeron will do just that," Alleva said.

Miles' 12th season at LSU ended after only four games and there was no exact figure known for Miles' contract buyout. Miles closed his LSU career with 114 wins and 34 losses and a 7-10 record in Tiger Stadium. Miles was the Southeastern Conference's former Dean of Coaches, a title given to the longest-tenured coach.

This season was Cameron's fourth season as LSU's primary play-caller after being appointed LSU's offensive coordinator on Feb. 15, 2013. Cameron spoke to NOLA.com after Saturday's news.

"It was a privilege coaching at LSU," he said. "Defensive line coach Ed Orgeron immediately assumed interim head coaching duties.

"Coach O has the will and the power to bring new energy," Fournette said.

Orgeron's son, Cody, who is a quarterback at McNeese State, tweeted that his dad would be LSU's interim head coach prior to the official announcement.

"I couldn't be prouder of my dad," he wrote, "With that being said, my dad is the new interim head coach at LSU."

Prior to joining LSU's staff in 2015, Orgeron paced USC to a 6-2 record as interim head coach after Lane Kiffin was fired in 2012-13. Orgeron was also Ole Miss' head coach from 2009-07.

"We're all going to be out there playing for Coach O," senior center Ethan Pocic said.
Bad to the Bone
Going Back to the Stone Age

University students took learning — and fresh animal bones — into their own hands.

On Sept. 21, students in assistant anthropology professor Juliet Brophy's paleoecology and taphonomy course used found rocks to break open bovine long bones outside the Howe-Russell Geoscience Complex.

In the course, students studied the processes that affect bones following an animal's death, Brophy said.

The actualistic study replicated the marrow gathering processes used by hominids in the Stone Age.

Students used fresh bones donated by the AgCenter and aged bones from an area farm for the study, striking the rocks with stones until the bones fractured and marrow could be extracted, Brophy said.

Early hominids relied heavily on scavenged meat and marrow's high caloric value for nutrition, and increased meat and marrow consumption often coincides with the enlargement of the human brain.

Studying how the bones were broken apart and what processes were used to extract marrow provides great insight into hominid lifestyles, Brophy said.

The idea for the interactive assignment struck Brophy while she was pursuing her master's degree at the University of Tennessee.

Brophy was studying bone accumulation in South African caves when she realized the need to differentiate the varied fractures and markings on the bones, she said.

Brophy decided to reenact the markings herself. She acquired fresh long bones and used stones to break, crush and scrape the bones in a variety of ways to replicate the fractures and markings on the bones she was studying.

When developing the model for her course, Brophy realized a similar approach would help bring the material to life for her students.

Brophy said several students were skeptical about the project, but each attacked the task with gusto. Brophy directed the students through the process, teaching them about the thick cortical bone that enfolds the hollow marrow cavity, she said.

Brophy said many of the students were shocked by how strong bones were and how much effort was required to break them open.

It's a lot of work, even for fit, young college students, and it took some students hundreds of strikes to break open the bone, she said.

The fracture patterns provide insight into how and when the bone was broken. Different stones produce varied strike marks, and fresh bone fractures differently than weathered ones, allowing the students to connect personal experience to the examples in their textbooks, Brophy said.

The study concluded Monday. Students were responsible for breaking open the bone fragments over the weekend, and they reassembled the pieces and the stones' effects, she said.

Brophy said a hands-on approach is the best way to learn something.

"They're not going to forget that they got to break open bones," Brophy said. "It makes the whole thing real. It changes it from being some sort of memorizing to something you're actually understanding."

Anthropology senior Briana Rauch said the opportunity to get close and personal with bones is what drew her to the course. Rauch said the actualistic study allowed her to assume the mindset of an early hominid and contemplate the process from their perspective.

The next day, the students' hands were sore and shaking from work, and writing was nearly impossible, Rauch said. The work was laborious and yielded little returns because of the small amount of marrow available. The effort was necessary for the hominids' survival, she said.

The study also allowed the students to think more deeply about issues that would have affected the hominids.

While the dry, aged bones were easier to break open, they also contained significantly less marrow content, she said. Rauch said seeing this further pushed students to question the caloric intake differences between the fresh and aged bones, among other questions.

Story: Katie Cagliano
Photo: Juliet Brophy
Design: Ashton Breeding
The bones used in this experiment were donated by the AgCenter and proved to be tougher to break than the students realized.

Anthropology students used rocks to break open old bones to collect marrow and determine if it had a direct correlation with the size of a human brain.
Upon turning 20, marketing senior Jana Richards made plans to start her own public relations-based blog, "ROARIN' Twenties." Since the Aug. 1 launch, Richards has used ROARIN' Twenties as a site to promote her clients' upcoming events, including art shows, concerts and benefits. With talent ranging from poets to organization founders, Richards knows just how important marketing can be.

"I've always wanted to start a blog, but I just didn't know what kind," Richards said.

She said she knew creating a blog specifically to market people transitioning to the professional world would be the way to go. Richards suggests waking up every day and following your dreams before it is too late.

"Nobody should be wasting last minute to figure out what they want to do in life," Richards said. "They need to start now."

Richards said so many 20-somethings go unrecognized for their talents and accomplishments.

Richards provides bi-weekly updates on photographers, poets, disc jockeys and artists. She informs readers of her members' upcoming events as she shines a spotlight on herself as well. With hopes of building her blog to a global audience, Richards constantly searches for talent. She wants her blog to become a major resource for people and businesses. If anyone is looking for a photographer, event planner, poet or designer, she wants ROARIN' Twenties to be the spot to find one.

Housing multiple talents under one roof has proven to be a learning experience for Richards.

"I believe that everyone has a story," Richards said. "As much as work for me, this has also been a learning experience."

Richards has future plans of working behind the scenes in the music industry, and she said she dreams of opening a chain of event venues similar to the House of Blues.

"I'm always thinking of ways to get more people involved with my blog," Richards said.
Jana Richards is a LSU student with her own public relations blog.
During the Fall semester, the University and surrounding areas underwent various changes — and The Golden Band from Tigerland was no exception.

After former Tiger Band director Roy King's firing in April, Dennis Llinas served as the band's interim director. Before the change, Llinas served as the assistant director of the band. Overall, the transition between band directors was smooth.

Though the band ran under a new director, drum major Daniel Wendt said he doesn't think the overall dynamic has changed.

"We've had a lot of different directors over the years, but we are the same Tiger Band — just with new things being added," Wendt said.

As the University's interim Director of Bands, Llinas boasts an extensive background in music, ranging from composition to show design.

After working as a band director two high schools from 2003 until 2008, Llinas joined the University staff, where he has conducted for LSU Symphonic Winds, taught undergraduate courses and directed the LSU Bengal Brass Basketball band, according to his bio on the School of Music website.

Despite King's abrupt departure, Wendt said the band respects Llinas and enjoys him as interim director. He said he believes Llinas is a fabulous director, fostering positive relationships with the band members.

While traditions have always been a core feature of Tiger Band, trombone section leader Christopher Stephens said Llinas helped the band to improve beyond its old-fashioned ways.

"This year, the staff has challenged us with more difficult drill and music than we were used to, but they came out of the students has been fantastic," Stephens said. Stephens said that overall, the band's rehearsals focused on the crucial motivation to push themselves to give the best performances.

Because Llinas was a familiar face to the band, clarinet section leader Gabrielle Gilbert said it helped members accept him as their new leader.

"Llinas really makes you feel like you're heard," Gilbert said. "He feels like an individual and not just a part of a huge organization."

Mimi Webb, one of the Mellophone section leaders, said she still respects Llinas as a mentor. "The students all have a great time in the band under direction," Webb said.

Though she acknowledges a slight difference in leadership style, Webb said she believes the band is still the same Tiger Band that supports University.

Trombone section leader Ryan Williams said he developed a close relationship with Llinas, who is also one of his professors.

As a director, Williams said Llinas stood for all the traditional directors before him and has stood for. "He has such a good connection with students and knows everyone's name," he said.

LSU Campus Life set up the stage for the concert held for homecoming week on Thursday Sept. 29, 2016, on the parade grounds.
Tiger Band Marches
Lead by Llinas

The LSU Golden Band from Tigerland played fan favorites before at the LSU Campus Life concert on Thursday Sept. 29, 2016, on the parade grounds.
Bio-Blogging Teacher
Jasmine Brown writes about her passion for cooking

Since she baked her first chicken with her brother when she was five years old, biologist sciences Ph.D. student Jasmine Brown has harbored a love for food. When she is not in the lab, she experiments in the kitchen and whips up fresh content for her food blog, “Jasmine’s Kitchen.”

Sharing an equal love for both biology and cooking, Brown’s idea to create a food blog emerged when she faced the decision of choosing a career path. Though Brown still wanted to pursue biology, she also craved an outlet which would allow her to share her culinary creations.

To experience the best of both worlds, she launched “Jasmine’s Kitchen” in June of 2016. Going back to her roots for inspiration, Brown ultimately credits her passion for cooking to her grandmother, although she considers herself the best cook in the family.

Generally, Brown considers cooking a family tradition. “I want to be able to create my recipes for my family and share them with others,” she said.

On the blog, Brown uploads her recipes and reactions to her cooking. Though her comfort zone consists primarily of southern cuisine, she is open to trying a variety of cooking styles, including Asian-style meals. Still in its early stage, Brown’s blog features four detailed recipes ranging from “7-Up Biscuits” to shrimp and grits. Once her impending wedding festivities start to subside, she plans to jump right back into her monthly food posts.

Tweaking recipes while in the kitchen, Brown correlates her experimental cooking flare with her educational background in biological sciences. She said she loves the excitement of not knowing what to expect in her “kitchen freestyles.” Often using paprika as her go-to spice, Brown loves to have a “buildup of flavors,” capitalizing on the flavor complexity she feels most restaurants lack by either excessively seasoning or not season enough.

Though Brown does not have children of her own yet, she always has their health in mind as she creates distinctive recipes to pass along. “I don’t want my children to just be stuck with fatty Louisiana beans and rice as their go-to recipe,” Brown said.

Describing her palate as “divine, diverse and fun,” Brown经常 refers to her “Spice and Herb Bible” for inspiration. She considers her favorite recipe to be strawberry beer can chicken, which is a spin-off of her mother’s original recipe Brown learned when she was 10 years old.

Always working on something tasty and new, Brown is already practicing and perfecting her turkey recipe to impress her grandfather as he approaches holiday season approaches. Whether she prepares a meal straight from a cookbook or improvises as she goes, Brown can count on her fiancé as a loyal guinea pig. Since he is always willing to critique her, Brown is continuously able to perfect her creations.

“Food is love, and I love food,” Brown said.
Jasmine Brown is a Biology teacher who operates her own cooking blog "Jasmine's Kitchen."
The Music & Dramatic Arts Building hosted the play "Secretaries" on October 2, 2016.
The Secretaries

The Five Lesbian Brothers put on Music and Dramatic Art's first ensemble

The Lesbian Brothers' play "The Secretaries" was the first show to open the College of Music and Dramatic Arts' lab season during the fall semester.

The show, which ran from Sept. 27 to Oct. 2, was directed by Ph.D. candidate Colleen King. The Five Lesbian Brothers are a theatre company composed of Maurice Marquez, Bahs Dary, Dominique Dibbell, Peg Healey and Lisa Knop.

As a group they perform together through the fine feminist art of collaboration. As a company, the group was awarded the Village Voice Ooh Award, New York Dance and Performance Award and a New York Prize Award as Best Performance Group.

The one-act horror play told the story of five secretaries in the '90s who work at a lumber mill in the fictional town of Big Bone, Oregon. One of the secretaries — they're a cult. And once a month during their menstrual cycle, the secretaries murder a lumberjack.

"The secretaries are amazing for the show, which was why I was originally interested in it," King said. "I'm always looking for ensemble pieces with good roles for women. The piece deals with a lot of issues that were very potent in the '90s that continue today."

Some of the issues the show tackles include the way women internalize sexism and create conflict among themselves, as well as dealing with body and eating issues, King said. While tough topics to cover, the issues are hyperbolized and handled in a satirical manner.

One of King's choices for this all-female show was to cast a male as a part of the ensemble. Skye Bocage, in drag, plays the role of Ashley Elizabeth Fratangelo, one of the secretaries.

"When you are casting an ensemble, you have to find the right pieces to fit together to establish the group dynamic," King said. I went into the auditions expecting to cast all women, as it is written that way — [but when] Skye had her audition, it was so good, and it was so on theme with what 'The Secretaries' deal with."

The show had to be put together quickly as it was the first lab season show of the semester. The entire production had a little over a month to rehearse and put together the almost two-hour play.

The rehearsal process, while consolidated, consisted of scene work, improvisation, meditation and ensemble-building activities, working toward a goal of building the energy of the ensemble and creating a sense of listening to the others in the ensemble before scene work was ever started, King said.

"I think that the comedy comes from all of that listening to the moment," King said. "I think all of that lends to a certain upbeat kind of energy that makes the comedy work."
Tyler Ellis, a graduate student studying physics and astronomy, recently discovered "Tabby's Star" on October 3, 2016 in Nicholson Hall.
Tabby’s Star
Tabetha Boyajian working to solve the mystery of an unusual star

One of the University’s newest faculty members spearheaded a mission to solve the mystery surrounding KIC 8462852, a star exhibiting unusual light patterns.

Tabetha Boyajian was the lead author of “Where’s the Flux?”, a research paper exploring the unusual light pattern of KIC 8462852.

The team’s findings were published while Boyajian conducted a post-doctoral fellowship at Yale University in 2015. While Boyajian investigated the star, she didn’t actually discover it, she credits “Planet Hunters,” a part of the Citizen Science Alliance, for noticing the fluctuating data in the star’s light curve.

In 2015, Boyajian, more than 300,000 regular science enthusiasts were able to take part in research by observing data from NASA’s Kepler spacecraft in order to discover exoplanets. The Planet Hunters monitored the drops in light of host stars, usually due to their orbiting exoplanets, often on human pattern recognition rather than a computer. Boyajian said a machine would never have found KIC 8462852, because it wasn’t looking for it.

Tabby’s Star, named after the code name of the star, is one of the most mysterious objects in the universe. It was thought to be a single star, but observations showed it was actually a binary system. The two stars orbit each other, and the light curve showed periodic dips in brightness.

When the citizen observers were monitoring the brightness of certain stars, they noticed a giant drop in light, which couldn’t be attributed to an exoplanet. The light curve exhibited large dips, so much so that Boyajian initially thought it was the sun. Whatever is blocking the star’s light has an area more than 1,000 times the size of Earth. Boyajian said in her February 2015 Talk. In her talk, Boyajian dubbed the KIC 8462852 “the most mysterious star in the universe.”

Without a physical explanation for the dips in light, Boyajian and the Planetary Hunters are still studying it, but don’t see finding a conclusive answer for a number of years.

In “Where’s the Flux?” Boyajian and her colleagues detailed more than a dozen different theories that could explain the light curve, such as a collision between two planets or a protoplanetary debris disk. Boyajian said the most consistent theory was that a swarm of comets could be blocking the star’s light.

One of Boyajian’s colleagues, professor Jason Wright, discussed the star in his paper on alien megastructures. Wright and Boyajian co-wrote a proposal to observe the star in a study for the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, which was leaked to the press. Once people thought extraterrestrial life could be linked to Tabby’s Star, news of the star grew in popularity, according to Boyajian.

Wright is also responsible for KIC 8462852 becoming known as “Tabby’s Star,” as he called it in a press interview and the name stuck. According to Boyajian,

Ryan Ellis, a graduate student in physics and astronomy, conducted research with Boyajian.

“I don’t think this is super relevant in terms of are we the only lifeforms in the universe,” Ellis said. “But I like this star because it is something no other star of this type does without a normal explanation. It’s a mystery.” Ellis said he doesn’t think they’ll have a probable answer on the star for a decade.

Boyajian likened the star’s dips in light to a waiting game. The dips aren’t periodic, so researchers have to wait for the light curve to change again before they can study what the object could be.

Boyajian is conducting other research projects in addition to her study of Tabby’s Star, including an observational program to learn and study the fundamental properties of stars that has been in the works for more than ten years.

Story: Lauren Heffner
Photo: Ryan McCarble
Design: Chloe Bryars
Above: Local artists put their culture on display throughout downtown Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Right: This artwork has a frighteningly beautiful Halloween aesthetic to it.
Baton Rouge Street Art

Local artists color the culture of Baton Rouge

...exploring the capital city, it is found that Baton Rouge is a mecca for Louisiana-inspired art. As the art scene in Baton Rouge takes off, be sure to take a look at these hidden gems. With many attractions downtown, Baton Rouge displays citizens to view while perusing the streets of the historic districts.

There are murals located across from both the River Center and the USS Kidd. The murals, painted on both the back and front of a free-standing wall, pay homage to Baton Rouge and its sights and sounds. Painted on one wall is the Old State Capitol building, and the Louisiana state bird, the pelican. The other wall features the bridge that goes across the Mississippi River, with the river visible in plain sight of the mural.

While driving through the Baton Rouge warehouse district located Chouest Drive South Baton Rouge, keep an eye out for abandoned warehouses that house capuous splashes of graffiti and tags from local artists. For a little spooky, the haunting backdrop sets the perfect mood for the Halloween season. The abandoned warehouse’s dilapidated walls, covered with vines and an occasional spider web, contain plenty of graffiti to accompany the intriguing setting.

The graffiti includes a woman of the night, dressed seductively in all red. Next to her is a small round creature whose likeness is left to the viewer’s interpretation. Filled with tags from different local artists, the warehouse highlights the emerging art scene in Baton Rouge. Closer to the campus, seated right outside popular nightclub Spanish Moon, is a mural full of bright colors and geometric shapes.

Exploring the psychedelic effects of drugs, the mural depicts different types of shrooms, emphasizing the effects of the drugs with bold yellows, purples, blues and greens. The mural catches and captures viewers’ interest for quite some time. Its chaotic, colorful bustle mesmerizes the eyes of all who view it. For a chance to see an underground art culture brimming with understated relevance and elegance in Baton Rouge, just look to the streets.

Story: Salimata Lala Fall
Photography: Haskell Whittington
Design: Marie Lynch
The University’s Creative Writing program started off the Halloween season with an event called Hallowrite, where writers dressed in Halloween costumes and wrote whatever came to mind for 24 hours. Hallowrite’s host, English senior Savannah Wright, said the purpose of the event was to bring attention to the creative writing field. "The creative writing department doesn’t really have a lot of creative writing events, and I feel like a lot of people are interested in creative writing but are kind of nervous about taking that on as a major because they think they are not going to get a job in it," Wright said.

At the event, people were able to explore their imagination and write the night away. The event provided refreshments and writing prompts through the night to keep the writers’ creative juices flowing. The movie “Corpse Bride” was on to keep the writers company. Writers were encouraged to write about whatever they wanted, but Wright favored spooky stories. "It is whatever you want," Wright said. "I’m obviously totally down for people doing Hallow® themed!"

Wright’s personal goal was to encourage people to start writing their own novels. Hallowrite was not just put on to promote the Creative Writing program but to raise money. Each writer that participated was encouraged to have a sponsor who would donate a certain amount of money based on the number of words written. All the proceeds were donated to Book Aid International, a charity that supports education in sub-Saharan Africa.

Wright said her goal for the event was to write 50,000 words, the basic length for a novel. She spent the time working on her young adult novel. "I think that creative writing should be certainly endorsed and they should be celebrated," Wright said.
Creative writing majors celebrated Halloween with a 24-hour creative writing event where donations were received based on the amount of people written.

Story: Jade Butler
Photo: Ryan McCarble
Design: Taylor Gonoulin
LSU Psychology and Interdisciplinary Studies senior Breezin' Clark is the creator of the non-profit organization Phresh Start.
Phresh Starts
Etiquette Camp

brethren requirement, interdisciplinary studies and psychology senior Breelin Clark, a member of the Phi Alpha fraternity, decided to implement an etiquette program for local youth. Clark had no idea the impact Phresh Starts would have on the Baton Rouge community.

A few months later, the program was launched, requiring its members to create multiple programs and social events and complete service hours throughout the year for their student body and local communities. Based on his natural interests, Clark decided to focus on teaching young children about social graces.

As a trial run, Clark ran his own summer camp through the YMCA, which helped create a foundation to structure his program.

"When I start my day in the morning, I think Phresh," Clark said. Clark began Phresh Starts in 2017 as a mentoring program for young men, providing them with lessons in etiquette. He traveled to local schools and taught students table manners, how to set a table, how to complete a resume and other important life skills.

Although Clark has been familiar with etiquette since he was eight years old, he attended etiquette classes while his mother — who taught him things like which silverware to use for different occasions — also taught him basic etiquette.

Though there to teach the children, Clark said he felt he learned a lot about himself in return. "These kids are what I do it for," Clark said. "All the preparation and headache is worth it once I get to meet with them."

Aside from the opportunities his program presents, Clark's key to success is motivation from his supporters. Facilitated by East Baton Rouge School Board, Clark said he has high hopes for Phresh Starts. Always looking to expand his team, Clark looks for team members who have something unique to offer the kids in his program.

To ensure program participants grow in their social skills, Clark implemented a survey called "Fashion Devians" to gather research. The survey bridged the gap between underprivileged young men and professional preparedness. He used these questionnaires to decipher if low income correlated to youth fashion sense.

Although Clark has job offers awaiting him, he plans to continue to focus on Phresh Starts upon his May 2017 graduation. Since securing his own office in YMCA, Clark said he hopes to host seminars that will be open to the public.

"Phresh Starts is going to be big as long as I'm around, and even after," he said.

Clark uses an original quote to motivate his participants, showing them how nothing happens overnight and everything takes practice and dedication.

"I've stumbled before, and I'll stumble again. To learn I must be bold and faithful, and to try again."

