



April 27, 2006

Alumni and Friends:

Here is the latest *Good News* from ULM. After reading this e-mail I hope you will forward it everyone on your ULM Buddy List. Each time we add an alumnus or friend to our distribution list, we help spread the *Good News* about our University.

Alumni Chapter Events - Between Now and the Next Good News:

www.ulm.edu/alumni/chapters.html

- **Monday, May 1st** - The Greater Baton Rouge Alumni Chapter will host its annual after hours event at Avoyelles on the River (same place as the last two years) from 6-9:00 pm. **RSVP now.**
- **Saturday, May 6th** – The Dallas/Ft Worth Alumni Chapter will host its annual crawfish boil in Westlake Park, at Lake Lewisville (the Cottonwood Pavilion – same place as last year) beginning at 1:00 p.m. **RSVP now.**
- **Saturday, May 13th** – The Greater Washington DC Alumni Chapter, along with our friends from LSU, UNO, McNeese, Northwestern, and Tulane will host its third annual all-Louisiana crawfish boil at Fort Hunt Park, Virginia Pavilion A (same place as last year) beginning at noon. **RSVP now.**

Have you joined the ULM Alumni Association yet?

TOP STORY

Biology Department / Museum Present: NeilFest 06'

The ULM Biology Department and the Natural History Museum Friends Group are proud to announce NeilFest which will be held on Friday, May 5th and Saturday May 6th in Monroe. NeilFest, named after Dr. Neil Douglas long time professor and now Professor Emeritus at ULM, seeks to unite our alumni in support of the Natural History Museum at ULM.

On Friday, alum Todd Slack will speak prior to the opening of “Neil’s Favorites” exhibit at the Natural History Museum located on the 3rd floor of Sandel Hall. A reception will follow.

On Saturday, head to Malone Stadium’s east entrance for the all-you-can-eat crawfish boil complete with all the trimmings. We will have an air toy for the kids to play in, music will be provided

by Johnny O'Neal, and more. After the boil, ULM's baseball Indians will be playing San Antonio at 3:00.

Please contact Robyn Jordan – 318-342-1366 – jordan@ulm.edu to reserve your spot at this event supporting a very worthy cause. The tickets are \$50.00 per adult / \$15.00 for kids under 16 / kids under 8 attend for free. All proceeds from this event will support the ULM Museum of Natural History.

Wine Over Water

Ouachita Alumni Chapter Introduces "A Taste of ULM"

The Ouachita Parish Chapter of the University of Louisiana at Monroe proudly announces a 75th Anniversary signature event: *Wine Over Water*! Experience a new tradition by strolling across the historic ULM bridge spanning the scenic bayou while sampling wine and hors d'oeuvres from various local restaurants. *Wine Over Water* is the University of Louisiana at Monroe's premier wine-tasting event, with proceeds benefiting the ULM Scholarship Fund.

On the bridge you will be served delectable food samples from area restaurants, and feature wines from Tonore's Wine Cellar. Enjoy live entertainment provided by the Harmon Drew Super Group, while cruising the beautiful Bayou Desiard on a party barge or simply enjoy its enchanting view from the ULM bridge.

This signature event will be hosted **Tuesday, May 23, 2006** on the bridge across the ULM campus by the Library from 7pm until 10pm. The attire is Dressy Casual, and tickets, **which are on sale now**, can be purchased at the ULM Alumni Center, Paulen Luttgeharm State Farm, Pam Accardo State Farm, and Tonore's Wine Cellar for \$50 per person.

If you have questions about this event, please contact **Paulen Luttgeharm** at 318-372-9788 or **Tania Simpson** at 318-329-8807.

Wine Over WaterA Taste Of The University. Join us!

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS

www.ulm.edu/alumni

Is There an Alumni Chapter Near me?

Planning for the Spring / Summer travel schedule is underway! This year, ULM and our local chapter leadership will host events in the following locations: Washington DC, Baton Rouge, Ouachita Parish, Houston, Morehouse Parish, Acadiana (Lafayette area), Imperial Calcasieu (Lake Charles), New Orleans, Carolina's, Dallas/Ft Worth, Caddo/Bossier, Jackson, Atlanta, East/West Carroll, Nashville, Arkoma (Tulsa), Texas Hill Country (Austin), Lincoln/Union, CenLa, Richland Parish, Winn/Jackson, Greater Birmingham. New Locations – Greater Chicago, Caldwell Parish, and in Oklahoma City (we have a conference there this year). We are also working on the possibility of expanding to California (we're working with established groups in both Northern and Southern California and we've targeted New York City for the 07 year).

