

THE VERMILLION

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Constructions, renovations and relocations on campus continue

Joann Seow
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Construction on campus continues well into the Fall 2026 semester, along with relocation of departments and offices. The University of Louisiana at Lafayette campus known by current freshmen may look very different from that known to students who got here more than three years ago.

To recap, at the beginning of the Fall 2023 semester, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences began their transition to the Health Sciences Campus, following a 19.2 acre property acquisition from Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center. Now, the College has fully moved into the 501 Building on the new campus for the most part, with an exception of some undergraduate nursing classes remaining in Wharton Hall.

In December of that same semester, demolition of Cajun Field began and construction of Our Lady of Lourdes Stadium was underway, marking a new era for the University.

In Fall 2024, Madison Hall began a three-phase renovation and the College of Engineering broke ground for its new Engineering Student-Centered Collaborative Building, which will house the newly established Engineering Center of Excellence (ECoE).

The last phase of renovations to Madison Hall was just completed this summer and opened for use at the start of this semester. According to Scott Hebert, director of Facility Management, construction of the new building is anticipated to begin between this November to January 2027, and will go on for the next one to two years.

In Spring 2025, Our Lady of Wisdom Church and Catholic Student Center announced their move to a new home that will be built just across the street, beside Earl K. Long Gymnasium. The land where the new church is being built on was swapped between the University and the Diocese of Lafayette, now belonging to the Diocese.

Hebert shared that the construction of the new church, under LEMOINE,

has been progressing well and should be getting cleaned up within the next few months, aiming for an opening date in early Spring 2027.

Construction of the new engineering building will begin once works at the new church are being wrapped up, according to Hebert. This is due to the closeness in proximity between the project sites of the new church and new engineering building.

Though the University is not managing the church project, Hebert said, “We’re working closely with them and following their construction sequence to make sure that, one, we don’t start our project that overlaps... and two, we can help them expedite their project... so we can get started next.”

Towards the end of Spring 2025, Foster Hall and DeClouet Hall closed completely to make way for extensive renovations and upgrades. Previously housed in Foster Hall, the Office of Financial Aid and Office of Undergraduate Admissions were temporarily relocated to the 601 Building on the Health Sciences Campus. Previously housed in DeClouet Hall, University College was also temporarily moved to the 601 Building.

Hebert said that due to unforeseen difficulties with the contractor, there have been delays in completion time for the renovations to Foster and DeClouet Halls, which are now expected to be between the summer and fall of next year.

For Dr. Bobbie DeCuir, dean of University College, the 601 Building on the Health Sciences Campus “has been a breath of fresh air for us coming from DeClouet because DeClouet was in such need of repair.”

DeCuir said that University College will benefit from the renovations improving the aesthetics of the building, becoming more welcoming and fit for hosting. “It was difficult to invite people to the building,” she said.

She shared that the TRIO program under University College’s Department of Special Services, being federally-funded, would invite members of Congress to campus.

“DeClouet Hall was not the place

where you want to bring people to... necessarily see the state of the building,” DeCuir said.

More importantly, she said that the renovations will ultimately make DeClouet Hall more accessible and comfortable for students that will utilize the building.

Acknowledging the distance from campus and that it might be an inconvenience since University College conducts advising year round, DeCuir said that they have navigated that by adopting an online-heavy approach to matters like advising. She also mentioned the availability of parking and shuttle services.

However, DeCuir shared that being located away from the main campus has its disadvantages in terms of being away from student traffic and losing visibility.

“Certainly, we love being in the center of the campus where students can stop in just at a whim,” DeCuir said.

Other offices that have been relocated, not related to renovation reasons, include the Keys Office, which has been permanently moved from Parker Hall to the Central Receiving Building at 429 Cherry St.

Another building that has had its name mentioned in the relocation of services is the Eckards Building on 1606 Johnston St. The Reflective Collective under

UL Lafayette’s Student Government Association (SGA), a series of student-led discussions and peer support groups, is one of the services that moved to the Eckards Building from F.G. Mouton Hall.

Off campus and non-university related, a construction project that students cannot help but notice is the project on West St. Mary Boulevard, between Taco Bell and Old Tyme Grocery.

When asked if the University has information on this project, Hebert shared that it is the construction of a sewer lift station, catching drainage water from the area and bringing it towards a treatment plant. This project should be completed by Summer 2027, according to Hebert.

The Office of Facility Management is working on Master Plan 2.0 with the University’s current administration, revising it to align with the University’s goals. Hebert shared that with a change in administration and leadership comes different views and direction that they want to take. “We want to make sure that we capture that new direction in the revised master plan,” he said.

Master Plan 2.0 will take into consideration student success and the placement of departments to support that. Once refined, the master plan would help guide Facility Management in making those decisions.



Photo by Alyus Dick
Current construction site around DeClouet Hall

Should Congress have age limits?

Andrew Courville
NEWS WRITER

Sen. Mitch McConnell returned to the Senate floor on Sept. 14, 2026, to vote on key bills. The 84-year-old Kentucky Republican and leader of his 52 colleagues in the Senate had been unable to travel to Capitol Hill due to health concerns after a fall in his home on June 16. He has had a history of health problems before his age came into focus, which are now impacting his recovery.

