August 13, 2012 Incoming Freshman **Kicks Cancer**

In her freshman year at Seven Lakes High School in Katy, Texas, Samantha Loos-Polk was training for the United States Junior Olympic team for Taekwondo. A second-degree black belt, Loos-Polk had been competing at a national level for two years and gaining notoriety in her sport when she was diagnosed with leukemia.

Her diagnosis came as a shock, and she spent the next nine months at the Texas Children's Hospital undergoing chemotherapy and multiple surgeries to treat fusarium, a dangerous fungal infection she developed. Loos-Polk had the support of her family and friends urging her to push through and endure the pain and uncertainty.

"My dad always told me, 'One day this is all going to be just a memory," Loos-Polk said. "At the time, I was not certain."

Training in Taekwondo since she was seven years old, Loos-Polk learned perseverance and self-control, two characteristics that proved her endurance and indomitable spirit when times became tough.

"Sometimes people think they have something to prove in life," said Jim Polk, Samantha's father. "She has already proved she is a fighter."

Loos-Polk returned to school for the second semester of her sophomore year, but was still a year behind. Determined not to be held back, she finished a year and a half of school in a single semester while undergoing intense chemotherapy.

Fortunately, she was able to enjoy and attend her senior prom, suffer from senioritis, and resume her Taekwondo training. She will begin her college career at St. Thomas with the recently-reinstituted nursing program.

She says her decision to pursue a career in nursing was heavily influenced by the nurses she met while at Texas Children's Hospital.

"Back then, I looked at the cancer as a curse," Loos-Polk said. "Now I look at it as a gift. It is part of who I am."

Dear Students.

Welcome back to St. Thomas! The faculty, staff and I look forward to another rewarding academic year with you. We are blessed with an outstanding freshmen class, dedicated transfer students and several new faculty and staff members. We remain dedicated to offering you an excellent liberal arts education anchored in the Catholic intellectual tradition. I urge you to take advantage of your professors, mentors, counselors and coaches to support you in your journey to graduation.

With very warmest wishes, Dr. Robert Ivany, President

ACE! Volleyball Scores Two New Coaches

Kallie Noble is the new head volleyball coach for the University of St. Thomas. She will also act as the Athletic Department's sports information director along with her head coaching duties.

Noble will make her mark as a first-year head coach after serving as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Tulane University for the last three seasons. While at Tulane, Noble helped the squad qualify for the 2009 NCAA Tournament and had five players receive All-Conference CUSA honors, among other player accolades.

"Coach Noble was the person I wanted to lead this program from the moment we spoke," said UST Director of Athletics Todd Smith.

"I am looking forward to leading a great group of girls at an elite institution," Noble said.

Lauren Peltier will be joining Lady Celts volleyball as the assistant coaching intern. Hailing from Northwestern State University, Peltier is finishing her master's in health and human performance degree with a focus in sports administration at Northwestern. A student-athlete on the volleyball team during her undergraduate career, Peltier was on the athletic honor roll amid a flurry impressive game stats.

Noble and Peltier are preparing the team for the first Lady Celts volleyball scrimmage on Aug. 17.

First Home Games of the Season



UST Men's Soccer vs. Dallas Christian

Saturday, Aug. 25 from 7-9 p.m.

The cost is \$3 for adults, and the UST community and kids are free. The game is at Houston Amateur Sports Park, 12131 Kirby Drive.

Lady Celts vs. Huston-Tillotson

Thursday, Aug. 30 from 7-9 p.m.

Cheer on the Lady Celts volleyball team in Jerabeck Gym! The game is free for UST students, faculty and staff and admission is \$3 for all others

Stay Active in Games, Sports at UST

Intramurals

UST offers many fun and all-inclusive intramurals including table tennis, bowling, racquet ball, flag football and foosball. Some events include a league season and playoff tournament, while most others are tournament-style. The first activity is the Sports Trivia Bowl beginning on **Aug. 29** in Guinan Lobby. Entries open on **Aug. 20**. Sign up for all intramurals at the Jerabeck Activity and Athletic Center front desk.

UST Sport Clubs Association

The SCA allows students to participate in team and individual competition on a range of levels. The available student-led club sports are baseball, fencing, martial arts, rugby, women's soccer, cheerleading, tennis, surfing and Ultimate Frisbee. Students can even start their own club at UST!

Contact Jessica Domann at 713-942-5036 or domannj@stthom.edu with questions about intramurals and sport clubs.