Once the date for the event is set, we'll send an e-mail / a save the date post card / a couple of e-mail reminders / and a letter asking for RSVP's.

Alumni Dues Campaign Underway

The second year of our Anniversary Dues Campaign is underway. Letters to all alumni who last paid their dues in January – May and then to those who have not yet joined the ULM Alumni Association have been mailed. Private funds (your dues) are extremely important to the continuing successful operation of the ULM Alumni Association and all of ULM. Dues are \$25.00 for an individual alumnus * \$35.00 for a married couple * \$500.00 for a lifetime membership! I hope you'll take the time to include your check in the envelope provided and join us as we continue to play a vital role in the future of ULM.

- Want to financially support ULM from the privacy and comfort of your own home (which includes paying your alumni dues)?
<http://www.ulm.edu/giving/>

If you have an update for the Drumbeat (marriage, birth of a child, professional development news, etc.), send that information to drumbeat@ulm.edu **OR** you can send that information to us via the on-line update form located at: <https://ssl.ulm.edu/alumni/update.html>

Become a ULM Credit Card Carrying Supporter! <http://www.ulm.edu/alumni/>

- Go on line and apply for the ULM MBNA Master Card Today! Your ULM Alumni Association financially benefits from use of this card
- **American Express Card Ready!** The ULM American Express Card from MBNA is now available. Call 1-800-833-6262 for more information.

HOMECOMING 2006 – *celebrating 75 years of ULM* – Saturday, September 30th, 2006!

A Historical Look at ULM - <http://www.ulm.edu/75th/story.html>

STUDENTS FIRST

ULM students participate in Extreme Spring Break

More than 165 students from eight area institutions, including the University of Louisiana at Monroe, sacrificed part of their spring break to build homes in hurricane-ravaged areas of Louisiana April 19-23. Extreme Spring Break included three full days of working with Habitat for Humanity in Hammond, Abita Springs and Lake Charles.

“Volunteering is an essential part of one’s education,” said Kyle Gallman, president of ULM’s Student Government Association. “I think it is an excellent opportunity for students to gain service learning experience. Service learning provides perspective and insight that one may not gain in the classroom or from reading a textbook. The Extreme Spring Break Event also provided a chance for students to give a little to those who have lost so much.

Dr. Sally Clausen, UL System president, said Extreme Spring Break was a part of a system-wide emphasis on community service. “Our universities are building service activities into their curricula and

studies. For example, in addition to the spring break initiative, our students are volunteering in schools, teaching adults to read, helping protect the environment, tutoring young children, administering health screenings and serving in other ways that extend beyond our campuses." The intensive service program includes students, faculty and staff in the UL System's eight universities and was organized primarily by Student Government Association (SGA) presidents in conjunction with their universities and UL System staff.

The participants stayed in locations that served either as shelters for evacuees or as housing for relief workers during the two hurricanes

Scholar's Banquet Held For Over 500 Students

On April 4th, ULM hosted the second annual Scholars' Reception to honor students invited to attend ULM in fall 2006 with academic scholarships. The event was held in Brown Auditorium. According to Lisa Miller, Director of Recruitment and Admissions, the number of students that attended this year's event doubled from last year. Of the students that attended that evening, the average ACT score was a 24.55 and the average GPA was a 3.68.

President James E. Cofer, Sr.; Lisa Miller, director of Recruitment/Admissions; and current ULM scholarship students addressed the invited guests and President Cofer presented each student with a ULM medallion. The students also received keepsake ULM memorabilia and pictures with President Cofer.

ULM's Espinal Advances Dominican Republic in Fed Cup Play

A popular question this week on the University of Louisiana at Monroe campus was 'What did you do for Spring Break?' which was last week. Most students responded with the usual - partied at the beach or went home - while others went to south Louisiana to do hurricane relief work. But for ULM women's tennis player Diana Espinal it was more tennis. This time playing for her home country, the Dominican Republic, in the Federation Cup, an International Tennis Federation event.

"It was a joy and an honor to play for my country last week," said Espinal during a break from practice as the Lady Indians prepare for the 2006 Southland Conference Tournament on Friday, April 28. "The Federation Cup is the most important women's tournament in the world."

