

## ULPD and IT give tips on online privacy, protecting explicit images

**David Reed**  
NEWS DIRECTOR

On Saturday, Sept. 28 at 8:37 p.m., an individual reported to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Police Department that someone was threatening to post “personal photos” of them online.

Sadly, this is a common occurrence, but according to Public Information Officer Lt. Billy Abrams, it’s rarely reported.

“The only time we hear about it is when it gets to a point where it gets out of hand,” Abrams said. “And what I mean by out of hand is someone demands something that the other person isn’t willing to give.”

UL Lafayette IT Security Officer Charles Broome defined “sextortion” as threatening to post sexually explicit pictures of someone else online, adding people’s tendency not to report it is one of the things that makes it so effective.

“Sextortion is a technique because nobody wants to have that conversation because they think that there could

be some embarrassment, so it keeps it where people are tight-lipped. They don’t seek help,” Broome said.

Lucy Hurdle, an Organizational Communication major, said someone with whom she had a serious falling out sent naked pictures to her. Although she chose not to sextort him, she said it would have been easy to do.

“I ended up getting a restraining order on this guy because he was harassing me, like in a lot of various channels and means of communication,” Hurdle said. “He had sent me pictures that I could have used, but I don’t get down like that.”

Sextortion is not something that can only happen between two people who know each other in real life. Some people have been sextorted by complete strangers.

“People can go to Gmail or whatever place and send a letter to you that says ‘Hey, I know what you did last summer,’ and then give a little bit of information where you think it may be credible,” Broome said.

Broome said people often make too much of their private information public through social media.

“You don’t post all of your business on the front of your door or broadcast it to your neighborhood or to the world,” Broome said. “But social media is that.”

Social media users often don’t realize what data is attached to the pictures they post as well.

“So when you take a picture with your phone, there’s some data that’s tagged to it,” he said. “Why do you think Google can take a picture and show it to you on a map?”

In addition, sites like Spokeo allow their users to purchase all kinds of information about anyone in their database.

Scammers can use this information to convince their victims that they have sensitive information about them and force the victim to do their bidding. They are drawn to the internet because emails are free to send to anyone from anywhere, meaning a scam can be profitable even if very few people fall for it.

“If one out of every hundred pay up, that’s a win for them,” Broome said.

Broome said people shouldn’t worry about sextortion threats if the scammer doesn’t provide specifics to prove they really have sensitive information about their target.

“(If) there’s no example of, ‘Hey, here’s what we got from your computer,’ it’s a scare tactic,” he said.

Sextortion is not an online scammer’s only weapon. Phishing scams work similarly to sextortion, but the scammer tries to convince their victim to click a link that either installs malware on the victim’s computer or steals the victim’s information by taking the victim to a scam site masquerading as a widely-used website, such as Google or Facebook.

“They start typing in their password next thing you know it flips them to the

real page they try it again and they’re like, ‘Oh, I must have just messed up my password’ and they didn’t realize they actually gave out their credentials,” he said.

According to StaySafeOnline.org, internet users should check the URL on any site where they’ve been asked to put in personal information to make sure the website they’re using isn’t part of a phishing scam. If the user has any doubts, they suggested users reach out to the company that allegedly sent the email.

The site added victims of online scams should report them to local police, the Federal Trade Commission and the Internet Crime Complaint Center. If the victim believes any of their financial information was stolen, they should close their accounts and keep an eye out for any unauthorized changes to their account.

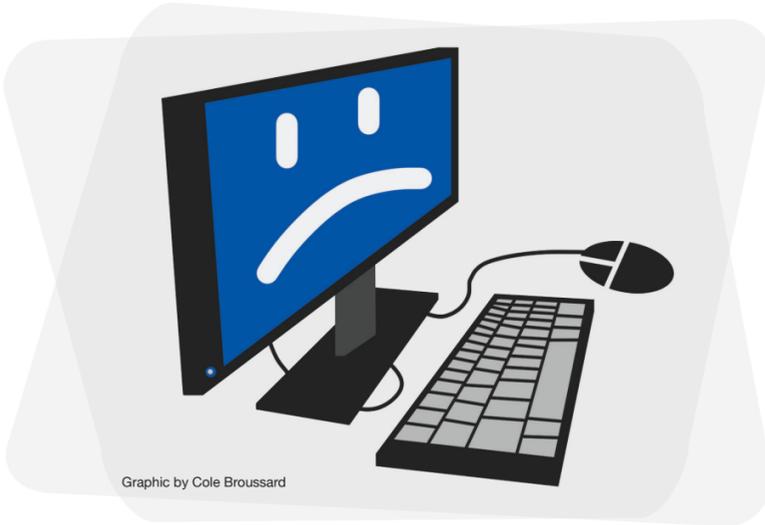
Abrams said the only way to truly protect yourself against online extortion is by simply not sending anything that could be used against you, even to people you trust.

“Never give someone ammunition or put them in a position to be able to either say or post anything about you that would be deemed inappropriate,” he said. “People have a tendency to use whatever they have if friendship or relationship or something goes wrong.”

While many students trust apps such as Snapchat, where photos, messages and videos can be set to delete after a short amount of time, he said this was not a real solution to the problem.

“You send a snap and after so long it disappears. Right? It was just poof, gone. People have time to screen capture it, they can take a photograph of the photo, there’s a lot of things they can do,” he said.

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Lucy Hurdle contributed to the Vermilion in Feb. 2019; however, she was never paid or officially employed.



Graphic by Cole Broussard

## UL personnel speak on graduate programs’ expansion, opportunities

**John Roman**  
CONTENT AND WEB MANAGER

Despite a steady decrease in overall enrollment, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette’s graduate program has only grown in the past years.

According to [getdata.louisiana.edu](http://getdata.louisiana.edu), UL Lafayette’s graduate program has grown 53% to include 2,330 students since the fall 2016 semester, while total enrollment at the university has decreased by 584 students.

UL Lafayette’s Dean of Graduate School Mary Farmer-Kaiser, Ph.D., explained what the university is doing to encourage that growth. Farmer-Kaiser said their work towards making classes more available was one of the main reasons for the program’s growth.

“So, our MBA program is one where we’ve always had a very strong enrollment, but we took it online,” Farmer-Kaiser said. “The vast majority of our increase has come from MBA enrollment, online enrollment, part-time enrollment, so people who are working professionals being able to pursue graduate studies alongside their careers.”

