

# THE CURRENT SAUCE

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## A.A. Fredericks Auditorium set to close in January for **renovations**

By Nina Ovalle



Photo by Nina Ovalle

The A.A. Fredericks Auditorium will be closed beginning January of 2025 and is expected to reopen in October 2025.

Scott Burrell, director of the Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts, explained that the renovations were initially proposed by the National Association of Schools of Theatre, the accrediting body of NSU's Theatre and Dance department, in 2006. These renovations will ensure that A.A. Fredericks aligns with NAST's accreditation parameters.

"If you're accredited, you have to provide facilities that will provide students the training they need to be successful in their college careers, so you have to," Burrell said. "And certainly safety is probably one of the highest things when it comes to those facilities."

While renovations were highly suggested by NAST, NSU was unable to address it at the time being.

"This has been one of their points that needed to be addressed over these years, but we've never had the funds to

fix it, but now we have funds that have been made available, so now is the time to get it taken care of," Burrell said.

Jennifer Kelly, director of auxiliary services, is in charge of facilitating funds for the renovations. She explained that they will not come from the capital outlay budget, an organized 5-year plan that includes a specified budget for infrastructure improvements and renovations to the university.

Instead, the funds for this renovation were given by the state. "NSU is providing some of the funding with our ACT 751 money that the legislature awarded this last session," Kelly said.

Act 751 is a part of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session which provides NSU with deferred maintenance funds from the state of Louisiana. NSU was awarded a budget over \$29M and \$2.1M of it is designated for use in the 2024-2025 year.

Specifically, this project is estimated to cost roughly \$900,000, Burrell said. This portion of the budget will cover all upgrades to A.A. Fredericks' fly system and the replacement of the fire curtain.

In order to adjust the weight on either side of the fly system pulleys, the weight must be manually loaded onto the carriages. Therefore, upgrades to the fly system will include pushing up the load-

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ing rail to allow a safer loading process and installing an all-new ladder that allows safer access to the loading rail.

“When you have students trying to learn technicals, like our stage production and design students, using the fly system, we want to make sure that they’re safe,” Burrell said. “It’s not that they haven’t been safe, because they wear harnesses so if they do fall it’ll catch them and they’ll still do that, but this will be a much safer system.”

Robert Richoux, director of production and design and technical director of the Theatre and Dance department, explained that all the renovations in A.A. Fredericks are related to safety.

“We will be able to implement new protocols and safety procedures as well as have better operation,” Richoux said. “This will also allow our students a better opportunity to learn the proper protocols and safety for running a fly system like this.”

The fire curtain is a large part of fire safety protocol on stage. Since the stage is the most likely place to have a fire, the fire curtain is responsible for separating the audience from the stage.

“This curtain would allow time for an audience to get out of the building,” Richoux said. “The Fire Curtain also blocks airflow on stage that in the case of a fire would prevent the fly loft (area above the stage) from acting like a giant chimney.”

The fire curtain currently in A.A. Fredericks is entirely made of asbestos, which is a known carcinogen, due to its fire-proof nature. While asbestos curtains are required based on the regulations of the National Fire Protection Agency, they still pose a high risk if left sitting for long periods of time or are not main-

tained properly.

“The reason this needs to be replaced is based on building codes and fire codes. The current curtain is made of asbestos which means we are not allowed to move the curtain unless there is a fire,” Richoux said.

Burrell described the process of replacing the fire curtain.

“It really has lived its life, so that has to be replaced now because you can’t take a risk of an old curtain flaking asbestos everywhere. So they’re taking that down, encasing it and getting rid of it to put up a new fire curtain that is sandwiched with stuff that doesn’t let the asbestos out,” Burrell said.

These renovations are set to begin at the end of January 2025 and are estimated to be completed in October 2025. A.A. Fredericks will be closed for the entire period of renovations.

Though the Theatre and Dance department hosts several classes in A.A. Fredericks, plans are already in place to work around the renovations.

“We had a heads up that this might be happening, so we planned our season around this as a potential issue. Organizations that use A.A. Fredericks for events will be impacted, but we have started to let those that typically book the space know that it will no longer be available so they can find alternate venues,” Richoux said.

The need for safer, more modern equipment in A.A. Fredericks is of utmost importance.

“We’d much rather work around it and be inconvenienced for a semester and have it done, than not have it done,” Burrell said.