The senior from Santo Domingo returned home last week to lead her country in Americas Zone Group II competition. Espinal won all of her round robin and semifinal matches at singles and doubles against teams from Bermuda, Paraguay, and Bolivia.

Espinal's play gave the Dominican Republic team a boost to win every match and the opportunity to move up to the Americas Zone Group I in Fed Cup play in 2007. As the Dominican team continues to win, it will move up a group level with the goal to play at the top level - the World Group (currently - USA, Belgium, Italy, Spain, France, Austria, Germany, and Russia).

"To win for your country is like nothing I've ever experienced before," said Espinal. "I have had a lot of accomplishments in my career, but this is the most important so far." The tournament was a family affair as Espinal's father, Elvis, served as the Dominican team captain. "It was a great opportunity to play for my father," said Espinal. "We were able to perform well with him as our coach."

In 2007 Fed Cup competition, Espinal will go against competition from Brazil, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Chile, Colombia, and Venezuela. But for now, it is back to the business of winning a conference tournament title. Espinal, the No. 1 singles player for ULM, has had a strong senior season with a 14-4 overall record and 7-3 in Southland Conference play.

Espinal and her doubles partner, senior Daliny Sithimorada, led the Lady Indians to a third-place regular season finish in the team's final season in the Southland Conference. ULM will face Lamar in the first round of SLC championship tournament action at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 28, in Arlington, Texas.

FACULTY UPDATES

ULM MBA Professor Receives Award

Dr. Ken Clow, MBA Professor at ULM recently won the Research Award at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Discipline in Dallas. Dr. Clow, along with two MBA students and graduate assistants Mr. Burak Elgin and Mr. Prashanth Ravula, co-wrote a paper entitled "The Text Adoption Process." The ULM winners have been invited to submit the paper to the International Journal of Business Education. There were about 150 schools represented at this conference and over 100 papers were submitted.

ULM Professor Named Educator of the Year Student Named Student of the Year

Mrs. Debbie Wisenor, Assistant Professor of Clinical Lab Science at ULM, was named "Educator of the Year" by the Louisiana State Society for Clinical Laboratory Science" and Crystal Powell-Smith, student in the ULM-CLS program, was named "Student of the Year" for the Louisiana State Society for Clinical Lab Science at the Annual Convention held in Jackson, Mississippi.

ON CAMPUS

ULM Police Department and Football Team to Host ULM Warhawk Football Fishing Derby

On Saturday May 6th behind Breard Hall on the ULM Campus, the ULM Police Department and the ULM Football Team will host a Warhawk Football Fishing Derby for children ages 7-14. Each participant will receive a ULM Warhawk Football Derby t-shirt and door prizes will be awarded for both participating parents as well as to the winning kids. The competition will be divided into three age groups: Ages 7-9 * 10-12 * 13-14 and each child must be accompanied by an adult guardian with a limit of 2 children per adult.

Parking will be free of charge in the north parking lot of Fant-Ewing Coliseum and the event is *free!* The fishing derby will start at 8:00 a.m. with staggered weigh-ins per age group beginning with the youngest age group promptly at 10:45 a.m.

Each age group will be assisted by members of the ULM Warhawk football team and after the event there will be a free hot dogs and coke and autographs and pictures with the kids and football players.

For more information and to register your child, please contact the ULM Police Department at 318-342-5350. The event will be limited to the first 150 children to register.

ULM Hosting Blood Drive on Campus

ULM's Clinical Laboratory Science Department is sponsoring a Blood Drive May 1-5, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, in the donor bus in front of the Nursing Building. The LifeShare System is facing a critical shortage of blood and blood products necessary to serve the local population of patients. They have been importing blood from New York City and various other places just to meet the increased local demands. Thanks for your consideration of this important request!

Block and Bridle Club to Sponsor Rodeo

On Friday, May 5, and Saturday, May 6, the ULM Block & Bridle Club will sponsor a rodeo at the Indian Arena located at the Layton Equine Farm (Hwy 80 East, Monroe). Admission prices are \$5 for ages 12 and over and free for all kids under 11 years of age. All proceeds will benefit the ULM Block & Bridle Club. For more information, please call 318-345-0331.

KEDM – FM Celebrates 15th Anniversary

KEDM-90.3 FM, Northeast Louisiana's public radio station, is celebrating its 15th anniversary with "A Little Night Music" featuring world-renowned pianist Richard Dowling at the Biedenharn Recital Hall on the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) campus on Saturday, April 29th at 8 p.m.. Hailed by the New York Times as an "especially fine young pianist", Dowling has appeared on PBS as well as National Public Radio's Performance Today and has performed at Carnegie Hall, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Central Park.