Farmer-Kaiser later added that the university began offering graduate classes in an “executive model,” in which students would have class sessions on Friday and Saturday as opposed to the more traditional two to three weekday sessions.

In addition to the executive model and online classes, UL Lafayette also offers night classes and a hybrid of online and in-person classes to appeal to those “working professionals.”

“You’re never gonna get a 14% increase (in the previous year) by adding programs,” Farmer-Kaiser said. “It’s gonna be by building on the strengths you already have and improving access to more people.”

The university added several other degree programs in recent years, the most recent of which being a Ph.D. in Earth and Energy sciences.

“(Adding a graduate program) is not something that we take lightly,” Farmer-Kaiser said. “It is something that has to be approved by both the UL system and the Board of Regents, so it’s not something that happens quickly. Our Ph.D. program in Earth and Energy science has been in the works for over five years.”

Farmer-Kaiser went on to describe how UL Lafayette’s loss of undergraduate enrollment has impacted its graduate enrollment. Not only do undergraduate fees help fund the program, but many of UL Lafayette’s graduate students got their bachelor’s degree from the university.

In fact, the university couldn’t increase its stipends for graduate students this semester because of the loss of undergraduate enrollment, according to Farmer-Kaiser.

One graduate student in the history department, Christine Savoie, said she was not surprised that the program had grown, adding that more and more jobs are looking for experience beyond just a bachelor’s degree.

Savoie got her bachelor’s degree in history and political science from UL Lafayette and is now pursuing her

master’s in public history. She went on to describe how her department has encouraged her in her field and prepared her for the job market.

“I know for certain I’ve learned more time management skills with it,” Savoie said. “And it’s not only time management to be able to make up the work, but also improving communication between your teachers to let them know what’s going on with your life.”

“Because the teachers, they really do care about you. They want to see you succeed, they want you to get your diploma, but it’s all about communication, time management with them.”

Dean Farmer-Kaiser later added what the graduate program contributes to the university as a whole, saying the program helps with faculty retention and the university’s ability to conduct research in all departments.

“Understanding how what we do on the university campus can help us better understand the world we live in, and particularly at a local level, at a state level, is really important,” Farmer-Kaiser said.

“And you don’t always get at that just through your undergraduate teaching courses. It’s about getting out into the field and figuring out how (for example) climate change is impacting coastal areas, those kinds of things.”

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Photo by Brian Tran / The Vermilion

Students walking to class between Billeaud Hall and Edith Garland Dupré Library.

### News

#### HALLOWEEN CONCERT

The UL Symphony will host a themed concert on Oct. 29, 2019.

PAGE 2

### News

#### SEXUAL EDUCATION

The Student Health and Wellness Center provides services to students while Louisiana ranks low in sex ed.

PAGE 3

### Sports

#### TREY RAGAS

“Bulldozer” Ragin’ Cajun running back talks on his bond with other players.

PAGE 5

### Allons

#### EDDIE RISPONE

Columnist generally disagrees with Eddie Risponne, yet agrees with constitutional convention proposal.

PAGE 7

# Police Reports

Compiled by David Reed

## Oct. 13

- At 3:10 p.m., a reporting party stated that someone was impersonating her on a social media site.
- At noon, a reporting party said their vehicle was keyed while he was at the festival.
- At 2:05 a.m., an officer observed 3 students carrying a broken parking arm. The students were referred to Student Rights and Responsibilities for discipline.

## Oct. 12

- At 11:58 p.m., officers were dispatched to Heritage Apartments and one student was transported to Lafayette General.

## Oct. 11

- At 5:33 p.m., officers were dispatched to Griffin Hall in reference to vehicle parts stolen from a vehicle. It was determined the parts were stolen prior to arrival at Griffin Hall.
- At 11 a.m., a reporting party stated a vehicle drove through the arm guard to Griffin parking lot area. The owner was contacted by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Police.

## Oct. 9

- At 1:52 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Dupré Library in reference to a suspicious person walking around the second floor staring at female students. Officers located the subject who had already been warned not to return to campus property. The suspect was arrested and booked into Lafayette Parish Correctional Center.

## Oct. 8

- At 3:18 p.m., officers assisted a student with a report regarding unauthorized Cajun Card changes.

## STUDENT GOVERNMENT

# SGA votes to postpone freshman election



Photo by David Reed / The Vermilion

SGA President Rachel Lautigar speaks in the Helma B. Constantine Forum on Oct. 14, 2019.

**David Reed**  
NEWS DIRECTOR

The Student Government Association held a meeting in the Helma B. Constantine Forum on Monday, Oct. 14 at 5 p.m.

SGA discussed two resolutions at the meeting, both of which passed. The first was a resolution to appoint Erineka Johnson to serve as co-secretary for Communications and Marketing and the second was to delay freshman elections for a week.

SGA decided to delay the elections because the new voting system was not functional by its originally scheduled time of Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6 a.m.

"We postponed the date to this Wednesday and Thursday, so (Oct.) 16 and 17," SGA President Racheal Lautigar said. "(They're on) 6 a.m. Wednesday and 4 p.m. Thursday."

In addition, Deputy Director of Athletics Niko Yantko attended the meeting to congratulate SGA for helping increase momentum for UL Lafayette's tailgate as well as to play a trivia game with the senators about Ragin' Cajun athletics.

"You all do a wonderful job of really rallying the student body, providing leadership and guidance but also making these guys energetic," Yantko said.

He also encouraged SGA to continue to support Ragin' Cajun Athletics.

"We're going to have some fun for y'all. Come out, make your signs, make it on ESPN like some of us in the room have," he said.

Prizes for the trivia game included UL Lafayette hats, shirts and bobbleheads of Billy Napier, the head coach of the UL Lafayette football team.

# Upcoming symphony more than 'stuffy affair'

**Jacob de Gruy**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With Halloween just around the corner, many organizations are preparing various festivities for the occasion. The UL Symphony is hosting their annual Halloween Concert on Oct. 29.

Michael Blaney, the symphony director, said he is most excited for the night's atmosphere.

"It's a very fun night for both the orchestra members and the audience members," Blaney said. "The orchestra members always show up in costumes, and we encourage the audience members to show up in their costumes as well. It's a chance for you to wear your Halloween costume not just on Halloween."

