The map for the Keystone Pipeline:

Keystone Pipeline XL: The Taco Bell order from hell

By Nick Ducote  Staff Writer

It may sound like a fast food menu item or a terrible beer brand, but the Keystone Pipeline XL is one topic that Americans need to get familiar with. The roar for change in the middle and lower class job market has been heard. We are not all comfortable in deciding how to approach this gargantuan proposal.

Today in the U.S., we are face to face with an obstacle that has loomed over our children for the past ten years. The American dream that has been sold to us: do well in school, graduate from college, get a job to support your family, and you’ve made it, is not what it seems. The obstacle is there are not an immense number of jobs out there for this generation of Americans. The job market in the U.S. is growing, but we haven’t reached the point where there are jobs for everyone yet.

President Obama has been given the reigns to conceive several plans to boost the ailing job market here in the US, but nothing has been hatched yet. One idea that has captured the public’s attention, heralded by conservatives in the oil business and criticized by environmentalists, is the Keystone Pipeline XL.

The plan is to build a 2,147 mile oil pipeline that extends from the state of Texas to Canada. The plan was put into effect in 2008, and the final step to complete its construction is up to President Obama. The pipeline’s construction is slated to bring a ton of jobs to the US and help America’s economy make millions off of the flow of oil through our country. The choice is up to one person to help us out of this rut that we’re in, but at what environmental cost? Will Americans pay for the “benefits” of this pipeline’s construction, or get paid?

The Keystone Pipeline XL was a plan developed by the company TransCanada. They are an energy company based in Alberta, Canada. This area of Canada is known for its tar sands. This is where we will be drilling or “fracking.” The term “fracking” is short for hydraulic fracturing, a process involving a high amount of chemical-rich water being hydraulically injected into the ground at high-pressure, smashing rocks deep in the earth, and releasing the natural gas inside of them. This is done because most of the easy to get to oil closer to the earth’s surface is gone. The gas is then put into the pipeline and transported from Canada to the U.S. Along the pipeline, the oil will stop at several locations around the US to be processed and manufactured for exportation, not domestic use. The oil is going straight to China for their consumption.
1 in 25 patients gets an infection in hospital
About 1 in every 25 patients seeking treatment at hospitals acquired an infection there in 2011, according to a new study published Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine. Patients acquired some 721,800 infections at hospitals that year, according to the research. Of those infected, about 75,000 died, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — although the study did not investigate how often an infection actually caused or contributed to the patient’s death. Pneumonia and surgical-site infections were the most common types of infection — each accounting for about 22% of all infections — followed by gastrointestinal infections such as Clostridium difficile, urinary tract infections and infections of the bloodstream. While highlighting the grim reality that too many people become infected when seeking medical treatment in hospitals and other health care facilities, the study also shows progress from past estimates.

Burger King baby reunites with birth mom after Facebook quest
King baby” after she was abandoned in a restroom as an hours-old newborn
improbable family reunion this week. Katheryn Deprill, known as the “Burger
‘Burger King baby’ reunites with birth mom after Facebook quest

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New Orleans Pelicans’ surge positive sign for Monty Williams, future | Wednesday’s Dunc Shot
The Pelicans have won three consecutive games and seven of their past 10. Only the Spurs (10-0), Clippers (9-1), Grizzlies (8-2) and Knicks (8-2)

Homeless in New Orleans, from K9 and Dr. Love’s perspective. What’s your experience?
The intimidating figure dressed like a pirate king and the gregarious man who dances with a broom on Jackson Square may just seem like two more homeless people on New Orleans’ streets – inhabitants of a foreign world of which many locals know nothing about. But on the streets, where they’re known as K9 and Dr. Love, they are legendary. They are also a pair of chronic homeless men who illustrate the challenges families and public agencies face in helping people with mental illness. Help, in many ways, is scarce, as state cuts have reduced some services for the severely ill – creating a void that non-profits are trying to fill.

Belle Chasse mom accused of killing her toddler with hand sanitizer indicted with murder, attempted murder
A PLAQUEMINES Parish grand jury Wednesday handed up an indictment charging a Belle Chasse woman with killing her sickly toddler by injecting hand sanitizer into his feeding tube. The grand jury also indicted Erika Wigstrom with attempting to kill the child more than 14 months ago, on the same day the child’s father allegedly gave him rum. Just two weeks after she was booked with the homicide, Wigstrom, 20, was formally charged with first-degree murder, in the Jan. 24 death of 17-month-old Lucas Ruiz. She also was charged with attempted first-degree murder, accused of giving Lucas an alcohol-based perfume on Oct. 26, 2012. Although charged with a capital offense, Wigstrom will escape the specter of dying by lethal injection. “The state will not seek the death penalty,” Plaquemines Parish District Attorney Charles Ballay said just moments after filing the indictment in a Belle Chasse courtroom at midday Wednesday.

STATE

Local anti-domestic violence bills sail through Louisiana committee
Anti-domestic violence activists burst into cheers Wednesday (March 26), as a spate of bills to extend more rights to abuse victims in Louisiana passed their first legislative hurdle. Lawmakers unanimously approved three pieces of legislation sponsored by state Rep. Helena Moreno, D-New Orleans, and backed by a wide coalition of groups including sheriffs and state police, district attorneys, the United Way, the Family Justice Center and the Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The bills were fairly heavily amended during committee Wednesday. Information on the original bills can be found here. One piece of legislation, which lawmakers spent the most time discussing, would ban those convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence from possessing a firearm for 10 years. It would also bar gun possession for those against whom an active protective order has been filed.
By Candace McGaff
Staff Writer

Rags Scheuermann began the baseball program at Delgado about 40 baseball seasons ago. After 16 years as head coach, he handed down the ranks to his son and current Delgado baseball head coach, Joe Scheuermann. Coach Joe is currently coaching his 24th season of Delgado baseball and his team this year is ranked 2nd in the nation. The 2013-2014 Delgado baseball team recently helped Coach Joe to reach an extremely impressive milestone of 800 wins in just 24 seasons of coaching. That’s an average of 33 wins per season. The team currently holds a record of about 23 wins and just 2 loses, a record certainly deserving of a Number Two rank in the nation.