"This is a remarkable opportunity to enjoy a cosmopolitan performance in a personal setting," KEDM General Manager Mark Simmons said. "In most major cities you would pay five times the ticket price just to sit so far away you'd need opera glasses to identify the pianist. Thanks to our community sponsors – Vantage Health Plan, Inc., The Boles Law Firm, and Louisiana Pain Care – KEDM is able to bring Mr. Dowling into the warm and intimate surroundings of the Biedenharn Recital Hall. The only downside is that seating is limited."

Dowling studied at the Conservatoire de Musique in Nice under the direction of m French pianist Jeanne-Marie Darre. His formal recital debut in Paris was at the Salle Cortot, and later the French Embassy in Washington D. C. He also studied at Yale University where he was honored with both the Lockwood Award and the Bruce Simonds Award. Dowling holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts in piano performance from the University in Texas.

Dowling's repertoire includes the complete solo and chamber piano music of Ravel and numerous works by Debussy, Faure and Saint-Saens. His album releases include Sweet and Low-Down, containing nearly all Gershwin's solo piano works. He has also released two CDs of well-known piano works by Chopin. A Frog He Went a-Courting, Pairs of Pieces is a CD of cello and piano works featuring Evan Drachman. Dowling's favorite American ragtime piano repertoire can be found on his World's Greatest Rags CD. Dowling's CDs will be available for sale after the concert.

Tickets can be purchased at the KEDM Studios on the campus of ULM, 225 Stubbs Hall, in Monroe. Ticket prices are \$10 for KEDM members, \$15 for non-members and \$15 at the door. A Patron's "Meet the Artist" Gala will follow the concert at the ULM Library Conference Center. Patrons will get to meet Dowling and enjoy an open bar, cocktail buffet and silent auction. Tickets for the Patron's Gala are also available for \$50. Interested persons may call 318-342-5556 for tickets to either event.

KEDM - 90.3 FM hit the airwaves on April 23, 1991 at 5 a.m. After years of hard work and determination, the station began broadcasting on that date for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The station's listening area covers an 11-parish area. KEDM's signal reaches north to Crossett, Arkansas, south to Columbia, east to the Mississippi River and west to Grambling. The station, a National Public Radio and American Public Media affiliate, airs such national shows as "Morning Edition", "All Things Considered", "Fresh Air", "Car Talk", "Marketplace", and "A Prairie Home Companion". Local shows include; "Blue Monday with Kenny Bill Stinson", "Best of Broadway", "Jazz, Straight No Chaser", "Mostly Big Bands" and of course, Sunny Meriwether's award-winning news shows.

ULM Symphony to Present Final Concert for the Spring

The ULM Wind Symphony will present their final concert of the semester Friday evening, April 28th, at 7:30 pm, in Brown Auditorium. There is no admission charge for this concert. The Wind Symphony is conducted by Derle R. Long.

Featured soloist with the Wind Symphony will be Dr. William Nichols, professor of clarinet at ULM, who is retiring at the end of this semester. Dr. Nichols will perform the recitative and polacca from Carl Maria von Weber's Second Concerto for Clarinet. Also featured will be graduate student conductors Barton Harrison and Christopher Woody.

Also of interest on this program is a unique work by American composer Samuel Hazo. This piece is entitled "Sevens" and is based on the number seven, incorporating concepts such as seven notes in a phrase, lots of seventh chords, and a time signature with the number seven in it. The piece is a tribute to composers George Gershwin and Gordon Goodwin who share the same initials (G.G.), the seventh letter of the alphabet.

For more information, contact the ULM Band Office at 318-342-1594.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Between Now and the Next Good News:

- **Saturday, April 29th** - The 3rd annual ULM Track & Field reunion will be on April 29th at a home meet. Coach Malone is requesting everyone who plans to attend to email him to be put on the list for a head count for the meal. They can also email either Ronnie Overby @ ronnie1064@cox.net or former coach, Dennis Groll @ dgroll@jam.rr.com.

