

# THE VERMILLION

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette Student Newspaper  October 24, 2024

## Cypress Lake Dining Hall to receive a brand new dishwasher by end of year

**Ramudhi Kariyawasam**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Mid-semester stress has officially landed, and the infamous dishwasher at the Cypress Lake Dining Hall has also finally had it.

Another round of frustration and confusion spread amongst the students and staff at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette as they learned that the university's dishwasher has yet again ceased to operate.

The university shares that the cause of the continuous failure of the machine could be due to a number of factors, such as its age and, even more, the increasing number of students utilizing the dining hall.

Enrollment at the university this year has drastically increased.

The Office of Enrollment Management shared that a total of 19,213 students enrolled at UL Lafayette for Fall 2024.

Dawn Miller, the director of Property Management, shared that 3,700 students currently live on campus but noted that not all residents purchase a meal plan.

Patrick Mould, the director of Retail Food and Beverage Services, spoke more on the dishwasher failure and a permanent solution to come by the end of the year.

"We've been well aware of the situation with the dishwasher for a while, and we've been kind of using duct tape and bailing wire to pull it back together."

It has been a recurrent issue in the past years and would often receive a temporary fix for the time being, as Mould mentioned.

"It's been going on for a minute, off and on," Mould explained. "The problem

is getting the parts sometimes."

Mould shared that the dishwasher was first installed when the Student Union was rebuilt, which, according to The Advocate, was in the spring of 2015.

"It's got some age on it, so sometimes getting the parts can be a little bit difficult."

However, the recent uptick in student number over the years, Mould surmises, could have contributed to the



Photo by Morgan Parker

A soda fountain at the Hydration Station next to disposable cups in the Cypress Lake Dining Hall.

unpredictable nature of the dishwasher.

"The real problem is that the dishwasher is not capable of keeping up with the volume we currently have. Back in the day, when we first got started with the new dining hall, the dishwasher

was based on the potential volume, and our volume has increased to the point where it's just not capable of keeping up," Mould explained.

With the pressing conditions surrounding the matter along with past attempts to fix the issue failing, a new dishwasher for the dining hall appears to be on the horizon.

"We finally made the decision that we are just going to replace the dishwasher.

"We have identified three different dishwashers that we've been looking at. Probably going to get a couple more quotes just to make sure we got the right dishwasher for our needs and move forward... it's not a cheap endeavor," Mould added.

"It's a massive piece of equipment... unfortunately, the volume we are at now, it's just incapable of keeping up."

Mould hopes the dishwasher is installed during winter break or possibly sooner.

"Hopefully over Christmas break, we'll be able to stitch it out. I'm hesitant to say sooner, but Christmas break is when we are trying to get it done." Until then, students dining will use styrofoam plates, cups and utensils.

"We're using disposables when the dishwasher is not in place, which works considering we're not able to wash the dishes."

Mould shares that despite the nature of the situation, students continue to receive their meals every day as they always have.

"I think if everybody keeps in mind, it just is a little inconvenience. It's not something we want to happen, we want everyone to come in there and have a great experience. The bottom line is the students are still getting their food in a timely fashion."

The Cypress Lake Dining Hall still operates in full operation, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner at its usual times daily.

The new year promises a brand new addition to the cafeteria that not only will ensure to work efficiently but also accommodate the demanding and growing university.

## It's all about passion: Making it to the NCLEX-RN exam is the real challenge

**Kayla Woods-Crane**  
NEWS WRITER

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette's nursing program prepared Spring 2024 graduates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), leading them to a 100% pass rate for the first-time takers. Though the NCLEX-RN is challenging, the real test is making it through UL Lafayette's rigorous nursing program.

When asked about the NCLEX-RN pass rate for the program, Dr. Lisa Broussard, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, said it was because the students were simply ready for the test.

"We are one of the few schools in the state to have a 100 percent NCLEX-RN pass rate. It's not that it is easy, but they are ready," Dr. Broussard said. She added that she believed the real test for nursing students was graduating nursing school.

"The NCLEX-RN is challenging, but what I think is really challenging is our program. I know that the rigor of our program, the structure of our program and the very high quality of clinical faculty, as well as clinical sites, prepares our students very very well for the nclex."

The Myers School of Nursing undergraduate program is one of the best in the state of Louisiana. In the spring of 2024, their simulation program was re-accredited by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. One of two simulation programs in the state that's accredited. In September they were designated, again, as a center of excellence by the National League for Nursing.

For admission into the undergraduate program, students must meet the

requirements for all undergraduate students, but once inside, they must maintain a list of requirements. They have to have a minimum grade of "C" in all nursing classes and a grade of "Satisfactory" in all nursing laboratory classes.

Though those requirements don't seem too strenuous on paper, to apply for Nursing 208 clinical, students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.800. Even with the minimum GPA, students are not guaranteed a spot because they only take the highest 110 applicants based on GPA.

Mckenna Thomas, a junior majoring in nursing, expressed that the cutthroat nature of nursing school was her least favorite part.

After failing a course prior to applying for Nursing 208, she concluded that it was frustrating how one bad grade did not show the hard work she had put in.

"Sometimes as students, I feel like we are forgotten for our purpose in being here. The number matters more than what we're giving, what we're doing at the hospital, and how we do things. They really just see your grade point average and your score and sometimes that's the only thing that helps you move forward. The competitiveness."

Dr. Broussard explained the challenge of nursing school can be more than some students can handle. The decision to switch majors can be hard for students, but the college does their best to help them find another path.

"Nursing school is hard, but nursing as a profession is hard, so you have to really have that passion. No judging. [...] Sometimes the rigor is more than they are capable of, but sometimes they just don't want it that much, and that is fine because nursing is not for everyone."

One of the best parts about the

challenging nature of nursing school, for Dr. Broussard herself, was the friendships she was able to form through their shared struggle.

"You make friends for life. You just go through everything together. [...] It creates a bond a lot of majors don't have; I still have friends from nursing school, and I see that still happening," Dr. Broussard said.

When asked about her favorite part of nursing school, Hannah Parker, a junior majoring in nursing, echoed Dr. Broussard's sentiments about the close friendships she has made during her time as a nursing student.

"I would say probably the people you meet. The friends you make along the way because you're all in it together, and it gets pretty brutal sometimes."

Alexa Theriot, a junior majoring in nursing, agreed her favorite thing about nursing school was the friends she made along the way but also revealed her least favorite thing to be the friends she has lost.

"I've made some really great friends, as the semesters have gone people have dropped, had to leave for different reasons, failed or whatnot. Then, I find myself not being able to talk to them as much and being out of their lives because we are not with each other anymore."

When asked about any advice she would give to incoming nursing students, Thomas disclosed the secret to surviving is remembering why they are in nursing school to begin with.

