

The Holy Cross Chronicle

Student Newspaper at
Our Lady of Holy Cross College
New Orleans, Louisiana
Spring 2015



Ochsner Helicopter Drops In During Easter Extravaganza

Getting To Know The President

By Alane Templet

On March 2, 2015, I had the opportunity to sit down with Dr. David "Buck" Landry, President of Our Lady of Holy Cross College. We conducted an informal interview so you, the students, have an opportunity to know him a little bit better.

First, I asked Dr. Landry how he got the nickname "Buck" and he said, "From football. It was just a nickname from my coach. We had two Landrys playing next to each other (on the line), so rather than calling us Landry, he wanted to nickname us. So he nicknamed me after somebody he played football with. A guy named Bucky Moore. So he nicknamed me Buck."

When he played for Tulane University, his team was "in the Southeastern Conference" and considered that time "the olden days." His team went against LSU, but the team didn't win until after he left. After Dr. Landry graduated from Tulane, he earned a Master's degree from American University. Then he served three years in the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of Captain and received a Bronze Star. He later earned a PhD in International Affairs from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana.

When I asked Dr. Landry what his favorite restaurants are in the New Orleans area, he said they are Commander's, Galatoire's, Marcello's, Herbsaint, and Clancy's. In his spare time, he likes to play golf and work in his yard.

He commented that his favorite sports team is the Saints and his favorite book is *The Life of Marcus Tullius Cicero*. A famous quote from the book is, "The wise are instructed by reason, average minds by experience, the stupid by necessity, and the brute by instinct" and Dr. Landry says that "is the reason why you should have higher education."
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OLHCC Nursing Students Receive White Coats

By Courtney Howe

The Blessing of the Hands ceremony took place on February 23 for the sophomore nursing class.

This tradition has been held for many years, but this year was different. The celebration included the students receiving blessed White Lab Coats. All nursing faculty, the families of the sophomore nursing class, as well as other faculty members of the College attended. The annual event is special and marks the portion of nursing students' semester where they enter the hospital setting and begin clinical rotation with first-hand experience taking care of patients.

Dr. Landry began the ceremony with a wonderful welcome speech, followed by Dr. Patricia Prechter's words of wisdom about being a nurse and the different challenges the nursing students may experience. Sister Keri Burke, MSC and Dr. Michael Mary Gutowski anointed each student's hands with blessed oil and recited a prayer.

An overall blessing was bestowed upon the sophomore nursing students by their family and friends, as well as the instructors. This was an emotional moment, illustrating how fundamental spirituality is to the Holy Cross Nursing Department.

After the ceremony ended, king cake and beverages were served. The sophomores then gave their family members a tour of the school as well as the nursing lab where they had been training the past semester.



OLHCC Nursing students received their white lab coats as well as the Holy Oil Blessing before clinicals began. Pictured above is sophomore nursing student Sydney Lassere with Sr. Keri Burke in the Moreau Center during the ceremony.

Gayle Benson Addresses 2015 Graduates

One of the more prominent women in the New Orleans area is scheduled to address the OLHCC graduating class of 2015. Mrs. Benson has been serving on a number of philanthropic boards, including Tulane University and the Catholic Foundation. She has been a key fundraiser for Ochsner



Cancer Center and the New Orleans Museum of Art, helping them raise millions in addition to the money the Bensons donated. Photo by <http://www.auduboninstitute.org/>

Close Calls for the OLHCC Hurricanes

By Ruben Balli III

The Holy Cross Hurricanes were in the hunt for a championship trophy in another exciting season of softball.

The season started off great with the Hurricanes winning their opening game 11-10. The game started off with the opposing team scoring four runs right off the bat. With that, the Hurricanes responded with four runs of their own, and the game continued at this pace until the final inning where the Hurricanes tied the game 10-10.

Just when it was all over and the game would end in a tie, the umpire called for one more inning. In the final inning, the Hurricanes on defense made quick work of the opposing team. Now it was the Hurricanes turn at bat. The first batter was Matt Picard who hit a nice line drive just over the short stop, getting him to first base. Mary Khouri was next up at bat. She also hit a beautiful ball in-between first and second base, helping her to reach first base and Matt second.

