

# THE LAKE FRONT

News for the students. By the students.

Volume 58, Issue 1 JANUARY 2014

## History department offers new digital concentration



Students examine documents and books in the Archives. As part of the new history concentration, students use digital and public history as new methods for communicating historical research. *Courtesy photo*

By Kimberly Yosko  
Reporter

History is coming to life with a new concentration at the university.

A new Integrated Digital and Public History concentration was launched by the History Department last semester.

According to an outline of the new concentration, it will focus on using digital and public history as new methods for communicating historical research in venues such as archives, museums, and for local, state, and federal agencies.

"[This concentration will] historical content for diverse audiences," as stated in the outline.

Sister Margit Nagy, CDP and History Department chair, said that this concentration benefits

the university in many different ways.

"OLLU is the only area university that offers the Bachelor of Arts/History concentration in Integrated Digital and Public History," Nagy, Ph.D., said. "The new concentration fits well with OLLU's mission to ensure quality and innovative learning experiences."

Nagy states the new concentration will also benefit all OLLU students.

"Digital and public history components have been incorporated into every OLLU history course from freshman level to advanced courses, both in person and online," Nagy said. "That way every OLLU student, not just majors or minors, gets the benefit of the new concentration."

HISTORY continued on page 7

## UIW student's death still unclear

By Cristian Ortiz-Salas  
Reporter

A University of the Incarnate Word student was shot and killed last December, allegedly by a UIW campus police officer.

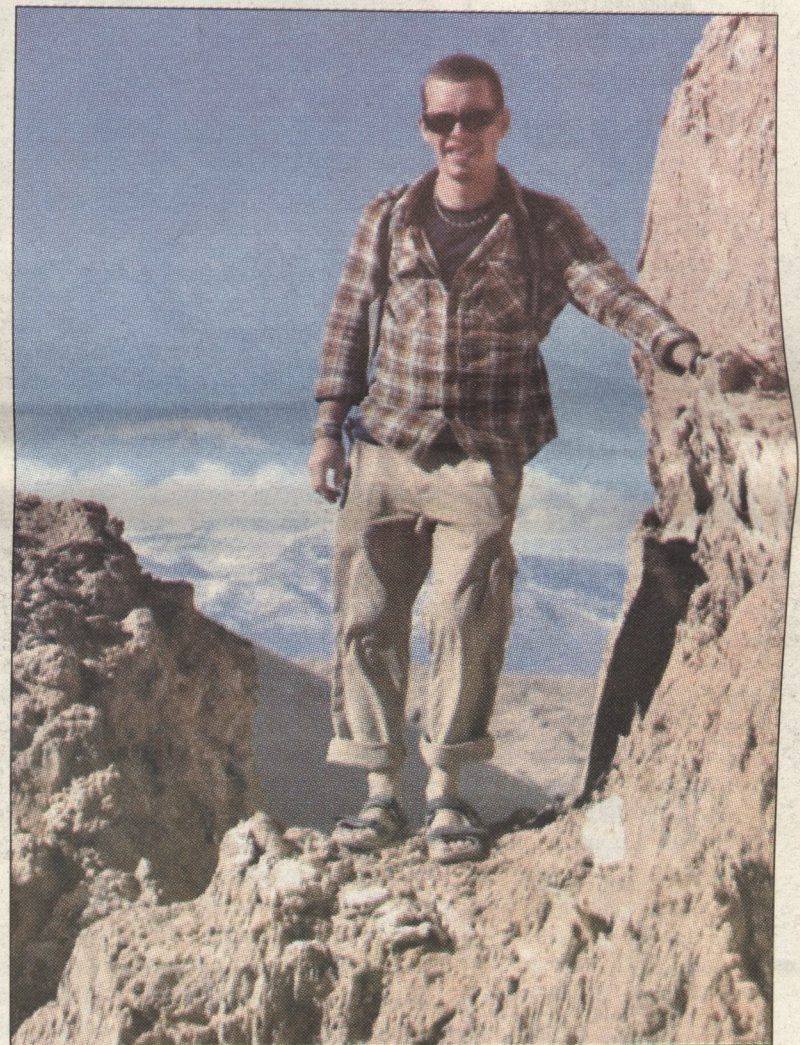
Robert Cameron Redus, from Baytown, TX, died Dec. 6 in the parking lot of the Tree-House apartments in Alamo Heights.

Several media reports stated the campus police officer, Chris Carter, observed the 23-year-old driving erratically down Broadway Street and pulled him over at the apartments. Reports released by the officer claim Redus got out of the vehicle and initiated a struggle that ultimately led to his death.

Campus police are told that if a situation were to occur off campus they should notify the San Antonio Police Department, according to the UIW Handbook. However, Carter continued to follow Redus after leaving campus grounds.

It was only moments before the incident that Redus was celebrating the end of the semester with his classmates. When Redus' friends received news of his death, they were confused and skeptical, said Sara Ghannam, a close friend of Redus.

"The official police report and the statement Carter re-



Robert Cameron Redus was allegedly shot and killed by Chris Carter, a University of the Incarnate Word campus police officer. *Courtesy photo*

leased about his reasoning for shooting Redus doesn't make sense," Ghannam said.

"There are a lot of grey ar-

reas and nothing seems right," she added.

UIW STUDENT continued on page 4

### New atheist group on campus

A social work student has recently formed Free Thinkers, a group that promotes acceptance of the religions of others.

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### Professor plans grand hike

Chemistry Department Chair and three other professors plan to hike the Grand Canyon in one day at end of semester.

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### Basketball player recognized

In her first year here, Australian basketball player Courtney Bliss named Red River Athletic Conferences' "Player of the Week."

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## THE LAKE FRONT STUDENT NEWS

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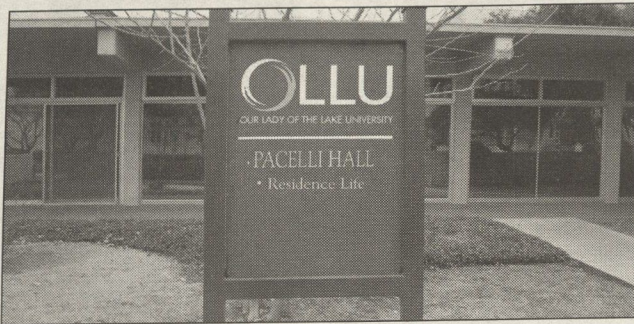
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# Saving with Cesar

## ALLEVIATING CAMPUS LIVING EXPENSES

Cesar Rodriguez is a junior and an accounting major. He is also The Lake Front's accountant.



Campus living can become expensive. *Photo by Cesar Rodriguez*

**By Cesar Rodriguez**  
Accountant

There are many factors that contribute to the college experience; one of these is living on campus.

Living on campus offers advantages like free Wi-Fi and computer use, free washers and dryers, a meal plan that guarantees you a warm meal, and the opportunity to be on campus 24/7.

The biggest advantages of living on campus are the opportunities to attend events, join clubs, and meet new people.

For many people, the price of living on campus is a reason to live off campus. But is it convenient?

Living off-campus involves paying rent, food, gasoline, car insurance, and utilities. These payments can be avoided if you live at home, although you can become a victim of constant interruptions and

endless distractions.

But living on campus, as opposed to on your own, comes with a price. We've compiled a couple of ways to manage these expenses.

1. Buying groceries at the nearest HEB or Family Dollar will save you money, especially if you think food on campus is expensive. This will also allow you to have food when Sister Annie B's Cafeteria and the C-Store are closed.

2. Keeping track of your meal plan can save you from spending excessive amounts of money on restaurants once there is no money in your account. Selrico, the food vendor on campus, places graphs showing the amounts of money that students should have in their meal card at various points of the semester. However, the company offers different meal plans, so be sure you know which plan you have. You can find such graphs at the cash



registers of Sister Annie B's Cafeteria and the C-Store.

3. Make sure you keep a budget for personal expenses. It is always nice to go out and have some fun, but not if you spend all your money in a single weekend. Mobile apps such as Mint.com Personal Finance (Created by Intuit) and Check – Bills & Money allow you to keep track of your expenses and have some cash for any unforeseen event.

4. Make use of coupons for grocery stores, restaurants, and other locations. The mobile app Groupon offers multiple discounts for products and services. This app is free and can definitely save you a lot of dollars.

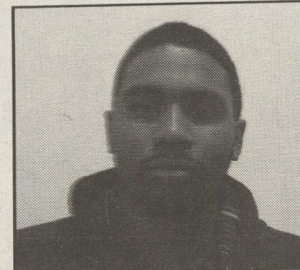
5. Take advantage of the discounted tickets offered by the Office of Residence Life. These tickets are offered to all residents for a limited time and include tickets to theater plays and amusement parks.

Although living on campus comes with a price, it enhances the learning and social experiences of being a college student that only happens once. These experiences can differ among students, but the memories made last a lifetime.

[cnrodriguez@ollusa.edu](mailto:cnrodriguez@ollusa.edu)

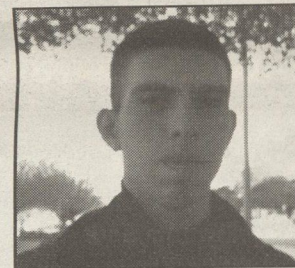
## What do you say?