The symphony has done various collaborations with different departments over the years, showcasing singers, dancers and actors. This year, they will be bringing in the LSPA Ballet Studio as its newest addition to the Halloween concert.

"We take the musical side very seriously; we work a lot rehearsing this music and some of it is very challenging," Blaney said. "There's certainly a goal there. For me, as a music professor, to try to work with the students and help teach them what it's like to be part of a real symphony orchestra."

The students have been practicing for this specific event since the beginning of classes.

"I want to help them grow musically and artistically, while still having fun," Blaney explained. "This is also true for the audience, for them to get to come and be entertained by a symphony orchestra, which not many people get to experience. A symphony doesn't have to be a stuffy affair where everybody wears tuxedos; that's not what this night is about. It's meant to be fun and entertaining, while also

exposing people to pieces of music that you hear in an orchestra."

The students in the orchestra are also excited for this event because it gives them the chance to play for their peers, teachers, friends and family.

"I always look forward to this concert because it's a fun opportunity. We get in our costumes and we play some fun music," Alex Boone, a sophomore trombone player in the symphony, said. Boone went on to explain the importance of outsiders being immersed in a classical experience.

"We play something for everyone," Boone continued. "Some things you know, some things you don't. It's fun to see the coordination between the music and the arts colleges."

While some of the students were more excited for the pieces being played, sophomore violinist Alyssa Trahan was most excited for the Halloween aspects of the event, specifically the costumes.

"It's always fun to see people dressed up in a Halloween costume, especially in the audience of a symphony orchestra. You never know what you're going to see," Trahan said. "Two other violinists and I are dressing up as the Three Blind Mice, and our bows will be the mice's canes."

Blaney said he also enjoys seeing his students perform in their costumes.

"It's a lot of fun to conduct while they're in costume because they don't look like themselves," he said. "Sometimes, it's hard to keep a straight face."

The concert will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 7:30 p.m. It is free for students and faculty, and \$10 for adults. Audience members are encouraged to come wearing their best costumes.

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Photo by Brianne Hendricks / The Vermilion

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette Wind Ensemble performs in Angelle Hall.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT**  
UL Lafayette

## FRESHMEN SENATOR ELECTIONS

Brennen Bell  
Destiny Broussard  
Katelyn Cormier  
William Fralia  
Zoe Gonsoulin  
Jasmine Hebert  
Dante Herbert  
Hallie Jackson  
Ta'Chelle Logan  
Lauren Turner

VOTING FOR THE 2019-2020 SGA FRESHMEN SENATORS BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:00 A.M. AND ENDS ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 4:30 P.M. THROUGH ENGAGE.

(RESULTS ANNOUNCED AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE SGA OFFICE – ROOM 159, STUDENT UNION)

Vote online from any computer or mobile device through Engage

Link to elections:

<https://louisiana.campuslabs.com/engage/submitter/election/start/348731>

### TO VOTE, SIMPLY FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS:

1. Log into ENGAGE with your ULID and Password
2. Click the Blue Box that says Elections
3. Vote for up to 4 candidates
4. Submit the form and cast your vote!

If you have trouble accessing the SGA Elections–Fall 2019 form, email [sga@louisiana.edu](mailto:sga@louisiana.edu) and let us know.

## THE VERMILION

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## EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Melissa Watson  
CONTENT AND WEB MANAGER John Roman  
DESIGN MANAGER Cole Broussard  
NEWS DIRECTOR David Reed  
SPORTS EDITOR Lachelle Smith

E-MAIL [thevermilion@louisiana.edu](mailto:thevermilion@louisiana.edu) EDITOR 482-6960 BUSINESS 482-6110 FAX 482-6959  
MAIL P.O. Box 43721 Lafayette, LA 70504-4813 LOCATION 101 Boucher Drive Lafayette, LA

PHOTO COORDINATOR Brian Tran  
ALLONS EDITOR Morri Sampey  
BUSINESS MANAGER Seth Savell  
DIGITAL MEDIA Brianne Hendricks  
COPY EDITOR Jami Jacobo

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# UL programs hope to improve student sexual awareness in Louisiana

**Amelia Jennings**  
NEW WRITER

According to the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services in 2016, there were 4,625 teenage births in Louisiana, and 80 of those women were under 18. As compared to the 212,062 teenage births in the United States.

Louisiana also is the third-worst state in terms of STIs, according to a medically reviewed article, U.S. States With High STD Rates Have One Thing In Common, with Alaska being the first and Vermont being the 50th.

Lafayette, specifically, is also struggling with high STI rates, mainly Hepatitis C, as stated by the Louisiana Department of Health.

“Reports of newly diagnosed chronic hepatitis C (HCV) in the Lafayette Region have increased in recent years mirroring statewide trends. In 2018, there were 639 chronic HCV cases reported in the Lafayette Region,” according to the official Louisiana hepatitis C update.

However, as of Oct. 9, more reports from the Louisiana Department of Health indicate rates of other STIs decreased.

“Louisiana’s case rates of primary and secondary syphilis, congenital syphilis and gonorrhea improved from 2017 to 2018, showing the Louisiana Department of Health’s efforts toward STD prevention are making a positive impact during a time when STD rates across the United States have been dramatically increasing,” stated the Department of Health.

Despite this, the state still ranks as one of the lowest in the United States.

“Louisiana was ranked #7 in the nation for primary and secondary syphilis case rates, declining from #3 in 2017; #3 in congenital syphilis, declining from #1 in 2017; and #5 in gonorrhea, declining from #3 in 2017. The state’s ranking for chlamydia, the fourth STD in the survey, remained unchanged at #2,” according to the Department of Health.

According to Sexual Health Education in Louisiana, a copy of the Louisiana law on sexual health, Louisiana does not require sex education, but does require an emphasis on abstinence.



Graphic by Cole Broussard

“Louisiana does not require instruction in sexual health education at any grade level but does allow sexual health education to be taught in grades 7–12. Sexual health education must emphasize abstinence, but can also include other risk reduction methods, such as contraception and condoms,” the site quotes.

According to an article from Reuters, spending on abstinence-only education is not tied to fewer teen births, and abstinence increased the birth rate in conservative states such as Louisiana.

“For every \$1.00 per pupil increase in funding for abstinence-only education, the teen birth rate rose by \$0.30 per 1,000 in conservative states compared with moderate states,” the article explained.

