Spurs offer students $5 chance at games

The San Antonio Spurs Caravan stopped at the University of the Incarnate Word Wednesday, Aug. 28, sharing news with students on how they can catch home games for $5.

The Spurs Experience RV, owned by HEB — parked in front of Marian Hall Student Center only 30 minutes — from 1:30 to 2 p.m. — in that time Coyote clowned around and took numerous photographs with students, staff and faculty.

Meanwhile, two Silver Dancers and other marketing team members hung out with students, spreading the word about the SpursU discount program that allows any student with a college ID to purchase tickets for $5.

"Student discounts exist all season for all college students," said Torrio Lavelle, a marketing associate for the Spurs. Students need to tap Twitter to stay up on SpursU ticket opportunities, he added. In order to claim the ticket, a student must show up two hours prior to tipoff at the AT&T box office with the college ID in hand. This offer is valid the entire season, but only while tickets last. The $5 seats are located in the H-E-B Fan Zone. However, discounted lower-level seating is also available.

While on campus, the Spurs team handed out Spurs logo, wristbands and T-shirts. Coyote spent his time mostly in front of Marian Hall and some time inside. When he wasn't posing, he was riding golf carts, hitching a ride on a maintenance vehicle and even rode a student's bike.

Silver Dancer Natalie Dias, a student at Northeast Lakeview College, said she understands how coping with college expenses can make it tough to consider buying Spurs tickets.

"As a student myself, I want the word to get out about the SpursU Program," Dias said. "Paying for tuition and books is hard enough. It is good to have a break and see a game."

Football plans see more fans

New football uniforms, reportedly "bigger and faster" players, a Super Bowl ring-wearing coach, a Heisman Trophy winner as an assistant and going Division I will likely boost attendance, officials said.

"All of our coaches are great, the attention that we have gotten from hiring (Coach) Larry Kenman and (assistant coach) Ricky Williams has been great, too, and when I say attention, I mean the press," said Rick Smith, external business and athletic coordinator for the Athletic Department.

"The national recognition that we once had," Smith said, "was 'The University of What, in Where?' That's changing very quickly now to 'the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio.'"

Smith, who has been busy with branding the university, said this year's recruiting class is the best UIW's ever had and the atmosphere has evolved into a more family-friendly time for everyone. We are by far one of the most affordable entertainment venues in the entire city. And we pride ourselves to have a positive fan experience and that's what we're looking for this year. So we have amped up the tailgating.

We're almost sold out. We have more season tickets sold than in years past.

"We look forward to a family-friendly time for everyone. We are by far one of the most affordable entertainment venues in the entire city. And we pride ourselves to have a positive fan experience and that's what we're looking for this year. So we have amped up the tailgating. We're almost sold out. We have more season tickets sold than in years past.

"We are by far one of the most affordable entertainment venues in the entire city. And we pride ourselves on that so we want everyone to come out and have a good time."

Improving writing tops UIW's reaccreditation

Improving students' writing skills is the focus of the University of the Incarnate Word's Quality Enhancement Program required by 2014 for reaccreditation, officials said.

This is UIW's second opportunity to go through the QEP process for reaccreditation, with the first, five-year plan resulting in the First Year Engagement program.

The university's reaccreditation program, which is like a big research paper," said Dr. Glenn James, associate provost and director of assessment.

"That team will work the fall and spring to complete the document, which is like a big research paper," James said. "We have to have all the details down. I think that we (could) end up around 30 to 40 pages, but we can go up to 100 if we need to."

Most of the legwork done by the Topic Selection Committee was headed by the Office of the Provost and Senior Instructor Earl Harmeson, who teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in quantitative analysis in the HEB School of Business and Administration.

The committee consisted of students, facility, and staff who collected topic ideas from the larger UIW community until March 8. The ideas were about what academic topic they wanted to see improved or changed at UIW.

"Writing, civic engagement, and international experiences were the three topics that came to the surface," said Harmeson, the committee chair. The committee then consulted with the Office of the Provost to select the final topic over the summer that was announced in August at the University Planning Committee retreat for administrators and faculty.
Syria tells U.S. not to intervene

"I think it is absolutely wonderful that this is the topic for the QEP," said Gonzaba, who works as a college and career technician at William J. Brennan High School. "There is lots of national research to show that if you can help a student write better, grades improve, they learn better, and they progress more efficiently through their courses which means they can graduate on time or sooner," James said. "What’s really cool though is that employers say that they want students who can write well. So we’re really excited about that." Gonzaba said she’s excited to see the impact.