DO YOU FEEL SAFE ON CAMPUS?  
WHY OR WHY NOT?

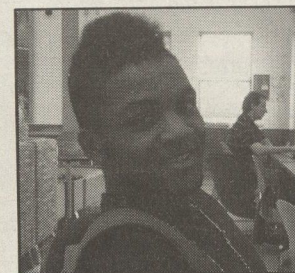


**Laron Burnett**, freshman criminal justice major, said he feels safe thanks to the law enforcement around campus. "They protect us 24/7," Burnett said.

**Stephanie Llanes**, graduate communication disorders student, said she does not feel safe in the evenings.

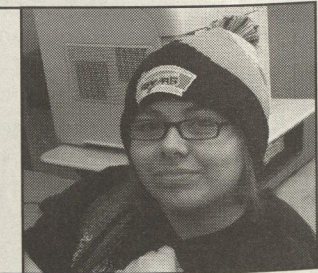


**Alejandro Ramirez**, sophomore biology major, said he feels safe. "I know the police on a first name basis," Ramirez said. "I feel perfectly fine."



**Xavier Murphy**, freshman business major, said he feels safe. "We have new officers," Murphy said, "and no one has gotten into any trouble or accidents."

**Lucia Cox**, junior drama major, said she doesn't really think about her safety. "I'm just on my headphones," Cox said.



The opinions published in The Lake Front are not necessarily those of its staff or the faculty, staff, administration or student body of Our Lady of the Lake University. The Lake Front publication strives to inform, entertain and communicate with OLLU and its surrounding communities. Advertisement information is available upon request.

### Submission requirements:

The Lake Front accepts letters to the editor for publication on the Opinion page of this newspaper. Letters should have the author's printed name and contact information. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters can be submitted in person, electronically or by mail and become the property of The Lake Front upon receipt. The editor reserves the right to edit letters for libelous material, grammatical errors, space constraints and/or offensive language. The Lake Front does not discriminate because of age, gender, ethnicity, national origin, disability or sexual orientation. "Letters to the Editor" is intended to serve as a public forum for issues related to the OLLU community.



# IT'S COMPLICATED

## Long-distance love perseveres

By Cassandra Bravo-Cepeda  
Reporter

Three years ago, if you asked me why I came to San Antonio I would have told you: "I want to better my life and continue my education."

I didn't come with a dream. In fact, my dream continues to unfold before me each day. I wake up every morning to a picture on my dresser of me kissing the love of my life, the one who my dreams are made of. I roll over on my bed to see the empty spot where he should be. Hello, I'm a 21-year-old married woman with no husband in her bed... what's wrong with this picture?!

Truth be told, I've committed myself to a long-distance relationship since the summer of 2012, the beginning of our freshman year. We didn't know it yet, but we would eventually cross paths, hold hands, and protect each other's hearts.

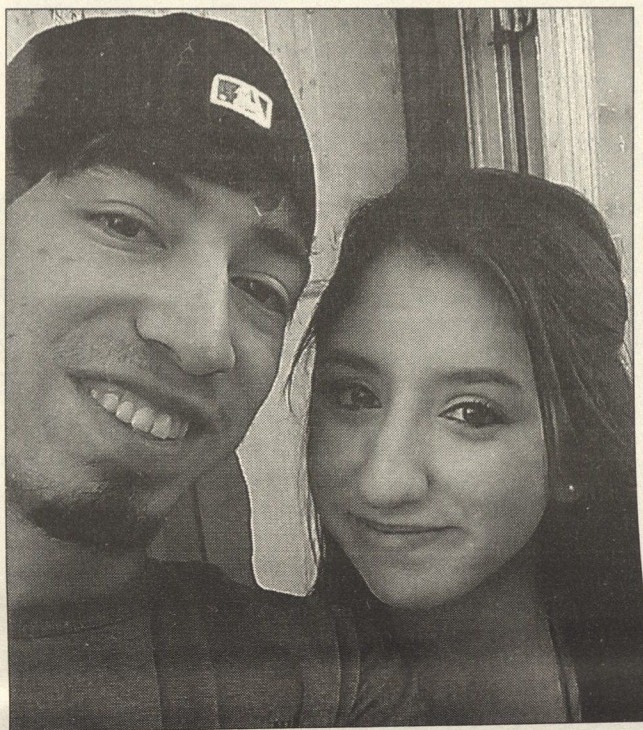
Has this life been hard? No, it hasn't. It's been awful, unimaginable, and completely unexplainable. Yet I'd go through it all over again.

CoverGirl should write me a check for all the mascara I've bought because of constant tears running down my cheeks.

Many people questioned why I traded the parties, dancing and late nights all for one person.

The answer is simple... for love. Yes, for the love of a man that's almost as great as the love God has for me. I found that "thing" only crazy people talked about.

However, being in a long distance relationship is more than "complicated". It has been a great big adventure - one with curves, straight paths and dead ends; plenty of those! Yet I've gained such an incredi-



Bravo-Cepeda and her husband Jonathan. *Courtesy photo*

ble respect for my husband and myself.

I've learned that putting yourself first is just as important as you being the second person in someone's life. In other words, I learned my place in my life and in the relationship.

My place is here at Our Lady of the Lake University as a senior and student minister. It's as a daughter, a sister, a friend and a wife. To be the greatest I can be for my husband is being the best for me first. It's like feeding yourself before you can go feed a whole army - if you aren't up for it, how can you expect others to be?

You do not have to be a hopeless romantic to want a fairy tale. Fight for what you want and for what you deserve according to your heart, not your mind. Without your heart, you can't feel; it's the muscle in your body that powers YOU, so allow yourself to empower it.

Being in my long-dis-

tance relationship has also taught me that when all hope is gone and loneliness overwhelms you, the only way you can go is up.

The harder it gets, the more blessed I am. It's a beautiful feeling to know that you are doing something for the greater good of your happiness.

As for those of you who have said that being in a long-distance relationship isn't for you, or it's stupid and crazy, then here is a little secret... all the best people are crazy.

Do I regret my circumstance? Not for a bit! I would do all this again. How I feel about my husband still would not change. At the end of a long day, I remember that I have something to look forward to - being another day closer to the next time I will see him again.

Or another hour closer until I can see him in my dreams.

*cfbravo@ollusa.edu*

# Editorial: God's fair, equal love found in acceptance of different religions, ideas

By Cassandra Bravo-Cepeda  
Reporter

Our Lady of the Lake University encourages students to portray characteristics of community, integrity, trust, and service, and calls upon them to become role models for the community.

April Earl's focus is not only to improve the livelihood of individuals in her field of study; it's about doing it here and now.

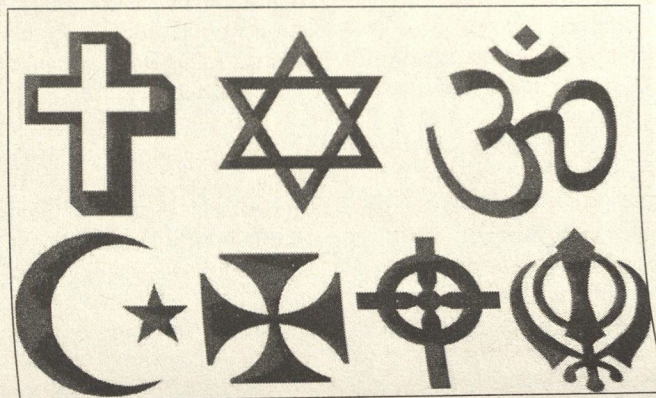
Earl, a sophomore social work major, is creating *Free Thinkers*, a group that welcomes agnostics and atheists.

The *Free Thinkers* Facebook page descriptions read: "We can come together as one and share our experiences with religious beliefs, the mistreatment from non-secular groups, organize projects that bring awareness to those who are misinformed about secular thinkers and to help others in the community recognize that it is acceptable to question religious beliefs and practices."

Atheists are sometimes seen as the outsiders within the university; the dark ones, or the satanic ones.

Personally, I give major props to Earl for standing up for something she believes in whole-heartedly and for being considerate of others and creating a space where community of so-called "outsiders" can be comfortable.

It's one thing to create



People are different and so are their beliefs. Through acceptance of others, community is reached. *Courtesy photo*

a free space for yourself, but it's another to fight for the feelings of others.

Yes, this school is a Catholic university, however our religious affiliation shouldn't be forced upon others. The university prides itself on accepting the diversity of its students despite race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.

*Free Thinkers* is a community we need on campus to enhance our diversity.

Earl wants the group to participate in service projects and collaborate with organizations on campus to help with food drives, marches, and activism around San Antonio. This embodies our core value of service and shows that a person with a different religious belief also loves their neighbor.

To me, it seems the *Free Thinkers* have to prove their worth and acceptance to the university family. But why?

Why should our own sister have to prove her

feelings, ideas, and identity? To me, that doesn't seem fair. We all have the Freedom of Speech and Religion and these rights cannot be taken from us, so why would we take them from Earl?

God wants his children to put aside their swords and cursed mouths; The Lord almighty wants fairness and peace to come from within. Clearly, it all begins with the *Free Thinkers*.

