



# THE VERMILLION



The University of Louisiana at Lafayette Student Newspaper  October 2, 2025

## Fall 2025 census reveals a continued enrollment growth for the University

**Joann Seow**  
NEWS EDITOR

This fall, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette welcomed its largest freshman class in its history and also saw an overall rise in total enrollment, with increases in undergraduate, graduate and online enrollment totals. This growth is expected to have a positive impact on the University amidst a time of budget realignment.

According to a press release put out by the Office of Communications and Marketing, "UL Lafayette welcomed 3,214 first-time freshmen this fall, a 4.8% increase over last year."

"This is the third year in a row that the incoming freshman class has exceeded 3,000 students," noted Dr. DeWayne Bowie, vice president for Enrollment Management.

The record-high intake of freshmen was announced at the 2025 Freshman Convocation that took place in the Cajundome at the beginning of the semester. Dr. Beth Giroir, executive director for Student Success Initiatives, who also oversees the Office of First-Year Experience, shared, "We've been pleased, and we thought our Cajun Craze went really, really well this year." She added, "We were excited to have ... a large majority of our new, incoming, first-year students come to convocation."

In the past decade, the University has been seeing a gradual decline in total enrollment. According to the Office of Institutional Research's census enrollment dashboard, the total enrollment as of Fall 2016 was 17,519, falling to 15,219 in Fall 2022. Subsequently, the numbers have been slowly picking up, the total enrollment as of Fall 2024 was 15,665. As reported by the Office of Communications and Marketing, the Fall 2024 census showed a total enrollment of 19,723 students.

Dr. Dianne Olivier, the interim provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, wrote over email, "We're encouraged to see more students choosing the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Growth in enrollment reflects the confidence that students and families have in our academic programs and in the value of a UL Lafayette degree."

Of the total enrollment for Fall 2025, 16,100 are degree-seeking students, this includes 13,828 undergraduates and 2,272 graduate students. The remaining 3,623 are "non-degree students in training courses, certifications and Professional and Continuing Education programs." From information provided by the Office of Communications and Marketing, among the undergraduates, 982 students are under dual enrollment, cross enrollment, the UL LIFE Program or are visiting students.

At the graduate level, there was a 10.6% increase in continuing graduate students, with 1,692 students pursuing master's degrees and 547 enrolled in doctoral programs.

Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser, dean of Graduate School, commented, "One of the most beautiful trends that I saw in the data for this fall was that we had an incredible retention rate of our graduate students."

"That's a testament to our graduate students' ability to persist, and our faculty's commitment to ensuring that those graduate students continue into their second and third and fourth year."

Sharing her thoughts on the impact of the growth of graduate enrollment, Farmer-Kaiser pointed out that it feeds into faculty size for the University. "Our graduate students ... play a really significant role in supporting our undergraduate students. Many of our Ph.D. students teach their own courses, ... Many of our graduate students also are lab instructors."

Narrowing down to enrollment-based numbers of colleges, the College of Liberal Arts saw the greatest enrollment numbers, with a total of 2,661 students, this includes 2,358 undergraduate students and 303 graduate students. This puts it as the largest college for undergraduates.

Dr. Ani Kokobobo, dean of Liberal Arts, commented, "We're very diverse. We have about nine different departments, and some of those departments have different divisions in between, ... so we have so many different disciplines in the college." She continued, "Some of our biggest courses are our general education courses, and those are gateway courses for the entire student body." Discussing the moderation of class sizes to ensure that student learning is maximized, Kokobobo said, "The major specific courses will be more moderated, so the size there is probably closer to 40, ... as opposed to over 100 like we see in the Gen Ed courses."

"We want students to get different

learning environments. So you can have a big lecture class, but you also need more individualized, more smaller classes," she added.

With more students on campus, comes the question as to whether the University is prepared to accommodate the growth. In response, Olivier stated, "Over the past year, Academic Affairs has worked closely with our colleges to evaluate course offerings, classroom space and support services."

"We've expanded sections in high-demand courses, invested in instructional technology and strengthened advising and tutoring programs so that students are supported from day one."

From a financial standpoint, Dr. Edwin Litolff, vice president for Administration and Finance and chief financial officer, said, "We started putting in the fiscal constraints, really after the semester started, so all the classes were covered ... all the classes have faculty." The news of enrollment growth comes during a period of uncertainty with an ongoing budget deficit that led to recent cuts in auxiliary and operational spendings. Litolff shared that the increase in students would be a potential source for a revenue increase for the University, which is to have some positive impact on the University's funding for areas covered by tuition.

On the whole, the enrollment growth allows UL Lafayette to continue having the opportunity to strive for greater developments to improve the University.

"Enrollment growth allows us to broaden academic offerings and enhance student experiences. It can create opportunities for new programs that meet workforce needs, encourage innovation in curriculum design and enrich classroom discussions by bringing more diverse perspectives," Olivier stated.

More details and information regarding Fall 2025 census and the enrollment growth can be found under University News on UL Lafayette's website.



Photo by Alyus Dick  
Student section at the Louisiana vs McNeese State Sept. 6th.

## How to practice safer habits for enhancing a fun night Downtown

**Jenna Kimball**  
NEWS WRITER

Many students at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette spend their weekends in Downtown Lafayette. While going out and having fun is not a bad thing, it does come with risks that students should keep in mind.

There are multiple clubs and bars Downtown that offer drinks, food and dancing for anyone over the age of 18. These places provide a place for students to hangout and socialize outside of the school environment.

Many of the most popular locations Downtown are in the zip code 70501. According to CrimeGrade.org, "70501 ranks in the 5th percentile for safety, meaning it is safer than 5% of zip codes but less safe than 95%."

Sergeant Lance Frederick of the ULPD provided a list of tips that can help keep students safe on their nights out.

First, before going out, it's crucial to make sure all phones and electronics are charged. If a student needs help getting back to their car, the police stationed outside of the buildings can help if the location of the car is on a phone. Even if the location is not on a phone, having a charged device allows for students to phone a friend for help.

Secondly, students should always have a plan for getting to and from the location that they're going to and they should make sure that all valuables are hidden and out of sight in their vehicles.

Frederick said, "Have a plan for getting home. Don't leave your valuables

visible in your car. That is a huge one because they'll come back and some of this stuff is stolen. When we find out where it was, it was right there in the open."

The third, fourth and fifth tips all go together. Don't ever go alone, don't leave anyone behind and figure out a meeting spot. Everyone should be aware of a safe meeting spot to go to if someone happens to get separated from the group. Frederick said, "Another one people don't think about is having a safe meeting spot. If you get separated from your friends, if their phone dies, if their friend can't hear the phone because the music is playing too loud, whatever the case may be, they need to have a place that they would meet in case one of them is ready to go or they lose track of each other."

He continued, "Don't go alone, don't leave with anyone you didn't show up with, don't leave anyone behind, that's a big one and trust your instincts. If it feels shady, it's because it is."

Sixth, make sure you have eyes on drinks at all times. It's incredibly easy for people with bad intentions to slip something into a drink as they pass by. Students should never leave drinks unattended, always cover them and never accept any drinks that were not made in front of them.

Frederick said, "Don't leave it anywhere. Don't drink anything that you didn't see get made in front of you because, again, people can put special K, ketamine, or something like that inside the drink. It's tasteless, smell-less and

doesn't make a sud. You can't tell it's in there until it's too late."

Lastly, students should always be aware of their surroundings no matter where they are or how intoxicated they are. It is typically a good idea to have either a designated driver or a plan for an Uber or Lyft. If there is a designated driver, they should park in a well-lit area instead of between buildings.