The baseball program was started here at Delgado by Coach Rags Scheuermann and continued its legacy with Coach Joe. Nearly 160 players have gone on to four-year colleges to continue their baseball careers. At least nine players have recently continued onto minor league teams in A-AA. This year’s remaining game schedule, team roster, and coaching staff are as follows:

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<th>Location</th>
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**Coaching Staff**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joe Scheuermann</td>
<td>Head Baseball Coach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Miller</td>
<td>Assistant Baseball Coach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Scheuermann</td>
<td>Sports Information Officer/Baseball Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Raphael</td>
<td>Athletic Trainer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Region XXIII Tournament**

- Fri - Sun 4
  - 5/11-12-17 TBA TBA TBA
  - NCJAA South Central District Championship
  - Fri - Sun 14
  - 5/16-19-20 TBA TBA TBA
  - NCJAA World Series
  - Fri - Tue 523-63/20 TBA Grand Junction, CO TBA

**Yappy Hour** (3rd Thursday of every month) 5 to 7pm

During Yappy Hour, we donate 20% of all sales and bar tips to the charity of the month.

Featuring over 50 draft Beers and over 100 Beers bottled!

**The Bulldog**

5135 Canal Blvd | New Orleans, LA
Must be 21 years old to enter

**Happy Hour Specials**

Week Days from 11:30 AM - 7 PM

- 50¢ off Draft
- $1 off Pitchers
- Doubles for price of Singles! *Wells, Call, Premium*
- House Wine is Half Off!

**Student Lunch Special**

Tuesday – Friday | 11:30 AM – 4:00 PM
20% 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

**Student ID**

123-456-789
Anthony Davis: Raising (Uni)brows

By Madelaine Ho
Staff Writer

The most anticipated college sporting event of the year is here.

March Madness is the annual NCAA basketball tournament that takes place throughout the month of March. Sixty-four teams compete in a bracket tournament, and the bracket is divided into four divisions: South, West, East and Midwest. The divisions have 16 seeds each. Thirty-two teams are entered automatically by winning their college conference championship. The other half are chosen through a selection committee.

The tournament allows fans from all over the country to print and fill out brackets to bet on which teams will move on or be “upsetted.” Some people gamble a lot of money on these games. This year Warren Buffett is offering $1 billion to anyone who correctly fills out the bracket. During the tournament, upsets can occur that will “bust” one’s bracket. This year, Dayton (#11) upsetted Ohio State (#6) to advance to the next round, while Harvard (#12) upsetted Cincinnati (#7).

Many top colleges often participate in the tournament every year; schools such as Kansas, Kentucky, Louisville and Duke are extremely visible during March Madness.

March Madness is also a time for rising future prospects of the NBA to show off their skills. The 2014 NBA Draft Class considered the best since 2003, according to major sports publications. That year’s tournament featured future NBA superstars Lebron James, Carmelo Anthony, and Dwyane Wade.

Players to look out for this year include; Duke (2010), Connecticut (2011), Kentucky (2012), and last year’s champion, Louisville. Former Kentucky Wildcats and Pelicans Anthony Davis and Darius Miller participated in the tournament, and went all the way to win the coveted title against the Kansas Jayhawks in New Orleans in 2012. Also in that game was Kansas’ Andrew Wiggins and Joel Embiid, Duke’s Jabari Parker, and Kentucky’s Julius Randle.

By Anthony Alongi
Staff Writer

A couple of weeks ago a friend of mine asked me if I wanted to go to the Pelicans game on March 16, against the Celtics. It was a stupid question, of course I was down to go. “It’s in a suite,” he added. SAY WHAATTT?! I was doubly excited now. This must be the first time they are letting an animal in a suite!

When the day finally came we arrived an hour before tip-off to check out our suite and knock down some food. I went through four plates in that hour that consisted of sushi, chicken wings, hamburgers, meat pies, and jambalaya... and about 1,100 calories. I know then that I would not be my normal self for the game with a perfect night (12-12) at the free throw line.

It is a damn shame that his potential game-winning jumper with just over a second remaining in regulation was bested by a buzzer-beater by KRS HUMPHRIES, known more for his force of a marriage to Kim Kardashian than any accomplishment on the court, which sent the game into overtime. The 121-120 overtime victory turned out to be nothing more than a footnote in the wake of A.D.’s monstrous performance. For the game he tallied a career-high 40 points to go along with 21 rebounds. Including this game, his last six games he has averaged 32.3 ppg, 14.3 rbg, 3.0 bpg, and has shot a ridiculous 58.4% from the field. At times his free-throw shooting has been shaky and inconsistent, over the last three games though he has shot with the consistency of a Serbian sniper, going 29-29 in that stretch.

The scary part? This guy is in his second season. This guy is turned twenty-one eight days ago. This guy’s ceiling might be higher than any player that has entered the league since Kevin Durant. That, coupled with the fact that the key members of the team are on the right side of thirty, should make any Pelicans fan tingle with excitement. Hopefully, the guys in the front-office find a way to keep this guy around for a long time.

The playoffs were a best-case scenario this season and although that won’t happen the team has made obvious strides despite being riddled with injuries (injuries which may have actually expedited A.D.’s exceptional play). The future looks ever-more promising for this youthful Pelicans team, but at present I’m quite content with watching the rapid growth of that young man, and his unibrow.