McConnell explicitly said that he would not seek reelection this November. Although that might not be expected given his age, Capitol Hill without him will be unusual for most and will mark the end of an era in congressional and Kentuckian politics. Having held his seat

since 1985, McConnell is a seasoned voice among his colleagues.

On average, a United States member of Congress is 59.7 years old. The average age of the Senate is 65.3 years, and the House of Representatives is 58.5 years. Some members of Congress get more recognition for their age than for their policies. While only 79 were born after 1980, 437 were born before then.

Voters under 35 are slightly less underrepresented at the state level. The average age of the Louisiana state legislature is 54.4 years, and only five are under 35 according to a Rutgers University report. Another Rutgers report shows that, across 44 state legislatures, only 8% are under 35. Not much better can be said around the world. The Inter-Parliamentary Union compiles annual

data on governments worldwide that use a parliamentary system of government. It reported that, as of 2025, “19.0% of MPs in national parliaments are aged 40 and under.

This is only a slight increase of 0.2 percentage points since 2023; however, it is nearly 50% more than in 2014 (12.9%).”

Although younger voters are shown to have different values than older voters, there appear to be some sort of informal barriers to office, such as a bias toward more experienced, older candidates, and a general disdain for politics.

However, McConnell is only the tenth-oldest member of Congress. The oldest, Chuck Grassley (R-IA), has held his seat since 1981, having won all seven reelection campaigns since then. It’s unclear whether he’ll run again in 2028. Louisiana’s own John Neely Kennedy, who’s served since 2017, is 74. His colleague, Bill Cassidy, lost his reelection primary, and his successor will likely be younger (Julia Letlow is the current frontrunner).

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) passed away in July 2026 after a sudden aortic dissection at the age of 71. Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) passed in 2023 at 90 years old. These are just some of the many members of Congress who have recently passed while in office.

These instances, alongside the demographic breakdown, once again brought term limits and age limits to the forefront of political discussion. The Supreme Court ruled in 1995 that stricter qualifications for Congress beyond what the Constitution provides are not

permissible, supporting an earlier 1969 decision. Since the Constitution doesn’t provide an upper age limit, the most plausible avenue to enact one is through a constitutional amendment, which is difficult to achieve.

Scholars still debate whether age inhibits a politician from accurately representing the will of their constituents, who are, on average, younger. While McConnell’s record is most notable for impacting the political ideology of the Supreme Court, Generation Z voters are consistently concerned with issues like the cost of living and inflation, healthcare, jobs and unemployment.

Pew Research Center found in a 2023 survey that 79% of Americans support age limits for Congress, among several other proposed changes to the federal government, such as electing the president by popular vote and adding a term limit for Supreme Court justices.

Voters perceive having experience in navigating governance as important. Term limits could prevent politicians from settling into a rhythm of efficiency and effectiveness. However, when a politician is unable to do their job or is more concerned about themselves than their constituents, can the public be trusted to vote them out of office? After all, elections serve as a kind of performance appraisal.

It’s the will of the American people that will determine whether voters will wait to see if the disparity between the voter and elected officials begins disrupting the political process, or if collective action will take hold.



Graphic by Ray Bardales

Food Review

DELICIOUS DOMOCHI

Food reviewers head downtown to try fluffy, chewy, pull-apart mochi donuts.

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Sports

CAJUNS DECLAW BOBCATS

Soccer team on a roll with seven wins and a victory over Texas State University.

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Allons

83 YEARS OF WISDOM

Our Lady of Wisdom Church moving and expanding after more than eight decades.

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Beaucoup

FAR FROM HOME

Four staff members dote on what they miss most since moving away from home.

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The More You Know

Facility relocations as of Fall 2026

WHERE HAVE THEY GONE?

WHERE SOME UL AMENITIES HAVE RELOCATED

KEYS OFFICE

Parker Hall → Central Receiving
429 Cherry St.

OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Foster Hall → Health Sciences
Campus, 601 W. St.
Mary Blvd.

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Foster Hall → Health Sciences
Campus, 601 W. St.
Mary Blvd.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

DeClouet Hall → Health Sciences
Campus, 601 W. St.
Mary Blvd.

DEAN OF ENGINEERING'S OFFICE

Madison Hall → Health Sciences
Campus, 601 W. St.
Mary Blvd.

SGA'S REFLECTIVE COLLECTIVE

F.G. Mouton Hall → Eckards Building
1606 Johnston St.

*Note: As of now, it is unclear which relocations are temporary and which are permanent.

COMPILED BY CAITLYN COMEAUX

Graphic by Caitlyn Comeaux

Food Review

A taste of domochi downtown

Isabelle Brumley
BEAUCOUP EDITOR

Located at 144 E. Cypress St., domochi is a mochi donut food truck in the heart of downtown Lafayette.

Ethan Ly founded domochi after discovering mochi donuts while visiting Seattle around 2020-2021. After trying one, Ly began thinking about bringing the concept to his hometown of Lafayette and New Iberia. "This is my shot to do something that I've always wanted to do, which is build something of my own," Ly said. "New Iberia doesn't have anything like this, nor does Lafayette have anything like this."

