

10-2-2014

## The Gazette October 2, 2014

Langston University

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## Upcoming Dates & Events

**FREE**  
Registration for  
#Team Pink  
Color Run  
**11:30 a.m. to**  
**12:30 p.m.**  
Student Success  
Center

**BET Black College  
Tour**  
**Wednesday,**  
**Oct. 8**

**#Team Pink  
Color Run**  
**6 p.m., Friday,**  
**Oct. 10,**  
Behind Sanford  
Hall

## Also Inside

**Voices . . . p 2**

**News . . . p 3-6**

**Campus  
News . . . . p 7**

**Sports . . . p 8**

# Students look for jobs at campus career fair



Tia and Kia Brimer (right) speak with representatives from the University of Oklahoma Law School at the LU Career Fair.

See story on page 6.

Photo by  
Jonathan McGill

# Beheading suspect's cousin speaks out, criticizes family

By **Nehemiah Taylor**  
Editor

Following reports of a local woman being beheaded, everyone soon became familiar with Alton Nolen. But, the public did not know him in the same way as the people who grew up with him did.

On Sept. 26, news stations around the nation exploded with coverage of a woman being beheaded in the Vaughan Foods Inc. food plant, located in

Moore.

The alleged suspect was Alton Nolen, who had recently been fired from the food company.

People who knew Nolen said that this does not reflect the Alton Nolen they knew growing up.

After waking up that Friday morning, Karla Dunn, junior broadcast journalism major, did not expect to see a familiar face above the CNN headline: "Beheading in Moore, Oklahoma."

"It's shocking. Knowing and being around him in the past, I never suspected him of being capable of doing something like this."

— *Karla Dunn,*  
*junior broadcast journalism major*

"It's shocking," Dunn said. "Knowing and being around him in the past, I never suspected him of be-

ing capable of doing something like this."

see **BEHEADING**, page 3

## The Gazette

The *Gazette* is produced within the Department of Communication at Langston University. It serves as a teaching tool and public relations vehicle. The newspaper is published bi-monthly and is dispersed across campus every other Wednesday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

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Opinions expressed in LU Voices are those of the writers whose name appear with the articles. Letters to the editor should be emailed to nktturner@langston.edu. Please include your name and telephone number. The newspaper retains the right to edit, accept and/or reject items deemed to be contrary to the best interest of the publication, Langston University and/or any of its governing bodies.

# Woman-to-woman Help strengthen each other

How many times have you walked into a room and felt like you were being evaluated by other women, or that you're being judged by your clothes, your hair, physical attributes, how you speak or how you interact with others?

How many times have you told yourself that you're in some type of "competition" with another woman?

As women, we seem to judge one another on what we see and hear instead of actually getting to know one another.

We have somewhat created an environment where we separate ourselves from one another and start focusing on being better than the rest.



Meigs

There is nothing wrong with trying to better ourselves; in fact, everyone's goal should be to be a better person than they were in the past.

But, we don't have to go through life trying to be better than our fellow women when we can all grow together.

We hold on to grudges and little situations and

never seem to resolve the problems we have with one another. Instead of acknowledging one another's beauty, we compare ourselves and increase our own egos.

It would be more beneficial to be more understanding and realize we are all on the same journey in life, just different paths.

How comforting is it to know that you don't have to go through the ups and downs of life alone and that there is another woman out there who has been through a similar situation?

It also feels good to have someone add on to your blessings and help you through the lessons. It is so much easier to

surround yourself with women who have the same goals and ambitions as you rather than to do it all alone.

I believe we should all treat one another as sisters and join together to be the strong and phenomenal women that we were meant to be.

We all won't agree with each other all the time, and we may even do something that the other doesn't like, but we should be mature enough to address the problems and learn from them.

It's always better to have someone there to lean on.

*Andrenique Meigs is a senior broadcast journalism major.*

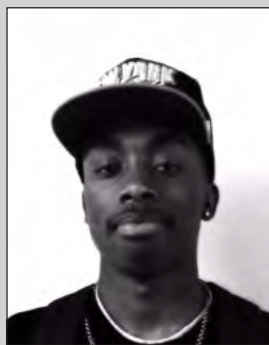
## Question of the Week

Where do you draw the line between spanking and abuse?



