President’s Mardi Gras Ball
Annual President’s Mardi Gras Ball honors donors

On Feb. 15, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi hosted the annual President’s Mardi Gras Ball at the Art Museum of South Texas. The ball was held in honor of the various donors who made significant contributions to the Island University.

The program began with a reception in the upper art gallery, where guests were allowed to mingle and enjoy entertainment provided by the A&M-Corpus Christi Theatre Department. The reception was followed by a sit down dinner and presentation of awards to the honorees. This year’s list of honorees included: the Houston Endowment, Inc., the Coastal Conservation Association Texas, Ruth and Joseph Sheinberg, Dr. Flavius and Kathy Killebrew and many more deserving donors.

“Those who we recognize this evening have given generously to improve the lives of our students,” said Dr. Trent Hill, Director of Institutional Advancement at A&M-Corpus Christi, “and provide academic opportunities for generations to come.”

Each of the honorees was inducted to the Wall of Recognition. The Wall of Recognition is a tribute to those donors who have made contributions to the University. Recognition is divided into six levels including Legacy, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Heritage, based on the cumulative amounts of donation received at the end of each year.

Students urged to vote on health referendum

On March 4 and 5 the polls will be open. Students of Texas A&M-Corpus Christi will have the opportunity to vote on a referendum regarding an increase in the Student Health Fee that is built into each student’s tuition.

According to Myra Barrera, a student representative of the University Health Center, the proposed Health Referendum will increase the existing fee to a flat rate of $50.00 per fall/spring semester and a flat rate of $25.00 for summer sessions. The current fee charged to a student’s tuition is $7.70 per credit hour taken, with no more than $24.40 charged for an entire semester. The proposed fee of $50.00 would increase the health fee by $25.80.

Selfies with Student athletes
Dear Island University,

I have come to learn that life on the Island can be as different from moment to moment as the weather of Corpus Christi. One minute it is hot and humid and you have been looking for parking for 10 minutes, the next minute and you blow hot and you stumble upon a QuikTrip match outside Bay Hall. The mysteries of the Island University are endless.

Hopefully by now everyone has voted for their homecoming court and made plans to watch the Islanders dominate the court. Maybe this is the year Islanders take on the great thanks that everyone in the three, six, one feels the rumble of the crowd cheering on the home team. My sincerest apologies go out to the nominees running for homecoming court who were not named in our last issue. So here are the unnamed nominees for the 2014 homecoming court:

KING: Geordan Strain - Student Government Association  
QUEEN: Audrey Baldwin – Student Athletes Council  
DUCHESS: Ashley Alvaraz - Zeta Tau Alpha  
TREY SEAL: staff reporters

Those experiences lead us to not only treat, but to advocate for our patients with lung disease. As with many treatments, timing is critical. EPA needs to adopt these standards by the end of February to make sure we get all the benefits as soon as possible. If not, our patients and millions more remain exposed to yet another year of dangerous pollution. Remember, that can mean the loss of 2,500 early deaths each year, as the American Lung Association estimated in a report last year.

Sincerely,  
Alexis De Leon    
Editor-in-Chief  
Island Waves

Rx for Traffic Pollution: Cleaner Gasoline and Vehicles STAT

An opinion editorial by doctors Patricia Finn and Albert Rizzo on why the EPA and everyone should work together to promote new standards to clean up smog-causing gasoline

As pulmonary physicians, we see patients every day who struggle to breathe. Those experiences lead us to not only treat, but to advocate for our patients with long disease. We also speak up for the millions of infants, children, teenagers and seniors who face threats from the air they breathe.

That’s why we are so concerned about the health problems caused by air pollution – and why the organizations we represent, the American Thoracic Society and the American Thoracic Society, believe the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must move forward as quickly as possible with new standards to clean up smog-causing gasoline and motor vehicles.