Kayon Hall, a freshman nursing major, explained that when she goes Downtown, she goes with a group of friends. "We normally Uber so nobody has to drive and we always try to make sure at least one person is sober the whole night, so you know everybody can get home. When we get back to campus, we all try to walk each other to our dorms, but we all really live in the

same place, so you know, we don't have to do too much."

Goddiss Burch, a junior health information management major, said, "What I do when I go Downtown is I don't go alone. I make sure I'm with a big group of people, and I always watch my surroundings, like, no matter how the night goes, I watch my surroundings."

David Druilhet, a junior business management major, said, "I'd make sure I'm with a large group of people that I trust for going Downtown. I'd never go alone, and be aware of your surroundings."

While there are things that can go wrong when venturing to Downtown Lafayette, these tips can make it easier to stay safe and still have fun.



Photo by Ellie Schmidt  
Blocked off intersection in Downtown Lafayette

### News

#### CHARLIE KIRK ASSASSINATION

Conservative commentator Charlie Kirk was assassinated while speaking at UVU. His death has sparked controversy and division.

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### Sports

#### IT'S LUNCH TIME

Louisiana beat Marshall University 54-51 in a double overtime thriller, with quarterback Lunch Winfield stepping in.

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### Allons

#### FALLING INTO FASHION

Allons writer, Mary Allen, writes a fall fashion guide for all the latest trends, perfect for early morning lectures or seasonal activities.

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### Beaucoup

#### COFFEE BY THE BUCKETLOAD

Beaucoup editor, Isabelle Brumley, reviews She Brews It, a new local coffee shop taking on Lafayette one bucket of coffee at a time.

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# Kiwibot struck by maintenance truck while crossing Rex street

**Kayla Woods-Crane**  
MANAGING EDITOR

A popular video online showed a University of Louisiana at Lafayette maintenance truck turning right onto Rex St. from E St. Mary Blvd. and striking a Kiwibot that was crossing the street. The bot flipped over from the impact, but was not run over by the truck. Behind the camera, the recorder jokingly said, "I just witnessed a murder."

The in-person reaction to the collision and the overall student response to it proved students noticed and cared for the four-wheeled robots that are constantly bustling around campus. In rain, sleet or snow, a UL Lafayette student can count on a Kiwibot to be somewhere rolling around campus.

The delivery robots first came in January 2023 and have since become a noticeable part of the campus culture. Franklin Caldwell, a sophomore majoring in business management, described his feelings towards the Kiwibots,

"Man, I feel like they cool people, bro. They some chill bots, ... I just always see them around campus."

Reacting to the video of the Kiwibot being run over, Caldwell said the incident was a tragedy. "I always speak to the bots... if I'm passing them up, or they passing me... If I don't feel like speaking, I wave, you know what I'm saying? They always squinting, you know. Yeah. But overall, it was real tragic."

Treyton Leonard, a junior majoring in business studies, said he laughed when

he saw the video, but overall it was a little sad watching the bot get run over.

Abbigale Landry, a freshman majoring in industrial design, said if she did live on campus she would use the Kiwibot service at least once. "I want to know how it works. I keep looking for somebody who has done it because I'm intrigued on how it works."

The Kiwibots are owned and created by a Columbian owned startup named Kiwi Campus, or Kiwi. The company started in 2017, delivering food in Berkeley, California, and on the Stanford campus in Palo Alto, California.

The Bots have six cameras and binocular vision for navigation and hazard avoidance. Through their programming, the Bots are able to stay centered on the sidewalk and roll on their own, making them largely autonomous. In riskier scenarios, like crossing the street, human operators at the company's center in Medellín, Columbia, monitor their progress at waypoints and take control when needed.

They use artificial intelligence and machine learning, which is a type of artificial intelligence that uses statistical data so the bot can perform tasks without explicit instructions. For example, the bots can modify their speed on sidewalks depending on the proximity of people.

Beyond their convenience, the Kiwibots have become a key part of campus culture. One noticeable detail about them is their changing eyes that indicate different emotions, an intentional choice made by its designers.

In a blog on the Kiwibot website, Alejandro Otálora, the director of Product Design at Kiwibot, said the intention in giving the them emotion is "to connect more with our target audiences, so that they feel us as a close brand and adopt the delivery bot as part of their lives and as a member of their community."

This intentional choice is working on UL Lafayette's campus. Landry noted that she tries not to personify the robots, but still finds it hard. "I want to think of them as just robots and then I see their eyes change, and then they feel like people," she said.

Similarly, Leonard said he feels like the Bots are a part of campus. "I mean, I've seen them a lot around campus so far, so... they are essentially a part of UL now."

To use the Kiwibot delivery service, download the Grubhub app and place your order from campus restaurants such as Chick-fil-A or McAlister's. According to Grubhub, robot delivery is found on more than 20 college campuses.

When ordering, students can use various forms of payment, including declining balance, credit card and other mobile payment methods.

The bots deliver to every residential and academic building on the University's main campus.

They do not go into buildings, so orders will have to be picked up outside. Athletic facilities are not included in delivery locations.

Any student can order from the bots, as long as they are on campus at the time of delivery.



Photo by Gracelyn Holland  
Kiwibots lined up outside of the Ragin' Cajun Food Court.

## Police Reports

Compiled by Caitlyn Comeaux

### Sept. 27

- At 11:14 p.m., a call was received in reference to a medical emergency at Bourgeois Hall.
- At 1:59 p.m., officers were dispatched to Legacy Park Apartments in reference to a parking lot crash between a 2014 silver Toyota 4-Runner and a 2019 silver Nissan Rogue. No injuries were reported and no arrests were made.
- At 3:44 a.m., in the 2900 block of Johnston St., an officer conducted a traffic stop. A plastic baggie containing two grams of methamphetamine and a glass pipe were found. An arrest was made.

### Sept. 26

- At 12:30 p.m., a theft of an electric scooter at the Edith Garland Dupré Library was reported. Officers responded and conducted an investigation.
- At 7:58 a.m., officers were dispatched to E Lewis St. for a traffic crash involving a pedestrian and a 2006 gray Nissan Frontier. Acadian Ambulance transported the pedestrian to the local hospital. A citation was issued and no arrests were made.

### Sept. 25

- At 9:11 p.m., officers received a report that a scooter was stolen from the Student Union.

### Sept. 24

- At 10:27 a.m., officers were dispatched to Maxim Doucet Hall in reference to an e-mail complaint of suspicious marking in a restroom.








### Sept. 23

- At 10:00 p.m., an incident report was completed regarding a battery that occurred in Baker Hall. Subject was arrested and released on a misdemeanor summons.
- At 7:17 p.m., officers were dispatched to Corona Hall in reference to a disturbance and battery between roommates. An arrest was made.

### Sept. 22

- At 9:19 p.m., officers responded to the Intramural Sports Complex for a hit-and-run involving a 2021 silver Honda Accord.
- At 5:47 p.m., a parking lot crash occurred on the third floor of St. Francis Parking Tower between a 2007 red Nissan Altima and a 2021 white Toyota Camry. Officers responded and no arrests were made.

## Weather

Thursday 10/2	Friday 10/3	Saturday 10/4	Sunday 10/5	Monday 10/6	Tuesday 10/7	Wednesday 10/8
 High: 88 F Low: 68 F	 High: 86 F Low: 67 F	 High: 85 F Low: 69 F	 High: 86 F Low: 69 F	 High: 87 F Low: 70 F	 High: 89 F Low: 70 F	 High: 88 F Low: 68 F

**Isabelle Brumley**

BEAUCOUP EDITOR

- Tropical Storm Imelda is expected to impact the Carolinas early in the week; emergency declarations have already been issued.
- Humberto continues to swirl in the Atlantic as a major hurricane and it could impact Bermuda as early as this week.