"I am very impressed with the students and the way that UIW is addressing this problem," Elena Todi, director of the Texas News smells, said. "This is a great opportunity to help students who may be struggling with writing."
Symbols link academics at Mass of the Holy Spirit

By Rita Spurgeon
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Symbolism marked the traditional Mass of the Holy Spirit for the beginning of a new academic year Wednesday, Aug. 28, in Our Lady’s Chapel.

Mass started with the procession of symbols for departments around the university. Dr. Philip Gibson started the procession with finance student Carl Aponte, carrying a globe, which represents the school’s emphasis on social justice.

Dr. Gerald Mulvey represented the Department of Meteorology with a sling psychrometer.

Rosalinda Villarreal represented John and Rita Feik School of Pharmacy carrying a mortar and pestle.

Linda Munoz-Martinez and Tammy Sweeney representing the Extended Academic Programs, carried an iPad and laptop to show their connections with the world beyond the campus.

Following was Irene Garcia and another representative for the Computer Information System, an academic program in the School of Media and Design, bringing forth a broadband firewall router. From the School of Math, Science and Engineering entered an assistant professor of mathematics, Dr. Theresa Martines, carrying in the Cartesian Coordinate System. James Borders, who teaches sculpture, represented the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, bringing in a ceramic vessel.

Lorena Paul, a nursing instructor, and Meagan Lumbar, a student in nuclear medicine technology, brought in the symbol of human hands, for the discipline within the school.

Dr. Yutaka Maki, a professor at Rosenberg School of Optometry, brought in a model of the human eye to represent the optometry program’s dedication.

Representing the Dreeben School of Education was Lori Price, carrying in a sculpture of a circle of friends, to symbolize the spark of learning passed.

The choir was made of volunteers from the University’s Choral and Laudate Choir led by Lena Gokelnick with cantors Corina Villarreal, Elise Pardue and Carmen Arenas.

The Rev. Dr. Tom Dymowski, campus chaplain, gave the homily with a warm message and welcoming message to all faculty and students. He stressed the pride and integrity that students should carry each and every day, using knowledge and relationships with God to be examples in their lives, homes, parishes and community.
Students make keepsakes with dog-tag opportunity

By Valerie Bustamante
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Several University of the Incarnate Word students lined up Aug. 20 in Marian Hall Student Center to take photographs. But the photos were just the first step in the process for their ultimate goal – making a dog tag they could keep.

Dog-tag making has been offered the last three years, said Paul Ayala, director of university events and student programs.

"The dog tag making is a part of 'Welcome Work,' a week in which it's an opportunity to welcome students to UIW and provide them with some university paraphernalia," Ayala said. "It's also a unique display of 'Cardinal Pride.'"

Welcome Work is held the first week of the academic school year in order to help welcome incoming freshmen, transfer students and returning students.

Some students choose to be seen alone on their dog tags. Some took pictures with a former roommate such as Karissa Rangel, a communication arts major, and Marissa Carreon, a biology major.

"Well my friend and I aren't roommates anymore, but we are still best friends so this dog tag (showing Karissa and Marissa) represents a symbol of our matured friendship," Rangel said.

But even those who just met took some photos together.

"We actually just met," Genesis Faz said of the person who's on a dog tag with her. "They're pretty many."
Pharmacy students help homeless

By Rachel Bowes
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Headed by Dr. Vanessa Phillips, the fourth-year students of John and Rita Feik School of Pharmacy are doing mission work at the Haven for Hope campus to help homeless people. The haven near downtown San Antonio is a homeless transformation campus and according to its website, it is the largest in the nation.

“Our mission at Haven is to assist the members of Haven for Hope by improving education, patient adherence, education to prevent or minimize drug-related problems,” said Phillips, 31, an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the University of the Incarnate Word. She runs the pharmacy school’s Haven for Hope program.