Ly originally started domochi in his mother's kitchen before moving into a shared kitchen space and eventually into the food trailer. Reflecting on the process of starting his business, Ly said, "It's simple, but it's not easy."

Unlike regular donuts, mochi donuts have a chewy texture from glutinous rice flour, creating a completely different experience with each bite.

My colleague and I had the pleasure of visiting domochi on Saturday, Sept. 19. Since I had never personally tried mochi donuts before, I was excited to try something completely new. We ordered the "flight," which included half a dozen donuts of our choosing: cookie butter, fruity cereal, cinnamon toast, chocolate hazelnut, strawberry and churro.

Each donut brought its own unique flavor, creating the perfect mix of sweet and savory. From the familiar cinnamon

toast and fruity cereal to the richer chocolate hazelnut and sweet strawberry, each flavor offered something different. My favorite had to be the strawberry, since it contained some of the best strawberry flavor I have ever had.

I was astonished by how different these donuts were from anything I had tried before. The chewy texture also made the donuts stand out from traditional donuts, making each flavor even more enjoyable.

The sense of community surrounding domochi was apparent through the support the business has received from the Lafayette community. What started in Ly's mother's kitchen eventually grew through local pop-ups, social media and word of mouth. Ly said, "So far, a lot of public support," adding, "I'm very grateful for it." The growth of domochi also shows how a small idea can become something bigger with the support of the people around it.

From starting in a home kitchen to becoming a local food truck, domochi has continued to introduce Lafayette to a new take on a familiar favorite.

Overall, I enjoyed my experience at domochi. As someone who had never tried mochi donuts before, I loved experiencing the different flavors and unique texture.

If you would like to visit this food truck, they are open daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Although keep on the lookout for domochi's Instagram @domochi.treats for daily updates.



Photos by Ellie Schmidt
Domochi sign (Left); variety of mochi donuts (Right)



Police Reports

Compiled by Caitlyn Comeaux

Sept. 18

- At 10:50 a.m., officers were dispatched near Stephens Hall in reference to a stolen, light purple electric bicycle.

Sept. 17

- At 2:08 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Legacy Park Apartments regarding a parking lot crash between a 2004 grey Toyota Tundra and a 2020 white Hyundai Sonata.

Sept. 16

- At 8:00 a.m., officers received a report of a black and yellow electric scooter that was stolen outside of Maxim Doucet Hall.

Sept. 15

- At 8:23 p.m., officers received a call in reference to a possible theft at Baker Hall involving two pairs of workout shorts, a grey and white Lululemon workout set, a Gold Hinge tennis skirt and a white Parke sweater.
- At 4:16 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Heritage at Cajun Village in reference to a hit-and-run crash between a 2015 white Kia Optima and a 2023 grey Honda Accord.
- At 2:38 a.m., officers received a call about a possible fire at M.L. Tigue Moore Field concession stand. Officers responded alongside the Lafayette Fire department. Damage was found to the ceiling, fridge, counter and walls of the concessions stand.

Sept. 13

- At 1:30 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Olivier Parking Tower in reference to a hit-and-run crash that was inflicted on a 2021 white Honda Insight.

Sept. 11

- At 1:37 a.m., officers dispatched to the Legacy Park Apartments in reference to a hit-and-run crash between a 2019 grey Dodge Journey and a 2021 white Volvo XC60. A suspect was identified, arrested and issued a misdemeanor summons.



WHERE'S ALLAN?



This building's foliage distracted me before I got to the door. If I don't hurry up, I'll be late for my class about dinosaurs!

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, and email the correct location of Allan to **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.

Weather

Thursday 9/24	Friday 9/25	Saturday 9/26	Sunday 9/27	Monday 9/28	Tuesday 9/29	Wednesday 9/30
 High: 94°F Low: 71°F	 High: 93°F Low: 71°F	 High: 91°F Low: 72°F	 High: 90°F Low: 72°F	 High: 90°F Low: 72°F	 High: 87°F Low: 71°F	 High: 84°F Low: 67°F

Isabelle Brumley
BEAUCOUP EDITOR

- Tropical Storm Fay has formed in the Atlantic, and is currently located about 450 miles southwest of the Azores (west of Portugal), moving to the northeast.

Sports

Soccer team at 7-2-1, including a notable win over Texas State

Caitlyn Comeaux
MANAGING EDITOR

Louisiana Ragin’ Cajuns Soccer continues their strong performance this season, with a 7-2-1 win-loss-tie record so far as they approach their seventh week of games. These wins ranged from clearing against Southern University with a 5-0 win to clinching a 3-2 win over former Sun Belt Conference (SBC) rival Texas State University, who was ranked No. 15 in the nation at the time.

Compared to previous seasons, this year is especially strong. In their last three seasons, from 2023-2025, the Cajuns totaled seven wins each year. This year, the Cajuns already have seven wins and they aren’t even halfway through the season.

The Cajuns started 2026 off with a win on Thursday, Aug. 13, against Southeastern Louisiana University, winning 4-1. After a narrow loss that following Sunday against the University of Mississippi 1-2, they came back the next week with a 3-3 tie against East Texas A&M University and another 4-1 win, this time against Northwestern State University.

