For TV Production, order the right classes in the right institutions, which means which will transfer to senior students just starting can take their PFMA degree. Those hours in the major can complete students who have finished 15 areas are still the same, and instructors for the five different degree program has been Performance and Media Arts. Although the Performance and Media Arts degree program has been discontinued, the classes and instructors for the five different areas are still the same, and students who have finished 15 hours in the major can complete their PFMA degree. Those students just starting can take the classes in their major area which will transfer to senior institutions, which means you need to know your major advisers who can help you get the right classes in the right order.

For TV Production, the full-time faculty are Lynn Robertson and Bob Dunn. For Print Broadcast Journalism and Public Relations, Susan Hague is adviser, and Jenny Louis advises for Speech Communication. For Theatre, Tim Baker, Kris LaMort, and Michael Santos are full-time faculty and advisers.

One of the best-kept secrets at Delgado seems to be the print, radio and TV component, which consists of The Dolphin newspaper, Dolphin Radio and Delgado Television (DTV). Students in these majors get hands-on experience with media convergence which is now the industry standard for news. Everything is on an equal platform online, and today’s media students need to know how to write a good story, and also record and video the news. The newspaper will be launching an active online portal for news, and Dolphin Radio has been online since it began. And in addition to online streaming, Television Production has a brand-new studio that was recently completed in Building 2, Room 112.

“This is the first real studio that we’ve ever had as long as I’ve been here, and I’ve been here since 1996,” TV Production Professor Lynn Robertson said. Some of the additions include a ceiling, a lighting grid, lighting fixtures, microphones, and tons of other equipment donated to the department. Other equipment was paid by the Carl Perkins grant, Louisiana Board of Regents RC/EEP, and Delgado Student Technology Enhancement Grants. The Arts & Humanities Division also contributed.

According to Instructor Robert Dunn, with the studio’s new state-of-the-art status, its main purpose is to train students on the same kind of equipment they will be using when moving into the industry. “We can now create in-house programming to promote the college,” Dunn said. “We not only have the facility to train students, but also can crank out programs that can be seen by viewers at home.”

Delgado Community College often takes part in service learning projects where students do professional projects for non-profits and they will still get the objectives that they were supposed to get in class, but then we have a marketable piece that we can send out to the public,” Robertson said. “It is also a professional credit for the students.”

The service learning project for TEVP 127 and 270 in the Television Production Department teamed up recently with a group of instructors from Jefferson Parish School system and the special needs students of the SPEAK UP Program. In this project, the special-needs students had the opportunity to use the Television Department’s new studio and gain real-world experience from reading their own scripts on a teleprompter at the news reporter’s desk, on camera.

Students in the Television Production Department will also be helping local fitness celebrity, Leslie Hoffman, produce fitness videos aimed at children. This event will take place Nov. 22 at 4 p.m. It is open to any Delgado student who wants to see what it takes to work in television. This is all part of a student-driven community outreach program focusing on kids in our community.

The TV Production Department will be hosting an open house showcase on Friday Dec. 6, featuring a studio-crawl tour of each phase of the television production process. The open house will be from 6 to 9 p.m. They will also be live-streaming the Delgado graduation ceremony Dec. 17 for friends and family who cannot make the trip to see it in person. Streaming will begin around 9:30 a.m. and go on until the end of the commencement around 12 p.m. Stay tuned online at www.facebook.com/thedolphinnewspaper or follow us on Twitter@DelgadoDolphin for updates.
INTERNATIONAL BRIEF:
For 21 years, George Bwelle watched his ill father slip in and out of consciousness, traveling to hospitals that weren’t equipped to help him. Seeing his father ill, and so many of his countrymen suffer, Bwelle was determined to do something about it. He became a doctor himself, working as a vascular surgeon Yaound’s Central Hospital. And in 2008, he started a nonprofit organization that travels to rural areas on weekends to provide free medical care. He and his group of volunteers have helped nearly 32,000 people in need.

NATIONAL BRIEF:
A self-described “biohacker” had a big electronic chip almost as large as a deck of cards inserted beneath the skin of his arm. Without a doctor’s help. And without anesthetics. Tim Cannon is a software developer from Pittsburgh and one of the developers at Grindhouse Wetware, a firm dedicated to “augmenting humanity technology.” The device Cannon has inserted into his arm is a Circadia 1.0, a battery-powered implant that can record data from Cannon’s body and transmit it to his Android mobile device.

STATE BRIEF:
Mark and Eric Beenel, Mandeville High School graduates and twin brothers, are a part of a team of students from the University of Alabama at Huntsville that will launch a miniature satellite, or CubeSat, into space on Nov. 19. The brothers have been developing the concept of an entirely student-built satellite since 2008 and solidified the mission of the prototype they developed, dubbed the chargersat-1 in 2010. “We are very proud that this is a one-generation student project, it has gone from concept to delivery in three years,” said Mark Becnel, who will graduate with a master’s degree in Aerospace Engineering in December.

LOCAL BRIEF:
The New Orleans City Planning Commission announced the selection of Robert David Rivers as its new executive director. Rivers, who follows former director Yolanda Rodriguez, has over 20 years of experience in architecture, preservation, and urban and regional planning. He is currently a special lecturer and member of the Adjunct faculty in the Department of Planning and Urban Studies at the University of New Orleans.

CAMPUS BRIEF:
Affordable Care Act Seminar and Enrollment Nov. 22 at City Park campus in the Dolphin Den, 9 a.m.-noon, hosted by W.I.S.E. Women

NEWS

**The Joey Georgusis Center for Children**

**Child Care on Campus**

By Candace McGaff

The Joey Georgusis Center for Children is one of Delgado’s best kept secrets. The daycare is located on Delgado’s City Park campus and works to serve the children of Delgado Community College and University of New Orleans students, faculty and staff, as well as the children of community members.

Specializing in the care of children between the ages of 6 weeks and 4 years, the Center strives to stimulate each child socially, emotionally, physically, and cognitively by providing hands-on training and experience for each age group.

With a secure, state-of-the-art facility, the Center enables each child enrolled to meet all requirements of training requirements for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

The Children’s Center is also used by Delgado students majoring in the Care and Development of Young Children to allow them to receive hands-on experience prior to receiving their degree.

For details on enrollment or a facility tour, contact Director Kendra Andrus at the Children’s Center office: (504) 671-6542; fax: (504) 671-6548; or email: joeygeorgusis@dcc.edu

The Center’s hours of operation are 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Children at the Joey Georgusis Center enjoy the new playground equipment installed in recent months.

**Giving something back**

*Social network for volunteers*

By Candace McGaff

Delgado Community College is currently hoping to implement a new web program called GiveGab-The Social Network for Volunteers, to track student engagement & volunteerism. This is a very user-friendly program that schools and students can use to easily sign up for volunteer opportunities. We are hoping to train staff, faculty, and students on how to use GiveGab this fall. On Nov. 19 - 20, Tonyehn Verkitus, the Executive Director of Community Citizenship for GiveGab, is coming to train Delgado and the nonprofits that Delgado works with on how to best use the site. You can check out the website at www.GiveGab.com.
Reel life

Behind the scenes with filmmakers James and Dawn Spatz Roe

By Candace McGaff

James: I would like to make a feature film. We are working on a screenplay that we will try and get off the ground once we are satisfied with the story. That being said, my personal aspirations are to be a filmmaker who want to make films on my own terms, tell the stories that I want to tell, and continue to improve myself both technically and artistically. Directing a big movie is everyone's dream, and I can't exclude myself from that. But I'm not going to draw the line there and call it success. That's not why I started making films.