"Really make sure you're here for the right reasons because once you get to nursing school, you really start to question why you're doing this. It can get really challenging, so you really have to make sure when you enter nursing school you're here for a purpose and that purpose is to help others."

The NCLEX-RN is the standard licensure exam for nursing graduates to be a registered nurse. Graduates have to get their Bachelors of Science in nursing to qualify for the NCLEX-RN.



Photo by Joe Bozzelle

Nursing students do Wellness Wednesday with no appointments necessary.

### News

#### ISRAEL-PALESTINE WAR EXPLAINED

A breakdown of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine; and their long history with each other.

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### Food Review

#### SWEET INDULGENCES AT ANDY'S

Andy's Frozen Custard offers their customers a variety of sweet treats that can end anybody's sweet tooth.

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### Sports

#### WATER SKI WINS BIG

The Louisiana Ragin' Cajun Water Ski achieved a first place victory in the NCWSA National Championship.

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### Beaucoup

#### ACADEMIC PERSPECTIVE

The Beaucoup section writes about the moment or experience that changed how they view college and academics.

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# Israel's long war on Palestine

**Jenna Kimball**  
NEWS WRITER

By now, most people in the United States have heard reports of the conflicts in the Middle East. These conflicts between Israel and Palestine have caused an uproar of varying debates on how the situation should be handled. It seems that everyone has an opinion on the matter, but does everyone have all the facts?

Morgan Ardoin, a freshman at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, believes that "too many uneducated people are trying to speak on it." She is not alone in this belief. Dr. Theodore Foster, an African American history professor, agrees with this statement.

To form an educated opinion on the matter, the background information must first be researched.

There is a long history between the Israeli and Palestinian people, reaching back for generations, but for purposes of

time, the 1940s will be the starting point.

In 1947, a resolution passed that required Palestinian territory to be split into a Jewish state and an Arab state, with Jerusalem separate from both states. This resolution caused major strife between the two groups.

A year later, in 1948, Israel declared independence. This was the beginning of the Arab-Israeli War that would continue until 1949. The war was between Israel and Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. This came to an end when all of the fighting parties decided to sign an armistice agreement. This was not a peace treaty but an agreement to stop the fighting until peace could be negotiated. After all was said and done, Israel came out as the winner of the war.

Israel kept their land and received West Jerusalem, Jordan received East Jerusalem and the West Bank and Egypt received the Gaza Strip. During the war, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians had left their home in search of refuge.

After the war was over, resolution 194 was passed as a "right of return" for those refugees (CFR Education).

In June of 1967, another war between the two groups broke out. This war, named the Six-Day war, would end with almost 21,000 casualties total. Israel once again was declared the winner and gained the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, Golan Heights and the Sinai Peninsula.

A few years later, in 1973, Egypt and Syria attempted to fight Israel for control of the Golan Heights and Sinai Peninsula. A ceasefire was called by the United Nations, and five years later the Camp David Accords were signed creating peace between Israel and Egypt. This led to Israel backing away and giving up control of the Sinai Peninsula.

Fast forwarding to 1987, four Palestinians were killed in a car accident in which an Israeli citizen was the driver. This was the starting point for the first uprising against Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This was also the beginning of a Muslim terrorist organization known as Hamas.

In 1993, the Oslo Accords were created and negotiations of a peace agreement between Israel and Palestine were discussed. The Oslo Accords were officially instituted in 1994, which called for Israel's military to start withdrawing from the Gaza Strip and a part of the West Bank so that a Palestinian Authority could be implemented. The same year, a peace treaty was signed between Israel and Jordan.

In 2002, Israel began building a barrier to protect the West Bank from Palestinian terrorist attacks. This was not well received, as the barrier protruded across Palestinian territories and cut

them off from Jerusalem. Three years later, Israel withdrew from Gaza, which led to Hamas firing rockets directly into Israel from the Gaza Strip.

Hamas quickly took over the long standing political group in Palestine and by 2007, they gained control of Gaza and the West Bank. This influenced the United States to cease financial aid to the Palestinian Authority, since Hamas was declared a terrorist organization. Attacks continued on both sides.

In 2021, President Joe Biden reinstated financial aid to the Palestinian government after over 200 people died in a conflict in Gaza.

In 2023, Hamas took Israel by surprise with a massive attack, killing around 1,200 people and taking more than 200 hostage. This is known as the deadliest attack yet. Israel countered with an attack on Hamas two days later.

Currently, Israel, Hamas and Hezbollah, a political party that supports Hamas, are in a continued state of attacks back and forth. The war between Israel and Palestine is not a new thing, however it is just as prevalent as it was at the beginning, if not more.

One UL Lafayette student says simply that "we have a job as a country and it does not always make us look like the good guy." Another student says that "everything going on, both sides, is just tragic." Coreyion Williams, a freshman at UL Lafayette, says that since the publicity of the war has died down on social media, "it feels like the whole world just forgot about it."

The best way that UL Lafayette students can help is to get educated. Do research, get involved and find out what is happening beyond the borders of the U.S.

**2024 Yearbooks have arrived!**



Copies are available in front of the library or the union bookstore

## Police Reports

Compiled by Ramudhi Kariyawasam

### Oct. 19

- At 10:13 a.m., officers responded to a suspicious person at the Student Union. An arrest was made.

### Oct. 18

- At 3:32 p.m., officers were dispatched in reference to cyberstalking.
- At 11:23 a.m., an officer was dispatched to Cajun Field regarding a crash that occurred between two vehicles. A silver 1011 Toyota 4Runner and a red 2016 Chevrolet Camaro was involved.
- At 10:23 a.m., officers were dispatched to a reference of cyberstalking.
- At 2:32 a.m., an officer observed a suspicious vehicle near Legacy Park Apartments with two suspicious individuals. A gray 2015 Honda Accord and a plastic bag with 3 grams of marijuana was involved. An arrest was made.

### Oct. 17

- At 9:22 p.m., officers were dispatched in response to a call about a disturbance at the Wingate Hotel. An arrest was made.

### Oct. 16

- At 6:40 p.m., an officer was dispatched to Bourgeois Hall in reference to an individual dislocating their shoulder.








### Oct. 15

- At 11:40 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Wingate Hotel in regards to a disturbance. An arrest was made.
- At 11:13 p.m., officers were dispatched to a suspicious person near Agnes Edwards Hall. A blue 2007 Toyota Corolla was involved. An arrest was made.

### Oct. 14

- At 3:56 p.m., officers received a report of an attempted theft of an Apple iPhone 11 at Griffin Hall.
- At 1:09 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the Rose Garden in reference to a suspicious person.

