



June 30, 2006

Alumni and Friends:

Here is the latest *Good News* from ULM. After reading this e-mail I hope you will forward it to 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.

Next on the Alumni Travel Schedule – Make Your Plans to Join us!

<http://www.ulm.edu/cgi-bin/alumni.pl>

- **Saturday, July 8** – Arkoma (Tulsa, OK area) evening at the ball park
- **Thursday, July 20** – Imperial Calcasieu (Lake Charles, LA area) dinner
- **Saturday, July 22** - Greater Houston Chapter Johnny’s Pizza party
- **Tuesday, July 25** – East/West Carroll (Oak Grove, LA) Chapter dinner
- **Thursday, July 27** – Acadiana (Lafayette, LA area) after hours event
- **Friday, July 28** – Greater Baton Rouge Johnny’s Pizza party
- **Saturday, July 29** – Greater New Orleans Johnny’s Pizza party

TOP STORY

ULM Unveils New Mascot

Joined by over 1,200 excited ULM family members, students, faculty, staff, alumni and community supporters the University of Louisiana at Monroe proudly welcomed the Warhawk as its new mascot Monday, June 26 at Fant-Ewing Coliseum.

In his welcoming remarks, President James Cofer thanked the ULM family, many of whom participated in an extensive public nomination process, and offered their opinions on the new logo designs. “This is a historic day. Our students are able to have their own new traditions, along with the university’s treasured heritage,” he said.

Shortly before ULM unveiled the new mascot logos, including a large, eye-catching Warhawk at center court of Fant-Ewing’s newly-completed floor, Rod Washington, representing Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo, issued a proclamation making June 26 “ULM Warhawks Day.”

The ULM Pep Band’s spirited music, the cheering crowd, the presence of a real red-shouldered hawk and the anticipation of the new logo designs made Monday’s unveiling even more memorable.

One ULM student said, “It was so unique and special to be there, experiencing history first-hand. Today I not only made a change, I accepted it.”

Among the honored guests were Rosemary Chennault Simrall, daughter of Northeast Louisiana General Claire Chennault; Dick Daggett, a WWII pilot who flew the P-40 Warhawk; and George Luffey, chair of the ULM Mascot Committee.

Though Luffey bought the first shirt displaying the new logo, a sizeable crowd waited in line after the ceremony to purchase more of the new merchandise. Kelsey Bagwell, manager of the ULM Bookstore, said that within about an hour after the event, the bookstore sold over \$3,000 in Warhawks shirts, baseball caps, coolers and blankets at a temporary stand in Fant-Ewing.

In the coming weeks, ULM will work with local merchants to meet demand and get more merchandise into the market. The athletics department will also prepare for a new year by upgrading facilities to incorporate the Warhawks.

The complete logo display may be viewed online at:

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

For merchandise, please visit:

<http://www.ulmbookstore.com>

www.warhawkgear.com

Have you joined the ULM Alumni Association yet?

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS

www.ulm.edu/alumni

Is There an Alumni Chapter Near me?

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.

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 Continues

The second year of our Anniversary Dues Campaign is underway. Letters to all alumni who last paid their dues in January – July 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, and \$500.00 for a lifetime membership! I hope you'll take the time to include your check 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 and or the ULM American Express card today! Call 1-800-833-6262 for more information.

NLU Ring Found

A Northeast Louisiana University class ring, lost in Monroe during the Christmas 2005 season, has been turned into the Alumni Center. If you lost (or know who lost) your ring at a local Monroe establishment around that time, please give us a call at the Alumni Center.

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

STUDENTS FIRST

ULM Students Exceed National Praxis Pass Rates

The Communicative Disorders (CODI) program at ULM is proud to announce that 100 percent of its M.S. students passed the national exam in speech-language pathology prior to graduation during the 2005-2006 academic year. This pass rate *exceeds* the national pass rate of 75 percent, which includes persons taking the exam up to three years following graduation.

Individuals are required to take and pass the examination before they can be nationally certified as speech-language pathologists. Working in settings such as hospitals, schools, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, clinics, and private practice, speech-language pathologists evaluate and treat persons with speech, language, cognitive, voice, swallowing, fluency, and related disorders/differences of communication.