They continued this winning streak with a score of 2-0 over Nicholls State University and third 4-1 win against McNeese State University. Following a 1-2 loss against Mississippi State University on Sept. 3, the Cajuns got a week to recover before their standout game of this season so far: a win against Texas State.

This was their first win against a nationally ranked opponent. In the eight times that the Cajuns went up against ranked teams, they lost every time.

And, as mentioned previously, Texas State was ranked the No. 15 best women’s soccer team in the country at the time of their run-in with the Cajuns.

To start the match, the Cajuns took the lead quickly with sophomore midfielder Miku Kurihara scoring a goal just 16 minutes into the first half, assisted by sophomore midfielder Addison Soehn. Just over a minute later, Texas State scored back. Unfortunately for them, this tie was short-lived; redshirt sophomore forward Carson Glenn also scored to give the Cajuns a 2-1 lead, which held up for the rest of the first half.

Both Kurihara and Glenn’s goals were made from a sizable 18 yards away, both flying past Texas State’s goalkeeper Caitlyn Draper.

As the second half began, Glenn and Kurihara worked together to score a third goal. Kurihara provided an assist to Glenn, who sent yet another shot past Draper.

Texas State was able to grab a second goal over an hour into the game by defender Jenny Ngankem with an assist from midfielder Matsuri Tsutsui. But, the Bobcats were never able to get their claws on another goal despite their efforts in the last leg of the match. The Cajuns were able to continuously disrupt their plays; senior goalkeeper Natalie Mayes made four saves that night. This strategic defense turned their 3-2 lead into a 3-2 victory.

In the game’s recap by Matt Sullivan, director of Athletics Communications, he quoted Head Soccer Coach Christopher McBride on Texas’ powerful offense. McBride said, “That’s tough to defend, and it’s something we’ll definitely look at moving forward to see

how we can improve. But that’s probably one of the best we’ll see. It gives us a great learning experience, and again, that’s why we schedule these games. They make us better, one game at a time.”

Following the victorious high from beating Texas State, the Cajuns wiped the floor against Southern on Tuesday, Sept. 15, winning 5-0. That weekend, on Sunday, Sept. 20, a game against Coastal Carolina University ended in another victory with a score of 3-2. This was both teams’ first conference game of the season.

Speaking of the SBC, of the 14 women’s soccer teams in the SBC, the Cajuns are in the lead with seven wins at the time of this story.

The Cajuns team ranks high in several other facets in the SBC, such as total goals and points per game. At the player level, Miku Kurihara was named 2026

Sun Belt Preseason Midfielder of the Year.

Beyond game highlights, high rankings and making history, the Cajuns’ roster this year is also notable. Currently, there are 24 women on the team: nine freshmen, six sophomores, four juniors and five seniors. It’s great to see a strong performance coming from a variety of classifications, with the team being over 60% underclassmen.

The blend of skills from veteran players and what newer players are bringing in is promising for the team’s performance now and into future seasons.

Regarding the future of this season, the Cajuns will travel to Virginia on Thursday, Sept. 24, for a match against Old Dominion University.

It will be exciting to see how the Cajuns utilize this momentum as we begin the second half of the season.



Photo by Alyus Dick
Carson Glenn (33) dribbles past Texas State Bobcats defender Sept. 10.

Allons

The drama behind “The Drama”

Ja’lyn Braud
ALLONS WRITER

My oh my, I feel as if someone must ask Kristoffer Borgli how he is doing. As the director of “The Drama,” he has created such an entertaining and psychological adventure. The movie stars Zendaya as Emma Harwood and Robert Pattinson as Charlie Thompson.

Spoiler alert—it’s time for me to give some context before we diagnose the level of discomfort within this movie. Emma and Charlie are engaged.

At a dinner with friends, they each decide to share the worst thing they have ever done. Everyone is drunk, brushing off their “mistakes” or bad decisions, laughing it all away. That is, until Emma shares.

Vulnerable, but comfortable enough to, she shares that when she was younger, she had the idea to commit a mass shooting at her high school.

She didn’t just think it through; she had a full plan she was ready to execute, until someone committed a shooting before she could.

This ultimately stopped her, not her morals, values or any sense of compassion. Just the simple act of it being done before she could.

Afterwards, shockingly, she ended up protesting against gun violence and

changed her ways as a human being, but a troubled human being.

It’s obvious that growth and a change of heart took place; however, upon hearing that someone wanted to perform a shooting within a school, and having a whole plan to do so, it can be a hard pill to swallow.

Along with being troubled, she also had a hard homelife, with parents who were never home and never paid attention to her. The only validation she had in her life, the only words spoken over her, would be the thoughts of her peers from school. Therefore, furthering her hatred towards the school considering most were rude and belittling towards her.

Now time for my thoughts. When Emma first tells Charlie her secret, he drunkenly laughs. Not taking it seriously, but then, slowly, realizes how serious she is. The dinner ends abruptly, and the two are too intoxicated to discuss the situation any further.

