



May 3, 2004

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 this list, we help spread the *good news* about our University.

### **PJ's Coffee House Joins the ULM Family**

This week a new addition to ULM's food services was introduced. PJ's Coffee & Tea Company has arrived on the ULM campus. Located in Sandel Hall next to the bookstore, the new coffeehouse enhances the one-stop-shop for students to hang out and relax.

PJ's Coffee & Tea Company's vision is to be the best in the business by providing the highest quality products and cutting-edge concepts to customers. Rapidly becoming the Louisiana favorite coffeehouse, ULM is privileged to have PJ's so close to home. With this partnership it is now possible and convenient for ULM students to enjoy a great cup of PJ's coffee or tea, right here on campus.

### **ULM Speech Team Finishes 3rd In The Nation**

The ULM Speech and Debate Team completed the 2003-2004 season by finishing 3rd at the National Forensic Association National Championship Tournament, which was held at Western Illinois University on April 15-19th, 2004. The tournament featured the nation's top 71 university programs, including programs from Arizona State, Cornell, Florida State, New York University, Purdue, Saint Joseph's, and Seton Hall.

The ULM team was represented by juniors Isaac Henderson and Tara Bouchie, and graduating senior Nick Hirsch. "I feel like our presence was strongly felt," noted head coach Bob Alexander. "Beyond our direct impact with a third place finish, the first place team from the University of Texas was led by former ULM student Ben Robin, and the LSU team, led by former ULM student Travis Kiger, finished 9th in the competition."

## **ATHLETIC SUCCESSES**

### **> ULM Power Lifting Teams Place in National Competition**

In a recent national competition, the ULM women's power lifting team placed 3rd in the nation out of ten competing universities. The men's team, with only three lifters, placed 9th out of 15 competing universities.

### **> Golf Team wins first ever Southland Championship**

Bryan Vahlberg sank a 30-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden death playoff to help ULM claim the 2004 Southland Conference Golf Championship! The Indians had two

previous second place finishes in the SLC Tournament before winning this year's tournament championship. ULM claimed second place finishes in 1986-87 and 1994-95. The only previous conference title came in 1967-68 when ULM won the Gulf States Conference Crown.

"The feeling is indescribable," said Vahlberg. "We have worked so hard for so long and its like finally, we got what we deserve."

"It was a total team effort," said ULM Head Coach Rich Merritt. "I am so proud of these guys. They are a special group of young men." It makes it even sweeter that we did it with freshmen and sophomores," added Merritt. After coming off a fifth place finish in the conference last season, Coach Merritt has made a complete turn around with the Indians this season. Just this spring, the tribe has finished in the top 10, five times in tournament play along with winning the conference championship. The Indians now play in the NCAA Central Region Tournament on May 20-22 which is being held in Lafayette, Indiana.

### **ULM Alumni Travel Schedule**

Before our next Good News e-mail is sent to you, your Alumni Association will have hosted events in the following locations:

- **May 1<sup>st</sup> – Baton Rouge**
- **May 15<sup>th</sup> – Lake Charles**

Join fellow alumni alumni in support of our university. For complete details on all our events, please view the alumni calendar located on the ULM home page.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**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. For a complete listing of all of the *good news*, please visit the ULM web site at [www.ulm.edu](http://www.ulm.edu) If you would like to be removed from this list, please contact Tommy Walpole (contact information is below). Thanks for your continuing support of ULM and I hope you'll help spread the *good news*.

**Good News Count: 951**