Mark Your Calendar:

- **Today through May 4th** - The Bry Art Gallery continues to show the Ninth Annual ULM Student Juried Competition and Exhibition. The Bry Art Gallery is open from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Thursdays, and 8 a.m.-noon Fridays when the university is in session.
- **Tuesday, May 30th** - The Sound of Today will be offering Summer Music Camps beginning May 30th. For more information, please go to www.ulm.edu/music and click on the Summer Music Campus link.

May 30–June 2	Percussion camp
June 5 – 9	George Parks Drum Major Academy
June 5 – 8	Brass Camp

June 15–17 High School Flute Camp
June 27–30 High School Choral Camp
June 27–30 High School/Junior High School Band Camp

- **Thursday, November 9th - *Envision 2006 – Celebrating All Things ULM***
- **November 5-11th** - The Aviation Department and Flying Tomahawks Precision Flight/Ground Team will host the 2006 National Intercollegiate Flying Association's (NIFA) Region IV's competition. This event will utilize ULM's campus but will take place primarily at the Monroe airport using Century Tel's facilities.

ATHLETICS

<http://ulmathletics.collegesports.com/>

Giladi Qualifies for NCAA Regional Meet

Louisiana Monroe jumper Rani Giladi became the second ULM track & field student-athlete to qualify for the 2006 NCAA Regional meet in Knoxville, Tenn. on May 26-27.

Giladi jumped 15.15 meters (49' 8.50") in the men's triple jump at the Kansas Relays on Friday qualify for the regional meet. Giladi also competed in the long jump with a leap of 7.00 meters (22' 11.75").

Thrower Walt Williams qualified last week in the discus and earned SLC Athlete of the Week honors for his efforts (see story below).

The women's 4x200-meter relay team of Tiffany Holmes, Sherita Price, Shamonica Pickett, and Bola Shoyebi won at the Kansas Relays with a time of 1:37.08. The four also combined to finish second in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 45.77.

The ULM track & field teams will host the ULM Indian Classic on Saturday, April 29. Events begin at 10:30 a.m.

Williams Named SLC Performer of The Week

The Southland Conference named Louisiana Monroe thrower Walt Williams the Outdoor Track & Field Men's Performer of the Week. It is his first weekly honor of the season.

Williams, a junior transfer from Carricou, Grenada, threw the discus an NCAA Regional qualifying distance of 177 feet, four inches at the Louisiana Tech Twilight meet on April 12. He also competed in the shot with a distance of 51 feet, three inches to finish third in the event.

Williams will compete at the 2006 NCAA Mid-east Regional Meet on May 26-27 in Knoxville, Tenn.

Lady Indians Add to Already Solid Recruiting Class

Louisiana Monroe women's basketball coach Mona Martin has announced the signing of a third post player for the upcoming season, as Caroline Adriaansz has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to play for the Lady Indians during the 2006-07 season.

A 6-2 post player, Adriaansz joins the Lady Indians after spending the past two seasons playing for head coach Ron Jones at Midland (Texas) Junior College. While with the Lady Chaparrals, Adriaansz averaged 10.6 points per game, 7.2 rebounds per game and 1.0 steals per game. A native of

Paramaribo, Suriname, Adriaansz helped Midland to a 22-11 record and an appearance in the Region V Tournament last season.

“The signing of Caroline is awesome,” Martin said. “She gives us much needed depth in the post and is a strong body on the block, a true five player, who goes hard to the boards.”

Adriaansz joins fellow transfer Shannon Lloyd (signed last week - a 6-3 center who will transfer to ULM from East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi where she averaged 13.0 points and 9.8 rebounds per game this past season at ECCC. For her efforts, she garnered first team all-State and second team all-Region honors for the Lady Warriors. A native of Collinsville, Miss., Lloyd graduated from West Lauderdale High School.

Adriaansz and Lloyd join prep stars Jesseann Carrier (5-10, G, Sulphur, La.), Shannon Davis (6-1, P, Lafayette, La.), Regena Jackson (5-6, PG, Denham Springs, La.), and Ashley Wallis (5-11, F, Baton Rouge, La.) in this year's ULM women's basketball signing class.

ULM Men's Golf Finishes Third at SLC Championship

The Louisiana Monroe men's golf team finished third at the 2006 Southland Conference Men's Golf Championship after carding a final-round total of 302 at the Kingwood Deerwood Course.

The Indians, who posted a three-round total of 881, finished 10 strokes behind tournament champion Lamar. Texas-San Antonio finished second, only one stroke ahead of the Indians, after carding a final-round 293. Southeastern Louisiana and Texas-Arlington finished tied for fourth, while Sam Houston State, Stephen F. Austin, McNeese State, Nicholls State and Texas State rounded out the field.