Dawn: The dream would be to direct and produce films with no limits. Filmmaking is incredibly expensive from the beginning--you have to have enough money to stay afloat while you are writing, enough to support an entire production, and not necessarily have to pay someone else to do it--we like having the freedom to do it. I hope that one day we can each make the dream come alive and hopefully we can do it together, co-direct a feature film. We live chasing a pipe dream, but we aren't giving up on it.

Q. How many films have you previously produced?

James: I have directed over 20 shorts. I worked on countless films while being a film student at UNO.

Dawn: I produced numerous short films for UNO students both undergraduate and graduate.

Q. Would you say that this one has been your best one yet?

James: I would say that I worked on "AM800" harder than any other film I have done.

Dawn: Absolutely.

Q. Do you currently have any projects in the works that you hope to enter in any film festivals/competitions?

James: I am currently developing a short animation that takes place in Verdun, France after World War I. I am also working on a feature-length screenplay, and a documentary about Bach around the Clock, a 24-hour music festival in New Orleans.

Dawn: "AM800" is James' thesis film. I am currently in the editing process with a film I produced, wrote, and am directing called "The Horse and The Castle." I hope to enter it into the festival market next year.

http://jamesgaffneyphotography.zenfolio.com/blog/2012/12/xxxxxxx
The Saints are heading into treacherous waters at this point in the season. They are 2-3 and have one of the NFL's best defenses, but they have yet to play in a big game. The Saints have a good defense, but they need to show up on the road in these big games. Carolina is a team that is capable of putting up a good fight. The Saints need to have a good game plan and a solid defense to win this game.

The Panthers are playing well and are in the mix for the NFC South. They have a good defense and a solid running game. The Saints need to have a good game plan and a solid defense to win this game.

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Bullying the Bully

By Anthony Alongi

The pain and stress that bullying takes on people is deeply troubling and sad, no human being should have to face the degradation and mental torture that comes along with it. Over the past year the nation has ramped up bully awareness and done a great job of showing the effects that bullying has on individuals and their families. There is no place for bullying in society without having to worry about being persecuted for simply being yourself.

The bullying issue recently reached a whole new level recently in the most unexpected of places, the NFL. The recent turmoil surrounding Miami Dolphins offensive linemen Jonathan Martin and Richie Incognito is a startling one and is unprecedented in its nature. A couple of weeks ago, Martin stormed out of the Dolphins cafeteria at the team’s headquarters apparently due to name-calling and teasing. Initial reports stated that Martin was being picked on by teammates and that it led to a mental breakdown, which resulted in Martin taking a leave of absence. Nate Gamer, a fellow lineman, stated that the nature of it was “just normal stuff.”

A few days after the incident was reported, text messages and voicemails sent from Incognito to Martin were brought to light. The text and voicemail both contained extremely offensive, profanity-laced, and highly racial and explicit language. However, the context of this text message can not be determined by simply reading it. There are plenty of friends that joke amongst one another in their own interpersonal, special way that may seem totally out line to outsiders, but are actually a means of endearment between friends and associates. The voicemail on the other hand, could be much more telling. The audio of the voicemail has yet to be released publicly so there is no way of telling if Incognito’s words were meant to be malicious or taken as a joke, however X-rated that joke may be. Incognito has a history of bad behavior both on and off the field that does little to help his case, but this is a totally separate and much more glaring issue which warrants a fair and unbiased investigation.

An NFL locker room can be an unforgiving place. It is the closest thing to a Viking den that exists today. The abundance of testosterone running through these hard-wired competitors can simply not stay bottle top. Cursing, name-calling, practical joking, and the occasional confrontation are all engrained in the culture of a locker room. It is good for morale and team chemistry to have these things in the locker room. A team without camaraderie and brotherhood is no good for a team. So the Martin-Incognito issue boils down to one glaring question, was Richie Incognito truly and genuinely bullying Jonathan Martin, or were his jokes and pranking just taken the wrong way by a particular individual?

Current and former NFL players and front-office workers have come forth and unmercifully bashed Incognito, labeling him as “a terrible human being” and a “dirty player.” There are plenty of dirty players in the NFL; James Harrison, Brandon Meriweather, and Ndamukong Suh are just a few examples of players that have been flagged and fined numerous times for excessive and unnecessary roughness. Yet, it is still tolerated and happens all around the league on a weekly basis. Incognito embraces being labeled as a dirty player, but to call him a bully? He may get under his opponents skin, but he hasn’t done anything to intentionally cause severe bodily harm to an opponent. The verdict is still out there on that one, although he’s been condemned for it already without all the facts. In the last few days words of praise and support have come from numerous Dolphins players stating how much they loved having Incognito on the team. Quarterback Ryan Tannehill went as far to say that Jonathan Martin was like Incognito’s “little brother”. It has also been reported that Martin has issues with several players on the team, and it seems that Incognito has been made the scapegoat of it all.

Could Richie Incognito be a bully? Absolutely. There is also a good chance that Jonathan Martin is a rare specimen in the NFL, an overly sensitive guy. If Incognito is found to be guilty of bullying he should be suspended indefinitely and fined substantially. No matter how big Martin is (6’4, 312 lbs.), he should not be subject to any kind of man-spirited verbal abuse. That kind of thing can break down the most physically imposing of men if they can’t find it in themselves to stand up for themselves.

In a perfect world, Martin would return to the team and be embraced by all of his teammates, but the fact is that the majority of his teammates likely feel betrayed by Martin. By going outside of the organization and creating a national headline, he became the “little brother” that told on the older brothers. Hopefully, Martin and Incognito can bounce back from this and carry on with their careers. Martin will find it tough to rebuild trust with his current team or to establish it with another. Richie Incognito may not have the chance to. The rushed persecution and reckless condemnation may have bullied him out of a career.

Bayou Classic 2013

Louisiana’s Home Celebration

By Shawnta Broussard

The 40th annual Bayou Classic is almost here. Beginning Nov. 26, the historical black colleges and traditional rivals, Southern University and Grambling State University will be playing their annual game at Mercedes-Benz Superdome. Many events will be held that Thursday and Friday leading up to the upcoming game. The Kick-Off Press Conference starts everything Tuesday Nov. 26 at 10 a.m. Wednesday is the Economic Development Summit, followed by Thursday’s event, the Parade, and the Day Parade, from 3:30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m. by the Mercedes-Benz Superdome.

Friday, the most eventful day leading to the big game, will have annual and new activities for this year. The day starts with the Bayou Classic Golf Tournament at 9 a.m. in Pontchartrain Park. Fun Fest will be held in Champions Square Friday and Saturday noon. The Career Fair & Empowerment Exchange, hosted by Louisiana Health &Wellness, starts at 10 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. The infamous Battle of the Bands and Greek Show will be held at the Mercedes-Benz Superdome between 6 - 10 p.m. A new event this year is the Soiree Gala starting at 10 p.m. at Club XLIV. “It’s going to be a party to help raise money for the Grambling State and Southern bands,” says Justin McCartney, Southern University student, and intern for the Bayou Classic.

Saturday’s celebration will start with New Orleans health and wellness icon Doc Griggs’ XX’s Around the Dome, from 7:30 to 10 a.m. “People will walk around the Mercedes-Benz Superdome twice and there will be entertainment,” McCartney says.

For the big game itself, the doors open at noon, and kickoff is at 1:30 p.m. “There will be special guests but you’re going to have to come to the Bayou Classic to see who will be there,” McCartney says. Tickets are available through ticketmaster.