When Jesus had supper he invited all people to eat with him - sinners, murderers, tax collectors and even the non-believers.

This group is open and creates a positive atmosphere where anyone interested is welcome to bring their thoughts to the table.

Set aside your biased thoughts about non-believers and befriend an atheist, because they are still children of God.

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# Event to raise awareness about human trafficking

By Desirae Martinez  
Reporter

It has been over a century since Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, yet slavery still exists today in the United States.

Human trafficking, the modern day slavery, occurs when a person is sold for labor or sex in exchange for money.

One misconception of human trafficking is that it is a third world issue. However, on average, there are 350 to 400 new victims of trafficking each day in the United States.

Last December, President Barack Obama declared January 2014 as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

The University is raising awareness by teaming up with the Freedom Youth Project Foundation. The university will host a Freedom-U event from 6-7:30 p.m. on Feb. 27, in Chapel Auditorium to educate students to become advocates for younger peers who are at risk of being victimized.

The Freedom Youth Project Foundation is a local

anti-sex-trafficking group formed in 2010. The foundation recently launched a new initiative, Freedom-U, to engage college students in the movement to end human trafficking.

Recently, human trafficking surpassed drug dealing as the second largest criminal industry in the world. Arms dealing ranks number one.

Human trafficking is a mobile industry so traffickers tend to operate near highways. The I-10 corridor, which runs through San Antonio, is the main avenue for individuals participating in human trafficking, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Sex traffickers target girls as young as 12-years-old. These girls are abused and drugged to prevent them from escaping. The average life span for these victims is less than seven years at which point they die from violence, disease or exhaustion. Less than half a percent of human trafficking victims are ever rescued, according to the Freedom Youth Project Foundation.

"People assume that this is a woman who chose

Initiative of: **think freedom Campaign.** freedom youth project FOUNDATION

Hosted by: **OLLU** OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY Center for Women in Church and Society

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STUDENT ANTI-TRAFFICKING MOVEMENT

FREE to all area college & university STUDENTS

2014 FEB 27

6:00p - 7:30p

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE UNIVERSITY Chapel Auditorium

Info & R.S.V.P. www.freedom-u.org

"Learn what you can do to combat human trafficking."

The Center for Women in Church and Society has partnered with the Freedom Youth Project Foundation to host Freedom-U from 6-7:30 pm. on Feb. 27. *Courtesy photo*

prostitution," said Jacqueline Walter, project coordinator at the Center for Women in Church and Society, "The proper term should be prostituted. There will usually be a pimp or somebody nearby who is really the one in control."

When arrests are made, 90 percent of the time the victim is the one who is arrested and charged for prostitution. The few who are rescued either willingly return to their traffickers or relocate to a shelter. In some cases when the victim

is badly beaten, reconstruction surgery is required as well as counseling.

"It's easier to prevent someone from becoming a victim than it is to rehabilitate them," said Saul Castellanos, President of the Freedom Youth Project

Foundation.

The Freedom-U event is open to all OLLU and college students in the area. For more information go to [freedomyouthproject.org](http://freedomyouthproject.org) or contact Walter at [jlwalter@ollusa.edu](mailto:jlwalter@ollusa.edu).

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## UIW STUDENT

continued from page 1

Hundreds of people attended Redus' funeral last month. Redus was an individual who touched many lives and inspired others to live life to the fullest, Ghannam said. Green ribbon pins were distributed to people at all of Redus' services, green was his favorite color and it represented unity amongst the people who shared the love for him.

Redus' death affected his close friends and the UIW community.

Hundreds of people drove from Baytown, including his family, to see him one last time.

Valerie Redus, Redus' mother, released a statement to the San Antonio Express-News stating she does not believe the report released by Carter.

"I know the man that I've seen for 23 years," Valerie said in a CNN video interview. "I know what he's become, I know how steadfast and true, the way we brought him up... I just feel like the truth will come out."

Several students at the university were shocked to hear a campus police officer

killed a student. OLLU student Guadalupe Hernandez Jr. feels no concern for his safety on campus.

"I've been here for some time already and have got the chance to know a few of the [University Police Department] officers," said Hernandez, a sophomore. "There has never been much concern on my part for safety because I feel that they do their job well."

OLLU Student Government Association President Ashley Guevara said they keep students informed with any updates released by UPD. A public safety committee also meets once a month where Chief David

Juarez, Lieutenant Ramon Zertuche, and selected students, along with SGA Vice President Oscar Dueñez to discuss ways to improve campus safety.

OLLU campus police were unable to comment concerning the shooting due to the fact that the case is still under investigation.

Redus would have received his bachelor's degree in May. He was on the Dean's List in fall 2012 and spring 2013, the UIW website noted.

*caortiz-salas@ollusa.edu*

Redus and friend Sara Ghannam (left).  
*Courtesy photo*





# Atheist group sparks interfaith dialogue

By Yvonne Rosas  
Reporter

Free Thinkers is about acceptance.

The new atheist group on campus caused a hushed but ever-present buzz. Free Thinkers is much more than that, said April Earl, the student spearheading the group.

Earl is extremely clear with the intentions of the to-be organization.

"It's really all about acceptance," Earl said, adding that Free Thinkers is not a hate group of any sort. Instead, she intends for the group to be a social organization for those who have secular beliefs or are questioning their current religious inclinations.

Earl is a sophomore social work major with a music minor. She is also married and has two children.

"I want to show that all kinds of people can be atheists with this group and also, you don't have to be atheist or of any religion to join," she said. Earl adds Free Thinkers should be labeled as an acceptance group.

The idea for starting Free Thinkers came from class discussions and social media. Before posting to the OLLU Confessions Facebook page anonymously, Earl said that she felt like she was the only atheist on campus. Soon, other students responded to her confession stating they felt the same way.

"I was like, 'Wow, there are other people who think the same way I do!'" Earl said.

"Someone posted 'You should make a group!' and I thought 'Yeah,'" she said, and so Earl began the preliminary steps towards creating Free Thinkers.

Jorge Valadez, Ph.D.,



head of the Philosophy department, volunteered to be the faculty advisor for the group.

"[April] had raised these concerns during class while discussing issues related to beliefs and rationality," he said, adding that April also gathered courage to express her opinions in his philosophy class.

"The group is intended to create a safe space to talk about beliefs with people who have doubts," Valadez said. "This group asks people to think critically."

The group is currently

only present on Facebook, but signatures and preliminary moves are being made in the direction of creating an on campus organization.

For more information on the group, students are encouraged to contact the Facebook page.

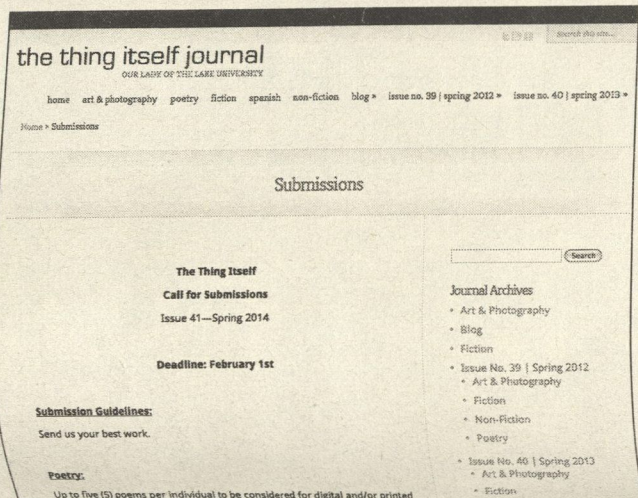
[yrosas@ollusa.edu](mailto:yrosas@ollusa.edu)

April Earl, a sophomore social work major and music minor, is spearheading Free Thinkers, an atheist group that promotes acceptance of all religious inclinations. Earl said the group should be labeled as an acceptance group. **Photo by Yvonne Rosas**





# Literary journal gathers work from students, nationals



Submit your writing and art to the literary journal on its website at [ttijournal.org](http://ttijournal.org). *Courtesy photo*

**By Levi Rios**  
Contributing Writer

Writers are wanted for The Thing Itself.

The Thing Itself is the university's student-run literary journal that accepts works from both veteran and new writers. The journal needs submissions in the following genres: poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and art.

Octavio Quintanilla, Ph.D., faculty advisor for The Thing Itself, said the literary journal is not only accepting submissions from students at the university, but from national and international sources too.

"It's kind of scary and it is a lot of work, but we are helping each other out just so we don't get overloaded," said David Hale, senior editor of the journal. Hale also said they will still keep focus on their university roots.

Quintanilla said he wants to publish the best,

which implies finding beginning writers and uniting them with established writers.

"Our goal is to give writers that space," Quintanilla said.

The staff is not looking for a particular theme for the writing.

"We're open to any type of theme," Hale said. "It has to follow the basic guidelines. There are no standards. We won't be telling you to submit cowboy-only themes. We're open to anything."

The Thing Itself will be accepting pieces through Feb. 1. The staff might extend the date if they do not reach a certain quantity of submissions. For more information or to submit entries, visit [ttijournal.org/submit](http://ttijournal.org/submit) or email David Hale at [dahale@ollusa.edu](mailto:dahale@ollusa.edu).

The journal will be released the week of the university's Literary Festival in April.