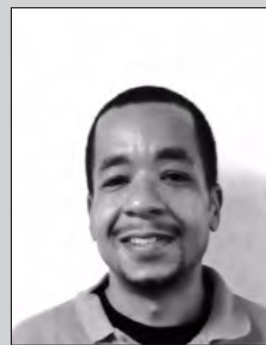
"The difference between spanking and abuse is the amount of force you use."

Janea Robinson,  
senior elementary  
education major



"Abuse is when you're doing it intentionally, and spanking is trying to teach them about doing wrong."

Abraham Esters,  
junior physical  
education major



"Spanking is when you try to correct their wrong behavior, not beat them."

Christopher Smith,  
senior music  
education major



"I believe in spanking your child and disciplining them, but I don't believe in punishing them."

Ernest Barnett,  
Professor,  
Elementary and  
Special Education

Compiled By  
Andrenique Meigs

# Convocation speaker teaches lessons about life to students

By Dhiana Brame  
Reporter

"We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us," said Dr. Clyde Montgomery, vice president for academic affairs, at the 2014 Annual Formal Opening Convocation.

Dear Langston embarked on its 117th year of service Sept. 25, at the Formal Opening, and Sen. Angela Monson was the distinguished guest speaker of the event.

"I want to talk about life," Monson said, as she began her speech.

"Your life will be much better when you learn you cannot control anyone's life, you can only control your own... the best lessons in life are the basic ones," Monson said.

Monson taught students a lesson about life, which is the importance of living your own life.

Don't make decisions based on everyone around you, do what's best for you, she said. In the end, all that really matters within is your own happiness.

Worry about yourself

and you'll find yourself happier than ever before, Monson said.

"Our guest speaker was very effective," said Moret Freeman, who serves as a Langston University Ambassador.

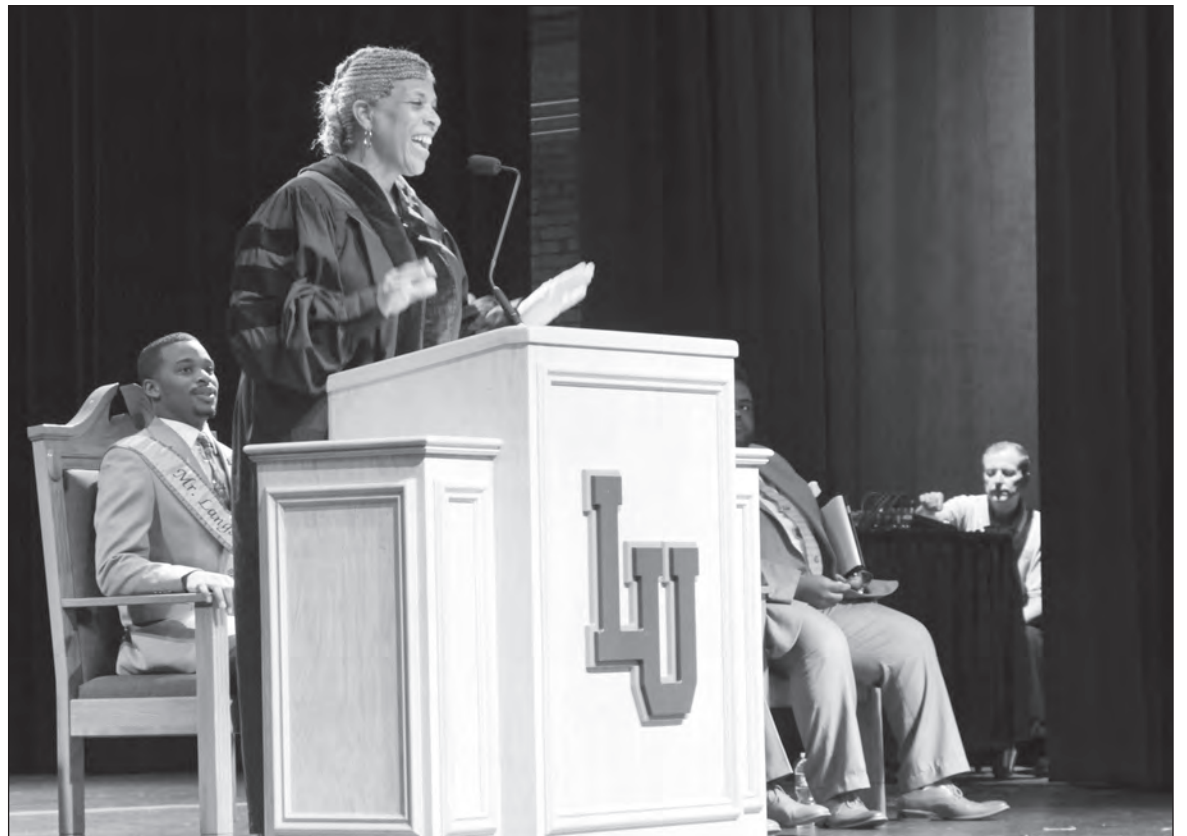
"She gave really good advice on how to worry about yourself because you're the only person you can control," Freeman said.