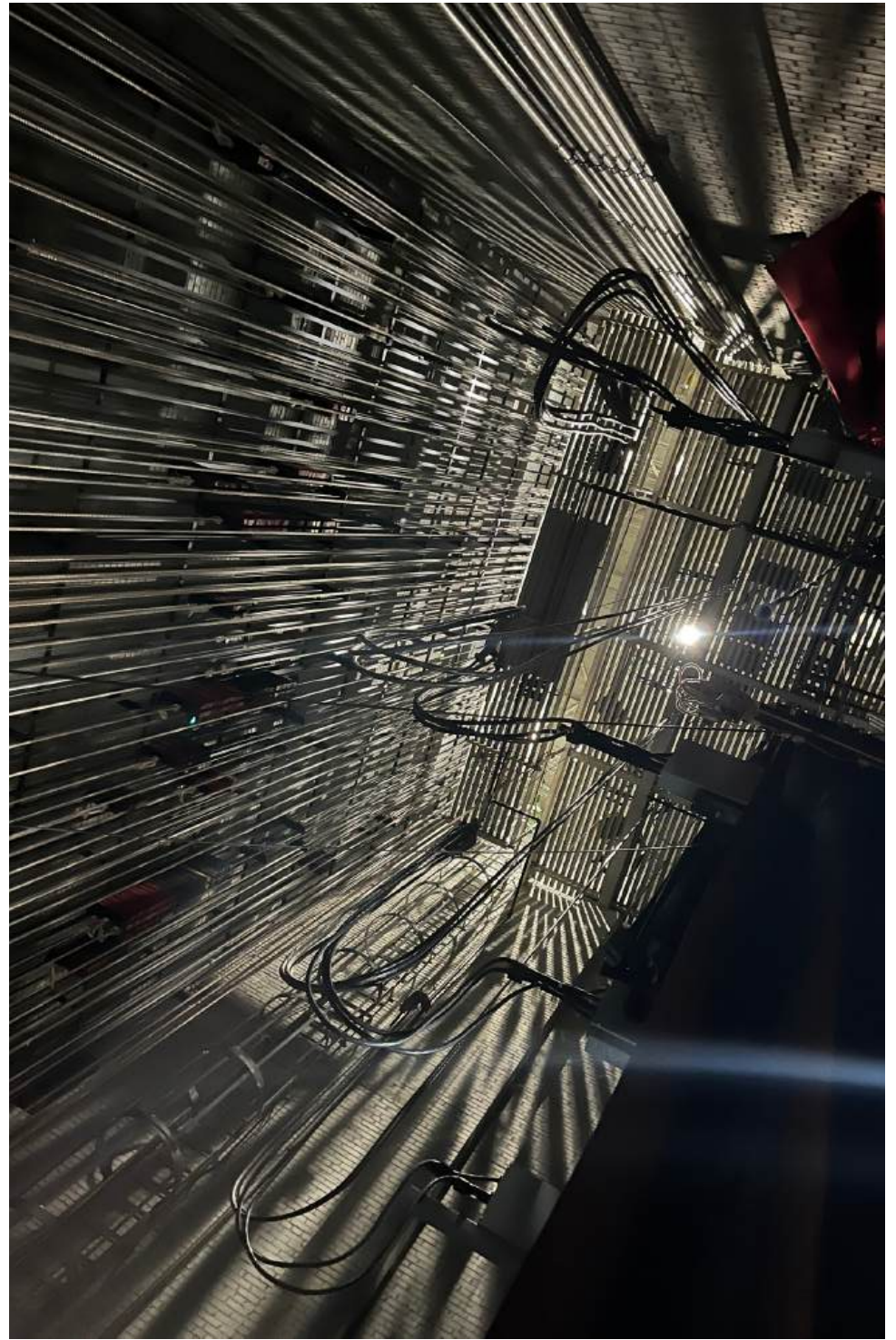


Photo by Nina Ovalle  
The A.A. Fredericks Auditorium fly systems will undergo renovations beginning in January 2025.



Photo by Nina Ovalle  
The A.A. Fredericks Auditorium stage will undergo renovations beginning in January 2025.

# How to deal with noisy neighbors

By Dakota Thomas

Jacobi Coe, a sophomore music business major and Varnado Hall resident, shared his experience with loud neighbors. “Sometimes my neighbors are literally screaming to the top of their lungs, playing video games – literally next door from me at like one in the morning,” Coe said.