“We felt heading into the final round that we needed to get strong performances from all five guys to win,” head coach Chris Wilson said. “Unfortunately, a couple of our guys found trouble early and it seemed like we were playing behind the eight ball all day. It is disappointing to have NCAA Regionals within our grasp and lose it in a three hour period. However, we have one tournament left this season and we will treat that as our Regional and hopefully play well at The Maxwell.”

Tim Kunick led the way for the Indians, finishing tied for fourth after posting a final-round score of 75. Kunick's three-round total of 218 was five strokes behind individual champion, John Elizondo from UTSA. The fourth-place finish marks the second consecutive season that Kunick has finished in the top-five at the SLC Championship. Last season, Kunick finished tied for second.

The Indians will conclude their 2006 Spring Season at The Maxwell, hosted by Oklahoma. The tournament is hosted by the University of Oklahoma and will be held from May 12-14 in Ardmore, Okla.

Collogan and Kunick Repeat as SLC All-Conference Selections

Senior Tim Kunick and sophomore Pat Collogan were each named to the second-team All-Southland Conference squad by the league office on Tuesday, marking the third-consecutive season for Kunick and second straight for Collogan to garner all-conference honors.

Kunick, a native of Bismarck, N.D., was a first-team All-SLC selection as a junior and a honorable mention honoree as a sophomore, while Collogan, a Ponca City, Okla., native, was a third-team selection as a freshman. In addition, Kunick becomes only the third Indian golfer, joining Jody Moss (1999-2001) and Bryan Vahlberg (2003-05), to earn all-Southland Conference honors in three straight seasons.

“It is huge for our program to continue to put players on the all-conference team,” head coach Chris Wilson said. “It is every player's individual goal at the beginning of the season to earn all-

conference honors and I am really proud of the great seasons that Tim (Kunick) and Pat (Collogan) had. As a team, we need to get more players like these guys if we want to reach our team goals.”

Kunick is currently averaging 73.58 strokes per round, a mark which ranks second only to Collogan on the team. In 12 tournaments this season, Kunick has posted one win, another top-five finish, a top-10 finish and four top-20 finishes. Kunick played his best tournament of the season at the Squire Creek Invitational during the fall, where he finished tied for first. At the tournament, Kunick fired a six-under par round of 66 in the opening round and set the school record for birdies in a round with 10. He also finished a team-best tied for fourth at the 2006 Southland Conference Golf Championship last week. On the season, Kunick has played in all 36 rounds for ULM, having his score count toward the team score in 33 of those rounds.

Collogan is currently averaging a team-best 73.25 strokes per round on the season and 73.8 per round during the spring, a mark which ranks ninth in the Southland Conference. A competitor in all 12 tournaments this season for the Indians, Collogan finished in the top-20 in half of the meets, including three top-five finishes. Collogan posted a season-best finish at the First Tee Collegiate, hosted by Arkansas-Little Rock, where he earned a runner-up. On the season, Collogan has posted 120 birdies, a mark which leads the team and ranks ninth nationally in the category. He also ranks first on the team and 23rd nationally in birdie conversion at .304.

Four Earn Postseason Accolades For Lady Indian Golf

In an inaugural season that saw the Louisiana Monroe women’s golf team capture the first team title in school history, defeat every Southland Conference school in at least one tournament and finish tied for third in its first-ever Conference Championship, the firsts continued as freshmen Angela Drane and Sara Larsson each earned first-team All-SLC honors, junior Marylou Starr was named SLC Newcomer of the Year and Chris Wilson was named conference Coach of the Year, by coaches and sports information directors from around the league.

“This is a great honor for our golf team,” assistant coach Stephen Bell said. “For a first-year program to have two girls on the first team is a great accomplishment and a true testament to the hard work that our entire team put in. This is a tremendous way for us to cap off a very special first season.”

Drane, who was the top ULM finisher in eight of 11 tournaments this year, posted a team-leading 77.38 stroke average and finished in the top-five in six tournaments. She also became the first Southland Conference Golfer of the Week in school history on April 5, and holds the ULM record for lowest round, a 71 in the opening round of the Lady Indian Classic, hosted by Arkansas State during the fall.