Mundy Cook, University of Louisiana at Lafayette freshman and Lee High graduate, explained their sex education.

“In tenth grade you had a semester of health class, and I think we spent about two weeks talking about STDs and prevention,” Cook said. “Just kind of really basic knowledge. Mostly just talked about abstinence, that was the main topic.”

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette appears to have an overall goal in fixing

the aforementioned rates.

The Student Health and Wellness Center said there are services that handle contraceptives in the form of the birth control pill and condoms on their website.

“Our women’s health program requires you to have a current well-woman exam (within the last year),” the website reads. “Once you’ve had your exam, the practitioner will discuss your contraceptive options. If you are a good candidate for oral contraceptives (birth control pills), she will prescribe them to you.”

The website continues, “We offer an assessment and counseling along with condom samples. Condoms alone are not enough. Unless you understand your risks, you may still be putting your health in danger.”

The Health and Wellness Center offers screenings for STIs for a fee, but lists other places that may screen students at a lower cost.

“Screening is advised for all sexually active individuals. A consultation with one of our clinicians would give you the opportunity to discuss any specific concerns you may have,” the website reads.

Phoebe Hayes, Ph.D., the Director and Staff Physician at the Center, said education on STDs should be a priority for UL Lafayette.

“As a department of an institution of higher learning, in my opinion, educating students about their contraceptive options and ways to decrease their risk of both pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases is an important part of what we do at Student Health Services. Knowledge is a vital first step in the process of changing high risk behavior,” Hayes said.

The University also requires mandatory sexual assault training and has a strict policy on the subject.

“The University of Louisiana at Lafayette does not tolerate sexual assault or abuse such as rape, including acquaintance/date rape, or other forms of nonconsensual sexual activity,” Student Affairs’ website says. “These acts degrade the victims, our campus community, and society in general.”

“While the University cannot control all the factors in society that lead to sexual assault and abuse, the University strives to create an environment that is free of acts of violence.”

# University students donate business attire to high school parents in need

**Emily Britt**  
NEWS WRITER

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette is working with Opelousas High School to collect suits for parents of Opelousas students in order to help them find employment.

“A Suit For You” consists of students donating their professional wear to the high school, creating an entire ensemble to be purchased for \$5.

Maniko Barthelemy, an instructor in the broadcasting department, is leading the event.

“A Suit For You is a program that we have in our department where students are donating gently used men and women’s professional attire,” Barthelemy said. “Everything is going to be donated to Opelousas High School, and the school is going to hold a career workshop for parents who are unemployed that will be held at the end of the year.”

Barthelemy said she hopes the event will help people in Lafayette be better prepared for interviews.

“The reason why we’re doing it is because we have at least 9,000 people in our area who do not have jobs, and one of the biggest hurdles for many people is not necessarily getting the interview, but getting the interview and not being prepared to show up for it.”

The university also recognizes the importance of professional attire.

According to the Office of Career Services: “A recent study by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) showed that 88% of employers surveyed indicated they expect job candidates to be dressed in business casual or better for an interview. A large part of the first impression you will make on potential employers comes from your ability to dress appropriately.”

Barthelemy also shared the importance of the event to college students:

“That’s where we want to bring our students in to make that a less stressful situation for them. There are so many opinions about millennials not caring about anyone other than themselves. This is yet another project we can show that our students at UL Lafayette do care.”

Barthelemy commented on the effect this event will have on Opelousas High.

“It is important because — honestly, whether it’s your first job, second job, third — times are hard when it comes to getting the things to wear to work,” she said. “So, with our program, the parents are paying \$5 to have access to everything donated. Then the money is going back into the school to help support the school’s band, which is actually being rebooted this year. So, they need a lot of funds.”

Markenia Jackson, the Assistant Principal of Opelousas High School, commented on A Suit For You.

“When Ms. Barthelemy reached out to us, knowing that we are a high needs school — we have a lot of students here whose parents are unemployed and seeking work,” Jackson said. “There aren’t very many opportunities here in the Opelousas community, so when she presented this idea to us as a way for our parents to get some readiness as it pertains to interview processes, we were all in.”

Ms. Jackson, who helped coordinate the event at the school, shared her beliefs on the importance of owning professional wear.

“Just being able to have that nice dress outfit, it helps you play the part,” Jackson said. “There’s something about having a nice suit or a nice dress that increases your confidence instantly, but it also allows you to mix and mingle in different circles.”

Barthelemy echoed this sentiment, mentioning her thoughts on professional wear:

“I think the importance of owning a suit is the way you feel about yourself when you put it on. You have a different walk. You have a different level of confidence when you’re wearing that versus when we’re super relaxed and we don’t want to be bothered, and that kind of thing,” Barthelemy said.

“When you have it, you feel good about yourself, and you are more positive going into a job interview versus going there with ‘Well, this is what I had to wear.’”

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Graphic by Ashley Marshall



# Sports

## Appalachian State brings Louisiana's four-game winning streak to an end

**Charles Long**  
SPORTS WRITER

The Louisiana football team's four-game winning streak came to an end Wednesday night at home with a 17-7 loss to the Appalachian State Mountaineers.

The Ragin' Cajuns offense that averaged over 44 points per game going into the hyped matchup of Sun Belt powerhouses came out flat and struggled to get anything going at home against a tough Mountaineers defense.

Quarterback Levi Lewis and the Louisiana offense managed only 33 yards on three possessions, punting each time. Punter Rhys Byrns was the best player for the Ragin' Cajuns early on, pinning the Mountaineers inside their own five yard line to start each of their first two drives.

App State's early seven-play, 95-yard touchdown drive scored the first points of the game and gave them a 7-0 lead in the first quarter. It would be the only scoring drive the Louisiana defense would give up in the first half.

The Louisiana offense finally mounted a good drive on their fourth of the game early in the second quarter. Seven plays gave them 63 yards and brought them to a first and goal at the App State 2-yard line. Three failed attempts to pass the goal line on two running plays and an incomplete fade from Lewis to wide receiver Ja'Marcus Bradley set Louisiana up with the biggest play of the first half — a fourth and goal.

Instead of kicking a field goal, head coach Billy Napier and his staff decided to take a chance and go for it on fourth down. Running back Trey Ragas was stopped short of crossing the goal line on fourth and goal, and App State's defense completed their four-play goal-line stand, keeping Louisiana's high-powered offense scoreless.