Ground level ozone, or smog, that blankets much of the United States during the summer is a powerful respiratory irritant. When inhaled, ozone damages the lung tissue much like the summer sun, burns unprotected skin. Ozone air pollution poses health risks for all who are exposed, including infants, children, teenagers, adults and seniors, and it is particularly harmful to the nearly 26 million living with asthma, nearly 33 million with COPD and the millions with other lung diseases. Just as importantly, even healthy adults who work or play outdoors are at risk.

For those living near highways or other heavily used roads, the problem may be worse. Growing research reports much higher levels of pollution there. Many people who live near roadways have lower incomes, and often are at higher risk of having lung diseases.

Tragically, polluted air can shorten life. For hundreds of thousands of people, polluted air means coughing, wheezing, missed school and missed work, asthma attacks and heart attacks. Too many end up in the emergency room or the hospital. These are the patients that physicians like us see daily in the hospital and in our practices.

If we could simply write a prescription to clean up that pollution and help our patients, we’d give the White House and EPA one each that says: “Adopt Tier 3 STAT!” Tier 3 is the shortened name of new EPA standards to reduce the sulfur in gasoline and reduce emissions from new cars and SUVs. The White House is in the final stages of reviewing these standards.

Lower-sulfur gasoline would immediately make every car on the road run cleaner because sulfur poisons the performance of a car’s pollution control system. Less sulfur means less pollution, and by 2030, we’d have up to 15,000 fewer asthma attacks, more than 3 million fewer missed school and work days, and 2,500 fewer early deaths each year, as the American Lung Association estimated in a report last year.

Unlike the cost of taking a child to the ER, the cost to protect their health is pretty low. EPA says that the cleaner gasoline would cost less than one penny more per gallon. As with many treatments, timing is critical. EPA needs to adopt these standards by the end of February to make sure we get all the benefits as soon as possible. If not, our patients and millions more remain exposed to yet another year of dangerous pollution. Remember, that can mean the loss of 2,500 lives.

For the sake of our patients and all those who live where the air threatens their health, we urge President Obama to direct EPA to adopt final standards by the end of this month so that we have cleaner, healthier air to breathe.

Patricia W. Finn, MD  
President, American Thoracic Society  
Albert A. Rizzo, MD, FCCP, FACP  
Immediate Past Chair of the National Board of Directors, American Lung Association
Health Referendum

The need for a referendum came about with the realization that the UHC does not have the staff or resources to aid the current demands of the student body. "The University Health Center isn't generating enough funds from our students," said Barrera. "With the increase in student population, the expenses are increasing, but the services are remaining the same."

With the continuing expansion of A&M-Corpus Christi, the UHC has accrued additional expenses. These expenses range from facility maintenance, utilities, supplies and staffing costs. Furthermore, these expenses, mixed with the increase of students, have caused the UHC to begin turning away students.

"I have to go to the UHC regularly for my medication," said Barrera. "I've been turned away many times when I was sick and I've personally had to go to other [clinics]. I can't tell you how expensive it is to get sick, and all you really need are antibiotics; but, they [the UHC] just can't because there is such a demand then there are slots for everyone."

Barrera reported that there are approximately six to ten students turned away daily. These students are turned away because there isn't any room for walk-ins, no time for an immediate appointment or even, sometimes, a lack of staff. If the UHC doesn't begin to receive more funds, which are propagated through student fees, then the UHC is left with the ultimatum of cutting services. A loss in services could lead to more students being turned away daily.

According to Barrera, the increased fees would go towards helping maintain the UHC and create some changes in services. The UHC would be able to increase provider time by adding more full time staff. This would allow for an increased volume of appointments scheduled.

Furthermore, the pharmacy would be open all day, rather than being operational solely in the afternoons. Next, there are plans to open a "triage" unit, an area that would allow for walk-ins allowing students who need quick evaluations to be seen immediately. The increased fees will help to make the Ask-A-Nurse hotline a 24 hour service available to students not only during the week days, but during nights and weekends as well. Finally, the UHC hopes to expand their outreach and educational programs.