Delgado's basketball team is not off to the good start they had hoped for. Two games into the season, and both the men's and women's basketball team have been unsuccessful in winning a game yet. The season opener against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Dasha Adams led the Lady Dolphins offensively with 21 points, but in the end came up short, losing to MGCCC 55-50. The men hoped to have a different outcome from the women, but at halftime were trailing by 12 points. They came back and played a spectacular 2nd half, but fell to MGCCC 66-58. Regional Pitts led the team with 17 points, while team captain Deonta Ward had 16, with Rashton Morris posting 15.

The Dolphins hoped to redeem themselves as they traveled to Raymond, Miss. for a doubleheader against Pearl River Community College. The Lady Dolphins trailed at halftime and couldn't overcome the Bobcats, losing 67-45. Dasha Adams led the team with 11 points, while Nya Duhe and Gabrielle Delaune both scored 10.

The Men Dolphin also fell short to the Bobcats 85-63. Regional Pitts was the leading scorer with 22 points. Even though the Dolphins have had a rough start to the season, they hope to overcome this phase and get some wins in. “We need to play better defense and play harder so we can win the rest of the games,” says team captain Deonta Ward.

“We have to work harder and get after it, as a team; we want to win,” said Kadija Garner when asked what they needed to do differently for the next games.

You can check www.delgadoathletics.com for more stats and information on the games.
Fun, Fun, Fun
Austin festival lives up to its name

By Seth Mattei

Now in its eighth year, and third at the Auditorium Shores location, a park within walking distance of downtown Austin, Fun Fun Fun Fest has become one of the most popular music festivals in the US. This year’s event took place Nov. 8-10, and did not disappoint.

Boasting a reliable, extensive lineup of up and coming talent mixed with reunions from legendary acts, FFF offers attendees tastes of hip hop, indie rock, punk rock, techno, comedy and extreme sports, as well as night shows in Austin’s downtown nightclub district, resulting in a dizzying entertainment experience that doesn’t let up for three days.

This year, performers included Snoop Dogg, Lupe Fiasco, Flag, Descendents, Kurt Vile, Johnny Marr, Deerhunter, Twin Shadow, Tenacious D, comedians Patton Oswalt, Sarah Silverman, Craig Robinson and many, many more.

In short, there is probably something for everyone there. Austin is a city famous for its food trucks, and there was no shortage of those at the fest, selling everything from hot dogs, to ice cream, to vegan food. Poster art booths were plentiful as well, giving festivalgoers a variety of art choices for relatively low prices ($20 for an original print was the average cost at these tents).

The festival was broken down into four stages: Yellow, Orange, Blue and Black (featuring comedy, indie rock, hip hop and punk rock/heavy metal, respectively) as well as an area with ramps set up for extreme sports professionals.

The sound was consistently solid at this year’s Fun Fun Fun Fest. During the day, crowds were pretty sparse and the volume was at a non-earsplitting level, while as attendance picked up and the throngs of people got thicker for the four stages’ headliners at the end of each night, the volume increased dramatically, charging people’s adrenaline as they packed in to see their favorite performers.

Besides the occasional blast of feedback, one of the only unfortunate audio occurrences was the bleed through from the Orange Stage (featuring mostly pop-oriented indie rock and jam bands) into the Yellow Stage, located in a tent and featuring comedy throughout most of each day. Comedian Patton Oswalt turned this into an advantage by riffing over Kurt Vile’s set when it drifted into his performance, at one point singing, “Tie-dye tell me, what is soap?” When someone told him who was playing he stopped and said, “Oh (expletive), I like Kurt Vile. He sounds like he’s standing in a tub of soy milk right now, though,” making fun of Vile’s jam-band-like, “hippie-ish” sound.

Fun Fun Fun’s organizers couldn’t have picked a better time of year to hold a festival in Austin. With temperatures between 45 and 75 degrees F., sweatshirts never had to be removed, but no one froze without one, either. The atmosphere was laidback (unless Flag or Slayer were playing) and everyone seemed to be having a good time.

Food and drinks were pricey ($12 for a hot dog and a beer), but that’s the case at most outdoor festivals. Free Twinkies were available for free and consumed voraciously, so much that one comedian remarked, “I’ve been living off of Shiner Bock and free Twinkies for three days. It’s the weirdest hangover ever.” Overall, the festival deserves a four-star rating, and was worth the nine-hour drive from New Orleans.
Train yourself
Travel on the student budget

By Anthony Alongi

With the end of the semester looming, many students are undoubtedly finding it difficult to focus on their studies instead of the leisure time ahead of them. Many students will make plans to party with friends and enjoy some late nights. Sounds like a great time, but wouldn’t it be great to get out of Dodge for a bit? There is more than one way to depart from Louisiana and it doesn’t involve a plane or a car. Care to guess what it is? I don’t care. Drumroll, please…it’s a train.

Amtrak, the public passenger train system, offers a great value to anxious travelers (or people too scared to fly) seeking a cheap travel option. Departing from the Station Building on Loyola Ave., Amtrak trains depart every day heading towards almost every major city in the U.S. One of the more popular routes out of the New Orleans Amtrak runs to Union Station, Chicago. Travel time is just over 19 hours with a round-trip ticket starting as low as $250.00. Those looking for a longer trip can book a trip to Penn Station, New York for $449.00. The Windy City and Big Apple trips are just a couple of examples of reasonably priced, high-value trips that are reasonable options for students to consider.

Beyond the destination itself, the train trip itself adds a heaping of value to the experience. The train cuts through the country and gives the passenger an astounding and appreciative view of America. The Midwest, East Coast, and West Coast can all be gazed upon based on your destination. A plane offers a magnificent and breath-taking view of the world, but a train is the best-kept secret that is a great alternative to flying. The dots become visible and the guesses turn to certainties. Watching the landscape progressively change throughout the trip is truly one of the better scenic views that a traveler could hope for.

The plethora of destinations can leave the planning traveler overwhelmed, which is why a list helps. Look at it as a “grocery list” for your wander-lusting ventures. Writing your travel plans and destinations on paper puts it into a goal-oriented undertaking, and it feels great to keep scratching off that list until, eventually, you’ve been to every corner of the country.

Traveling is going to cost money. There is no way around it. However, there is a way to travel without breaking the bank. The more you sit and think and think about it, the less time there is for saving and planning. The time to travel is now, when the responsibilities aren’t too taxing and the finances are manageable. Consider this to be your opportunity to invest in memories that will last a lifetime.

As much time as school and work require, there is still ample time to enjoy yourself and get a kick out of life. Work hard and play harder. Don’t fall victim to regret next semester when you show up to class with a handful of books, and a memory lacking substance. The break between the fall and spring semesters is a brief one, so make the most of it.

Yappy Hour (3rd Thursday of every month)
Thursday | November 21, 2013 | 5-7 PM

During Yappy Hour, we donate 20% of all sales and bar tips to the charity of the month. This month we have chosen Jefferson Parish SPCA and their courageous dog Athena.

Take a moment to read her story at http://www.jeffersonspca.org/athena.html and follow your local SPCA at https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonSPCA

Student Lunch Special
Tuesday – Friday | 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM
25% off entire food tab for party with one valid Student ID.

Awarded “Best Beer Selection” (2007-2012) and “Best Bar Food” (2011-2012) by Gambit Magazine

Featuring over 50 draft Beers and over 100 Beers bottled!
Back to School
Reviewing “Fettle and Tender”

By Ashley Boudreaux

City Park art show, “Fettle and Tender” brings back past Delgado Art alumni. Delgado’s current art show, “Fettle and Tender” features artwork from past Delgado alumni. Dan Tague, Anne Boudreau, and Jessica Goldfinch are all featured artists in the show. Fettle and Tender’s official opening night was on Nov. 7, but the show will continue on until Dec. 5 at City Park’s Isaac Delgado Fine Arts Gallery. Dan Tague, who studied fine art at Delgado then continued his studies at University of New Orleans, dedicated his artwork to his mentor and friend, Walter Johnson. “If it were not for his instruction at Delgado I would not be an artist today,” wrote Tague along with descriptions of his artwork.