After the defense held the Mountaineers to their third punt of the

first half, the Ragin' Cajuns' offense was given one final opportunity in the first half. The offense finally broke through with a 10-play, 94-yard touchdown drive ending in a touchdown pass from Lewis to fullback Nick Ralston with only eight seconds left before halftime to tie the game up 7-7.

The second half for the Ragin' Cajuns was filled with missed opportunities.

Louisiana's offense went on an eight-play, 43-yard drive to open the second half to get in field goal range. However, a 42-yard field goal attempt that would have given the Ragin' Cajuns their first lead of the game was blocked and led to a field goal drive by the Mountaineers.

The next three possessions for the Ragin' Cajuns were all three-and-out punts. Each possession they had started with good field position, but they were unable to take advantage of it.

Finally, the defense that had held strong for so long faltered, and App State went on a back-breaking 19-play, 97-yard touchdown drive that sealed the win at 17-7. Two fourth down conversions on the drive sealed it for Louisiana.

A turnover on downs on the final possession gave the undefeated Mountaineers a pivotal victory in the Sun Belt Conference and dropped Louisiana to 4-2 on the season and 1-1 in conference play.

Louisiana's offense was held to a season-low seven points, 254 yards and 123 rushing yards. Running back Elijah Mitchell led the team in rushing with 68 yards on 13 carries. Lewis completed only 13 of his 24 passing attempts for 131 yards and a touchdown.

Up next, the Ragin' Cajuns have another midweek conference matchup, this time on Thursday night on the road against their rival Arkansas State Red Wolves.

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Photo by Brian Tran / The Vermilion

Senior Raymond Calais (4) runs with the ball as the Ragin' Cajuns take on the Appalachian State Mountaineers on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2019.



Photo by Brian Tran / The Vermilion

Senior Ferrod Gardner (7) makes a diving tackle against the Appalachian State Mountaineers on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2019.

### SOCCER

## Ragin' Cajuns soccer splits pair of away games

**Madelyn Myer**  
SPORTS WRITER

After a loss on Oct. 11, the Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns soccer team is back on track with a recent win on Oct. 13. The Ragin' Cajuns have had an impressive season thus far and now have a 7-5-3 overall record and a 3-2-2 conference record.

Louisiana faced Texas State on Oct. 11 in San Marcos Texas. They lost the game 1-0, making it their first loss since Sept. 27.

The sole goal of the night came from Texas State at the 26th-minute mark. Neither team could connect in the second half.

Texas State thwarted seven shots by the Ragin' Cajuns throughout the night. Junior defender, Julianne DeBlieux and junior midfielder Una Einarsdottir took the most shots for Louisiana, though neither of them were able to score.

Overall Louisiana outshot Texas State 14-12, and senior goalkeeper Mackenzie Lee stopped five shots by Texas State, but it wasn't enough to secure the win.

Following the 0-1 loss, the Ragin' Cajuns traveled back to Louisiana for another away game.

On Oct. 13, the Ragin' Cajuns played ULM in Monroe, winning 2-0. This was the program's first win on Monroe since 2011.

Neither team was able to score in the first half, even though Louisiana took six solid shots, but all that changed in the second half. Freshman midfielder Olivia Gelpi and freshman forward Karleen Bedre both scored for Louisiana in the second half.

The first goal came in the 53rd minute. Assisted by a pass from sophomore

forward Skyla Sykes off a cross, Gelpi was able to score. This was her first career goal.

The momentum both on the offensive and defensive end continued for the Ragin' Cajuns throughout the second half. In the 70th minute, Bedre scored Louisiana's second goal of the night.

Bedre's goal came off an assist from Mackenzie Lee. It started from a goal kick by Lee that landed just past midfield. Bedre took advantage of that with her speed and scored toward the lower-left corner of the goal against ULM.

With the goals, Sykes and Lee both earned assists for the night.

Defensively, goalkeepers Lee and senior Victoria Mendes combined for a shutout for the night. Lee also had a pair of saves and moved into third place on Louisiana's all-time list for minutes played by a goalkeeper. She has now played over 3,500 minutes in her career for the Ragin' Cajuns.

Though winning in Monroe isn't common for the Ragin' Cajuns, this was their eighth win over ULM in ten games. Louisiana also outshot ULM 13-4, placing eight shots-on-goal.

Following these games, Louisiana is now ranked third in the Sun Belt Conference along with Arkansas State. Let's hope they can keep their one-game win streak going and increase in the SBC rankings.

Up next, the Ragin' Cajuns take on Georgia State in Atlanta, Georgia, on Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. This will be their last away game of the regular season.

Following that game, Louisiana will return home for their final two regular-season games, before the SBC Championship tournament takes place in Alabama in November.



Photo by Brian Tran / The Vermilion

Sophomore Savanna Young (4) playing defense as the Ragin' Cajuns take on the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers on Sunday, Oct. 6, 2019.

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Deadline: October 18, 2019 @ 12:00 pm



# Running back Trey Ragas bulldozes his way through Sun Belt Conference

**Lachelle Smith**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Bulldozers are machines that move things out the way and wreck everything in sight during a construction project. And that's exactly what redshirt junior running back Trey Ragas is. The tough, explosive and hard-to-tackle back has lived up the hype of being the next predecessor to former Louisiana star Elijah McGuire, who was also characterized as tough and hard to stop. Ragas has since taken that baton and isn't looking back.

The 5-foot-10, 218-pound New Orleans native began his journey at Archbishop Shaw High School. In his junior year, he became the Offensive Player of the Year and First-Team Class 5A All-State selection in the Catholic League rushing for 1,813 yards and scoring 23 touchdowns. As a three-star recruit, Ragas cemented himself into the record books, becoming the all-time leading rusher of his alma mater. Ragas rushed for 1,928 yards and scoring 21 touchdowns as a senior.

In 2016 Ragas suffered an ankle injury that sidelined him his entire freshman year, placing him on a medical redshirt. But, during that setback Ragas was able to learn from star senior running back at the time McGuire. Ragas credits McGuire with teaching him the little things when it comes to being a running back, such as reading the defense and not being able to be tackled easily.

"He taught me how to read the safeties, to see the corner pop, to see where the blitz is coming from," Ragas said of McGuire. "I also learned having the ability to catch the ball really helps you in the long run."