The increased fees created by the UHC referendum are comparable to other university rates within the A&M System. According to figures collected and provided by the UHC, the health center fees for Texas A&M University are $72.50 per semester, while fees for Texas A&M-Kingsville are $57.00 per semester.
A researcher at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has discovered a new species of marine worms that is an important part of the marine ecosystem. The species is considered to be an important source of food to sport fish, such as flounder.

Michael Reuscher (pictured right), who received his Ph.D. in Marine Biology in December 2013 at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, recently discovered the new species of marine worm found in the shallow waters of the northern Chinese coast.

“We have only discovered a small fraction of all existing marine species,” said Reuscher, who works for the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI). “If we can get a comprehensive list of all the species out there, then we can better address meaningful questions on how they affect our ecosystems.”

Recent discoveries on existing marine species, said Reuscher, and his colleague, Dr. Jin Zhou from the East China Sea Fisheries Research Institute in Shanghai, have published their research in the latest issue of the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington.

While Reuscher was a Graduate Research Assistant at the HRI, he described nearly 20 new species of marine worms from Japan, Alaska, New Zealand, the South Pacific, and the Red Sea.

“I feel very honored to discover and describe new species,” said Reuscher. “Being the first person to see animals of a formerly unknown species is very exciting.”

A recipient of the Flavius and Kathy Killebrew Dean’s Annual Scholarship Fund, Reuscher says that the University has helped them to fulfill their dreams of obtaining a degree.

“The contributions made by each donor are reflected throughout the Island University. Contributions have aided a variety of areas including the expansion of the University, funding programs, and funding scholarships. For instance, Houston Endowment, Inc. contributed to the building of the Early Childhood and Development Center. The CEA funded scholarships, and donated funds to the Harte Research Institute Joseph Sheniberg, a former graduate of A&M-Corpus Christi, along with his wife, Ruth, also contribute to scholarship funds. President & First Lady Killebrew have created the Dean’s Annual Scholarship Fund, and also the Flavus and Kathy Killebrew Scholarship Fund. This is a small list of achievements compared to the extensive catalog of funds donated by all the donors with intent of aiding A&M-Corpus Christi.

“For the past three years, Reuscher has been a recipient of the Killebrew Scholarship Fund, and also the Flavus and Kathy Killebrew Scholarship Fund. This is a small list of achievements compared to the extensive catalog of funds donated by all the donors with intent of aiding A&M-Corpus Christi.

“Many of these gifts provide a lifetime support to the University, including endowed scholarships, which makes it possible for our top students to fulfill their dreams of obtaining a degree.”

Many of the donors are native Corpus Christi organizations. According to Philip Skrobarczyk, President and CEO of Fulton* Coastcon General Contractors, donating to A&M-Corpus Christi is a type of community outreach.

“I went to college there [A&M-Corpus Christi] when was still CCSU [Corpus Christi State University],” said Skrobarczyk, “When you think about all the contributions of the University to the economy, etc., and even to the students, you can’t help but want to be involved.”

Also in attendance for the evening were a few volunteer student organizations. One such organization was Student Foundation Association, an organization that raises scholarship funds through various programs promoting education and campus involvement.

“I think this ball shows how well [the University is ran],” said Carlos Hinojosa, a student volunteer with the SSA. “It shows how good of a program it gives to students.”

“The night closed with a raffle for a weekend trip to New Orleans. Entertainment was provided by live musicians as guests continued to mingle and say their goodbyes.

“We think it’s a great opportunity for the University and for our students,” said Dr. Patty Conard, Professor at the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. “We’re having a great time.”

The complete list of honorees for the 2014 President’s Mardi Gras Ball is listed to the right.

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A recipient of the Flavus and Kathy Killebrew Dean’s Annual Scholarship Fund, Reuscher says that the University has helped greatly with his research. He has traveled far and wide in search of unknown marine worm species. He has visited the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg, Russia, the zoological museums in Hamburg, Germany, and Vienna, Austria; and the National Museum of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C. to name a few.