Dr. Judy Fellows, department head of Communicative Disorders said, “ We have always had a strong program that has prepared students well to work in clinical settings. Continuing to exceed the national pass rate is a testament to the outstanding academic and clinical preparation provided by the CODI faculty throughout the years.”

The M.S. program in speech-language pathology is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language

Pathology of the American Heart Association. Clinical services are provided to the public through the ULM Speech and Hearing Clinic. For more information, you can contact the clinic at 318-342-1395.

Government Major Receives Summer Internship

Continuing a fine tradition of ULM history and government students landing prestigious summer internships, Francesca Clark has received a summer internship with the American Cancer Society.

Clark, a government major from Eunice, will conduct her assignment in Washington, D.C. and assist the American Cancer Society in a media campaign.

AFPE Awards \$5,000 Scholarship to ULM Pharmacy Student and Faculty Mentor

The American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education (AFPE) has awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to ULM pharmacy student Justin A. Prestridge and his faculty mentor, Dr. Khalid El Sayed.

The award, a 2006 Gateway to Research Scholarship, allows Prestridge and 14 other outstanding professional degree pharmacy students (or baccalaureate degree students with remarkable potential) nationwide to participate in faculty-mentored state-of-the-science pharmaceutical research projects.

El Sayed will advise Prestridge in his project, titled "Optimization of Novel Marine Sponge Laxosubrites Secondary Metabolites as Antiproliferative and Antiangiogenic Leads." The award period began June 1 of this year and will conclude May 31, 2007.

The program's goal is to address the nation's need for more pharmaceutical scientists so as to end academic and industry shortages.

As quoted by the AFPE, "U.S. pharmaceutical companies need Ph.D. pharmaceutical scientists with the specialized education and training in product development, drug delivery, manufacturing quality control and other advanced pharmaceutical science technologies taught at U.S. schools/colleges of pharmacy."

There are 500 (or 11.5 percent) reported full-time college faculty positions vacant nationwide due to the hiring away of pharmacy faculty to pharmacy schools and industry/hospital careers. Retirement of current college instructors also contributes to the shortage.

According to the AFPE, approximately 40 percent of Gateway to Research Scholars enroll for the Ph.D. degree in pharmaceutical science after graduation while 30 percent accept pharmacy residency or fellowship programs after graduation. Both avenues establish a foundation for a career in academic teaching and research.

Nursing and Pharmacy Students to Benefit From Grants Totaling \$273,776

Thanks to proactive faculty at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, many lower-income nursing and pharmacy students will receive substantial financial aid by way of grants totaling \$273,776 from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Florence Gibson, director of nursing, has been awarded \$223,530 for scholarships for disadvantaged students majoring in nursing. Judith Cramer, director of financial aid and scholarships, has received a \$50,246 grant for similar students majoring in pharmacy. Both grants will pay tuition and other fees of current and incoming qualifying students.

HRSA, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides the funds to simultaneously lessen Louisiana's nursing shortage while securing more diverse students to the health sciences, especially students who might not otherwise receive the opportunity.

Faculty members are always seeking to secure grant funds, like these that resulted from the federal

Disadvantaged Minority Health improvement Act of 1990, but available funding varies from year to year, depending on the amount determined by the federal government.

All students are encouraged to apply for these and other scholarships and grants that are also available. Students can apply by using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Selections will be made before the fall semester begins, based on that application.

ON CAMPUS

\$1.3 Million Set for ULM College of Pharmacy

The ULM College of Pharmacy will receive \$1.3 million in federal funds through a budget earmark secured by 5th District U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander. “This will help take us to the next level in research and graduate level teaching,” said ULM College of Pharmacy Dean Lamar Pritchard.

The state of Louisiana bought the 132,000-square-foot building from State Farm for \$6 million last year, but \$6.5 million more was needed to retrofit the building for ULM. The \$1 million will complete funding for the renovations, Pritchard said, while the \$300,000 will be used to buy an electron microscope for the college.