The program fulfills the “ambulatory care” notation requirement for Feik’s fourth-year students. Every six weeks, three or four students are chosen for the program, where they will spend the next six weeks building one-on-one with members of Haven for Hope under Phillips’ supervision.

“To me, I think there are patients that really need help,” says fourth-year student Tram Ngo. Phillips’ pharmacy programs work to educate Haven’s clients on the proper use of their medications and why it is important that they follow the directions on them. They also offer pill organizers and lock boxes for use by members so they do not have to worry about forgetting their medications or having them stolen.

“Individuals were abusing and misusing their medications or using drugs to trade for other items,” says Phillips. Some residents did not have access to medications which they had been prescribed.

The program is also able to conduct “true health screenings,” such as blood pressure and cholesterol, total diabetes and HgA1c (for diabetics), Phillips said. This is an important aspect of the program, because many members suffer from high blood pressure and cholesterol as well as diabetes, and few have resources to keep track of their health status.

Phillips recounted one Haven resident who had a “history of stroke. His blood pressure was really high [and] it was only getting higher.” The individual complained he was not feeling well and had a “history of stroke. His blood pressure was really high [and] it was only getting higher.” The individual complained he was not feeling well and he had been discharged from the hospital but was not feeling any better. She encouraged him to visit his primary care physician and he individual sought help at a different hospital.

There, he was diagnosed with a pulmonary embolism. There was a blood clot in his lung and his medications needed to be adjusted to resolve the problem. Thanks to Phillips and her students, this individual was able to seek treatment and have his problem diagnosed before it was too late.

“They’re actually relying on us,” Phillips said. “Seeing them succeed has been very rewarding.”

The students in the program have the opportunity to work directly with patients in both individual appointments and bi-weekly health screenings. Phillips says on health screenings days, the students may see anywhere from 30-70 members.

The most challenging part of the program for Ngo is “learning how to work comfortably with the members she treats. "How you question them is very important," she says.

Many of the members suffer from psychiatric health problems and the students are in charge of gathering a full medical background from each patient as well as educating them on their medication needs. As Ngo puts it, the process is ‘sensitive.

Once a year, the program holds a fair at Haven for Hope with help from the Nursing School, and in the fall, the program plans to invite the other UIW medical schools as well. This is an opportunity for both graduate and undergraduate students in the field of medicine to get involved with the program at Haven for Hope.

“It’s an eye-opening experience,” says Phillips. “Everybody’s the same. Anybody could end up using these services.”

Volunteers prepare for Sept. 20 ‘Meet the Mission’

By Casey Ryan
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

At 8 a.m. Friday, Sept. 20, students, faculty and staff volunteers will meet in Marian Hall Ballroom to take part in this year’s “Meet the Mission” adventure.

The coordinators for this community service project — Dr. Chris Edelman, an assistant professor of philosophy, and Dr. Michael Fry, an assistant professor of engineering, hope to have more than 200 volunteers representing the University of the Incarnate Word.

It’s hoped many of the students will be freshmen who just started earning some of those in the program will be able to see what it takes to walk in the shoes of someone who is less fortunate than themselves, officials said.

This volunteer experience will help students, faculty and staff volunteers become more concerned, enlightened citizens and help them learn how they can help those in need as well as acquire other attributes like patience and appreciation, planners hope.

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Besides helping the agencies in San Antonio improve the community and others’ lives, volunteers also will be given the chance to explore the city and foster new friendships with fellow volunteers.

When the volunteers return by 1 p.m. there will be an opportunity to reflect.

“I think it’s just kind of fun,” said Edelman. “It can be an adventure, but one people can learn from and enjoy.”

FYI

University of the Incarnate Word students in other disciplines can also be involved at Haven for Hope by making donations or volunteering. For more information, visit http://www.havenofhope.org/news/
Find a job, get married, buy a little house in the suburbs, and live the American dream. Janice and Steve, main characters in the novel ‘Little Children’ by G leng, live this way. But just because their lives appear normal, more, than they actually are. Miley Cyrus twerk during the 2013 VMAs. Are you really? Would I rewatch ‘Dance Moms’? Absolutely. I don’t really hate the exploitative nature of these types of shows. One reason may be that you want to escape; we all want to escape. Can we escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean we all want to escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean we all want to escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean we all want to escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean we all want to escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean we all want to escape into ‘La La Land’. I mean.
Two years ago one of my dogs was banned from campus—although I hadn’t realized it until recently. Readers who have met them will certainly assume my fondness (pictured here in a photo that ran in The Logos in 2008) includes prohibitions of “pit bulls” barking at passersby. But it’s my “golden senior pal, puppy.” Hooch, who was banned, not for any bad behavior, but because of the way he looks.