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi Researchers Discovered New Species of Marine Worm Important to Ecosystem

PRESS RELEASE

A researcher at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has discovered a new species of marine worms that is an important part of the marine ecosystem. The species is considered to be an important source of food to sport fish, such as flounder.

Michael Reuscher (pictured right), who received his Ph.D. in Marine Biology in December 2013 at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, recently discovered the new species of marine worm found in the shallow waters of the northern Chinese coast.

“We have only discovered a small fraction of all existing marine species,” said Reuscher, who works for the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI). “If we can get a comprehensive list of all the species out there, then we can better address meaningful questions on how they affect our ecosystems.”

Marine worms, also known as polychaetes, are an important part of the ecosystem because they feed many species of sport fish and crabs. Shallow water species can grow up to five inches in length and congregate in large numbers. Reuscher says that we know very little about most marine species and how they interact with each other and the ecosystem they live in.

“I am fascinated by the appearance and biology of these little, alien creatures,” said Reuscher. “They come in so many shapes, sizes, and colors.”

Reuscher and his colleague, Dr. Jin Zhou from the East China Sea Fisheries Research Institute in Shanghai, have published their research in the latest issue of the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington.

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Platinum Circle:
Houston Endowment, Inc.

Gold Circle:
Coastal Conservation Association Texas
Dr. Miriam Wagenschein

Silver Circle:
LaVernie and Thomas Howell Foundation
Lori Jane Welhausen Management Trust

Bronze Circle:
Alder M. Cunningham Jr.
St. Flavus and Kathy Killebrew
Fulton* Coastcon General Contractors
Jesse Frances Neal Foundation

above: Janelle Romo, nursing student and battalion leader, samples the decadent desserts
Left: Romo votes for her favorite Mardi Gras mask created by various high school students around the Corpus Christi area
Jessica Mendez, the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi freshman from Corpus Christi, spent her high school years playing for the Moody Trojan. Today, Mendez bats for another team, the A&M-Corpus Christi Islanders.

"Corpus Christi is my hometown. I picked TAMUCC because it is a beautiful campus, and I am also close to home," Mendez said. "My family is my everything so I wanted to be close to them."

During high school, Mendez won several awards and lettered all four years while playing for the Trojan's varsity softball team. Additionally, Mendez and her team were named district champions for four straight years.

"What I miss from high school are the football games and getting to hang out with my friends. I'm having fun at college though, and I like meeting new people around campus and showing them my crazy side," the freshman said. "The biggest difference between high school and college is that you can't depend on anyone, you have to be your own motivation to get things done correctly and on time."

A jack-of-all-trades, Mendez currently serves as a utility player for the Island's softball team, meaning she can play several different positions. Due to a fractured hand though, Mendez is currently sitting out games, but says she is looking forward to getting her cast taken off.

"For now, my role is to support my team and cheer them on while I'm out," Mendez said. "But I can't wait until I'm able to play the sport I love the most, softball."

Mendez is currently majoring in kinesiology, and hopes to one day obtain a job as a softball coach for children.

"I chose this major because I love softball, and I have a lot to give to younger children that will soon want to achieve their own goals of playing softball," the kinesiology major said. "During her free time, Mendez enjoys hanging out in the University Center where she likes to meet people and grab a bite to eat."

"My favorite hangout spot on campus would have to be the University Center because I love to eat and I see new faces everyday," she said. "In fact, my favorite meal to eat is two Chick-fil-A sandwiches with a large fry and buffalo sauce."

"Last semester I procrastinated and did poorly on my assignments, so now I'm on top of things because I want to better myself," the kinesiology major said. "The way I balance school work and my softball schedule now is by doing parts and pieces everyday so I won't get so overwhelmed. You just have to be very disciplined and know how to manage your free time."

Mendez offers this piece of advice for future students, and encourages other freshmen to stay focused on school.