“That piece of equipment allows us to move into areas we’ve not been able to work in before on a molecular level,” Pritchard said. He went on to say he expects classrooms, offices, and teaching labs to be ready in December while he hopes construction of research labs within the building will be ready by late 2007.

ULM College of Pharmacy Expands Horizons West and South

The ULM College of Pharmacy is moving forward as the state’s only publicly funded pharmacy program with the opening of its Shreveport satellite campus and new building in August. The satellite campus at the Louisiana State University Health Science Center at Shreveport represents the college’s renewed emphasis on truly spanning the state, said Lamar Pritchard, ULM Pharmacy Dean.

The facility will house 12 ULM faculty members, classroom and laboratory space, and 25 ULM clinical rotation students with more in subsequent years who also will work in the LSU Medical-Center Shreveport. “For all the top (pharmacy) programs in the nation, the medical centers and pharmacies are very much integrated,” Pritchard said. “That’s our mission.”

There will be an official ribbon-cutting in August before the start of the fall semester, Pritchard said, with the next step being the opening of a second satellite campus at LSUHSC-New Orleans, which is currently displaced in Baton Rouge.

ULM collaborated with LSU several years ago, but that tapered off. When Pritchard was hired as the pharmacy dean in 2004, he was contacting the LSUHSC campuses almost immediately to begin setting up faculty with the ultimate goal of the satellite campuses, said Dr. Roy Clay, LSUHSC-Shreveport Vice Chancellor. Clay said he is excited about the partnership, which will be a “win-win” for ULM and LSU.

“The collaboration better helps LSU’s students and doctors learn more about drug interaction and modern pharmaceuticals, while ULM faculty and students can benefit from additional knowledge of disease interaction and diagnosing illnesses,” Clay said. The result could also mean better patient care.

Apart from providing opportunities in Louisiana, an expanded College of Pharmacy can even help fight the nationwide pharmacist shortage, Pritchard said. But Louisiana is well behind the rest of

the nation in providing residency opportunities for graduating pharmacists, so many leave the state for residencies and never come back. Hopefully, ULM's growth will help stop that, he said.

The Shreveport satellite campus includes five new faculty members, with the others having come to ULM within the last two years, he said. The new faculty includes Associate Dean Michael Cockerham and Roy Parish, the Tom and Mamie Scott endowed chair of clinical pharmaceutical sciences.

Apart from Shreveport, Pritchard said he hopes to have a building and lease finalized in October for a second satellite campus in Baton Rouge. "When and if LSUHSC-New Orleans moves back to the New Orleans, then ULM will follow," he said.

ULM will also partner more with LSU's Health Sciences Center in Monroe, where ULM is stationing two new student-appointed resident pharmacists.

KEDM News Department Takes Home 19 Associated Press Broadcasting Awards

The KEDM-FM news department at the University of Louisiana at Monroe won 19 awards in the 2005 Louisiana Associated Press Broadcasters Association competition June 3 in Baton Rouge, including a Reporter of the Year award for KEDM News Director Sunny Meriwether.

KEDM-FM is the public radio station housed at ULM. Its reporting team, including Sunny Meriwether, Scott Blair, Cynthia Perdue, and Kate Archer along with Maria Carter (a reporter from KCUR in Kansas City whom National Public Radio sent here to help with post hurricane coverage) took first place in the Story of the Year category with a series of reports on Hurricane Katrina.

The news department including Meriwether, Perdue, Blair, Archer and Carter, also took first place in the Continuing Coverage category for Hurricane Katrina related reporting. Archer won first place in Best Sports Story for a story called "Champion Material."

Dr. Bette Kauffman, KEDM's interim general manager, said, "These awards are just the most recent evidence of a 15-year tradition of commitment to quality local, state and regional news. I believe the success of our spring membership drive indicates that our local listeners will indeed invest in quality coverage of events such as Hurricane Katrina."

Meriwether and Perdue, along with Blair and Jillian Rodrigue of the ULM Atmospheric Sciences Center, won first place in the Breaking Weather category with reports on Hurricane Katrina. Meriwether also took three awards in the General News category: first place for a story about teacher pay, second for a story about accountability scores and third for a story about voting machines.