- Over the past weekend, Super Typhoon Ragasa made landfall in southern China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, killing at least 17.

## WHERE'S ALLAN?



This weekend I have no plans at all. So, I'm going to go here to watch some UL football. Where am I?

Last Issue's Answer:  
Taft Street  
Parking Garage

### 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](mailto:TheVermilion@louisiana.edu) will receive the prize. 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.



**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!**

## Politics

# Charlie Kirk shot on Utah campus

**Gracie Cormier, Andrew Courville**  
NEWS WRITER, CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Charlie Kirk, a conservative activist and co-founder of Turning Point USA (TPUSA), was fatally shot while visiting Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah, to host a public debate on Sept. 10, 2025, for his American Comeback Tour.

Kirk was pronounced dead once he arrived at Timpanogos Regional Hospital. President Donald Trump announced his death via Truth Social at 2:40 p.m.. Trump's announcement read, "The Great, and even Legendary, Charlie Kirk, is dead... He was loved and admired by ALL, especially me, and now, he is no longer with us."

Videos of the event on social media show the shooting, Kirk collapsing, and the crowd ducking and running from the scene.

The suspect, 22-year-old Tyler Robinson, a Utah resident, has been



Photo by Ellie Schmidt

charged with aggravated murder, felony discharge of a firearm causing serious bodily injury, obstruction of justice, two counts of witness tampering and commission of a violent offense in the presence of a child. He is being held without bond.

Robinson has been appointed a state attorney, and prosecutors have said they are seeking the death penalty. His next court appearance was set for Sept. 29.

Kirk's wife, Erika, gave a public address two days after the shooting, thanking TPUSA employees, Trump and Vice President JD Vance.

A memorial was held for Kirk in Arizona on Sept. 21, where Erika Kirk announced that she would be taking over as the leader of TPUSA. She also stated that she forgave her husband's killer. She condemned political violence, saying, "When you stop the conversation, when you stop the dialogue, this is what happens. When we lose the ability and the willingness to communicate, we get violence." Trump praised Erika Kirk at the event and shared an optimistic view of her leadership in TPUSA. He shared that he believed he was different from Kirk in his feelings toward his opponents, saying, "I hate my opponent." He continued, "And I don't want the best for them."

The TPUSA chapter at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette hosted a prayer vigil for Kirk in the Student Union Patio on Sept. 12. In a statement to The Vermilion, chapter president Louis Cohn said that, "As to the act of the assassination itself, the normalization of political violence is a dangerous precedent now set in American society."

Cohn then explained that, as University College President, he wanted to pass a resolution through the Student Government Association (SGA) condemning all political violence, along

with its glorification. Resolution No. 9, submitted by Cohn to SGA, did not pass.

Other political figures have swiftly condemned the violence. Spencer Cox, governor of Utah, asked that "Americans of every political persuasion must unite in condemning this act." Former President Barack Obama said, "This kind of despicable violence has no place in our democracy."

A Sept. 12 YouGov poll shows that 77% of Americans believe political violence is unacceptable.

The Cato Institute reports that, although political violence is statistically a small portion of overall violent crime, since 2020, politically motivated terrorist attacks resulted in 79 victims tragically losing their lives.

Late-night talk show host Jimmy Kimmel made statements joking about the assassination that led to his eventual preemption. After intense backlash from ABC affiliates and Brendan Carr, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, ABC decided to suspend Jimmy Kimmel Live indefinitely. ABC allowed him to return to air on Sept. 23, when he apologized for any distress he caused.

Dr. David Hughes, a political science professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with an expertise in American law and courts, commented on free speech and Kimmel. He pointed out that it is constitutionally sound for individuals privately employed to be fired or suspended for their speech.

He elaborated that, "It concerns me... that the quality of our public discourse could be diluted, that we might lose something in the process. I happen to be a pretty big fan of the idea that people can vigorously discuss ideas, disagree and still call it a day."

Dr. William Davie, a communication professor at the University, with an

expertise in law and ethics, asserted that "Charlie Kirk was a polarizing figure, and he intended to be. He wanted to debate." According to Davie, "Our chief enemy is identity aversion bias and that is the desire to not be around people who think differently than we do, because we don't want to try to understand their thoughts."

Dr. Rick Swanson, a political science professor at the University, described in a statement the source of polarization in the U.S. that he claimed leads to these examples of political violence, "The polarization that comes from having only two major opposing political parties has been worsened by the rise of social media bubbles and news media bubbles." Remarking on free speech, Swanson continued, "If you think it's okay to kill someone because you don't like what they say, or because of what they believe, or because of who they are, the logical endpoint of what you're calling for is genocide. And when tens of millions of people are on each side, the logical endpoint of calling for political violence is mutual genocide."

On the solution to political polarization, Swanson stated, "We can choose respectful disagreement and peace, or mutual hate and destruction. So instead of choosing the side of the left or the right, let us choose the side of humanity."

Hughes summarized his view of the future in the political climate, saying, "I'm kind of just waiting to see what's the final straw before we get a reorganization of the parties, because this level of polarization is not sustainable."

Dr. Davie echoed that "To make America great again, we have to make America good again... I mean willing to accept others, ignoring our differences in order to find our commonalities and to unite as a people."

## Health

## In the waters: Vibriosis cases surge

**Reese Provost**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The state of Louisiana has recently seen an unusual increase in cases of vibriosis caused by *Vibrio vulnificus*, resulting in 26 confirmed cases, five of them resulting in death, with the most recent one being recorded on Sept. 17, 2025. It should also be noted that all cases resulted in hospitalization. Of the 26 cases, 85% were exposed to seawater and 92% reported having at least one underlying health condition. These numbers exceed Louisiana's annual average, that being 10 cases and one death.

This year, Florida has confirmed 25 cases and five deaths while Alabama has recorded 30 cases. Mississippi has reported three cases and one death and Texas has reported five cases.

Vibriosis is a disease caused by over 20 species of *Vibrio* bacteria, including parahaemolyticus, alginolyticus and *vulnificus*. It should be noted that *Vibrio cholerae* causes the infectious disease cholera, not vibriosis.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), typical symptoms include fever, vomiting, nausea, cramping of the abdomen and diarrhea. Wound infections by *V. vulnificus* can be characterized by dead skin surrounding the open wound or area of infection. Symptoms of blood infection, also known as sepsis, include fever, chills, low blood pressure, skin lesions and septic shock. *V. vulnificus* also has a short incubation period, meaning onset of symptoms is relatively fast.

*V. vulnificus* is a water-borne bacteria, usually living in brackish coastal water and being more active during months with higher temperatures. They can also live in or on different kinds of seafood, especially shellfish. It is reported in Gulf states such as Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and Florida. It is not typically transmitted from person to person.

Its main modes of transmission are through open wounds and ingestion of

raw or undercooked seafood. Primary sites of infection are wounds, the bloodstream and the intestinal tract. Individuals with underlying health conditions, such as immunodeficiency or autoimmunity in the intestinal tract, are also more prone to infection than others. Most cases are linked to contact with seawater, while fewer cases are reported to have been from ingestion.

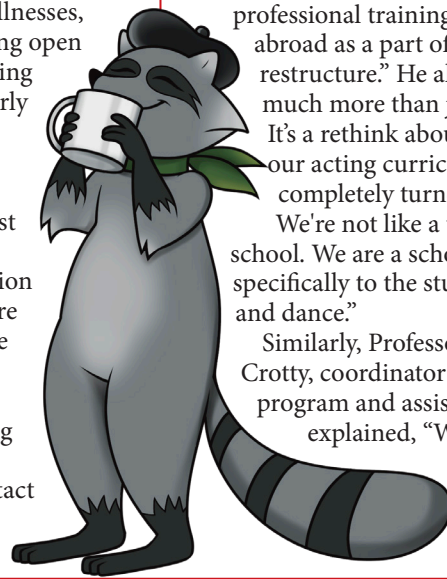
The bacteria will stay around the area of the wound, killing the tissue around it while it remains in the blood of the cavity. Once the bacteria enters the bloodstream, it will replicate, causing death of red blood cells and causing inflammation from the host's immune response. If ingested, the bacteria will release toxins that can damage and inflame the intestinal organs, which is what causes vomiting, nausea, cramping and diarrhea.