"Do not get sidetracked by things around you, and keep your head in the books because this is your future. Also, don't waste your time and money if you're not going to push yourself to success," Mendez said.
BUNNIES

by KATHLEEN RAMIREZ
features editor

It’s the bunny way or no way for my three boys. Recently, Jojo, who is normally a very well behaved bunny, has taken to chewing my stuff. I thought this was a habit he had outgrown seeing as how he hasn’t chewed anything since he was a b aby, but apparently I was wrong. Lately, Jojo has chewed through various wires and rubber items, including, but not limited to, one iPhone charger, two laptop chargers, one Nintendo 64 cord and a TV remote. He has also recently tried scratching and pulling at the carpet in my living room, but that quickly ended after being placed in timeout for a few hours.

For the most part, I’ve been able to stop him before he did too much damage. He did however manage to completely destroy my iPhone charger beyond repair, but that was my fault for not giving his royal self the attention he felt he so rightly deserved. Apparently, ignoring your bunny for homework is not a good enough excuse in their eyes, and is grounds for destruction of your property.

Additionally, Jojo has taken to jumping on top of me and waking me up whenever I nap on the living room couch, his way of demanding my undivided attention. Needless to say, my afternoon nap was cut short Friday after his fluffy licks woke me up three times in the span of 20 minutes. It was only after I gave him a, I kid you not, 30-minute long face massage, that Jojo decided I was forgiven for ignoring him. He then proceeded to demonstrate his forgiveness by licking and grooming my entire hand before hopping away.

Since then, Mr. Jojo has returned to his normal, well-behaved self, and has even taken to following me around my apartment like a puppy whenever he wants something. He has also demanded more face massages and will nudge my hand if I so much as remove my hand from his face.

The moral of the story, don’t ever ignore your bunny.
I want to take a jog through Wonderland, the mushrooms and flowers would be as tall as trees, the forest would sing a peaceful tune as I passed by under a marmalade colored sky. The crazy thing about my dream is that it is possible. As a matter of fact, with the access to proper equipment, I could do it right now.

When you think of virtual reality, what comes to your mind? The possibilities are endless for such a development and this year it will all be possible thanks to tech startup Oculus VR® with their Oculus Rift headset. The Oculus Rift was revealed to the world through crowd funding (investing in production of an item in exchange for a copy) website Kickstarter.com. Internet users funded its $250,000 production budget 975% for a total of nearly 2.5 million dollars in capital.

However, the potential for Oculus Rift goes far beyond video games. Imagine a couple’s therapy session where a husband and wife would wear a more refined Google glass-like device for a few days. The couple would then return to their therapist where they would use the headset to see their life through each other’s perspective. You could quite literally take a walk through somebody’s day-to-day life.

Seeing is one thing but what if I told you could you realistically walk and run as well. My dream will indeed be a reality due to a device known as the Virtuix Omni, a multi-direction treadmill-like device that encloses the user in a ring to prevent falling. The user slips on a special pair of shoes that are made to glide across the devices surface while keeping you balanced. Movement is mapped to any keyboard layout, so a massive back catalog of software will support the device from launch. The product creator’s tout the Omni combined with the Oculus could be used for virtual tourism, conventions, and work places.

You could explore another time. Imagine walking through a rendered colonial Boston or attending Woodstock and seeing Jimi Hendrix play with your naked eyes. You could even walk up on stage and see the performance up close. Amazon could have a virtual store where customers could view their products in a mall-like environment from the comfort of their living room. For better and for worse, the infamous chat room would be revolutionized. Imagine having an internet speed dating event where users walk around a virtual room and mapping actual body language and lip syncing to a realistic three dimensional model of yourself.

Movies can be changed forever, you could be the protagonist in a linear story, a life simulator. Imagine where you take on a reputation, social status, race, or gender and experience the feeling of being that person in a realistic or fantastical world.

The Oculus Rift and the Virtuix Omni are glamorous but at the same time I see a dangerous side to them. I imagine a potential for addiction due to the potential of someone beginning to prefer fantasy to reality. It’s a scary thought but it’s completely believable due to rising levels of video game addiction in the past few years.