Tague’s artwork clearly stood out among the other artworks displayed in the gallery. "Pursuit of Happiness," "Fountain (American Standards),” “We Need A Revolution,” and “Examining Freedom,” were four of Tague’s artworks that were displayed in the gallery, along with a 45-minute long interview with the BBC World News that took place on Aug. 26, 2013. Tague’s "Pursuit of Happiness" stands out the most in the gallery due to its size, 70 x 94 inches. The acrylic and oil canvas painting features the words "Pursuit of Happiness" on crinkled and folded bills.

Anne Boudreau, who received her Associate's Degree in Art from Delgado, displayed work consisting of wire and synthetic fabrics. "Sweet Relief," "Points of Reference," and "Fab Con I, II,III" were three of Boudreau's installations. Each artwork consists of different materials, including silk, paper, floss, beading, tulle and cotton. Boudreau’s "Fab Con I,II,III" installation involved three rectangular-shaped pieces of fabric embellished with different colored fabrics and detailed beading. Boudreau completed her Bachelor's in Fine Arts at University of Louisiana-Lafayette and then went to the University of South Carolina to receive her Masters in Fine Arts.

Jessica Goldfinch graduated from Delgado in 1989 with her Associate’s in Applied Sciences of Printing and Graphic Art. Then continued her education at University of New Orleans with a bachelor of arts in sociology and fine arts. Unique artworks included paintings, sculptures and shrinky dinks. Goldfinch is known for her unconventional style which has been inspired by her many travels from Indonesia to Nicaragua. Goldfinch’s "Syrinx Flora" at first looks like a delicate silver flower but when up close, the flower’s stamen is actually a syringe needle. Along with a sculpture, Goldfinch also had paintings of a similar style. “Sangioleontis Orientalis” is an oil painting of delicate red flowers with syringe needles as their stamens. Along with paintings and sculptures, Goldfinch has mini shrinky dinks of mythology.

Tague, Boudreau, and Goldfinch will have their work up in Isaac Delgado Fine Arts Gallery until Dec. 5, but they also have art on display in the city.

Delgado student, Dillon Drennan, admires Dan Tague’s artwork “We Need A Revolution” at Fettle and Tender.

Tague has artwork at the Jonathan Ferrara Gallery and his website DanTagueStudio.com. For more of Anne Boudreau’s artworks, go to her website, AnneBoudreau.com. Jessica Goldfinch is affiliated with Coup D’oeil Art Consortium and Barrister’s Gallery.

City Park’s Isaac Delgado Arts Gallery is open to students and the public Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Leo: (July 24 - Aug. 22) 
Take a risk! Try something new this month! Be spontaneous! Now is the time to do this before things really get hectic. Don’t hesitate, just do it!

Gemini: (May 22 - June 22) 
Plan a night out! It’s been a while since you went out with friends. You want to make sure you don’t lose touch with those close to you, so plan a night out or even a night in to reconnect with your friends.

Virgo: (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23) 
Last month may have seemed like one of the worst times in your life, but just keep holding on, things will get better soon.

Libra: (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) 
Do you believe in Cupid? If you didn’t before maybe you should now! Keep your heart open to a new romance this month, you won’t be sorry you believed in a naked baby with wings!

Scorpio: (Oct. 22 - Nov. 21) 
School, work, school, work; these two things may be all you have thought about for the past few months. It’s time to stop only worrying about school & work and start doing something for yourself!

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) 
Feeling lucky? Thinking about taking a risk this month? Don’t... wait until next month. You will have better odds.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) 
Plan something this month! You have been wanting to plan a get together for some time now, well this is the month to do it.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20 - Feb. 19) 
Feeling a little down this month? Make sure to talk to a friend or family member this month about what you’re feeling. You may not want to, but after you do you will feel a whole lot better.

Aries: (March 21 - April 20) 
Thinking about making a change this month, like starting a new job? Wait until next month. This month is not the right time to start a new job.

Taurus: (April 20 - May 20) 
TAKE A BREAK! You have been seriously overloading yourself! You need to take a break very soon, before you completely burn out.

Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20) 
This month, take some time to read a good book, listen to music, and see a movie by yourself. You need to just stop and make time for yourself before you become completely overwhelmed.

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Cancer: (June 21 - July 22) 
Money, money, money. You are always worried about money. Stop worrying about it this month, you are financially sound and have nothing to worry about.

Leo: (July 23 - Aug. 22) 
Take a risk! Try something new this month! Be spontaneous! Now is the time to do this before things really get hectic. Don’t hesitate, just do it!

Delgado Theatre presents Shakespeare’s “The Winter’s Tale”

Delgado Theatre presents Shakespeare’s “The Winter’s Tale,” beginning Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013 through Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013 in the 3rd Floor Drama Hall in Building 1 on the City Park Campus. Curtain times for Tuesday through Friday performances are 8 p.m., and Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. There are no performances on Saturday. Tickets are $10 for general admission and $8 for Delgado students, faculty, and staff.

“The Winter’s Tale” is adapted and directed by Michael Aaron Santos and includes local actors Cammie West and Mason Joiner, and students from Delgado’s Theatre Program. The production staff includes scene design by Jim Means, light and sound design by Tom Dawson and costume design by Veronica Russell.

One of the last plays Shakespeare ever wrote, “The Winter’s Tale” stands as one of his most moving stories of resurrection and reconciliation. Consumed by jealousy, King Leontes of Sicilia is convinced that his wife, Hermione, and his childhood friend, Polixenes, King of Bohemia, are lovers in secret. Leontes attempts to imprison his wife, declare his offspring illegitimate, and kill the King of Bohemia.

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All allegations prove false, but not before the most tragic of consequences befall Leontes, leaving him widowed, heirless, and heartbroken. But that’s not where the story ends; 16 years pass, children grow, love endures, brothers reunite and second chances are given.
Have you heard about Hansen’s?

By Cherie Bergeron

If you end up in Ms. Anspaugh’s microbiology class, you most certainly will. While many of us in New Orleans know that Hansen’s snowballs are a must during summer days, far too few people are familiar with Hansen’s disease, more commonly known as leprosy. Even though many people think of the biblical times when hearing the word leprosy, it has been noted that leprosy of then is not Hansen’s disease of today. The name of the disease we see today was changed in honor of the Norwegian physician, G. Armauer Hansen, who first described the bacteria responsible for causing the disease.

There are quite a few misconceptions about Hansen’s disease. Before the discovery of the bacterium Mycobacterium leprae, people thought that leprosy was inherited. This has been proven to be false. Bacteria are transmitted from one organism (plants, animals, humans, etc.) to another, not inherited through genetics. Even though bacteria cause this disease, keep in mind that many bacteria are harmless and some are even helpful. Unfortunately some bacteria can cause problems for their host. (In this case, humans are the host, but below you will see one other animal found to be a natural host for this bacteria.)