[lrrios@ollusa.edu](mailto:lrrios@ollusa.edu)

# Remedy suggestions for flu season

**By Betsaida Lopez**  
Reporter

Sneezing, coughing, body aches, constant sniffing – it all gets exhausting! Here are a few home remedies that could help you pull through this cold and flu season.

[blopez@ollusa.edu](mailto:blopez@ollusa.edu)

**Soup.** A bowl of warm soup is always comforting for an aching throat.

–Tips from student Sarah Moore

"I believe Mentholatum can help with everything." Take any topical ointment with vapors such as Vicks VapoRub, and rub on the chest, throat, behind the ears, back, and the soles of your feet. Slip on a pair of socks and a t-shirt after rubbing for decongestion.

–Tips from Laura Sanchez, administrative secretary for the Office of Residence Life

**"Get the shot!"** The flu shot that is. Getting plenty of sunlight and drinking orange juice is sure to boost your immune

system. Vitamin D is a necessity!

–Tips from student Courtney Purl

**"Drink Gatorade."** Gatorade contains a blend of carbohydrates and vitamins that promote energy. The electrolytes in Gatorade also help maintain water balance in the body.

–Tips from student Ashley Aguillon

**Tomato.** If you have a severe cough, warm up two slices of tomato, "make sure they are

hot, but not burning hot. Apply them to the soles of your feet and put socks on. Sleep with them overnight."

–Tips from Cristian Ortiz-Salas, junior mass communications major

**Honey and Lime.** For a sore throat, my mom taught me to take a few tablespoons of honey with a squeeze of lime. The honey will stop any irritation in the throat and the lime cleans out any bacteria or mucus. Warm it up for extra comfort.

# Plans for more online classes

**By Ruben Renteria**  
Reporter

Education is evolving and so are universities.

The University of Phoenix offers associates, bachelors, masters and even doctoral degrees solely online. Our Lady of the Lake University is making an effort to keep up with the changing trends.

Over the years, OLLU has been experimenting with online learning and has put together eight online graduate level programs, one online undergraduate nursing program and numerous online courses that stretch across all majors.

Now, the university is ready to make long-term plans to establish a stronger online presence.

Corey Davis, the executive director of online learning, is responsible for managing and evaluating the success of each online program the university has to offer. Davis and other faculty members regularly discuss what students are interested in, what the surrounding market gets recognition

for and what identity the university hopes to expand on.

Davis said he is also responsible for helping professors become comfortable with moving their courses online, since professors have been resistant to move into online territory in previous years. The resistance came from a knowledge gap between the professors and the online learning system. Davis regularly meets with the professors to educate and guide them from one world to the next.

"We've reached a place now where people are really comfortable and ready to think long term about what we want to do with online," he said. "Getting them to step on board without that fear was a big step here."

With the rising popularity of online courses, the university looks to adapt with the changing trends in order to increase enrollment and revenue, Davis said.

So far, some students currently enrolled in online courses like the idea, but have insisted future



University to offer more online classes. *Photo by Ruben Renteria*

students proceed with caution, since the absence of a classroom may cause them to fall behind.

"You just go to do it on your own," Pete Perez, a senior and political science major said.

Not having anyone to constantly remind you puts pressure on students to be mature about their online responsibilities. Another tip is to get to know your professors, Perez said.

It helps foster the student-professor interaction, because "it just makes it harder not knowing who's on the other end of the computer," Perez said.

For any student unfa-

miliar with taking classes online, Davis believes anyone can benefit from the experience.

"It's an avenue that should be explored," Davis said.

Davis mentioned the university will at some point launch all general education classes online.

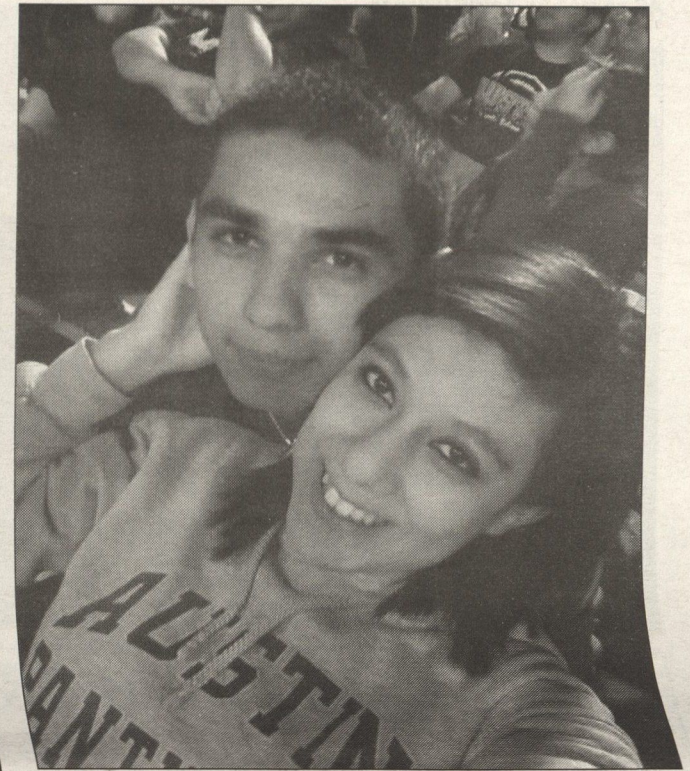
"There's a skill set that you learn when you work online that you won't get anywhere else," Davis said. "I think it's very useful in that way as well as with respect to access."

For more information regarding online courses and their programs, students may contact Davis at [cdavis@ollusa.edu](mailto:cdavis@ollusa.edu).

[rrenteria@ollusa.edu](mailto:rrenteria@ollusa.edu)



# Students handle long-distance relationships



Sophomore Erika Tapia and her boyfriend of five years, who she has been separated from over a year. Tapia said her relationship is worth being long-distance. *Courtesy photo*

Brittany Garcia has been in her relationship for over three years. Her boyfriend is in Houston, Garcia's hometown. *Courtesy photo*

**By Cassandra Bravo-Cepeda**  
Reporter

Erika Tapia and Brittany Garcia are two Our Lady of the Lake students who are in a long distance relationship. Neither allow the distance to keep them interacted in the social life at OLLU.

Tapia is a sophomore majoring in music. She promised to her boyfriend of five years and has been separated from him a little over a year.

"Not being able to talk and see each other like in high school." Tapia said. "We were just so used to seeing each other every-day."

Tapia is a part of the OLLU choir and has sung at events like candlelight. Tapia expresses how her faith has been an important part in traveling with this distance. Her boyfriend is currently enlisted in the military and is to serve overseas within the new year.

"Its scary, the little that we talk the more we make it count and six to nine months without talking is hard," Tapia said.

Garcia has been in her relationship for over three years. Her beloved is in her hometown Houston. They met at a retreat while she was in high school. Her whole educational career has been a long distance relationship.

"You spend so much time apart and of course there are trials and tribu-

lations but definitely communicating with each other helps us." Garcia said.

Focusing on staying busy isn't just for the benefit of Garcia. Her hardest times were finding the correct balance between her social life and relationship. It's about sacrificing spending quality time together as a usual couple versus making the moment's together count, even if it's just for a weekend.

What's helped Garcia through is knowing that

her boyfriend is more than just someone who is protecting her heart.

"He's my best friend and at the end of the day he is the one I want to tell everything to," Garcia said. "He's my right hand man."

Garcia's advice for all couples is not to challenge themselves if being apart is extremely hard. She mentions how important it is to know yourself as an individual as well as who you are in the relationship. Communication is also important throughout the duality of the distance.

Amidst the talk of long distance relationships there's the bashing of such commitment.

Being young, wild, and free is tempting but for those who have found love at an early age shouldn't be questioned as to why they chose their paths. Instead, they should be admired for going the distance.

"It's my decision." Tapia said, "I know how I feel so I'm putting my all into it. So I don't think I'm crazy...I think it's worth it."

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## HISTORY

continued from page 1

The outline of the major reiterates that this concentration will benefit many OLLU students.

"The integration of digital and public history will allow all students, including those who take

general education history courses, to utilize the resources on campus," the outline said.

Nagy said there are students that are excited to see this new concentration come to fruition.

"The new concentration keeps the best features of the 'old' History

program while incorporating the digital and public history components," Nagy said.

Kelly Kitka, a junior history major, said that she likes the new concentration and what it has to offer.

"Learning mankind's history is vital in under-

standing current events and why they happened," Kitka said. "Sister Nagy likes to say that history doesn't actually repeat itself but I think it rhymes. It benefits me to understand the world around me."

Kitka said that this new concentration can help her with her future

career.

"I aspire to be a curator for a museum someday," Kitka said.

Nagy believes that Father John Martin Moye, Founder of the Congregation of Divine Providence, would be pleased with this new concentration.

"I think that Father

Moye, the founder of the CDPs, would certainly approve of this innovation since he told the CDPs to respond to the needs of the times using the tools of the times, which, in this Information Age include digital resources and public history," Nagy said.