The CDC suggests if someone suspects their wound is infected by *V. vulnificus*, treatment should begin immediately. Administration of antibiotics is highly recommended, especially doxycycline or a cephalosporin, both of which require a prescription by a health care provider. Dead skin tissue should be removed from the infection area. Intestinal infections are usually mild, but plentiful liquid consumption is also recommended.

Safety precautions to avoid vibriosis, and many other infectious illnesses, include cleaning and covering open wounds, especially when going into open waters, and properly cleaning and cooking raw meat of any kind. Infection by *V. vulnificus* can be life-threatening, so action against it should be immediate.

Given that coastal recreation and seafood consumption are prevalent in Louisiana, these precautions are essential for avoiding infection.

If someone is experiencing the aforementioned symptoms, they should contact a health care provider immediately.



## Arts and Culture

## New School of Dance and Theatre

**Sadie Lynn Burrell**  
GRAPHICS ASSISTANT EDITOR

As of Fall 2025, the School of Music and Performing Arts separated into the School of Music and the School of Dance and Theatre. This decision was long-awaited by the former Performing Arts program and was put into motion by College of the Arts Dean, Daryl Joseph Moore. The College of the Arts will no longer have any programs or departments, instead it will be comprised of several different schools.

The school most affected by this change is the School of Dance and Theatre. Spring 2025 will mark the 50th year of the theatre department at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and the dance department is only a few years older. In the past, the dance and theatre programs were separated, before former Dean H. Gordon Brooks made the decision to merge them into the School of Music and Performing Arts.

This change opens up new opportunities for the school. Professor Carl Granieri, coordinator of the theatre department, stated, "[The change] allows us to think differently about who we are. We restructured all of our curriculum... Our programming has changed, and we've done a full overhaul. Dance is offering so many new options..."

He continued, "We introduced professional training initiative abroad as a part of this restructure." He also said, "it's much more than just a rebrand. It's a rethink about the way our acting curriculum is being completely turned inside out... We're not like a unit inside a school. We are a school dedicated specifically to the study of theatre and dance."

Similarly, Professor Michael Crotty, coordinator of the dance program and assistant professor explained, "We have a really unique opportunity to revisit what our role

is in the performing arts, and how we can reach out to the community based on that... We have a lot of exciting new performance opportunities and a handful that are collaborative. So we're making a decision as a department to move forward with devised programs that are an integration of dance and theatre, which is really exciting."

When it comes to benefiting students, Sara Birk, interim director of the new school, said, "They're going out in the world, and they're coming out of a school of dance and theatre... There's no question to a potential employer, to someone who's looking at them for internships or job opportunities post graduation."

She also explained that some people didn't even know the school had a dance and theatre program. Prospective students interested in either would move on from UL Lafayette, not even realizing the opportunities at the University.

Laurel Greenway, a senior acting major specializing in stage management, agreed. She said, "I think Performing Arts is very broad, so I think it's good to be, like, this is the dance and theatre department... I think it'll help us be more recognized. And I think it draws more attention as well, easier to remember."

Fellow dance major, senior Amyra Menard, said, "Usually dancers or, like, artists period, don't get the recognition that they should. So I feel like this new name change is a step closer to that, and as well, also acknowledges the years of growth and excellence from both dance and theatre side."

On the practical side, Ray Selle, a junior theatre tech/design major specializing in lighting design, shared, "I think it was a good decision, especially since our director was in Angelle, which is not a building theatre and dance uses, except for State [of LA Danse]... So now when we need to go meet with her, it's more centralized."

Overall, students and faculty alike are very excited about each being their own independent department and look forward to making more art as the School of Dance and Theatre.

## THE VERMILION

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## 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. 5

## INSTRUCTIONS

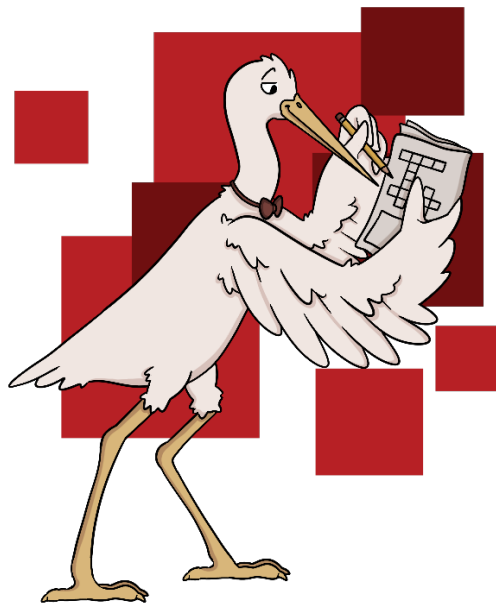
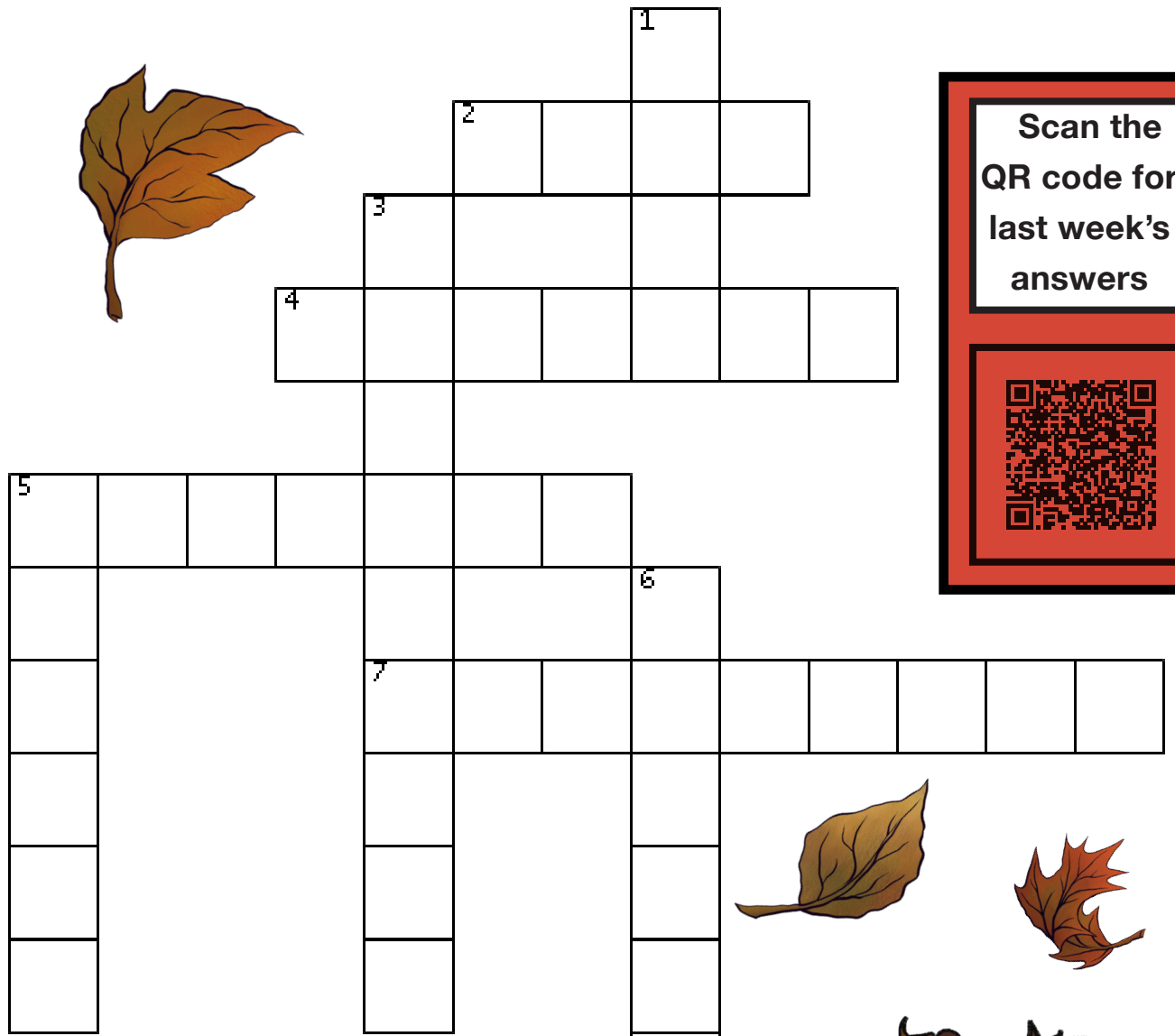
The answers can be found throughout the newspaper, so make sure to thoroughly read each story. Try to find all of them and see if you got them correct in the answers provided in the next issue's crossword search!