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Story - Semaj Atkinson
Photo - Ryan McCarrle
Design - Madelyn Curtis
Mike VI: One Last Roar

LSU’s mascot passes from cancer

The University community gathered on Wednesday, Oct. 11 to mourn the loss of a loved one. Hundreds of students, faculty and community members came together for a memorial ceremony organized by Student Government to remember Mike VI.

“I think that it was absolutely necessary we had a memorial,” said University student and attendee Lily Sewell. “I think that he was such an important aspect of our community and LSU as a whole.”

When Mike VI was brought to the University back in 2007, he was set to make his Tiger Stadium debut on Sept. 22 during the South Carolina game. Mike VI’s veterinarian, however, thought it might not be a good idea to bring the new tiger in for a day game. Mike VI’s Tiger Stadium debut was played against the University of Florida Gators, whom the Tigers were slated to play the weekend prior to the tragedy.

University student Carrigan Johnson said she thinks Mike’s passing put any remaining frustration regarding the game into perspective.

“With the cancellation of the Florida game, there’s been a lot of mess that’s been going on [between us and Florida],” she said. “I feel like Mike’s death, forget a football game, We’re all supposed to be one as a community regardless of the situation.”

Before guests of the service were offered a chance to share one last message with Mike, the Tiger Tenors led the singing of the University alma mater. Many gathered arm in arm, some with a tear or two in their eyes, sang along with the quartet. Many of those in attendance, like Denise Lewis of Denham Springs, had a long history with Mike.

“We arrived here in January of 2007, after Katrina, and Mike was the first to greet us not very long after,” said Leonard. “We went through some tough times, and he was always such a wonderful source.”

The heartfelt display made apparent what Mike VI meant to this University and surrounding community. The students showed appreciation for his presence that was like none other, and it could be felt by those who passed his cage.

As students and LSU community members walked past his cage, now empty, but adorned with messages of love—some even shared one of Mike VI, forever the symbol of the University, would never be forgotten.

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After news of Mike the Tiger’s death on Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016, people gather and pay tribute, leaving messages outside the former tiger’s home on Main Stadium Rd.

Mike's cage stands empty as he is transferred to hospice for the last time.
Facts About Mike VI:

Mike VI is the only live tiger college mascot in the U.S. He was the only live tiger living on a college campus in the U.S.

University tiger mascot, Mike VI, was born July 23, 2005, and came to LSU when he was 7 months old at 300 pounds. Mike currently weighs about 420 pounds. His weight cycles throughout the year. He weighs most in the summer and least in the winter.

Mike VI was born at the Indianapolis Zoo, home to the Indianapolis Zoo's sumatran tiger habitat. Mike VI and Mike V were loaned to LSU by the Indianapolis Zoo.

Mike VI was named in honor of Dr. Mike Veihmeyer, a LSU faculty member and retired veterinary medicine professor. Mike VI is a female tiger.

Great Cats of Indiana, a nonprofit sanctuary and care facility for big felines, purchased Mike VI and Mike V and moved into their new home in Indiana on January 1, 2007.

Mike VI was introduced to the LSU community on September 1, 2007. He was officially named Mike VI Tiger Stadium on August 25, 2007, and was introduced to the LSU community on September 1, 2007. He was officially named Mike VI Tiger Stadium on the evening of the Florida vs. LSU football game on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

Construction on the current tiger habitat began in November 2004 and was completed in August 2005. The habitat incorporates natural substrates and is designed to incorporate elements of LSU's renaissance architecture. The habitat includes a large tiger enclosure that contains Mike VI.

The habitat is built to accommodate Mike VI's average lifespan of 15 years. The habitat includes a large tiger enclosure that contains Mike VI.

Mike VI is a female tiger. Mike VI is a sumatran tiger.

Mike VI is the only live tiger college mascot in the U.S. He was the only live tiger living on a college campus in the U.S.

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- Mike has a personal veterinarian from the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. David Baker oversees his overall healthcare and well-being.
- Besides Dr. Baker, there are numerous other specialists at the veterinary school available to assist with the specialized healthcare needs of Mike. Mike's daily care is provided by two veterinary students. These students work with Mike for two years until they graduate from LSU.
- Mike eats 20 pounds daily, so weekly he eats 140 pounds of food. Mike's food is a formulated zoo carnivore diet from the same company that is used for most of the large cats at the zoo. It comes in 5 lb. bags and has the consistency of hamburger meat. It consists of beef (two varieties), and all the necessary vitamins and minerals to maintain Mike's ever-growing needs. We also add a supplemental B vitamin once weekly, and Vitamin B capsules every night for healthy skin and hair coat and general well-being.
- All medical procedures requiring anesthesia are done at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. Simple routine medical procedures are performed in his night house.
- It is a violation of federal law to sedate him for exhibition purposes like football games.
- Two of LSU's Tiger mascots (Mike I and Mike III) lived 19 years, Mike IV lived 20 years 9 months and 18 days, and Mike V lived 17 years. The average lifespan for a tiger in the wild is about 8-10 years. A tiger in captivity, like Mike VI, can live 14-18 years.

Story: Brynn Cavillon, Lauren Heffke, William Taylor Potter
Photo: Haskell Whittington, Lauren Duhe
Design: Kanyin Young, Taylor Gonsoulin
Sherlock Holmes

The legendary collection

Sherlock Holmes exhibit sits on display on Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016 at the Hill Memorial Library.

Story - Katie Gagliano
Photo - Michael Palmer
Design - Ashton Breeding
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created the fictional private detective Sherlock Holmes, who first appeared in print in 1887.

"There's nothing elementary about Hill Memorial Library's exhibition, "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes," said Jill Mecholsky, coordinator of exhibitions at the library. The show is part of the library's ongoing commitment to global celebrations of Sherlock Holmes and his creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Mecholsky said the exhibition displays a collection of original materials and artifacts related to the life and work of Doyle and his most famous creation, Holmes. The exhibition features a variety of items, including original manuscript pages, photographs, and documents related to the creation and publication of the Holmes stories, as well as items associated with Doyle's life and career.

The exhibition also includes a selection of original illustrations by Sir Joseph Noel Paton, who created some of the earliest visual depictions of Holmes and Watson. The show also features a selection of original illustrations by Sidney Paget, who created the iconic images of Holmes and Watson that are widely recognized today.

Mecholsky said the exhibition aims to provide visitors with a comprehensive understanding of the Holmes phenomenon, from its early beginnings in the late 19th century to its enduring popularity today.

The exhibition is on display through November 2023 at the Hill Memorial Library, 301 S. 11th St., and is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit the library's website at hillmemoriallibrary.com.
Brothers Reed Stevens and Riley Stephens, LSU undergraduates and founders of Ambicia, a company which specializes in the production of luxury wooden watches, attended the LSU 100 event on Oct. 13, 2016 at the L'Auberge Casino Hotel of Baton Rouge.
Time Check?

LSU 100 honors fastest-growing Tiger businesses, specifically Ambici watches

The Grand Ballroom at the Event Center of the L'Auberge Casino Hotel in Baton Rouge as it awaited the start of the sixth ever LSU 100 event on Oct. 13, 2016.

The brothers said their idea was born out of a passion for both fine watches and wooden craftsmanship, according to the company's website. Reed said the brothers' time at the University was proving to be a huge part of creating and running the business.

"We use the tools that I learned in Engineering classes, particularly CM 1020," Reed said. "I use the program SolidWorks all the time for any type of design or anything like that. That's how we communicate with our manufacturers. That's how we communicate with any type of a buyer, that's how we show proof of design. All these types of things. Learning that program was pretty instrumental to making our products and communicating with overseas manufacturers."

Riley said he has been learning coding through his computer science classes. "With his knowledge, he can do things on our website where I have to go in and actually edit HTML code and try to change things up for us." Other programs, such as the LSU Student Incubator, helped the Stephens brothers propel their business to where it is today.

"I've been taking a ton of business classes," Reed said. "Some of these introductions to the Student Incubator. They've helped out tremendously, and they've done a lot of things to help us with our business. Participating in the Venture Challenge forced us to create a working business model and get everything straight."

Story: Scot Griswold
Photo: Jordan Macrell
Design: Chloe Bryan
100 Black Movement

Dressed to Impress

Powerful LSU students dressed to support the 100 black suit and dress challenge on Monday Oct. 17 in the LSU Greek Theatre.

LSU students dressed to support the 100 black suit and dress challenge pose for a group photo on Monday Oct. 17 in the LSU Greek Theatre.

Story: Jakeyla Chavis
Photo: Haskell Whittington
Design: Madelyn Curtis
The 100 Black Movement has been a trend among the black community at various HBCUs, first starting as 100 Black Men In Suits, then transitioning to 100 Black Women In Dresses.

Movement and Strategy:

University students gathered together for the 100 Black Movement at the Greek Amphitheater at 4 p.m. The movement was created as a form of activism started by two Prairie View A&M University students.

According to business management senior and movement coordinator Chase Warner, the movement's purpose is to promote awareness that African-American students can unite to create a positive impact in their communities. The challenge serves to show a side of African Americans that is not typically depicted in mainstream media.

Individual and group pictures were taken of men and women separately, then together.

Students gathered at the Greek Amphitheater dressed to impress. African-American men from Stephen F. Austin, Prairie View A&M, University of Houston, and Lamar University also posted photos of themselves in suits, united against the violent generalizations of them.

NAACP President Montarious Howard said that he and Warner felt it was even more necessary to host the event at a predominantly white institution. "We want to share the movement with our HBCU brothers and sisters and spark empowerment in not only people on this campus, but outside the campus as well," Howard said.

TV and film senior Olusoye Bamgbola said there were representatives from almost all black organizations on campus.

"The significance was to get black student leaders to come together and show solidarity about the movement that is made of black youth in the country and to prove stereotypes wrong," Bamgbola said.

Bamgbola said he felt the event served to create positive dialogue about black image and how far the black community has come.

The 100 Black Men In Suits and 100 Black Women In Dresses hashtags were trending on social media platforms such as Twitter and Instagram since the start of the Fall semester.

Howard said that he hopes to contribute to the movement with these images and in influence greater awareness of the success of black people rather than downsides.
Professor of Food and Bioprocess Engineering, Subramaniam Sathivel opens a door up to another lab on Oct. 14, 2016 at the LSU Food Processing and Engineering Lab.

Story Lauren Heffker
Photo Jake Bonin
Design Karsyn Young
Food Science
What's Cooking?

A university professor helped students prepare for the real world by making them brew their own beer. Subramaniam Sathivel teaches food preservation, NSF 44779, in which students learned the science behind fermentation methods, including brewing craft beer. Students also learned how to make ice cream, yogurt, milk powder and other fermented snack products.

Sathivel said he tried to make the class as fun as possible, integrating theory and lecture into his teaching. By enabling students to set out class- room lectures first-hand, they retained class information more efficiently than they would just studying material, he said. "I want my students to learn hands-on," Sathivel said. "It's a key, because the class should also be fun. In the morning I'm teaching theories and in the evening, I'm doing it." Although Sathivel has taught at LSU for nine years, he's only taught the course for three. Primarily upper-level students and graduate students were enrolled in the course. "The demand for food science and technology graduates is continuously growing, because we all need food," Sathivel said.

Food science senior Ian Moppert said in class, students learned about the industrial processes of food preservation, then the scaled-down version of what they could do. Prior to participating in the lab, Moppert realized he wanted to become a brewmaster, so Sathivel's class was a helpful experience. "Being able to actually get the hands-on experience helps you learn the knowledge a little bit better, just because you have something to apply it to in your mind," Moppert said.

Although home brewing sounds complicated, Moppert said breaking the process down into individual steps made the lab easier to understand. According to Sathivel and Moppert, food science is one of the University's best-kept secrets and is underrated as a field of study and profession. Moppert said his class size averages 15 to 16 students, making it one of the smallest areas of study offered at the University. Sathivel also taught food engineering systems for the LSU School of Nutrition and Food Sciences and is conducting research in probiotics and developing new processing technology to improve the shelf-life of food at the Sci Center.

Senior food science major Ian Moppert (left), Ph.D. student Excellence Kyereen (center), and Professor of Food Science and Bioprocess Engineering Subramaniam Sathivel (right) discuss the chemical properties of recently brewed beer.
LSU freshman Natural Resource Ecology & Management and Spanish major Kathryn Davis studies the genetic structure of Bachman's Sparrow to help with the conservation of the species on Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 at Memorial Oak Grove.
Pursuing Genetic Research

A wildlife biology graduate student Amie Settlecowski, having double major in natural resource ecology and management — Spanish, researched the genetic structure of Bachman's sparrows. Bachman's sparrows are usually found in longleaf pine forests, but the species is at risk due to fire suppression, timber clearing and fragmentation of its habitat, Settlecowski said.

"The population of Bachman's sparrows is generally found in pine ecosystems stretching from Florida to Texas and as far north as the Carolinas. Only three percent of longleaf pine habitats remain in the United States," she said.

Settlecowski's thesis research focused on comparing the genetic variation of Bachman's sparrows to historical populations to assess the relative level of genetic variation. In recent years, population levels have declined and there was a loss of genetic variation, she said.

Preserving genetic variation is critical to a species' conservation because inbreeding leads to low survival rates and decreased reproductive success, Taylor said.

Davis compiled a database of specimens and species sightings from museums across the country. In addition to her main research project, Settlecowski also used museum records to assess the species' experienced a historic northern range expansion 100 years ago.

Once in the lab, Settlecowski and Davis performed genetic analyses. DNA samples collected from the toe pads of dried bird skins and compared results to the genetic structures of modern populations. Settlecowski said they requested a number of DNA samples from the various museum collections sampled.

"DNA is the best source of remnant DNA samples from specimens more than 40 years old. Few scientists preserved the soft tissue specimens because genetic testing was uncommon at the time, instead drying and preserving only the skin, she said."

Settlecowski said the research results would be used to assess how best to maintain existing Bachman's sparrow populations. With the results, managers could determine whether to devote their efforts to maintaining the longleaf pine habitats themselves or improving the genetic variation of the different population groups, she said.

Conservation efforts like these are critical because global biodiversity is drastically declining,

"We're at this critical moment in the history of life because we're at this time when we're losing so many species of plants and animals, fungi, and even bacteria, before, in some cases, we're even able to identify them," Settlecowski said.

"Installing the importance of conservation in the next generation is important because today's students will soon be the stewards of the earth," Taylor said.

Davis said she first became interested in conservation work after reading Jane Goodall's "Hope for Animals and Their World. How Endangered Species are Being Rescued from the Brink." Davis said she had intended to become a veterinarian, but the book inspired her to pursue conservation work in college.

Davis said she's always found working with animals easier than humans. Growing up with dogs, Davis said assessing animals' body language came easily, whereas humans often mask their real emotions.

Settlecowski said having Davis' help in the lab was beneficial, but ensuring Davis learned from the experience and would be able to pursue her own interests in the future was her ultimate goal. Having the support of driven female mentors as an undergraduate enhanced her undergraduate career and set her up for success, Settlecowski said.

"Settlecowski hopes to provide the same experience to Davis and other female researchers. Seeing other women working actively in the lab is crucial for women's success," Taylor said.

"You feel like you don't belong to a group if you don't see anybody like you involved in that group," Taylor said.

Davis said jumping into research as an undergraduate helped her network with graduates and faculty members, strengthen her laboratory skills, and taught her to analyze data in ways that she may not learn in the classroom.
LSU mass communications junior Joseph Swiger, an aspiring disc jockey and music producer, expresses excitement about his future plans.
University student creates his own record label

Joseph on that Beat

University student to music producer to disk jockey, communication studies junior Joseph Swiger can navigate it all. Swiger said he started producing music because he believes it is universal. "Anywhere you go, doesn't matter if people speak the same language, everyone can be moved by music," he said.

With a focus in 90's instrumental music, Swiger said he looks to The Pharcyde, 9th Wonder, Kanye West and his parents for inspiration. "I made these goals a year and a half ago, and now I'm living them," Swiger said.

Swiger, a founder of Discpeck Collective, decided to start the label "to make great music and host great parties," Swiger said.

Collective boasts four disc jockeys. The artists performed as a group for the first time on Nov. 12 for the Mardi Gras Bayside at Bottle and Tap.

"I like working everyday to gain recognition, which is why I like working with people all across the country," Swiger said.

Swiger’s style of electronic dance and trap music distinguishes his musical style from the other producers on his label. Though Swiger said he will make up to 100 beats during a typical day, he said he usually only likes 10 of them.

Swiger said he plans to utilize his music abilities and his communication major collaboratively in the future. "Right now, I'm enjoying the roller-coaster ride that is music production," he said.
Spring Semester
For party cup artist Claire Hadlock and Kellan Bowen, decorating party cups is more than a trivial date function tradition.

At the University, party cups are most frequently used within the Greek community. They can be purchased at local party and Greek stores, such as Parties Start Here and Balfour House. They help to make Greek date functions party cups act as a memento from the event.

At stores, party cups are sold plain in a variety of colors and textures. Customers typically pay to have their cups decorated or decorate them themselves.

At the Greek community on campus continues to expand, the demand for party cup designs has also increased.

Sociology and English junior Audrey Martin, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority, started decorating party cups her sophomore year of college.

“I have two majors: a job and a passion on my sorority’s Executive Board so decorating party cups has helped me stay organized and structure my day more efficiently,” Martin said. “I learned pretty quickly that I can't finish all my orders within a day so I just try to stick to a schedule.”

Martin said painting party cups is a stress reliever. While she decorates, she uses Netflix to monitor time spent on each cup.

She said the first cup out of the set usually takes around 45 minutes or less.

Before applying paint to any of the cups, Martin first sketches the design to the cup. Using her paint pens, Martin creates the requested design, adhering to the theme.

“When I got better with the paint pens and art, I figured out that I could make some money if I did other people's too,” Hadlock said. “So I started bringing them to school as water bottles in kind of advertise.”

Since then, Hadlock’s hobby has become a small business. Her clients range from high school students to sorority women, for whom she creates custom cup designs.

In addition to word of mouth, Hadlock gets information to her customers on her business Twitter and Tumblr called “Claire's Party Cups.”

“Adding a touch of originality, added value and a personal touch to every cup.”

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“For semi-formals and formals, I tend to take a more elegant approach, such as using only five and less colors,” Martin said. “I love doing cups for GRUB 3, Round Up Boyd and bus trips because they are themed, and I really have a chance to be creative and customize the cups to reflect the theme.”

B Bowen, a mass communication sophomore and member of Alpha Xi Delta, said decorating party cups shows her a lot about creativity and originality.

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Party cups decorated by Sociology and English junior, Audrey Martin, serve as party favors for Greek events.
Nothing Can Stop Fournette

LSU junior running back Leonard Fournette (7) prepares on Sept. 17, 2016 for that evening’s game against Mississippi State at Tiger Stadium, where the Tigers would go on to win 23-20.
Despite a bum ankle Leonard Fournette still managed to break records

who gave him a scholarship, Les Miles, was unlike anything he’s done before. When Fournette made his return in LSU’s 38-21 win against Ole Miss, he
made a statement: a single-game, program-high 284 rushing yards, eclipsing
Alley Broussard’s 260 yards in 2004 against the Rebels. In his first game under
coach Ed Orgeron, Fournette was still recovering from a high and low
ankle sprain and a bone bruise, he revealed Saturday night:

"It was a job well done by the training staff," coach,Toups said. "We
have been able to get him back to where he needs to be."

Fournette started the season on the sidelines with a high ankle sprain,
and his return was crucial for the team’s success. LSU managed to

combined 601 yards of rushing offense. LSU’s proficiency on the ground
made matters tougher for Fournette, who knew his skills could be showcased in the
blowout victories. "It was very hard," Fournette said. "Especially by the offense
putting up so many points and knowing what I can do to contribute to help
the team out."

While Fournette couldn’t practice or play with his teammates, he
spent his free time in the gym working out and rehabbing the ankle he
injured in LSU’s fall camp and re-injured against Auburn Sept. 24. He said, Fournette
also helped a hand to running back coach Jabbar Juluke as a self-converted
running backs coach, asking sophomore running back Derrius Guice
and running backs coach, asking sophomore running back Derrius Guice
down pass protection schemes and help prepare him for his start.

Guice filled Fournette’s role rushing for 486 yards and six
touchdowns in the three games he started in place of Fournette — mirroring
comparisons between the two shifty and strong, big play, able-bodied tailbacks.
And that made Fournette angry. "The only thing that made me mad was when
people try to compare me and Guice," Fournette said. "Guice is a great back.
With any team, he would be doing the same thing he’s doing now. That’s my
little brother, I hated that, and I don’t want any competition between us or
nobody on the team. I treat everybody equal and they treat me equal."

Through it all, Fournette said he received a text message from his
mother that told him to keep his faith and not worry about his injury. Next
up for LSU is a bye week, which Fournette said should give him time to rest
before LSU’s scheduled face-off against No.1 Alabama Nov. 5. "Our confidence
is high," Fournette said.

Story: Josh Thornton
Photo: Ryan McCarble
Design: Taylor Gonnoulin
The LSU Student Health Center, LSU Women's Center, LSU Campus Life and Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response Center, or STAR, collaborated with various campus and community organizations to host the 30th annual Take Back the Night candlelight vigil and march Sunday at the LSU Memorial Tower.

The event began lightheartedly with live music and time to enjoy refreshments and receive information from the tables about domestic and sexual violence prevention and assistance.

Taking a more serious tone, speakers raised awareness about preventative measures and solutions to reduce the rate of domestic and sexual violence. Speakers included representatives from STAR, the Student Health Center, Baton Rouge Police Department, "We're Committed" campaign, East Baton Rouge Parish Mayor-President Melvin L. "Kip" Holden, Student Government president Zack Faircloth and Office of Diversity Vice Provost Derek Bozart Sr.

