

# The Almagest

YOUR PILOT NEWS SOURCE

# NEWSLETTER

For full stories, visit [thealmagest.org](http://thealmagest.org)

VOL 1 | September 1 2025



## Shreveport's 10th annual Geek'd Con: A Celebration Of Fandom and Community - Gabbi Olague

Shreveport recently hosted its 10th annual Geek'd Con at the Shreveport Convention Center, making a decade of bringing together fans of comics, films, television, gaming, and pop culture. This year's lineup featured notable guests such as Jason Lee, widely recognized for his roles in Alvin and the Chipmunks and the television series My Name Is Earl; Andy Black, the lead singer of Black Veil Brides; and David Howard Thornton, best known for portraying the chilling Art the Clown in the Terrifier film series. In addition to celebrity appearances, Geek'd Con has grown a thriving cosplay community. What makes Geek'd Con especially unique is its guiding motto: "For local Geeks. By local geeks." This saying highlights the commitment to celebrate Shreveport's remarkable residents.

## Ticketworthy! - Cameron Pierce

**Honey Don't - 2025 - 88 Minutes - Rated R**  
2/5

Despite an intriguing premise, solid directing, and an iconic lead performance, Honey Don't is a tragically disjointed mess that never figures out what story it wants to tell. All of the elements work, they just don't work together.

Coming up...

The Conjuring: Last Rites



## Week of Welcome at LSUS - Gabbi Olague

LSUS welcomed students back to campus with its annual Week of Welcome, a tradition designed to build community and excitement at the start of the fall semester. The week began on Monday, the first day back to classes, with a school supply giveaway to help students prepare for classes. On Tuesday, the Free Money Show offered both entertainment and prizes. Wednesday featured the Week of Welcome Fair, where student organizations and clubs came together to showcase opportunities for involvement. Originally scheduled for Thursday the Color Run and Glow Party were postponed due to inclement weather and will be postponed as well as Fridays Welcome Back Luau.

## Inside The Almagest: How Students Are Building Their Newsroom - Cameron Pierce

Since 1967, The Almagest has been the voice of LSU Shreveport students, covering campus news, local stories, and topics students believe are worth sharing. Today, The Almagest is seeing a well-earned resurgence, with more writers joining the team —like Sports Reporter Cameron Braun, Student Reporter Kendall Mears, and Editor Abigail Johnson. "The Almagest is not only a news media outlet but a tradition we are proud to revive and carry forward," says the current faculty supervisor Dr. Sezgi Başak Kavaklı. The founding member and beloved former Executive Editor, Prof. Mary Jarzabek, states "It is truly exciting to see the 'next generation' of student journalists beginning to find their voice, to develop their skills and to reach out to their peers on campus". The tradition she has started is already being honored, as students have begun producing work ranging from community-centered stories to sports articles, and film reviews. The belief is that The Almagest should be a place where different voices all have the chance to hone and demonstrate their unique skills.

## **Not Your Average Mouthguard: The Smart Update Every Athlete Needs - Trendon Lars**

In sports mouth guards have always been essential, but now HighTech Mouthguards are changing the game. The ORB SPORT Smart Mouthguard (ORB Sport, 2025) combines the traditional aspect of a mouthguard with advanced technology. Traditional mouth guards are known for protecting the mouth, teeth and jaws and absorbing the impact of hits. The ORB SPORT Smart Mouth Guard combines the traditional aspect of a mouthguard with advanced technology. This device does not just shield athletes from injuries; it also tracks important health data in real time by using built-in sensors. It can watch hydration levels, the players body temperature, heart rate, heart rate, zones, workload, movement intensity, and even signs of potential concussions for athletes. The information this technology has the potential to be a whole new level of game- changing. Coaches and trainers can see when a player is overheated, dehydrated or if they are showing any symptoms of concussions, which can help them before a small issue turns into something big and serious.

## **Pilots Men's Soccer Forces Draw in Opening Game of 2025 Season - Cameron Braun**

This recent Thursday, Adam Kay led the LSUS men's soccer team into battle for the first time this season against the Mid-America Christian Evangelists. MACU is ranked #17 in the country according to the NAIA coaches' poll, and a great challenge for Kay's squad to begin the season. This season has lots of promise for the Pilots after a historic 2024 season, where the men's soccer team won their first national tournament game in program history, coincidentally with a win over Mid-America Christian. This along with the return of eleven Pilots from last season's team, including all-americans Jack Thomas and Caleb Marchany, hopes are high as ever for Pilots Men's soccer.