KEDM also swept the Feature category, winning first place for a story on a Poverty Point dig; second place for a story on the Waterfront Landing Restaurant in Columbia; and third place for a story on Pandemonia, an Oak Ridge plantation which holds community days to share folklife traditions.

The Best Sound category was also swept by KEDM with first place going to Meriwether's story on Pandemonia, second to Archer for a story called "A Persistent Tone" and third to Archer for a story on the jingle for the Ruston Peach Festival.

KEDM and Meriwether swept the Best Public Affairs category with first place for a story about the special session of the legislature, second for a story on Medicare drugs, and third for a story about the fire department tax.

The KEDM website also won first place in the competition.

Teacher Open House and Informational Seminar July 6

The Division of Continuing Education for ULM and Kaplan, Inc. are sponsoring a Teacher Open House and Informational Seminar Thursday, July 6, from 5:30 7:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, room 2-108.

The Open House will introduce the community to the part-time teaching opportunities available through Kaplan and to discuss the Kaplan classes that will be offered at ULM. LaShanda Sanders, manager of the Shreveport Kaplan Center and Becky Solley, ULM's director of non-credit programs, will be available to answer questions about the upcoming programs.

Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions provides educational and career services for individuals, schools and businesses. Established in 1938, Kaplan is a leader in the test prep industry. With 3,000 classroom locations worldwide, a comprehensive menu of online offerings and a complete array of books and software, Kaplan offers preparation for more than 80 standardized tests in the U.S. and the U.K.

For more information, contact 318-342-3022.

ULM Natatorium to Temporarily Close for Building Improvements

ULM's Lake C. Oxford Natatorium will close for renovation Saturday, July 1 at 2 p.m. with plans to re-open in mid-September. Current building improvements include repainting the ceiling, removing styrofoam from upper windows to promote a brighter interior, re-painting the sundeck fence and upper outside part of the building, and installing red tile in the pool to distinguish the 5 ft. end from the shallow one.

The Lake C. Oxford Natatorium was built in 1976 and was previously renovated in 1996. In October 2003, a new chlorinating system was installed, followed by a new boiler and air conditioning system in January 2005.

The Natatorium houses two indoor, heated pools; one is a 50-meter by 25 yard competition pool and the other is a 25 yard by 12.5 yard diving well. The diving well has 2 one-meter boards and 2 three-meter boards. The sundeck, which overlooks Bayou DeSiard, has ample deck chairs and tables with umbrellas ideal for sunbathing or enjoying a picnic lunch.

For its members, the Natatorium will offer a complimentary membership to the ULM Activity Center for the months of closure. For more information, contact 318-342-5315.

U.S. Navy Band to Perform July 4th Concert

The United States Navy Band will perform a July 4th concert at ULM's Fant-Ewing Coliseum beginning at 6:00 p.m. Admission to this great family event is *free* and the concert is being sponsored by the Mid-Town Merchant's Association in Monroe.

ATHLETICS

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

ULM Places Eight on the 2006 All-Louisiana Track and Field Teams

Rani Giladi, who took first place in the state in the men's triple jump along with sophomore Amanda Bartless, headlined eight student athletes from ULM who were named to the All-Louisiana Track and Field Teams for 2006.

“L” Club Settles in at Alumni Center

ULM’s letterman’s organization, the “L” Club, has set up shop in a new office at the ULM Alumni Center. Executive Director Billy Laird, along with Bob Anderson and Jimmy “Chick” Childress can be reached at 318-342-5427 / lclub@ulm.edu

Giladi, Shepherd and Bartlett Named to All-SLC Academic Teams

Louisiana Monroe track & field student-athletes Rani Giladi, Kendrick Shepherd and Amanda Bartlett were named to the 2006 Capital One/Southland Conference Track and Field All-Academic Teams by the league office. The three sophomores were among 26 student-athletes named to the men's and women's teams.