This situation does not only happen in Varnado Hall; it can be felt across all the residence buildings. Maria Guzman, senior business administration major and University Columns resident, has also had problems with noisy neighbors.

“The most noise I experience is from the people above me. Sometimes their alarms go off – I can hear it. If they’re walking around or they get out of bed – I can hear it,” Guzman said. “I can hear their shower, but specifically my roommate more than anything else is where the noise comes from.”

Trevon Bradford, freshman health and exercise science major and resident of University Place 2, has had a similar experience to Coe, hearing neighbors through the wall.

“Sometimes it gets annoying, like when somebody’s stomping around,” Bradford said.

However, Bradford shared that he has not filed a noise complaint.

“But it’s like – it’s college, people have fun, and I wouldn’t want to ruin somebody’s fun,” Bradford said.

However, if students would like to file a noise complaint, any resident can report concerns to the housing office at their community clubhouse. After hours, residents can contact the Resident Assistant on call.

Students are also able to report noise complaints through the NSU Campus Shield App. Wesley Harrell, captain for University Police, explained how the NSU Campus Shield app can be used to report noise complaints.

“It’s an added tool and you can report anonymous tips and noise disturbance and complaints in there as well,” Harrell said. “We suggest students use the campus shield app to call us when they need us because they are our community.”

Students can use the Campus Shield app to file noise complaints by clicking the Anonymous Tips icon at the top of the screen and selecting Disturbance/Excessive Noise.

“It’s pretty simple. Just two clicks of a button, type a little sentence such as ‘Hey, my neighbor is yelling at someone,’ then

hit submit,” Harrell said. “And we have it in real-time and they can talk back and forth to our dispatcher.”

Stephanie Dyjack, general manager of Campus Living Villages at NSU’s University Housing, recommended that students utilize the opportunity to file noise complaints when needed.

“It is important to report a concern as it is happening. Reporting later does make it more difficult for the staff to address,” Dyjack said. “Our residential community is better when we are all good roommates and neighbors.”

The Student Code of Conduct provides a concrete guideline for students to identify what situations qualify as noise complaints. It also explains the consequences for those who violate these rules.

“Disruptive conduct is materially or substantially disruptive to the normal operations of the University, or incites others to do so, in any of the following activities: teaching, research, administrative functions” Code 2.2 in the Student Code states. “Accountability proceedings, other university activities whether on or off-campus and other authorized activities that take place on campus. Disruptive conduct does not include any conduct protected by the First Amendment.”

Based on community policies of University Housing, students and their guests are expected to respect others at all times and behave in a manner that is considerate of others’ sleep and study routines. High-volume sounds are not permitted.

In the case that students do not act by these regulations, the office of housing has developed a first, second and third defense system. Traci Labom-Norris, director of the NSU Office of Student Conduct and Accountability, explained what will occur on each tier.

“First Defense: they are made aware or a warning is given. With the second defense, privilege can be removed such that guests can’t come over. The third defense would be an accountability hearing,” Labom-Norris said.

In extreme cases, the office of housing will refer students to Labom-Norris.

“That is a rare infraction to have where people had to refer them to me. More

than likely, they are able to take care of it in housing” Labom-Norris said.

Most noise complaints are handled by Resident Assistants, housing staff or University Police.

“Typically, on the first occurrence, residents are reminded of the noise policy and given an opportunity to correct their behavior,” Dyjack said. “For repeated occurrences, residents will be referred to student conduct and appropriate sanctions given. Depending on the situation involving noise, different actions could be taken by the staff.”

Dorcia Gillam, a sophomore music education major and resident of University Place 1, has been on the receiving end of a noise complaint.

As the campus police knocked on the door, they warned Gilliam to bring the noise level down. Gilliam and her roommates received a warning, which is described as the first defense. She explained how the University Police responded to the situation at hand.

“We had to give the police officer our I.D. and they used a scanner thing to scan them. I don’t know if they were reporting us to something or just to have it on file, I think he said for the RA,” Gillam said.

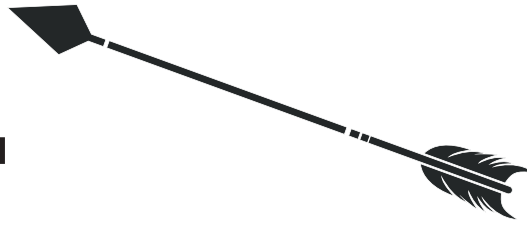
Dealing with noisy neighbors can feel frustrating and like a never-ending inconvenience. However, this is not an irregular occurrence, and there are steps to improve the situation.