It also seems that some people think that the disease can cause limbs to “fall off.” This is not true. The disease can, however, cause peripheral neuropathy, which is a result of nerve damage, mostly in the hands and feet. This nerve damage is like the more commonly known symptom of untreated diabetics. With both diabetics and patients with Hansen’s disease, there can be a loss of sensation in their hands and feet, when there is a lack of treatment for the underlying cause (diabetes or Hansen’s disease). When the patient is treated for the disease, this peripheral neuropathy is preventable. It is also worth mentioning that the LEAP (Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention) program was developed as a result of progress at the National Leprosarium in Carville (Carville, La.), as was therapy to prevent foot ulcers. When patients would lose sensation in their feet and hands, they would unknowingly injure, and reinjure, these sites causing irreparable damage. This would eventually lead to the partial or complete loss of their hands and/or feet. Sometimes the damaged tissue and bone would be re-absorbed into the body, causing shortening and deformity of those areas.

Due to lack of knowledge of the disease and unsubstantiated fear, many people today think that leprosy is highly contagious. This is absolutely NOT true. There is no evidence to support this claim. In fact, the opposite seems to have been proven as the truth. According to the HRSA website (www.hrsa.gov/hansensdisease), “95 percent of the human population is not susceptible to infection with M. leprae, the bacteria that causes Hansen’s disease (leprosy).” This means that most people are not likely to get the disease, even if they are exposed to the bacteria. With all of the recent advancements in the study of genetics, a certain genotype has been tied to susceptibility of the disease.

Even with significant advancement in science, there are many unanswered questions regarding M. leprae and Hansen’s disease. Many bacteria are studied more easily by growing cultures in laboratory settings and performing various tests to gain knowledge about the organism. Unfortunately, M. leprae is not able to be grown in lab settings, but researchers found a natural host for the bacteria in 1970, the nine-banded armadillo. This discovery provided ways for more research. It was found that the bacteria liked to live in “cooler” environments. The armadillo is naturally four degrees cooler than humans, and the bacteria seem to prefer the extremities of humans, which are cooler than the core body temperature of 98.6oF.

In an article published in The New York Times (2011), there was mention of a study led by Dr. Truman, research scientist at National Hansen’s Disease Program in Baton Rouge, LA. It was found that armadillos actually shared the same strain of bacteria as humans. This let researchers conclude that armadillos are a source of transmission of the bacteria to humans. This helped to answer the question of how patients contracted the disease when they didn’t travel to places where it is common (or endemic). It was also noted that there were a reported total of 30 new cases per year in Texas and Louisiana of obtaining this disease. That is “roughly one in a million” chance based on residency rates at the time. It is hoped that warning people of this source of transmission will reduce new occurrences in the Gulf Coast area even more.

Even though it has been found that armadillos can transmit the bacteria, scientists and researchers are still unsure of the exact mode of transmission. It has been noted, however, that “NONE of Carville staff ever contracted leprosy” while working with the patients on a daily basis. There had been approximately 5000 patients before the doors were closed. Treatment is now performed as an outpatient procedure. Thanks to the endless research of many, a medical officer in charge at Carville, Guy Faget, found an interesting medical journal prompting him to find the successful treatment of Hansen’s disease. Today, when patients are diagnosed, there is a multi-drug regimen that is called a cure by many. After receiving these treatments, patients are tested for the bacteria to ensure negative results.

Though this article is mostly informational about the disease, we cannot forget the horrors of the first patients living with this disease. Some patients were taken in chains to be quarantined. The stigma of the disease was so horrific that one mother told her own daughter: “I would rather see you down there with dirt shoveled in your face, than for you to have that.” Early patients had no hope of ever leaving Carville, or seeing their families again. Their rights were stripped away from them; even lost the right to vote. Their offense? They contracted a disease beyond their control that people feared for lack of knowledge. Much of their history can be told by visiting the museum, reading The Star online (free) or other published books, or watching one of the few DVDs available.

Certain students are required to visit the museum during the school semester with Ms. Anspaugh, but all students are welcome to meet in Carville for the tour. If you are unable to attend the scheduled tour, you can always go on your own time during museum hours. There is also a website with much information, and some pictures to view. (http://www.hrsa.gov/hansensdisease/museum/visit.html) The Louisiana Digital Library’s website (http://cdm16313.contentdm.oclc.org/cdm/) also has The Star available for viewing – be sure to search The Star. One of the patients published The Star for world-wide distribution. It includes personal stories and medical information as well.

If you are curious about your own susceptibility, you can even have yourself tested for this particular genotype. One
Have you ever felt stuck in a rut where you couldn’t find a way out, and didn’t know who to turn to? According to the Delgado website, the primary reason students drop out was to take on work responsibilities to meet life demands. So, in January 2012, they brought in Single Stop, a nonprofit organization based in New York that receives funding from the Robin Hood Foundation, the Baton Rouge Area Foundation (BRAF) and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA). Working in partnership with United Way, they give students access to professionals who offer their expertise to anyone who has questions regarding almost anything legal or financial.

Single Stop covers a wide variety of areas they can assist students in. Filing income taxes is the most popular service they offer, free of charge to Delgado students. They will also help you fill out your FAFSA along with your taxes to make sure everything matches up. This means no longer paying someone a chunk of your return for doing something you could do on your own, or get done for free at Single Stop. They can also see if you qualify for tax credits that you may not be aware of.

Another service offered by Single Stop is legal advisory, for which a full-time on site attorney is employed. They can give legal advice on a variety of issues, from immigration and custody, to small business issues, public assistance, and even assistance with expungements for minor criminal offenses. They can help you determine your eligibility for SNAP/food stamps, child care and Medicaid.

This is truly a one-stop shop, or Single Stop, for all of your questions and needs as a student. Everything is confidential, and the counselors are all trained and experienced. There are no income restrictions for financial or legal services, only an income cap of $50,000 for people looking to take advantage of the free income tax service.

Single Stop has customized a program called the Benefits Enrollment Network (BEN). BEN is a database that allows counselors to outline what benefits students and their families are eligible for, according to the Single Stop page on dcc.edu. To book an appointment, you can go to Single Stop’s page on the Delgado website under Student Affairs. You can also call them at (504)6716563, or visit them in Room 309, on the west side of Building 2.

They are here to help you; take advantage of their expertise. Remember, this is all free. They are here for your help, so take advantage of their free expertise.
**OPINION POLL**

Q: Do you plan on staying in Louisiana after you receive your college degree?

- I don’t know yet, it’s a tough decision.
- I plan on traveling a bit after I graduate but I’ll come back.

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**IN MY OPINION**

By Shawnta Broussard

Many of our favorite shows that entertain us portray general life careers of their characters, giving off the perception that how we see TV is how it is done in the real world. Sometimes we forget that the purpose of entertainment is to entertain. The hit TV show, “Scandal,” has caught the attention of audiences, who tweet and comment to each other in social media, giving it a presence beyond TV. The drama centers on the lives and work of a crisis management firm. The life of main character Olivia Pope (Kerry Washington) revolves around protecting the public image of her clients. Pope’s work involves public affairs, where she strategically handles the crisis of government officials by managing their lives, persuading the public, and concealing their client’s darkest secrets by any ethical or unethical tactic possible.

Though the show has brought a broader view of the field of PR, it also has negative issues concerning the show and how it portrays other public relations professionals. Pope has many good qualities that would be expected out of a firm leader. She’s quick-witted, demands accuracy, and understands the traditional ways of thinking to make possibilities change in her favor, while staying professional at all times. No stone is left unturned when she is on the case; she is devoted to victory. “We are gradators in suits,” a statement used in the show, is an example of how professionals perceive themselves to be; innovators giving all they’ve got. But the show’s unethical practices create lies, deception, and concealing the scandals that run among the characters. One example from the show is how Pope blazes through a room of armors and have to make a dangerous money exchange deal that could have cost her life. She did not bring all the money that they asked for because of the technicalities, but took charge of the situation by using facts, statistics, and persuasion to compensate for the short cash. It was stunning how fast she won the men over, but it was unethical and unlawful, and she let it be known that the acts that she committed could not become public knowledge. Harrison Wright (Columbus Short) makes a statement that reaffirms the company’s mission to do what is taken to protect their clients at all costs. “The reason we’re not a law firm is because we don’t have to play by the rules of the law,” Wright says. “We’re fixers, crisis managers. We make the crisis of our clients, big or small, go away. It’s not about solving a crime. It’s not about justice, it’s about our clients.”