There’s a level of shock presented when told such information, yet if I’m allowed, I’d like to argue it. Yes, Emma could have committed a horrible act. One so horrible that I would go so far as to say she would be “psychotic,” as she is called multiple times throughout the movie.

Yet, she didn’t. I think this is so easily

passed up and not considered enough.

You’re looking at a high school girl, going through depression, self-isolation and a deteriorating system of self-esteem. Her mind isn’t fully developed, and it seems like the only way to escape is to end those enhancing her suffering. This being the only option seems like such an important detail that Borgli includes: gun violence.

It’s so prominent in America; it’s almost impossible not to hear about a school shooting. It’s not a shocking idea anymore; it actually hurts me to write this, but it’s common. That’s what Borgli is alluding to. This is a very serious topic; people aren’t going to always watch a movie about school shootings, but they’ll watch a movie about an engaged couple struggling right before their marriage. And that is how Borgli ties us into such deep details.

Things we can’t escape, things that should be making us uncomfortable but we slap Zendaya and Pattinson into place so that we can cover that discomfort up. Yet, there is still an unsettling feeling that resides at the bottom of your gut.

I find it very intriguing how we’ve become surrounded by such a deep topic within this movie, yet the film is more about the couple rather than the actual secret, or so we assume at last.

This brings me to a further point, how Charlie and Emma handle their relationship after this secret is released into the atmosphere. Charlie seems to fully lose his mind, whilst Emma is struggling so hard to piece everything back together. I truly believe it was hard for Emma to share, and I think she carries a type of weight that isn’t fully seen throughout the movie through Charlie’s lack of support within the relationship.

On the other hand, Charlie is deeply disturbed by the confession. I think the most beautiful way this is shown is when he delivers a quote from Sigmund Freud to Emma, “Unexpressed emotions will never die. They are buried alive and will come forth later in uglier ways.”

He says this to Emma in hopes that she’ll confess more about the secret, so that he can puzzle a way to justify her

thoughts and actions. Still, she gives nothing. She has already stated all the facts and there’s nothing more to it.

Through his obsessive attempts at trying to find some sort of diagnosis for Emma, Thompson throws himself into this pit of buried emotions he refuses to express. Instead, he points them towards Emma, thinking that the issue resides with her.

This is the point where Charlie completely unravels. So much so that we see him cheat on Emma, lie and arguably lose his own morals.

There’s a tension within him that so desperately wants to side against Emma. There’s thoughts of knowing what she did wasn’t okay, but this act of “love,” if that’s what you want to call it, forces him to try and make everything normal in a sense. So, he ignores what he’s truly feeling in order to fix something that was never necessarily broken, but definitely needed mending.

As an audience member, this movie replayed over and over in my head, days on end. I kept trying to pick a side. Emma deserved grace and forgiveness. She never committed to the action.

Then the question of “why” comes into place, and I find myself circling around thoughts in the same way Charlie does.

I want to call Emma “psychotic” and I want to convince Charlie to leave her. “Call the wedding off!” is what someone should’ve screamed. Yet, Emma has changed so drastically, and who am I to judge her for something she decided at around 16?

Yes, a mass shooting is a giant issue that definitely needs to be discussed, however, is it worth being held over Emma’s head for the rest of her life? At what point do we stop forgiving people, stop extending mercy?

“The Drama” was definitely dramatic. So, for those who watched, and watched with intent, I know your minds must be puzzled as well, wondering who was right and who was wrong in the whole situation.

And to that, I must argue that you have to stop wondering. The world is too complex for black and white, as Borgli has shown, and we must face the discomfort of being okay with that.



Graphic by Sadie Lynn Burrell

Old Wisdom's 83-year conclusion

Kinsey Waits

ALLONS EDITOR

For the better part of two years, construction has been underway for the brand-new Our Lady of Wisdom Church. Anyone who is on campus can see, and definitely hear, the progress coming along.

The newness of the church is undoubtedly exciting for parishioners and students who frequent the current Wisdom, but there is bittersweetness in every change.

As I passed by Wisdom this week, the thought struck me: We are some of the last students to know this version of Our Lady of Wisdom.

The church has been in need of expansion and update, the change will be good! Not to mention the beautiful

exterior we have been able to catch glimpses of.

A small part of me, however, is sad that the building I have come to know and love won't exist one day. Because the current church is built on University property, it will most likely be torn down or repurposed.

I usually try to have a “don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened” attitude, and that is the mentality I am trying to carry into this situation. I just can't shake a small amount of grief at the transition. Each time I walk through the halls leading to the café, or sit in the Lower Room to do my homework, I find myself taking in each detail.

As I studied in my usual spot this week, I noticed something about one of my favorite paintings. It had a small

label and a colored sticker on it. As I looked closer at the rest of the artwork throughout the building I noticed they all shared similar markings. These are their labels that will be used to organize each item when they are moved across to the new building.

In that moment, it became very real. The sound of construction and the conversations with friends about the new church over the years have certainly been real, but this was the first physical evidence I saw of the move actually happening. It was an odd feeling. Somehow, I felt nostalgic for a moment I was living in.

The impressions on the hardwood floor where thousands of people have walked for decades, the bricks that show years of weathering and the patchwork furniture that adorns the study spaces

have all become a home to me. While the new church is impressive, there is so much beauty in the humility of the Wisdom I know.