### ACROSS

2. Which state is Capital University in?
4. Who was the quarterback for the Colts in Super Bowl XLI (last name)?
5. Kiwibots are a key part of campus \_\_\_\_.
7. What kind of tea did Isabelle Brumley's colleague get?

### DOWN

1. What kind of skirt is worn the most during fall?
3. What should students keep hidden in their cars when they go to Downtown Lafayette?
5. As reported by the Office of Communications and Marketing, the Fall 2024 \_\_\_\_ showed a total enrollment of 19,723 students.
6. Last name of the Cajun linebacker who sacked Marshall's quarterback (two words).



## Cajun Candids UL Tailgate

Photos by Alyus Dick



# Sports

## Winfield leads Cajuns to close win

**Jake Allelo**  
SPORTS WRITER

In a rematch from last year's Sun Belt Conference championship, the Ragin' Cajuns beat the Marshall University Thundering Herd in a 54-51 double overtime victory, avenging their loss from last year.

The Cajuns' win was emboldened by quarterback Lunch Winfield stepping in to lead after starting quarterback Daniel Beale's back-to-back interceptions halfway in the third quarter.

Prior to this game, the Cajuns were 1-3 and the Herd was 2-2, both teams had not faced a SBC opponent yet in the season.

Early on, Beale and the offense were only able to establish a short running game, as the ever-reliable duo of Zylan Perry and Bill Davis were unable to have sustained successful reps.

Marshall quarterback Carlos Del Rio-Wilson showed glimpses of his versatility at the field general position, quickly putting the Herd in field-goal position at the 43-yard line. Kicker Lorcan Quinn would make it 3-0 for Marshall, with nine minutes, 52 seconds left in the first quarter.

The first quarter was a defensive back-and-forth, as the Cajuns were forced to kick a field goal after recovering a Marshall punt-return fumble, making the score 3-3, with six minutes, 46 seconds left.

As the second quarter began, the Cajuns and the Herd stayed neck and neck, with their offenses being relegated to short gains and defenses providing their smothering best.

Del Rio-Wilson would score the first touchdown of the game after multiple runs, along with a successful extra point by Quinn, bringing the game to 10-3, with 10 minutes, 51 seconds left in the second quarter.

In what was probably the best set piece of the Beale offense, the Cajuns would march from the 25-yard line to

the opposite 19-yard line, where Perry would cut through the Herd's defense like butter for a touchdown. With Tony Sterner's extra point, the score went to 10-10 with six minutes, 41 seconds left in the second.

After a quick turnover on downs by Marshall, Beale would bring the offense downfield, largely helped by a roughing the passer foul on Marshall, and Davis was able to get the Cajuns to the 6-yard line. Winfield ran it in, bringing the score to 17-10 with less than two minutes in the half.

Marshall and Del Rio-Wilson responded with a lightning quick march downfield, ending with a 32-yard touchdown pass to wide-receiver Demarcus Lacey to bring the game to 17-17 at the end of the first half.

Not to be outdone by themselves, Marshall received the ball to start the third quarter, and the dance-level finesse of Del Rio-Wilson set up a 68-yard run for Michael Allen, bringing the game to 24-17.

Unfortunately, that is where things began to unravel for the Cajuns, as a haphazard offense, even aided by a roughing the passer penalty, resulted in Beale's pass being tipped and brought back 46 yards by defensive lineman Paul Hutson III.

With the score at 31-17 the Cajuns received the ball, only for Beale to throw another interception, leading to a 21-yard Marshall field goal.

Winfield began warming up to lead the offense, with six minutes, 55 seconds left in the third quarter and with the score at 34-17. The energy changed immediately, and the reinvigoration of the Cajuns could be felt throughout the stadium.

The offense made its way to the 18-yard line where they would be forced to kick, bringing the score to 20-34 to end the quarter.

After a missed Marshall field goal, Winfield, Davis and a pass interference call on Marshall brought the Cajuns

to the 2-yard line. Winfield ran it in, making it 27-34.

Del Rio-Wilson put together a steady gain of yards, and after being sacked by Cajun linebacker Jake St. Andre, the Cajuns got the ball back. A touchdown pass to Charles Robertson, paired with a crucial targeting call on Marshall, brought the score to 34-34.

Marshall then systematically marched down the field, and a 27-yard touchdown by Lacey made it 41-34, with only one minute, one second left in the game.

Due to the effort of Perry and wide receiver Landon Strother, Winfield was able to find wide receiver Dale Martin, whose 25-yard touchdown run tied up the game at 41-41 with 16 seconds left on the clock.

It is worth mentioning that Martin came to this team as a walk-on quarterback who began taking reps as a scout team wide receiver, and worked his way up to a full time wideout for the Cajuns. Without him, the Cajuns could not have kept fighting.

The end of regulation began with Marshall winning the coin toss and choosing to defend. On the first play

of overtime, a handoff to Perry led to a 25-yard touchdown, making the score 48-41 in the first overtime.

Marshall responded with a touchdown from Adrian Norton, tying the game again.

In the second overtime, Marshall started with the ball, leading to a 46-yard field goal attempt after the Cajuns received a penalty. With the score at 51-48, the Cajuns had to score or lose.

After an incomplete pass and two runs, Winfield ran it in for those last 10 yards and won the game for the Cajuns, 54-51.

This game was the kindling needed to get this team on the right track. Winfield was cold as ice and

poised to turn this team around. The hope being that with him at the helm, the Cajuns are a more efficient offense with serious running capability. The Cajuns offensive line deserves a statue, they are injured, but unwilling to back down.

The only thing left to do now is set the table, put out the plates, fill the glasses and ring the bell to let everyone know that it's lunchtime.



Photo by Jarrett Roberts  
Lunch Winfield (2) scores the game winning touchdown in double overtime against the Marshall Thundering Herd Sept. 28

## Louisiana's greatest defensive player: Charles 'Peanut' Tillman

**Charles Martin**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Charles "Peanut" Tillman is the greatest defensive player ever produced by the Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns. He spent 12 years in the NFL after being drafted in the second round by the Chicago Bears in the 2003 NFL Draft.