The animals-on-campus policy, effective Jan. 1, 2011, bans “pit bulls,” Rottweilers, and their hybrids, as well as “dogs with a history of aggressive behavior.” Hooch is a pit bull. As such, he cannot be banned strictly for his looks, because the city and the Texas Health and Safety Code allows counties and municipalities to “place additional requirements or restrictions on dangerous dogs if the requirements or restrictions are not specific to one breed or several breeds.”

Thirty-eight states do not have such a prohibition. As a result, in the past decade nearly 10,000 dogs who have never exhibited aggressive behavior have been forcibly removed from their homes and killed by authorities, and that had cost as many as 25 breeds each. Aug. 21, 2013, President Obama issued an official statement on this matter: “We don’t support breed-specific legislation. Research shows bans on certain types of dogs are largely ineffective and a waste of public resources. In 2000, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention looked at 20 years of data on dog bites and human fatalities. They found fatal attacks represent a very small proportion of dog-bite injuries, as service dogs, HSPBR also rehabilitates abused pit bulls to perform tasks and serves as therapy dogs for military veterans experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder, as well as service dogs for those with disabilities. Possibly the best-known pit bull of all time was the pit of Helen Keller, who wrote: “His boundless good nature, his readiness to be friends with everybody, and his mighty-provoking actions won the hearts of all who were wise in the ways of bull terriers.” Today, Helen Keller’s dog would be banned from our campus.

People with disabilities who use service animals cannot be isolated from other patrons, treated less favorably than other patrons, or charged fees that are not charged to other patrons. The university’s on-campus animal policy forbids on-campus animals from entering residence halls, administrative buildings, academic buildings, and athletic facilities. The policy also prevents on-campus animals from being allowed to use the facilities of the university.

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A LOOK AT THE FUTURE

Construction on the Genevieve Tarleton Dougherty Fine Arts Building will take an estimated 18 months to complete -- causing parking hassles in the process. But the future looks bright for state-of-the-art facilities that can be seen in these architectural drawings of the exterior and interiors for the major project.

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Lady Cardinals roll over Prairie View in season opener at Benson Stadium

It was a hot start on a hot Sunday afternoon, Aug. 25, for the Lady Cardinals as they kicked off the season with a 3-1 win over Prairie View A&M.

The home team Lady Cardinals (1-0) came onto the field in white Adidas uniforms with black numbers and red sleeves that had a black stripe on both sides of the jersey and white shorts that had the same black stripe. The visiting Lady Panthers (0-2-0) came out in their gold uniforms with purple numbers and a purple collar, and gold shorts that had a purple stripe and their number.

The Cardinals started off with an obvious dominance as they immediately went into position most of the first half and had attempted 11 goals to Prairie View’s two. Despite all the action on UIW’s end of the field, the game remained scoreless until the 12th second when UIW senior midfielder Celine Batters scored from a header after she deflected a kick by a Cardinal defender, making the game 1-0. The match felt suddenly closer as Prairie View was one goal away from tying.

UIW would get another score after Lady Panther midfielder Sierra Golding accidentally kicked the ball into her own goal. UIW led 3-1 with about 30 minutes left to play. The Cardinals kept the ball on their side of the field, maintaining possession and their lead for the rest of the game. Flores and Miller led the team with six shots apiece, and goalkeeper Heather Kowalik, a sophomore psychology major from Boerne, recorded two saves.

Lady Cardinals roll over Prairie View in season opener at Benson Stadium

Benefactor, baseballer bound for UIW Athletic Hall of Fame

Longtime benefactor Tom Benson, who jump-started the University of the Incarnate Word’s football program, and baseballer Matt Seale are the Class of 2013 for UIW’s Athletic Hall of Fame.