As a freshman, I was absolutely overwhelmed by college. Wisdom was an inviting space, one that I felt I belonged in. I found my favorite study spots and made some of my best friends within those walls. It has been the backdrop for some of the greatest successes and lessons of my college career thus far.

I, as well as many others, have a story for each room of the church. We each have a memory that only the specific smell of the old building can draw up.

As I walked past Our Lady of Wisdom on my way to class, I realized I was feeling the normal aches of change, but that there was still incredibly good news! The building might be changing and there will be a new backdrop to the last years of my college experience, but all the same people will occupy the rooms.

The people I have created such deep relationships with will spill over into the shiny, new church across the street, and maybe I will even make new friendships. I get to take everything that I love with me; the memories, friends and lessons.

Growth can often feel like the loss of something, and that might be true in some cases. In this case, those of us who love Wisdom are saying goodbye to a place that was home for so long and starting a new chapter in a beautiful space. That doesn't mean this new place won't be home as well, because our home wasn't the original four walls of Our Lady of Wisdom to begin with.

Our home was, and always will be, the people that have lived and grown together for decades. I am excited for the future of Our Lady of Wisdom, and I am overjoyed that I have the privilege of taking my home with me wherever we may go.



Photo by Alyus Dick
The current Our Lady of Wisdom Church and Catholic Student Center

Procrastination: How to achieve maximum academic productivity

Gabrielle Mouton

NEWS WRITER

Blank stares at the wall. Heads on the desk with paper sprawled all over. The zombified eyes scrawling over words not read on a buzzing laptop about to die. Report to the library anytime, and you will find these actions occurring across the room ad nauseam. It is the appearance of a brain-dead student struggling with bouts of procrastination.

It is said to be a part of the college experience. Several articles I have explored cited college students to be the most aggressive offenders of procrastination. If procrastination was a disease, university campuses would be a hot spot for the contagion. Being so overbooked and overworked, students are constantly spreading themselves too thin and assignments of the utmost importance get thrown to the wayside. Where did this come from? How can it be helped?

Procrastination, as described by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is “to put off intentionally the doing of something that should be done.” You are probably procrastinating on something while reading this. I probably procrastinated writing certain portions of this article. It is something often subliminal to the consciousness.

Time will pass and you discover that that statistics assignment you set thirty minutes aside to get back to has now left the café because you stood it up. Several of your assignments have felt the disgrace of your neglect and you have begun to give yourself a bad reputation as a serial flaker.

Lisa Zarick and Robert Stonebraker in their journal article, “I'll Do it Tomorrow: The Logic of Procrastination,” describe procrastination as “not an irrational personality disorder; it is a logical, albeit

potentially inefficient, behavior driven by a reasoned comparison of perceived costs and benefits.” As a student, you are constantly debating what economists (and the people in this article) like to call “opportunity costs.” For those 30 minutes you spent on a boring date with your statistics homework, you could have instead spent 30 minutes laughing with your friends at a bar.

But this is where things go downhill. Your delegation of your school tasks begin to reflect in your performance. Procrastination leads to lower quality work, cramming information and, thus, lower grades in return.

You are constantly chasing temporal relief from deadlines only for them to inevitably appear anyway. The avoidance of one task by doing another is a no-go too.

Your assignments still await you even after you folded that pile of clothes on the floor. No gold star for that, unfortunately. Not optimizing your time as a student only worsens the workload and the headache of your duties.

“The moral of the story is that people procrastinate so they can lead a better mental life,” reports Trisha Gura in her article “I'll Do it Tomorrow.” Obviously, procrastination is not malicious. The cause of procrastination is, as stated before, a road paved with good intentions. Fear of failure, overwhelming tasks and burnout are strong causes for procrastinating.

Fear of failure underlies many students' decision to procrastinate. That writing assignment seems way too daunting, the equations feel like they are too complex.

You put it off as if in days time you will suddenly gain the gumption (yes, one of my articles describes “gumption” as the opposite to procrastinating) to answer everything right.

From a writer's standpoint, sometimes

you need to write the bad stuff to get to the good stuff.

The task itself may feel too overwhelming to start. So much post-procrastination clarity begins when you get to the assignment you had been pushing off only to realize it was not that hard. We have all been there. I have also heard people (specifically the voices in my head) say, “I am best working under pressure! I like deadlines to be soon!” This is not productivity, this is instant gratification.

Finally, burnout. Being overbooked has finally gotten to you and now you are dragging your feet more than ever. Procrastinating starts to feel like torture here because the more your brain cannot function on one assignment, the more backed you are on the several other ones. It is lethal.

With all these factors accounted for, where is the solution? And why does procrastinating seem to be the default in any hardship we, as students, face? Unfortunately, it's going to be breaking a really bad habit. Because pushing through procrastination means pushing through mounds of discomfort and commitment issues.

It means learning to trust yourself and trusting your ability to make smarter

decisions. It means making planned time to knock out assignments when you know they are upcoming.

It means reframing the mindset of pushing things off. College students are some of the most burnt out and busiest demographic of people. Our time is precious and honoring that time is learning to plan ahead.