## **LSUS History professor Dr. Cheryl White is leading October tours at Oakland Cemetery - Abigail Johnson**

Shreveport, LA – LSUS History professor Dr. Cheryl White to lead a history and haunted Jack-o-lantern walking tour and an expanded walking tour of the Historic Oakland Cemetery in Shreveport, LA. The history walking tour will take place on Saturday, October 4th, at 5:30 p.m., with a reception to follow at the Ogilvie-Weiner Mansion. The Haunted Jack-o'-Lantern Walking Tour will take place on Friday, October 31st, at 5:30 p.m. and will tour the cemetery, focusing on Shreveport ghost stories. The expanded walking tour and picnic in the cemetery will take place on Wednesday, November 2nd. The walking tours are \$35 each and can be purchased on Eventbrite

## **Turning Work Experience into College Credits - Kendall Mears**

Justin Hand, at 50, had already established a career as a technology manager but wanted to advance in his profession, so he decided to return to college to earn his degree. With a full-time job and having a wife and son, time was a valuable commodity, with Hand stating, "I didn't want to...prolong college any more than I needed to." That's when he discovered the power of work credits, a way of making professional experience translate towards degree requirements. He received 15 credits from the University of Memphis by demonstrating his knowledge through technical papers on database management, computer networking, and software development, which equates to a full semester of education and development. ...Not everyone's college journey looks the same, and work credits are available even for those who haven't been in the workforce before. Brooke Tatman, a law student from UL, had the opportunity to secure an internship in her senior year of college at a Louisiana law firm. This internship provided her with 6 credit hours for a 400-level class and the chance to build her resume, shadowing several attorneys through depositions, mediation, and even trial.



*With Dr. Cheryl White!*

**Saturdays, October 4 and 25. 5:30 pm**  
**History at Dusk Walking Tour of Oakland Cemetery**  
**Reception Following at Ogilvie Wiener Mansion**

**Friday, October 31, 5:30 pm**  
**Walking Haunted Tour of Oakland Cemetery**  
**Shreveport's Oldest Ghost Tales**

**Sunday, November 2, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**  
**ALL SOULS' DAY**  
**New Expanded Walking Tour**  
**of Oakland Cemetery**

**Tickets: \$35.00 available at Eventbrite link**  
**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT OAKLAND CEMETERY**

## Meta moves into the bayou - Brandon McWilliams

Construction on a Meta AI data center began in July this year, inside Richland Parish, only 2 hours away from Shreveport. Louisiana and Meta claim the build is in everyone's best interest, while residents raise valid concerns regarding the cost of the project and the major toll on the environment. Meta's new data center is slated to take up 2,250 acres of space, making it one of the largest data centers ever built. Meta took its time trying to find a suitable location to begin the project, at which point Louisiana stepped in to offer deals and exemptions to entice the corporation to bring its project here. Louisiana offered what was initially a rebate, but later turned into a tax exemption on the software and hardware Meta would use at the center.

Louisiana did this because it saw the 10 billion dollar data center as a new potential for the area, creating 500 high-paying IT jobs to keep the facility running, as well as hiring and sourcing the building materials locally, creating 5000 jobs at the peak of construction. Meta also pledged to put money back into the community, putting 200 million dollars towards infrastructure like improving roads and waterways.

## Faculty Facts - Bailey Monk

*If you had a time machine, what would be the first place you'd visit and why?*

"If I had a time machine, I think I'd like to visit the Byzantine Empire in the sixth century of Emperor Justinian I. His work in securing society through law codification, his cultural feats such as the magnificent Hagia Sophia, and his unifying work at a time of great transition - all of these things are most inspiring to me." - Dr. Cheryl White

## Community Quiz:

Who is  
your favorite historic figure?

Scan or click to join the quiz—don't forget to sign up for our newsletter!



Contact us at  
[almagest@lsus.edu](mailto:almagest@lsus.edu) for  
questions or news tips.  
For more content check out  
our Instagram @lsusalmagest