*gerendon@ollusa.edu*



# Pep rally heats up Sister Annie B's cafeteria

All photos by Astrid Villegas



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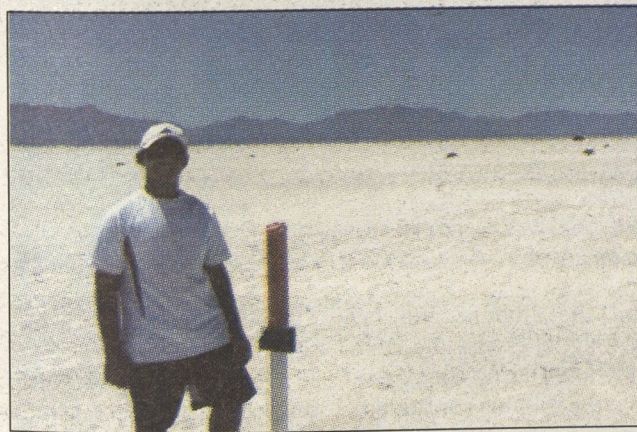
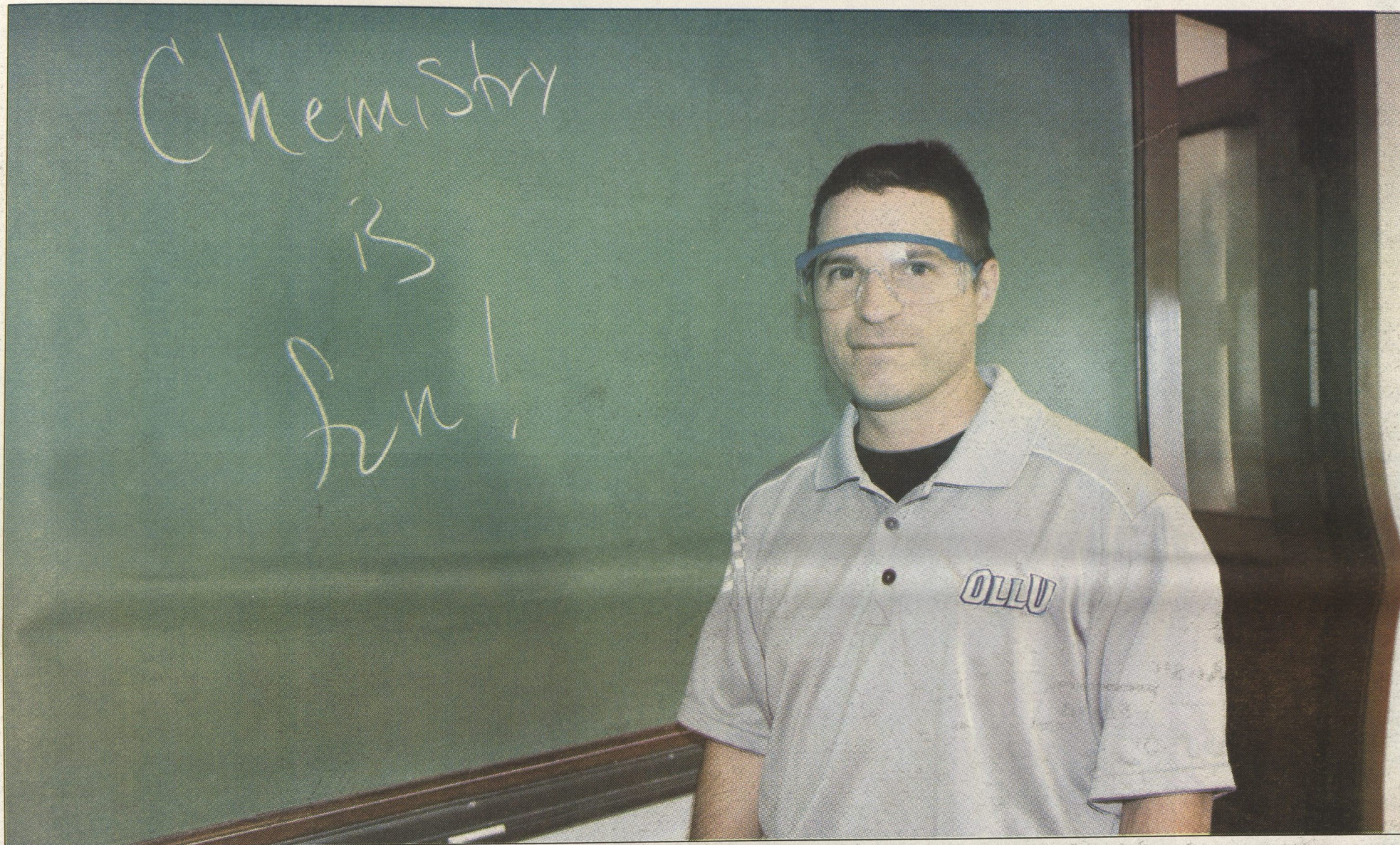
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# Smith, three other professors, to take on Grand Canyon



**By Shannon Valladolid**  
Contributing Writer

Two years ago, Charles Smith hiked 25 miles of New Mexico's White Sands desert.

Smith, Ph.D., Chemistry

Department Chair, spends his days teaching students about significant figures, the Lewis Dot Structure and electron configurations. However, his hunger for adventure has led him to plan on hiking one of the

most dangerous natural areas in the United States – the Grand Canyon. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

“It should be interesting and fun but it’s supposed to be a lot of work,” Smith said.

Aside from hiking the White Sands desert, he has also been on challenging night hikes in the Texas Hill Country.

“We weren’t prepared and I figured, ‘well you can just follow the trail,’ but you couldn’t see anything,” Smith said. “So I thought we were going to have to sleep on the rocks because we couldn’t find our way back.”

Smith’s inspiration for the upcoming Grand Canyon hike came about when adjunct kinesiology professor Lynn Francis hiked the Grand Canyon rim-to-rim with some friends a couple of years back.

“She’s in her 60s but stays in fantastic physical condition,” Smith said.

Smith is not the only professor who is planning on taking on the Grand Canyon. Cary Guffey, Ph.D. and James Hall, Ph.D., who teach in the science department, and philosophy professor Thomas Keyes have all been researching and planning this adven-

ture for quite some time.

Many people take one day to hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, camp out and continue the rest of the hike the next day, Smith said. But the group of professors plan to follow in Francis’ footsteps and complete the hike all in one day.

“We will start around 5 a.m. and hopefully finish around 8 p.m.” Smith said.

They are planning to do the hike the second week of May since finals are the last week of April.

Smith also dreams of hiking the Appalachian Mountains, deep-sea fish-

ing and kayaking along the San Antonio River.

“We’ve been doing disc golf, bicycling and hiking,” Hall said. “[Smith] just loves anything outdoors.”

With only a couple of Clif bars, plenty of water and some frozen sandwiches, Smith said he’s confident about the adventure that awaits him.

“It’s dangerous,” Smith said. “People fall to their death beds everyday but the breathtaking view makes up for everything.”

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# Student employee finds passion working for Writing Center

By Clarissa Rodriguez  
Contributing Writer

As students pass through the writing center, Sabrina Zertuche sits behind the check-in desk and welcomes them with a smile.

For Zertuche, being a writing consultant is much more than just improving writing skills in the student success center. It is also about creating self-confidence.

"The environment at OLLU is what keeps me here," Zertuche said. "I could have left and been a teacher anywhere but that didn't feel right. Working here in the writing center feels right and it has shown me what my true passion is."

Zertuche says that the writing consultants see consultants see over 250 students per semester. Despite the fact that the tutors have different writing styles, they always find a way to help.

"I've helped all kinds of students from freshman to graduate level," Zertuche said. "Every student succeeds. I've helped our TRiO and McNair students with research papers, and even seen some get published. To be on that stepping stone of academic achievement is such a great reward."

In other cases, Zertuche has found herself doing more than just helping with writing assignments. She has seen herself become a reliable person for students to talk to, she said.

"I had a young lady see me for help on her English paper last semester and she just didn't know where to start. After talking with her I found out she was a freshman who was homesick and was procrastinat-



As a writing consultant for the Writing Center in lower level Moye, Sabrina Zertuche sees hundreds of students go to herself and other consultants for help. Through working at the Writing Center, Zertuche has discovered she loves to teach and help others. *Photo by Betsaida Lopez*

ing on her assignments. I did more than just help her with an English paper. I became a friend. I know what it's like to be down...I want to show students that I'm living proof they can get through this."

Zertuche explained how school could often become overwhelming and how she overcame her insecurities.

"When I was in school, I wasn't a confident student. It wasn't until I started asking my teachers for help that I realized how successful I could be. My teachers really took the time to help and listen to me and that's something I try to give back to the each one of the students I come across."

Mary Francine Danis

PhD, director of the writing center, has watched Zertuche grow from a student into a trustworthy mentor.

"Each of these tutors are so excellent at what they do and they really love to help the students," Danis said. "Sabrina has this wonderful balance between authority and openness. One minute Sabrina

and the student will be making jokes and the next they are editing the paper together," Danis continued, smiling.

"The biggest reward for me is that I get to see these students succeed. It's so rewarding to see a student evolve as a writer from the beginning to the end of one semester and knowing that you made

that happen," Zertuche says.

Zertuche plans on getting her PhD in Illinois and bring back what she learns to OLLU.

"Every student has a chance to succeed. You just have to believe."