**Photo by Kallie Bourgeois.**  
NSU students share their concerns with noise complaints. Students at Northwestern State University of Louisiana who live on-campus are no strangers to noisy residence life. From loud upstairs neighbors to roommates who don’t wake up to their alarms, NSU students deal with the reality of living in a noisy environment.

# Archery Club: Why you should shoot your shot

By Bella Michler



Northwestern State University of Louisiana's Archery Club is a place where students interested in the sport can improve and find a community of archers.

Abigail Thomas, a junior liberal arts major and vice president of operations for the Archery Club, said her main advice to those interested would be to not worry about being skillful or having experience.

"Everyone is very nice, and it is not at all necessary to have experience. We can help people learn or improve. All it takes is showing up and practicing," Thomas said.

The process to get started is as simple as filling out a form, completing the required hazing training and learning safety range rules. The first semester is free, and every semester after costs a

fee of \$20, said Olivia Horrel, a senior elementary education and hospitality, management and tourism major and president of the Archery Club.

Crucial parts of the Archery Club are the welcoming community and a comfortable atmosphere. This way, their members feel secure in failing because they know their teammates will help them learn and improve.

Amelia Forestier, a junior liberal arts major and the secretary of the club, noted one of the best parts of archery is the team that comes with it.

"While I have loved the activity itself a great deal, it's been the social aspect of our club that has shined," Forestier said. "Being in the club has been a major highlight of college for me, providing a lot of connection while having fun together."

Along with the need for a non-judgmental community, safety is also a major concern for the club. Members, whether beginners or experienced, have to do the proper safety training before getting to shoot a bow.

"We always have to check our equipment and make sure. Even if you've shot before, you need to know what our range rules are and make sure everyone's safe, and then the fun is second."

The Archery Club provides a laid-back, secure environment for anyone interested. They assure their members that it's okay to fail and not be perfect because they'll come back stronger by learning and improving.

The team practices every Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Health and Human Performance building.



Photo by Jayda Gee. Meet the Archery Club team. Although a bow and an arrow may seem intimidating to those new to the sport, the Archery Club requires no prior experience.



Photo by Jayda Gee. Archery club practices in the Health and Human Performance building on Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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The Current Sauce is the official student-run newspaper for Northwestern State University. The content and stories within the paper may not necessarily reflect the views of administration, faculty and staff.

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Join The Current Sauce's weekly newsletter: Dose of Sauce. Each Friday at 1 p.m., the newsletter will feature the stories posted in the past week and highlight photos and things happening around campus. Use the link below to sign up or use the link on our Instagram bio!

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## Gold vs. silver jewelry: Which suits you best?

By Victoria Rodrigue

In the world of fashion, trends come and go. When it comes to jewelry, however, the choices remain the same: gold or silver.

Gold jewelry is considered a warm-toned metal, but classic yellow gold is not our only option nowadays. There are many other variations of gold including rose gold with a pink tint and white gold which is cool-toned and often mistaken for silver. Silver jewelry is a shiny, gray, cool-toned metal that some people may prefer depending on the outfit or style.

The role of jewelry in fashion is to accent the outfit we've chosen to wear. This is why knowing what metal suits you best is important when you style yourself.

For those who still have yet to figure out if gold or silver properly accentuates your look, we are in luck. A new hack allows us to determine which color jewelry works best for our complexions. If you have purple or blue veins on your wrists or you burn easily, you likely have cool-toned skin. Therefore, silver would look better. If you have green veins on your wrists or have an olive or dark skin tone, gold would look better. Rose gold is more versatile and looks good on anyone.

You can also match your jewelry to your hair color. If you have cool blonde, bright red or light brown

hair, you might want to wear silver. If you have dark brown, black or auburn hair, gold might look best on you.

When it comes to style, you might ignore tones and match the jewelry to an outfit. Gold might match an outfit with rich browns, fiery red, orange or yellow pieces. On the other hand, silver might look better with blue, purple, green or black clothing.

For those who prefer sustainability, price is a factor that comes into play. For a quality piece of jewelry that will last you years to come, you could end up spending \$100 or more compared to the \$10 to \$20 you would spend on cheap jewelry. My favorite jewelry tip when buying cheap silver or gold-plated jewelry is to put a thin layer of clear nail polish on it to prevent it from tarnishing or turning your finger green.