Any victims who were comfortable with sharing their stories were invited to speak, and several did. The victims made it a priority to emphasize that while preventing violence is important, perhaps the aftermath and healing process is more crucial. Victims spoke about their experiences with friends, peers and family members not taking their tragedies seriously. They also brought awareness that domestic and sexual violence is not just an issue with women, men can be victims, too.

Both the victims and guest speakers encouraged everyone in the crowd to become active bystanders and take the initiative to speak out if any violence is witnessed.

Speakers read a list of names of those who lost their lives to homicidal violence in Louisiana over the past year. Shortly after, the candlelight vigil began, with each candle representing an aspect of violence that continues to be an issue today. The vigil was followed by a mile-long march around campus and surrounding neighborhoods.

Ashvin Vaughn, a computer science sophomore, attended the event after seeing a flier on Moodle about the event.

"I wanted to show my support because it is a topic looked over a lot, and people don't take it as seriously as it needs to be," Vaughn said.

Kameryn Poullard is a child and family studies junior who attended the event because it raised awareness for an issue she holds dear to her heart. She is also an intern for STAR and volunteers for the Iris Domestic Violence Center.

"I'm a really strong advocate for women and children in crisis," Poullard said.

Melissa Reed attended the event and said she has a friend, a victim of sexual violence. She said coming to Take Back the Night inspired her on how to support her friend in her time of need.

"It was very informative, especially if you don't know anything about domestic violence and sexual abuse," Reed said. "It gives you ways to help people if you know anybody that is going through it and to help advocate for them.

Domestic and sexual violence continue to be major public health problems in the United States. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. This equals out to more than 10 million men and women. One in five women and one in 27 the United States have been raped in their lifetime. About 9.3 million and 5.1 million men in the U.S. have been stalked in their lifetime.

In 2018, Louisiana ranked No. 4 in the nation for domestic violence. It is projected that over 3,000 adult women per year in Louisiana will experience domestic violence.

Violence on college campuses continues to be a rising concern. NCADV reported that between the ages of 18 to 24 are most commonly abused by an intimate partner.

These studies suggest there is a relationship between intimate partner violence and depression and suicidal behavior, according to NCADV.

Faircloth said that while 90 percent of the University is aware of the "We're Committed" campaign, the community must continue to contribute to the movement to fix the problem of domestic and sexual violence.

For more information on the University's "We're Committed" campaign, visit LSU.edu/wearecommitted. For more statistical information about domestic violence across the nation, visit ncadv.org.
Take Back the Night
Stand up to prevent sexual violence

The 30th annual Take Back the Night event was held on Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016 at Memorial Tower.

Story • Natalie Anderson
Photo • Caroline Magee
Design • Madelyn Curtis
Traveling the World
Inspiration through teaching radiation

University medical physics PhD student Lydia Jagetic joined her passion for research, teaching and travel over the summer in Ensenada, Mexico. She almost dismissed the opportunity in an ad called "Outreach in Mexico" in a graduate student newsletter.

"It was the very last thing, so I almost completely overlooked it," Jagetic said. "It was the day the application was due, but it all worked out."

"I've always been really interested in outreach and teaching and other cultures and things like that, so it was a perfect combination of everything that I love," she said. "Once it caught my eye, I was sold on it."

Jagetic volunteered to teach a week-long intensive course for high school and college students in Mexico on the uses of radiation in medicine.

"It was an amazing experience, absolutely incredible," Jagetic said.

The course was organized by Clubes de Ciencia, a non-profit organization that aims to inspire and mentor the future generation of scientists and innovators in Mexico.

"It was an amazing experience, absolutely incredible," Jagetic said.

The majority of her students spoke fluent English, except for one.

Jagetic said she was worried about him understanding the lessons.

"But he stuck it out the whole week. We had a lot of walking from place to place and he was always the one next to me trying to ask me questions, struggling through broken English," Jagetic said.

He ended up earning the highest score on the final exam.

"It was really incredible. I couldn't believe it," she said.

"The students were so inspiring. It was a really wide range of ages, backgrounds and base knowledge levels, so I was nervous going into it but a lot of them were so excited to learn and dedicated," Jagetic said.

The course consisted of four days. Half of each day was spent giving lectures and the other half working on labs that correlated to what was in the classroom. On the last day, students had presentations with real-world scenarios.

"I've always been interested in outreach and teaching and other cultures and things like that, so it was a perfect combination of everything that I love," she said.

She said her favorite moment of the trip happened after the presentations, taking pictures and saying goodbye to the students and the parents and sister of one of her students came up and gave her a hug and kiss on the cheek. The sister translated for her parents to Jagetic.

"It was nice to hear that it wasn't just them coming grudgingly but also the parents. It was nice to hear that it wasn't just them coming grudgingly but also the parents. It was nice to hear that it wasn't just them coming grudgingly but also the parents.

Jagetic wants to continue teaching abroad and experiencing other cultures in third world countries as she completes her PhD.

Jagetic works in the lab of Wayne Newhauser in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. After receiving her Master's degree in medical physics in 2013, she spent an academic year in Croatia as a Fulbright Fellow, teaching radiotropy in developing countries.

Story - Allison Buhl
Photo - Mykeil Chambers
Design - Ashton Breeding
Lydia Jagetic traveled all the way to Mexico to teach a class on radiation and medicine. This week long class consisted of lectures and hands on experiments to teach the future generation of Mexico valuable information.
Campus Outreach speaker on Tuesday, Oct 25, 2016 at 808 in Howe Russell Hall.

Dropping beats at the 808 on Tuesday Oct 25, 2016 at 808 in Howe Russell Hall.

Story • Evan Saacks
Photo • Mykel Chambers
Design • Chloe Bryars
Let That 808 Drop
Campus Outreach inspires spiritual growth

Mainstream radio since the summer, and Campus Outreach's Austin Breaux managed to tie the song to Bible Tuesday, October 25.

Campus Outreach is an inter-denominational on-campus ministry that held their weekly event called 808, for the ninth time this Fall semester. The group taught students how to balance spiritual growth and the challenges that come with being a college student.

The ministry held various events throughout the school year including flag for the tournaments, water balloon fights in the AgCenter and mission opportunities over the summer to Tampa, China, South Africa, and Thailand. These events and activities provided relief from the monotony of the school week and helped students relax and have fun.

Campus Outreach holds 808 every Tuesday night at 8:08 p.m. in the Howe-Russell building. Everyone reports inside as soon as the eighth minute of the hour begins and forms teams of two or three. The room then transforms into an arena of hyper-competitive trivia teams using the Kahoot App.

The trivia encompasses different subjects in pop culture, from naming who sang a certain song or what movie a particular quote was from. In the most recent meetings, trivia proved more difficult than normal for some.

A picture of a celebrity was slowly revealed, and students were challenged to identify the celebrity. Once trivia finished, the room settled down to a member of Campus Outreach talk about this semester's message, Music Matters, where the speaker shows how lyrics of popular songs can teach students significant truths about spiritual growth.

During this meeting, University graduate Austin Breaux spoke about The Chainsmokers and Daya's hit, "Don't Let Me Down," and how the message parallels living life in a spiritual manner.

Breaux said Campus Outreach tries to make connections to pop culture and current issues to make the message more accessible and hands-on.

"We don't just want to tell people reading the Bible is important," Breaux said. "We want to help them learn how to do it. We don't want it to be a classroom setting." Breaux, a former Campus Outreach attendee while he was a student, joined the staff after discovering his passion for the ministry and goals they share.

Campus Outreach strives to involve as many students as possible, according to its mission statement. Everybody is welcome regardless of faith, and all are encouraged to invite others. Mass Communication freshman Monica Growden made friends through the ministry and attended as many events as possible.

"I really like how friendly and nice everyone is," Growden said. "I also really enjoy the thought-provoking messages that the speakers give every week."

Campus Outreach is a national organization with ministries in major cities across the world. The ministry at LSU is part of Campus Outreach Memphis. The Memphis ministries planned to unite at New Year's Conference in Chattanooga from Dec. 27-31, where almost 2,000 students participate in sports tournaments, live concerts, and other events to help them grow spiritually.
Healthy or Harmful?

LSU AgCenter researches medical marijuana

The LSU AgCenter released more information on its plan for extensive research on medical marijuana. The initial announcement in June of this year gave minor details, but the new release included a document containing the details for the project's concept plan.

The AgCenter held a public forum Oct. 28 to disclose details to the public and to potential investors and contractors, and answered questions from the audience and explained portions of the project concept.

There were specific rules for the AgCenter's involvement with the project, which were disclosed in the project concept, and the project would remain separate from the University.

According to the project concept, the AgCenter planned to convert a warehouse into a lab, production center and research facility to house the project under one roof. This single-facility plan would reduce security risks and allow ease of access to the researchers and growers.

Because the project was separate from the University, the AgCenter worked on getting funding from private investors and contractors, adding in approximately $11.3 million. Though all figures are estimates given in the project concept and are subject to change, as said in the AgCenter's public forum.

The AgCenter's plan is to follow the rules laid out in the Newseum Act, such as the legality of the production of medical marijuana to expire in 2020, according to Bill Richardson, the VP for Agriculture.

Because of the ability to grow and turn over marijuana plants in short amounts of time, the AgCenter was able to make rapid changes to the plants to remain medical and pharmaceutical specifications, according to Richardson.

The project was a strictly medical and pharmaceutical one — its products were to be only in the form of pills, topicals and sprays. The AgCenter was not to produce a final product that was to be smoked, nor was it to produce edibles, with the exception of gummies for young patients.

In order to only use the medically beneficial chemicals in marijuana, the AgCenter had an expert chemist working on all of the extractions, according to Beerman. For increased safety and control, the AgCenter had direct oversight and input into the entirety of the project.

Security was of maximum importance to the AgCenter, so officials planned for high security inside and outside of the facility, as well as high security transport to all dispensaries and a security system that would tie with the facility's inventory for close monitoring, according to Richardson.

There would be no immediate stop between the AgCenter facility and dispensaries, and its marijuana would not be mixed with that of others, Richardson said.

The rules concerning the distribution of medical marijuana were strict, there was no advertising or marketing allowed. In addition, doctors were not allowed to prescribe medical marijuana, but were instead to only give recommendations.

All monetary transactions and donations were well-documented — the final source of the money had to be known before the AgCenter accepted it.

— David Beerman

Photo: The Daily Reveille Archives

Design: Marcie Lynch
Vice President of Agriculture Bill Richardson serves as Dean of the College of Agriculture and the LSU AgCenter.
Beat Bama Dancing to victory

Dance Marathon at LSU entered its third annual fundraising competition. “Beat Bama Week” with The University of Alabama Miracle Network Dance Marathon this year. The fundraising began October 30 and continued until 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 4. Total contributions were announced before the football game between LSU and The University of Alabama stars.

The proceeds from the University’s fundraiser benefited Out Lady of the Lake Children’s Hospital, Baton Rouge’s local Children’s Miracle Network Hospital.

“We fundraise all year long, but this week in particular we do a competition between the two schools,” said Warren Travers, external director for Dance Marathon at LSU. “Throughout the week, we do different fundraising opportunities and just fun games throughout [Free Speech Plaza] that the students can get involved in.”

The fundraising events Dance Marathon at LSU included students getting their fortunes read, a benefit concert at Barcadia, a proceed night at Walk-On’s and more.

In 2015, the first year of the fundraising competition, The University of Alabama Miracle Network Dance Marathon beat Dance Marathon at LSU. In 2016, LSU won with a collective total of $66,041.93 — $46,039.42 of which came from Dance Marathon at LSU.

“This year is kind of like a big rivalry because the record is tied one to one ... between the two dance marathons,” Travers said.

Besides individual donations, the best way for students to get to join Dance Marathon at LSU or attend the benefit concert at Barcadia on Thursday night, Travers said.

To join Dance Marathon at LSU, visit www.dmarlsu.org and select “Join.” The Big Event, a 26.2-hour-long fundraiser, for Dance Marathon at LSU happens Mar. 24-25, and those interested in assisting can find more information on Dance Marathon at LSU’s website.

Dance Marathon at LSU is an extension of Miracle Network Dance Marathon, which is a movement benefiting Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, a non-profit organization that raises funds and awareness for more than 170 pediatric hospitals across North America, according to the organization’s website.

Miracle Network Dance Marathons have raised more than $1 billion since their founding, while Dance Marathon at LSU has fundraised more than $280,000 for OLOL Children’s Hospital.

“We challenge our participants to raise a certain amount or to get one other friend to join [Dance Marathon at LSU],” Travers said. “Every thing we do, we try to steer it going back to being like a champion — either that’s like a champion for yourself or for the kids.”

Story · CJ Carver
Photo · Reveille Photographer
Design · Madelyn Curtis
Tigers get giggly on the dance floor on October, 30 2016.
LSU Salutes

Hall of Honor

ESPN’s morning pre-game show, College Gameday, returned to campus on November 5 for its first-ever broadcast from the University’s Quadrangle.

ESPN’s College Football Live set up to broadcast from the Quad on Friday at 12:30 p.m., to air College Gameday from 8-11 a.m. Saturday prior to LSU’s 7 p.m. kickoff against Alabama.

This marked the pre-game show’s 11th on-campus broadcast, and the Tigers’ 26th appearance on the show. In the past, the show has been broadcast from the PMAC, the Old Front Nine and, most popularly, the Parade Grounds, according to University associate athletic director Michael Bonnette.

The last three College Gameday campus appearances, in 2009, 2012 and 2014, were hosted from the Parade Grounds. Saturday’s appearance was originally scheduled to take place on the Parade Grounds, but a scheduling conflict with an LSU Salutes’ Hall of Honor recognition ceremony led the University to reschedule the location.

The LSU Board of Supervisors established LSU Salutes in 1998 to honor distinguished University veterans, mandating an official University observance be held during the November home football game closest to Veterans Day.

Randy Gurie, executive director of the Cadets of the Ole War Skule, said the University decided the rowdy environment typically found at College Gameday wasn’t conducive to preserving the more sedate, respectful aura of the ceremony. The University didn’t want to disrespect the veterans and honoree’s, he said.

Gurie said the ceremony has always received the support of Tiger fans, and they’ve rarely experienced instances of tailgaters disrupting the ceremony. The fans are respectful, and wait until the ceremony concludes to set up their tailgates and begin partying for the day, he said.

The ceremony included a 21-gun salute, a wreath laying, a rendition of the national anthem and the Cadets of the Ole War Skule’s annual assembly, a formal parade and review of the University’s cadets. The honorees were recognized and later enjoyed lunch with their families at the PMAC before being honored on the field during pre-game, Gurie said.

Hall of Honor inductees were selected based on their contributions to the University and local community, and their service in the military and civilian sectors. Gurie said the formal observance reminded the University’s community of the school’s significant military history, while honoring alumni who have made notable contributions both to the nation and the University.

"It’s honoring those who have served and, in some cases, those who have died while serving, making the ultimate sacrifice," Gurie said.

LSU Salutes was held on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016 on the Parade Grounds.
Every year during the LSU Salutes the cannons are preped and fired at the event.

Story · Kate Gagliano
Photo · Caroline Magee
Design · Karsyn Young
Sports Summit

The NCAA president, Mark Emmert, speaking at the LSU Sports Communication Summit at the Holiday Forum in the Journalism Building on LSU campus.
NCAA President gives keynote address

Speaking to a room packed with journalism students and media professionals, NCAA President Mark Emmert said the 2016 presidential race has been reported like one long sports event.

"Finally, next Tuesday, we'll know the final score," Emmert said.

Emmert spoke in the LSU Manship School of Mass Communication's Holliday Forum as part of the Sports Communication Summit. The summit, which also included various sports journalists and former athletes, was designed to explore the dynamic relationship between sports and the media, according to a press release.

Emmert delivered the summit's keynote address before speaking on "The Jim Engster Show," recorded in the Holliday Forum.

In his speech, Emmert said the long-standing sports reporting style has started to take over newspapers reporting — even on topics such as business, education and politics.

"It's not just sports journalists doing this," Emmert said. "People want these stories about things like education and politics, but they want them in a sports reporting style.

"It's a great way to frame a story," Emmert continued. "It creates a fun, engaging way to get people interested in these topics.

Emmert also mentioned the drama surrounding former LSU basketball star Ben Simmons, who recently spoke out against the NCAA's one-and-done rule.

Emmert emphasized that the rule is not part of the NCAA rulebook, but was put in place by the NBA. On the air with Engster, he voiced his dislike for the rule.

"That rule is something I've made no secret about how much I personally dislike it," Emmert said on the show. "It creates a farce of being a student athlete for far too many students.

In his speech, Emmert said people often assume his job is similar to those of the NFL and NBA commissioners, though he said his responsibilities were slightly larger. The NCAA commissioner oversees 1,200 teams, while the NBA has around 19,000.

At the same time, Emmert said he is not the one who creates the rules for the league. Instead, it is the heads of the schools and a committee within the NCAA.

He addressed several issues involving the NCAA, including concussions, time commitments and paying college athletes. Emmert spent a large portion of his time pointing out the complex problems associated with paying student athletes.

"They don't want to turn student athletes into paid employees," Emmert said. "If I'm going to go out and hire someone to play football for me, why in the world would I hire a 17-year-old? Why wouldn't I hire someone who just finished up his NFL career?"

Story - William Potter
Photo - Michael Palmer
Design - Ashton Breeding
The dorms built in Tiger Stadium during the 1920s housed students until the 1960s. The dorms are now being used for storage because they do not meet modern requirements for residential buildings.

Sign painted on the wall stating “East Stadium Dormitory.”
Living on the 50

University prepares to alter stadium dorms

Deck: South to be demolished, east repurposed

Changes are coming to Tiger Stadium. Emmert David, associate athletics director for facilities and project development, said the athletics department is moving forward with an environmental abatement project to clear out the south and east stadium dormitories. Once complete, the south stadium dorms will be demolished and the east stadium dorms will be repurposed into multipurpose office spaces, David said.

"It is an abandoned space," David said. "We’ve been under citation to or co-compliant, so the best thing is to demolish it. It’s costly to maintain it.

The University began accepting bids for the project Nov. 15. In a report to the Louisiana Board of Regents, the University estimated the abatement project would cost $430,000.

David said demolishing the south stadium dorms will begin after the completion of the abatement process. Concrete needs to be re-poured for the base of the concourse to be ready for football fans for the first 2017 home game against the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

The demolition of the south stadium dorms will offer fans a wider concourse near the south stadium entrances. With a crowd of more than 10,000 people, having the space is an asset to ease crowds, he said, and can be used to offer more entertainment opportunities to fans, such as bands or vendors.

The increased concourse space is also important for security. In the aging strike, the widened concourse provides more space for staff to vacate fans to a protected space under the stadium. David estimated Athletics staff will be able to fit 30,000-40,000 fans beneath the stands with the increased space, or evacuate patrons more quickly if necessary.

Ronnie Haliburton, associate athletics director for athletic facility management, said the dorms haven’t housed students since the 1980s. The space has been used for administrative, academic and research purposes in recent years, but the space’s declining conditions no longer meet the University’s needs or standards.

"If it were a great place to live, I promise you we’d have students living there, but it’s just not," David said. "It’s not conducive for student housing." David said he thinks the project will take 90 days total, but he’s budgeting 120 days for the project to ensure it’s finished by March 2017.

Haliburton said the south stadium dorm demolition should be complete by mid-August.

The timeline for the repurposing of the east stadium dorms is more fluid, David said. The current plan is to remodel the first floor into offices, a meeting room and storage space for either gameday concessioners or athletics management, he said.

In the past five years, the athletics department has spent between $12 million and $15 million — excluding the south stadium expansion — enhancing Tiger Stadium, including the addition of LED lights, plazas and improved gate systems, David said. The department is now shifting its attention to the stadium’s interior, he said.

The Athletics department is moving forward with an environmental abatement project to clear out the south and east

Story: Katie Gagliano
Photo: Ryan McCarbie
Design: Chloe Bryant
Painting On The Geaux
Bringing creativity to campus

LSU Campus Life brought paint, paper and paintbrushes to Free Speech Alley on November 15 to hold its final event of the semester — Painting On the Geaux.

Campus Life is a student-run organization that brings the student body together through events put on by their six sub-organizations. The Student Activities Board sponsored Painting on the Geaux, where all students were welcome to show up and paint.

Student Activities Board Adviser Shaquille Lowe said students run the organization and choose what kind of events are set up for the student body to connect and work together on campus.

"Anybody can join those committees," Lowe said. "Only thing you have to do is have a 2.25 GPA. You can join the committee, and then you can come up with the events."

Painting on the Geaux was the last event of the fall semester. The organization is still taking applications for Leadership LSU, where juniors and seniors learn about ways to be leaders in their last semester of college life.

Students can find more information about these events on the myLSU homepage, TigerLink or the official website at lsu.edu/campuslife. Students Activities Board Staff hopes students can find enjoyment and come in the events they sponsor.

"We want to give back to the students," Lowe said. "Next semester, we have lots of events that we would love to see people at."

Campus Life's events throughout the Fall 2016 semester included Homecoming festivities, a talent show, open mic nights, movie screenings on the Parade Grounds and multiple food drives.

Students swiping in to the SAB’s painting on the Geaux session on Nov. 15, 2016 at Free Speech Circle just in front of the LSU Student Union.
Above: SAB members created templates for students who wish not to use blank canvases at the SAB's Painting on the Geaux session on Nov. 15, 2016 at Free Speech Circle just in front of the LSU Student Union.

Left: LSU student and SAB member Chloe Terry helped students collect painting materials at the SAB's Painting on the Geaux session.

Story: Evan Saacks
Photo: Jordan Marcell
Design: Madelyn Curtis
Construction began November 7 on Spruce Hall — the University's newest residence hall, set to be built in Hart Lot adjacent to Cypress Hall. A contractor began installing construction fencing.

LSU Residential Life asked that all vehicles move from the construction zone in Hart Lot or risk being towed on a daily basis at the owner's expense.