At the end of his 12-year career, he would retire with the most defensive touchdowns by a Bears' defensive back and most interceptions by a Bears' corner. He also holds an NFL record for most forced fumbles in a season (10) and most forced fumbles in a game.

His long career was marked not just with success on the field, but off it as well. He would spend much of his time in Chicago, where he was born, helping the local community. His hard work was acknowledged with the 2013 Walter Payton Man of the Year Award.

Charles Tillman was born on Feb. 23, 1981, in Chicago, Illinois, though he would not grow up there. Tillman would spend much of his early life moving around as his father was a sergeant in the Army. Eventually he would graduate from Copperas Cove High School in

Copperas Cove, Texas, about an hour north of Austin.

Tillman played for the Louisiana Ragin' Cajuns, starting at left cornerback all four years he played, from 1999-2002. He played alongside Ivan "Ike" Taylor, who later played for the Pittsburgh Steelers. Tillman would be named First-Team All-Sun Belt his final two seasons playing for the Cajuns.

Tillman declared for the 2003 NFL Draft, where he was drafted by the Bears in the second round (35th overall), making him the highest drafted player in Cajun history.

Entering training camp, the rookie battled for the third corner spot.

By the end of camp he was named the backup by Bears head coach Dick Jauron, sitting him just behind the starters R. W. McQuarters and Jerry Azumah.

Tillman got his first of many forced fumbles in his very first game against the San Francisco 49ers, forcing a fumble out of Jimmy Williams while covering a punt return.

Following an 0-3 start by the Bears in the 2003 season, the rookie was named the starter over Azumah going into

the team's week five game against the Oakland Raiders.

His first career interception came a few weeks later in a Bears 24-16 win over the Detroit Lions.

It would not take long for his second, as the next week he picked off Drew Brees during another Bears win over the San Diego Chargers.

The Bears finished the 2003 season going 7-9, missing the playoffs.

Though he did not win Defensive Rookie of the Year, Tillman finished his rookie campaign with 86 combined tackles (79 solo), 12 pass deflections, four interceptions, two forced fumbles and a sack. Dick Jauron was fired and replaced by Lovie Smith.

The 2005 season helped lay the foundation for one of the most legendary defenses of the 21st century. Tillman finished the season with 93 total tackles (82 solo), 11 pass deflections, five interceptions, four forced fumbles, one sack and even a touchdown.

The Bears won the NFC North going 11-5 with a bye, playing a divisional round matchup against the Carolina Panthers.

Tillman performed well in his first playoff game, racking up six solo tackles and a pass deflection, though the Bears lost 29-21. This was just the foundation for the next season.

The Bears' 2006 season is one of their greatest in franchise history, after finishing 13-3 they played in Super Bowl XLI against Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts.

Tillman was a massive contributor to the best defense in the league, and possibly the greatest defense of the 2000s.

He finished with 81 total tackles (65 solo), 14 pass deflections, five interceptions, a forced fumble and fumble recovery and a touchdown.

The Bears beat the Seattle Seahawks in a 27-24 overtime game that saw Tillman

record nine total tackles and a pass deflection. The team went on to sweep past the upstart New Orleans Saints in the Championship game to make the Super Bowl.

In the Super Bowl, Tillman played an amazing game recording 11 total tackles (seven solo), along with a forced fumble and fumble recovery.

The Bears were unable to match the Sheriff and lost to the Colts 29-17.

Tillman would spend the next seven years with the Bears, playing as one of the best corners in the entire league.

His two best seasons came in 2011 and 2012 where he was named to back-to-back Pro Bowls and was named to an All-Pro Team.

His 2012 season, in particular, might have been his best season as he set an NFL record for most forced fumbles in a season.

He was so good that he competed for Defensive Player of the Year with Houston Texans edge rusher J.J. Watt.

He left Chicago in 2015, signing a one-year deal with the Panthers. As a 34-year-old corner he played alongside Josh Norman, the best corner in the league that season.

The Panthers, led by MVP Cam Newton, went 15-1 and made Super Bowl 50 against the Denver Broncos.

Tillman, though, would not get a chance to play in his second Super Bowl. On Jan. 3, 2016 an MRI revealed that the veteran had torn his ACL, taking away his chance for the playoffs.

Following this season he retired, signing a one-day deal with the Bears so he could retire with the team.

Tillman finished his excellent 12-year career with 911 total tackles (773 solo), 44 forced fumbles, 38 interceptions and nine touchdowns.

Following his career in the NFL, Tillman joined the FBI in 2017. He worked as an agent until 2025.



Graphic by Charlotte Alexander

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# Allons

## Pumpkin spice and everything fly

**Mary Allen**  
ALLONS WRITER

Everyone's favorite season is arriving. Leaves begin their colorful transformation, the air turns crisp and pumpkin spice makes its annual return to menus. With that fall breeze comes the perfect excuse to bring out those cozy layers and fresh fall fits.

Here on campus, we'll be seeing tons of different variations of outfits: flannels, combat boots, oversized hoodies, clogs and more. This year, it's all about building a small but versatile wardrobe that can be mixed and matched for every campus setting. From 8 a.m. lectures to fall activities, these essentials will carry you stylishly and comfortably throughout the season and semester.

Every fall outfit starts off with the perfect top, and lucky for us, the list is never-ending. Basic long-sleeve tees are perfect for layering or wearing on their own. Whether you're strolling through a pumpkin patch or attending a fall fest, fitted or cropped long sleeve tees are the way to go.

Now is the time for your favorite hoodie to come out of retirement. Fall offers the best opportunities to wear oversized sweaters and hoodies that you never want to take off. Flannels can be worn with practically every outfit and turtlenecks amplify a layered look.

One trendy fit that has been gaining popularity during the fall season are the two-piece sets. Things like comfy lounge sets, workout sets or knit sweater and skirt sets are seen all over campus. They've become quite the popular fall essential, taking the stress out of deciding on an outfit. Effortless, versatile and comfortable, these sets have quickly become a fall staple.

With fall comes the perfect opportunity to wear any sort of bottoms you can pull out of your closet. From straight-leg to wide-leg jeans, cargo pants, leggings and midi skirts, each bottom piece ties the look together in its own unique way.

Jeans can be paired with a variety of outfits. Although they offer a diverse color scheme, light and dark wash are the

most favored. Since the straight leg offers a clean, polished aesthetic, you can pair it with a fitted knit or cropped sweater, turtleneck or a regular long-sleeve tee. With the baggier jeans, you can go either two ways for your top: fitted or loose. Slim-fitted tops or cropped sweaters finalize the look.

The options are endless for styling cargo pants. From layering bomber jackets to rocking a graphic tee, each combination holds its own signature look. Leggings hold the same value of versatility, effortlessly shifting from cozy to chic depending on how they're styled. From oversized knits to flannels, leggings also serve as a fall fashion staple.

Skirts, especially midi skirts, are a vital piece of fall fashion. Their length adds warmth with a hint of elegance that is perfect for your early morning class or enjoying the cool breeze. Pairing them with a cozy sweater, a leather jacket or a cardigan adds the finishing touches to this fall fit.

Stepping into this season calls for an upgraded shoe game. Crunch the leaves under chunky sneakers, stride through campus in Timberlands or slip to class in

UGGs; fall footwear offers endless routes for style and comfort.

Clogs and mules, which are easy to slip on for class, provide that snug and relaxed feel.

Taking a trip down memory lane, leather loafers and Mary Janes portray a nostalgic, preppy elegance. Whether paired with a pleated skirt, high crazy socks or wide legged pants, these shoes reflect schoolgirl vibes, similar to something Rory Gilmore would wear in the fall favorite TV show, "Gilmore Girls."