Is this how PR firms really conduct business?

“People feel that PRs are ‘spin doctors’ and they use negative persuasion to try to sell a public a certain way,” says Malana M. Joseph, Public Relations & Community Engagement for Spears Consulting. “People sometimes call me Olivia Pope, because I do what Olivia Pope does, but they think that’s what public relations [practitioners] are. Those PRs [on TV] just come in to lie and you should never lie, you should approach everything at an ethical stand point,” Joseph says.

**DOPHIN SINK OR SWIM**

**SINK TO**

- Typhoon Haiyan
- Corrupt La. politics
- No construction yet on the No. 104

**SWIM TO**

- Saints win over Cowboys
- Live streaming for Delgado graduation Dec. 17
- Holiday break

**The question of health care**

By Gabriela Amador

Many students from all over the world come to the United States for college. They get all excited because they leave home and live on their own, but what they don’t know is the consequences they will be facing such as not having health insurance. With the new healthcare system taking place at the beginning of next year, there are five main points of concern in the new Obamacare, or Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. I’d like to compare the US to Canada’s healthcare plan since we are close neighbors.

According to a recent article by Antonia Maioni on theglobescandinamail.com, there are five key differences between Canadian Health Insurance and the new Obamacare. First of all, in Canada, there are only two choices of healthcare plans as opposed to the United States, which has a variety of plans citizens can choose from. Secondly, healthcare in Canada is not something that is agreed upon by Canada as a whole country. Residence must be covered by a territorial plan that is publicly financed depending on the province they live in. The United States bases its healthcare more on the type of insurance the person has, which is the type of coverage the person will receive.

Thirdly, health care is not national in Canada like it is in the United States. In Canada, health care is provided by each individual province and the federal government is expected to chip in some kind of way; legal residents are covered even if they move to a different province. In the United States with Obamacare, Medicaid was obligated to expand their coverage plan, and 26 states agreed to sign on to the new program. Louisiana is not one of them. What happens with the show that didn’t sign on? Are they still going to get the same coverage?

Fourth, there is no equal access and there are no cost policies on the province they live in. In the US, it’s about your age, health, income and whether you qualify for the bronze, gold, silver or platinum coverage. In Canada, however, it’s not about how much you need, but how much you can afford, and everyone has an equal opportunity for receiving coverage. For example, a friend of mine who is Canadian came down here to live with her mom and she got sick with pneumonia and was hospitalized for six days. When she was released from the hospital and got the hospital bill, she was in shock. “God, I was literally on my deathbed those six days I was at the hospital, and my bill came out to $3500,” she said. “I know if I would have been in Canada, my bill wouldn’t have been that high...how on earth do they expect me to pay all of that, I don’t make that much money, I’m just a bartender.”

In Canada, the cost of health insurance is restricted based on the citizens’ income. Here in the United States, the answers to the questions of cost and access are still vague.
Diwali season

By Cedric Serpes

One of the challenges of India is travel, especially solo travel for someone who doesn't speak Hindi. Train travel is hard to book even for those who live in India and speak multiple languages. Mychtbright colleague at BITS-Pilani in Goa, Minet Schindehutte, said she would her office mates yelling at the computer for booking them off before they could secure their train tickets.

Bus was cheap, slow and treacherous, not advisable for long distances, which meant flying was the best choice to get across India quickly and safely, and domestic flights were easy to schedule online, even with a credit card from another country. So when Minet asked if I wanted to travel to Rajasthan with her for Diwali, I said yes so we could make our plans, because everyone in India tries to get home for Diwali, making cheap travel a competition match. You may be wondering what Diwali is—imagine Independence Day, Christmas and New Year all rolled into one to celebrate the triumph of good over evil, and that is Diwali, Festival of Lights. Families reunite at their ancestral homes and light lamps, wear new clothes, give special Diwali sweets, and perform puja to honor Lakshmi, goddess of abundance. Cows, mules, goats, are all painted, to take them dream of fireworks, and fireworks are burst to ward away evil.

Minet and I had a plan to fly from Goa to Mumbai to Jaipur, then we would hire a driver to take us to Pushkar, then Udaipur for Diwali, then Jodhpur, where we would fly back to Goa. We got pointers from a colleague who was from Rajasthan to book the car and driver for the best deal (go with a company that includes all parking fees, tolls, overnight stays and meals for the driver in the price), and Minet arranged the car and lodging. I booked the flights, and felt like I had the easy part.

We met at the airport in Panjim for our flight that was supposed to leave at 7 a.m., but it was grounded due to fog and smoke from people burning their trash (India does not have curbside garbage collection, they have curbside garbage burning). Because Goa's airport is shared with the military, no domestic flights are allowed from 9 a.m.-9 p.m., so we missed our connecting flight and spent the night in Mumbai on the airline's dime, meal included. While we were eating, the skies of Mumbai were lit up by fireworks, and on the final night of Diwali, India is so far up that you can see their fireworks from the NASA satellite pictures of the continent.

Waiting at the Mumbai airport to board the next morning, I noticed that Indians have a sense of when the ticket counter will open for check-in. No one will be in line, then everyone who was sitting and waiting will shift, and in two beats, there will be a line for baggage claim with no waiting passes. Indian airports segregate men and women for security checks, so you have to find your line and have your jacket off, your passport and boarding card ready. You also have to get a stamped tag for each carry-on item, which looks like a regular luggage tag you get from the airline, but if you don't have a stamped tag for your carry-on, you have to go back through and get it before you can board your plane. Minet had this happen to her when we were flying out of Jodhpur, plus they thought there were drugs in the Rajasthani puppets she had bought for her granddaughter. I almost got the same puppets for my sister's grandson, but the puppets were too hard to work. Bullet dodged.

We arrived in Rajasthan at Jaipur, called the Pink City because of the stone it is built with, and hired a car from the airport to our B&B. On our first day there, we learned a lot quickly about the Rajasthani way of making business, too.

Rajasthan is the India most people think of, the land of turban-wearing maharajahs riding elephants, the place of snake-charmers and dancers, palaces, deserts and camels. It is a land of textiles, fabric and carpet, spices, pottery, jewels, red gold and camel leather goods, so we were eager to see what we had heard so much about. The driver was eager to show us everything, too, and we later found out his eagerness came from the commission he got on everything we bought from the places he delivered us, which the prices were inflated, so he at least double what they would have been otherwise.

Indian merchants in Rajasthan were masters of the up-sell, too. At the textile place, the staff pulled out Pashmina (cashmere)shawl after shawl off the shelf, out of the package, onto the table, bolt of silk fabric upon bolt, pulled down and unraveled, anything you looked remotely interested in would be out on the table in front of you, held up to you for comment or possible fitting. "Would you like fries with that?" is an anemeric up-sell compared to the Rajasthani merchants.

The first thing the staff will do is offer you a seat, then a cup of hot tea, delicious stuff the locals will let you sit and drink tea as two or three or four hours go by, and the driver is content to wait, knowing that his commission will be 30 to 50 percent of what you buy. And they take credit cards with your photo ID.