Anthony Davis: Raising (Uni)brows

Photo courtesy of yahooimages.com
THE Center of Controlled Chaos

By Nick Ducote  Staff Writer

The Saints are famous for developing offensive linemen into elite players. Head coach Sean Payton has made this his mantra since his first day at the helm. His specialty, since his assistant coaching days in Dallas, has been controlling the chaos. The coach is known for taking an average offensive lineman and having him work toward his full potential as a player. Payton has a sharp eye for talent, and he’s great at picking players that suit his coaching style.

Last year’s draft was part of Payton’s reboot phase with the Black and Gold. He made one of the best decisions in picking safety Kenny Vaccaro in the first round, and then tackle Terron Armstead in the third. The players had an immediate impact with the Saints. Vaccaro was a starter from the first game of the season, while Armstead was a rotational player that started for us during the playoffs. Though many teams saw him as a solid player, they still picked over him. The weaknesses of Armstead were shaken off by the time the playoffs started. He was the heir apparent when he was drafted and will continue to be for the coming years. This year the Saints have a glaring need for an interior lineman.

The players who are protecting Drew Brees on the inside have had a hard time doing that for the past two seasons. The center and guard positions are glaring spots that they need to address. The fact that the Saints haven’t signed starting center Brian De La Puente is very confusing, since he is one of the best centers in the league. The Black and Gold might let him go, and because of this, they seriously need to draft a player that can control the “barbarians at the gate.” This year’s crop of players at the center position are impressive. There are a couple of players that can become immediate starters like Terron Armstead. The beauty of this year’s draft is also the fact that other teams aren’t in need of an interior lineman as much as we are. The Saints can wait until the third round before they need to pick a guy at the center position. It’s looking like déjà vu for the Black and Gold again.

There is serious talent in the first four rounds of the draft, the Saints can pick five immediate starters with these players. The only thing holding the Saints back from winning a Super Bowl this year is themselves. They need to choose in an order of what and who they need, to get them to Glendale, Arizona.

Travis Swanson/ University of Arkansas

The senior is one of the most tenacious blockers in this year’s draft. He has displayed a mean streak that many opposing teams have complained about. He’s a guy that’s handedly took over a game against University of Florida, which is a preview of the past future NFL defensive lines. The razorback offensive line was one of the best squads at running the ball because of Swanson. He’s the kind of player that takes it personally when someone is trying to tackle the quarterback. Which gives him more passion when blocking for your offense. Swanson was also great at blocking for the quarterback this year. He took on an abundance of defensive talent around the SEC and played well against them. The conference he’s coming from is the best in college football. The center has become the poster boy for offensive centers and how they should play. He has been the best center in college for the past two seasons. If he is still around by the third round of the draft, look for the Saints to choose him. He is a can’t miss prospect that the Saints need right now.

Wesley Richburg/ Colorado State University

Richburg is the most “technical” blocker in this draft. His coaching has made him into a smart, raw prospect. He and the offensive line that he anchored and averaged over 461 yards a game. That statistic alone has many coaches in the NFL raving about how he can fit on the prospect. The senior, like Swanson, is an all around great player. He is the prototypical center for this era of football. He is big and athletic and was the best player on his team for the past two seasons. His upper body strength is one of his assets and he does well at moving defensive tackles. He won an all conference award, which showed many scouts that he is worth the hype. The offensive line and him only allowed 20 sacks on the quarterback this season. They also averaged over 200 rushing yards in a game. He is a great player at pushing the line further and distinguishing who he needs to block in order to run the ball well. He, Travis Swanson, and Marcus Martin have great motors to make plays happen. The one weakness some NFL coaches are pointing out is that Colorado State didn’t play well against the talented school, such as Alabama. They all are solid players that the Saints need right now in case they don’t keep De La Puente around.

Marcus Martin/ University of Southern California

The junior is one of the top three centers in this year’s draft. Marcus Martin is one of those players that former head coach Lane Kiffin recruited to USC to build his offense around. The only thing that has people worried about him is his choice to leave college early, and he only started for one year. That has never hurt offensive lineman in the past, because most of the competition he played against this year are going straight to the NFL. One thing that does stand out for Martin, is that he has a great body frame for the center position. He has the bulk and size to create running lanes for running backs and thrived doing that in college. He does well at keeping his head on a swivel, and is always looking for someone to block. He does have two weaknesses and that is he plays low to the ground and he relies upon his pushing force more than his blocking at times. Aside from those two things, he’s a great prospect for the position, and if he doesn’t start on day one, then he will become a great developmental player for the Saints.

Brian Stork/ Florida State University

The center is coming from a dominant Florida State program who went undefeated this year and won the National Championship. It’s hard for people to argue against his ability and find any weaknesses in his ability. The only thing that pops out that worries coaches is his body. He is very top heavy and has immense upper body strength. His leg size is not as defined as his arms and chest. That is the knock scouts’ and coaches can give him. He is a tenacious, technically sound player. He is a key factor in Florida State’s quarterback winning the Heisman Award this year. Stork was also a stopping force against many of the defensive talent of several conferences. He played against everyone from Notre Dame to Auburn; teams from the SEC and the ACC conferences. Florida State blew out several of their opponent this year and Stork was the guy controlling the line of scrimmage. He was especially good at picking up blitzing players. Many of the defenses had a hard time getting to the quarterback this year and disrupting plays, because Stork was so good at reading them. The senior is also great at getting to the next level while blocking. He is constantly looking for people to block and throw to the ground. He was great when FSU ran screen plays. He made blocking several defenders look easy. He can be a guy the Saints grab in the fourth or fifth round of the draft, depending on who they draft before he’s available. The center can be a starter for the Saints if they choose him. He can be a great addition for the black and gold for the next couple of seasons.
Flow Tribe

Thursday April 10, NOla Big River Stage, 5:15 p.m.