The induction of Benson and Seale will come at halftime of the Cardinals’ Sept. 28 home football game. Their elections by the UIW Hall of Fame selection committee brings to 20 the number of athletes, coaches and administrators named since 2005 when the hall was initiated.

Benson, a longtime supporter of Incarnate Word athletics and education in whole, and his wife Gayle, were among the moving influences behind the initiation of the UIW football program. Ground was broken in April 2007 for Guyton and Benson Stadium, and field house, on campus. The football Cardinals played their first game at Benson Stadium in August of 2009 and this fall will mark the fifth season of action for UIW.

In addition to the financial investment in Cardinals athletics, the Benson family endowed the Tom Benson Chair of Banking and Finance at UIW back in 1985.

That same year Benson became principal owner of the National Football League’s New Orleans Saints and in 2010 the club won its first world championship at Super Bowl XLIV. The Saints have established such a winning tradition that since 2006 the New Orleans Mercedes-Benz Superdome has been sold out with a season ticket waiting list of more than 75,000 fans.

Additionally the Benson family now owns the New Orleans Pelicans of the National Basketball Association, a purchase made in June 2012.

The Benson family’s dedication to Greater New Orleans and to the Gulf South region is legendary particularly since 2005 when the area suffered through Hurricane Katrina. Since that time the Saints organization annually has infused more than $15 million into the region in the form of charitable contributions. Because of his efforts here Benson received the Volunteers of America Good Samaritan Award in Philadelphia.

Benson’s memberships in halls of fame are impressive. In addition to the UIW Athletic Hall of Fame, previously he has been inducted into the Saints Hall of Fame (2012), Greater New Orleans chapter of the Achievement Business Hall of Fame (2013), San Antonio Business Hall of Fame (2011), and Texas Business Hall of Fame (2007).

In addition to his support of Incarnate Word, Benson is an ardent backer of his own alma mater, Loyola University in New Orleans, as well as San Antonio’s Central Catholic High School, New Orleans Brother Martin High School, and Tulane University.

In 2012 the Bensons received the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice Award from Pope Benedict XVI. That same year he was awarded an Oblate Doctor of Human Letters by the Catholic Church.

Seale, the former baseballer, completed his four years of baseball action at Incarnate Word in the spring of 2006. Between then and his selection for the UIW Athletic Hall of Fame in 2013, seven seasons elapsed since the Cardinals and he continued to hold eight school records. He was second in two more and third in another two categories.

It was no one player at UIW who surpassed his games played (221) in his career, or the 59 games he played in the single season of 2006. Also he is the UIW leader for career at-bats (857), assists in a single game (7, twice), career doubles (56) and doubles in a single game (3).

In 2005 he was voted All-America by the National College Baseball Writers Association after being named All-South Central Region by that same group of voters.

That spring he was the Heartland Conference Player of the Year.

Seale was successful in the classroom also. Two years, 2005 and 2006, he was on the Heartland Conference Commissioner’s Honor Roll. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from UIW in 2007.

A native of the Austin area, Seale is back in that city working as a senior personal banker with Frost Bank. He manages portfolios for more than 150 clients and he was named top sales performer for both 2010 and 2011.

His love of baseball has not receded since his days at Incarnate Word. In Austin he is active in the Austin Senior Baseball League and he has been a volunteer for the construction of baseball diamonds in the area.
Coach: Cross country ready to run in DI

Dr. Derek Riedel said he feels confident about the forthcoming season's success. At 6:30 in the morning, the men and women’s cross-country teams commence their extensive training comprised of long runs, hill workouts, and tempo runs. On a typical week, the men’s team runs 70-75 miles, while the women’s team runs 45-50 miles.

With this amount of high mileage, these athletes must take preventative measures to avoid crippling injuries such as stress fractures, compartment syndrome, tendinitis, and shin splints. Thus, Riedel has begun taking extra precaution to ensure the health of his athletes. Through yoga and foam rolling, strength and abdominal training, and grass and barefoot running, Riedel plans to preserve the health of his athletes for their upcoming competition and hopes these preventative measures will be sufficient to avoid injuries that plague many high-mileage and high-intensity programs.

For the teams’ first meet Aug. 31, Riedel said he plans on both teams winning collectively and individually. At their time trial, the team ran extremely well, Riedel said. His key runners—Alejandro Hernandez, Marcos Munoz, Rainey Costamala and Irina Garza—appeared especially strong.