Diwali is considered to be a good time to buy anything, so you can bargain by saying, "for Diwali," as in, "I like to get this outfit for my nephew at a good price, for Diwali." Near the end of our trip, we figured out our best bet was to go by foot into the markets and haggle like a local. Whatever price was offered, I would counter with less than half, and go from there. It was great fun to have the shopkeeper point and tell you that he was giving you student price for a camel leather shoulder bag at 1660 rupees, about $8 USD, but for good luck and because it was Diwali, he would relent. Then he would smile, and both you knew you had a good deal, and goodwill prevailed. After all, it was Diwali.

Thanksgiving Side

By Lee Jin Danielson

Zest and juice of one lemon
Additional olive oil, bread crumbs and cheese to taste, raw egg if you choose the frying method

1. Cool spinach as directed and drain very well. Let spinach cool slightly. Combine all ingredients. Omit raw egg (I am doing caserole...)
2. Ma-Mah's method: Beat raw egg and put it in spinach mixture. Then coat a large frying pan with olive oil. Spread mixture on bottom of pan and fry until crispy.

Slide out onto large round plate and then flip unfried side into pan (add olive oil before flipping if needed). And the second side. Then slide out onto serving plate.

"3. Wimp" method: Omit raw egg, oil caserole, place spinach mixture in dish and cover top with more bread crumbs and cheese, and sprinkle with olive oil. Bake at 375 for about 20 minutes.

Even if you are not a fan of spinach, this is delicious!

Don't look up when lying down

The Dolphin

By Susan Hague

One of the challenges of India is travel, especially solo travel for someone who doesn't speak Hindi. Train travel is hard to book even for those who live in India and speak multiple languages. My cmbright colleague at BITS-Pilani in Goa, Minet Schindehutte, said she would her office mates yelling at the computer for booking them off before they could secure their train tickets.

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Battlefield 4 Review
A Tale Of Two Games

By Kamol Benyashita

Before the Battlefield series, the only first-person shooter I had actually played religiously was Goldeneye on the Nintendo 64. In that ten plus years of gaming, I sampled different shooters but none ever got my interest. A friend of mine recommended Battlefield Bad Company 2, and I bought it long after its release. This was the game that made me decide to buy Battlefield 3 on release day, but completely changed what I was looking for in a first-person shooter. Now Battlefield 4 is out and the developers of the Battlefield series, Dice, have brought their iconic, destruction-based, chaotic battles to a whole new level.

For those of you who are not familiar with what separates Battlefield from other first-person shooters, it’s the destructive capabilities of the map. Buildings can be broken apart, vehicles can be destroyed, enemies using the building for safety. Walls can be blown up to create new gameplay paths. During a multiplayer match, I remember being chased by a tank hot on my tail. I ran into a building to take cover, but the tank blew the wall in between us. The screen shook, the controller rattled, and my speakers boomed the sound of a shell that hit the building. In a panic, I ran up the stairs and jumped off the second floor balcony, landing right behind the tank who was desperately looking for me. I luckily had equipped myself with C4 and planted three in a fractin-state, hoping the tank wouldn’t find me. I turned and sprinted into an adjacent building, then blew up the C4, eliminating the threat to my team. These moments cannot be scripted, and are often referred to as the “Battlefield moments.” Battlefield 4 players can alter the maps on certain multiplayer levels, and implement new, unique layouts of the map. This dynamic is one of many things that makes the series unique compared to other first-person shooters. Battlefield 4 brings bigger maps, a wide array of military vehicles, and the popular commander mode makes its return in Battlefield 4.

Battlefield 4 is split up into two modes, the campaign, and the multiplayer. Before I get to the multiplayer, I have to talk about my campaign experience was. The story was another cliché military story with cantankerous characters and scripted humor. The character you control is a mute, and the members of your squad are bickering like an old married couple. This was the same for the entire campaign. On top of them constantly fighting, they are next to useless on the battlefield. They rarely take enemies out, and sometimes get in the way. There were times when I would be moving around stealthily, and my squad-mates would be running full speed from cover to cover right behind enemies. Luckily they were not able to alert enemies. The A.I. of my squad-mates was ridiculous, and I was slightly more competent than the A.I. enemies I fought against, who would take cover behind a barricade instead of behind one in some instances.

Unfortunately the gameplay is not enough to distract from the incessant arguing between your squad-mates. Either the level was too scripted and left the player with little choice of how to complete the mission, or the level was too big and the A.I. enemies did not respond to your movements realistically. For example, when trying to deal with three A.I. enemies in one health hit point, I realized that the first time the enemies hit me, I attacked better with a boomerang, but if I had one more health hit point I would have chosen the knife instead. This is one of those things that ruins the immersion and suspension of belief. Those enemies were not there, they just appeared out of thin air. This is sloppy level design on Dice’s part, and they have proven that they can build interesting single-player levels with previous titles like the Bad Company spin-offs.

There are several new features that make this a massive improvement over Battlefield 3. After a year and a half of development, Dice gave us the recon class, which can build bigger maps, a wide array of military vehicles, and the popular commander mode makes its return in Battlefield 4.

Battlefield 4 breaks down your squad into three classes, each with specific skills for each gun, vehicle, and class. You can change your loadouts of each class on your PC, tablet, or phone during a live match. With the next-gen consoles the Battlefield will offer an interactive map that you can keep up while playing the game, giving you a tactical advantage during matches. Players will be able to use their PC or tablets to play the commander mode, giving players the opportunity to help out a friend even if they are sitting in a coffee shop with wi-fi. The new interface is clean and simple to use, allowing quick changes to your class between spawns.

The same 4 classes are carried over from the previous Battlefield games, but this time with more options for some of the classes. The recon/sniper class has undergone the biggest change in my opinion. I have played more recon in the two weeks I have had with Battlefield 4, than my entire time with Battlefield 3, which I got in October, 2011. With the addition of carbines instead of personal defense weapons, C4, and claymores, the recon class has become a formidable choice for those who like flanking enemies and fighting on the front lines. In Battlefield 3 this could be a joke unless you were a good sniper. There were too many times when players using the recon class in BF3 was a joke unless you were a good sniper. There were too many times when players using the recon class in BF3 was a joke unless you were a good sniper. There were too many times when players using the recon class in BF3 was a joke unless you were a good sniper. You will not find any silly gun looks. For example, many of the guns have different types of suppressors you can add, they all do the same thing, but they look different. Vehicles are also now customizable with different camouflage patterns to help you hide. You will not find any silly diamond plated sub-machine guns or golden assault rifles like some games. All the camouflage here serves a purpose, to keep you hidden, not to show off how good you are with your shinny gun.

Battlefield 4 has amazing maps, but you also need good game modes to go along with the maps. The maps are a lot of fun and work well with the classic game modes like conquest and rush, but they also work well with the new game modes like domination. During Conquest the map is open from the start of the match and each team has to capture objectives across the map by occupying them. These open maps probably work a lot better when you have 64-players on the map. But, on the current-gen consoles with 24-players on the battlefield, sometimes you run around with no one to shoot at for long periods of time.

The engineer class has been relatively unchanged except they have a couple of new rocket launchers, and mines that can take out infantry as well as armored vehicles. These guys are your best friend when an attack is taking place, and just take pot-shots at enemies foolish enough to stand in the open. The recon/sniper class has been improved and really sucks if you don’t have a coordinated team. When playing with friends, we carefully planned forward on each map and worked together to call out enemy players. When playing with a bunch of random players, it was a frag-fest with people running around like a chicken with its head cut off.

The multiplier maps in Battlefield 4 are the real stars of the game. Dice knows how to design levels to encourage tactical gameplay with your team. Flood Zone is one of the standout maps in my opinion. During a conquest match on Flood Zone, you can change your loadout on the fly.