Langston University President Dr. Kent Smith Jr. presented Monson with a token of appreciation on behalf of LU, which was a lion statue.

Following this special award, Dr. Alonzo Peterson, chair of the mathematics department and assistant professor, was awarded with the Educator of the Year award.

LU's Student Government Association officers had their official induction of 2014 at the event as well.

SGA Activities Coordinator Paul Pugh concluded Convocation by announcing the official schedule for Langston Homecoming 2014, which is Oct. 13-18.



Photos by Jonathan McGill

#### Top:

Sen. Angela Monson delivers the keynote address at the 2014 Formal Opening Convocation.

#### Right:

(From left) Mr. and Miss Langston, SGA President Demauri Myers and SGA Activities Coordinator Paul Pugh sing the LU school song at Convocation.



## BEHEADING

from page 1

Nolen's cousin, who wished to remain anonymous, said she was also "shocked" when she discovered that the alleged man behind the beheading was her cousin.

"I was in disbelief that such a heinous crime had been committed in the calm of Oklahoma..." she said, "...rather than the suspect being my cousin."

Contrary to what is being reported, Nolen's

cousin does not recall any warning signs while growing up with him.

The man that she described growing up was always an easygoing individual.

"Everything was fine when we grew up together," she said. "I just believe his past, 10 years ago, is inconsequential to the person he is now."

In a Facebook post, Nolen's mother, Joyce Nolen, defended the son that she once knew as a "good kid" who believed in God.

"I know what they're saying he done, but I'm

going to tell you: That's not my son!" Joyce Nolen said.

Dunn, who is friends with Nolen's siblings, said the mother is just as stunned as everyone else is, and that his mother wants everyone not to judge him until more information comes out.

"She's a mother, and she loves her son," Dunn said. "She just doesn't want anyone to cast judgment on him before we get his side of what happened."

Despite the mother's support for her son, Nolen's cousin does not sup-

port him at all.

The cousin believes that Nolen's immediate family is coming to his defense too much, based off what he has done.

"I have not been in contact with his immediate family..." the cousin said, "...because I am so appalled at the way they are handling the situation."

Dunn made it clear that the man, who now goes by Jah'Keem Yisrael, according to his Facebook page, is not the same person everyone knew growing up.

"I don't know the

Jah'Keem Yisrael, I only know the past Alton," Dunn said.

"I don't think anyone knows the Jah'Keem Yisrael and what he was going through," she added.

According to a news article on the KOCO TV website, Nolen attended Langston University in 2005 as a pre-veterinary medicine student, but did not graduate.

According to the article, he dropped out less than a year after he enrolled, and at about the same time, he was busted for selling drugs.

# New organization has diverse purpose

By Nehemiah Taylor  
Editor

With the upheaval of the new student organizations on campus, one organization looks to begin a legacy that will lead Langston University into the new age.

Founded by Doristina Moncriste, administrative assistant for the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Women of Purpose (WOP) focuses on the inclusion of all women from diverse backgrounds to enhance the presence of sisterhood and womanhood on the university's campus.

Brittini Logan, sophomore business administration major, said the purpose of WOP is to instill in college women that personal standards must be met through their matriculation in college as well as in life.

"Even if you don't know it, you have a standard for yourself, and we want you to show that standard," Logan said. "Not only in the inside, but as you dress, as you walk, as you talk and in the way that you carry yourself."

Along with the purpose, WOP was founded on what the ladies are calling the "Pillars of Values."

These values include diversity, leadership, academics, philanthropy and sisterhood. These values were founded to guide the ladies in the organization on every level of their judgment and programming.

As the student population on campus has become more diverse, the ladies felt the need to be an organization that catered to women who were from diverse backgrounds.