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# Club Rush gathers campus groups

All photos by Astrid Villegas



## ¡Congratulations y Felicidades to our December graduates from the Humanities and Social Sciences Dept, College of Arts and Sciences!

### Biliterate Certificate Program:

Sammy Lam	Business Administration
Patricio Espinoza	Communication Arts
Charinda Melendez	Psychology
Dagoberto Trevino	Accounting

### HISTORY PROGRAM Graduating Seniors:

1. Sandra A. Cortinas  
BA/Liberal Studies/History
2. Jamie Lee  
BA/History/Political Science double major
3. Gabriela Gonzalez  
BA/Education Intermediate/Liberal  
Studies-Social Studies-History
4. Julio Rivas  
BA/Education Secondary/Social Studies

Philosophy  
Steven Zumaran

Spanish  
Begoña G. De Ubieta, B.A. in Spanish with the  
All-Level Teaching Certification.



**SOUNDS IN SAN ANTONIO**

*Your guide to good music during study breaks*

# Punk sounds and country vibes through February

By **Darian Mendez**  
Copy Editor

From Christian contemporary to some good Texas country and punk in between, hit up one of these shows for some relaxation.

[dgmendez@ollusa.edu](mailto:dgmendez@ollusa.edu)

**1/24 The Front Bottoms, You Blew It!** 8 p.m.

Limelight, 2718 N. St. Mary's  
Take it easy with New Jersey's next big thing. The Front Bottoms are out promoting their most recent album, *Talon of the Hawk*, and spreading the charisma that comes with it. Don't expect something you've never heard before, but know that they'll definitely make you feel good.

**1/26 Electric Frankenstein** 8 p.m.

Korova, 107 E. Martin  
Electric Frankenstein claims it's the only band that still stays true to punk, and if punk means loud, under four minutes and very angry, then look no fur-

ther! Electric Frankenstein may be a little darker than The Ramones and slower than Misfits, but it has created its own high-powered monster by combining different styles.

**1/26 Ashlee Rose** 1-3 p.m.

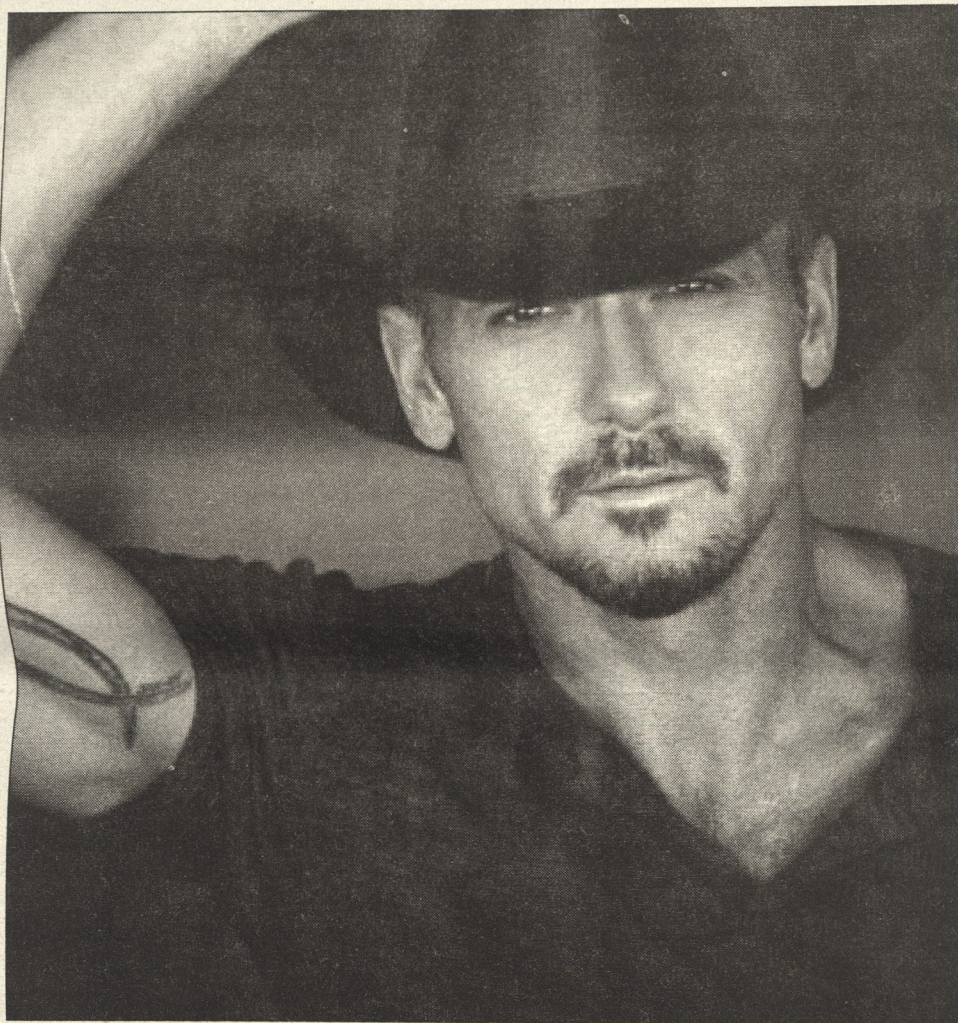
The Cove, 606 W Cypress St.  
Singer/songwriter Ashlee Rose makes her San Antonio roots obvious through her own take on country that's more cheerful and easygoing than the norm. Rose had her own *SeaWorld* show and won 2013 Female Vocalist of the Year at the Texas Music Awards.

**1/28 Mikey Vibe Open Mic**

The Ten Eleven, 1011 Avenue B  
Tickets: \$2  
Do you have a song in your heart? *The Ten Eleven* wants to hear!

**1/30 Skinny Puppy** 8 p.m.

Backstage Live, 1305 E. Houston  
Skinny Puppy is a wonderful reminder that industrial music still exists. Despite Dubstep's reign over any artificial sound for the past few years, Skinny Puppy's



most recent album strays as far away as possible from any type of Dubstep influence to create this simple yet relevant industrial comeback.

**2/06 King Pelican, Retro Surf** 8 p.m.

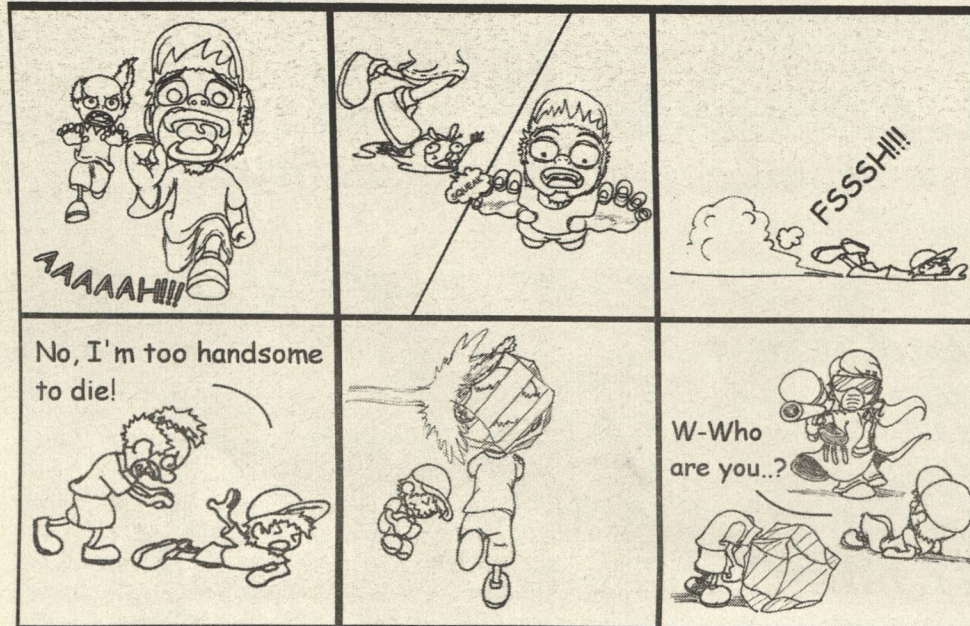
Luna Live, 6740 San Pedro Ave.  
Prepare for a night of South Texas twang, surf and 60's. King Pelican's sound is hard to pinpoint because they change styles at least three times during a song, but that's what makes their songs so interesting.