In 2017 Ragas started to make his case as a tough running back. The first three games of the seasons since returning from his injury, Ragas led the team in rushing with 284 yards and three touchdowns, which made him nearly 100 yards per game and 9.8 yards per rush. He appeared in 11 games and finished third in the Sun Belt Conference for rushing. Leading the team in with 813 rushing yards, nine touchdowns on 142 rushing attempts with a Sun Belt Conference high of 5.7 yards per carry. And Ragas was ready to carry that over to his sophomore campaign.

Picking right back up where he left off under new Louisiana Head Football Coach Billy Napier. Ragas understood he would still have to earn his spot despite having built a strong case as the leading running back.

The 2018 season ended with Ragas starting all 14 games for Louisiana. He finished with 1410 yards from scrimmage, 1181 rushed yards, and eight touchdowns. Ragas finished with the third-highest rushing total in the Sun Belt Conference and missed becoming the leading rusher in the conference by six yards. He achieved the 100-yard rushing mark in seven of the 14 games played which tied him in the Sun Belt for most 100-yard games.

Against former National Champions Alabama, Ragas had an impressive game, rushing for 111 yards on 16 carries for the Ragin' Cajuns. He ended the season with 10 total touchdowns, eight from his running attack and two from receptions.

In week seven of the 2018 season, Ragas's name started to buzz around even more in college football. He became one of the highest-graded running backs in the country with a grade of 91.0. At the time of the achievement Ragas had rushed for 599 yards, 422 yards after contact, and scored four rushing touchdowns.

To start the 2019 season, Ragas missed most of spring practice due to a minor knee injury that required him to undergo a knee scope. But, that did not stop his or his running back counterparts' fire to perform at a high level.

"That is when you get relaxed and you don't have that same dog in you," Ragas said. "We don't pay attention to any of that. We always want to act like it's our freshman year and we want to get that spot."

The running back room often referred to as the 'Showroom' has three running backs; Ragas, Elijah Mitchell and Raymond Calais are in the conversation for one of the top running back trios in college football. Running back coach Jabbar Juluke is very adamant on his running backs affecting the game without the ball, wanting them to be more than just a football player, but an overall good person.

"And I explained to them the bigger impact is not carrying the football," Juluke said. "It's being the best student



Photo by Brian Tran / The Vermilion

Junior Trey Ragas (9) hurdles a defender for a touchdown as the Ragin' Cajuns take on the Texas Southern Tigers on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019.

you can possibly be. It's being the best teammate you can possibly be. That's being great in the community, being a positive role model for other individuals."

Coach Napier compliments this running back trio because of their team-like approach to all aspects of the game, grouping these three as selfless despite their accolades.

"It's a selfless group, the group gets along well, they're a great team; very much a 'team-like approach,'" Napier said. "They're all unique. Trey obviously is a big, physical guy who is tremendous after contact. The biggest compliment I can give those guys is the fact they're great teammates. They play well without the ball."

All three believe their bond has grown over time. At the start of the 2019 season Ragas and Mitchell were on the national watch list for the Doak Walker Award presented annually to college football's top running back. With Calais right alongside them on the Reese's Senior Bowl watch list for the most premiere college athletes.

Calais mentioned that over spring the group became closer because of their effort to match each other's energy to compete at a high level, bringing the best out of each other.

So far, in the current season, the two backs have been bringing the best out

of Ragas. He currently has 572 rushing yards on 63 attempts in the first six games of the season. Ragas also achieved six rushing touchdowns and one receiving touchdown, with two highly impressive games against Liberty and Georgia Southern. Against Liberty Ragas, rushed for 129 yards on nine attempts, scoring one touchdown. Two games later against Georgia Southern he rushed for 131 yards on 16 attempts, scoring two touchdowns.

The running back position requires a lot of wear and tear on the body, and for the team-titled bulldozer of the running back group, Ragas must depend on his two teammates Mitchell and Calais.

Even though all three are different in their running styles, their different characteristics do not conflict with the common goal amongst the room.

We always have to depend on our brothers," Ragas said. "There might be a game when I go down and I need Ray and Eli to pick me up. Same with them and they'll need me to pick them up. We are all on the same team with the same goals. There is no reason to have beef in the room. The goal is to win a championship."

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## MUSIC

# Scenic World premieres music video showing off knack for aesthetics

**Timothy Ledet**  
MUSIC COLUMNIST

Last summer, a Lafayette band with a swanky brand of indie rock immediately made an impression on me. The Wurst Biergarten's outdoor venue, filled with cigarette smokers and hand-holders, was hosting the release show for their self-titled album, "Scenic World."

This past Sunday, I was reintroduced to Scenic World's mastery over aesthetic, both musically and visually. This show took the form of a music video release party, hosted downtown at Cite Des Arts, with an opening act by New Orleans-based singer-songwriter Julie Odell.

The music video, directed by Cayla Zeek and produced and filmed by Judah Grayson, features their most popular single, "Collecting Doubt," which has amassed a substantial 4,755 streams on Spotify as of the writing of this article.

That single, which tends to be the opening song for their shows (after "Sound Check," of course), is a remarkable feat of contemporary indie rock. They escape the label of "bedroom pop" that a wealth of modern independent bands are destined to carry.

Instead, it's apparent they operate through a sound of nostalgia, with musical stylings more in tune with The Doobie Brothers or early post-Beatles Paul McCartney than the Mac Demarco clones of the world.

Perhaps Scenic World's most prevalent inspiration is the jazz-influenced rock band Steely Dan. The seventh track on

their self-titled album shares a name with Steely Dan's fourth album, "Katy Lied."

These esteemed points of comparison are fitting once you've experienced the band live. The band often pays tasteful homage to the music of the 70s without being too derivative of their influences. Their musicianship, as well as their showmanship, makes them one of the most compelling musical acts our city has to offer.

The music video for "Collecting Doubt" is a turning point for the band. They've already honed in on a very distinct sound, but now they're refining and adding onto their visual components, chock-full of monochromatic pastel outfits. Cayla Zeek, director and writer of the video, brings forth a concept equal parts shimmering and quirky.

The start of the video is a subliminal nature sequence, with frontman Dylan Babineaux rotating and gently faded into the shot. It cuts to a custodian flipping a "Scenic World" cassette tape before resuming his cleaning to the tune of "Collecting Doubt." What follows is an extraordinarily weird story of a young man lost in the monotony of his life, before becoming allured by a glitzy, corporate high life.