Larsson ranked second on the squad in scoring average with a mark of 78.93. Larsson posted two top-five finishes and two more top-10 finishes. She proved invaluable to the team during tournament play, having all 29 rounds count toward the team score. Larsson also holds the second-best single-round performance in school history, a 73, fired in the final round of the UTSA Rowdy Round Up this spring.

Starr, a transfer from Mesa Community College, finished the year ranked third on the Lady Indian squad in scoring average at 81.62 strokes per round. A top-20 finisher in four tournaments, Starr also contributed 28 or her 29 round toward the team score. Starr finished eight rounds below 80 on the year, including a season-low 76 on three occasions.

Wilson becomes the first ULM golf coach to be honored as SLC Coach of the Year since Rich Merritt was recognized in 2004 for helping lead the Indians to an SLC Championship and an appearance in the NCAA Regional Championship. Wilson, who was instrumental in starting the ULM women’s golf program in May of 2005, led the first-year program to five top-10 finishes, including the team championship at the CenturyTel Bobcat Classic, hosted by Texas State, and a tie for third-place at the Southland Championship.

The SLC Championship was the final tournament of the season for the first-year Lady Indians. ULM will not return to competitive action until its 2006 Fall Season, when it will compete as a member of the Sun Belt Conference.

ULM Tabs John Schmidt III as Head Volleyball Coach

The University of Louisiana at Monroe has announced the hiring of John Schmidt III to the position of Head Volleyball Coach. His hiring is pending the approval of the University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors.

Schmidt has spent the past three seasons as an assistant coach with the North Texas volleyball program. His responsibilities with the Mean Green included serving as recruiting coordinator, individual and team defense instruction and coordinating travel for the team.

During his tenure with UNT, Schmidt helped the Mean Green to second-place finishes in the Sun Belt's West Division in all three years. In addition to the team success, Schmidt coached numerous SBC All-Conference selections, including North Texas' first All-America honoree, Corina Marginas.

"We are excited about the addition of John Schmidt to our staff," ULM director of athletics Bobby Staub said. "He has a strong volleyball background that we feel will allow him to come in and build on the success that we experienced last season."

Prior to joining the Mean Green staff, Schmidt spent one season at the helm of the Tarleton State volleyball program. In his lone season, Schmidt helped the TexAnns to three Lone Star Conference victories after the squad had been winless in league play the year before. He also coached two all-conference selections and an academic all-conference honoree in his stint with Tarleton State.

Schmidt began his collegiate coaching career at St. Edward's University, where he spent four seasons as head coach. During his time with the Hilltoppers, Schmidt posted three national top-10 finishes and guided them to a pair of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Championship appearances. Under the direction of Schmidt, St. Edward's had the top-ranked defense in the nation in 1999 and the No. 14-ranked defensive unit in 1998. He also coached numerous players who achieved All-America, All-Region, All-Conference and All-Academic honors. While with the Hilltoppers, Schmidt also served as the Sports Information Director and Director of Club Sports.

A 13-year veteran of Junior Olympic Volleyball Club coaching, Schmidt is a 1997 graduate of Texas State, from which he holds a bachelors degree in mass communications and a minor in exercise and sports science. He is also involved with the Special Olympics, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Fellowship Church Ministries.

"I am excited about the foundation that ULM has developed," Schmidt said. "Having worked in the Sun Belt, I have seen the strengths and weaknesses of each team and am eager to lead ULM into its new conference. I think that my strengths and philosophies will be a benefit to the volleyball program and look forward to getting started."

Stephens Picks up Second Pitcher of the Week Honor

Louisiana Monroe junior pitcher James Stephens was honored as Pitcher of the Week while also earning Louisiana Sportswriters Association Baseball Pitcher of the Week, as voted by the states sports writers on Tuesday.

Stephens becomes the first Indian player to earn conference LSWA player of the week since Ben Soignier was honored earlier this month.

Stephens is the first Indian pitcher to be recognized since Matt Green on April 12, 2005.

Stephens threw a complete-game two-hitter to help the Indians win the first game of a doubleheader, 5-1, and take two of three from Southeastern Louisiana. Stephens gave up only two singles, one in the first and one in the fifth, while striking out six in the 113-pitch effort. The only run of the game scored off of Stephens was a result of a pair of errors in an inning. Stephens settled in to retire the final eight batters. The complete game was the first of his career.

On the season, Stephens owns five of the Indians nine victories on the mound. He also sports a team-leading 3.27 earned run average and is second on the team with 34 strikeouts. Opponents are hitting .271 on the year against him, but he has allowed only 20 earned runs in 55.0 innings pitched.