**2/08 Tim McGraw** 7:30 pm.  
AT&T Center, 1 AT&T Center Pkwy

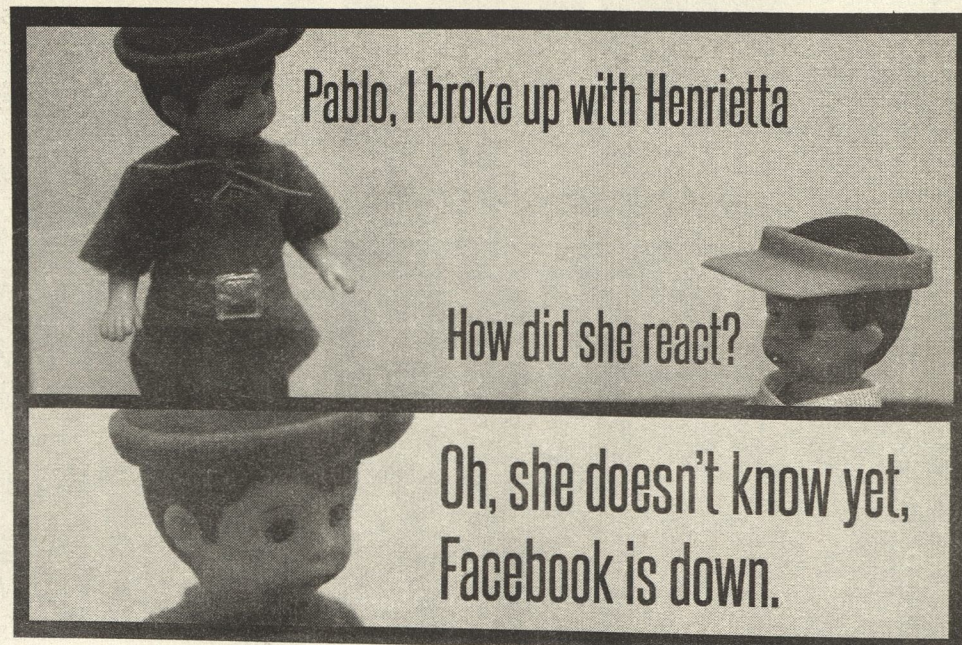
The king of country has returned. Living in Texas, you know his songs whether you like country or not.

His songs may not be meant for line dancing, but they sure are meant for heart-throbbing. Country Singer Tim McGraw (left) will take on the AT&T Center on Feb. 8. *Courtesy photo*

## OUR MAIDEN OF THE MARSH



## BABY PAN





# CINEMANIACS

Cristian Ortiz-Salas and Desirae Martinez are both juniors who met their freshman year at Brackenridge High School. Both have a passion for movies. They have seen many movies together and enjoy commenting about them. Martinez enjoys the storyline of films, while Ortiz-Salas is drawn to the cinematography aspects of films.



**By Cristian Ortiz-Salas and Desirae Martinez Reporters**

The spring semester has begun, but that doesn't mean you have to spend all of your time studying. From LEGOs to Muppets and even our beloved Spidey, here are 10 movies set to release this semester you don't want to miss.

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*demartinez@ollusa.edu*

## The Monuments Men

**Release Date:** Feb. 7

**Starring:** George Clooney, Matt Damon and Cate Blanchett

**Storyline:** George Clooney directs and stars in this action drama about an unlikely group of museum directors, curators, and art historians. Their mission is to infiltrate Germany and rescue artistic masterpieces from Nazi thieves in the closing period of World War II.

## The Lego Movie

**Release Date:** Feb. 7

**Starring:** Chris Pratt, Elizabeth Banks and Will Arnett

**Storyline:** The LEGOs leave the shelves and hit the big screen in this action-packed animated film. Emmet, an ordinary LEGO, is mistaken for the last living Master Builder who can save the universe from the evil Lord Business.

## RoboCop

**Release Date:** Feb. 12

**Starring:** Joel Kinnaman, Gary Oldman and Samuel L. Jackson

**Storyline:** In 2028 Detroit, Alex Murphy is a loving husband, father, and devoted cop who is critically injured in the line of duty. Multinational conglomerate OmniCorp seizes this opportunity to put a man in a machine.

## The Wind Rises

**Release Date:** Feb. 21

**Starring:** Hideaki Anno, Jun Kunimura and Mirai Shida

**Storyline:** Anime director Hayao Miyazaki's last feature film chronicles the life of Jiro Horikoshi. As a boy, Horikoshi dreams of flying planes but as an adult, he designs the Japanese fighter planes used during World War II.

## Muppets Most Wanted

**Release Date:** March 21

**Starring:** Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy and Tina Fey

**Storyline:** The Muppets are on their famous world tour and have arrived in Europe. However, things go south when a Kermit look-alike becomes Europe's Most Wanted.

## Divergent

**Release Date:** March 21

**Starring:** Shailene Woodley, Theo James and Kate Winslet

**Storyline:** Based on the novel by Veronica Roth, Divergent is set in a future world where people are divided into factions based on their personalities. Beatrice Prior is on a journey to discover why her kind is on the verge of being exterminated.

## Noah

**Release Date:** March 28

**Starring:** Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly and Emma Watson

**Storyline:** Set in biblical times, this film is based on the story of Noah's Ark. As a man chosen by God for a great task, Noah must take extreme measures to protect his family from an apocalyptic flood.

## Captain America: The Winter Soldier

**Release Date:** April 4

**Starring:** Chris Evans, Anthony Mackie and Scarlett Johansson

**Storyline:** While Captain



Andrew Garfield (above) plays Spider-Man once again. Watch how Peter Parker takes on Electro and the Rhino, both connected to Oscorp. In theaters May 2. *Courtesy photo*  
Shailene Woodley and Theo James (right) in Divergent, based on the novel by Veronica Roth. *Courtesy photo*

America struggles to adapt to the modern world, he becomes entangled in a scheme that could threaten the world. With the help of Natasha Romanoff and the Falcon, Captain America will take on a Soviet agent from the past: the Winter Soldier.

## Rio 2

**Release Date:** April 11

**Starring:** Anne Hathaway, Jesse Eisenberg and William Adams (Will.i.am.)

**Storyline:** Upon arrival to the Amazon rainforest, Blu, Jewel and their kids come across Jewel's long lost father who

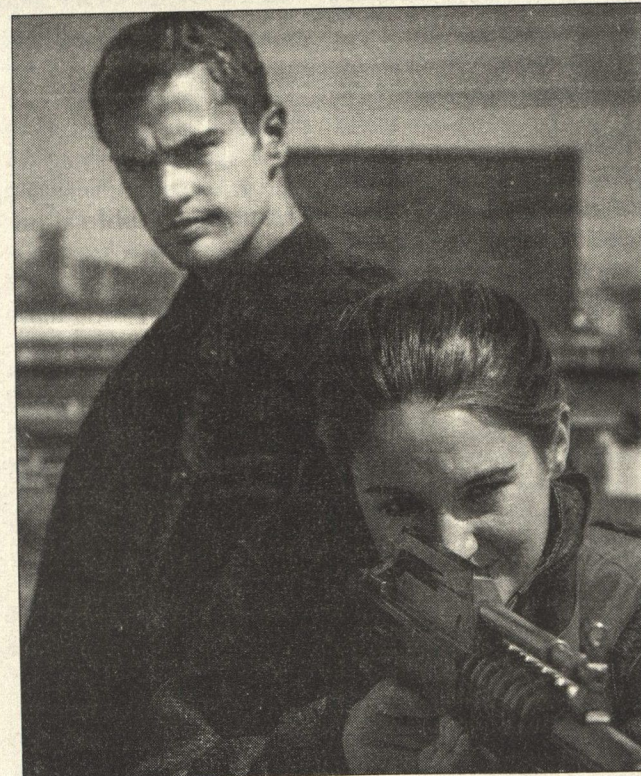
has been in hiding. Things take a turn for the worst when their Amazon habitat is under threat by their old nemesis, Nigel.

## The Amazing Spider-Man 2

**Release Date:** May 2

**Starring:** Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone and Jamie Foxx

**Storyline:** While Peter Parker struggles with balancing his ordinary life and his superhero obligations, new forces threaten the city. With the help of his old friend Harry Osborn, Peter learns that Electro and the Rhino are both connected to Oscorp.





# Roberson: 'I was pretty much born into basketball'



Senior Xavier Roberson transferred here last semester from the University of South Alabama. He currently holds the leading score in the nation for the NAIA Division. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

By Astrid Villegas  
Sports Reporter

Senior basketball player Xavier Roberson has been a student at three different colleges. He has played basketball in every single one of those colleges, but he said Our Lady of the Lake University has the most unique atmosphere.

"OLLU's basketball intensity is way crazier than any college I have attended for the past 3 years," Roberson said, citing the university's smaller population, as opposed to the others he has attended.

He started playing basketball at the age of 8.

"I was pretty much born into basketball," Roberson said.

His mother was a basketball player and his grandmother was a huge basketball and Houston Rockets fan.

"My grandma really made it grow on me," Rob-

erson said.

Roberson was raised without a father figure in his life, but said he used that experience to grow.

"It helped me to always keep on going and to have a mentality of always wanting to be successful," says Roberson.

This season he has already been named "Men's Basketball Player of the Week" 3 times.

"Xavier 'X' Roberson is one of the toughest players I have coached," said Ryan Wall, Men's Basketball coach. "He has a high, contagious characteristic and thrives to win."

Roberson said he turns to prayer when things in the court get tough.

"I have known X for four years and have seen his growth, as well as knowing what he will continue to be capable of doing," Wall said. "He is a special student-athlete. X has come a long way from

his childhood and has developed into a remarkable Christian man, who wants to graduate and win."

"He not only leads by guiding, but by example," Wall said. "Xavier is one of the hardest workers on the team. He gets in the gym constantly and is developing his game, not just going through the motions, but always trying to get better than he was the day before."

Roberson said he expects to continue to grow as a player and achieve his goal, which is to play professional basketball.

"Whatever opportunity or contract that presents itself, I will be happy to take," Roberson said.