The Tribe is a local band, part of the funk-rock scene in New Orleans. Front man K.C. D'Orkee is a trumpeter who lives for the flash and pizzazz of the music and the band's wardrobe. Flow Tribe gets much of their motivation and creativity from bands such as the Grateful Dead, and local legend Dr. John. The sound of the '70s is alive with this band. There are a plethora of instruments in the ensemble, such as a definitive bass guitar, a good drum, keyboard, a horn, and some great electric guitar. Flow Tribe will put you in a smooth mood with some boogy shaking vibes. This is a great band to check out especially if it's your first time to French Quarter Fest. They'll put you in a festive mood to enjoy the rest of the day.

Mardi Gras Indian Orchestra

Sunday April 13, The Absolut Louis-Louis Pavilion Stage, 5:15 p.m.

The sound of Mardi Gras is alive with this group. The beautiful costumes of this band are astounding. The costumes are the ones that they wear on Mardi Gras Day. You get excited just looking at them, because they are the soul of Mardi Gras. Their history with the city is rich, as is their music. They have two cellists, three guitar players, a violin, and a 12-13 piece orchestra. Their music is fresh and will put you in a dancing mood. They do local and great songs, such as "Hey Pocky Way." The Orchestra is known for setting the mood and getting you ready for the day. They walk their neighborhoods and wake everyone up with their music.

Hot 8 Brass Band

The Hot 8 Brass Band will be performing at the French Quarter Fest from 5:45 to 7:00 at Popeyes Barracks St. Brass Band Jam with OffBeat Magazine on Sunday, April 13th.

Hot 8 Brass Band is a New Orleans-based brass band that blends hip-hop, jazz and funk styles with traditional New Orleans second line music. The band was formed in 1995 by the merging of two earlier bands, the Looney Tunes Brass Band and the High Steppers Brass Band. The Hot 8 Brass Band plays in second line parades hosted Sunday afternoons by Social Aid and Pleasure Clubs. They will be closing out French Quarter Festival on Sunday, April 13, from 7:30 to 8:45 at the Abita Beer Stage from 7:30 to 8:45 on Friday, April 11.

Rebirth Brass Band

Rebirth will be performing at the French Quarter Fest from 7:30 to 8:45 at the Abita Beer Stage from 7:30 to 8:45 on Friday, April 11.

Rebirth Brass Band is a New Orleans brass band founded in 1983. Rebirth is known for combining traditional New Orleans second line music with funk, jazz, soul and hip-hop. Their CD, "Rebirth of New Orleans," which was released in 2011, was awarded a Grammy in 2012 for "Best Regional Roots Music Album." Some of their popular hits are: "Feel Like Funkin' It Up," "Do What Chit Wanna" and "Take it to the Street."

Irma Thomas

She will be performing at French Quarter Festival from 2:15 to 3:45 at the Abita Beer Stage on Thursday, April 10.

Known as the "Soul Queen of New Orleans," Grammy Award-winning artist Irma Thomas sounds like a combination of Aretha Franklin and the late Etta James, but never matched their level of success. In 2007, Thomas won her first Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Blues Album for "After The Rain." Last year, she was nominated for a Blues Music Award in the "Soul Blues Female Artist" category, which she won.

Jeremy Davenport

His French Quarter Festival performance is scheduled to take place from 12:30 to 1:45 at the GE Capital/Technology in NOla Big River Stage on Sunday, April 13.

Jeremy Davenport is a trumpeter known for the unique, modern style and the moody, storytelling effect it takes on, but also a lifestyle reminiscent of a time when jazz was at its peak of popularity. His work has graced the attention of many international artists such as Harry Connick, Jr., Paul McCartney and Sting. He is the house performer at the Davenport Lounge, his name-sake club located in the Ritz-Carlton, New Orleans, where he plays every Thursday through Saturday.

Chegadão

Saturday April 12, French Quarter Festival’s Shade Stage, 12-30 p.m.

Chegadão is a Brazilian band with a splash of New Orleans funk. Scott Myers’ organ trio project mixes soul-jazz, bossa nova organ-based music, Brazilian samba-funk and forro (Brazilian country music from the northeastern backwoods cattle country). It will also broadcast live on WWZD FM.

Dash Rip Rock

They will be playing WWL’s Esplanade in the Shade Stage on Friday, April 11, from 5:30 to 7:00. The performance is sponsored by Jefferson Financial.

Inducted into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2012, Dash Rip Rock are a country-fried rock band with alternative leanings and an eccentric fan base. Founded in Baton Rouge in the 1980s by guitar-singing songwriter Bill Davis and drummer/vocalist Fred LeBlanc (of Cowboy Mouth fame), Dash Rip Rock have amassed a devoted international following and released over a dozen albums, spawning the radio hits, “Let’s Go Smoke Some Pot” and “Johnny Ace.” The latter was featured in the “Rock Band” video game.

Astral Project

They will be closing out French Quarter Festival on Sunday, April 11, from 5:30 to 7:30 at WWL’s Esplanade in the Shade Stage.

Led by saxophonist Tony Dagradi, and featuring guitarist Steve Masakowski, bassist James Singleton and drummer John Vidacovich, Astral Project are the cream of the crop in local modern jazz. All four members of this dynamic combo are well-versed enough to subtly complement each other one minute, and bust out a free-wheeling solo the next. The band has kept to line-up consistently solid since 1978, making for astounding musical chemistry.

Dr. John

Dr. John will be fronting his latest band, the Nile Trippers at the Abita Beer Stage on Friday, April 11 from 4:00 to 5:30. The performance is sponsored by Tropical Isle, and is a rare opportunity to see a local legend perform for free.

Dr. John is at the forefront of New Orleans music ambassadors. He has played and recorded with the likes of Mick Jagger, Ringo Starr, Eric Clapton and Bob Seger. He is mainly known for his virtuosic keyboard and organ playing, as well as his gruff voice and the memorable 1970s mega-hit, “Right Place Wrong Time.”
Fashion without borders

Local doctor combines designer clothing and philanthropy

By Tara Johnson
Staff Writer

Do you love fashion? Do you find it interesting that a woman can go from model to doctor and then fashion designer? Meet the lady behind LadySophia.