Now it was all up to Melissa Victoriano. The first pitch was a ball leaving her with a 1-2 count. The second pitch was a strike leaving her 2-2, meaning she had to either hit or get another ball. It was the pitch she was waiting for. The contact was perfect and sent the ball flying down the first base line. This led to Matt making it home and Melissa getting an RBI, making her the MVP game winner. Although their first game was a rough one, this wouldn't be the only close call game that the Hurricanes would have.

The second game yet again was a nail biter. The game started off well for the Hurricanes leading the game 3-0. Around the fourth inning, the tide started to turn in the other team's favor. By the seventh inning the score was tied, but things didn't go as planned. With one person out and another on base, they could do a double play and end the game. Sadly, the batter hit a home run winning the game for the opposing team 7-5. This brought the Hurricanes to a 1-1 season. In week three, the Hurricanes suffered another close game defeat losing by one run in extra innings. With two outs and two strikes, the batter hit a home run winning the game 9-8.

Week four was one that no one expected to happen. In a rematch between the team from week two, the Hurricanes were ready to show their skills and come out on top. Surprisingly, the opposing team did not show up, causing the Hurricanes to win by default leaving their record 2-2.



OLHCC HURRICANE SOFTBALL PLAYERS: L TO R Back Row: Ruben Balli III, Mary Khouri, Chris Mace, Brandon Romero, Tyrone Mathieu, Mark Guillory, Kyler Boutte. L to R Front Row: Matt Picard, Mallory Ottaway, Melissa Victoriano, Courtney Durham, Nicholas Balli, Jordan Brady.

OLHCC Remembers a Great Librarian

By Allison Houston

He was the smiling kind face that would greet you as you walked into the library. He was the man that could help find you books at our school for any research. For those that knew him well, he was the sweet man that would share his wife's delicious cooking. He was Mr. Ramesh Parikh.

Parikh peacefully passed away at the age of 75 on March 17, 2015 surrounded by his family and close friends. This came as a shock to many of the students, faculty, and staff of OLHCC. Not many knew of his declining health and battle with cancer. Mr. Parikh's personality and attitude never ceased to be anything less than friendly and kind.



Mr. Parikh served the Our Lady of Holy Cross College for over 30 years.

In recognition for his great service, the school awarded him a maroon blanket. He valued the blanket so much that it was his wish to be cremated with it. His deep love for our school and the library also shines through with another final wish Mr. Parikh and his family respectfully requested. The family requests donations be made to The Friends of the Library fund at Our Lady of Holy Cross College in lieu of flowers.

His legacy at our school will continue with the Multicultural Fair, and a plaque with his name will be displayed in the library. He will always be remembered as the friendly, kind, and loving librarian that we were blessed to know.



The historic Holy Angels Academy, home of the Marianite nuns for 165 years, is being sold.

Photo by Frank J. Methe, Clarion Herald

Dr. Landry interview, continued

The OLHCC President is definitely a world traveler. He has been to Rome; Paris; Barcelona; London; Prague; Athens; Marseilles; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Santiago, Chile; Bei Jing, China; Shanghai; and Saigon. He hopes to visit Istanbul one day.

Dr. Landry served as an executive for Raymond-James, a prestigious financial management company. While there, he helped facilitate financing for the Superdome renovations, construction of Zephyr Field and the Alario Center, and other major projects in the metro area.

President Landry is excited about the possibility of increasing enrollment by about 100 students this coming Fall semester. He noted that our Food Science program has been approved, and remarked, "We're making some progress, academically." Dr. Landry boasted that for Fall 2015, OLHCC has "the highest number of qualified applicants in the Nursing school" and "the highest number of Freshmen applicants."

In the Fall, Dr. Landry will teach a class here at OLHCC: Intro to Politics and Current Topics in the Department of History & Social Sciences.

The president is also planning more activities for students. He wants to start intermural games between OLHCC and Delgado "in the areas of softball and volleyball." Plus, he is very busy planning a celebration for OLHCC's Centennial, which is in 2016.

Dr. Landry was recently elected President at the 76th Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities for 2015-2016. He is married to Yvonne Daigre Landry, and they recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dr. Landry welcomes students to regularly communicate with him. He would love to hear from you! Do not hesitate to stop in and say hello.