Roberson's advice to aspiring athletes: "Always go 100 percent and never give up."

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## University announces new track and field team

By Carl Martin Hansson  
Contributing Writer

Athletic director Jack Hank announced on Jan. 7 that the Our Lady of the Lake University (OLLU) will expand their athletics program by adding two new sports, in baseball and men's and women's track and field, starting in the Spring of 2015 both team will compete in the Red River Athletic Conference with the rest of the, 11, teams.

Hank started the athletic program in 2007 with men's soccer and volleyball. The program has grown ever since and Hank said it has been and will continue to be an im-

portant recruiting tool for future student.

"Our existing athletic program has established itself as a viable way to recruit academically qualified students, and its impact has been positive for retention," Hank said. "The addition of these two sports will continue to increase school spirit, establish new traditions and improve the visibility of OLLU locally, regionally and nationwide."

Hank said he expects track and field will enroll about 30 student athletes to the 2014-2015 academic year. Even though both teams will have to do heavy recruiting they should be able to reach their goal, he said.

"There's no question in my mind that baseball and track and field will have the same success in a short time that the other sports has obtained," Hank said.

The person in charge of the recruiting for the two new teams and a new assistant track and field coach is current Cross Country Coach Stephen Sherman who will expand his duties becoming the new track head coach.

"We will expend his duties so it will truly be a year long fall and spring sport for cross country and track and field," Hank said. "He is certified as far as coaching track and field goes and has done a great job with cross country so it

just absolutely made sense to expand his duties."

Cross Country Coach Stephen Sherman has been waiting for the opportunity to have a full track and field program since he started working here in 2009.

"It's something that I brought up with Jack when I first got here, but realistic conversations about it started over this past year," Sherman said.

Sherman said the lack of a track and field team has held back the cross country teams and by adding the track the cross country teams will grow stronger.

The amount of events that the two teams will participate in is still undecided and it all depends

on what facilities the team will utilize, something that at the moment is still to be decided.

"We are going to go as wide as we can, but we need to get a facility hammered down before we can start talking about what events we will have," explained Sherman. "Right now I'm recruiting [for] sprints, horizontal jumps, throw and distance."

Even though it is roughly seven months before the first track and field class to form, coach Sherman is not worried about the recruiting process.

"We are a great track and field state and if you didn't leave the state boundaries you could fill a competitive field. You don't

have to go very far to get talent so we are in a good position," said Sherman.

And the response from student-athletes interested in being a part of track and field teams has been huge, even though it was announced just a few days ago.

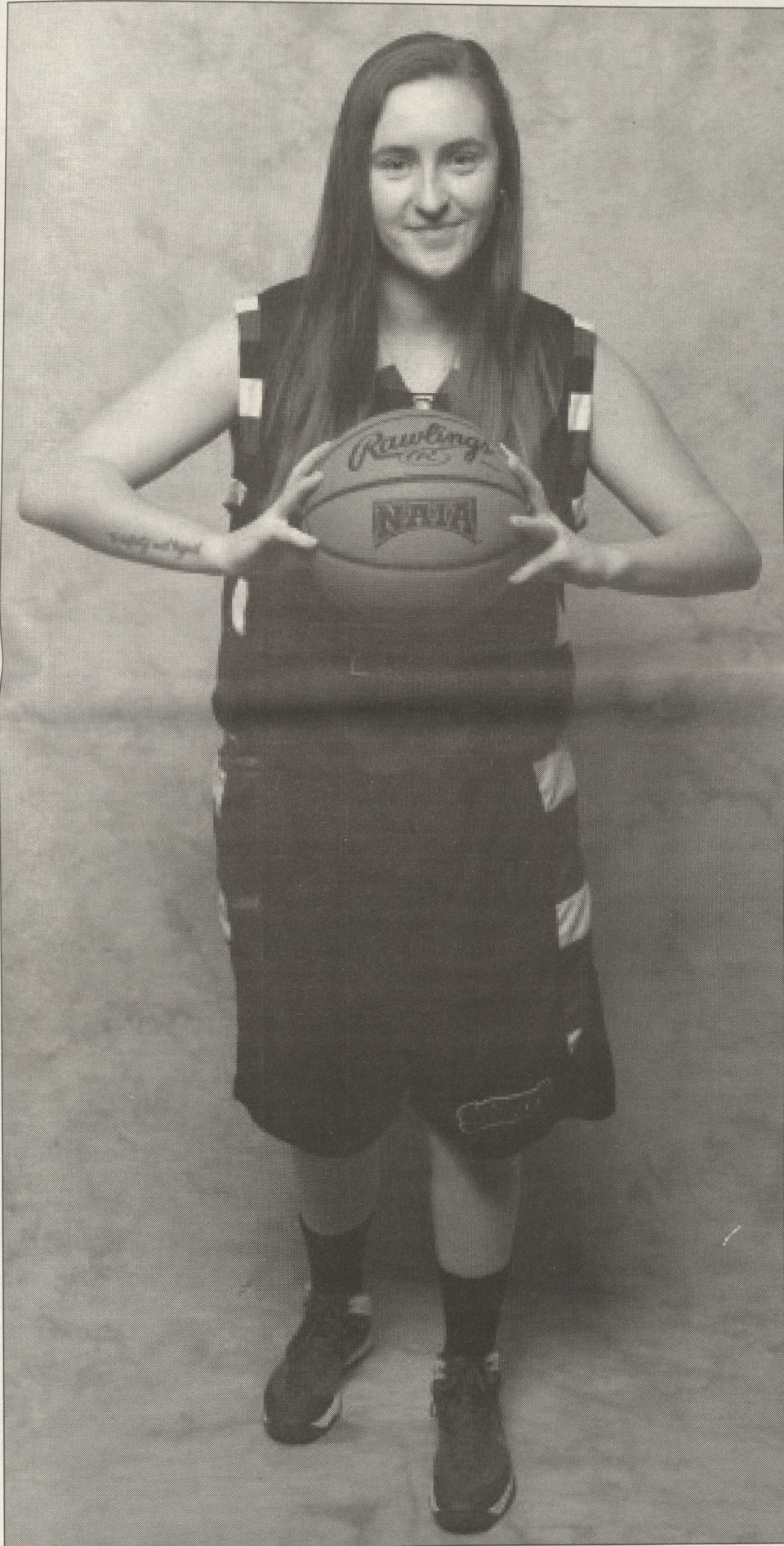
"In terms of sprinters, throwers and jumpers I have probably gotten probably 50 emails just since this was announced on the internet the other day," Sherman said.

Students interested in begin a part of the new men's and women's track and field team can fill out a recruiting form on the athletic website, [www.ollusaintsathletics.com](http://www.ollusaintsathletics.com).

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# Women's basketball player recognized by Conference



Australian student Courtney Bayliss started playing basketball when she was 7. *Courtesy photo (left) Photo by Astrid Villegas (above)*

**By Astrid Villegas**  
Sports Reporter

Courtney Bayliss began playing basketball at an early age and has since played in many different places. In her first year at the university, she has already been named "Conference Player of the Week."

Australian female player Lauren Jackson personally inspires Bayliss, "She plays in the NBA and she is the best Australian basketball player," says Bayliss.

Bayliss, a junior from Australia, started playing and developing her basketball skills at age 7. At 14 she started playing with a semi-professional team back home.

"I got to experience and mature my skills at a very low age," Bayliss said.

Of all the schools she has played for, Our Lady of

the Lake is the most supportive towards athletics, she said.

"They put a lot of emphasis on the athletes and support and promote them a lot," Bayliss said.

The university has given her experience and skill maturity differently than others.

"The style of play is very different," Bayliss said. "It has made me a more versatile as a player."

Coach Christopher Minner has helped her find her strengths so that she becomes a better player, she said.

"He has made me do what I thought I could not do," Bayliss said.

Minner said Bayliss has a great appreciation for the opportunity she has here at the university.

"She is very mature and focused as a player and does exactly what the

coaching staff asks of her," Minner said. "She is a quiet leader and allows her work ethic and playing ability to speak for her."

"Courtney has been a great player for us and I am excited that she has another year left."

"I've played Faulkner University two years in a row with my past teams, and I never got to beat them until this year with my OLLU team," says Bayliss.

If she goes back home, Bayliss plans to continue pursuing her basketball career.

Bayliss's advice to aspiring athletes is, "If your dream is to play you got to push through. It is all worth it in the end. You just have to work harder than the opposite team. You know they work hard, so you have to work harder."

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# Basketball teams enjoy great season, start of semester



Junior De'Quentin Greer (above), originally from Galveston, makes a shot. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

Senior Sequestiny O'Neal (above left). *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

Dylan Elias (left) went to Taft High School and transferred here from the University of Northern Colorado. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*



Senior Marcus Thompson (above) will graduate this semester. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*



Freshman Meghan Carpenter (above) of the Saints Dance Team. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*



De'Quentin Greer, Dylan Elias, Cody Wallace, Brannon Rolls, Terrence Berry, Brock Hunter, Bridge Lavey and Theo Plowden (from left to right in above photo) watch a teammate shoot a 3-pointer. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*

Freshman Ciaira Briseno (left) from McAllen. *Photo by Astrid Villegas*