## Weather

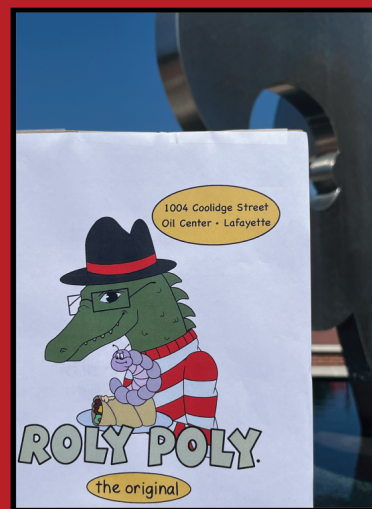
Thursday 10/24	Friday 10/25	Saturday 10/26	Sunday 10/27	Monday 10/28	Tuesday 10/29	Wednesday 10/30
						
High: 86 F Low: 59 F	High: 85 F Low: 58 F	High: 85 F Low: 59 F	High: 86 F Low: 60 F	High: 86 F Low: 64 F	High: 84 F Low: 63 F	High: 84 F Low: 63 F

**Geonna Tipton**  
WEATHER WRITER

- Wind mileage in Louisiana is expected to increase as the fall season continues.
- Thunderstorms are expected to make Louisiana, starting early November, as humidity increases throughout the week.

- Precipitation is expected to be slim until the upcoming storms in November, and UV rays are expected to remain moderate.

## WHERE'S ALLAN?



I hid by a place where you would throw coins, I passed by my friend Lee. Where am I?

Last Issue's Answer: Billeud Hall

Last week's Where's Allan winner, **Laurie Gillbeau**, a junior English major, shared she is greatly interested in philosophy and participates in the Ragin' Rescue because she loves and supports the cause of caring for the cats at UL Lafayette.



### Win a free sandwich from Roly Poly

The first UL student to recognize where The Vermilion's mascot, Allan the Alligator, was photographed on campus will win a free sandwich from Roly Poly on Coolidge Street in Lafayette. The first UL student to email the correct location of Allan to **TheVermilion@louisiana.edu** will win. The Vermilion will continue this contest each week until the end of the semester. Participants cannot win more than once a semester, and must be attentive to their emails.

## Food Review

# Andy's Frozen Custard Lafayette

Isabelle Brumley

FOOD REVIEWER

Located on Kaliste Saloom Rd., Andy's Frozen Custard has established itself as a must-visit destination for dessert lovers in Lafayette. With a vibrant atmosphere and an extensive menu, Andy's promises an indulgent experience that caters to both the young and the young at heart.

Andy's Frozen Custard has been delighting customers since 1986, when it was founded by Andrew "Andy" K. Hargis in Osage Beach, Missouri.

With a focus on creating the highest quality frozen custard, Andy's quickly became known for its rich, creamy texture and an extensive menu of flavors and toppings. With over 100 locations in the United States, this famous desert

chain has captured the hearts of many.

The inviting atmosphere makes it a popular hangout spot for students of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette looking to unwind after classes or celebrate special occasions with friends. Many students also frequent Andy's for its affordable menu, which allows them to indulge without breaking their bank accounts.

They have an enticing menu that contains various popular desserts such as concretes, jackhammers (frozen custard mixed with different toppings), sundaes, splits, malts, ice cream cones, milkshakes, sodas and even Italian ice. With prices ranging from \$2.59 to \$9.99, Andy's is an accessible treat for students and families alike, ensuring everyone can enjoy a delicious frozen custard experience without overspending.

My coworkers and I had the pleasure of visiting this dessert establishment on Thursday, Oct. 17. As I approached the charming little shop, I was greeted by the cheerful façade, bright colors and the enticing aroma of freshly made waffle cones. The outdoor seating area was bustling with families and friends enjoying their treats.

While looking at the menu, we all struggled to pick what we wanted. There were so many choices, too many to choose from. My colleague and I decided to get one of their homemade sodas, root beer and cream soda, while my two coworkers purchased a BootDaddy Concrete and a S'mores Jackhammer.

The BootDaddy Concrete, which features rich vanilla frozen custard blended with gooey caramel and crunchy brownie bits, creates a perfect balance of creamy and chewy textures. The S'mores Jackhammer is a delightful take on the classic campfire treat, combining chocolate custard with graham cracker crumbs, marshmallow fluff and chocolate sauce.

Andy's commitment to quality is evident in every scoop, as they use fresh ingredients to create their treats. The friendly staff was knowledgeable and eager to help, enhancing the overall experience with their welcoming demeanor. The atmosphere at Andy's Frozen Custard is warm and inviting, perfect for families and friends looking to enjoy a sweet treat together. It was a clear and cool night, perfect for enjoying a dessert.

After we finished our desserts, I decided to interview the general manager, Ebony Martin. "I've been working here since we opened back in 2021... there's a lot of areas for growth, a lot of learning and lots of good

people. We just have an all around fun atmosphere."

When asked what her favorite part of the job was she said, "definitely my employees... we all have a really good relationship and we became family almost immediately."

"It's all about building those relationships with one another... we have what we call our Andy's grandparents who show up almost every day... we just love the people here... it's really a good environment"

Andy's offers seasonal treats for this fall season and every season, ensuring that there's always something special for customers to enjoy. For fall, you can expect delightful flavors like Pumpkin Pie Custard, which captures the essence of autumn with its warm spices and creamy texture. Additionally, the Apple Pie Concrete is a favorite, combining sweet apple pie with vanilla custard. They also offer caramel apples exclusively.

I could tell that the workers enjoyed working there. Their cheerful attitudes create a fun atmosphere, making you feel welcome whether you're a first-timer or regular. Martin was more than willing to do an interview, and her enthusiasm was contagious. She was such a sweet individual.

Our total came out to be \$18.34 for four items. I was pleased with the prices considering the large portions. It's nice to find a place to enjoy a satisfying dessert without overspending.

All in all, I enjoyed my experience at Andy's Frozen Custard. The desserts were delicious, and the service was terrific. If you would like to have an exquisite dessert, they are open Sunday-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.



Photo by Lily Cartinez

Small Root Beer and small Cream Soda from Andy's Frozen Custard.

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## Arts and Culture

# Draw-A-Thon takes over Art Annex

Landon Fruge

ALLONS WRITER

On Oct. 18, 2024, the College of the Arts hosted its second ever Draw-A-Thon. This semester however, rather than being hosted at the Hilliard Art Museum, it was hosted at the Visual Art Annex. This event lasted from 6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

The Draw-A-Thon consists of a small collection of nude and clothed models, both male and female. This event was open to not just art students but also students from other majors, from other universities and local artists. At Draw-A-Thon, attendees are given drawing supplies to go and freely draw the models at the event. Pizza and snacks were provided as well.