Vehicles were permitted to be moved into one of the several residential parking lots surrounding west campus residence halls and apartments, including resident lots across Aster Street from Cypress Hall and West Campus Apartments; resident zones surrounding WCA; resident zones between WCA and Broussard Hall and the resident lot in front of Kirby Smith;

Cypress Hall is the College of Human Sciences & Education's eco-friendly, on-campus undergraduate living facility that opened in Fall 2016. Residents of the CHSE Residential College included freshman and first-year students entering the School of Education, School of Kinesiology and School of Social Work.

After two years in the making, Cypress Hall is a leader in efficiency, complete with indoor-outdoor learning spaces, storm water systems, interior bike storage rooms, energy-efficient mechanical systems, sustainable finishes and solar demonstration systems.
Residential Life

Cypress Hall

c. 2015

LSU

The residents in this hall span across many fields, including Education, Kinesiology, and Social Work.
Communication studies sophomore Gage Howell practices gymnastics routines, parkour and capoeira in the Quad.
Quad Guy
Living life to the fullest

While many students have seen him doing flips in the Quad, juggling on the Parade Ground or just walking barefoot across campus, few know his name. Communication studies sophomore Gage Howell, affectionately called “the guy in Quad,” is known for his gymnastics routines and capoeira performances. After learning his craft this school year at the Southern Miss Gymnastics program, he’s quickly become a campus sensation.

He’s even managed to break into the school’s Advanced Math course, which he’s been attending since second semester. “I’ve always liked doing flips and I really enjoy doing it in front of people,” Howell said.

But while his performances draw large crowds, Howell said his juggling is not for him — he would be out there flipping whether he had an audience or not.

“I have a lot of people come and join in or say they aspire to have my level of the daily routine and allows for a little bit of freedom.”

For many students, Howell’s routine outbursts bring entertainment and joy to what would normally be a stressful school day.

International studies and English junior Anrika Sabella is one of those students. She said on one occasion, she saw Howell jump off a building and whisper about “parkour.”

While juggling, Howell plays music ranging from Led Zeppelin to Jersey Boys to Epica, a gypsy metal band. He said he tends to lean more toward heavy rock, operatic and jazz music, but just last week, he played music from the “Tarzan” soundtrack.

Before learning from Adeolu, Howell possessed little to no skill. However, he toured Europe this past summer on a study abroad trip performing aerial stunts with Physical Theater. He performed in France and spent three weeks at the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

“Trying to teach myself mindfulness, Howell hasn’t worn shoes for more than a hour at a time for the past seven months. Going through his routine without paying attention, he realized he could barely remember what he had done just a few hours earlier and set out to change his attentiveness.”

“Nothing I do is striving to help people see that there are other perspectives from which to view the world and to live a life beyond waking up in the morning, going to school, going to work and going to bed,” Howell said. “You can find a way to enjoy every single second of every day if you really want to.”

With tricking and juggling, Howell also dabbles in music, having played the guitar for 15 years. His music is influenced by his love for metal and classical genres, as well as Tim Burton movies. Howell said he would love to perform his music or set up music and art festivals. He’s also interested in street performing and living the nomad life — anywhere he can influence a large amount of people.

“The side effect of all of this is I get to meet a ton of people, and all of them have something that I can learn,” Howell said.

Story: Allie Cobb
Photo: Allie Cobb
Design: Ashton Breeding
Collections manager Steven Cardiff holds several flesh eating beetles and the carcass of a rodent in the basement of Foster Hall.
Hungry Hungry Beetles

LSU's little-known school of flesh-eating beetles

A large colony of flesh-eating beetles lives on campus in the University's Museum of Natural Science. The colony is housed in a small closet in the basement of the building—a room dubbed "the Bug Room."

"Time there's probably tens of thousands and they're all just roaming free in there," said Steven Cardiff, the collections manager for birds and mammals at the University's Museum of Natural Science in charge of the Bug Room.

The beetles serve a very specific purpose—to clean skeletons. "What we do is not just skeletons—research skeletons—and the beetles eat all the flesh off of us and leave the bones," Cardiff said. "And that's what we want, is nice clean bones so we can study those."

The skeletons Cardiff mentioned are usually frozen carcasses of various animals. The carcasses have already been skinned and gutted before being presented to the beetles. All that remains of the animal when it gets to the Bug Room is skeletal tissue and bones.

Typically, skeletons of small rodents, mammals, and birds are cleaned within minutes of death. But Cardiff said the colony of beetles could clean an entire horse in enough time. "It depends on the size of the specimen and the population density in the colony," said Cardiff.

When skeletons are cleaned and cataloged, they are ready to be studied by the University. According to Cardiff, there are about 20,000 bird specimens and 100,000 mammal and small rodent specimens currently cataloged. The University has the third-largest college animal skeleton collection, behind only Michigan and Harvard.

The practice of letting a colony of beetles do the dirty work of cleaning skeletons started at the University during the 1950s. Cardiff said. Letting the animal skeleton sit in a dark room for about a week is much less labor-intensive and repulsive than other methods of cleaning specimens.

One less effective method of cleaning skeletons involves putting the skeleton into a jar of water and simply waiting for the tissue and muscle to rot off the bones. However, the hard part of the job is when it comes time to pour out the jar and pick through the rot for bones. Cardiff called that part of the process "absolutely vile."

"You can do a high volume of specimens, from very small to very large, so it's a very efficient way of processing research specimens," said Cardiff. Many other institutions, such as the Smithsonian, use the same Bug Room technique as the University.

An unexpected difficulty in maintaining the Bug Room is population control. Cardiff said. There can be long periods of time when the University does not need newly cleaned skeletons. Fortunately for the beetles, not all colleges have their own Bug Room. Other colleges, such as University of New Orleans and Tulane University, send their uncleaned specimens to the University. This unique opportunity gives the University a chance to help other colleges and keep its beetles fed.
Monturios Howard leads the "We Got Us Alright" chant during the protest on November 10, 2016 in the LSU Quad.

Destinee Merida speaks during a protest on November 10, 2016 in the LSU Quad.

Story · Taylor Potter and Rose Velazquez
Photo · Ryan McCarble
Design · Marlie Lynch
A crowd of students formed a circle in the University's quad on November 10 to protest Donald Trump's election to the nation's highest office. The protest was organized by the Black Student Union and the NAACP at LSU, and several students and alumni led speakers and a moment of silence and a chant of "We're gonna be [LSU Student Government] and we're gonna be respected," President Destinee Merida said. The event featured several speakers, including Destinee Merida, who said, "We just have to do it," and Destinee Merida, who is the NAACP at LSU, who said the protest wasn't to say they did not accept Trump as president, but to demonstrate the value of everyone's voice.

"It's not to say that we don't accept Trump as our president because he's definitely president," Howard said. "But at the same time you want to show the country that this is a place where everybody should be valued just who they are and not what you think they are, the difference," Howard said.

Howard said the mood on campus following the election was "tense." He also disagreed the idea that President Barack Obama divided the nation, calling those who supported Trump's divisive rhetoric "hypocrites."

"I understand if you voted party lines and you're a conservative, but there's a difference between voting party lines and voting social oppressive people into office," Howard said.

"I've been Proven for Diversity," Dereck Rovaris said, who's heard from student leaders from underrepresented communities since the election and that many are worried their progress toward progress has been set back.

"Rovaris said he thinks the rally will get people talking about these issues.

"There are at least 200 — maybe 250 out here — and it was a mixed group of black, brown, white, Asian, gay, straight, Muslim, Christian," Rovaris said. "They're going to get emboldened to do more work and work harder. That's my hope. My fear is that there's some other folks who've been emboldened, people who would say racist and homophobic and nasty things about others."

Kinesiology freshman Taylor Thigpen attended the event and called it a peaceful way to speak out against the results of the election. She said it was a "realization that the nation is actually going in the wrong direction."

"Thigpen said she has kept up with the anti-Trump protests going on around the country, particularly those in Chicago and New York City.

"We're realizing that the government isn't for us," Thigpen said.

"That we don't matter. It's never what we want. It's what they want. People are becoming more aware that their voice doesn't matter."

Sydney Epps, a higher education doctoral student, read a poem she wrote around the time Obama was elected in 2008. While speaking to the crowd, she emphasized the role higher education plays in solving social issues.

She said the higher education system does not have enough minority members of the LGBTQ community and women in administrative and teaching roles.

"We don't have enough people of color within higher education in the administration, in our classrooms," Epps said. "And we don't have enough LGBTQ people. We don't have enough women to make waves. We need to have more grassroots organizations like this so that we can meet each other and we can figure out who's on our side and who isn't."

Baron Rouge resident Sydney Kewerseon speaks during the protest on November 10, 2016 in the Quad.
The LSU Police Department has dealt with several incidences of trespassing over the past few years.

When Tiger Stadium is not hosting 102,321 crazy tiger fans in the fall, it sits quietly on the west side of campus. Being one of college football’s most attractive venues, it’s not immune to the occasional unlawful intruder. LSUPD has dealt with several incidences of trespassing over the past few years, according to LSUPD spokesperson Lt. Kevin Scott. The most recent incident occurred Jan. 3, when vandals entered Tiger Stadium and defaced the field.

“Someone or some persons, more than one, entered the stadium overnight in the early morning hours, and accessed the field and possibly caused some damage,” Scott said.

A large tarp covered the stadium’s turf the following day. According to WBRZ, the vandals may have been inside the stadium as long as 65 minutes. The LSU Athletic Department has complete control and custodianship of Tiger Stadium. Scott said LSUPD and the Athletic Department communicate on a daily basis to keep security as stable as possible. “Stadium security in itself is a continuous cycle of improvement, a constant thing, a fluid thing because it’s such a popular target,” Scott said. In regards to the stadium’s security and recent trespassing incident, the Athletic Department provided the following statement:

“The stadium is locked every day and only employees have access to the stadium. Gates are checked at the end of work everyday to make sure they are secure. Access into the stadium by the trespasser has not been determined. Investigation is still ongoing.” While football season may seem like the most obvious time for potential intruders, Scott said there isn’t a specific time when similar incidents take place. “There’s no rhyme or reason on timing,” said. One notable incident, however, did occur during the Tiger’s 2010-11 season when two 18-year-old Alabama students were caught trespassing after “scratched” the eye of the Tiger on the field’s turf.

“Typically, it’s students from this school or another school so whether it’s someone pressured them or they felt it to be something reasonable said. For University students, Scott said there are potentially both administrative and criminal penalties that could come with committing such a crime. Penalties criminally can range from a summons for criminal trespassing to being booked into Parish prison for that offense,” Scott said. “All the way to burglary depending on what you do once inside.” Some security improvements that have been implemented at the stadium in recent years include the external fencing system and card readers for gate access. Scott said 11 University officials were set to discuss improvements to the external fence.

He also said external circumstances play a big role in security advancements. “Future improvements depend on a lot of environmental factors,” Scott said. “Budgetary constraints, reasonable steps for reasons, risks, is really what it’s all about.” Even with the locked gates and high fences that surrounds Death Valley, there are actually no signs that read “no trespassing” on the outside fence. Scott said, however, the potential criminal is not worth seeing something one could potentially ask to see. “You ask if you just ask, we might take you in there and take a peek,” Scott said.
the importance of locking the gates of Tiger Stadium on Jan. 10, as security levels heighten in response to the recent vandalism.

Padlocks seal the gates of Tiger Stadium on Jan. 10, 2017, as security levels heighten in response to the recent vandalism.

Trey Couvillion
Photo: Reveille Photographer
Design: Taylor Gonsoulin
MLK Day at LSU
Committing to a mission

The University's plans to commemorate Martin Luther King Jr. Day consisted of a plethora of events, ranging from a candlelight vigil Monday, hosted by the National Pan-Hellenic Council, to a performing arts night Thursday, at which BRCC, Southern, and LSU students showcased their talents.

Moments Howard, president of NAACP at LSU, said he believes that during MLK Day celebrations, we sometimes overlook some of Dr. King's traits that are essential to understanding his character and what he stood for.

"We like to give these great, glamorous stories that [Martin Luther King Jr.] was a man of peace... but what we don't talk about is his sense of urgency about change now and not later," Howard said.

Howard said he believes celebrating history, serving others and the urgent push for change should transcend Jan. 20 into every other day of the year.

"You're here for a moment and not here for a movement," Howard said.

Nevertheless, Howard said he enjoys MLK Day celebrations and the University will have no shortage of those in the coming week.

A student committee of University and BRCC students, called the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Celebration Committee, planned events to honor MLK Day as a day of serving others. Among these events is a Day of Service to take place on Jan. 16, which Howard said is a cornerstone of what Dr. King preached and did throughout his life.

To further serve the community, the University Food Pantry Drive commences at the beginning of the new year and continues until the end of the month.

Wes Heath, assistant director for Cross-Cultural Affairs, said the MLK celebration is so large at the University that having a student-run committee to plan these events is a big help.

"There's so many events...and having students that are committed to the mission of MLK really pulls these events together," Heath said.

While members of the NAACP at LSU would be attending and supporting the events to take place in the next week, Howard said he believes important not to take away from what the MLK committee planned.

"I don't like to take away from what has already been here... we tend to try to put on a ton of events which conflict with each other... so what we do is just attempt to support that event that is already going on," Howard said.

During Black History Month, students participate in a variety of events hosted by the NAACP at LSU including the Image Awards, the Imant Scholarship Pageant and the Sankofa Poetry Night and Open Mic.

Jasmine DeRiggs, chair of the MLK committee, said in an email looking forward to the return of the Unity Reception, which she lamented, where community leaders such as Baton Rouge Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome, LSU President F. King Alexander and Southern University President Ray L. Helton will attend.

The University also welcomed civil rights activist Shaun King as keynote speaker on Tuesday, which DeRiggs said would be the biggest event.

DeRiggs said it was not until she came to the University that she realized how important MLK Day is to her.

"Before it was just a day off from school to honor a man who had done so much for the African American community," DeRiggs said. "His activism alone is enough to give people hope that tomorrow is a step toward being better than what is happening or going on today."

Howard said students who wanted to attend these activities should not fear if they identify as a minority student or not.

"If you want to participate regardless of your skin, regardless of your gender, you participate because you believe in a greater good of man," Howard said. "If you're not a minority and you want to participate in things, you should do it and do it at good faith."

East Baton Rouge Parish mayor Sharon Weston Broome embraces keynote speaker A.P. Tureaud Jr. at the MLK Unity Reception in The Club (formally known as the Faculty Club) on January 18, 2017.

Story: Reveille Writer
Photo: Kelly McDuff
Design: Madelyn Curtis
Alpha Phi Alpha member Chase August (left), Alpha Kappa Alpha member Niara Woods, Phi Beta Sigma member Ros Brown, National Pan-Hellenic Council First Vice President Eunice Koomson, Pastor Raymond A. Jeter of Star Hill Baptist Church, and National Pan-Hellenic Council President Anesha Pink (right) speak during the Martin Luther King Candlelight Vigil and Celebration on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 in the LSU Student Union.

Chase August, a member of Phi Beta Sigma, sings "We Shall Overcome" during the Martin Luther King Candlelight Vigil and Celebration on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 in the LSU Student Union.
Inventors Fellows

Two LSU Professors recognized as National Academy of Inventors Fellows

LSU Boyd Professor of Chemistry and SEC Professor of the Year, Isaiah Warner, and Professor of Equine Research, Mark Lopez were named Fellows to the National Academy of Inventors. NAI Fellows is a high professional distinction accorded to academic inventors who have demonstrated a prolific spirit of innovation in creating or facilitating outstanding inventions that have made a tangible improvement in quality of life, economic development and the welfare of society.

Although the two professors are involved in different research, they share many commonalities. Lopez is the director of the Laboratory for Equine and Comparative Orthopedic Research in the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine. She has more than 75 original scientific publications and is an associate editor of a national scientific journal, as well as a member of many public and private grant review boards. She has also been an active member of the LSU Faculty Senate for nearly a decade.

Lopez came to the University after going to school in Europe, Asia and California, and her European accent comes out sporadically. She said she was introduced to surgery in veterinary school and was always committed to applying engineering principles to surgery. While working with orthopedic surgeons, Lopez said they realized they were struggling with finding a good way to hold tension when working with the anterior cruciate ligament. The ACL is one of a pair of cruciate ligaments in the human knee.

Lopez said she has been working on two devices, the GraftGrab and Grab Ten, for 15 to 20 years and is continuing to work on them. Both inventions make it easier to secure tissue to bone, while tension is simultaneously adjusted, a feat which could not previously be accomplished. The devices could possibly be used in future bone and joint surgeries in both animals and humans, ultimately improving surgical outcomes that may make it possible to further advance techniques that stabilize the knee.

"I always encourage people to have lifelong creativity and invent," Lopez said. "Never underestimate yourself and what you can learn and do. It requires effort, commitment and failures, but you keep going. It's the people that pick up after failures that grow."

Warner is the Phillip W. West Professor of Chemistry and Hughes Medical Institute Professor at LSU. His research aims to develop new chemical and mathematical measurement tools to solve important questions in chemistry. He is considered to be one of the world's experts in analytical applications of fluorescence spectroscopy.

Warner holds eight U.S. patents that specialize in spectroscopy, which include a variety of different research areas. His spectroscopy studies have become foundations for many leading manufacturers of commercially available fluorescence in analytical measurements. Similar to Lopez, Warner said he never dreamed of receiving such an honor and it was only possible because the people believed in him.

"My true love is working with students, whether it's at the graduate level in my research group or at the undergraduate level inspiring students to get PhDs," he said. "Being from Bunkie, La., Warner said he had no idea he'd be in college until his mentor told him he would receive one by

Teaching young people the sky is the limit and that there is only limited by their confidence and knowledge of what they can do is something he hopes to do for the rest of his life, he said. Warner and Lopez were nominated for contributions in areas such as patent licensing, innovative discovery and development, and support and outreach of innovation.

Both professors said they are completely humbled by their selection, and they plan to pay their knowledge forward by mentoring students helping them pursue their dreams, as their own mentors did for them.

Story: Hannah Venerella
Photo: Kim Nguyen
Design: Karsyn Young
LSU Boyd Professor of Chemistry and SEC Professor of the Year Isaiah Warner sits in his office on Chopin Hall. Warner was recently named Fellow to the National Academy of Inventors.
LSU Dojo

Karate from the soul

You won't find LSU Karate Club members waxing cars or painting fences. They don't sweep legs or back out what doesn't exist in their dojo. Their practice goes far beyond the physical tasks they perform. The idea is not to master simple fighting techniques but to master self-discipline.

Founded in 1965, the Karate Club has entered its 52nd year of existence with optimism regarding expansion. The club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Harry P. Long Fieldhouse. Club president and communication studies senior Nolan Richard said the group welcomes all students regardless of past karate experiences, and said the club is not dangerous or violent.

"Most people watch way too many movies. We don't break books with our hands, we don't beat the crap out of each other," Richard said. "The master of our style, Gichin Funakoshi, said karate is all about creating humility. He believed karate was only meant to be used for serious defense."

Much of the club's origin, including the founder, has been lost to history. The club is believed to have begun when students saw a karate club at another university and were inspired to start their own organization.

Under Sensei Ricky Pampo, the techniques practiced do not resemble those of a man looking to begin a fight. Every punch or kick was preceded by a counter or a move away from an attacker. After each exercise, Pampo encouraged the students to relax and take a deep breath for the sake of both re-energizing and concentrating.

Pampo graduated from the University in 1995, and has been with the club since 1993. Between his time serving as a personal trainer for NFL players and MMA fighters, he teaches University students and alumni the art of using karate to find self-actualization and become self-disciplined during a time in life where stressful choices and important responsibilities are plentiful.

Much of class is devoted to practicing "kata," kata is the Japanese word for form, and it is a series of movements and patterns simulating the art of self-defense against an attacker. The focus lies not so much in the moves in the flow between them that allows someone to learn how to transition from one move of self-defense to another.

The club enjoyed welcoming several newcomers at Tuesday night meeting. Of the 18 students in attendance, only 12 were in uniform, nine or six newcomers were present. As Pampo called out instructions for each move, he would carefully reposition and adjust students if their feet were pointed wrong way or if they didn't have their posture exactly correct, as self-discipline requires perfection.

Computer science sophomore Raphaela Metzig discovered the student-fair and was immediately intrigued. She had experience in martial arts prior to coming to the University and said the greatly enjoys practicing karate.

"We're all friends here. Even though it's a traditional dojo, we're all friends and it's a welcoming environment," Metzig said. "This has become my sanctuary. This is where I come to distract myself from everything going on and not think about classes for a few hours a week."

On the last strike of each technique practiced, the club members shut a "kiai," a Japanese term for a short, ferocious yell delivered on a strike. Pampo encourages the members to not hold back when releasing kiai, and use it to expend all their pent up energy.

"Break out that fighting spirit. That's where the fight is," Pampo said. "Once you break the other guy's spirit, then he can't fight."

After releasing their loudest kiai, the club members kneel and breathe quietly to calm down and restore their energy. Pampo concluded the meeting by letting the students know that this is the place to let go of worries or problems outside their dojo, a sacred place for healing the soul.

Nobody will find any broken bricks in this dojo.

Story - Evan Saacks
Photo - Kim Nguyen
Design - Ashton Breeding

Sensei Ricky Pampo instructs students on proper karate technique at the meetings held twice a week.

Several members of the Delta Tau Chapter of Alpha Phi Sorority participate in the battleship tournament on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017, at the LSU UREC.

Animal science freshmen Brynna Rydoz (left), Kayla Rydoz, Sarah Servat, and Joseph Zito (right) participate in the battleship tournament on Tuesday, 2017, at the LSU UREC.