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I for one look forward to this new technology due to the opportunities for learning that it brings in addition to the immersiveness of virtual and recreated places. Imagine yourself running through central park in New York City and seeing the pigeons fly away as you run towards them. Now excuse me while I go stand on Abraham Lincoln’s induction.
When thinking of children's books the first thing that comes to mind is a simplistic plot with a hidden message. They just never seem to reflect the tender love and care placed into the fairy tales of old.

"The Princess Fables," however, is a book that brings back the nostalgia of the classic fairytales from our youth (and many youths before that). It's a collection of fairytales that author Marc Clark would tell to his young daughter as a play to get her ready for school. The Princess who always said 'I don't wanna' is about a little princess who says "I don't wanna" in everything that is spoken to her. Eventually this horrible habit almost leads to her kingdom's decimation due to her refusal to leave castle grounds when an incoming flood threatens the area.

Another is "The Princess who always said 'not today'": the story of a young girl who would constantly say "not today" in order to reflect the hard habit of procrastination. As you can guess, the habits in question always lead to some sort of catastrophe or event that forces the little girls to change the behavior once and for all.

Fortunately, the stories all have happy endings. The stories are written very well too, choosing to forsake the dumbed down language & children's books in order to be both entertaining for the child and the parent. I don't have a young relative around to read too but after reading them myself, I can vouch for their entertainment factor. Each fable is great at breaking down the reasoning for these bad habits rather than just shunning their existence, which is great for leading your child (or yourself) to a great epiphany.

I interviewed author Marc Clark about the book, his background, and what led him to write fairytales for the 21st century.

Clark hails from a background in screenplaywriting for promotional ads, which he has done for many years. His first job was putting together a promo for classic HBO horror series "Tales From The Crypt." He has also written in his words "about a half dozen screenplays and a half dozen stage plays." He estimates that he has written close to a couple of thousand promos, review, and entertainment news pieces since the founding of his production company "Seven C's productions" in 1995.

When asked where he got his writing style from, he responded, "I stick to narrative. I feel that storytelling is one of the most important things. Occasionally I'll break format but I always ensure that I bring people back to the narrative. They say that one of the first things you have to do in writing is kill your favorite parts and those are usually the monologues: the elaborate, beautifully written, and character driven passages that don't help to drive the plot." In terms of film, he said nobody is more guilty of this practice than Quentin Tarantino who has the memorable "Royale with Cheese" dialogue in addition to the drawn out German dialogues of Inglorious Basterds (title spelled as so).

"I was never avidly into fairytales but if I had to cite a traditional story that I love it would have to be Walt Disney's Pinocchio. I believe it was the best written, it has the wonderful use of darker colors which are rarely seen in children's media. The sayings that the characters have about life are great too, I think we can all learn a lot from the sayings of Jiminy Cricket especially.

So what inspired him to write a book predominantly focused towards a female audience. "The Princess Fables are based on the stories that I would tell to my daughter when she was about six. We had a very close relationship due to my work as a freelance writer/producer (which let me work from home a lot). I would tell these stories to my daughter in the morning when I was getting her ready for school or when putting her to bed. "When she was older, her mother and I went through a painful divorce. To cope with the separation, I wrote these stories down so she could always stay with me. Every time I read them, I still can't help but shed a tear."

When asked about what audience he feels the book is for, he said: "They're great for any parent to read to their children but I wrote the book with the intention of it being something that a father can read to his daughter. The overarching theme among the stories is one of discipline; each story contains a lesson about responsibility and growing as a person."

With more kids becoming entrenched in technology at such a young age, the world needs more books like "The Princess Fables" to teach us about responsibility and interacting with the world at large. Its high quality writing and relatable morals will ensure that anybody who reads it will be sucked into its story as well as its life lessons.

The Princess Fables can be purchased on Amazon.com at the price of $2.99 for an e-book or $5.39 for paperback.