"The organizations on campus do not reflect the new diversity of Langston Uni-

versity," Moncriste said. "We wanted to have an organization that any woman of substance could join."

Along with the inclusion of diverse women, WOP looks to empower and uplift its members into seeking positions in leaderships.

Marva Blades, junior psychology major, said that females are often intimidated by power roles, but WOP could be that vehicle for change on the campus.

"Since I've been here, there has not been a female SGA President," Blades said. "There are a lot of negative connotations when it comes to women in leadership roles, but this group will be the change."

Next to building leaders, WOP also wants to replenish the reputation that the university has received throughout the years through the media.

Darlana Granger, senior accounting major, said that the only change you will see in LU is through action.

"In order to change that, the reputation you have repair the internal defects, Granger said. "We have to start by changing the way the outside perceives the women of Langston, and that's what we look to do with our professional workshops."

Prospective members of WOP are women who reflect the values that the organization maintains, and although the ladies seek these qualities in potential members, they have ensured that they do not look to mold members into replicas of themselves.

"We are in no position to say that we are better than someone; we all have room for improvement," Blades said. "Our purpose is to help and mold each other."



Photo by Jonathan McGill

Women of Purpose members (right) Darlena Granger and Brittini Logan sell Krispy Kreme donuts for their first fundraiser. WOP is a new organization on campus that focuses on diversity, leadership, academics, philanthropy and sisterhood.



Courtesy Photo

Women of Purpose create a poster that reflects the diversity in the organization.

*Women of Purpose*

# ESD club promotes literacy, recycling

By Leslie Simon  
Reporter

The English Club, which is now known as ESD (English, speech and debate), is expanding its organization for the greater good of our literacy.

"The main focus of our program is to strengthen as well as advance English and speech skills," said Gabriel Hopkins, president of the ESD Club.

This organization not only promotes achieving better literacy, but it also is engaging in a side project that promotes recycling.

Because of the number of plastic bottles that are thrown away every day, ESD members thought it would be a great idea to add recycling bins around

the campus yard to persuade students to recycle their used plastic utensils.

The ESD Club has 20 members and continues to grow each day. Each branch of the program specializes in a specific area of interest including art, debate, creative writing, poetry and speech workshops.

Great literacy skills mean freedom. Reading means prosperity. Reading means power. Reading well, with comprehension, is the purest indicator of academic and economic success.

Reading well is the essential step to solving almost every problem in the black community. Reading well is the gateway to success for African-American

"The main focus of our program is to strengthen as well as advance English and speech skills."

— Gabriel Hopkins, president of the English, Speech and Debate Club

ican students in the 21st Century.

"The English Club allows us to come together as one on improving our reading skills," said Chasen Greer, senior biology major.



Hopkins

# Housing will remain open during Thanksgiving break

By Dhiana Brame  
Reporter

Out-of-state students, stop your worrying. It has been properly seconded that students will be able to remain on campus for the 2014 week-long Thanksgiving break.

Langston University President Kent Smith Jr. has sent out an official email to all Langston students stating that during this time, all departments of the university will be closed.

"The weeklong closure during the Thanksgiving break will allow the university to realize savings in utility and operational costs by taking many buildings off-line for the duration of one week,"

Smith said.

Originally, the plan for Thanksgiving break consisted of all students vacating their apartments so that all residence facilities, not including the Langston Commons, could be shut down during the weeklong break.

"I am so grateful the university came to an agreement to let us stay because I really had no place to go!" said Indy Nelson, freshman broadcast journalism major.

It is required of all students wishing to remain on campus for the week of Nov. 24-Nov.29, to give notification to campus housing in writing to ensure the university is aware of the students who will remain on cam-

pus.

It has also been agreed upon that all campus dining services will not be available to students during this week.

"For students without cars, we have confirmed that First Capital Trolley will maintain operations from Monday, Nov. 24, through Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2014," said Demauri Myers, Student Government Association president.

However, in due time, the President Smith's original plan will be taking place during the week of Thanksgiving for the 2015-2016 school year, and students will be required to vacate residential facilities at that time.

# Career Fair presents positive opportunities for LU students

By Charles Granger  
Reporter

Langston University held its annual career fair in the school's multipurpose gym Sept. 22.

The career featured companies such as Oneok, Farmer's Insurance, the University of Oklahoma Law School, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, the University of Central Oklahoma and Kansas Natural Services.

The companies were looking to provide students a chance at employment and

a shot at building a lasting relationship with their business.