In past years, mixing metals like gold and silver has become popular despite old-style rules saying you should never mix and match jewelry colors. Picking a dominant metal and adding statement pieces of another metal offers a fresh alternative to monochrome jewelry. Jewelry is unique and versatile just like we are, so there is nothing holding us back from choosing gold or silver or both. I love wearing gold, but I like to add a couple of silver rings or bracelets to complete the look.



Photo by Victoria Rodrigue. Isabel Juarez Rubio, The Current Sauce's Arts and Living editor, shows how she styles her gold and silver jewelry.

## How Elliot Castleberry found a home within KNWD

By Isabel Juarez Rubio

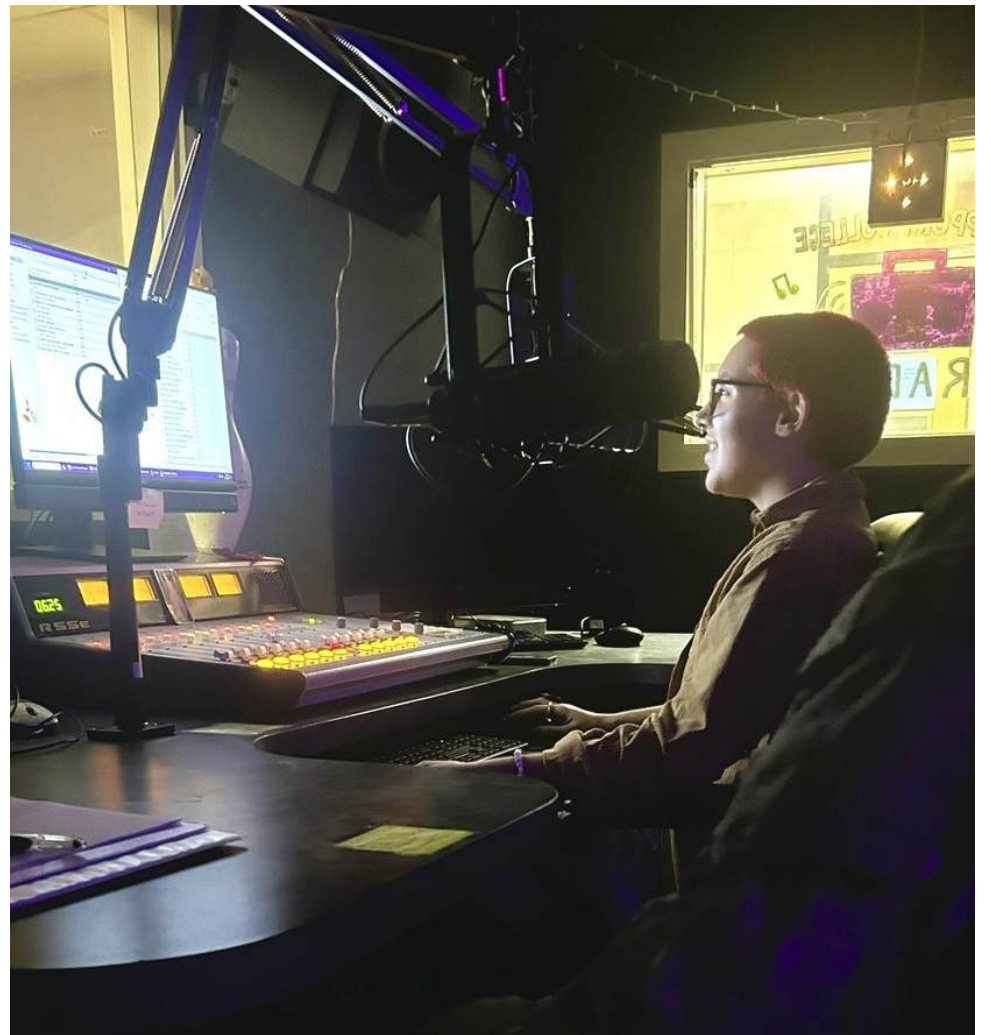


Photo submitted by Elliot Castleberry. Elliot Castleberry produces his "Miscellaneous" show every Friday.

For Elliot Castleberry, there was only one decision for college: Northwestern State University of Louisiana. Although sure about his decision, one Freshman Connection introduced him to an organization that would shape his college experience.

After graduating high school, Castleberry decided to study and move 3 hours away from DeQuincy, Louisiana.