Making an effort to plot your schedule out is a crucial step towards having a productive week.

Figuring out which classes you dread working on the most and getting those out the way first can be very helpful. Your hardest, most time-consuming tasks should also come first, then menial ones.

Keep distractions out of your line of sight like your phone or any electronics. Let your work come first.

These are just a couple of tips that can be useful to you in pursuit of more productive study sessions.

Procrastinating is not as simple as just “stopping.” It can feel all-consuming and an easy way out. But you have every opportunity to start afresh and begin each week with better, stronger skills of combatting it!

When it comes to procrastination, remember the hardest part is starting.



Graphic by Paige Stevens

THE VERMILION

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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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Beaucoup

No Place Like Home

The Beaucoup section writes about the things they each missed most after they left home for college.



Graphic by Cade Plaisance

Vallen Power
BUSINESS MANAGER

Something I didn't realize I'd miss so much when I left for college was my dad's cooking.

My dad's a good cook, and he's never really considered writing down any of his recipes until I started asking him to. Even now, he's only written down a handful of his recipes, and they're only the ones he doesn't make regularly.

I never really learned how to cook

Sadie Lynn Burrell
GRAPHICS EDITOR

One thing I didn't realize I would miss until I left home was the food. At home, I have easy access to groceries and my family's cooking.

At school, I only have the dining hall, fast food places on campus and the rare Walmart trip.

I am something of a picky eater, so a lot of the dining hall food doesn't appeal to me.

much growing up, so having these recipes is really important to me.

When I was asked to help in the kitchen, I was usually stuck cooking the vegetables in some way.

To this day, when I go over to my dad's house, he asks me to grill vegetables or make mashed potatoes.

Since I have my own place now, cooking his recipes has gotten a lot easier to do on a regular basis. So hopefully I can try to recreate some childhood dishes more often.

I can only eat burgers and baked potatoes so many times in a row.

Another thing I miss is the coziness of my bed. I knew I would miss lying on my queen-sized mattress, but I didn't realize just how much.

At home, I have several comforters, a weighted blanket and an array of other smaller blankets. The weight of it all helps me feel safe.

I only brought a fraction of those to school, so I am not nearly as comfortable as I could be.

Kinsey Waits
ALLONS EDITOR

Moving to college was incredibly exciting for me. The first night I stayed in the dorm with my roommate, I remember thinking, "Wow I can't believe this gets to be my life right now," and I still feel that way often! That being said, there are some things about my home that I miss more than I realized I would. I took home-cooked meals for granted entirely too much.

Ja'lyn Braud
ALLONS WRITER

When leaving home, I didn't realize the thing I would miss the most was the opportunity to be weird. When coming to college, I realized that not everyone understands my humor, or even has it, to be honest. It wasn't until the first time I went home my freshman year that I was insanely wild with my friends. It was like I had so much energy stored up from not sharing it with others in college that it

Now that I am in charge of what I eat each day, I find myself longing for the days when it was as simple as my parents preparing our meals.

It was the thought and love that my parents always poured into every meal they prepared for me.

Some of my favorite memories are spent in the kitchen with my parents, talking to them while they cook.

These moments are often my favorite part of visiting home and I hope to create them with my future children one day.

finally was able to be released.

That's when it finally clicked that I wasn't able to be weird in college, or at least not to my full potential. No random dabbing, busting of dance moves when I was bored or singing songs aloud when it was too quiet. It wasn't that I was scared to be weird, but more of feeling like it would be a disturbance to others to behave in such a way, which it was in some conditions. Therefore, going home truly emphasized how much I loved and missed being weird.