This semester the Draw-A-Thon was hosted by Kate Gordon, a professor of drawing and visual arts in the College of the Arts. When asked about what made her choose to host the Draw-A-Thon this year, she responded saying how she did this in hopes to bring together art students and artists in a community-oriented setting to figure draw.

Following this, she was asked about what made the Draw-A-Thon so special, and she replied stating, "There are limited opportunities to draw the figure outside of major cities, and accessibility is really important to reach multiple audiences, because it's specific time that is allocated to focusing on anatomy and perspective outside of just the regular scheduled classes that we have."

There was an abundance of attendees at the event. Many of them claimed to be having a great time while at the event.

Jo Strain, a sophomore and visual arts major here at University of Louisiana at Lafayette shared, "I love figure drawing, but I don't get many opportunities to do it in person, so whenever I saw that UL was hosting this Draw-A-Thon, I knew I had to take advantage of it... I cannot emphasize how uncommon this is, so it's nice that UL Lafayette is able to host something like this that's both free and I don't know, it's good."

Besides UL Lafayette students, there were also several community artists who attended as well. One of which was Kay Jeansonne, a full time artist in the Lafayette area. According to her, she attended the Draw-A-Thon last semester and enjoyed it, so when she heard there would be another one this semester, she looked forward to attending this semester's Draw-A-Thon as well.

When asked about her opinion on the event, she stated, "It's great. I love the energy of so many artists being together, drawing from the model." In all, this seemed to be a shared theme between many of the attendees.

It wasn't just the attendees either who enjoyed the event. The models seemed to enjoy the event as well.

One of the models, Linsey Vallot, stated "It's really fantastic. I find it really good to almost challenge myself to be like, 'Okay, you have six hours to do a whole bunch of poses, how do you want to do them?' I even sometimes ask the people who are around, 'Does anyone have any suggestions for stuff, poses or things I could wear?'"

Overall, everyone seemed to greatly enjoy this semester's Draw-A-Thon. When asked for any final remarks Kate Gordon expressed thanks to all the artists and models that participated this year, and that she hopes to see them all again next year.



Photo by Ja'christopher Johnson

Student participating in Draw-A-Thon.

## THE VERMILION

A weekly student publication of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. The paper is distributed on Thursdays except on holidays and semester breaks. The Vermilion is supported in part by student-assessed fees. Views expressed in The Vermilion do not necessarily reflect those of UL Lafayette administrators, faculty, staff or other students.

## SUBMISSIONS

All letters to the editor and guest editorials must include the author's full name and phone number and be no longer than 400 words in length. Submissions are edited for libel and vulgarity only. Editorial and columns reflect the author's opinion and not those of The Vermilion staff. All advertisements must be submitted by the Friday before publication at thevermilion@louisiana.edu.

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# Cajun Crossword

Compiled by Vallen Power

No. 7

## INSTRUCTIONS

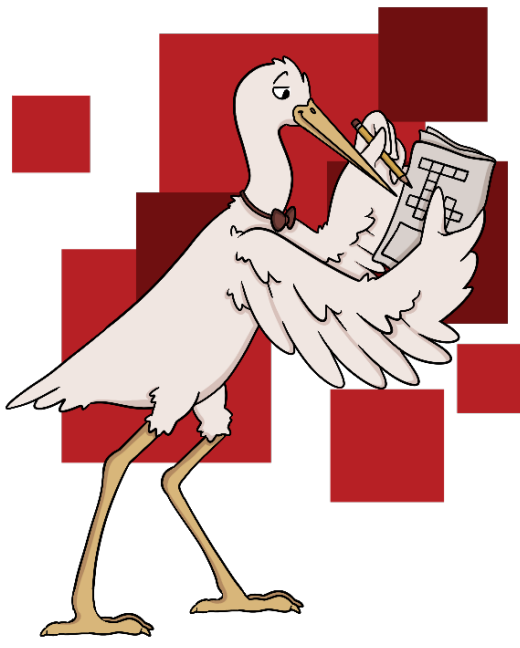
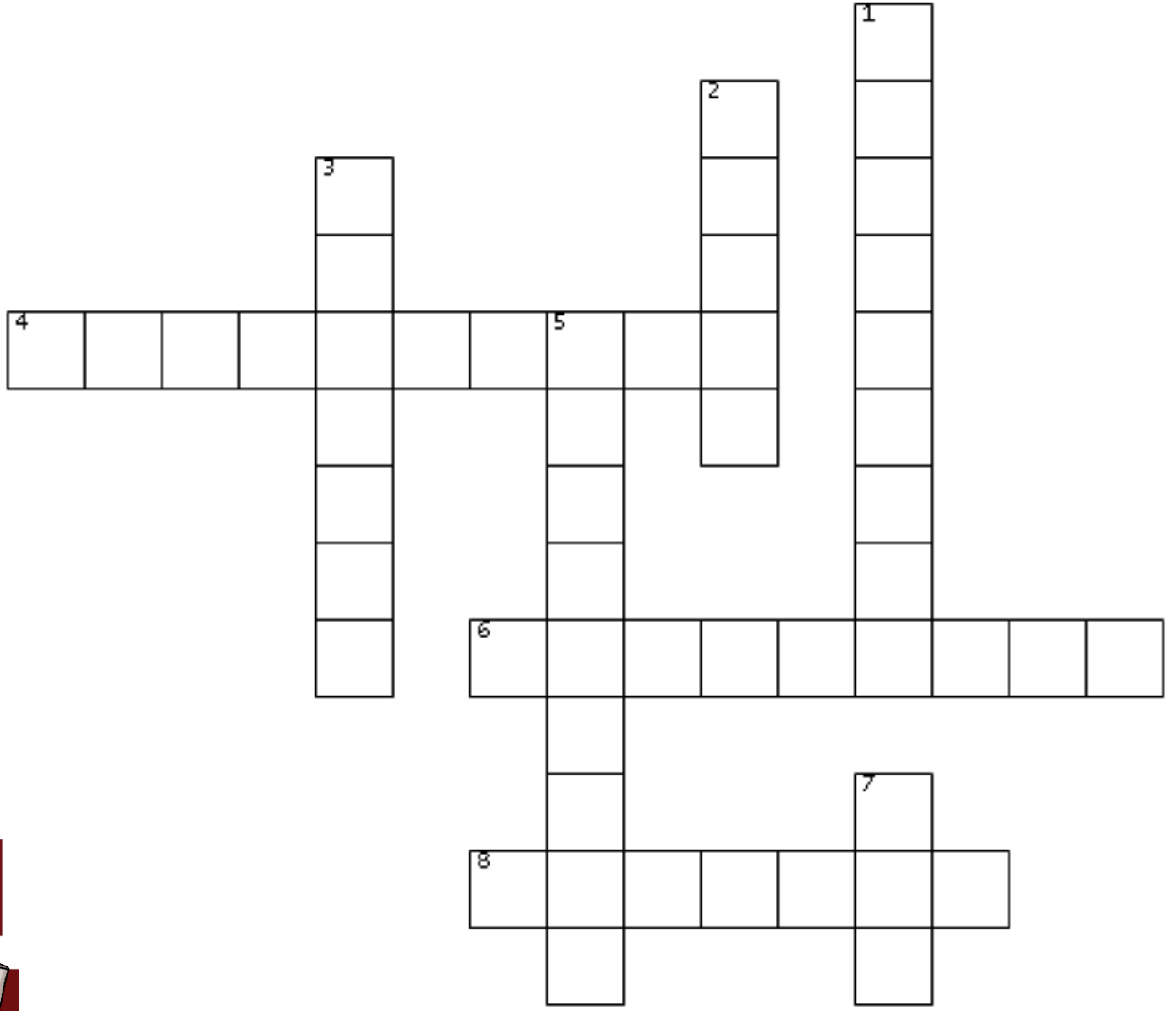
The answers can be found throughout the newspaper, so make sure to thoroughly read each story. Try to find all of them and see if you got them correct in the answers provided in the next issue's crossword search!