Dr. Sophia Omoro is the designer behind the LadySophia label. She was born and raised in Kenya, to a seamstress mother who greatly influenced her passion for fashion from a very young age. As a child, she and her siblings would simply draw a garment of choice and their talented mother would take the crude drawing and base a pattern on that. Then she would sew and create a completed garment.

Of course the downside to this was that hems were inevitably much longer than requested. The garments were much looser, and worst of all, at least three of the six girls always had the same dress and/ or fabric at any given time. They naively did not appreciate the luxury of well-made, fashionable ‘custom’ clothing, but this planted a seed for Sophia to pursue her own line of clothing.

In the meantime, her education and medical career has taken her from Kenya, to Victoria B.C., Huntsville, Ala., New Orleans, Seattle, and now Covington, La. She remains a dedicated, practicing Otolaryngology surgeon and finds balance in fashion and philanthropy.

Her fashion career up to now includes a strong career as a runway model for top designers. This “insider” understanding of the importance of wearable and practical fashion has helped guide her designs. The LadySophia label also has a philanthropic side. Dr. Omoro designs and personally oversees the execution of each and every piece, all of which are made in Kenya.

Despite the challenges and overall cost of the venture, she is committed to improving life by offering employment. In a country of over 50 percent (low estimate) unemployment, with a majority living below world standard poverty line, the label, even at this very early stage, has provided income for members of her team for over a year now. A good example is George, the team leader, who has been able to provide food, education and shelter for not only his own family, but also for his siblings and extended family members.

Every garment, belt, bag, and accessory sold furthers LadySophia’s commitment to improving lives by ensuring fair, competitive, and steady wages to key providers and bread winners in this impoverished country. “This is our core value, and makes it all worth it!” Dr. Omoro says.

Dr. Omoro will launch the LadySophia NEE Collection with a runway/trunk show on Saturday April 12 at the Historic Maison Lafitte in Covington. For $25.00, you can enjoy drinks, hors d’oeuvres and fashion, limited to 125 guests. For reservations, email Ladysophiafashion@gmail.com.

Gaming in 2014: What’s Ahead?

By Samira Palmer
Staff Writer

With 2013 behind us in the gaming industry, it’s time to see what 2014 has in store. With new consoles like the PlayStation 4 (PS4) and the Xbox One, the whole gaming experience has gone up in creativity and execution.

There are tablets like iPads and galaxy tabs that feature touch screen based games with simple control schemes. You can even view video games on your mobile phone. That’s gaming on the go without the need for dedicated mobile gaming consoles like Gameboy or PS Vita.

Game developers are getting closer and closer to making games and reality look the same. Xbox One’s Kinect allows players to play certain games without the use of a physical controller. Sony has recently announced a set of virtual reality headsets that will be compatible with several PS4 titles in the near future. The graphics on the PS4 are better than ever and playing first person shooters have never been as visually pleasing as they are now.

Video games have turned into interactive movies. Games like Last of Us, Grand Theft Auto 5 (GTA V), and even Call of Duty: Black Ops 2 all have storylines that build a relationship between the character and the gamer. Some games like GTA V and Mass Effect even let the actions of the player determine the end of the game, unlike some games where you are playing to the end and aren’t really in control of what happens next.

With virtual reality gaming already in the works the only thing left to create is a virtual gaming world where gamers are actually in their favorite games. Or have I spoke too soon?
The story that Metal Gear creator Hideo Kojima has weaved encompasses decades of political power plays and espionage action that revolves around a core group of experimental soldiers operating outside the realm of normal military assignments. The beauty of the Metal Gear series is that it takes real-world issues like nuclear proliferation, shifting world powers and private military corporations and weaves in supernatural elements from the fringes of science to create memorable characters and storylines.

However, know that this game is literally around two hours; faster if you take a more direct route. The game was originally meant as the opening sequence to “Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain,” but Konami decided to split the game into two parts so players could get a taste of Metal Gear without waiting for the full game to come out. There is no definite date set for the release of the full game, which could see a release date later this year, or possibly as late as next year.

It may be short, but the game offers several different missions with various lighting conditions on the same Guantanamo-style base. The Ground Zeroes mission is the primary mission, and takes place at night, with a storm creating wet conditions at the base. Other missions, which are not related to the story, feature bright sunny conditions that make it hard to sneak around, and offer different targets to kill or capture.

The game is gorgeous though. Snake's movements look very natural, and you can see the wrinkles in his sneaking-suit move with each step he takes. The meticulously designed terrain and natural lighting make this one of the best-designed levels I have come across in any game. You will get side-tracked and occasionally marvel at the level of detail that Hideo Kojima’s games are known for. Kojima’s games have always raised the bar in graphics and Ground Zeroes advances this tradition.

The heads up display (H.U.D) is unobtrusive, but that is partly because there is no radar/map in the corner of the screen displaying enemies and their direction. You now have to keep your head on a swivel and mark enemies with your binoculars. The new spotting system is reminiscent of Battlefield's spotting system that puts a red triangle over the enemy. In Ground Zeroes, once you mark enemies, they are tracked for the rest of your stay on the island.

There is a new feature in this Metal Gear that gives you a small window to neutralize an enemy who has spotted you. The new spotting system is more natural and the enemy's view distance varies with weather conditions and obstacles. If an enemy notices you, a white bar shows what direction the enemy is in and shows the amount of curiosity the enemy has. Sometimes the enemy will only shine their flashlight in your general direction, or even walk towards your position to investigate.

Taking out enemies is as easy as ever. The aiming mechanics are on par with most third person shooters, and melee attacks are much more natural than previous Metal Gear games. In fact, the melee is the best it's ever been, since it is easy to dispatch enemies from behind cover or from right behind them. Bullet deviation has been added to this game, making lining up your shots a bit more challenging. If you have a distant shot to make you may want to aim slightly above the enemy's head. I have been satisfied with Snake's ability to fight back in a tense firefight in contrast to previous Metal Gear titles, where firearms were generally futile efforts.