A highlight of the video is the animated sequence towards the end featuring menacing dinosaur-women and flying donuts. It's supremely surreal.

Scenic World continues to impress me. Their discography demonstrates an ability to layer songs with texture and write sprawling anthems about small town life.



Photo by Judah Grayson / via Scenic World

With the stellar visuals of the "Collecting Doubt" music video, they've proved their talents are multidimensional.

However, I don't think they needed a new music video to convince me of this. After all, the first show of theirs I attended featured bassist David Crochet

wearing a neon blue bowl cut wig.

There's an immense sense of personality found in Scenic World that you simply wouldn't expect to find in a band this local or this young. I'm excited to see the sights of their next destination as a group.



Festivals Acadiens et Créoles offered attendees a space to experience authentic Cajun food and music.

Photos by Andre Broussard / The Vermilion.



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## AFRICAN-AMERICAN

# Louisiana benefits from immigration crisis, 'embraces' ICE detention centers

Elliot Wade

AFRICAN-AMERICAN COLUMNIST

As National Hispanic Heritage Month comes to a close, we have a unique opportunity to reflect on how we have honored the legacies and contributions of all people in the United States of Latinx descent. In true Louisiana fashion, the Asociacion Cultural Latino de Acadiana (ACLA) held its annual Latin Music Festival on Oct. 5. Although the event offered an excellent opportunity to experience a sliver of the culture that Louisiana residents can relate to the most (good food, music and art), the publicity given to the event has steered clear of a glaring elephant in the room that hasn't been addressed — the migrant crisis.

This year has seen the problem snowball. The Trump administration has been aggressively adamant about limiting the number of asylum seekers. There are a few notable attacks on the migrant community that have been especially egregious. The "Zero Tolerance" policy is perhaps the most notorious action against immigrants taken and has caused the separation of thousands of children from their parents. Then, reports surfaced that the children held in these ICE facilities experienced gross neglect — lacking soap, clean clothes, diapers and even access to facilities to clean themselves.

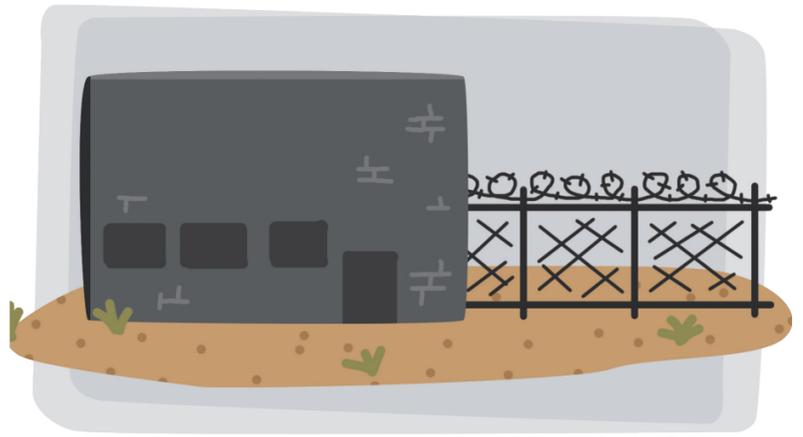
We've seen mass, targeted immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrests, like at the Tyson chicken factory in Mississippi (notably, when the workers

attempted to unionize). Officials of the Trump administration have even gone so far as suggesting that the writing on the statue of liberty be changed.

Action to combat these attacks has been slow but present. Luckily, the ACLU sued the Trump administration in federal court last February, and on June 26 U.S. District Court Judge Dana Sabraw issued a preliminary injunction that ordered the government to return all children under five years old to their parents within 14 days and within 30 days for the rest. A few hundred children were removed from the overcrowded facilities to other ones. And naturally, there was a huge surge of backlash that ensured no one would take such a ludicrous suggestion seriously.

While other states such as California have pushed back against ICE detention centers, Louisiana has embraced them, becoming a popular hub for detained migrants. Eight jails have begun to host asylum seekers and other migrants over the past year, six of which are located in LaSalle parish. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement have reported that Louisiana now holds about 8,000 migrants in Louisiana out of 51,000 nationally — nearly 16%. These centers are hours away from major cities like New Orleans, making it even more difficult for detainees to access resources to aid in their cases, such as immigrant rights groups and immigration lawyers.

There's an incentive on both ends for the unlikely union. Many of these towns (and let's face it, the majority of the state) already relied heavily on the



Graphic by Cole Broussard

profits reaped from the prisons. Since ICE stepped into the picture, the AP reported that salaries have risen from \$10 an hour to \$18.50. ICE has also only had to pay \$70 per day for each inmate, more than double what the state was paying to house convicts, but still well below what ICE pays nationally, which was estimated to be roughly \$133 per day in 2017.

This is an issue that represents the culmination of issues Louisiana has faced for too long. We've relied on jobs brought to our state from unethical and unsustainable methods that only continue to decline as the understanding of the world advances. There's a global shift away from the oil industry, and with the war on drugs edging closer to an end, we soon won't have the vast for-profit

prisons to bring cheap labor and jobs to run these for-profit prisons. Yet, state officials and citizens alike are still vocal in their support of President Trump, whose administration only seeks to regress further, taking Louisiana with it.

In an area of the state that owes its inception to a group of religious asylum seekers from Canada, it's ironic that so many people here choose to turn a blind eye to the real struggles and fears that bring immigrants to this country. This Hispanic Heritage Month should've been about more than fun and games — it needed to be a spark of a growing movement to provide aid and education about what's really happening in this state.

## POLITICS

## Risponse correct in wanting constitutional convention, amendments

Christian Janes

POLITICAL COLUMNIST

Gubernatorial candidate Eddie Risponse made some waves in the governor's race with his support for a possible constitutional convention for our state. In fact, he is the only one of the major candidates to support the idea and says that we do not have a fundamental structural charter, but rather that "We have a book of statutes."

I do not personally think Risponse should be governor. I dislike his lack of experience, lack of specific policy proposals, and his massive push to associate himself with the president in an effort to scoop up more votes. Needless to say, he is not someone I voted for nor would I in the runoff in November. That being said however, I do support his idea for a convention and I am glad a major candidate is willing to publicly say that we need one.