Take a Bite Out of Bayou City's Food Trucks

Food trucks circle the St. Thomas campus, enticing students, faculty and staff to save a little money on a five-star meal.

Visit www.houstonfoodtrucks.com for all the food trucks in the area and up-to-date information on where they are going and when you can catch them.

KHOU 11 News featured a story on Houston food trucks. Check out the deliciousness that could literally be waiting around the corner.

Stick It Truck

The team behind Stick It offers items like buttermilk fried chicken with four peppercorn gravy and Korean barbecue pork belly lettuce wraps with basmati rice and sesame gastrique.

The Eatsie Boys

The E-boys channel the spirit of the Beastie Boys with menu items including pork "Snuggies," pork belly on pillowy Asian buns, a chicken poblano sausage called Frank the Pretzel and a No Sleep 'Til Philly cheese steak sandwich. The truck features a full line-up of homemade ice cream. The Eatsie Boys will soon open a restaurant in Montrose.

NOLAs2Geaux

NOLAS has all the Creole staples, poboys, gumbo and boudin balls, plus some extras including Cajun-style waffle fries and hushpuppies.

Happy Endings

This Asian-fusion food truck brought the hot dog to new heights. The 100 percent beef hot dogs on Hawaiian sweet buns get Japanese-inspired toppings from spicy cucumbers to tempura bits and they also serve fried egg rolls.

Houston

Bernie's Burger Bus

Piloted by Chef Justin Turner, former personal chef to Shane Battier, serves up burgers made with freshly ground Black Angus beef and homemade condiments. Try the Detention if you dare. It features two grilled cheese sandwiches to hold the patty.



-Courtesy of KHOU's story "Get to know Houston food trucks" by Nikki Metzgar

Events

Freshman Orientation

Don't miss games, food and superheroes on Aug. 15-18. The Office of Student Activities planned various events around campus, so keep a look out!



Lady Celts vs. San Jacinto at Home

Cheer on the Lady Celts volleyball team for its seimmage Friday, Aug. 17, at 3 p.m. in Jerabeck Gym. Volleyball games are free for UST students, faculty and staff. Admission is \$3 for all others. The team will also play Lee College at 5 p.m.



Welcome Week

During annual Welcome Week, the University offers great prizes, snacks and time to catch up with friends at the University Seal



starting Tuesday, Aug. 21 around campus. See the calendar at Stthom.edu for details.

Drive-in Movie: "The Avengers"

The Student Activities Board organized a special screening



of "The Avengers" at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday,

Aug. 23, on the top floor of Moran Center.

Join SAB for a great movie, snacks and

more. The event is free and open to

the public.

Check us out!









Let Career Services Give You the Edge

The Career Services Center at UST facilitates students and alumni in career development and securing meaningful employment. For more information, visit the website, CeltCareers.com, or contact Career Services at 713-525-3160 or Career.Services@stthom.edu.



Below are the upcoming workshops. For every workshop/event attended, students get an entry into the Career Services Students Working to Acquire Goodies, or S.W.A.G., drawing for prizes.

• Sept. 18- Helping Hands Non-Profit Job & Volunteer Fair

12:30-2 p.m., Crooker Center

Meet representatives from non-profit organizations to learn more about part-time, full-time and work study positions and volunteer opportunities.

• Oct. 2 - Business Job & Internship Fair

12:30-2:30 p.m., Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center Open to all majors, students and alumni, who are interested in a career or internship in business. Dress in business attire and bring plenty of resumes for employers.

All Faiths Join Campus Ministry

UST Campus Ministry serves students of all faiths for the growth of the spiritual life of the campus community. Through the sacraments, spiritual guidance and counseling in the Christian tradition, Campus Ministry is an outreach of evangelization to all. Contact the Campus Ministry Office at 713-525-3589 or campusministry@stthom.edu for more information.

- Aug. 19 Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Chapel of St. Basil Sunday Masses begin for the semester.
- Aug. 27 Music Ministry Open House 7-9 p.m., Campus Ministry House
 The Open House is for present and prospective Sunday Mass UST student choir members.
- Aug. 28 Mass of the Holy Spirit 12:30 p.m., Chapel of St. Basil
 Join the University in prayer and celebration at the Mass of the Holy Spirit to
 welcome the new academic year.
- Sept. 11 RCIA classes begin 7-8:30 p.m., Campus Ministry House
 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes help prepare students for
 the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation or to
 find out more about the Catholic faith.

Star View is published by the Office of Marketing Communications to inform the UST community about University and campus news.

Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.