"I wanted to see how I would function without the option of going home whenever I wanted," Castleberry said. He explained that his mom also attended NSU during her freshman year, and that influenced his decision to attend NSU.

His liking of NSU only increased when he found out about 91.7 FM KNWD, NSU's official student-run radio station. KNWD allows students to learn radio skills such as how to be a DJ. This is something that caught Castleberry's attention at Freshman Connection, a program at NSU designed to guide and help incoming students learn about NSU before the start of the semester.

"I didn't know it was a thing until Freshman Connection, and it was really exciting," Castleberry said. "As soon as the applications opened, I went to the meetings, signed up and ended up getting a show."

Now, he is the DJ of the radio show "Miscellaneous" – a mix of different tunes

depending on the mood of the day. "Miscellaneous" is played once a week on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m.

Despite just having a show for KNWD, Castleberry has found a sense of belonging in the station.

"KNWD is very comfortable like you walk in and want to take a nap. It's very cozy and welcoming; the people there are all very nice," Castleberry shared.

Castleberry's love for music did not begin with the station. He has been in choir groups since he was in first grade. "I was a soprano in the first grade which is one of the highest notes to hit; sometimes I'm like how is this humanly possible."

With his love for music, choosing microbiology as a major was an unexpected decision.

"My major was kind of on a whim. I was going to do chemistry, and it was not showing up when I applied, so I was like, okay, let's go with microbiology," Castleberry said.

In the future, he hopes to have a career in pediatric oncology and even live the college dream of forming a band with his friends. Even if he ends up in the medical field, music will always be part of his life, he shared.

To listen to Castleberry's radio show, tune in to KNWD at 91.7 FM on the radio.

# Demon cross-country teams finish off their season at SLC Championships in New Orleans

By Kallie Bourgeois



Photo by Christopher Richard.  
Senior Leah Thompson paces herself in the 4K at the Mook 4 Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 5 in Ruston.

Northwestern State University of Louisiana's cross-country teams closed off their season at the Southland Conference Championships on Nov. 1 in New Orleans.

NSU's respective teams both placed 12th out of the 12 SLC teams. The women's team earned a total of 363 points, and the men's team earned a total of 367 points.

Both the women's team of Lamar University and the men's team of the University of the Incarnate Word walked away with championship titles.

After getting a late start to coaching in July, head cross-country coach Payten Vidourek explained how the team grew throughout such a short amount of time in the season.

"Truly it's been a day-by-day process. Getting them so late was definitely a learning curve," Vidourek said. "I would say we were really together as a team, especially with me being so close to them in age. They grew together in terms of culture, especially because it's a new team."

Not only did the athletes grow together, but Vidourek decided the coaching legacy he wanted to set for the team.

"I think I learned my coaching style. Sure I know the science behind it just from being an athlete prior, but learning how I want to coach is definitely something interesting," Vidourek said. "There were a lot of learning curves with that as well. Probably halfway through the semester, I learned what was working with this group of athletes, and I've really enjoyed it."

After leading the women's side for the majority of the season, Leah Thompson placed 75th out of 93 finishers in the 6K

race with a time of 26:04.77; she was the first Lady Demon to cross the finish line. Vidourek explained that Thompson led the women's side successfully during her final cross-country season.

"Especially because I ran with Leah for a few years, she has always been very positive and that's always been something very nice," Vidourek said. "She was a good role model in terms of what you need to do and the sacrifices you need to make to be a good athlete."

Following Thompson towards the finish line, Faith Bryant finished 82nd with a time of 27:27.17, Chesney Mathews finished 85th with a time of 27:52.97, Samantha Todaro finished 88th with a time of 30:36.61, Kallie Evers finished 90th with a time of 31:23.95 and Brea Baca-White finished 91st with a time of 34:37.20.

After leading the Lady Demons in the first two meets at McNeese State University and Rice University, Lalaina Wood was not able to finish the cross-country season due to injury.

Bryant, a junior radiological technology major, said "I knew this was the final meet of the season, and I have to do as best I could. I mean, the weather was terrible, so that didn't help at all, but it was still fun and I just had to push through. It wasn't what I expected, but that's okay."

Like many of the other runners on the team, Bryant set personal goals and expectations for herself that she worked to accomplish throughout the season.

"I wanted to be more disciplined this season; I knew it was going to be hard but also really fun," Bryant said. "I wanted it to be a good experience to see what Division 1 life was like."