"We come to the career fairs here every semester because the School of Business has sent us some valuable employees, and we hope to get more," said Jasmine Stein, financial analyst at Oneok and also a Langston alumna.

The career fair also gives students the opportunity to make a good salary after graduating or possibly even while they are still in school.

"We have jobs that our

"I think it is a great opportunity. In received an internship and a job offer after graduation from Oneok."

— Darlena Granger,  
senior accounting major

starting salary ranges from high 30s to low 50s; it depends on background and experience," said Heithum Moatassem, Centralized Auto Claims supervisor for

Farmer's Insurance. "We are looking for driven people with a hard work ethic."

Not only can employment come from the fair, but in the past, students have re-

ceived internship opportunities from attending.

"I think it is a great opportunity," said Darlena Granger, senior accounting major. "I received an internship and a job offer after graduation from Oneok, who was at the fair."

As positive as the career fair is at LU, some students would like to see more companies attend.

"I think more students would benefit from the career fair if we had more companies show up," Granger said.

## October is officially Dyslexia Awareness Month in Oklahoma

Special from  
*Decoding Dyslexia OK*

Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma is pleased to announce that Gov. Mary Fallin has signed a proclamation announcing October as Dyslexia Awareness Month in Oklahoma.

Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma is only one of 47 states in the nation that has organized to bring parents and teachers together in a grassroots movement to help advocate, educate and work with the state and national legislature to bring about laws that will benefit dyslexic's in the classroom.

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability, neurological in origin and affects one in five people worldwide.

Those with Dyslexia have a phonological awareness deficit that makes it difficult for them to associate a letter with its sound.

It is characterized by:

- Trouble Rhyming
- Not recognizing words accurately
- Difficulty decoding

- words
- Poor Spelling
- Struggles when reading out loud
- Acts out at homework time
- Really bright in other areas compared to reading level
- Dyslexia also runs in families.

Early intervention is key so from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Oct. 11, Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma is partnering with the ReadWrite Center in Oklahoma City to hold a **FREE** Dyslexia Screening for children in Oklahoma who are struggling readers and in the first grade or repeating kindergarten.

Sign-up is required due to the limited number of appointments available.

Please register at <http://www.ptcfast.com/reg1> and use entry code Y56161350.

Parents without online access may call 405-664-8192.

Testing will take approximately 20 minutes and Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma will have representatives there to answer questions.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma, you may also join the conversation through [DecodingDyslexiaOklahoma](http://DecodingDyslexiaOklahoma) on Facebook and Twit-

ter and on our website at <http://www.decoding-dyslexiaok.org>.

Thank you for helping us to raise awareness for the one in five.

### Dyslexia Myths

1. Dyslexia is a vision problem.
2. Overlays correct it.
3. It is curable.
4. People outgrow it.
5. People see letters backward.



## Human Resources announces open health care enrollment

Now is the time to make decisions regarding your medical, dental and vision insurance. Changes to your coverage may be made on Web for Employees today by submitting a health care enrollment change form.

The system will accept changes beginning Oct. 1, and will end Oct. 31, at 6 p.m. Any submitted changes will take effect Jan. 1, 2015.

Please make sure that you review all of your information carefully, as your decisions are final until the next open enrollment period beginning October 2015.

### NEW!

Beginning Jan. 1, 2015, all Langston University employees whose annual base salary exceeds \$40,000 will be required to share the cost of health insurance at a rate of \$50 per month.

This amounts to about 10 percent of the cost the uni-

versity anticipates paying during FY 2015 for employee health insurance.

This charge will be treated as a pre-tax deduction from your monthly payroll check, similar to many of your other benefits, and will be effective with your January payroll. You will not be required to take any specific action.

American Fidelity representatives will be available for your Section 125 enrollment:

- **Langston**  
Oct. 22-24,  
Page Hall,  
Second Floor

- **OKC Campus**  
Oct. 20,  
Room 123

- **Tulsa Campus**  
Oct. 21,  
Room 102

### NEW!

Blue Cross Blue Shield representatives will be on the Langston campus Oct. 10, to discuss and provide an overview of the Blue Edge health insurance plan:

- **Langston:**  
(Two sessions)  
1.) 11:30 a.m.-  
12:30 p.m.  
Room 221,  
Research Complex

- 2.) 1-2 p.m.  
Room 331,  
Research Complex

- **OKC Campus**  
Televised, Room 123

- **Tulsa Campus**  
Televised, Room 102

TIAA-CREF representatives will be on the Langston campus for financial planning and retirement advice:

- **One-on-One Meetings**  
Nov. 13 & Dec. 2,  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.,  
Page Hall,  
Second Floor

- **Group Meetings**  
Oct. 14,  
10 a.m.,  
Room 331,  
Research Complex

- **Help Desk**  
Oct. 21 & 28,  
8 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
Page Hall,  
Second Floor

For TIAA-CREF schedules for Oklahoma City, please see T'Nisha Law. Tulsa, please see Elaine Williams.

