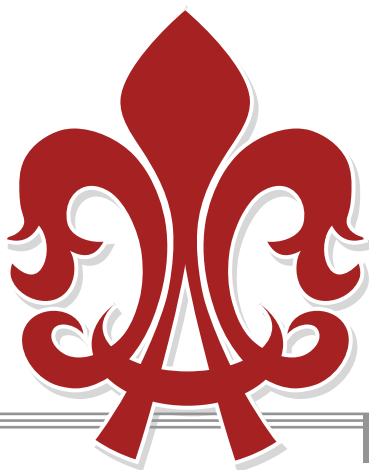




LSU DE Umanmielen leads nation in sacks

SPORTS, 1B

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Students arrested after racial rant

Duo facing charges of disturbing the peace

Greg Hilburn
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two Louisiana Tech University students were arrested Oct. 1 in connection with an offensive racial rant in a fraternity parking lot that was widely circu-

lated on social media last weekend. Taylor Guerrero and Jackson Gilbert were each charged with disturbing the peace and accused of shouting the N-word repeatedly over a loudspeaker at the Sigma Nu fraternity house adjacent to the Tech campus. Ruston Police Chief Eric Watson told

USA Today Network the two students voluntarily came to the department headquarters Thursday, where they were interviewed, arrested and charged. Watson said the agency has a "zero-tolerance policy for actions that threaten the peace and safety of the community." "This was an egregious act that disrupted our community and warranted an appropriate, decisive response from

law enforcement," Watson said. "Our department will continue to work hand-in-hand with university officials to ensure that behavior of this nature is met with full legal accountability." Ruston Mayor Ronny Walker told USA Today Network the police department acted swiftly and appropriately. Watson said the investigation

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The AI of the storm

Despite advances, models struggle to predict hurricane intensity

Chanh Kieu
Indiana University | THE CONVERSATION

Artificial intelligence has revolutionized weather forecasting in just a few years, with global AI weather models now able to produce forecasts that rival some of the world's best physics-based prediction systems. • This remarkable progress has been driven by three factors: massive amounts of weather data, advances in AI models, and unprecedented computational power. While most of the current discussion on improving AI for weather focuses on the models or new hardware, the data is crucial.

See FORECASTS, Page 2A



The challenge for AI models to predict hurricane intensity is not just about obtaining more data, building better neural networks or deploying faster computers. It is also about understanding hurricane behaviors and how chaos in intensity emerges.

CHANDAN KHANNA/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES FILE

GETTY IMAGES

Child care costs in state at over \$8K

Presley Bo Tyler
Shreveport Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The cost of child care is rising across the U.S., with prices putting strain on families and making adequate child care out of reach for many. Child Care Aware of America (CCAoA) found that the national annual average price of child care in 2025 was \$13,184, up from \$13,128 in 2024, and that the number of licensed child

See COSTS, Page 2A

BeastXMode releases new album

Aaron Gonsoulin
Lafayette Daily Advertiser
USA TODAY NETWORK

Crowley native and hip-hop artist BeastXMode released his new 10-track album, "NO SAFE ZONE," on Oct. 1 through Main Control Music, a project that draws from his South Louisiana upbringing while incorporating influences from Miami and Jacksonville. The album showcases multiple sides of the artist's musical identity, moving from hard-hitting Southern

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