On the consoles, I prefer the rush mode. Rush mode forces an attacking team to capture an enemy base by blowing up two objectives at a time. Each pair of objectives that are armed and destroyed, force the defending team to retreat back to another pair of objectives. The attacking team shares the lives and has to capture both objectives before the defending team wipes them out. The defending team has an unlimited lives, but has to defend the objectives, otherwise they lose. This works much better on consoles since it forces both teams to converge on one part of the map, as opposed to being spread across the whole map like in Conquest.

Obliteration is a new game mode that introduces elements of rush and conquest. Each team is attacking and defending at the same time. Imagine a game of football, except the football is a bomb, and the endzone is a set of objectives the enemies are trying to take out. The bomb is dropped at a neutral site and one team has to retrieve the bomb, carry it to the objectives, and destroy them. This game mode increases the frantic pace of rush with a little more freedom from the open maps like conquest.

Defuse is the last game mode, and also a new one added to the battlefield series. It is essentially the same as Call of Duties search and destroy game mode. This pits two small teams against each other with the objective of taking out the enemies base, similar to obliteration, only each player has one life. If you die, that’s it. This game mode was the one that really sucked for me and really sucks if you don’t have a coordinated team. When playing with friends, we carefully planned forward on each map and worked together to call out enemy players. When playing with a bunch of random players, it was a frag-fest with people running around like a chicken with its head cut off.

Of course, Battlefield 4 is the best first-person shooter out there, and it is a shining light in the modern era of gaming.
players can go and take out a weapon, involving the streets and forcing soldiers to take back the rooftops. Since there is a lot more water in some of the levels, Dice added the ability to fire a new weapon, a secondary weapon in the water. C4 is also available in the water. Siege of Shanghai is the map you all have been seeing in the commercials, more than likely. This map features a giant skyscraper that can be brought down into a pile of rubble. This level is a lot of fun, providing an urban map with lots of destructible buildings. New players do not have the ability to completely level a map. There are still some buildings and walls that cannot be brought down.

BATTLEFIELD from p. 14

Assassins Creed has become a yearly release, the prices drop on his holiday season, and since there are still some buildings and walls that cannot be brought down.

Assassins Creed 4: I absolutely love the Assassins Creed games. They have an interesting story, beautiful cities to explore, and smooth gameplay. The newest title is no different in previous titles than the reason this game is popular, they have a rabid fan-base that keeps coming back for more. If you are a fan of the first-person shooter game. Battlefield offers more options for players who are not good at running and gunning. Man a tank, pilot a jet, drive an all-terrain vehicle, and get the job done the way you want to get it done. Battlefield 4 was built for the next-gen from the ground up. It had to be scaled back to work on the current consoles, and it shows. It’s not enough to ruin the game, but I am certainly looking forward to seeing what it really looks like on the PlayStation 4.

Considering this is a game that you may play for at least a couple of years before the next installment, and I will be looking forward to new content from Dice, I would recommend buying this game if you are a fan of the first-person shooter game. Battlefield offers more options for players who are not good at running and gunning. Man a tank, pilot a jet, drive an all-terrain vehicle, and get the job done the way you want to get it done. Battlefield 4 also has a great weapon in the water. C4 is also available in the water. Siege of Shanghai is the map you all have been seeing in the commercials, more than likely. This map features a giant skyscraper that can be brought down into a pile of rubble. This level is a lot of fun, providing an urban map with lots of destructible buildings. New players do not have the ability to completely level a map. There are still some buildings and walls that cannot be brought down.

Need for Speed Rivals: Racing games are making a comeback and Need for Speed Rivals is one of many titles that have emerged as a racing game enthusiast. Rivals borrows heavily from Hot Pursuit, which I believe is the best Need for Speed title in recent years, and brings it to the next-gen consoles. Rivals pits racers against cops in high-speed chases across a sprawling vista filled with highways, back-roads, and city streets. Weapons designed for disabling your opponent's car are back, and that is a welcome change from the last two Need for Speed titles that were more focused on racing. Electro-magnetic pulses, spike strips, road-blocks, and radar jammers are used by racers and cops to shut down their opponents. Because of the lack of racing games that have come out recently and the fact that strongly resembles Hot Pursuit, I would recommend getting this title.

Call of Duty Ghosts: This is one of the biggest titles out all this holiday season. Unless you're a diehard fan of the series, I recommend Battlefield 4 over this game. The campaigns in Call of Duty games have been better in previous titles than the Battlefield storylines.

The multiplayer is a frantic frag fest where you race against up to 16 random killers and cannon fodder for them to kill. The multiplayer is the reason this game is popular, and they keep it fresh with new maps and content until the next title comes out. The games are a lot of fun, but they don't have a rabid fan-base that keeps coming back for more. If you are getting this game, get it now, wait too long and you might as well for next year's title.

The game is not the current-gen version, but it is the most chaotic at times. It is a welcome change from the older titles. This title has bright, colorful landscapes that make the game look impressive running on next-gen technology. I feel this is the best time to dive into the first-person shooter games.

Knack: I'm just not sure about this game, but I don't have much to say about it. It's a game that is designed to show off the PlayStation 4 hardware more than being a new franchise starter. Although, it is made by the same person responsible for Spyro the Dragon and Crash Bandicoot. Killing it could be a cool character. I'm not sold on this title, but if you have younger siblings or kids, this may be a title you would be interested in. I would wait on this game until the price comes down, it may be a perfect game to get in the summer.

WWE 2K14:

It has been awhile since a wrestling game. I haven't watched wrestling since the WCW went away, and that is about the last time I played a wrestling game on my Nintendo 64. The new titles have gotten my attention and I have considered getting this title.

WWE 2K14:

They don't look that impressive graphically, but the fact that I can recreate old wrestling matches with characters we spent too much time creating over the summer on the old Nintendo 64. I am hoping to relive those moments with this new game. This game is also on a yearly release schedule, but it doesn't look like they improve much each year. Wait until summer and pick up this title at a discount when they start advertising WWE 2K15.

Batman Arkham Origins: The previous two sibiling generation games have been incredible. They have given us the chance to play as one of the greatest superheroes of all time. This game was done perfectly without any shortcomings. You will find more suspense in one level of this game than the entire Resident Evil series. It is recommended that you play this game at night, with the lights off. The story revolves around a smuggler, Joel, and a teenage girl, Ellie, trying to survive an apocalyptic future filled with infected, zombie-like humans. This is not your typical zombie-story. It is a game that is a perfect fit to the classic worthy of any PlayStation library.

Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell: Blacklist:

Tom Clancy's name has come to symbolize great political, military, and espionage stories. His stories have been adapted for movies that have featured actors like Harrison Ford and Alec Baldwin. His stories have also been adapted to games that have been around for a long time. Splinter Cell is definitely one of his better known games; Rainbow Six and Ghost Recon are also games that make a comeback. Blacklist is the newest Splinter Cell title that sees the series protagonist, Sam Fisher, back in action. This game looks great, but I would wait on it until the price comes down.

Super Mario 3D World:

This is Nintendo's biggest offering with a full-fledged new Mario game in a while. This game will be nostalgic for anyone who has played Mario games growing up, and it will be a whole world to discover for younger players who have never experienced the joy of a Mario game.

The game mixes old-school side-scrolling gaming with the modern 3D worlds seamlessly. There are all new power-ups, plus some old favorites to help Mario and his friends survive. This game also encourages multiplayer co-op with four friends in one living room, or in a split screen. This is a must-have game if you own a Nintendo Wii U.

Play or Wait on it?

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