The character control is much better than previous games. In older Metal Gear games the player would have moments when Snake would hop out from cover, or fire a weapon by accident because of the layout of the controls and the amount of actions available to the player. The controls are simplified, but at the expense of a few tactics formerly used by Snake. One of the abilities left out is the ability to tap on the wall to attract curious soldiers within earshot of Snake. You can still throw empty magazine clips, but it doesn't have the same feel as previous Metal Gear games. It's also harder to dump bodies. There was an instance where I was trying to throw bodies into the ocean, but was forced to keep walking into the corpse in order to push it over the edge of the cliff. There were even dumpsters placed around the base in Ground Zeroes that could have been used, but strangely all you can do is climb them. "Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons of Liberty" allowed you to throw bodies off the ship with the push of a button, and other Metal Gear titles have allowed different clever ways of hiding bodies. This is a minor issue in the grand scheme of things, but it is still an oversight that irked me a bit as a fan of the series.

Snake now moves along his terrain naturally, without the player having to hold down a button in order to make him push up against a wall. The natural movements also play into Snake’s scaling of terrain. You can clear several obstacles with a smooth free-runner style similar to the Assassin’s Creed games. Snake can also sprint in this game, making escaping enemies a little easier. Snake's transition from crouching to crawling looks natural. They did use motion capture of facial animations when Kiefer Sutherland was voicing Snake/Big Boss, but Snake's natural movement makes it seem as if they took motion capture to the extreme.

Kiefer Sutherland, star of the hit series “24,” has taken over as the voice of Snake and it sounds more natural and less gravelly than David Hayter’s version of Snake. I was sketchy about the change in voice, but only because of the fact I grew up with Snake’s voice being played by David Hayter. Sutherland does a good job of making Snake's voice more believable instead of one-dimensional voice Hayter provided.

If you're a fan of the series and salivate at the thought of a new Metal Gear game then this is a purchase you won't regret. The price tag is only $30 for PS4 and Xbox One and $20 for PS3 and Xbox 360. If you are new to the Metal Gear series, this title will be underwhelming. It is not the typical Metal Gear game. Newcomers to the series should check out the Metal Gear Solid HD collection that has been available since last year. This review was based on my play-through on PS4.
while we make a profit off of its construction, but not the oil itself.

The pipeline will give jobs to the U.S. workforce. The construction of it alone will give us 42,100 jobs during a two to four year period. The final stage of its construction gives the U.S. the third-largest oil infrastructure in the world. It will be one of the largest, up-to-date models of clean, efficient energy the world will ever see. Because the company funding the project isn’t American, they will also need to pay taxes to build here. TransCanada has agreed to pay $58.6 million in property taxes, $39.3 million in sales taxes, $20.1 million in individual income taxes, and $3.3 million in corporate taxes. All of that money is going into the U.S. economy making a considerable contribution to the stimulus that we’re looking for.

The Keystone Pipeline XL will also boost our competitive oil rates with our rival oil companies in the Americas. Venezuelan and Mexican Oil are both over-priced compared to the oil coming from Canada. The Canadian Oil will be priced at $65 per barrel while the Latin American oil will be priced at $89 per barrel. This will create a domino effect on the oil market benefitting the U.S.

The World Energy Outlook will rate the U.S. as the world’s largest exporter of oil, up till the year 2035. We will then become the richest country in the world because of the amount of oil brought through North America. The American government will also see an era of profit no country has ever achieved. The plan is simple and the effects of TransCanada building this pipeline will allow us to overtake China’s economy. As of now the Chinese have us in a vice grip. We owe China billions of dollars, and if the pipeline is built, they will be paying for oil coming from the U.S.

The Keystone Pipeline XL has drawn an abundance of criticism from environmentalists. The process of fracking pollutes water in nearby wells, and has been linked to minor earthquakes according to the United States Geological Survey. The bodies of water that are affected will be deemed undrinkable, and the wildlife that live nearby, including human beings, will suffer and get potentially life-threatening conditions. The use of fracking has already had over 1,000 documented cases of water pollution. The effects of the pollution have been astronomical. The documented cases have people suffering from sensory, respiratory, and neurological damage from ingesting contaminated water from fracking in their local areas.

The icing on the cake is also the fact that we can only recover 30 to 50 percent of the fracking water that is injected into the ground. That leaves over 70 to 50 percent of the non-biodegradable polluted water in the ground to sit forever. No one can recover the polluted water, because it’s too far in the ground for any current technology to reach for removal. The open pits of polluted water and tar will eventually evaporate, giving off harmful V.O.C’s (volatile organic compounds), which will contaminate the air and produce acid rain.

In the end the environment will suffer and we, as well as Alberta, Canada will potentially deal with clean up if any spills occur. The temperature in the areas will then rise, creating warmer climates. Those climates will affect the U.S. dramatically. Last summer our national crop belt suffered a large drought that hindered sales of fruit and vegetables all around the country. Because of this we will lose money not just now, but in the future. The ground won’t be suitable for farming and then we will lose our agriculture business.

The U.S. has had several problems with oil companies in the past, resulting from spills. Along the Gulf Coast we are still suffering from the BP Oil Spill. The Exxon-Valdez Spill is still an environmental issue, even though that specific oil spill happened over twenty years ago.

On Mar 25, 2014 the front of several newspapers, including the New York Times, showed the effects from BP’s Deep Water Horizon on local fish. The effects of the spill have left several species of fish with heart problems, which thus affects the Gulf Coast’s fishing economy. The death of millions of fish will leave New Orleans and surrounding ports in a bind when local fishermen have nothing to haul in.