### ACROSS

- 4. Who is the current captain of the Ragin' Cajun water ski team (last name)?
- 6. The Draw-A-Thon was meant to be very \_\_\_\_\_ oriented.
- 8. What kind of apple does Andy's offer for this fall season?

### DOWN

- 1. How many tackles did K.C. Ossai finish with?
- 2. What is the name of Erik Menendez's daughter?
- 3. What is the standard test for nursing licensure (acronym without dash)?
- 5. What kind of plates, cups and utensils are the students using at the dining hall?
- 7. Little \_\_\_ Dot is the nickname for Singapore.



## Cajun Candids

# Figure Draw-A-Thon

Photos by Ja'christopher Johnson



# Sports

## Wooldridge leads Louisiana to 34-24 victory over Chanticleers

**Charles Martin**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns win their fourth straight as they take down the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers in Myrtle Beach 34-24 off the arm of Ben Wooldridge.

Louisiana now moves to 6-1 to become bowl eligible for the seventh straight season. This win also places them atop the West in the Sun Belt Conference, hopping in-state rivals ULM who held the spot.

The game would start fairly slowly as the Chanticleers would be forced to punt the ball on their first possession of the game. The Cajuns would get the ball for their first possession on their own 15-yard line.

Louisiana would march downfield before being stopped at the Coastal 35-yard line. Kicker Kenneth Almendares would trot out to attempt a 53-yard field goal, but he would miss it keeping the score tied at nothing.

The Chanticleers would get the ball back and would once again do nothing with it as they were forced to punt again, forcing the Cajuns to start their drive at their own two-yard line. This did not phase them in the slightest.

Starting with a four-yard handoff to Bill Davis, the Cajuns would march

98-yards downfield for a touchdown. The drive would end with a 33-yard touchdown pass from Wooldridge to Lance LeGendre to put Louisiana up 7-0.

With their next possession Coastal would once again be forced to punt after a seven play drive that would only net four yards.

The Cajuns, starting at their own 27, would once again march downfield thanks to the efforts of Wooldridge and back Zylan Perry and Dre'lyn Washington. The drive would end with another touchdown pass from Wooldridge, this time to Bill Davis for the first receiving touchdown of his career.

Following this drive, the Chanticleers would decide they had enough and would bench starting quarterback Ethan Vasko after he went 3/10 in the half. In his place would trout out senior Noah Kim.

Kim would instantly lead the Chanticleers to back to back touchdown drives before heading into the half. The only reason that they did not have the lead heading into half was because of an Almendares field goal sandwiched between the Coastal touchdown drives.

The teams would enter the half with Louisiana leading 17-14 with Coastal having much of the momentum thanks

to Kim leading the Chanticleers to 14 points in the second quarter.

The second half would start out fairly slow as the teams exchanged punts in the first three drives of the third quarter. The lack of scoring would end with a Chanticleer field goal that would tie the game 17-17.

The Cajuns would answer immediately the next drive, capping it off with a QB sneak by Ben Wooldridge on the goal line to make it a 24-17 game.

Kim and the Chanticleers would answer with a touchdown drive of their own to once again tie the game.

Almendres would help the Cajuns recapture the lead with a 38-yard field goal, breaking the record for most field goals by a Louisiana kicker.

The game would be all but over a couple of drives later after Ben Wooldridge connected with tight end Terrance Carter for a 59-yard touchdown to expand Louisiana's lead 34-24.

The game would officially end after the Chanticleers missed a field goal, allowing Louisiana to come out in victory formation to chew the rest of the clock.

Ben Wooldridge was far and away the best player on the field, with Terrance Carter and Bill Davis being tied for a close second.

Wooldridge threw for a career high 373 passing yards, averaging 10.4 yards per completion. He finished the game going 27/36 with three of those completions finding the end zone.

Wooldridge finished the game with four total touchdowns with three passing touchdowns and a rushing touchdown thanks to a QB sneak on the goalline.

Bill Davis would pick up all the slack of the running backs after Zylan Perry went down early with an injury and Dre'lyn Washington struggled to get anything going.

Davis would take 19 touches for 110 yards, averaging 5.8 yards per carry. He was also a threat in the receiving game, a new element to his game. He would finish the game with six receptions for 52 yards and a touchdown.

The best receiver of the game was

once again tight end Terrance Carter who finished his second straight game with 100 plus receiving yards. Carter finished the game with seven receptions for 149 yards, including the receiving touchdown that would seal the game.

Lance LeGendre would be the only other receiver with a touchdown, catching a 33-yard pass for a touchdown in the second quarter. Other notable receivers were Robert Williams and Jacob Benard who both finished with four and three receptions respectively.

The most worrying part of the team was once again the defense, specifically the rushing defense.

Louisiana's defense allowed Coastal's backup running back, Braydon Bennett, to rush for 132 yards and a touchdown on only 13 carries. They allowed Coastal to rush for a combined total of 208 rushing yards, something that can not be allowed by teams who are trying to make a push for the conference championship.

The secondary once again proved to be the best aspect of the team as they held the Coastal starting QB to only three completions for 10 yards before he was pulled for Noah Kim. Kim would do a much better job at attacking space in the secondary when they were in zone coverage.

The defensive player of the game, though, has to go to K.C. Ossai finished with 17 tackles, nearly tying his career high of tackles in a game. He even recorded a deflected pass, making himself seem like he was everywhere on the field.