Cajun Crossword

Compiled by Vallen Power

No. 3

INSTRUCTIONS

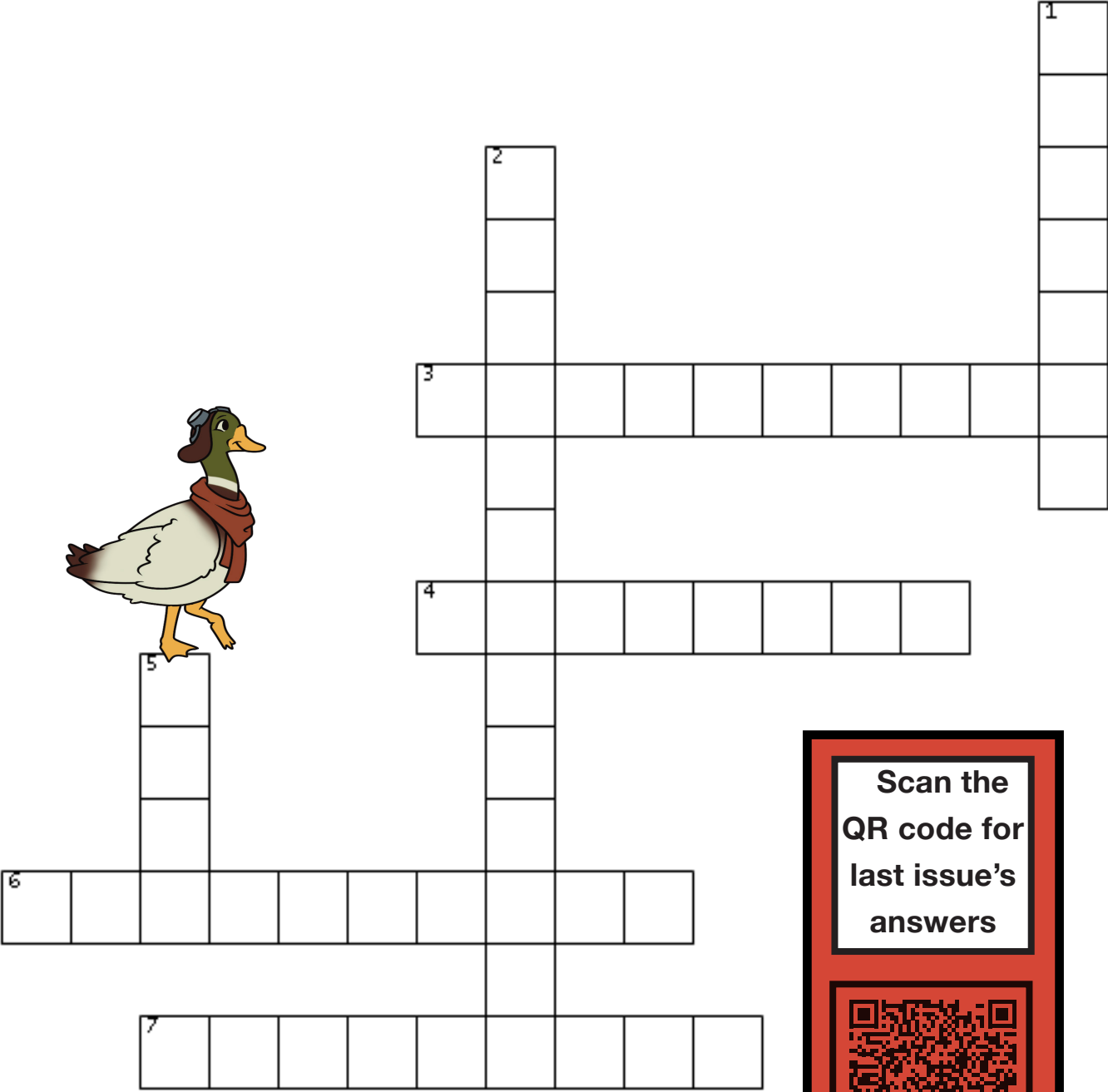
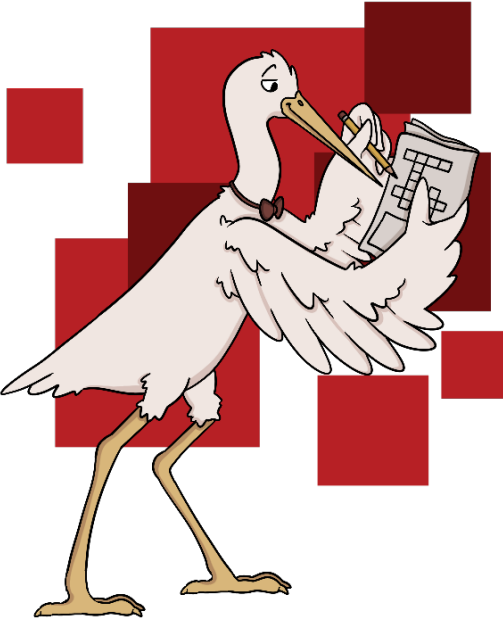
The answers can be found throughout the newspaper, so make sure to thoroughly read each story. Try to find all of them and see if you got them correct in the answers provided in the next issue's crossword search!

ACROSS

- 3. What flavor of mochi donut was Isabelle Brumley's favorite?
- 4. In their soccer game against Texas State University, both Miku Kurihara and Carson Glenn scored goals from _____ yards away in the first half of the match.
- 6. DeCuir shared that being located away from the main campus has its disadvantages such as less student traffic and losing ____.
- 7. Which U.S. Senator announced that he wouldn't seek reelection in 2026 (last name)?

DOWN

- 1. Who plays Emma in "The Drama?"
- 2. "I am best working under pressure! I like deadlines to be soon!" This is not productivity, this is instant ____.
- 5. According to Kinsey Waits, growth can sometimes feel like ____.



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SOUNDING OFF

"What is your hot take?"



Grace Stein
MARKETING FRESHMAN

"I love mint chocolate chip ice cream, and I think it's the best ice cream."



Nicholas Speilmann
JOURNALISM JUNIOR

"Healthcare should be free."



Andrew Breaux
COMPUTER SCIENCE SOPHOMORE

"The best topping on pizza is pineapple."



Jazz Myers
JOURNALISM SOPHOMORE

"Pets should be treated as babies."



Eleanore Stryjewski
SOCIOLOGY JUNIOR

"Men need to be more comfortable in their sexuality."



Jackson Palmer
NURSING FRESHMAN

"Stranger Things did not deserve all the hype they got."

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 Alyus Dick and Joann Seow.

COMIC

The Photoshoot



Comic by Sadie Lynn Burrell

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