Story - Cj Carver
Photo - Kelly McDuff
Design - Chloe Bryars
most places around campus are quiet around 8 p.m. on a
the UREC’s indoor pool was anything but. From the crowd’s
excitement over teams celebrating their victories to the crashing of water and
shouting of team members, the pool was alive with the spirit of battle.
Cantwell, the UREC’s Assistant Director of Sport and Camp,
a team of lifeguards watched team after team duke it out in the
pool.

The intramural sport, which now has leagues at universities all over
the country, is reminiscent of the childhood game where players try to sink their
opponent’s ship. The major difference is that the childhood version was played
on a board and now it is played in the pool.

The rules of the game vary between hosting institutions because the
sport is so new. Cantwell said at the University, teams of three or four are
prohibited from using a paddle board as their shield and two buckets to try and “sink”
their opponent's ship. Successful teams win two out of three five-minute rounds.

“[If the teams last the five minutes]...we go to how much water is
currently on the boat,” Cantwell said. “So there’s a competitive stuff in it
and some strategic play that can take place.”

The tournament began with 13 teams, and over the course of two
and a half hours, it dwindled down to two teams battling it out for the top
trophy. Alpha Phi B and ARPink. Tensions ran high as the two teams went
head-to-head. After the first round, Alpha Phi B, comprised of members of
the Alpha Phi Sorority, found themselves needing one more victory to win.
ARPink put up a strong effort, but in the end, Abby Rochelle, Mary Reza,
Meghan P rico and Raelynn Lambert of team Alpha Phi B pulled out the win.

“I feel like I just won the Super Bowl,” said one of the girls on the
winning team as she celebrated their victory. “I’m going to Disney World!”

The battleship tournament is not the only non-traditional sport in
the UREC’s intramural league, Cantwell said. The UREC also offers a badminton
tournament, a table tennis tournament and scored volleyball tournament,
to name a few. “We want to offer those sports that really anyone can play,”
Cantwell said.
Students trek around construction sites to get to class every day, watching the progress of the work.

Construction underway on campus on Thursday, Jan. 25.
University Development
Ground and record breaking

University has put major effort into campus. Over the next two years, the projects slated to break development records, according to Assistant Vice President of Planning, Design and Construction Roger Husser.

"We're breaking a lot of records and milestones in terms of development," Husser said.

The LSU EC expansion will become the largest development by footage on campus when it begins to open to students later this spring. Husser said it will feature three new pools and a new, larger indoor track, among other things. The project is the University's largest to date.

However, its record will not stand for long. Next fall, the renovations to Patrick F. Taylor Hall will be completed, making it the largest building on campus. The building has already begun opening, and will be fully open in the fall.

The project includes a roughly 25 percent expansion of Patrick F. Taylor Hall and a complete renovation of the old building, Husser said. When completed, the renovated Patrick F. Taylor Hall will take the crown for the largest footage on campus.

In fall, Patrick F. Taylor Hall will lose its crown to the completed Nicholson Gateway Complex. This development is the result of the first private-public development partnership between the University and private firms, Husser said.

The project will include seven student apartment buildings and retail space located on 26 acres on Nicholson Drive between Skip Bertman Drive and West Chimes Street. Also included in this development project is the construction of Spruce Hall, a new student residence hall being built in the Hart Lot adjacent to Cypress Hall.

These projects are not the only ones the University is working on in the coming months. In addition to the continuous renovation and upkeep of class buildings and dormitories, a full scale model of the lower Mississippi is being constructed at the Water Campus located near the Mississippi Bridge, adjacent to downtown Baton Rouge. The building has been finished, but the model is still being constructed, Husser said.

There are also plans for a facility to be built for the Companion Animal Alliance, which runs the East Baton Rouge Parish Animal Control and Rescue Center. The plan is to relocate the shelter located by the Baton Rouge airport to the new facility. There is no set date for construction to begin.

"We understand that they are getting close to their fundraising goals to begin construction," Husser said.

Story: Taylor Delpidio
Photo: Kate Roy
Design: Madelyn Curtis
Hydra-Guard Recharge

LSU AgCenter teams with founder to create the first all-natural sports drink

Joseph Tucker, founder/CEO of Hydra-Guard Solutions LLC, and the LSU AgCenter Food Incubator teamed up to develop and produce the first all-natural sports drink on the market: "with all of the electrolytes consumers need, without all the sugars" - Hydra-Guard Recharge. Tucker said he came up with the idea while researching products for his previous invention, the Hydra-Guard hydrating mouth guard. While looking for substances to fill the hydrating pouch in the mouth guard, he stumbled across a new business opportunity.

"I’ve always kept my eye on what I’m drinking and what kinds of beverages are out there and what beverage is best for me," Tucker said. "By listening to consumers and listening to the market, it told me that there was a void. Though Americans are becoming more health-conscious, there has been little shift in the sports drink industry. Tucker said big names like Gatorade and Powerade set the precedent for how sports drinks were formulated. Consumers began to accept that along with electrolytes came lots of sugar.

"Nothing had been created that was what people were looking for," Tucker said. "Our product, Hydra-Guard Recharge, is a product that consumers have been silently waiting for." Tucker said he approached the food scientists at the LSU AgCenter Food Incubator on a mission to change the game. First on the chopping block was sugar. Electrolyte-enriched sports drinks are prone to a high sugar content to mask the bitter taste of electrolytes such as potassium. A goal that was conventionally accomplished by calorie-laden sugar could instead be achieved using a ‘bitter blocker’ composition patented by professor John W. Finley, meaning that the sugar content of the drink could be cut by 75 percent, reducing the calorie count of the beverage to 35 calories per bottle.

Sugar content wasn’t the only issue Tucker had with the sports drink status quo. He also wanted to make a sports drink that was all natural — another first for the sports drink industry. With these goals in mind, Tucker came to the LSU AgCenter Food Incubator to develop the product from an idea into a market-ready reality. "When Tucker came to us, he had very high standards," said Gaye Sandoz, the director of the AgCenter Food Incubator. The drink itself was formulated by a team of food scientists consisting of Luis Espinosa, Gabriela Gutierrez and Ashley Guiterrez. They took the team a year to formulate four different flavors, all adhering to guidelines set by Tucker.

"He wanted to do it with very low sugar, so we had to use sweeteners. But he only wanted natural sweeteners so we didn’t have many options," Gabriela Gutierrez said. "Also, when colors are natural they start fading over time. It takes a while because you must test a very fast shelf life on each color." However, Sandoz said developing a completely new product like this wasn’t very fast compared to the rest of the industry. "We made four flavors in one year," Sandoz said. "It would take another company at least five years to do that." The drink formula was only part of the project. After formulating the product, the job of making the drink conducive to largescale production was handled to Marvin L. Mencicada, a research and development food scientist, the incubator, who is also the Pilot Plant manager.

"My contribution to this product was to scale it up from one gallon to sixty gallons," Mencicada said. "We had to do some modifications to make sure it tasted as good as it did in the lab." The production research and development took another few weeks to ascertain details from the existing temperature of the product to the types of plastic bottles that could be manufacturing such a product. All that work ended with a product line in mid-2016 that was on the shelf in the industry, an all-natural sports drink that contains four types of electrolyte content of other drinks while only having five grams of protein and 35 calories per bottle. The drink also contains electrolytes from all major electrolyte sources and uses only all-natural flavors and colors, making it one-of-a-kind in the sports drink market.

"We went down the list of what was important to the consumer," Tucker said. "It was really a product developed by the consumers." And consumers seem to love it too. Hydra-Guard Recharge sold out of its first run of 32,000 bottles and moved production out of the Food Incubator to a co-packer to accommodate the demand. The drink can be found in stores across southern Louisiana and beyond. "We’ve surpassed the 200 stores," Tucker said. "And that’s only been in the first two-and-a-half years we’ve been in business." Professional athletes are taking notice. New Orleans Saints wide receiver Brandin Cooks serves as a brand ambassador for Hydra-Guard and has featured Hydra-Guard Recharge on his Instagram page.

"We’re honored to have Brandin at his caliber, representing pushing out products into the right hands," Tucker said. "He had 12 different beverages to choose from, and he went with us." Hydra-Guard Recharge sponsored events in the Baton Rouge community, such as the Baton Rouge Reindeer Run. When looking towards the future, Hydra-Guard is looking towards more markets and is looking for more sponsorships and brand ambassadors.

The finished Hydra-Guard Recharge product is shown on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 at the LSU Animal and Food Sciences Laboratories. The sports drink is now available for purchase.
R&D Food Scientist/Plant Manager, Marvin L. Moncada, Ph.D., stands next to a steam jacketed kettle on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 located in the LSU Ag Center Food Incubator.
Tattooed on Lizzie Cui’s forearm are five interlaced rings. Cui, a sophomore and diver on LSU’s swimming and diving team, decided to get the tattoo after competing in the 2016 Rio games. To her, the tattoo represents everything she worked for, what she accomplished and everything she still has to look forward to.

“The tattoo is on my arm forever and I got it there so I can see it everyday,” Cui said. Just because I’ve been to one Olympics doesn’t mean it is over.” Cui found out she had qualified for the Olympics just weeks before they started. She competed for New Zealand, the country she was born, and raised in and is the first diver since 1992 to qualify for New Zealand and only the second diver in LSU history to make it to the Olympics.

The Olympics only takes 130 divers, men and women, from all over the world. To get in the top 130, Cui had to compete in a series of international competitions. Most of her competitions are collegiate, however, the World Championships and World Cup are at the top-most level.

“The World Cup, which was in Rio last year, is where you have to place in one of the top spots,” Cui said. “There is only a certain amount of them. Everyone is trying to get that last spot to the Olympics.” At the World Cup, the scores aren’t announced immediately, so Cui had to wait to find out if she qualified for the Olympics. While Cui waited for the news, she went back to LSU for the summer to train with the hopes of qualifying regardless of the outcome.

“With such a small amount only being able to go to the Olympics I didn’t think that I would make it,” Cui said. “But I still trained like I was going to and it all fell in place.” Cui had originally prepared for the 2020 Olympics, so she was in complete shock when she learned the news of qualifying for the 2016 Olympics.

“It’s still an incredible thing to think about,” Cui said. “But now that I’ve actually done it, I realize that the athletes are just like me. They train just like me. They have the same goals as me.” Cui was relaxed, focused and collected when she arrived at the Olympic Village in Rio, but admits she was starstruck by all the athletes walking around.

“Now I feel that I really am worthy of going to the Olympics,” Cui took her talents to the diving board on August 12th, her birthday. She dove in the one meter and three meter springboard, which she also competed in collegiately. That would be her only day of competition, but she is still looking forward to the next Olympics and how she can take it further in time. For Cui, it isn’t a question of making it to the Olympics anymore, rather how well she would perform in the following games. After Cui competed, she had a few weeks to watch other events at the Olympics and Rio itself.

“Next time I go,” Cui said. “I’ll be much more mature in the way and all the collegiate competition will make me even better. I hope I can make an even better result the next time,” Cui’s coach, Doug Shaffer, feels his stability as a coach for all his athletes, is to help them achieve their goals and aspirations. Cui began to compete in swimming & diving when she was 6 years old and it has become much more than just a sport to her.

“Everyday I fall in love with diving even more,” Cui said. As Cui got older and diving became second nature, she started to think about how could get better competition outside of New Zealand and was on the look for schools in the states.

Cui came to the United States last January and was admitted in the middle of the school year. Cui spent most of her time traveling competing than attending school and had to adjust to a new country. Only was Cui competing on the collegiate level, she was trying to stay on the Olympics. Cui now trains with the goal in mind of making it to 12 or ultimately medalizing and placing in the top three. Luckily, Shaffer simple philosophy about Cui and his team, he just wants them to learn.

“Our sport is like a puzzle,” Shaffer said. “You put this piece of the puzzle together and you don’t get the end picture until you have pieces together. You have to have the vision of what the big picture is going to look like and be willing to stay dedicated to putting the pieces together.
LSU sophomore diver, Lizzie Cui, launches into a dive during practice on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017 in the LSU Natatorium.
So Close, Yet so Far
UREC Renovation Set to Begin Opening to the Public in February

The University Recreation Complex expansion project that started in June 2013 finally came to a close in late February, when the URBC opened the renovated space to the public.

"After several years of planning, design and construction of the multiple improvements to the recreation facilities on campus, we are happy to say that the construction of the last and largest piece is nearly complete," said Assistant Vice President of Planning, Design and Construction on the UREC Project Roger Husser. "With the completion of the sports recreation fields on Gourrier Lane and the new parking facilities and tennis courts being completed over the last couple years, the expansion and renovation of the main recreation center is essentially complete with minor efforts remaining to equip it and open it for use."

"Our goal is to have a grand opening with the Student Government, and bring back old Student Government members, right at the end of April," Braden said. The project is predicted to be fully completed in Fall 2017.

The new facility boasts a number of new features and facilities, such as a renovated indoor pool, plus an outdoor lap pool and lazy river in the shape of LSU. They also added three courts, two of which are multi-activity courts designed to accommodate sports like indoor soccer and volleyball.

The track has also been expanded. At completion, it will be two-thirds of a mile in length and run between the second and third floors, throughout workout spaces and around the renovated climbing wall.

A boxing studio for boxing fitness classes has also been added. The renovation project has not resulted in the removal of any popular facilities.

"We're getting everything and more," Braden said. The facility will also feature retinal scanners at the entrances to streamline the entry process for students.

Also coming soon from University Recreation is a UREC Express location on Nicholson Drive, near the new nutrition building. This facility will feature cardio equipment, and space for group workout sessions and classes similar to a 24-hour fitness center though the location will not be open 24 hours a day. This facility will not incur an increase in student fees.

"It'll be tight, but we think it's the right decision to serve students," Braden said.

Story: Taylor Delpidio
Photo: Alyssa Berry
Design: Chloe Bryars
The UREC operates during regular business hours on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2017, while under construction.
LSU thrower Nicolette Dunbar releases the shot on Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017 in the Carl Maddox Fieldhouse.
Nickolette Dunbar
Making history

Like many freshman student athletes, Nickolette Dunbar, a shot putter on the LSU track and field team, is trying to make a name for herself on the field.

However, her name already carries weight at a Tiger. Nickolette is the daughter of former LSU football standout Karl Dunbar.

Nickolette was a three-year starter at defensive end and recorded 11 career sacks in 38 career games for the Tigers from 1986-89.

Sincened moved into coaching after a playing career in the NFL with the New Orleans Saints and Arizona Cardinals. Dunbar is currently the defensive line coach at the University of Alabama.

"I want him on," Nickolette said about her father. "I want him part of the team to do well."

Nickolette believes her father's coaching career is one of things that made her so successful.

"I know people," Nickolette said. "I told him that's an easier transition now."

Nickolette's decision to come to LSU was her own. She was never pushed to attend a certain school.

"I helped me pick the places I would visit," Nickolette said. "My mom was one with me, since my dad wasn't able to. They weren't pushing me into schools. My dad told me I could go anywhere I wanted to, that it was up to me.

Nickolette considered going to school at Penn State, Oregon and Georgia, but ultimately her choice was LSU.

"I know Nickolette. LSU 'felt like home'" Nickolette

"I really liked the people. I got along with Coach Derek Yush well, and I thought he could take me to the next level where I want to be",

Yush has been an assistant coach at LSU since 2007, recruited Nickolette and followed her throughout her high school career.

"When you evaluate someone like her you see there is a lot of raw talent that is not there," Yush said. "But she had really great coaching along the way. She was a sophomore and junior when we first started watching her - Raw talent in speed and power was she was unatched.

"Yush made it clear that Nickolette, while being one of the most physically talented throwers he has coached, needed to fine-tune her technique."

"I don't think she was a real technical thrower in high school," Yush said. "She got away with a lot of things that she can't do if she wants to be at that next level. But she is doing a great job of doing those new things and now she is getting to a point where she is more comfortable doing those things."

Her debut at Vanderbilt's Commodore Invitational resulted in Dunbar's name being placed in the LSU record books.

With her first throw of the evening, Nickolette's throw was measured at 51 feet, 4 inches which ranks seventh all-time for a female LSU shot putter.

"Just wanted to go out there and compete because it was my first time competing in college," Nickolette said. "I was really nervous, but excited about the outcome."

The following week at Auburn's Indoor Invitational, Dunbar threw a new personal best mark of 52 feet, 6 1/2 inches.

Yush took notice of this performance, and has high expectations for Nickolette.

Ten Bliss, the most decorated shot putter in LSU history, is more than familiar with Dunbar. The 2015 graduate is Nickolette's training partner.

"It's a great honor to have my name etched in the LSU track and field history books," Bliss said. "It will be a little bit sad to see that go down, but to have someone like Nickolette, see her putting in the work every day, and if she does break I know she deserves it."

Nickolette's career is just beginning. Yush hopes to see her become an All-American and earn a top two or three spot in an Southeastern Conference meet.

"As a freshman, I would really like her to get to the NCAA meet," Yush said. "Be an All-American, and be top two or three at the SEC meet. For her sophomore, junior and senior years we have to be thinking about National Champion and more than a one-time SEC Champion."
Dr. Christopher G. Austin, head curator of Amphibians and Reptiles at the Louisiana Museum of Natural Science, exhibits his assortment of species in the basement of the Louisiana Museum of Natural Science on Tuesday Jan. 31, 2017.

Jurassic Park

LSU Professor goes back in time

Story: Chris Clarke
Photo: Alyssa Berry
Design: Karlyn Young
Third All-American safety Todd Harris reaches for the LSU hat on Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017 at Plaquemine High School.

Third All-American safety Todd Harris commits to LSU live on ESPNU on Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017 at Plaquemine High School.
Plaquemines Tiger

"Ready to get to work": Todd Harris stays home, signs with LSU

The four-star safety officially signed to LSU in front of a packed gymnasium Wednesday at Plaquemines High School.

The rise of social media and the interaction between fans and recruits can become invasive to some high schoolers, especially when a recruit spurns an avenue school because of they want to play out of state.

"I just want to be with my parents about where he would spend his first three to four years of school, but the choice was ultimately his," said he spoke honestly with his parents about where he would spend his first three to four years of school.

"I wanted to go," Harris said about signing with LSU. "I felt like I was ready to get to work and get to know the players, and his opportunity, I'm just ready to get to work in a different state." Harris considered signing with Alabama, but the tradition of "DBU" stayed with him to stay within the state.

Another deciding factor for Harris was being able to play just 18 miles away from his high school. "I was feeling Alabama a lot," Harris said. "But I wanted to stay close to home, and LSU is known for putting DB's in the NFL." The consensus four-star recruit was heavily sought after, holding offers from Arizona State, Tennessee, Georgia and others. Despite the change from coach Louis towards new head coach Ed Orgeron, Harris is ready to work with the new coaching staff.

"They've got a new staff on deck," Harris said. "Coach O is a great energy. I talked to him before I committed this morning. He congratulated me on being a Tiger. I'm looking forward to new things and being very successful."

His commitment adds to a talented recruiting class that is currently ranked fifth by 247sports.com. Defensive backs coach Corey Raymond also played a role in curtaining the 6-foot, 180-pound safety. Harris said he liked Raymond's "straightforward approach."

"It was basically, Man, you gotta come in and put in that work," Harris said. "I mean, that's how it was. We weren't setting up my dreams. It was a business." Harris said the coaching staff views him at safety and at the nickel position. The Plaquemine native joins five-star safety JaCoby Stevens, four-star safety Grant Delpit and four-star corner Kary Vincent as defensive backs in the 2017 class.

"I feel very very good," Harris said. "Just for the fact that I was at the Under Armour Game and we were all on the same team, we were cool before that, but our bond struck after that."

"We got to hang out and get to know each other a little bit better, and I'd just love to play with these dudes at the next level." Being so close to LSU, Harris said he plans to work out at LSU and get to know his new team.
#RelationshipGoals

Healthy vs un健康的

The LSU Student Health Center began its second spring 2017 group of #RelationshipGoals Monday to help students with their relationships.

Social Worker Christine Cummins from the SHC said they offered the seminar series to help students "get to know their individual needs." "One of the common reasons students come in is for relationship issues," Cummins said. "We are trying to address that need in part by education, use of social skills." Cummins said the seminar series covered four topics that were eight weeks. The first session began on Feb. 6 and will end in April. The sessions include topics such as communication, how to deal with breakups, social media and dating, and breakups and grief. Cummins said the program aims to help students learn relationship skills and the difference between a healthy and unhealthy relationships.

"A lot of times, people think they know how to handle a relationship or how to communicate or they don't think so and need help," Cummins said. "I hope that students get some education on how to be healthier in their relationships and see better outcomes." Cummins said they don't focus on just the romantic type of relationship, but also friendships with family and friends. Educational skills about communication and an understanding of what is healthy thought this would be a useful thing to offer.

Most communication sophomore Hannah Kleinpeter said she thinks students have more healthy relationships in college.

"It's hard to generalize whether they are healthy or unhealthy, but I would say based on the people I know and my friends, there's healthier relationships," Kleinpeter said. "Not many people choose to be in serious relationships in college, so if they do they generally work hard to make sure it's a good relationship and not 'just' a relationship. If they don't, they break up. That's just my experience. It's been mostly healthy for what I've seen." Unlike Kleinpeter, communication disorders junior Annie Finch said she thinks college students have more unhealthy relationships than healthy.

"When you're in college, there's so many elements like going out and school work," Finch said. "In one of my unhealthy relationships, we fought because he wanted to do all these cool college date-type things, but I didn't, so we always clashed. There are probably more unhealthy than healthy relationships because students are also growing in college, and they aren't stable or anything like when they're older." Kleinpeter said these seminars offered by the SHC are valuable to students.

"I think this is very important for the university," Kleinpeter said. "We learn a lot about safety, and I think it's good to have something on relationships because it's so common for young people to get involved in. There's not a lot of education on relationships and what's healthy and what's not. I think it's a good asset to have at LSU." Finch said students should utilize the #RelationshipGoals seminar so they can recognize what a healthy relationship is.