Cajuns now go into their final bye week at the top of the Western division and with a four game win streak. Their next game will be on the road again, this time against Texas State and will be on a Tuesday night which will be interesting to say the least.

The Texas State game will start their toughest slate of games in conference play. This will be where the Cajuns can prove themselves real contenders and keep their momentum rolling when they return home for their first of three straight home games against Arkansas State.



Photo by Alyus Dick

Ben Wooldridge(10) audibles before calling the snap against the Tulane Green Wave. Sept. 21, 2024

## Louisiana Water Ski earns its fifth consecutive national championship

**Isaac Henry**  
SPORTS WRITER

The Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns Water Ski team won the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Championship Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 12, marking the squad's fifth consecutive national championship and further solidifying their spot as the dynastic water ski program of the past decade.

In San Marcos, Texas, across five different events for men's and women's water ski and wake sports, the Cajuns totaled 14 podium placements and finished the weekend with 12,850 cumulative points. The Louisiana-Monroe Warhawks and Alabama Crimson Tide followed close behind at second and third.

Head Coach Ryan Gonzales detailed some of the hardships the team had to face heading into the championship, including two of their top athletes entering different competitions and some injuries during the weekend.

"We were out two of our good, strong skiers but the rest of the team knew what they had to do to fill that void and step up their game to make sure we did whatever we had to do to win," Gonzales said.

"There were a lot of obstacles to overcome before the season even started, but in true Cajuns fashion, the team stepped up and did what they had to do."

Louisiana freshman Lara Butlin topped the field with a gold placement in Overall performance, including a 123-foot jump good for a tie in bronze with teammate Emily Wenzel.

Senior slalom skier Ali Garcia pulled off a 1.25 at 39' off performance for a silver placement.

Fellow slalom skier and Cajuns team

captain Annemarie Wroblewski talked about the difficulty of maintaining control and executing with a shortened rope in slalom competition.

"At thirty-nine off, the rope does not reach the buoy," Wroblewski said. "You have to use your body length to get outside of the buoy. Honestly, she makes it look really easy. It's something that's so short where you actually have to pull off a lot of technique and skill."

"She is leaning really hard against the boat, there is a lot of load on the rope when she's going right behind the boat specifically."

Wroblewski also talked about the rigor of the team's training over the season. Slalom skiers often train four to six times a week, and she stressed the importance of using rest days effectively.

"For me, getting to that short rope and having that much load on my body is difficult for a lot of days in a row, so I need to take time off in between," Wroblewski said.

Senior slalom skier Griffin Stange spoke about being a part of a program as successful as this one, and contrasted the mounting pressure that some athletes might feel through the seasons to this program's attitude.

"If anything, I think we've benefitted from our continued success. I think the victories have snowballed on one another, and not only has it helped with recruitment, like more and more people wanna come here and ski with us and win with us, but I think also just the confidence of knowing that we can win has also built," Stange said.

"Everybody skied amazing, nobody had any nervous performance, everybody skied lights out, everybody did as good as they could do, and I think a lot of that was because we were going

into it so confident that we could win."

Sage Pottbecker took home the event's Most Supportive Skier award. Several of her teammates, including junior trick jumper Kenda Nathan, spoke about the impact of her energy, positivity and team spirit throughout the season.

"Sage on our team is the spirit extraordinaire," Nathan said. "When we get in the vans to leave at five in the morning, she's in her pepper costume, chili glasses on, beads on, noisemakers on."

"She's there for everyone, she's just positive energy on our team and she keeps the spirits high, especially during nationals. This year she slalomed and jumped... even on days where she skis, she's fully painted, cheering for people, making sure everyone else is okay," Nathan said.

Sophomore jumper Florian Parth took

home silver with a 182-foot launch in men's jump, just one foot behind gold's distance.

He spoke about the positivity of skiing with Louisiana's team. "The spirit is a thing to admire. It keeps a mixed group of people together," Parth said. "It's really nice, training with your friends and being there for a team."

Winning has more or less sustained the financial viability of the team over the years. With budgeting in student fees, donations and athlete-run fundraisers, the team has only just gotten to prove their talent season after season.

"We really appreciate all of the people who donate to our team," Nathan said. "We are very much student-run, and we collect our own funds. Books are expensive and gas is expensive and skis are expensive, so we really do appreciate the people that help out our team."




Photo Credits: Kirsi Wolfisburg

The Ragin' Cajun Water Ski team celebrates its first place victory in the NCWSA National Championships on Sunday Oct. 12.

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# Allons

## Menendez brothers Netflix show

**Nyria Mustiful**

ALLONS EDITOR

What defines a person as a monster? Is it someone who does something inhumane or unthinkable? Is it someone who commits a vicious crime against humanity? According to the co-creators of the “Monsters” anthology series on Netflix, Ryan Murphy and Ian Brennan, that is the only criteria needed for a person, or people, to be labeled as a monster.

Their latest selection for the label of “monster” in their series was the Menendez brothers, a set of siblings who killed their parents in the late 1980s. Joseph Lyle Menendez (Lyle) and Erik Galen Menendez (Erik), at the ages of 21 and 18 respectively, graphically murdered their parents, Jose Enrique Menendez (Jose) and Mary Louise Menendez (Kitty), on Aug. 20, 1989, in their Beverly Hills home.

This case gained a bunch of traction in the media in the late ‘80s, mainly because of Jose Menendez’s job as an executive for Live Nation and RCA Records, the fact that this was one of the most notable parricides in American history and the murder itself was intensely vile and brutal. Coincidentally, the second trial of the Menendez brother case was occurring

during the O.J. Simpson murder trial.

In “Monsters: The Menendez Brothers”, the audience receives an “in-depth” view into the murder, as well as what led Lyle and Erik to commit such a crime. Episode one, entitled “Blame It on the Rain,” begins after the crime, while the brothers are in a limo, heading to their parents’ funeral service. Lyle is going on and on about how he wants to own a wing franchise called “Mr. Buffalo” and how their dad would be so proud of them.

The most notable part of the episode, in my opinion, was when the boys spoke at the funeral and Lyle closed out his speech by dedicating “Girl, I’m Gonna Miss You” by Milli Vanilli to his mother. I, personally, hadn’t heard much of Milli Vanilli until I watched this show.

Following the funeral, Erik began having intense negative thoughts surrounding participation in the murders and the guilt he began to feel. After wrestling with these thoughts, he calls his therapist, Dr. Oziel, and schedules an impromptu therapy session.

Dr. Oziel, curious about Erik’s frame of mind, beckons Erik to explain to him where his head is at. Erik, folding under pressure and feeling immense sorrow/regret, confesses to Dr. Oziel that he, along with his brother Lyle, murdered their parents, Jose and Kitty. Shocked by

this revelation, Dr. Oziel tells Erik that he feels that he should begin recording the counseling session. Erik gets really defensive about this, but concedes to the recording.