ULM Softball in Big Series

The Lady Indians will face Southland Conference league leader Texas State, 32-18 and 18-3, in a three-game series beginning Saturday, April 29 at 1 p.m. at Lady Indian Field.

Saturday's doubleheader will be preceded by a recognition ceremony of all groups and individuals who played a part in building the new softball facilities. The ceremony will take place at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Sunday's single game at 1 p.m. will be preceded by Senior Day ceremonies at 12:45 p.m. This is the final weekend of home competition for seniors Lindsay Schafer, Courtney Tuggle, and Nicole Bethurum.

ULM is currently in eighth place in the SLC with hopes of moving up to sixth this weekend for a spot in the 2006 Southland Conference Tournament, May 5-7, in Natchitoches, La.

Sithimorada Named to All-Conference Team

Louisiana Monroe senior Daliny Sithimorada was named to the 2006 All-Southland Conference women's tennis second team as announced by the league office.

The native of St. Pierre Du Perray, France, plays No. 3 singles for the Lady Indians. Sithimorada recorded a 7-3 record against SLC competition and 12-6 overall this season.

"I am very proud of Daliny," said ULM head coach Jill Breslin. "Last season she played for us at No. 4, showed great improvement over the summer and fall, and moved up to No. 3 this season. The honor is very well-deserved."

ULM extends the season this week as the No. 6 seed in the 2006 Southland Conference Tournament. They face No. 3-seeded Lamar at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 28 at the UTA Tennis Center in Arlington, Texas.

Finishing out the Month in Athletics

Friday, April 28

2:00 - Women's Tennis vs. Lamar at Southland Conference Championship - Arlington, Texas

6:30 p.m. - Baseball vs. McNeese State - Indian Field - KMLB 1440 AM

Saturday, April 29

TBA - Women's Tennis at SLC Championship - Arlington, Texas

10:30 a.m. - Track & Field Indian Classic (Senior Day) - Brown Stadium

1 p.m. - Softball vs. Texas State (DH) - Lady Indian Field

3 p.m. - Baseball vs. McNeese State - Indian Field - KMLB 1440 AM

Sunday, April 30

TBA - Women's Tennis at SLC Championship - Arlington, Texas

1 p.m. - Softball vs. Texas State (Senior Day) - Lady Indian Field

1 p.m. - Baseball vs. McNeese State - Indian Field - KMLB 1440 AM

Standings

Women's softball - 25-30 overall and 8-16 in SLC play.

Men's baseball – 13-28 overall and 7-9 in SLC play (13-13 / 7-9 under Interim Coach Jeff Schexnaider).

IMPORTANT HOME PAGE LINKS

www.ulm.edu

- Need to update your alumni record?

<https://ssl.ulm.edu/alumni/update.html>

- Want to order the official ULM Ring (you can also call **800-854-7464**)? For a limited time, Josten's and the ULM Alumni Association will be allowing one change to the official ring and that is with the name engraved around the stone. During our 75th anniversary year, you can have the name of the school, when you graduated, put on the ring (**Northeast Louisiana University, Northeast Louisiana State College**, etc).

<http://www.ulm.edu/alumni/>

- To read about all the **Good News** at ULM, and keep up with events being held on and off campus, view the university web site and the University Calendar of events located at:

www.ulm.edu

- Shop the ULM Bookstore on line at: www.ulmbookstore.com

REMINDERS

- If you change your e-mail address, let us know! Send any new e-mail address to walpole@ulm.edu
- If you're a teacher, coach, or educator or if you're interested in helping ULM with its recruitment efforts at your school or in your area, please e-mail Mary Schmeer at schmeer@ulm.edu – your assistance could be the difference in a student attending our university.

And that concludes this edition of **Good News**. As always, thanks for helping spread the **Good News** about our University. Our next **Good News** e-mail should arrive in your inbox around the 15th of May.

ULM wishes you and yours a great day.

GO WARHAWKS!

ULM will continue to use “Indians” and “Lady Indians” until this sports season ends.

GOOD NEWS is e-mailed around the 15th and 30th of each month by your ULM Alumni Association. This e-mail contains a brief sampling of all the **Good News** surrounding our university. If you would like to be removed from this list, please contact Tom Walpole (contact information is below). Thanks for your continuing support of **ULM**.

10,338 Alumni & Friends received this edition of **Good News**

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