Boots are an iconic autumn piece. No wardrobe is complete without owning at least one pair. You have the ankle boots that go with just about all fall outfits. Chelsea boots pair great with trousers. Combat boots set an edgier tone often paired with leggings and dresses. Knee-high and over-the-knee boots are perfect for your tailgating outfits. Boots add on that spice allowing you to make your mark with each step you take.

The base outfit is complete. It's time to show off your sense of style through layering. Trench coats, blazers and denim jackets are popular outerwear essentials that deliver a unique elevation to the

look. And don't forget the accessories. A well-placed scarf, a beanie or layered jewelry can transform a look from simple to stylish.

Specifically for the guys on campus, it's time to retire the tank tops and gym shorts, although they'll still make an appearance. Spice up your clothing rotation by adding a rugby shirt. Everyone loved the polo tee in the summer, it's only right to bring rugby shirts into fall. The striped aesthetic is perfect for any occasion, allowing a versatile style for weekend hangouts like fall bonfires or the infamous guys night out.

My favorite thing about fall and overall fashion is how there is no right or wrong way to dress. Some students lean into the more cozy, basic style with their oversized hoodies, leggings and UGGs. Others embrace their sense of creativity with styling bold layers.

Either way, any style works which is the beauty of it all. Fall fashion isn't about following specific rules and guidelines, but expressing yourself through different pieces. I can't wait to see all the creative outfits across campus!



Graphic by Charlotte Alexander

## Social media can cause you stress, combat it with moments of silence

**Kinsey Waits**  
ALLONS WRITER

You wake up to your alarm, you reach for your phone. Immediately, you're flooded with notifications. Your best friend sent you a TikTok, someone you "may know" has followed you on Instagram, your chemistry class GroupMe is asking about the homework that is due. You manage to get out of bed and put on your favorite playlist to get ready.

Before you can even change out of your pajamas, you get a text about plans for this weekend that must be answered. While getting ready, thoughts are soaring through your mind. You're thinking of a funny video you saw, an exam you have later today and the drama that happened in your study group last week. By the time you walk out the door to head to class, you're anxious and overwhelmed by the enormous list of tasks for the day.

This was my daily routine for far too long as a college freshman. Now, in my second year, I have learned several valuable lessons regarding my social media and real life balance. I remember

the feeling of constant stress that all of these stimuli were bringing me.

There was a sense that my life was so "noisy" in a way it had never been before. That's when I realized what all these distractions were — noise. All the time spent on social media and even listening to music was blocking out what was really important. Starting the morning by filling my brain with useless information did not set me up for success throughout the rest of the day.

I'm sure we've all heard the "social media is bad" talk before, and you're probably just as tired of it as I am, but I hope to dive into why this is the case and what we can do to solve this generational problem.

Whether we realize it or not, our brains are starving for a way out. It doesn't take much digging to find that this constant connection isn't natural.

The stress that social media brings is perfectly reasonable when we take a step back and consider the enormous reality of what we interact with every day. We are constantly seeing snapshots of hundreds of peoples' lives. It's no wonder we feel like we can't keep up.

According to a study done at Capital University in Ohio, students who regularly use social media can experience many effects including negative comparison, sleep disruptions, addiction, time management issues and a filtered reality, just to name a few.

There is a case to be made for these platforms, however, my personal experience and the experiences of others around me reflect these negative effects almost perfectly. But what can we change? In a world that seems to constantly revolve around the latest trends and the fastest information, what can we do to protect our minds from overstimulation?

The answer is not a complex "dopamine detox" that you can find on the very platforms you are seeking refuge from. The solution is not even cutting social media out completely.

The best way, in my opinion and experience, to bring back some semblance of peace and calm in our busy lives, is silence.

Think back to the last time you experienced true silence. How long has it been? For many of us, silence is the

ultimate punishment. It means that our phones have died, a test is being taken or our AirPods are charging. The truth is, silence can save your mental and emotional health.

Piedmont Health released a study with research on the effects of silence on the human mind and body.

The emotional benefits of time spent in silence were improved clarity, emotional processing time and enhanced decision making skills — all of which college students could use. The gifts silence has to give you extend beyond your mind, however.

Silence helps to relieve so much of the stress that daily life puts us all under by lowering our blood pressure and heart rate which in turn brings the body to a state of relaxation.

So silence is good, but isn't it a little bit impractical to think that college students can spend all this time in meditative solitude? Nope! My favorite aspect of silence is that it demands so little of us. Silence, just like its counterpart noise, is surrounding us at all times, we only have to choose to tap into what it has to offer us.

Here are a few ways you can use silence to combat the stress that social media can bring this week.

Take five minutes when you first wake up, before scrolling, to make coffee or choose an outfit in complete silence.

Find a quiet place to study and don't drown out the silence with music or a podcast.

Take a few minutes at the end of each day to spend in silence, reviewing the day mentally. When walking between classes, don't listen to music. Limit time spent on social media with apps like Screen Time. Spend time outside listening to the sounds of nature!

Simply put, social media is a drain on all of us in one way or another and we are desperate for a way to recharge. Silence is one of the easiest ways I've found to pause the stress that life as a college student can bring and I highly recommend it.



Graphic by Landon Fruge

# Beaucoup

## Fall Memories

The Beaucoup section writes about some of their favorite fall childhood memories.



Graphic by Ellie Schmidt

### Isabelle Brumley BEAUCOUP EDITOR

I have many childhood memories associated with the fall season. One memory I have is going to my hometown's pumpkin patch. As a child, I always loved visiting this particular pumpkin patch because it featured a lovely hay bale ride and people dressed in Halloween costumes. I remember taking a lot of pictures on my mom's old camera, which was like 10 years old at the time. Another fond memory I have is

attending our Halloween/Thanksgiving parties in elementary school. Every year, it never seemed to fail that we would have sweets galore and watch "Casper" or "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown." Usually, during this time of year, in kindergarten, we would have a day where we would eat Thanksgiving dinner with our families at the school. I always loved the days when my grandma would come celebrate with us.

I have always truly loved the fall season. From the weather to the pumpkins, it never fails to appease me.

### Caitlyn Comeaux EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For myself, nothing reminds me of the fall season more than certain foods. Both of my grandparents have large gardens where they grow much of their own fruits and vegetables.

As a kid, nothing was more fun than getting to help pick, process and eat directly from their gardens since early fall is when so many crops are in season.

My maternal grandparents grow

butternut squash and pumpkins; freshly roasted pumpkin tastes so much different than store-bought, canned pumpkin purée. My paternal grandparents have a huge fig tree and they use it to make their own fig jam. Every time I go to their house to help pick them, figs would already be falling off the branches from how ripe they were.

Even now, nothing beats freshly prepared fall produce, and I can't wait until I have the space to start my own garden one day.

### Morgan Parker L'ACADIAN EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

When I was a kid, during early October, my family would often travel to Gulf Shores, Alabama, during the small extended weekend at the end of each quarter of school along with the cooler weather.

My grandmother and I always loved looking for comb jellyfish to save by throwing them back into the ocean. I was told they don't sting you. I don't know

how true that is but I haven't been stung yet.

My dad and I would also go boogie boarding in the waves close to the shore because the waves weren't high enough and I was too young to know how to surf. It was so fun, though, the sunburns not so much. My family saw who could collect the best shells in our little buckets, and at night we went out in the sand to try to catch and release little moon crabs. I hope we can go back one weekend in the future.

### Jenna Kimball NEWS WRITER

My favorite fall memory is when I was younger and my dad told my little sister and I to rake the leaves in the front yard. The leaves were everywhere.

They were orange and brown and I liked the way they crunched when I stepped on them.

Some of them could be put under the tree in the middle of the yard, but most had to be thrown away.

After raking for a little while, we got bored and wanted a break, so we decided we would make a big pile with all the leaves and jump on it like people do in the movies sometimes.