"Girls are kind of crazy and boys are kind of dumb, so these seminars probably help out and help them know what a real relationship is," Finch said.

Story: Katherine Roberts
Photo: Whitney Wilkison
Design: Ashton breeding
"The simple act of actively noticing"

Dig. Spin. Repeat.

These three words strung together sound simple, but in reality they describe months of hand-crafted work that eventually turned into sculptures and large-scale installations.


Hinting at minimalism, the exhibition was drawn from social psychologist Ellen Langer’s definition of mindfulness, or “the simple act of actively noticing.”

Each installation and sculpture was made from either local clay Sievers dug and processed or yarn from wool she spun.

Sievers encouraged viewers to study the details of each sculpture and installation: the placement, materials and uniqueness that came from craftsmanship.

Many awards adorn her resume, including the prestigious International Sculpture Center award in 2015 for her sculpture “10,656 Palms.” The inspiration for the sculpture came while working at an artist’s residency at the Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, which was geared toward food production and working with one’s hands, she said.

Artist-in-residence programs exist to invite artists for a time and space away from their usual environment. They provide a time for reflection, research, presentation and production.

Sievers’ residency influenced her to dig and shape local clay. She later cut holes to hang each piece onto chicken wire like Christmas ornaments, she said.

The 12-foot sculpture’s ombre effect was created by under firing the clay with a kiln. The whole process took half a semester.

A total of 423 students applied for the ISC award. It was then narrowed down to seven honorable mentions and eighteen recipients.

The ISC award allows students to receive publicity for their work through traveling shows and the option to apply for an artist’s residency. A total of seven students were shown at the Mana Contemporary in Jersey City and in London.

Through this award, Sievers was chosen along with another artist for an artist’s residency in Switzerland where she would live and work with world-renowned sculptor Heinz Aeschlimann and his wife for six weeks in the spring.

The residency offers young artists a free workshop for six weeks, living and traveling costs covered, as well as fully equipped studios and rooms.

To wrap up her semester at the University, the graduate student began working with a different material and placement, yarn from a workshop she attended, to occupy the whole room, for her thesis exhibition.

“Yarn has a lot of the properties that clay has that I was interested in,” Sievers said. “It’s nice to work with a different material and medium.”

The exhibition featured a mixture of the two materials, and details encourage the audience to heighten their exploration of their surroundings, she said.
Dig, Spin, Repeat

Above: Brittany Sievers hard at work to prepare a piece for her MFA Thesis Exhibition

Left: Fine arts graduate student Brittany Sievers
Creators of The Crawfish App, LSU civil engineering graduate and third year law student Ryan King and his wife, LSU alumna Laney King, are found outside the LSU Business Education Complex on Thursday Feb. 13, 2017.

The Crawfish App is available for download in the iPhone app store.
The Crawfish App

Third-year law student and wife creates very helpful Southern app

Eating crawfish is known for bringing Louisianians together, but finding a good deal on the delicacy isn't always common knowledge. Ryan King, a University civil engineering graduate and current third-year law student, and his wife Laney King, a graduate of the Flores MBA program, have made the game for the best crawfish only a few swipes away. "We were driving around one morning looking for crawfish," Ryan said. "After an hour of calling people, I kind of knew, I can't believe nobody had made an app for this. We should try it.

With Ryan's engineering background and Laney's business knowledge, the couple combined their skills in January 2013 to create The Crawfish App. The Crawfish App allows users to filter their search for live or boiled crawfish based on price, distance, and reviews. The app is free for users to download on iOS or Android device. "If you're having a big boil with 20 pounds of crawfish, 20 cents a pound makes a difference," Ryan said.

After four years of finding programmers, meeting with a designer, having two children and working full-time jobs, Ryan and Laney finally launched the app on March 6, 2017. "We had a few phases in mind," Laney said. "The first phase was a successful launch. The next phase is making it as user-friendly as possible." The couple said the reviews feature will be released within the week. The feature will require users to log in through the app or through Facebook and submit reviews for vendors. Ratings of one to five stars are available, as well as icons to indicate each vendor's crawfish sizes.

Both Ryan and Laney said they received positive feedback from vendors since the app's release. They said the app started with 130 vendors and another 75 were interested in joining within the first week. The couple said they have received vendor requests from Houston, the East Texas area and Missouri. Currently, the Kings said they call the vendors in their database every Thursday to update the app with weekend prices. However, they said they are in the process of developing an interface to allow vendors the opportunity to log in and update their own prices more frequently.

Users also have the option to add vendor information to the app themselves. "The vendors are thrilled," Ryan said. "We're happy because it leads to a more competitive marketplace for the user. It's really a win-win situation all around." The couple said they want every vendor and restaurant to be on the app. They said farmers who have never sold crawfish to the public have become a part of the app because they think they offer the best prices.

Ryan and Laney said while the app is free, they hope to find sponsors and advertisers involved in The Crawfish App and use the advertising to make a profit. "Having this app out and just the excitement it generates, I guess kind of get a feel for an entrepreneur that starts their own business," Ryan said. "Just to wake up every morning and be pumped about what you're going to do for the day — it's so cool to have something you're that excited about. It's a thrill."

The Crawfish App was launched Monday, Feb. 6, 2017.

Story: Natalie Andonow 
Photo: Alyssa Berry 
Design: Taylor Gonswallin
Art pieces hang on the wall in the new LGBTQ center on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017, in the Women's Center.

Students and staff enjoy the new LGBTQ center on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017, in the Women's Center.

Story · Dena Winegeart
Photo · Chunfeng Lu
Design · Marlie Lynch
Just Be Yourself Here

LGBTQ Resource Room

Nestled behind Barnes and Noble in the University Women's Center last fall, the LGBTQ Resource Room, which opened Feb. 22, acts as a safe space for students to come together, be themselves and seek support on campus.

Holton said there has long been a push to create a space for LGBTQ students on campus, the resource room came together rather quickly. The Office of Provost Richard Roudebush and Alix Alexander helped to gather furniture, a TV and decorations for the room in the Provost's office with Provost Holton attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Steib, assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said the resource room resources are minimal right now as the funding is primarily through donations. Inside, students will find pride flags and a banner detailing the history of LGBTQ people in the United States. Soon, Heath said, help and training will be provided with books, movies and TV shows about LGBTQ people. Additionally, Heath hopes the room will have a computer and free printing service.

Steib, director of the Women's Center, said establishing the resource room is an important step in the direction of establishing an entire LGBTQ center, much like the African American Cultural Center or the Women's Center on campus. Steib noted that such places began as small rooms and grew into larger centers on campus as students needs were assessed.

Within the Women's Center, Heath said there are a number of individuals who will be "safe space trained" by the end of this month.

Holton said that having a safe space for marginalized groups like LGBTQ students is important because it helps those students feel welcomed and valued.

"I think the term 'safe space' has been twisted to mean that you will be shut down if you are saying something that not everyone agrees with but what safe spaces really mean is that everyone can relax and be themselves, no matter who they are," Holton said.

Steib said she hopes to soon see a campus with more understanding and knowledge of LGBTQ issues.

"I want to see more knowledge among our campus community about these issues...and understanding what true inclusion looks like," Steib said. "I'm hopeful that we can do those things and move the needle on some of those issues for the betterment of all of us."

The LGBTQ Resource Room is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
University of Biological Sciences assistant professor Morgan Kelly was one of 126 recipients of the 2017 Sloan Research Fellowship given by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for her research and extensive work in the field of ocean sciences. Nate Williams, the communications manager of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, said the awards are given to early career researchers in teaching positions at universities in the United States or Canada. The foundation awards $60,000 to the recipients to further their research endeavors.

"The goal of the Sloan Research Fellowship is to stimulate fundamental research by giving support to the brightest young minds working in science today and to give it in a particularly unencumbered way that allows researchers to direct funds in a way they think it is best used," Williams said. "The idea is to give a small amount of money in a key point of a young researcher's career that will really make a difference to that person's work and will hopefully spur exciting new advances that will help advance the borders of human knowledge."

The recipients are from one of eight scientific and technical fields — chemistry, computer science, economics, mathematics, computational and evolutionary molecular biology, neuroscience, ocean sciences and physics. Williams said the foundation gave eight awards in Kelly's field. Kelly, a marine biologist, studies how marine species adapt to their environments and how changes in their environments affect them. She said her research involves understanding how climate change and freshwater diversions might affect species in the Gulf of Mexico.

"In our research, we put oysters from different populations of the environment to study how they react to various levels of salinity and temperature," Kelly said in a press release. "We want to know which oyster populations can best adapt genetically to a changing environment. The research money she received will go toward research supplies and the work she and her graduate students are doing. Having this award is just important to her, but to the University as well, she said.

"It brings a lot more attention to our lab and our biology and our university because it helps to get national recognition for our work," Kelly said. "When possible graduate students are coming to look at us and see a community that has a strong research culture and a really excellent graduate student program.

Kelly said she will continue to apply for grants to fund the work she and her graduate students are doing. Kelly said she has two research projects she wants to address through her research.

"I really want to understand how oysters in the Gulf of Mexico experience changes in salinity and whether we can identify some strains of oysters that are basically superstars for dealing with low salinity to help manage the effects of freshwater diversions," Kelly said. "Second, I'm really interested in studying how marine life tolerates changes in temperature. In our work with crustacean, this copepod, we're trying to identify the genes that allow copepods to tolerate heat stress. My second research career goal is to really try to understand those genes and figure out which genes they are."
Assistant professor Morgan Kelly at work in her lab on Monday, March 6, 2017 in the Life Sciences Annex.

Story: Katherine Roberts
Photo: Jordan Marcell
Design: Karyn Young
The Outtakes operates during regular business hours on Wednesday March 3, 2017.

The Take 5 operates during regular business hours on Wednesday March 3, 2017.
Students who've ever found frustration with the product difference between the University's Outtakes and Take 5 convenience stores may be in luck thanks to a new resolution proposed by a University College Center for Freshmen and Students. Austin Grashoff, a freshman UCFY senator, proposed a new resolution to the SG Student Senate which passed to urge Dining Services to regulate products in both convenience stores so products sold in both stores match.

"When I first started working on this resolution, it stemmed from the fact that there really isn't anywhere else on campus but right by the third dorm," Grashoff said. The resolution to get Outtakes and Take 5 open on Saturdays was passed by Student Senate back during football season. During that same time, he frequented Take 5 because he was a resident of Cypress Village. He found products he was looking for were not available in Take 5 but were available in Outtakes, forcing him to walk across campus or go off-campus to the CVS on Highland Road.

"Knowing that Outtakes and Take 5 are open past midnight, campus gets very dangerous at those times," Grashoff said. "That's why [LSUPD] are on patrol and always in their cars with the lights on because they know that people walking across campus can get injured easily or attacked."

In an effort to reduce that risk, Grashoff's bill aims to regulate the products in both convenience stores to alleviate the need for students to travel across campus for certain products.

Grashoff notes that he would've liked for the bill to be more specific, referencing certain products such as Advil or Band-Aids, but as he doesn't have access to the product list, he satisfies this by using general terms like "medicinal" and "toiletries."

"I don't have access to what they buy or what they stock, I have only seen what they put out," Grashoff said. The bill also focuses more so on the medicinal and toiletry-related items the stores carry, as opposed to the food items. Grashoff said.

Grashoff worked with assistant vice president of Auxiliary Services Margot Carroll to develop the resolution in his Student Senate committee, Student Auxiliary Services.

"I would like for students to be more vocal and reach out to the senators," Grashoff said. "Whether it's UCFY, I [Center for Advising and Counseling], whatever it is, especially for UCFY, because there are a lot of issues with freshmen that [they] don't know what's going on and whatever makes it better for them is my goal. If they could reach out, maybe come to a Senate meeting or stop by the Senate office... that would be super helpful."
Superheroes
Not every hero wears a cape

Science professors often give lectures about the plethora of ways science can be used in real life. James Kakalios of the University of Minnesota instead applies his knowledge of science to a fictional world — the world of comic books.

Kakalios gave a lecture Mar. 11 as part of the Department of Physics and Astronomy's lecture series throughout the semester. Kakalios stopped at the University on his way to the American Physical Society's conference in New Orleans, where he would be giving a similar presentation.

Kakalios dressed like most esteemed professors usually do, besides his animated Fantastic Four tie. He proceeded to share some background in his career and his involvement with superheroes. In 2001, Kakalios created a freshman seminar course at the University of Minnesota called "Everything I Know About Physics I Learned From Reading Comic Books." Kakalios said he thought using an exciting method of applying information, such as comic books, would be a unique way to teach students scientific concepts in a more engaging manner.

"This is a real physics class that covers everything from Isaac Newton to the transistor, but there's not an inclined plane or pulley in sight," Kakalios said. "Rather all the examples come from superhero comic books, and as much as possible, these cases superheroes get their science right."

In May of 2002, Kakalios wrote an article examining the science of a well-known comic, "The Amazing Spider-Man #121," to coincide with the release of the first Spider-Man movie. The article was published the same day as the film's release, and within three days Kakalios was receiving interview requests from CNN, BBC and the Associated Press.

Kakalios capitalized on his success by digging into the science of other superheroes. He continued conducting research studying subjects in the science of the strength of Spider-Man's web, the durability of the Four's costumes and The Flash's ability to pluck bullets out of the air running at super-speed. Kakalios said he was struck by how interested students tend to be in his research when they are usually quick to dismiss scientific relevance to everyday life.

"Many students don't find their introductory physics classes fun. This is illustrated by the standard student's complaint, 'When am I ever going to use this in my real life?' Interestingly enough, whenever I use superheroes, I illustrate physical principles, students never wonder when they're going to use this in their real life.'" Kakalios said. "Apparently, they all have plans after graduation that involve spandex and patrolling the city."

Kakalios has published two editions of "The Physics of Superheroes" as well as other books on scientific concepts relating to pop culture. For example, he is published in the comic book world by acting as a scientific consultant on comic book movies like "Watchmen" and "Green Lantern."

While Kakalios is a college professor, he believes the concept of science can be taught at a young age and that superheroes are a good medium to relate those concepts to, he said.

"Science is really about asking questions. It's not about knowing the answers," Kakalios said. "That scientific way of thinking about how can do it with comic books, you can do it with anything, and there's no age limit to when you can start doing that."

Story: Evan Saacks
Photo: Chunfeng Lu
Design: Ashton Breeding
University of Minnesota physics professor James Kakalios presents science of superheroes on Saturday, March 11, 2017, in Nicholson Hall.
Singer and guitarist of music group, Benjy Davis Project takes the mic at Groovin' on the Grounds.

Music group Benjy Davis Project kicks off for Kesha.

Drummer for the Benjy Davis Project gets the crowd hyped for Groovin' on the Grounds.

Singer-songwriter Kesha and the Creeks perform at the Student Government's annual Groovin' on the Grounds on March 30, 2017, in the VW.

Kesha helps students loosen up and have fun toward the end of a long spring semester.
Ke$ha’s Comeback
Tik Tok…what we've all been waiting for

Students enjoy the Student Government’s annual Groovin’ on the Grounds on March 30, 2017, in the PMAC.

Ke$ha performed Thursday night in the PMAC for Groovin’ on the Grounds, an annual concert hosted by Student Government. 

One of the main acts to open the show was Denly Davis. Davis walked into the building, the buzz was unmistakable as people constantly checking their phones wondering how much longer they had to wait for Ke$ha to come on stage. 

The Tik Tok singer holds a special place in all of our hearts. At the beginning of her career, when we, today’s college students, were suffering through our first heartbreaks, she taught us to let loose; even if all that meant was dancing in our bedrooms. 

She sang many hits from her first album, Animal, while also working her way into our hearts with a few from her second album, Warrior. She also incorporated covers of other acts. 

A song that went over with the crowd was “You Don’t Own Me.” Ke$ha performed the words right out of her f-cking mouth. Not her typical kind of music that we grew up fighting with our moms to keep on the radio, the song was mesmerized from the second line. 

Ke$ha is the Creepies performed Thursday night in the PMAC for Groovin’ on the Grounds, an annual concert hosted by Student Government.

Davis was more than a pleasing hold over, but both men and women were mesmerized watching her as she jumped on top of her shaggy haired boyfriend, who doubled as an onstage hype man, and ate at his neck during “Cannibal.”

Ke$ha quickly moved into her more gimmicky songs, bringing out dancers in T-rex masks for “Dinosaur” and whipping her hair to “Boys & Boys.” She proved years of lawsuits had not diminished her cuddly spirt as she jumped on top of her shaggy haired boyfriend, who doubled as an onstage hype man, and ate at his neck during “Cannibal.”

Ke$ha sang her next chart topper, “Blow,” with much more soul than we ever heard from her in 2010, but when she introduced “Take It Off” with a nondescript story about her first time in a strip club where everyone was “like so naked,” it felt as if she was simply waiting for her set to be finished.

However, a shoutout to the LGBTQ+ community and her whipping out a phone to record the crowd chanting “Free Ke$ha,” showed the might not have been lying when she thanked the audience for “the best night she had in a long time.”

Ke$ha’s ability to truly connect to her fans on such a relatable level is what has always made her allure so natural. Even at her music’s most rapid peak, she embodied the type of attitude our favorite rebels have, without the uncontrollable cool girl vibe of Rihanna or the artistic stuffiness of Lady Gaga.

By the end of the show, mass communication sophomore Candice Sieks said her middle school self “was living” for a few short minutes again.

“The beauty of Groovin’ booking Ke$ha at this time in her career is that her F-ck The World tour is for us — college students who have loved her since the first time we heard “Tik Tok” on the way to the orthodontist in middle school.”

Early in her set, Ke$ha admitted that she never went to college, but not one cared. She taught us all we needed to know about being who we are and she being unapologetically herself, gave us everything she has and is.
19th Annual
Miss LSU Pageant
Alyssa Ceasar crowned Miss LSU-USA

Senior psychology student Alyssa Ceasar celebrates being the winner of the Miss LSU-USA Pageant on Sunday, March 26, 2017, in the LSU Student Union.

Story: Evan Saacks
Photo: Kelly McDuff
Design: Taylor Gonsoulin
Zeta hosted the 19th annual Miss LSU-USA pageant Mar. 26. Psychology senior Alyssa Ceasar, Miss LSU-USA 2017, Delta Zeta event every year as a charity. Philanthropies supported by the chapter are Emerence Center, St. Lillian Academy and the Alzheimer’s Services. PFO Alumna Jane has raised more than $600,000 over the past 18 years.

The pageant began with an opening statement from emcee Candice Bennett, a former NFL cheerleader and Miss Louisiana USA 2015. The contestants were comprised of 19 University students of varying ages and backgrounds. After introducing themselves and their interests, they each modeled in swimsuits and evening gowns while Bennett read their life stories to the audience.

The judges were five prominent figures in the Baton Rouge and LSU community selected by the pageant committee. One of the judges, LSU sports emcee Candice Bennett, had never been a pageant judge before, and was excited to learn how much went into the show beyond just looks. "There's so much more to these girls than their looks in their community and in the interview process that also factors into the winners," Dixon said. "It's not just the swimsuit or evening gown, it's the full-rounded young woman. It really opened my eyes to what it's all about in the pageant."

In addition to the judges' scores, the pageant held an online vote in the weeks leading up to the event, and took those scores into consideration. Before announcing Miss LSU-USA, the awards for Most Photogenic, Miss Congeniality, Fan Favorite, Best Interview, Best Swimsuit and Best Evening Gown were given out. After narrowing the field down to five finalists, Bennett announced the runners-up in reverse order with Ceasar being crowned Miss LSU-USA 2017. Ceasar nearly spent half an hour taking pictures with friends and family after receiving her crown and still could barely put into words what the achievement meant to her. "Pure shock, I am honestly speechless," Ceasar said. She went on to explain the importance of pageants saying, "They are empowering for women. It shows people that pageantry isn't just about what's beautiful. It's about who's beautiful on the inside as well."

Ceasar is from Lake Charles and is the recruitment chair of Pi Beta Phi and the assistant director of Organizational Outreach for LSU Student Government. She plans to use her platform to raise awareness for the dangers of drinking and driving after recently losing a friend to an accident. She also plans on advocating for mental health awareness and ending sexual violence on college campuses.

Sophomore economics and political science student Camille Arceneaux poses at the Miss LSU-USA Pageant on Sunday, March 26, 2017, in the LSU Student Union.

Junior finance and political science student Tiffanie Sport walks during the evening gown competition at the Miss LSU-USA Pageant on Sunday, March 26, 2017.

Junior mass communication student Kiada Sloan introduces herself to the crowd at the Miss LSU-USA Pageant on Sunday, March 26, 2017.

Freshman children and family studies student Kejalay Kelley answers her question at the Miss LSU-USA Pageant on Sunday, March 26, 2017, in the LSU Student Union.

The contestants applaud for the winner of the Miss LSU-USA Pageant Alyssa Ceasar on Sunday, March 26, 2017, in the LSU Student Union.
LSU Sports
Men's Baseball
Purple and Gold Diamonds

LSU baseball head coach Paul Mainieri speaks to the team during practice on Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017 at Alex Box Stadium.

LSU junior infielder Greg Deichmann (7) swings and hits a home run during the Tigers' 9-0 win against Army on Saturday, Feb 18, 2017 at Alex Box Stadium.

LSU sophomore outfielder Brennan Breaux (6) makes a run on Saturday, Feb 18, 2017, during the Tigers' 14-0 win against Maryland at Alex Box Stadium.