Oziel also suggests to Erik that he call his brother, Lyle, to get both of their sides of the story about the murder. Things sort of start to spiral from there, as Lyle begins freaking out while driving to Dr. Oziel’s office. While waiting for Lyle to get there, Dr. Oziel calls his mistress, Judalon Smith, and tells her to come sit in the office, pretend to be a waiting patient and listen in on his conversation with the boys.

Essentially, Dr. Oziel was trying to trap the boys by having an eye, or ear, witness, since he couldn’t break doctor/patient confidentiality by releasing the tapes or his notes. Smith listened to their entire conversation while sitting on the couch outside, including the part where Lyle basically threatened to murder Dr. Oziel to cover his and Erik’s tracks.

This pretty much sums up the first episode.

I was definitely hooked on the series after watching this episode, especially considering that I had a general understanding of the Menendez case prior to watching the show. I first heard of the case from my mom, who was around six years old when the murder took place, but she grew up hearing about it. When I first heard about it, I thought it was quite insane that two boys could just kill their parents, but it wasn’t until I heard why they did that it made sense.

Episode two, entitled “Spree,” details the life of Lyle and Erik during the months after the murder. The brothers, who already know they are no longer a part of their father’s will, intend on spending as much money as they can until the will is located and executed. Lyle ends up buying a Rolex watch and a brand new Porsche, while Erik hires a top-notch tennis coach so he can join an international team in Israel.

Lyle and Erik believed they were finally in the clear, until Judalon Smith reported to the police, due to Oziel dumping her, that she heard Lyle and Erik confess to murdering their parents in Oziel’s office and that Oziel had recorded them saying as much. From there, the boys were taken into custody by the police and arrested for their parents’ murder.

In episodes three through five, viewers are given insight into why the brothers killed their parents, which was because they had both endured over a decade of mental, physical, emotional and most

importantly, sexual abuse from their father, Jose, and their mother, Kitty, was aware of it, yet did nothing to protect them. As I watched and listened to the accusations the brothers had against their father, I was consistently in tears.

Episodes six through nine were mostly centered on the trials of the case and what prison life was like for Lyle and Erik.

Viewers could also see how the public reacted to the case, from feeling remorseful and sympathetic for the boys to hating their guts and calling for vengeful justice.

In the end, as we all know, Lyle and Erik Menendez were convicted of first degree murder with special circumstances for lying in wait and are currently serving two consecutive life sentences with no parole opportunities. However, I do not believe that ruling was justice in the slightest and the creators of “Monsters: The Menendez Brothers” did not accurately portray Lyle and Erik’s story.

The show definitely tried to steer the audience more towards the opinion of the prosecution, which was that Lyle and Erik killed their parents for money, due to the fact that even if they killed their dad, the inheritance would go to their mom before them.

While I understand that the prosecution’s perspective could be plausible, it feels very negligent to be dismissive of the abuse and to even go as far to imply that the two boys could have possibly been involved in an incestuous relationship that they were attempting to cover up by committing the murder. Also, it’s incredibly disrespectful and insensitive towards Lyle, who admitted to and felt guilty about sexually abusing Erik once, due to trauma.

Recently, there has been an overwhelming wave of support for the Menendez brothers, as new evidence has come out in the past year from an outside individual that has come forward with abuse allegations against Jose Menendez and Erik’s daughter, Talia, has pioneered a TikTok campaign garnering support for the brothers’ release.

It has been recently confirmed that in November, the Los Angeles District Attorney will review their case again, considering the abuse evidence from the brothers and the new person, along with other new evidence. While it is not a guarantee that they will be released from prison, I can definitely say that I am a full supporter of the #FreeTheMenendezBrothers movement.



Graphic by Ellie Schmidt

## Two homes, two lives: Where do I belong? Life as a student abroad

**Joann Seow**

NEWS WRITER

Back in August of 2023, I left home to attend college 10,012 miles away, coming all the way here to Lafayette. I said my goodbyes, left my life behind in Singapore and got myself ready to embrace the new life that awaited me. Ever since I stepped foot into the departure gate that August, I was never the same girl that left again.

The months leading up were bittersweet, filled with goodbyes and “see you soon,” although “soon” meant months or even a year. I met up with both close and old friends, hoping to reconnect with them one last time before I left because I was afraid that the chance to do so would get slimmer once I went abroad.

Every day, I was filled with the fervent desire to experience something “for the last time,” or see someone “for the last time.”

Although, “for the last time” was probably an exaggeration because I can

still travel back home to visit during breaks.

While that filled me with sadness and guilt, I also became a lot more grateful for everything that I had, especially the things, places and people that were easy to take for granted.

I ate with my family almost everyday, went over to my grandmother’s house more to spend time with her and have her food, patronized local eateries like hawker centers more and took the public buses and trains more often. I would go on but the list is endless.

Owing to the fact that it was Singapore’s National Day just two days before my flight, I had a nice closure before I left. Maybe it was because I was about to leave soon, but that day felt extra special for me, and I was filled with pride and love for my country.

I was fortunate enough to have my father, who graduated from here back in 1987, accompany me on my journey here to ease my transition. My sister was still a student here at that time as well, but

she was a graduating senior which meant that she would only be here with me for a semester.

When the fall 2023 semester began, I was initially filled with doubts and uncertainties. I was not sure where I would fit in and worried about finding a place where I belonged.

That was when I discovered Infinity Dance Group, who welcomed me with open arms despite me being different.

Joining the team was one of the best decisions that I ever made. I got to do what I love doing most, dance, and with teammates who became family. The team has been nothing but loving, accepting and supportive. I owe a great deal of my college journey so far to them.

For the most part of the semester though, I still spent most of my time with my sister who was my best friend and pillar of support. She helped assimilate me into this new environment and we forged so many precious memories together. It was a painful goodbye to our time together here when she graduated in December of 2023.

Her graduation meant that I would have to move forward with my college journey completely alone with no family here at all. While that was nerve wracking, I was also excited because I could learn to live independently and experience immense personal growth.

Spring 2024 brought the most change and growth. Being alone for the first time in a foreign country, I had to really push myself out of my comfort zone and make things happen for myself. That was when I joined The Vermilion to further pursue my passion in journalism and gain experience.

The biggest change was that I finally found my people. I put myself out there more, made more connections and forged deeper friendships. I formed a support

system with friends who took away feelings of homesickness. They cared for me and loved me for who I am, looking past all our differences.

Fast forward to the present moment, I am now halfway through my third semester here. While still consistently seeking new experiences and meeting new people, I am in a good place where my life is mostly stable and comfortable, and I have a close knit circle of friends.