We knew that it would mean we'd have to re-rake them, but we didn't care.

We made a big pile and jumped on it and immediately realized that leaves do not cushion the hard ground very well.

We laughed about how dumb of an idea it was and went back to raking until all the leaves were gone.

## Food Review

# Gourmet coffee shop: Why She Brews It stands out in Acadiana

### Isabelle Brumley BEAUCOUP EDITOR

Located at 2015 Cameron St., She Brews It is a gourmet coffee shop that has taken the community by surprise. The establishment quickly gained popularity among locals thanks to its unique blend of flavors and welcoming staff. As the leaves turn and the air gets crisp, this local coffee place will surely come alive with the aromas of freshly brewed coffee and warm pastries.

Their menu offers a diverse selection of dairy-free coffees and other beverages, including lemonades and teas. Some of their coffees include the classic espresso, lattes, macchiatos and cold brew.

They also offer a variety of coffee flavors, including caramel, churro, French vanilla, mocha, salted caramel, turtle, wedding cake and banana foster. Their lemonade and tea flavors include strawberry, blackberry, peach, black cherry and green apple. For this fall season, they, of course, have a few fall flavors such as pumpkin spice.

They also sell a special iced espresso bucket that contains four espresso shots.

The staff can fill this bucket with any of the coffee flavors I listed above. They offer healthier (sugar-free) or "nah" (sugar) options.

Christina Boutte, the owner, has always had a passion for opening her own restaurant. According to the She Brews It website, she "saw a spot at 2015 Cameron St. in Lafayette where she could envision her dreams unfold." With that vision in mind, Christina began the process of transforming that space into an inviting drive-through, where customers could enjoy a cup of dairy-free coffee.

This place has a saying on their website that includes "we examine all of the ingredients in our products and avoid things with high fructose corn syrup, MSG, extra hormones that are found in most dairy products and we try our best to avoid things that have GMO ingredients."

I can say that I have never seen a place that takes so much love and care into their coffee for the community. All of their coffees, as I mentioned earlier, are dairy-free and made with oat milk only.

My colleague and I had the pleasure of visiting this drive-through coffee

establishment on Wednesday, Sept. 24. As we drove up to the small place, I noticed how the quaint exterior had a certain charm that drew us in. Despite being a drive-through only, the place exuded a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

When it was our turn to order, we were greeted by a friendly barista and prompted to review the menu. The menu was not too extensive, but they had a large assortment of coffee, flavors, teas and lemonades.

What caught my eye immediately was the literal bucket of coffee. I just had to buy it. I, of course, decided on a bucket of espresso with vanilla flavoring, while my colleague chose to get the Butterfly Tea, which was made with butterfly tea flowers, their famous lemonade and a special flavor. We also decided to order the waffle bites as a little snack.

Everything was relatively cheap for a coffee shop. Usually, you spend eight dollars on a medium or large coffee, but you can get a whole bucket for only twelve dollars. Their large-sized coffees, teas, and lemonades ranged from \$4.85 to \$6.85.

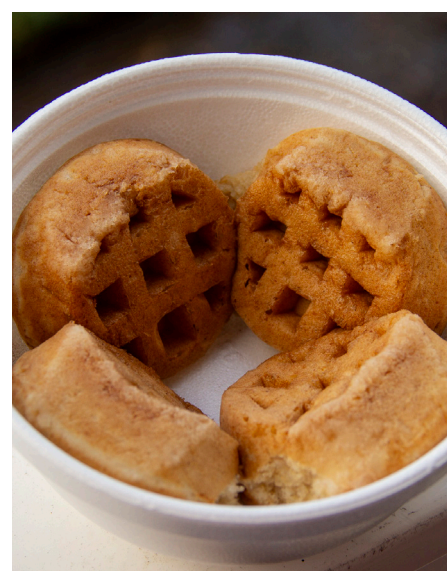
As we waited for our orders, I

appreciated the smell inside. You could definitely smell it from the inside of your car.

As our drinks arrived, I was impressed by the size of both. The bucket was small, but it was way bigger than I expected, and my colleague's tea was one of the prettiest drinks I have ever seen. The bottom was yellow, fading into a blue-purple color at the top. Our waffle bites came in a small bag with syrup.

Even though the coffee was dairy-free and made with oat milk, it was impossible to tell from the taste. It was rich with flavor and not too sweet. The coffee tasted smooth and velvety, with subtle notes of vanilla flavoring. The butterfly tea tasted even better. According to my colleague, the tea was very refreshing but not too overwhelmingly sweet.

All in all, I enjoyed my experience at She Brews It. If you're interested in working here, they are currently hiring baristas. They are open Monday through Wednesday from 6 a.m. to 12 p.m., Thursday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; they are closed on Sundays.



Photos by Ellie Schmidt

(Left) Sign outside She Brews It; (Middle) Waffle Bites; (Right) Bucket of espresso

# SOUNDING OFF

**"What is your favorite thing about delivering food on campus?"**



**Janet**  
CHICK-FIL-A SOPHOMORE

*"Beep beep boop boop boo... bop."*



**Terminator**  
MCALISTER'S SENIOR

*"01110100 01101000  
01100101 01110011  
01100101 00100000  
01101011 01101001  
01100100 01110011  
00100000 01110011  
01110100 01101001  
01101110."*



**Wall-E**  
SMOOTHIE KING JUNIOR

*"My favorite part is when students move out of the way for me because it makes me feel special."*



**Moby**  
PIZZA HUT JUNIOR

*"Affirmative: Visual input of student presence during delivery cycles is desirable. Acknowledged."*



**Baymax**  
HISSHO SUSHI SENIOR

*"I don't like anything about delivering food right now because I am scared of being hit by a car again."*



**R2-D3**  
ZUES FRESHMAN

*"Affirmative: Favorite selection uncertain. Negative: Precipitation events. Consequence: Flooding. Directive: Re-route delivery mechanism."*

*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.*

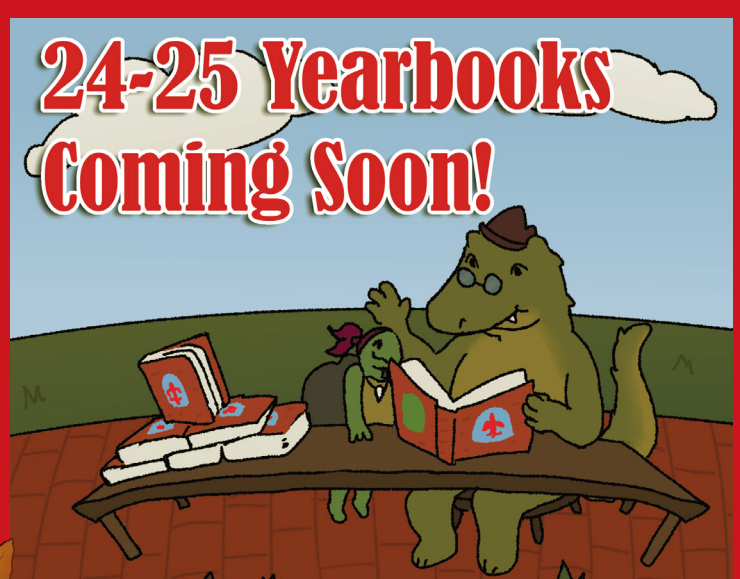
*Photos and interviews by Gracelyn Holland and Kayla Woods-Crane.*

COMIC

## Welcome Home



Comic by Lauren Gerald



### Ragin' Rescue General Meeting

Monday, October 6 at 3:45 PM  
Student Union - Vermilion Room

Presentation on cat health!  
Guest speaker:  
Dr. Champagne, DVM  
Veterinarian at the Cat Clinic