After battling an injury leading up to the finale, Korbin Shumate led the men's

side once again in his final race of the season. He placed 77th out of 98 finishers. Vidourek shared that the veteran runner set a tone for the Demons.

"Korbin was very much friends with the guys, but they understand that he has the experience, he has the speed and that there is something that they can learn from him," Vidourek said. "I think the age stuff just showed that there's little maturity in things that you don't see, but overall, on the big aspect of it, you can tell he's done this before and it's not his first time."

Following Shumate in the men's side, Landon Loyd finished 81st with a time of 30:30.10, Kaden Elliott finished 85th with a time of 30:35.12, Owen Rue finished 86th with a time of 31:32.10 and Mason Bayne finished 90th with a time of 32:28.96.

Along with his other teammates, Loyd, a freshman sports recreational management major, was focused on the conference meets from the beginning.

"All these other meets were just practices for us just to see where we stand with other teams," Loyd said. "So we would go into practice just talking about the conference - not the meeting coming up next or the one after that - but we were getting ready for the conference meets."

After completing his first season as a Demon, Loyd shared advice for future runners starting out.

"Just go to practice. We practice at 6 a.m., and no one wants to get up at 6 a.m. The only people that are up at that time are people that have 8 a.m. classes that want to take two hours to look pretty, ROTC that's chanting and us," Loyd said. "Just because you have a faster time or you think you belong at a better school than this timewise, just humble yourself because there's probably people better than you everywhere."

Now that he has tested the waters and knows what works best for the team in his first year of coaching, Vidourek is excited to see what the future holds for cross-country.

"I think that's something to look forward to in the next few years, especially in college athletics. It's very easy to just transfer somewhere else; we have a good baseline, and that's what we established this year," Vidourek said.

Several runners will be moving into the indoor track and field season in early January. Vidourek shared his thoughts going into the season after finding his footing in coaching.

"I know that's more of what the athletes are into - especially on the guy's side - now that we have a full season and I know how they train and what works for them," Vidourek said. "On the girls' side, not many of them are running track, but that makes me more eager to have them for the next summer going into cross-country season."



Photo by Christopher Richard.  
Men's cross-country newcomers follow closely behind freshman Owen Rue in the 4-mile at the Rice Invitational Meet on Friday, Sep. 13 in Houston, Texas.

# NSU faculty address the stigma that surrounds Artificial Intelligence

By Nina Ovalle

As the use of artificial intelligence in higher education increases, university professors have split opinions about its impact on education and the future of their fields. While some may embrace AI as a tool to enhance learning, others view it with skepticism due to ethical implications.

Northwestern State University of Louisiana faculty share their take on the stigma surrounding AI.

Damien Tristant, assistant professor of physics, explained that there is always a spectrum of opinions to follow when it comes to new technology.

"Every time there is something new, some people like it, some people are afraid about it," Tristant said. "I understand that some people can be afraid about it. However, if you're afraid about something that you don't know, the best way to make sure that you're not afraid anymore is to learn about it."

He supports the use of AI as a useful tool in physics and embraces its adaptability.

"I think the beauty of AI or machine learning is you can apply it to anything – someone who teaches English, someone who teaches science or – it's easy to apply to anything," Tristant said.

This principle even extends to humanitarian disciplines such as the creative arts. Marisol Vilella Balderrama, assistant professor of art history, proposed the discussion of an AI takeover in art and attacked this stigma by comparing AI to photography.

"Something similar happened with photography; when photography started to be more available for people, people thought there may not be a need for art," Vilella said. "But AI is not going away the same way photography didn't disappear. But also photography didn't kill art, it just took it into another direction."

She noted that this phenomenon has not only occurred with photography and AI.

"I'm an art historian, so I look at art history and its development, and I think art is always related to technology, so AI is just like a new technology," Vilella said.

Though she feels technology will never kill art, she fears that a lack of diversity in art may arise with the evolution of AI.

"It is kind of like what happens with plants, with GMO and the modified plants that are starting to kill the originals. They say corn or the original tomatoes don't exist anymore because they



Graphic created by Adobe Illustrator generative AI feature.

have been modified so many times and everything looks the same," Vilella said. "Do I wanna live in a world where everything looks the same?"

Vilella explained that the process of modification is enhanced by AI's programming to gather information from peripheral knowledge. She related this occurrence to an example in art history-related searches where AI will reference "popular" forms of art such as European art and exclude art forms from other countries. This creates biases within AI systems and to those who use them. Essentially, the expansion of knowledge is limited when information is only pulled based on popularity.