Now that I have gotten past the settling down part, my next step is working towards the future. As an international student from a small country, I want to grasp opportunities that I am not able to experience in Singapore while I still can.

Undeniably, my life would be set and secure if I were to just return home after graduation since Singapore has good job prospects and my family is there. However, I have always known that bigger and greater things were waiting for me out in the world. If I never get out of Singapore, I would always remain in that Little Red Dot, wondering about what could be.

Constantly living with this uncertainty about my future, I am also constantly living with guilt. Guilty about leaving my loved ones, missing important occasions like birthdays and holidays, guilty about preferring the lifestyle in the U.S., and guilty for even having the thought of staying in the U.S. past graduation, even if it is just short-term.

It is a complex feeling indeed, wanting to go out there and chase your dreams but feeling guilty for leaving home, where you grew up and where all the people you love are. Also, once you are abroad and start building a life there, you come to a realization that you now have two homes. You have people and a life you love in two very different parts of the world.

Where do you belong then?



Graphic by Ellie Schmidt

# Beaucoup

## College Experiences

The Beaucoup section writes about what experiences or moments changed the way they perceive college or academics. Below are their thoughts.



Graphic by Elizabeth Dybendal

**Ramudhi Kariyawasam**  
MANAGING EDITOR

I would not say it was one experience or moment that entirely changed my perspective of college but rather a collective of experiences that contributed to my altered view.

Being a student who quite literally was a ride-or-die when it came to school, I've come to learn education is not everything.

Let me clarify, education is highly important. It expands our knowledge, helps us to think critically about situations and understand the fundamental processes around us. However, having an education—a degree—

does not guarantee a future. It does not guarantee common sense or kindness. It does not guarantee our life.

It is rather the collective experience—academics, relationships, successes and failures—in university and outside that determines our path forward. The mere days and nights of absorbing words from a textbook does not necessarily teach us to become anything; it solely enhances our understanding of a subject.

Though, our jobs, extracurriculars, the exhausted nights we have to cook dinner for ourselves and our families or clean the house—the hands-on, real-life exposure—does contribute to who we will become and give us the ultimate skills to sagaciously approach life.

**Ellie Schmidt**  
LAYOUT MANAGER

One moment that completely transformed my perspective on college was when I started working with The Vermilion. Before getting involved on campus, most of my time was spent either studying or playing tennis. I was really focused on my academics, but I also felt a lot of uncertainty about my future after graduation, even though I was only in my first year. That sense of fear and isolation was overwhelming.

Getting the opportunity to work with

The Vermilion changed everything. It allowed me to branch out and try new things I never imagined doing. In fact, I never thought a year ago that I'd become the Layout Manager. I actually got the job through my UNIV 100 professor, Matthew Tarver, after submitting my resume for an assignment. He reached out the next semester offering me a job, and since then, I've met incredible people who have become a second family. I can honestly say I've found a home in Lafayette, and that sense of belonging has completely shifted the way I view college life and my future here.

**Kay Padilla**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

To me, college was always a goal to accomplish in life. No one in my family has made it past high school, so I knew I had to go to college.

Once I finished applying, registering and figuring out how to pay for college, I felt lost and confused.

No one that I knew, adult wise, had ever experienced the college scene or wanted to talk about it. Being in a different town, navigating college blindly

and on my own it was terrifying.

I think I didn't start to enjoy college until I joined The Vermilion.

It gave me a space to talk to other students and other first generation individuals.

As well as being paid to do what I love, I met some of my best friends and continue to do so.

It may sound like I am bragging about the newspaper but I don't think I would be the person that I am today without the laughs, challenges and personal triumphs I've experienced working here.

**Geonna Tipton**  
COPY EDITOR

One day I was hanging out with my friend and I completely lost track of time. It was nearly one in the morning before I was heading back to my dorm room and as I walked down the empty streets I realized something. I realized that I am in control of my own life now. No more bedtimes, no more curfews, no more

being grounded for getting home late or getting a bad grade in school.

It was such a relief. That realization that I am an adult now, if I want to stay out late I can. If I want to study so I can get a good grade then that is my decision. That night, walking under the streetlights, it changed my perspective on my life. It made me open my eyes to the reality that I am in college now and my decisions are mine and mine alone.

### Student Organization Ads

pre Professional Society's  
**FALL FLING**  
FUNDRAISING FOR MILES PERRET

NOV 2 | \$15 ENTRY | 11 AM

Join us at the Intramural Fields for a cornhole tournament, pumpkin decorating, food, prizes, and more!

**TRICK-OR-TREAT** at the  
**BOO-SEUM**

COSTUME CONTEST @ 3:30!  
SCIENCE-EXPERIMENTS!  
INDOOR TRICK-OR-TREAT!  
A NOT-SO-SPOOKY FAMILY-FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN EVENT!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27  
2-5 PM

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE SCIENCE MUSEUM  
A UNIVERSITY AND LCG PARTNERSHIP

Phi Mu Alpha Sigma  
invites you to help us support Children's Miracle Network!

**Kickin' & Kookin'**  
Kickball Tournament & Jambalaya Cookoff

November 2, 2024  
11 AM- 2 PM  
Lafayette Little League Fields

Registration is open!  
Link in @ulphimu's bio!

UL COLLEGE DEMS PRESENT:  
**CANDIDATE FORUM!**  
MEET WHO IS ON THE BALLOT!

DATE: SATURDAY OCT. 26  
TIME: 4PM-6PM  
LOCATION: UL STUDENT UNION BAYOU BIJOU  
STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFO!

# SOUNDING OFF

**"What would you name the alligators in the swamp?"**



**Amyah Kately**  
PSYCHOLOGY FRESHMAN

*"Gilgore because I like that name."*



**Kassidee Achane**  
KINESIOLOGY SOPHOMORE

*"Gator because it is the only thing I can think of."*



**Natalie Davis**  
MASS COMMUNICATION FRESHMAN

*"Gibsy because it reminds me of Gibby from ICarly."*



**Jordan Richard**  
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT FRESHMAN

*"Billy, because it just sounds like a Billy."*



**Jared Hollins**  
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING FRESHMAN

*"I'd name him Garfield because he looks like a Garfield, or Timothy."*



**Micah Hayden**  
FILM FRESHMAN

*"John, no not John. Bartholomew. It's very striking, it is very eye opening, you know, head turning. It is a good name."*

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 Makayla Walker.

## COMIC

# Tastes Like Chicken



# UL JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Friday, Oct 25  
7pm

Angelle Auditorium  
Free admission

UL's 19-piece big band plays jazz selections by Count Basie, Bob Florence, Hank Levy, John Clayton, Doc Severinsen and more.