Being in the tough Lone Star Conference equipped his athletes for the move up to DI, Riedel said.

“I have faith that we can do well right away in the Southland Conference,” he said. Riedel said he is especially confident about his women’s team excelling, not only because his key women’s runners, Irina Garza and Emma Jewell, were national qualifiers, but also because the team seems especially motivated and excited about the new challenge of competing in DI.

As a DI coach, Riedel, who is now full time, said he has no trepidations about the forthcoming season because he feels his team has equipped themselves with good training and tough mentalities.

His future plans for the team consist of beginning more aggressive recruiting, especially for his depleted men’s team. Since his program has received extra scholarship money for DI, he said he is confident attracting successful athletes will be a much-easier task.

However, his present goal is completing a successful first season.

“We’re excited about the challenge of competing in the Southland Conference and rising to the challenge of being a strong DI program,” he said. “It will be an exciting season.”

Swimming, diving teams earn academic recognition

The University of the Incarnate Word men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams have received the Team Scholar All America Award presented by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America.

In addition, five women and seven men were honored with individual Scholar All America Awards.

The team award is presented to college and university swimming and diving teams who achieved a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher, and men’s teams must have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, for the semester or cumulative average, and have achieved a “B” time standard.

The individual awards went to student-athletes who have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, for the semester or cumulative average, and have achieved a “B” time standard.

The team award is presented to college and university swimming and diving teams who have achieved the Team Scholar All America Award presented by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America.

The men’s team had seven total Scholar All Americans including sophomore Alex Bouwer of Scottsdale, Ariz.; senior Conrado Chede of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; senior Thiago Pontevesco of Rio de Janeiro; junior Andre Nikholski of Ukraine; junior Aaron Norton of Teller, Texas; freshman Alex Ramirez of Spring, Texas; and senior Mark Rubin of Phoenix, Ariz. Rubin had the team high of 3.89 GPA, followed by Parameswaran (3.88), Chede (3.87), Ramiro (3.82), Norton (3.74), Nikholski (3.70) and Bouwer (3.69).

Eight of the UIW swimmers earned CSCAA Honorable Mention Scholar All America honors with four from each team. Women included Emily Haddox of Cypress, Texas; Natalia Hernandez of Vancouver, British Columbia; Megan Murata of Schertz, Texas; and Stephanie Voht. Men included Ben Bouwer of Scottsdale, Ariz.; Patrick McCreary of San Antonio; Robbit Morris of San Antonio; and David Nanton of McAllen, Texas.

The Honorable Mention Scholar All America award is presented to college and university swimmers and divers, who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, for the semester or cumulative average, and have achieved a “B” time standard, but have not qualified to compete in their respective national championships.

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Ceramic, sculpture studio set for dedication Sept. 10

The Ruth Eilene Sullivan Ceramic and Sculpture Studios will be dedicated at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10, at the University of the Incarnate Word. The 7,000-square-foot facility is adjacent to the baseball and softball fields. Tours of the studios, which replace the old kilns in the Genevieve Tarleton Dougherty Fine Arts Center, will be conducted and refreshments will be served.

The project has been delayed almost a year but its addition to the campus has been welcomed by those who use the studios. "It is great to see this first phase of expansion and improvement on UIW Art Department facilities become a reality," said Associate Professor Miguel Cortinas, who chairs the Department of Art. "This will greatly serve the future growth of the program and growth of our students for years to come."

Don't Do This

An unidentified pair of University of the Incarnate Word students make an ill-advised trek on the pipe crossing the San Antonio River on Monday, Aug. 19. Campus police have placed warning signs on both ends of the pipe to deter daredevils from trying this walk. Although the river is dry, a fall to the rocky river channel could cause serious injury or death. And the river fills quickly during a cloudburst, often forcing police to place warning cones when floodwaters cross over the concrete bridge not far from the pipe.
SPECIAL EVENTS

August 2013

PHOTOS BY
BIANCA HATFIELD AND AMANDA MORENO

CARDINAL CRAWL AND CAMP
Fire eaters, dancers, food, fashions and just plain good times permeated the Sand Volleyball Court for the Campus Activities Board event.