With this ideology in mind, she wrote an article titled "Incorporating AI into an Asian Art History Course" in which she explained that she plans to evaluate how AI compares to tradition in her classes. She plans to use an AI-generated image and compare it to the actual artwork or subject. Then, students would be tasked with identifying the differences.

Overall, Vilella's proposal introduces the use of AI in art history when used with human oversight. Similarly, James Mischler, director of the Institutional Review Board (IRB), calls for a need for human oversight when using AI in research due to its tendency to provide inaccurate information. NSU's IRB is in charge of approving research by students and ensures the research follows ethical standards.

Mischler explained that AI systems are not good at sharing accurate data, which is why only relying on AI is not good for research. "So the human being must always be the one making the final decision."

Mischler explained the stigma around AI's decision-making capabilities and the fear of a "takeover" as displayed in movies such as "The Terminator."

"There's no evidence that AI can actually reason at all," Mischler said. "What it's really doing is calculating what the next word will be based on the words that came before, and I'm a linguist, so that's something I already know about; that's called collocation: what word comes next based on the word that came before it."

He explained AI's ability to collocate is often mistaken for genuine intelligence or reasoning, whereas AI is only capable of calculating.

Megan Lowe, director of university libraries, supports Mischler's point that generative AI is unable to be created without pre-existing data.

"Generative AI is not truly creative. Gen. AI is not truly like a great problem solver itself. It just regurgitates from its database, so it's never truly going to be the innovator of something," Lowe said. She added that, because of this principle, AI will never be able to take over jobs that require human experience such as teaching.

"Gen. AI is never going to have the ca-

capacity to recognize human beings, like students, as holistic people who have their own lived experiences, their own strengths and weaknesses, their own traumas, their own fears, all of these things that make us very human," Lowe said. "Those things that make us human. Gen. AI can't replicate that."

Though the worry that AI will replace human work continues to surround the topic, Lowe reiterated the importance of communication about AI preferences.

"I think it's important for students to have access to those tools, and I think we need to be, as faculty members and instructors and professors, transparent about our concerns around AI," Lowe said.

In her experience, Lowe has found that a majority of faculty have concerns regarding AI's role in cheating culture.

"Most people in higher education, their immediate concern around generative AI had to do with its potential for plagiarism and cheating which is easy to understand," Lowe said. "However, I think that that is the wrong attitude to have because plagiarism is very contextual. One man's plagiarism is another man's innovation."

Lowe believes this subjective nature of plagiarism she refers to creates a greater need for communication from faculty to students regarding AI.

"We have to impress upon our students that academic integrity has value," Lowe said. "If faculty aren't talking about why academic integrity matters, then why should students intrinsically, inherently know what it is and why it matters?"

Lowe feels that faculty should teach students information literacy skills such as the definition of plagiarism and how to avoid it, citation of sources and intellectual property and copyright. This way, students would be properly educated on how to avoid plagiarism when using AI.

She believes proper education and policies are needed regarding the use of AI.

"At the end of the day, ethical use of gen. AI is possible, but we need to look at the individual needs of students, the individual needs of departments, the individual needs of assignments," Lowe said.

Lowe, like many university faculty, recognizes the ethical stigma surrounding AI but agrees that open communication and education about AI will shape an informed perspective among the student body.

# JOURNALISM & MEDIA DAY

## PHOTO GALLERY



This year, 17 schools attended the 51st annual Journalism and Media Day held at NSU's Friedman Student Union ballroom.



A student is awarded first place in the Tik Tok competition.



Potpourri member Hannah Kennedy hands out last year's yearbook to students.



High school students learn about The Current Sauce, NSU's student-run newspaper.



Tioga High School students look at The Current Sauce's Election Edition.



NSU-TV host a panel discussion on being a broadcast student and ways to be involved.



Tam Bui, a student in the New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts department, holds up this year's JaM Day t-shirt.



High school students pose with old issues of The Current Sauce.



Department head for New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts gives medal to a JaM Day winner.



High school students from neighboring areas visit NSU for JaM Day to learn more about the New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts department.



Cailah Bush holds her certificate where she placed third in the advertising competition for JaM Day.



Members of The Current Sauce take a picture with JaM Day speakers Jim Mustian (left back row) and Lane Luckie (right back row).