Holy Cross Serves Up A Fun Afternoon



By Alane Templet

On March 28, OLHCC Student Life hosted its annual crawfish boil extravaganza. It's always a fun event, but this year was bigger and better than ever before.

There were many activities for everyone to enjoy. Organizations provided entertainment to keep everyone busy. If you needed your vehicle washed, students were on hand to take care of that so you could enjoy your day. The band and DJ had everyone dancing. In addition, many vendors were available with items to purchase. This was just a fraction of the events that occurred that day. You couldn't sit still for long because there were so many things to do!

This year, OLHCC incorporated health into the Crawfish Extravaganza. Nursing students held health expos about various issues affecting people today, such as diabetes and breast cancer, to name a few. The Blood Center was on hand for donors. Other health organizations, such as the YMCA and Susan G. Komen, were on hand to answer any health-related questions.

To top off the day, the Ochsner Flight Care Helicopter made an appearance. Everyone had the opportunity to walk into the helicopter and take pictures. The event was such a success that over 3,000 pounds of crawfish were sold out before the end of the afternoon. We couldn't have asked for more beautiful weather or a better way to unwind during the semester!



Former OLHCC President Honored

By Courtney Howe

An honorary dinner was held for OLHCC's former President, Rev. Thomas E. Chambers, CSC, PhD on Thursday, March 26 at the Metairie Country Club.



There was a great turn out. Many family members and friends of the former president attended the dinner, as well as faculty members from the College. Rev. Thomas E. Chambers was President of Holy Cross College from 1987-2003, and he made immeasurable contributions to the college and community with his immense compassion and grace.

It was appropriate to honor Father Chambers for his many contributions to the College, as well to show our appreciation and gratitude. OLHCC President Dr. Landry stated, "Father Chambers devoted so much to Holy Cross College that it is only right to show him the same devotion."

Father Chambers continues to impact the community with his wisdom and kindness, which shapes OLHCC for the better.

Biology Student Excels In Competition

By Allison Houston and Alane Templet

OLHCC senior biology student Aujenee Johnson won first place in the Research Chefs Association research poster competition. Under the guidance of Dr. Holliday, Johnson researched "the impact of baking time and temperature on nutrient content and sensory quality of sweet potatoes." Students and faculty participated in the study, "scoring for flavor, sweetness, tenderness, and overall liking."



Aujenee's research yielded positive results—she earned higher marks as a student than professional members who participated in the competition. In addition, her research is being published in the *Journal of Culinary Science and Technology*.

Aujenee co-founded the American Medical Student Association in Spring 2013 and is the current President. She is a member of Tri-Beta and also a member of the Mission Integration Committee. She has been an active volunteer at Children's Hospital in New Orleans for the past three years. She also handcrafts organic body scrubs, infused body oils, and soaps for her business called Body by Aurum, LLC.

SGA Creates Ruckus In Student Lounge

By Alane Templet

You may have noticed the Student Lounge has gotten a little bit noisier this semester. We can thank the OLHCC Student Government Association for that.

On March 17, the SGA donated several games for everyone to enjoy, such as Mancala, UNO, and Checkers just to name a few. However, the most noticeable addition to the Lounge is



the homemade Jenga blocks. We all know how the game is played: each player takes a turn removing a block and adding that block to the top of the tower. This continues until a player makes the tower fall. Whoever does this loses, and everyone yells “JENGA!”



Courtney Howe and Michaela Hartline play Jenga

SGA presents games donated to Student Lounge. Pictured L to R (back row): Raegan Rivere, Alane Templet, Paige Turner, Alia Elqasem, La’Jarion Hart, Mallory Ottaway; (front row): Allison Houston and Amanda Bell.

The board and card games are located on the bookshelf in the lounge by the vending machines. So next time you’re sitting in the student lounge with friends, grab a game and get competitive! You can make some friends and build your gaming skills!



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Student Creativity on Display

Artwork from Mrs. Carol Scott’s class is showcased in the President’s Hallway. Upper left: Stephanie Becnel; Upper Right: Mary Ann Norton; Lower left: Kellie Voisin; Lower right: Lana Kim.