Our current constitution was passed in 1974 and is the 11th that we have had since we became a state in 1812; that is an average of one new constitution every 18 years — hardly good sense to have your codified fundamental law to change so much. The Constitution of 1974 should be the most enduring, best one we have had if we tried eleven times to get it right, but since 1974 there have been 195 amendments to change it and there were four on the ballot on election day on Oct. 12.

To contrast, 28 states have had two or fewer constitutions, and, of those, 18 states still have their original founding document. There are even three states that have constitutions from the 1700s. Vermont's Constitution was written in 1793, New Hampshire's Constitution was written in 1784 and Massachusetts' Constitution was written in 1780. Both Massachusetts and New Hampshire have constitutions older than that of the US Constitution, which was written in 1787.

As said before, the Constitution of Louisiana has been amended 195 times

since 1974 — a sign the document is not working as it should. Vermont, whose constitution has been in effect for over 200 years, has only had to amend their constitution 51 times. Another example is Massachusetts; they have amended their constitution only 120 times since 1780.

You can see that I am fawning over these states, but I feel it is justified. They have beautiful systems of government that are codified in simple, often short (Vermont having the shortest constitution of all the states at a little over 8,000 words) documents that are pretty much eternal.

They do not have the financial panics our state does every year come budget time, and I think their constitutions play a large role in that. Our constitution is 72,000 words long, where half of that is dedicated to fiscal issues and more and more amendments are added every year. Proof of this is in the amendments voted on this 2019 election; three of the four amendments are of taxes and financing, only one of which actually concerns the structure of government, specifically judicial issues of — you guessed it — taxes.

Many of the financial woes we face might have a common root of being constitutional issues rather than what they should be as statutory issues. Statutory issues are specific and can be changed quickly to match the needs of the state, but constitutional issues are slow, laborious, and require a stricter standard in order to pass. I agree totally with Mr. Risponse when he says we have a list of statutes rather than a constitution, because it is very nearly the truth.

A constitutional convention would have my full backing, provided of course it is done correctly this time around. I suggest modeling a new constitution after Massachusetts, or Vermont, or New Hampshire, who have proven to be essentially timeless, workable and generalized documents that can adapt as needed while still serving the function as the foundation of law.



Graphic by Andre Bourgeois

## POLITICS

## GOP moves to take back Louisiana with Donald Trump Jr.



Graphic by Andre Bourgeois

Brett Smith

POLITICAL COLUMNIST

This past Monday the GOP hosted a rally in support of many candidates ahead of the October 12th election. Guest speakers included gubernatorial candidates Ralph Abraham and Eddie Risponse, as well as the son of the President himself, Donald Trump Jr. The hope was that it would inspire the Republican base to elect a new governor, establishing a future for the Republican agenda.

Most of the questions and comments involved the never-ending debate about energy within Louisiana. Louisiana has a checkered history with energy, with some saying it's our saving grace while others lambast it as destroying the environment. I'm here to tell you it's a little bit of both.

From an economic standpoint—don't you love when I give these—utilizing what's arguably our best resource is never a bad thing. But, and this is a big but, it is economically unwise to depend on our most abundant resource to keep our state alive. Everyone constantly talks about losing jobs in the energy industry and if you're a Louisiana native, you likely know at least one person who's suffered that fate, if not two or three.

There's a reason for this, and it matters less about who we have for governor and more about the architecture of our economy. Since I am the conservative columnist, it's only right I include Bible parables and here's one. If a person builds a house on sand, it'll break. If a person builds a house on rock, it'll stay. Sand is just less resistance to the oil, and so we've chosen the former.

Our politicians spend an exorbitant amount of breath on the idea of who will pay for everything, that we don't spend any time figuring out how to get it to cost

less. That's two people in a restaurant arguing over who will foot the bill on \$100 caviar, but not asking themselves why they're getting caviar from a Mr. Gatti's. No offense to you Mr. Gatti, I like your pizza but bring back the arcade.

As always, I don't write these articles to just update you, but to ask something of you. I ask that you take away the names of who's involved, and focus more on the policy advertised. Donald Trump Jr. made a show in Lafayette; are we supposed to be amazed that he graced us with his presence? I'm not, because Donald Trump Jr. can do almost nothing here. I'm not fooled by a show of support by someone who can't name two parishes here, and probably still calls them counties.

When I vote, I want to vote for someone I know will implement policy that affects him. I don't care for the kind words of a man who won't be taxed here. Who doesn't shop at the Bi-lo or Janise's. Doesn't have a mechanic who's done work on his father's car before him, and will pull him out of the ditch for free. (If you're reading this, thanks by the way. The turn really came out of nowhere).

The figurehead for Louisiana needs to be someone who promotes small businesses. Understands that energy is important, but to also see the need for more than just oil field jobs. I love the state I'm from and I don't want to see it break because we progress to something that's better for our environment and better for the world.

Let's not let Louisiana be a consequence of creative destruction, but a product of progress. We're worth that. Mull that over when you vote at the runoff, and remember. Go out and vote.

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# SOUNDING OFF

What is your favorite autumn tradition?



**Celeste Darling**  
BIOLOGY Freshman

*“Candles and Halloween, because the vibes.”*



**Kara Barnes**  
BIOLOGY Freshman

*“Fireplaces, cool weather, pumpkin patches, Charlie Brown, home cooked meals — because it is warm and cozy and I look forward to it all year.”*



**Samuel Avants**  
KINESIOLOGY Freshman

*“Going to bonfires, just being outside enjoying the cool weather, and, honestly, smelling the candles that have that fall feel, you know?”*



**Emelie Gauthier**  
FINANCE Junior

*“I love children Halloween movies because it is nostalgic.”*



**Max Prosper**  
PSYCHOLOGY Junior

*“Being able to sit around a fire and listen to my friends play music.”*



**Sam Drouant**  
MANAGEMENT Sophomore

*“My favorite fall tradition is when my dad makes hot chocolate as my family and I watch horror movies.”*

*Sounding Off is a section devoted to the voice of students. Views expressed in Sounding Off do not reflect those of UL Lafayette administrators, faculty, staff or other students.*

*Photos and interviews by Brian Tran.*



## CAJUN CANDIDS:

### Musicians at Festivals Acadiens et Créoles

The local festival, held near campus at Girard Park, hosted Acadiana musicians from Oct. 11 to Oct. 13.

Photos by Andre Broussard / The Vermilion.