PHOTOS BY
RITA SPURGEON
Review: ‘Mortal Instruments: City of Bones’ – no rattle, no roll

By Maggie Mury

LOGOS STAFF WRITER

“The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones” couldn’t seem to decide on which of its predecessors to parrot: “Lord of the Rings,” “Harry Potter” or the “Percy Jackson” series.

In order to maintain visual elements from the audience’s perspective, it takes on all three, and forms a cluster of what was its original narrative.

From the six-novel series by Cassandra Clare, “City of Bones” tells the story of Clary Fray (Lily Collins), a New Yorker entering the hellish phase of being a teenager. However, in Clary’s case, the demonic phase is her life. No matter where she turns, Clary finds herself surrounded by packs of warlocks, vampires, werewolves and demons. Think of “Buffy, the Vampire Slayer,” but in Clary’s case “it’s all of that is supernatural.

After an appropriately staged demon vs. angel fight involving Clary’s mother, Jocelyn (Lena Headey), Clary soon after learns she is a descendant of a long line of “Shadow hunters,” an underground society of angel/hybrid soldiers who protect the world from all demonic forces.

It doesn’t take long for Clary to team up with a group of human and angel hybrids that might as well have come out of the Hogwarts school: There’s best friend Simon (Robert Sheehan), the comedic side-kick Isabelle (Jennina Weir), the captivating humanwolf Alec (Kevin Zegers), Isabelle’s brother of a brother and Izaak (James Campbell Bower), the Shadow hunter love interest and “golden boy.” Upon their journey, they travel to the alternate New York called Downworld, which is the same New York but 10 times the smell. There, the evil Valentine (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) awaits them.

If “Bones” were to find a tempo, it would probably come from the scene of “Lord of the Rings,” involving its demon soldiers. The film maintains a brisk pace, bursting effects, and cinematography was a slickly shot film piece. However, director Harald Zwart’s effort in this film falls short of any legitimate to at the edge-of-your-seat tension.

Slightly over two hours, “Bones” will test the resolve of the audience to stay awake.

One positive in the film is the decision to put female characters in first-rate action scenes. However, “Bones” could not overcome mediocre writing. Although, do not let that discourage you from reading the books. “The Mortal Instruments” are a fit fantasy series — thrillers that tests the bounds of imagination. We are anxious to see what Cassandra Clare has to offer in the future.

By Christen Jones

LOGOS STAFF WRITER

Nearby theatre arts majors and minors auditioned for the full play, “Winners,” which opens 8 p.m. Sept. 27 in Elizabeth Hurd Coates Theatre, but only four got roles.

The roles for Joe and Mag, two high school kids that are in love, went to Eric Montoya and Sondra Alonso, respectively. Shaun Ross and Leo Gene Peters will serve as narrators.

In this play by Irish playwright Brian Friel, Joe and Mag are remembering about their times together with the help of the two narrators. The cover comes in and out of the play. They tell the audience about Joe and Mag’s families and backstory, and the audience gets to see them celebrate their experiences together.

The director of the play, Leo Gene Peters, is a 2012 graduate of UIW’s Department of Theatre Arts. He grew up in San Antonio and attended UIW after graduating from St. Anthony’s Catholic High School, which is part of the Brainpower Connection.

After graduating from UIW, Peters said he wanted to travel, leave the United States and keep studying, so he decided to set out to see what New Zealand was like. He got his master’s degree in directing at Victoria University in Wellington.

“I did that for a couple of years and just sort of fell in love with Wellington,” Peters said. He ended up staying in New Zealand for 11 years. He runs a theatre company called A Slightly Isolated Dog. Dr. Robert Ball, professor and department chair, suggested Peters should come back to UIW and direct a show.

“I thought it was a good idea,” Peters said. “I hadn’t read this play until they told me I was going to do it. It’s a good show and has a lot of funny stuff in it.”

Joe and Mag, “experience that real burning love that you only experience when you’re like 17,” Peters said. “It’s a momentary thing. When it happens, it is so hard and strong. Just an exciting and intense experience when you’re like 17.”

Dr. Robert Ball, professor and department chair, suggested Peters should come back to UIW and direct a show.

“I didn’t wanna give too much about it, but the play only takes place in a morning, on top of this hill where the two main characters are studying and dreaming about their lives together this year.