Florida Congressman Alan Grayson has been very vocal about the construction of the pipeline and its effects. He was one of the first to question its authenticity. He was quoted saying that “China is the only country benefiting from the pipeline’s construction.” The U.S. will only make money from TransCanada paying the taxes to build the pipeline here, and nothing else. The money from the oil in the pipeline will be Canada’s, not ours. The U.S. is now being pressured into the construction of this behemoth pipeline.

In 2014 alone, the studies surrounding the Keystone Pipeline have expanded exponentially. The true facts of the pipeline are now in the public eye. The construction alone will give us over 42,100 jobs, but when we’re done building the pipe, only 35 jobs will be permanent. That means 42,061 workers will be laid off to become unemployed again.

The projected plan for those people to keep their jobs is only for two to four years anyway. Cornell University School of Business this year released a study stating that the shale boom from fracking will kill more jobs than it actually creates. That means the jobs that will be created from the pipe won’t be available for long. The U.S. will again reach its current level of unemployment. The growing number of homeless and unemployed citizens will skyrocket after the building of the pipeline.

To build a sustainable economy, the U.S. needs to invest time and money into cleaner, more energy efficient power. According to the University of Massachusetts the rate of solar energy has risen over 13 percent in the past two years. The job market there is waiting for people to apply for jobs and to invest in the trend that can change our way of life in a positive way. If we invest in solar energy, the projected job boost will be six times faster than that of the Keystone Pipeline XL’s construction.

The solar energy market consists of jobs such as installations, sales, marketing, and software development. The Solar Foundation of America has over 119,000 jobs in the North American sector with openings right now for employment. That is more jobs than what the pipeline construction is offering. If we do invest in the solar energy market and other clean energy we can do better than the offer TransCanada has put on the table for the U.S.

A Study done by Synapse Energy Economics in Massachusetts developed and projected scenario of the U.S.’s consumption of electric energy and what would happen if we did cut ourselves off from oil drilling and high emission fuel sources. We would have over 3.1 million jobs over a ten-year span in clean energy. That includes people designing, manufacturing, and delivering energy efficient materials around the country to all our different economies.

The pipeline will make our job crisis and weather worse, according to the economic and environmental experts. The effects of a pipeline being built from Texas to Canada could have serious effects on our children for decades. There have been photos released of cracked pipes in residential areas resulting in neighborhoods being flooded with oil, so the idea of a pipe being impervious to cracking is hard to buy. The pipe could crack and become another environmental problem that will have long-lasting, detrimental effects for life on earth.
Karmic evolution done right: “Infamous Second Son” game review

By Kamel Benyohia
Staff Writer

Somewhere between dropping down on enemies with the impact of an asteroid and racing across the city from building to building with little effort, I realized that Sucker Punch had perfected the balance of super powers and vulnerability. “Infamous Second Son” is a Playstation 4 exclusive that really shows off the stunning graphics the PS4 is capable of.

This is easily the best-looking game on PS4 now, taking the title away from “Killzone: Shadow Fall” which debuted with the PS4. Each of the protagonist’s powers are mesmerizing to watch as he absorbs different elements to recharge. The city is not large compared to other open worlds like “Grand Theft Auto V”, but it does feel detailed and never left me wanting more to explore. It’s really just a big playground for the Conduits to flex their powers. This game will stun you with the cityscape as you powers. This game will stun you with the cityscape as you.

You play as Delsin from the game.

There are plenty of side-missions, but they are a bit repetitive. One of the side-missions cleverly uses the Dualshock 4 controller for graffiti tags. The game instructs you to hold the PS4 controller vertically instead of horizontally, and press your index finger on the right trigger (R2 for those of you familiar with the controller). This makes it seem as if you’re holding a spray paint can and pushing the nozzle, giving the game a novel idea that is a change of pace from the normal superhero antics. The game also makes use of the DS4’s touchpad and built-in speaker. This makes it seem as if you’re spraying while the sound comes from the speakers.

Controlling Delsin when he is using his powers felt natural and almost too easy. I was able to race up and down buildings and dash across rooftops without missing a beat. There were a few minor issues when I couldn’t quite get Delsin to do something simple like fly or push the nozzle. However, this time you pretty much have to stick with being completely good, or completely evil with the new karma scale.

There are also plenty of powers available that allow you to adopt your own playstyle. I definitely stuck with the old float like a butterfly, sting like a bee style that had me snickering as enemies would lose sight of me, only to have me sneak up behind them and take them out.

Controlling Delsin to do something simple is easy. I was able to race up and down buildings and dash across rooftops without missing a beat. There were a few minor issues when I couldn’t quite get Delsin to do something simple because of the sensitivity of the controls, but this was rare. Overall, Delsin is easy to control and will have you feeling cocky because it looks so natural on screen.

You will want to play this game as completely good or bad on the first play-through, and then vice versa on the second play-through. I will admit the evil play-through is much more fun since you don’t have to worry about collateral damage. You will definitely get your money’s worth with a well-crafted story and a great game-play experience.
ONE: Listen to our cities finest jazz music just by cruising the French Quarter or stepping into a bar on almost any street (Frenchmen and, of course, the historic Bourbon St. are highly recommended).

TWO: Experience multiple festivals free of charge, such as Satchmo Summerfest (July 31-Aug. 3, 2014).

THREE: Walk, run or ride a bike along the levee of the Mighty Mississippi River while taking in all the wonderful sights.

FOUR: Visit one of America’s 10 Great Neighborhoods, Faubourg Marigny.

FIVE: Listen to funk artist Joe Krown while enjoying some free oysters at Le Bon Temps Roule on Magazine Street.

SIX: On Friday nights during the summer, you can catch free music acts at Tipitina’s.

SEVEN: Attend the Saturday morning Farmers Market for sights, smells, and even free cooking lessons!

EIGHT: Go down to Lafayette Square for free concerts on Wednesday nights, hosted by the Young Leadership Council.