Giladi, a native of Degania Bet, Israel, competed at the NCAA Mid-east Regional in the triple jump. He was a three-time all-Southland Conference honoree for his performances in the indoor long jump and triple jump, and in the outdoor triple jump. For his efforts at the indoor championship meet, Giladi was named the 2006 Outstanding Field Performer of the Year. He holds a 3.78 cumulative grade point average in accounting and earned ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District VI First Team honors this spring.

Shepherd, a native of LaPlace, La., competed at the NCAA Mid-east Regional in the 400-meter dash, punching his ticket to Knoxville, Tenn., with a 46.91 in the men's 400-meter dash on May 1 at the rain-delayed ULM Indian Classic. He holds a 3.40 cumulative grade point average and will declare a major this summer.

Bartlett, a native of Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, was the top cross country/ distance runner for ULM in the 2005-06 season. She holds a 3.90 cumulative grade point average in chemistry and earned ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District VI Second Team honors this spring.

Soignier Earns First-Team All-Louisiana Honor

Louisiana Monroe freshman Ben Soignier continued to add to the postseason accolades from his inaugural campaign, as he was named the first-team shortstop on the 2006 Louisiana Sports Writers Association All-Louisiana College Baseball team first-team. Soignier was also a first-team All-Southland Conference selection and the league’s Newcomer of the Year, as well as a member of Louisville Slugger’s Freshman All-America Team.

A native of West Monroe, La, Soignier enjoyed a stellar freshman campaign that included a team-leading 18-game hitting streak, the only five hit game and multiple home run game by an ULM player this season and a batting average that peaked at .377.

On the season, Soignier led ULM in hits with 71, runs scored with 44, total bases with 98 and stolen bases with 18. He was second or tied for second in home runs (5), runs batted in (30), and slugging percentage (.480). Soignier also finished the year with 21 multiple hit games and seven multiple RBI games.

In conference play, he increased his production, leading the team in batting average (.396), hits (44), runs (28), doubles (7), RBIs (19), total bases (62) and stolen bases with 10. He enjoyed his most explosive game of the season on April 1, when he finished 3-for-5 with two home runs and five RBI at Texas State. He also pounded out a career-high five hits against Sam Houston State on March 26.

ULM Welcomes Full Sun Belt Membership

On July 1st, ULM becomes a full member (all sports) of the Sun Belt Conference. This is yet another exciting development for our university. Here is a quick look back at our successes while a member of the Southland Conference:

Regular-Season Titles

Football: 1983 (co-champs); **1987**, 1990, 1992

Men's basketball: 1986, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1996 (tri-champs)

Women's basketball: 1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 2005 (co-champs)

Baseball: 1983, 1996 (Louisiana Division), 1999, 2000 (co-champs), 2002 (co-champs)

Softball: 1985, 1986, 1997

Men's tennis: 1998 (regular-season standings for years of 1996, 1998-to present only.)

Postseason Tournaments Titles

(Sports that also have regular-season standings)

Men's basketball: 1986, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1996

Women's basketball: 1983

Softball: 1985, 1986

Baseball: 1995

Postseason Tournament Championships

(Sports with no regular-season standings)

Women's cross country: 1985, 1986

Football: **1987 1-AA National Champions!**

Men's indoor track and field: 1986, 1987, 1988

Women's indoor track and field: 1987, 1989

Men's outdoor track and field: 1987, 1988

Women's outdoor track and field: 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989

Men's tennis: 1984, 1985, 1987 (co), 1988, 1989 (co), 1990, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997 — all tournament champions as there were no regular-season champs back then

Women's tennis: 1984, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1996, 1997 - individual points accumulated from regular-season and tournament play resulted in team champion.

Men's golf: 2004 (tournament)

FOOTBALL SEASON TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

318-342-3ULM

(Renewal forms will be mailed soon)

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.
- ULM will be closed Monday, July 3rd and Tuesday, July 4th.

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

ULM wishes you and yours a great day and a very happy **4th of July**.

GO WARHAWKS!

Good News is e-mailed around the 15th and 30th of each month by the 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**.

10,302 Alumni & Friends received this edition of *Good News*

Tom Walpole

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