“Winners” was chosen a few years back for presentation this year.

“They have a committee of people who select the plays for the upcoming semesters,” Peters said. “Based off of curriculum, based off of choosing a variety of shows so that they aren’t doing the same things, and people aren’t watching the same things.”

“Winners” is not a frequently done play,” Peters said. “Back in Ireland it would have been probably, but not so much here. It’s a very universal kind of story though.”
Language, thinking and the information age (Part I)

I am reading “The Information,” a 2011 book by James Gleick. It is the kind of book I love to read, in which the author is able to find and share illuminating connections in existing knowledge (synapses) and to make meaningful comparisons about how we think and act, such as “Connections” by James Burke and “Outliers” by Malcolm Gladwell.

The value of the machine we call a computer is its ability to help us to control other machines in ways we cannot do on our own and to process data and information into meaningful knowledge and share this with others, much like those authors are able to do.

While computer technology is not yet at the stage where devices can help us to evaluate or synthesize information in the way that humans can, it will not be long before they can. IBM’s “Watson” supercomputer defeated the best human contestants in a “Jeopardy!” contest in 2011 (find out how it did it at www-03.ibm.com/innovation/watson/science-behind-watson.shtml).

Soon Watson will be able to assist professionals in medical, legal, financial, and other fields of practice in real time (within seconds) to make decisions in cases where vast amounts of information and variables are at play by deriving a set of the many possible options available and to evaluate which options are most likely to lead to the best solution. In practice this might mean better understanding a customer (or anyone else with whom one interacts), more accurately diagnosing a patient (with knowledge about every patient and procedure and trolls available), or making a point in court (by analyzing every known case and precedent ever).

Getting to the stage where computers can start to think like humans has taken thousands of years of change in the way we think. In beginning classes I ask my students to start thinking about the way in which they see the world, why are they here at a university, and why are they going to work for thousands of years of changes in the way we think. In beginning classes I ask my students to start thinking below the surface so they can start thinking about the technology they use that is as much a part of their lives as language or information.

James Gleick begins “The Information” by getting the reader to think about how the very concept of words and meaning and information originated. Gleick explains that in oral societies there is no need to explain what something is or means (everybody knows that) and that language is too transient to analyze. Logic, mathematics, government, commerce, and categorizing of things and thoughts requires words. As with all technologies, there were a lot of naysayers about the use of written language and what it would do to the mind and society. Early spelling was usually made up on the fly by letters sounds like spoken words and standardized spelling is relatively new. Writing the meaning of words was not important until people wrote with other people who were not part of their community and words and meanings had to be consistently changed.

The publishers of the Oxford English Dictionary knew when they printed the first edition that it had taken so long (decades) to create that some words were relatively new. Writing the meaning of words was not important until people wrote with other people who were not part of their community and words and meanings had to be consistently changed.

The NPR producer who formerly was president of the Student Government Association at the University of the Incarnate Word will speak at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 17, for Constituion Day.

Sam Sanders, now based in National Public Radio’s West Coast office, is a 2007 graduate of UIW, who double-majored in political science and music. He’s already been a cover story for The Word, a publication of UIW’s Office of Public Relations.

Sanders, who also holds a master’s degree from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Public Service, first began working with NPR as a John Kroc Fellow, a sort of internship. Later he was hired full time and worked in NPR’s Washington, D.C., office.

While at UIW, Sanders was a columnist for The Logos, frequently commenting on race and politics. An essay he wrote concerning voting and the rights of people who were once slaves, was widely distributed, and “Outlier” by Malcolm Gladwell.

As always I invite your feedback, dialogue, and differing opinions on this topic.

E-mail Youngblood, head of the Computer Information Systems (CIS) program at the University of the Incarnate Word, at youngbl@uiwtx.edu

NPR producer set to speak at UIW’s ‘Constitution Day’
“One’s destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things.” – Henry Miller

SAVE THE DATE
Study Abroad Fair
Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013
10 a.m.-1 p.m.
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Oh, Where are the places you’ll go?

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Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013
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• Meet the Study Abroad coordinator
• Hear from former study abroad students
• Meet parents of past participants

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Who can apply?
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How do I apply?
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