During Open Enrollment, the Office of Human Resources will be available, one-on-one, via phone or email, to assist you with your online enrollment needs.

**For more info, contact HR at 466-2985.**

## LU agriculture center hosts adolescent forum

*Special from Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Center*

Langston University Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Youth Development Extended Education Program will conduct its annual Boys and Girls Adolescent Health Care Forum on Nov. 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the campus of Langston University in the E. L. Holloway Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Center.

The forum is designed and conducted in an atmosphere specifically for helping parents and their children feel comfortable discussing and adequately understanding the dynamics of puberty.

A team of physicians and professional health care providers will provide vital information, literature and action plans structured to help families successfully manage and avoid situations and issues associated with puberty during the adolescent years.

The forum is an awesome family oriented experience offered on a first-enrolled, first-served basis and limited to an enrollment of 60 participants. The deadline for enrollment is Nov. 6. Request your enrollment packet today!

For additional information, contact Shirlene Hurte, extension specialist, at 405-466-6107 or email at shurte@langston.edu.

## Ag Scholars have first meeting



Photo by Jonathan McGill

These six students are the Scholars in the School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. They are (from left) Brandon Taylor, Brandon DeLoach, Kyara Little, Kameron Lindsay, Blongshia Cha and Cedrick Carter. They are standing with Dwight N. Guy.



## Soccer Club offers alternative sports option for LU students

By Jarron Thompson  
Sports Editor

The emergence of the Soccer Club at Langston University has energized football lovers all over campus, and has students ready to compete and put their best feet forward on the field.

The LU Soccer Club was established in fall 2011 and provides students with the opportunity to play against other players who share the same passion as they do for the most popular sport in the world.

Darion Taylor, a senior English major, said that the Soccer Club has helped fuel his dream to not only become a better player, but to also play professionally.

"I've always loved playing soccer," Taylor said. "I've dreamed of the day that I would have my chance to play pro, and Langston's Soccer Club is helping me to become a better player through tough training and conditioning."

Dr. Michael Hamilton, assistant professor in the School of Business, holds two soccer coaching licenses from the Oklahoma Soccer Association and serves

as a volunteer adviser and coach for the club.

"The Soccer Club is perfect for those who would like to play recreationally, yet still have enough time to study and socialize with their friends," Hamilton said.

"Necessary steps are taken to insure players are playing in a safe and enjoyable environment," Hamilton added.

Though relatively new, the Soccer Club is gaining in popularity. The club is also co-ed, and offers the same opportunities for female as well as male student-athletes.

Tairyn Bruce is a junior animal science major who has played soccer for over 15 years throughout middle and high school. She is also one of only two female students that are members of the club.

When competing against male athletes, Bruce said one of the keys to excelling is to "stay mentally tough."

"I talk a lot of mess when I'm out there," Bruce said. "I hype them up. You can't let them treat you like a girl on the field."

Bruce said that all of the

running and conditioning allows her to "stay in great shape."

Bruce also said that the discipline that is required to play the sport has truly impacted her life positively.

"It can be extremely challenging. It's a real workout," Bruce said. "But I love it. It's helped me to become a better person, a better student."

Taylor said that he would love for there to be more "campus support" for the club, and encourages everyone to root for them at the first game.

LU will battle Oklahoma Select on Oct. 11 at 5 p.m. at the Edmond Soccer Club in Edmond, Oklahoma.



Courtesy Photo

Darion Taylor works on drills to help him handle the ball.



Courtesy Photo

The LU Soccer Club works on drills to help with quick feet.

## PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

### Evan Scott



**Sport:** Football

**Position:** Defensive Back

**Hometown:** Detroit

**Major:** Drafting and Design

**Favorite Food:** Soulfood

**Playlist Hit:** Young Jeezy