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The Kleberg Bank Classic not a total loss for Islanders

by CHRISTINA BOOTHE

A beautiful Thursday afternoon hailed from Whataburger Field as the Islanders geared up to face off against Brigham Young University. The Islanders, 2-3 in the season so far, placed newcomer junior Gavin Williamson on the mound to start game one of the Kleberg Bank Classic. The game progressed quickly, with an eight run scoring session in the top of the fifth by BYU to take the former tie to a 9-1 lead. The Islanders valiantly attempted a comeback with a one run rally in the eighth inning, but BYU ultimately emerged victorious, with a 10-2 win.

The next game started later that evening, and featured junior Matt Danton on the mound. The Islanders, decked out in their pristine blue and white jerseys, fought hard to gain back their dignity. Under Danton's strong leadership, the Islanders defense kept BYU at one point, coming back to score two runs in the bottom of the sixth and take the lead. With another run for the Islanders in the bottom of the seventh, BYU, their bullpen, desperate for a double victory, didn't fare well, regardless of the losses.

The Islanders faced the most menacing team in the mix, Texas Christian University. Talk of four draft picks on the team gave TCU a leering presence over the Islanders. They presented the Islanders with a defensive powerhouse. In contrast, outfielder Danford, with a batting average of .294 in the series and five RBIs, had massive contributions to the Islanders offense throughout the series. Both players were key components of a team who worked hard over the weekend and represented their school well, regardless of the losses.

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by CHRISTINA BOOTHE

Sports Reporter

Getting to know Islanders student athletes one self-taken portrait at a time

CHRISTINA BOOTHE

Shola Adebayo

Age/Year: 21/Junior

Sport/Position/Number: Basketball/

Shooting Guard/#2

Hometown: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Major: Communications/English

Favorite Sing: No Matter What – Future

Favorite Movie: The Blind Side

Favorite Book: Tuesdays with Morrie – Mitch Albom

Favorite Hobby (aside from the sport you play): Shop, watch TV, and travel.

If I’m not on the field/court/track or at class, I’m usually: in my bed.

If you sit next to me in class and want to strike conversation, a sure bet is to talk to me about: Shoes, clothes, or animals!

Favorite Quote: “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take.” – Wayne Gretzky

The person I look up to most is: My Mom

My athletic inspiration is: My uncle

My celebrity crush is: Future

My future plans are: Study abroad and travel.

My ethnicity is: Black

My cultural heritage is: Nigerian

My favorite food is: Pasta

My favorite drink is: Iced tea

My favorite place to go (on campus or off campus): The Beach

My favorite place to hang out is: My house

My favorite way to de-stress is: Doing puzzles

My favorite classes are: English and Speech Communication

My favorite professor is: Dr. Anita Akinbo

My favorite club(s) I’m a part of is: Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

My favorite assignment we did in class this semester was: Creating our personal websites.

My favorite thing I’ve done this semester was: Hanging out with friends.

The biggest accomplishment I’ve had this semester was: Staying healthy.

The biggest lesson I’ve learned this semester was: The importance of communication.

The best part of my day is: Playing basketball.

The worst part of my day is: Practice.

The best part of my life is: My Mom.

The worst part of my life is: Losing basketball games.

If I had $1 million, I would: Travel the world.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with my late grandmother.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with Kobe Bryant.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Friends’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Friday Night Lights’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘The Office’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘South Park’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Game of Thrones’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘The Walking Dead’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Stranger Things’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘This Is Us’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Breaking Bad’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Silicon Valley’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘HBO’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘CBS’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘NBC’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘ABC’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘FOX’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Netflix’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Amazon Prime’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘HBO Max’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Disney+’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Hulu’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Apple TV+’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘IMDb’ cast.

If I could have dinner with anyone (living or dead), I would: Dinner with any of the ‘Rotten Tomatoes’ cast.

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i THINK
hard work and dedication is
the engine to success

i CHOOSE

to live free from drugs to
motivate myself and others

i GRADUATE

Evan Paret
Student Government Association
President

http://iadapt.tamucc.edu