Photo: Chungfeng Lu
Design: Taylor Gonsoulin
Men's Basketball

Aiming High

LSU junior guard Jalyn Patterson (11) shoots a 3-point shot during the Tigers 61-78 win against The University of Mississippi on Nov. 15, 2016 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

LSU freshman guard Kieran Haywood (5) jumping and shooting the ball during the Tigers 61-78 win against The University of Mississippi on Nov. 15, 2016 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

Left: LSU sophomore guard Antonio Blakeney (2) shoots a layup during the Tigers 61-78 win against The University of Mississippi on Nov. 15, 2016 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

Photo - Michael Palmer
Design - Karsyn Young
Women's Basketball

Hoops, they did it again

The Lady Tigers gather before going over film for their upcoming match up on Friday Nov. 18, 2016 in the basketball practice facility.

Photo: Jordan Marceli & Ryan McCarble
Design: Ashton Breeding

LSU freshman center Yasmine Bidikundila (15) shoots a free throw during the Lady Tigers' 81-34 win against LeMoyne-Owen on November 6, 2016 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

LSU junior guard Jenna Deemer (1) prepares to shoot a lay up during the Lady Tigers' 81-34 win against LeMoyne-Owen on November 6, 2016 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.
Beach Volleyball
Just Beachy

Photo: Emilie Bowen, Madeline VeZain
Design: Marie Lynch
LSU Cross Country

On your mark, get set, GEAUX
LSU interim head coach Ed Orgeron raises his arms as fans cheer on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, during the Tigers' 42-7 victory against Missouri in Tiger Stadium.

LSU senior safety John Battle (26) tackles Southern Miss junior running back George Pope (24) on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016, during the Tigers' 45-10 victory against the Golden Eagles in Tiger Stadium.

LSU junior running back Leonard Fournette (7) and sophomore running back Derrius Guice (5) prepare on Sept. 17, 2016 for that evening's game against Mississippi State at Tiger Stadium, where the Tigers would go on to win 23-20.

Photo: Zoe Geauthreaux. Ryan McCarble
Design: Taylor Gonsoulin.
Men's Golf

Coolest "club" on campus
Women's Golf

Swinging to the Green

Photo - Brian Westerholt, Emily Brauner
Design - Karyn Young
LSU sophomore gymnast Lexie Priessman grips to the bar during the Lady Tigers 197.825-193.600 Victory over the Georgia Bulldogs on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

LSU all-around senior gymnast Sydney Ewing leaps through the air during the Tigers 197.375 - 192.625 Victory over Texas on Friday, Jan. 20, 2017.

LSU junior gymnast Lauren Li poses during the Lady Tigers 197.825-193.600 victory over the Georgia Bulldogs on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

The Lady Tigers celebrate during their 197.825-193.600 victory over the Georgia Bulldogs on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

LSU freshman gymnast Kennedi Edney clings to the bar during the Lady Tigers 197.825-193.600 victory over the Georgia Bulldogs on Friday, Jan. 6, 2017 in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

LSU all-around junior gymnast Myia Hamblet performs her uneven routine during the Tigers 197.475 - 192.625 victory over Texas Women University on Friday, Jan. 20, 2017 in Pete Maravich Assembly Center.

Photo - Augustus Stark & Ryan McCarble
Design - Ashton Breeding
LSU senior forward Summer Clarke (8) and sophomore defender Alex Thomas (9) step to the ball beginning the second half against Colgate University on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016, at LSU Soccer Facilities.

LSU junior midfielder Debbie Hahn taking a free-kick during the 2-1 loss against Colgate University on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016, at LSU Soccer Facilities.

Photo: Ryan McCarthy, Michael Palmer
Design: Chloe Bryan
LSU senior infielder Constance Quinn bats at Tiger Park on Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, during the Tigers’ victory over Georgia Southern University on Feb. 18, 2017.

LSU senior outfielder Bailey Landry (23) runs to first base during the Tigers’ victory over CSU in Tiger Park.

The LSU softball team sings the alma mater after the Tigers’ 5-2 victory over CSU.

LSU junior outfielder Emily Crigger (8) congratulates LSU sophomore infielder Amber Garrett (17) after a home run during the Tigers’ victory over Georgia Southern University.

LSU sophomore pitcher and first baseman Sydney Smith (12) pitches the ball during the Tigers’ 5-2 victory over CSU on Feb. 12, 2017, in Tiger Park.

Photo - Alyssa Berry, Kelly McDuff
Design - Marlie Lynch

Softball
Bring it, Swing it
Swimming & Diving
Testing the waters

LSU junior swimmer Jane MacDougall competes in the Girls 400 Yard Individual Medley in the Tigers' sweep over Houston, Rice, and Tulane on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 in the Natatorium.

LSU freshman swimmer Olivia Eason (left) and senior swimmer Makena Wilson (right) celebrate after the Tigers' sweep over Houston, Rice, and Tulane on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017.

LSU freshman swimmer Alexandria Ham competes in the Girls 400 Yard Individual Medley in the Tigers' sweep over Houston, Rice, and Tulane on Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017 in the Natatorium.


Photo - Kelly McDuff
Design - Ashton Brceling
Men's Tennis

Hustle, Hit, Never Quit

LSU Freshman Julian Saboio returns the ball during the Tigers 3-4 loss to Santa Clara at LSU tennis complex on Friday, Feb. 3, 2017.

LSU Freshman Eric Samuelsson serves the ball during the Tigers 3-4 loss to Santa Clara at LSU tennis complex on Friday, Feb. 3, 2017.
Women's Tennis
Order on the Court

LSU senior Abby Owens serves the ball on Nov. 11, 2016 at the LSU Tennis Facility.

LSU senior Jovana Valle Costa serves the ball on Nov. 11, 2016 at the LSU Tennis Facility.

LSU junior Ryann Foster awaits the serve on Nov. 11, 2016 at the LSU Tennis Facility.
Run, Forrest, run!

The high jump is a track and field event in which competitors jump unaided over a horizontal bar placed at measured heights, dislodging it. In its modern most practised format, a bar between two standards with a crash mat for

Pole vaulting is unusual among track and field sports in that it requires a significant amount of specialized equipment in order to participate. Running speed, however, may be the most important skill required.

In order to obtain the optimal hurdling technique, one must first study proper running techniques. It's important that the runner stays on his or her feet for the entirety of the race.

Photo: Beth Hall & Steve Franz
Design: Ashton Breeding
Volleyball

More kills than an episode of Criminal Minds

Photo: Michael Palmer, Ryan McCarble, Mykel Chambers
Design: Chloe Bryant
BASEBALL
vs. Army (9-0) WIN
vs. Air Force (10-3) WIN
vs. New Orleans (11-8) LOSS
vs. Hofstra (8-1) WIN
vs. Maryland (6-1) WIN
vs. Nicholls State (5-2) WIN
vs. McNeese State (5-4) LOSS
vs. Wichita St. (12-5) WIN
vs. Louisiana College (13-0) WIN
vs. Georgia (22-9) WIN
vs. Southeastern LA (8-2) WIN

BEACH VOLLEYBALL
vs. Florida (4-1) LOSS
vs. Florida Atlantic (3-2) LOSS
vs. Stetson (3-2) WIN
vs. UCLA (3-2) LOSS
vs. USC (4-1) LOSS
vs. Cal Poly (5-4) WIN
vs. Long Beach (3-2) LOSS
vs. Tulane (5-0) WIN
vs. South Carolina (4-1) WIN
vs. Florida International (3-2) WIN
vs. North Florida (4-1) WIN
vs. TCU (3-2) WIN
vs. Arizona (4-1) WIN
vs. Georgia (3-2) WIN
vs. Jacksonville (5-0) WIN
vs. UAB (5-0) WIN
vs. Austin Peay (5-0) WIN
vs. Texas A&M (4-1) WIN
vs. Houston Baptist (6-0) WIN
vs. Tulane (3-2) WIN
vs. Central Arkansas (5-0) WIN
vs. ULM (5-0) WIN
vs. Georgia St. (3-2) WIN
CCSA Tournaments: vs. UAB (4-1) WIN
vs. Florida Atlantic (5-0) WIN
vs. Charleston (5-0) WIN
vs. Georgia St. (3-2) WIN
vs. Florida International (3-2) WIN
NCAA Championships: vs. UCLA (3-2) LOSS
vs. Long Beach St. (3-2) WIN
vs. Hawaii (3-0) LOSS

BASKETBALL
(Men’s)
vs. Houston (84-65) WIN
vs. NC Central (70-66) WIN
vs. Texas Southern (88-80) WIN
vs. Charleston (75-65) WIN
vs. Wake Forest (110-76) LOSS
vs. Vanderbilt (96-89) LOSS
vs. Missouri (89-77) WIN
vs. Mississippi St. (95-78) LOSS
vs. Texas A&M (92-62) LOSS
vs. Alabama (81-66) LOSS
vs. Auburn (78-74) LOSS
vs. Arkansas (99-856) LOSS
vs. Florida (106-71) LOSS

CROSS COUNTRY
Rice Invitational (W) 114 pts (4th/14)
Rice Invitational (M) 172 pts (8th/14)
LSU Invitational (W) 45 pts (3rd/8)
LSU Invitational (M) 45 pts (2nd/5)
Texas A&M Invitational (W) 171 pts (6th/15)
Texas A&M Invitational (W) 214 pts (7th/17)

FOOTBALL
vs. Wisconsin (16-14) LOSS
vs. Jacksonville St. (34-13) WIN
vs. Mississippi St. (23-20) WIN
vs. Auburn (18-13) LOSS
vs. Missouri (42-7) WIN
vs. Southern Miss (45-10) WIN
vs. Ole Miss (38-21) WIN
vs. Alabama (10-0) LOSS
vs. Arkansas (38-10) WIN
vs. Florida (16-10) LOSS

GOLF
(Men’s)
Carper Capital Collegiate (Day 3) 852 (-12) 4th PLACE
Mau Jim Intercollegiate (day 3) 811 (-4) 1st PLACE
David Toms Intercollegiate (day 2) 853 (-11) 1st PLACE
The Golf Club of Georgia Collegiate (Day 3) 871 (-7) 11th PLACE
Kazanpul Collegiate Classic (Day 3) 828 (-24) 3rd PLACE
The Prestige at PGA West (Day 3) 852 (-1) 1st PLACE

BASKETBALL
(Women’s)
vs. Georgia Tech (77-73) WIN
vs. Florida State (60-57) WIN
vs. UConn (78-53) LOSS
vs. UTEP (78-45) WIN
vs. Kansas St. (69-54) LOSS
vs. NC State (59-58) WIN
vs. TCU (67-61) WIN
vs. Tulane (69-51) WIN
vs. Sam Houston St. (69-41) WIN
vs. North Carolina (70-43) WIN
vs. Little Rock (69-49) WIN
vs. Alabama St. (93-40) WIN
vs. Mississippi St. (74-48) LOSS
vs. Florida (78-67) WIN

SEC/Big 12 Challenge:
vs. Texas Tech (77-64) LOSS
vs. South Carolina (88-63) LOSS
vs. Texas A&M (85-73) LOSS
vs. Kentucky (92-85) LOSS
vs. Arkansas (78-70) LOSS
vs. Ole Miss (96-76) LOSS
vs. Alabama (90-73) LOSS
vs. Auburn (98-75) LOSS
vs. Georgia (82-80) LOSS
vs. Tennessee (92-82) WIN
vs. Mississippi St. (88-76) LOSS

SEC Tournaments:
vs. Mississippi St. (79-52) LOSS

FOOTBALL
vs. Texas A&M (54-39) WIN
vs. Louisiana (29-9) WIN

GOLF
(Ladies)
Louisiana Classics (Day 2) 851 (+11) 2nd PLACE
2nd PLACE
Vicpas Collegiate Invitational 864 (+12) 4th PLACE
Tiger Classic 582 (-6) 1st PLACE
SEC Championships:
SEC Championship (Day 2) 839 (+12) 3rd PLACE
vs. Alabama (3-5-1) LOSS
NCAA Regional (Day 1) 852 (-1) 1st PLACE
GOLF
(Women's)

Schotten's Fall Classic (Day 1) 579
(vs. 14-1) vs. Rice Classic (Day 3) 912
Invitational (Day 3) 920
Missouri Classic (Day 3) 898
Clemson Classic (Day 2) 921
LSU Tiger Golf Classic (Day 1) 605
LSU Tiger Golf Classic (Day 2) 909
Fencing/Shooting Invitational (Day 3) 891
Spring Break Classic 583
SEC Championship (Day 1) 294
SEC Championship (Day 2) 586
SEC Championship (Day 3) 873
NCAA Lubbock Regional (Day 3)
Golf Classic (Day 1) 224

SWIMMING & DIVING

vs. Vanderbilt (W) (200-61) WIN
vs. Loyola (W) (53-18) WIN
vs. Loyola (M) (72-5) WIN
vs. Auburn (W) (162-138) LOSS
vs. Auburn (M) (153-147) LOSS
vs. Tulane (W) (161-79) WIN
vs. Alabama (M) (161-138) LOSS
vs. Alabama (W) (189-110) WIN

TENNIS (Men's)

vs. Santa Clara (4-3) LOSS
vs. North Florida (6-2) LOSS
vs. Tulane (4-2) LOSS
vs. Rice (4-0) LOSS
vs. Lamar (5-2) WIN
vs. South Carolina (4-3) LOSS
vs. Florida (4-3) LOSS
vs. Kentucky (4-2) LOSS
vs. Vanderbilt (4-3) WIN
vs. Alabama (5-2) LOSS
vs. Davenport (4-3) LOSS

TENNS (Women's)

vs. Memphis (5-0) WIN
vs. North Florida (6-2) WIN
vs. Florida (6-1) WIN
vs. Houston (4-1) WIN
vs. Tulane (4-3) LOSS
vs. Florida (2-0) LOSS
vs. South Carolina (4-2) WIN
vs. Arkansas (5-2) LOSS
vs. Missouri (4-3) WIN
vs. Alabama (4-3) WIN
vs. Auburn (4-3) WIN
vs. Texas A&M (4-2) WIN

TRACK & FIELD

Auburn Invitational M(151) 1st
Razorback Invitational M(48.5) 5th
SEC Championships (Day 2) M(42)

VOLLEYBALL

vs. Eastern Kentucky (3-0) WIN
vs. UNC (3-1) WIN
vs. Duke (0-3) LOSS
vs. Connecticut (0-3) LOSS
vs. Virginia (2-3) LOSS
vs. Southern Miss (1-3) LOSS
vs. Seattle (3-1) WIN
vs. UCF (3-2) WIN
vs. Florida Atlantic (3-1) WIN
vs. Baylor (0-3) LOSS
vs. Florida (6-0) LOSS
vs. Auburn (2-3) LOSS
vs. Arkansas (0-3) LOSS

GYNASTICS

Georgia (197.825-193.600) WIN
Mississippi (197.7375) 2nd PLACE
Louisiana (197.475-196.500) WIN
Arkansas (197.245-195.425) WIN
LSU (197.700-196.525) WIN
Ole Miss, Missouri, Oklahoma
NCAA Championships (M) (41)
9th/W (550) 8th/W (550)

SOCcer

vs. Louisiana Tech (2-1) WIN

SOFTBALL

St. Louis St. (14-2) WIN
South Alabama (14-1) WIN
University of Texas (6-2) WIN
Missouri State (9-4) WIN
University of North Carolina St. (12-1) WIN
UC Santa Barbara (13-4) WIN
UC Irvine (6-0) WIN
Central Michigan (6-2) WIN
Eastern Illinois (4-2) WIN
St. Louis (4-3) WIN
UC Santa Barbara (6-0) WIN

vs. Omaha (7-0) WIN
vs. Tulsa (1-0) LOSS
vs. Southeast Missouri (7-3) WIN
vs. Nicholls State (3-2) WIN
vs. ULM (9-1) WIN
vs. Mississippi St. (7-2) WIN
vs. Alabama (1-0) WIN
vs. Ole Miss (3-2) LOSS
vs. Northwestern St. (5-2) WIN
vs. Tennessee (1-0) WIN
vs. South Alabama (6-0) WIN
vs. Missouri (3-1) LOSS

SEC Tournament: vs. Missouri (6-5) WIN
vs. Tennessee (6-2) WIN
vs. Auburn (6-0) WIN
vs. Ole Miss (5-1) LOSS

Golf Classic (Day 1) 224-48
vs. LSU Tiger Golf Classic (Day 2) 224-48
LSU Tiger Golf Classic (Day 2) 224-48
LSU Tiger Golf Classic (Day 2) 224-48
Golden Band
From Tiger Land
Golden Girls
Glittering Girls of Geauxld

The Golden Girls are a part of LSU's Golden Band from Tigerland and first took the field in 1959. They represent the oldest and most established color line on LSU's campus. They are a dance team of 18 that perform at home football games, appearances, and other band performances. The team members audition every year to earn their spots on the team. Practices are Tuesday through Friday with the band, but the Golden Girls hold their own practices on Monday's and Tuesday nights after band practice to perfect their halftime shows. Every game day they will practice with the band prior to marching down the hill, performing at the PMAC, entering the stadium, performing pregame, halftime performance, and then marching out of the stadium. Like the voice of the Tigers, Jim Hawthorne, always says, "Remember to keep your eyes on those glittering girls of Geauxld."
LSU's Tiger Girls are a team of 20-24 girls that perform at LSU Men's/Women's basketball and Friday night baseball games. As well as supporting these teams, they spend countless hours training to prepare for the UDA National Championship. The LSU Tiger Girls are a close-knit team that put their heart and soul into every performance. The TGs are the epitome of hard work and dedication. They embody what it means to be an LSU Tiger.

Tiger Girls at the UCA & UDA College Cheerleading and Dance Team National Championship

Design - Chloe Bryars
LSU Cheer
5, 6, 7, 8...

Cheerleaders up the student section in Stadium on game day.

Design - Chloe Bryan
Humans of LSU
Humans of LSU
Reporters

A product of LSU's Gumbo Yearbook, Humans of LSU has ambitious reporters working daily to deliver the most diverse, powerful, hilarious and interesting stories of our very own student body. Inspired by Humans of New York, Humans of LSU reaches all ends of campus and provides some unique blurbs and inspiring quotes made by students ranging from freshmen to post-graduates.

@Humans of LSU  @humansofLSU  @HumansOfLSU
Fall Humans Lead Reporter
Kelsey Bordelon

Kelsey is an International Studies graduate with a minor in French. She is a native of Mandeville, La. Kelsey enjoys photography and is always busy with babysitting. She plays the guitar and ukulele in her spare time.

Spring Humans Co-Reporter
Chelsea Chifici

Chelsea is a Spring 2017 graduate with a degree in English, focus of literature. She is a native of Gonzales, La and graduated from East Ascension High School. Chelsea runs her own photography business and enjoys blogging and traveling the world. She’s been to over 20 countries!

Spring Humans Co-Reporter
Haze Hamilton

Haze is a freshman majoring in digital advertising. She is a native of Baton Rouge, La. who graduated from the University Lab School. Haze’s hobbies include reading, drawing, and music. She was cast as an extra in a zombie movie once!
"People always try to pet him. It's so frustrating. I have to snap at people about twice a day. They'll lean over and start to pet him without asking. When I take his vest off, it's fine — it's a different story. But when he has his vest on, he's working. Crazy memory? Ah, I've only had him survived for about a month. He's chill, but when I take him out he's goofy."
"I got a 100 on my fluids exam. I was like woaaaaaahhh. I usually get F's and then suddenly I was like, 'what happened?'

"At Taco Bell once, I ordered a Baja freeze. They gave me the wrong size and they gave me a large one for free. I left with two."
"We met when I wasn't looking for a relationship. It was St. Patrick's Day 2015 and it was the first time I had gotten drunk in a long time. I went up to him and told him how excited I was that I was going to be studying abroad in Spain. He told me how excited he was for me and I kept giving him hugs. By the end of the parade, I had snatched his phone from him and added my number to his contact list. I woke up hours later, hungover; I had a text from him hoping I was okay. He has my heart. In two weeks it's going to be our 2 year anniversary."
"My parents met at the Lockett bus stop when my Dad offered to carry my Mom's books. Sometimes I send selfies to my family sitting at the bus stop saying 'future husband where ya at' or something."
"My best memory at LSU? I suddenly have no memories. Uh... if I can't think of something, can you just make something up for me?"
"I want to say, shoutout to all of our inspiring, courageous, diverse, and beautiful women on LSU's campus today. Happy international women's day. We should always be lifting each other up and fight for our rights regarding so many things that are relevant in today's society like equal pay and representation for women of color."
"I'm in law school. I have no idea what kind of lawyer I want to be. At first, I thought I knew but now I don't. My major was marine biology and I'm doing the opposite! The field research I wanted to do, I can't, because it involves scuba diving and I have seizures so... I can't. I want to find a way to protect what I like. Maybe I can do something in the UN later on with water regulations. I want to do a semester in Argentina. I graduate next May."
"I've spent my whole childhood on this campus. People always ask me why I didn't go somewhere new for college, but to be honest, I don't think I could love anywhere else how I love LSU."
"My experience here at LSU has been awesome. I come from Saudia Arabia and I've been here for 4 years. I have experienced so many different cultures. I wasn't expecting this kind of diversity. It's awesome to see how people love differently. I just learned about American football four years ago and I'm such a fan now. I honestly need a lot of time to explain what's inside . . . To be honest, I don't take political stances but I think the travel ban is bad for international students. I think that people from Muslim countries need to come here to see how different religions work and how people can be nice to you, even if they aren't from your religion. But, I think it won't stay like this for long. Ultimately, it's really important for other people from outside countries to come here and help. It's important for the US especially because the US has the best colleges because of the international diversity. But, in every place there is bad and good. Everywhere. Even here - there's bad people and good people. But, what's important is that the good people dominate and be good. To be honest, I was scared when Trump won. But the majority of people here at LSU are good people and I'm happy about that."
"The craziest thing I've experienced in Chicago would have to be the amount of strangers that just come up and talk to you. It's different than LSU. People are more reserved here. I still do that - ya know, walk up to people and talk. That's how I met you!"
"Dang. I have all these weird thoughts all the time. Actually, I was on a walk earlier and thought about spiderwebs. So, we see these spiderwebs in a chapel or an old place. Ya know, they're huge and they cover the whole ceiling and they're beautiful. We admire them and we respect them and don't touch them. Then, we're on a road like a public place or a nature walk - a common path, really, and there's a tiny baby spider web and we swat it and walk through it. We think about it, that's how they kill and eat and then there's these other spiders and we keep knocking down their habitat. They're always building their home again and again. It's a part of life. You'll always get uprooted, ya know. But, it's sad. We keep knocking down these poor little spider webs but we admire the magnificent ones and they just get to chill and have the best life, undisturbed."
"Life sucks; but, I'm still choosing to see the good parts."
"As an engineering student, the blatant disregard for science and math in the Oval Office is disturbing to me."
"America just keeps growing in influence and population and we encounter people from all different walks of life. So, I think it's important to look at things with eyes unclouded by hate, and remember that we're all in this together."
"I first started doing this because I like playing the ukulele. But, I started playing and people would come up to me and say thank you and stuff. They'd say I make their day better. So, I'm doing a public service in a way. Ya know, whatever. Peace will win. Fear will lose. Jesus loves you."
"Kerrel is the weirdest guy in the group. Call him Tako with a K.