NINE: Take a scenic ride along the Mississippi on the Canal St. Ferry.

TEN: Stroll through City Park, and be sure to check out the Besthoff Sculpture Garden (this is particularly convenient for Delgado students reeling from post-midterm exhaustion)!

10 free ways have fun in the Big Easy

Down in New Orleans, where the blues were born, you might find it difficult to play tourist without spending too much money. Here is a list of just a few things that you can do without spending any money at all.

Dear Tara and Trell,

I am currently in a new relationship of six months. I like my boyfriend, but I’m still in love with my ex. I thought jumping into a new relationship would help me get over him and our breakup, but it’s only made things worse. I can’t stop thinking about him. I check his social media daily to see if he ever subliminally says anything about me, or what we had. I always get the urge to call him. I’m lost, confused, in love and in lust. What should I do about my present and past situation?

Sincerely, Confused and In Love

Seems like you have a lot going on. Our advice to you would be to sit back and evaluate both situations. See which one works and benefits your life better in the long term. Be smart, be wise, and sensible about the situation. Everyone struggles with mixed emotions at some point, but you should use your own personal judgement to make the right decision. However, you shouldn’t lead your current boyfriend on. Have a sit-down with him and let him know you need some time apart to figure out what you want to do. You wouldn’t want to hurt him as a result of your own confused feelings. We wish you the best in whatever you decide, good luck!

-Yours truly,
Tara & Trell

Dear Tara and Trell,

I introduced my best friend to a really good friend of mine and now they’ve become really close. They hang out without me, talk on the phone, and go shopping together all the time. I don’t like it, am I being selfish?

Signed, A Jealous Friend

It’s perfectly fine to feel a little bit jealous, but not too jealous. Nobody likes sharing, but that’s just the way the cookie crumbles sometimes. There’s absolutely nothing wrong with expanding your friendship to other people; remember three is always better two.

Yours truly,
Tara & Trell

Dear Tara and Trell,

My boyfriend is pressuring me to have a kid. We have no real commitment. I would like to wait until I’m married - what should I do if he continues?

If you’re a firm believer of no kids before marriage, stay loyal to your values. Don’t let anyone pressure you into doing something you’re not ready for, or makes you uncomfortable. Either he’s going to respect it or maybe it’s time for the relationship to end. We wish you the best.

-Yours truly,
Tara & Trell

Dear Tara and Trell,

My dream is to be a radio personality, but my parents have another dream for me. They expect me to be a doctor or a nurse but that’s not my dream. What should I do? I don’t want to disappoint them but that’s not what I want.

Sincerely, A Lost Child

That’s a really tough situation. Every parent’s dream is for their child to have the marvelous title of a Doctor or Lawyer. In reality it isn’t realistic for everyone. Follow your dreams of what makes you happy. You can’t please everyone, so do yourself a favor and at least make yourself happy. We wish you well in your future

Yours truly,
Tara & Trell
The British Car Club held its 24th annual car show on Delgado’s City Park campus Saturday, March 22. The show featured over 120 participants competing in different categories. There were all types of British cars from charming Minis to powerful Jaguars. They have been holding the show on campus for several years, now and the club has a special connection with Delgado. Not only do they host the show on our campus every year, they also give scholarships to Delgado Automotive students. Each fall automotive students fill out a questionnaire and the recipients are chosen by members of the British Car Club.

The show was open to Delgado students and the public. Prizes and awards were given out to the winning cars from each category. There were also baked goods and souvenirs sporting a British theme. If you missed out this year, they usually have the show every March, or you can find them at bmcno.org. From their website you can visit a gallery of locally-owned British cars and see their upcoming events.

The Air Up There
By Anthony Alongi
Staff Writer

It’s a bird, it’s a plane, it’s you! Flyboarding is an exhilarating new sport that allows thrill-seekers the chance to soar the skies. Founded in France by Franky Zapata, flyboarding is a sport that can send someone up to 40 ft. in the air by redirecting water pressure from a jet ski into a footboard while providing enough stability for maneuvering, and some advanced stunts for more advanced boarders.

Last year this new and exciting sport was introduced to Louisiana when NOLA Flyboarding, the only licensed flyboard company in the state, opened for business. Owner/instructor Tony Bertucci first learned about flyboarding while on vacation in Destin, Florida and saw a market for it back home in New Orleans. Bertucci said his first thought upon seeing it in action was “This has got to be in NOLA!” And what a splash it has made.

Operating primarily, but not exclusively out of Lake Pontchartrain, NOLA flyboarding provides an adventurous and ambitious alternative to the everyday activities in the city. With summer on the horizon, there is still time to learn the basics of the sport and first timers can expect to hit the ground running. “In a first lesson a person can expect to get up to about 20ft in the air, and also learn the basic maneuvers like turning and adjusting altitude. Plus learning a few basic tricks like the dolphin dive, sharp turns, and possibly a back flip,” says Bertucci.

A flyboard is operated by one person riding on a PWC (personal watercraft) giving a controlled amount of throttle, while the other is standing on the flyboard secured by wakeboard-type bindings. The jet-ski rider provides a steady throttle increasing the pressure of water through the hoses connected to the footboard. The rider balances the pressure by keeping their feet in a somewhat flat position. Within minutes the person on the board learns how to lift and drop their feet to manipulate the board and do whatever they want. Unless a person is certified to use an E.M.C. (electronic manual controller) two riders are required for operation.

Maybe you’re looking for something fresh and invigorating for the summer, or maybe you’re one of those guys who isn’t the best at anything among your friends? Either one is a great reason to give flyboarding a go. It’s your time to fly! Those interested in flying or wanting to know more can contact NOLA Flyboarding at 504-982-8346 or by e-mail at nolaflyboarding@gmail.com. To checkout photos, videos, and more visit their website nolaflyboarding.com and follow them on Instagram @ nolaflyboarding.