"Boy, I am not the weirdest!"
Seniors
Best wishes in the next steps toward your careers. It has been a pleasure telling your story!

Congratulations,

LSU Gumbo Yearbook
Caitlin Connor  Macel Constant  Victoria Conti  Kaelysia Cooper  Lauren Copponex  Brandon Cordes
Scott Cordes  Dylan Michael Corts  Sam Cosby  Chase Courville  Amy Coward  Ashton Cowart
Connor Crain  Rebekah Crandle  Andrew Crayden  Collin Creel  Victoria Croft  Kirstyn Crosby
Kory Crouch  Allison Cullia  Joshua Cupit  Peter Currier  Adrian Curry  Michael Cusanza
Alison Cutrera  Sanja Cutura  Sarah D'Aquin  Andrew D'Armond  Krystal Dabney  Julia Daigle

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
CONGRATS!
CLASS OF 2017
LSU Organizations & Greek Life
Clayton Black, freshman; Ally Seals, freshman; Hannah Borque, sophomore; Carley Boyce, junior; Maggie Poche, sophomore; and Cassidy Goff, freshman, posing for their first picture as a Phi Gamma family.

October 19, 2016

Chi Omega

Sophomores Madison Landry and Kirby Moore represent Chi Omega at Bid Day.

Bid Day Chi Omega August 30, 2016

Ally Bridges, Devon Sanders, Marli Benquet, Maddie Wells, Avery Tennis, and Murphy Conlin representing Chi Omega in this year's Step Show where they won 3rd place overall.

Chi Omega

Bid Day August 30, 2016

Phi Gamma Advisor, Connie Miller, striking a pose with National Consultant, Alexith Frank, at Bid Day event, King Cast, the Phi O!

The whole chapter celebrating Bid Day 2016. Geaux Phi Cast!
Delta Zeta
Kappa Alpha Theta was founded in 1870 at DePauw University, as the first Greek letter fraternity for women. Delta Kappa is one of the largest Theta chapters in the country and was established in 1963.

Theta sisters are active in all aspects of the LSU community. Members participate in activities including LSU Ambassadors, Dance Marathon, Panhellenic Executive Board, Order of Omega, Rho Lambda, GBOD, student media, and numerous academic organizations.

Members support Theta's national philanthropy, Court Appointed Special Advocates, with events throughout the school year. Every spring, Theta holds their annual "CASA Carnival" fundraiser. Friends and family come out to enjoy delicious carnival food, live music, silent auction, and carnival inspired activities including a dunk tank. All proceeds benefit the Capital Area CASA Association.

To celebrate Theta's National Day of Service, the Delta Kappa chapter also hosts an annual KATs and Dogs event for the LSU community. LSU students come out to enjoy free snacks, school supplies, and play with puppies for midterm study relief.

Design: Ashton Breeding
The LSU Ambassadors constitute a unique organization of student leaders chosen to aid the University's orientation and recruitment programs, encourage pride and spirit in the LSU community, and provide diligent service to the LSU campus. LSU Ambassadors assist students throughout their time spent under the oaks and aid in their transition from orientation to graduation.

Our mission as LSU Ambassadors is to aid and represent the University by recruiting, orienting, advising, and serving students and families, conducting ourselves as role models, and presenting a positive impression of LSU. We will strive to become the best individuals possible and to inspire others to achieve. We will hold ourselves to the highest standards in our efforts to become open-minded leaders, effective communicators, and considerate team players.

The 2016 Orientation team that served incoming students over the summer.

Design: Chloe Bynum

Seasoned Ambassadors Parker Vaughn and Tarus Tolbert showing off their new yellow polos at Polo Ceremony.

The 2016-2017 Executive Council that works to plan recruiting, service, orientation and social events for the general membership of the organization.
The Epsilon chapter of Kappa Delta at LSU was the first sorority on LSU's campus, opening its doors in 1909. With an open motto of "Ta Kala Diokomen," an Latin phrase meaning "Let us strive for that which is honorable, beautiful, and highest," the Kappa Delta's at LSU pursue seek to live each day by these words. Not only do the women of the Epsilon chapter personally strive for this, they also use this open motto to help others achieve the confidence and true friendship they find in these words.

Every semester, the Kappa Delta's host three to four Girl Scout events as part of their philanthropy. The Girl Scout event or the chapter takes the troops on a field trip. These events are always geared towards inspiring confidence in Girl Scouts.

In addition to Girl Scouts, for the past 25 years Kappa Delta has participated in the St. Peter's Day parade, selling jam and balaya to raise money for the local non-profit organization, Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana. The Epsilon chapter is one of the sole providers to the Louisiana division of Prevent Child Abuse. Haiti has donated $87,000 this past year. Kappa Delta has been able to help the Louisiana division afford. As we continue to grow, we continue to strive for the ideals and values our founders left for us.
Celebrating 150th Anniversary of Greek Life at LSU!

Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity was established in 1867 as the first Greek letter organization. Since that time, hundreds of students have found their home in fraternities and sororities at LSU. It is with great pride that we celebrate the 150th anniversary of Greek Life at LSU!

The Greek community added 2,155 new members during the 2015-2016 academic year for a total of 5,398 fraternity and sorority members, constituting 22.39% percent of the undergraduate population at LSU. 29.06 percent of LSU’s female undergraduates are members of sororities, and 14.51 percent of LSU’s male undergraduates are members of fraternities.

The Interfraternity Council hosted 19 chapters, the Panhellenic Council hosted 13 chapters and the National Pan-Hellenic Council hosted 6 chapters.
Under the advisement of the Greek Life staff, the Greek Board of Directors (GBOD) planned and executed many events and efforts during the 2015-2016 academic year.

In February, 148 Greek students participated in the annual EMPOWER Leadership Retreat. Led by 28 small group facilitators, first and second year Greek students had the opportunity to learn more about the history and culture of the Greek community at LSU as well as how they can maximize their opportunities to become student leaders within the Greek community.
GBOD organized its annual all-Greek philanthropic effort for Greek Week 2016. In the fall, GBOD Fundraising committee members coordinated efforts to raise money for this project through chapter hosted letter writing parties. After spending the Fall semester raising $156,000 to fund the project through letter writing and corporate sponsorships, one thousand Greek students came together to build two Habitat for Humanity homes for the Causey family and the Carey family from April 2-9, 2016. The GBOD funded homes were presented to the families on the afternoon of Saturday, April 9, 2016.

Songfest was hosted on April 17, 2016 in the PMAC. Thirty chapters were paired to create 11 ensemble groups. Each group performed a choreographed dance routine for five judges. The judges’ scores were combined with four bonus point opportunities: T-shirt sales, ticket sales, a banner competition and a newly added social media contest. The highest point totals determined the first, second, and third place winners. There was also recognition for judges’ awards, including Best Male Performance, Best Costume and Crowd Appeal.

Songfest First Place Winners: Delta Gamma, Phi Gamma Delta (4th), & Delta Chi

Greek Week

Step Up or Step Aside First Place Winners: Pi Beta Phi

Order of Omega
Outstanding Scholarship: Zeta Phi Beta, Chi Omega, Sigma Phi Epsilon
Si$ma Alpha celebrating their Bid Day, Fall 2016. Our theme was Sweet Home Sigma Alpha!
Founded on the core ideals of love, honor, and truth

Phi Mu Alpha Eta was founded at LSU in 1934. Since then, it has grown to be one of the biggest Phi Mu Chapters in the nation with over 330 active members. This year’s pledge class alone added 97 new members that came from every corner of Louisiana and 6 other states! Phi Mu is a sisterhood founded on the core ideals of love, honor, and truth. Alpha Eta strives to uphold these principles in everything it does from sisterhood to philanthropy. It is our mission to hold members to a higher standard and mold them into the best versions of themselves. Most importantly, we strive to make Phi Mu a place full of laughter and love - and a place to call home!

Design - Taylor Gonsoulin
Since its start in 1988, LSU's student-run television station, Tiger TV, has grown to include an almost $1 million state-of-the-art television studio that produces original programming for live shows 4 days each week.

Tiger TV and its production equipment facilitates with the Manship School of Mass Communication and is known to be one of the most prestigious and modern student television studios in the country.

Tiger TV broadcasts live news, sports and entertainment programming each week via livestream, LSUNow.com, its social media platforms and rebroadcasts on local cable channel 19, WBTR.

Employing approximately 60 students each semester, Tiger TV gives students the opportunity to get hands-on experience in the newsroom and the skills to work as station managers, camera operators, programmers, and newswriter, entertainment and sports reporters, on-air personalities, directors and producers.

Designs - Ashton Breeding
Daily Reveille

Crossing t's and dotting i's in Tiger History

Members of The Daily Reveille began laying out the weeks paper on Tuesday March 7, 2017, in Hodges Hall.
LEGACY Magazine is a semesterly publication which focuses on giving the LSU student body a voice. They also publish regularly online. They work on long-form journalism and photo stories. This year, Legacy staff members created stories focusing on fashion, music, art, religion, politics and the LGBTQ community. The fall issue focused on inclusiveness while the spring issue focused on community. LEGACY's mission is to provide stories about students, made for students, by students.

Design: Chloe Bryan
Advertising and Marketing

The Advertising and Marketing department of LSU Student Media includes Advertising Sales Account Executives, Marketing Managers, and Graphic Designers. This department is a key player in generating advertising revenue for the Office of Student Media. Students work together to develop and maintain relationships with business partners who utilize Student Media's products and services. Students also build internal advertising campaigns to promote Student Media's products to the LSU Community. Students gain real-world experience in sales, account management, event planning, market research, and graphic design.

Design: Chloe Bryars
Co-Editor in Chief
Taylor Gonsoulin

Taylor is a junior kinesiology pre-occupational therapy major with a minor in psychology. She started working with the Gumbo in 2015 as the Art Director and is currently the Co-Editor in Chief alongside Marlie. Taylor focuses mainly on all graphic design and spread layouts for the Gumbo, running all staff meetings, and handling all production aspects of the book.

Co-Editor in Chief
Marlie Lynch

Marlie is a sophomore majoring in English with a focus of creative writing. She started working with the Gumbo as a Page Designer in 2015 and is now Co-Editor in chief along with Taylor. Marlie's focus for the Gumbo is editing all text for every story, efficiently communicating with various LSU departments, and coordinating all staff payroll and financial aspects of the book.

Photo: LSU Gumbo Yearbook
Design: Taylor Gonsoulin and Marlie Lynch
Ashton Breeding
Ashton, freshman, is a landscape architecture major from Slidell, La who graduated from North Shore High School. Her interests include photography, design, plants, and grilled cheese. It is said, by Ashton, that she makes "the best grilled cheese you could ever eat." Her yearbook experience includes two years as a page designer and one year as co-editor in chief for her high school staff.

Berkley Parent
Berkley, freshman, is an information systems decision sciences major from Prairieville, La who graduated from Dutchtown High School. She is involved in Greek Life on campus as a member of the Phi Mu sorority, and is very active in Christ the King Catholic Church as well as Dance Marathon.

Chloe Bryars
Chloe, freshman, is a kinesiology major with a focus of pre-med from Slidell, La who graduated from John Pope II High School. Her yearbook experience in high school inspired her interest in LSU's yearbook. Chloe enjoys being goofy, reading books, being active, and "dancing or jamming to any music that's on.

Karsyn Young
Karsyn, freshman, is a mass communication major with a focus in political science who graduated from Grady High School and traveled all the way from Atlanta, Ga to come to LSU. Flying back and forth is easy for her because she gets free tickets with Delta Airlines. Karsyn's experience with yearbook goes back to her freshman year of high school. She was also junior and senior editor of her high school staff for the last two years.
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The Gumbo is served...
Taylor Gonsoulin

As I sit here in my little office, B19 in the basement of Hodges Hall, I compose and design my very last page of the 2016-2017 Gambi Yearbook. With tears-filled eyes and an overwhelmed heart, I admire being surrounded by the company of many dusty, memory-filled yearbooks that have been published as far back as 1940. Looking back on one of my most challenging years as a college student, I recognize the many trials and barriers that my Co-Editor and I have faced and have fearlessly conquered. I had to learn how to be a boss, use compassion and professionalism, manage the time and productivity of my staff, collaborate with my Co-Editor, as well as run the entire production of a college yearbook, all at the age of 20 years old during my junior year at LSU.

First of all, I not only want, but NEED to thank my Co-Editor, Marlie Lynch. Marlie, you have gotten me through some of the toughest times that this job has to offer and you have cheered me on even when I doubted myself as a successful leader. You were always there to pick up my slack and provide support when I needed it—all while you and your own family were going through such a difficult time after being so deeply affected by the 2016 flood. You are the perfect complementary person to someone like me, and I could not have asked for a better Co-Editor and friend to hold on to throughout this entire process. Thank you for being such a wonderful and talented individual, thank you for being the other half of this tab-team, and thank you for being my friend. I could not have done any of this without you!

Next, I would like to personally thank all of my staff that have come and gone throughout this school year: Chloe, Adron, Karsyn, Kelsey, Naley, Marley, and Chelsea. Thank you for your devotion and dedication to this 16-17 yearbook. Marlie and I had such a great foundation throughout the year, despite the bumps and bruises we each ended up with at the end. It was a wild ride! But even more than that, it was the best ride I could have chosen to get on. Thank you all for loving yearbook as much as Marlie and I do, and thank you for all of your help and hard work. Please remember to continue doing what you love, despite your major or occupational goal you want to reach. This yearbook would not have been successfully produced without a staff that truly cares—and for that, I thank you.

To my wonderful advisor in Student Media, the one and only Steve Burtke, I so deeply appreciate everything you did for Marlie and I. LSU Student Media will never be the same without you, and I am honored to have known you and to have worked alongside you. You are deeply missed and will forever hold a place in my heart. To my “therapist,” Jann Goetzmann: thank you for your ears! You always had the answer, and for that I am forever grateful. Thank you for your support and help with every question I had.

I would also like to thank my parents for always answering the endless ringing on their side of the phone line. You two are a tag-team that I could only dream of becoming a part of one day. I could not have handled the stress or what seemed like the weight of the world on my shoulders without your continued support and love for me. Thank you for always telling me that I can do it. Well, Mom and Dad...I did it!

Lastly, I would like to thank God for blessing me with the opportunity to lead such an amazing staff and for the ability to learn from my mistakes. Without this chance, I would not have gained the leadership skills and experience I now have under my belt. These lessons will carry me through life and have provided me with a solid foundation to continue my career as a confident Occupational Therapist and a hopeful business owner one day. Thank you for my countless blessings and for enabling me to do what I love. The spine of this yearbook is as strong as my backbone. It has been through just as much as I have, yet it still stands shining and embossed as if it hasn’t deflect any bullets from this year at all; its scars are undetectable, and it is perfect. These problems encompassed a great flood, frustrating technical difficulties that were beyond my control or understanding, late nights editing all 320 pages, a hurting heart for losing Steve Burtke, handling hard-to-work-with individuals and much, much more.

This yearbook means so much to me and is one of my biggest accomplishments. The literal blood, sweat and tears that went into the production of this book proves my love for Student Media and for LSU. I am proud to say that I was the Co-Editor of the LSU 2016-2017 Gambi Yearbook, and I am excited, humbled, and honored to be next year’s Co-Editor once again. Get ready, LSU 2018. This girl knows exactly what she’s doing.

Taylor Gonsoulin
Co-Editor-in-Chief, 2016-2017
From the Editors' Desk...

Marlie Lynch

I just ate something sweet to hopefully prevent myself from falling into a puddle of tears while writing this. That partially melted, Hershey’s almond chocolate bar can’t amount to the bitter-sweet emotions I’m left with after such a rollercoaster of a year.

I have to begin with thanking my fabulous Co-Editor, smiling just to be left of this, Taylor Gorosolino. It has been a pleasure to know you these past two years, from when we were both little college yearbook rookies until now, where we are on the verge of publishing Gumbo 2016-2017 as editors! It’s safe to say, we’ve been through so much this year, but the fact that I am writing this on one of the last pages in our book makes every up and down worth it. I could not have done any of this without you. Thanks for being my backbone, for picking up my slack, and for being there where I struggled the most. I hope to continue to tackle spontaneous yearbook issues with you for as long as I walk the campus of LSU.

Secondly, I want to recognize our staff - Chloe, Karsyn, Ashton, Berkley, Madison, Kelsey, Chelsea, and Haze, thank you for bearing with us for our int year in charge! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all of you talented aides. Thank you for your creativity, communication, sweet, varying personalities and ideas, and especially for your advanced work ethic and productivity. Without you all, none of this would be here.

There are also the people background to thank, including all of Student Media, Jann Greenman, thanks for being so efficient with emails and helping to understand anything and everything so much better. Steve Butter, thank you for believing in us when we were scared, little college yearbook rookies. Also, John Prieto, thanks for stepping up and jumping right into things to make our lives as busy college students with Student Media jobs as easy as possible.

I can’t leave my strong foundation of a family out. A big thanks to Dad, who told me I CAN make changes and I can be “the boss” no matter how small and quiet I’ve been my entire life. And for Mom, who gave me the ass I need to even out the calm exterior. For my whole family and my friends, who support me through everything I do! Wouldn’t be me without you guys.

A very special thank you to Bess Melancon, also known as the “BESS” teacher ever.— You are the epitome of what a teacher should be. You have inspired my life in so many ways and I thank you for leading me down the right path in every aspect of my future. Also, for answering my desperate phone calls when I wasn’t sure what I was doing as far as yearbooks go. They’re “kind of a big deal.”

Lastly, I want to thank God for answering all of my stress-filled prayers this year and for carrying me when things got too heavy. By your grace and blessings, this yearbook is being built. In fact, a love is blaring in our ears as we finish up this book today.

When life got extremely tough in 2016, when my family became dispersed and temporarily removed from our homes during the “Great” flood, this yearbook was one of the only things that remained constant in time. It got my mind off of the negative, and it was always something to look forward to. Not going to cry... hopefully.

I am extremely grateful for LSU Student Media, room B19, my little home on campus.

I encourage everyone reading this to push through it, push through anything that seems like it can hold you back, because what it comes down to it, nothing can. Life is a crazy mess at times, but keep the faith. It’s all worth it.

This yearbook, to me, is proof of that. The hardworking students, the phenomenal sports teams, the administration and staff, the ROMANS of LSU, all make up this beautiful campus we cross paths on everyday. Without you all, there would not be this tangible look into history, Gumbo 2016-2017, Volume 117.

Yours truly,

Marlie Lynch
Co-Editor-In-Chief 2016-2017
Established in 1900, the Gumbo has been the official yearbook of Louisiana State University for over 110 years. It has recorded every academic year at LSU except 1918-19, when wartime pressures halted its production. A magazine version, called Gumbo Magazine, covered the 1993-94 school years because revenues were insufficient for a hardbound book. A student referendum increasing the yearbook fee brought back the hardbound version in 1995. In addition to formal portraits of graduates, the Gumbo contains snapshots of students and members of the LSU community while highlighting on- and off-campus organizations and events.

This 117th edition of the Gumbo was created in its entirety by a staff of full-time students at LSU and published by the Office of Student Media under the Mansion School of Mass Communication. The 2017 yearbook chronicles LSU and its happenings from August 2016 through July 2017 in 320 full-color pages.

Layouts were designed by Karyn Young, Chloe Bryars, Ashton Breeding, Taylor Gonsoulin, and Marlie Lynch. The 2017 yearbook was created on Dell desktop computers and Mac laptops using Adobe InDesign CC, Illustrator CC, and Photoshop CC. Our advertising and marketing was directed by Berkeley Parent.

Portraits of graduating students were taken by Candid Campus Photo, Inc., photographers on campus. All other content was provided by writers and photographers of the Gumbo and The Daily Reveille, LSU’s student-produced daily newspaper.

The typefaces used are as follows: Cover and divider titles are set in Tabasco Twin; headlines are set in Pergamon; subheadlines and photo caption are set in Sundsvall; body copy and attributions are set in Bamberg X Light.

The designs featured on the cover, title page, and section dividers were created by Madelyn Curtis, Taylor Gonsoulin, and Marlie Lynch. The design of the Table of Contents was created by Sydni Blanchard.

The 2017 Gumbo was printed by Balfour Publishing using four-color CMYK processes on 100-pound gloss white paper.

Top, outside, and inside page margins are four picas wide. Bottom page margins are seven picas wide.

Students were identified by major and classification as of the time of page production.

All copies of the 2017 Gumbo were sold at a price of $40.

Editorial content does not necessarily reflect the views of Louisiana State University or the LSU Gumbo staff.

Certain photos are not attributed due to lack of resources which provide photography credits - these photos are not credited to the LSU Gumbo.

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