



September 15, 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.

### **BIG ULM WEEKEND . . .**

*Join with fellow alumni and friends on September 25<sup>th</sup> for:*

> Olin Hall, a landmark on the campus of the University of Louisiana at Monroe for years, will be imploded on Saturday, Sept. 25th at 10 a.m. The hall, built in the late 1960's, has endured preparation for its demolition for weeks. Several floors of the building have been gutted and stair-cases are being removed. A champagne brunch is scheduled for the morning of the implosion in the University Conference Center on the 7th floor of the ULM Library. Guests will have a bird's eye view of the building. The cost is \$50 per person, which includes drinks, food, and a front row seat with university officials as Olin Hall is demolished. Seating is limited and will be granted on a first-come, first serve basis. For additional information or to purchase a ticket, please call University Relations at 318-342-5440.

A 1,000 ft. area around Olin Hall will be blocked off the morning of the implosion. There will be several regulations that University Police will be enforcing during this time. Other areas will be available to view the implosion, however they are limited.

> Join the Ouachita Parish Chapter of the ULM Alumni Association as they host their annual Shrimp Boil that afternoon from 2:30 – 5:30 in the ULM Grove – tickets are \$15.00 per person and they are available at the ULM Alumni Center (342-5420 / 800-261-0174).

> The date of the implosion and Shrimp Boil coincides with our ULM Indian Football home opener against Arkansas State University at Malone Stadium. Game time for this Sunbelt Conference game is 6:30 p.m. Wear your **maroon** (maroon at home / gold on the road) and spend the day with your university on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **SDA Presents Funds to ULM to Aid in Small Business Development**

Mike Taylor of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and University of Louisiana President James E. Cofer announced Wednesday that the university has received a \$268,000 Rural Business Enterprise Grant. The university was awarded the grant on behalf of the Louisiana Small Business Development Centers State Office located in the ULM College of Business Administration. The RBEG grant will enable the LSBDC to provide technical assistance in 15

selected parishes and towns in Louisiana with populations of less than 50,000 and poverty rates of 18% or higher. Rural residents can create jobs for themselves and for others in their community through the creation of private business enterprises.

To accomplish the goal of creating new businesses and jobs, training programs and individual counseling will be provided by the six Small Business Development Centers serving those parishes. In the last eight years, the LSBDC network has conducted over 3,300 training programs with over 59,000 attendees and has provided over 127,000 hours of one-on-one counseling to 26,000 individuals and businesses.

“The university is an integral component of economic development both through academic research and service to businesses,” Cofer said. ULM hosts the state office of the Louisiana Small Business Development Center network, which provides technical assistance to small businesses across the state. This Rural Development grant enhances the ability of the LSBDC to reach out to rural communities to provide the services individuals need to start and expand businesses,” Cofer said.

### **Congressman Alexander Presents Over 2 Million in Grant Funding to ULM**

The University of Louisiana at Monroe received \$2,435,006 (total) in federal funding from U.S. Rep. Rodney Alexander, R-Quitman, that will go toward ULM's Louisiana Transition to Teaching Program (LA T2T). The LA T2T program was initiated by University of Louisiana System President Sally Clausen and the ULS Board Staff. In a partnership between McNeese, Northwestern, Nichols and ULM, the grant will provide alternate pathways to receiving teacher certification in 21 high poverty school districts in Louisiana. ULM will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant. The Transition to Teaching Grant Program is a discretionary grant program funded under the No Child Left Behind Act. The goal of the program is to support projects that increase the number of highly-qualified teachers by recruiting and retaining highly qualified mid-career professionals (including qualified paraprofessionals), and recent college graduates who have not majored in education as teachers in high-need schools in high-need districts through the use of existing, or development and enhancement of new, alternative routes to certification.

It is a partnership of 21 school systems and four universities with existing alternative pathways to teacher certification in four areas of the state. The project proposes to attract outstanding candidates for critical shortage areas throughout the state and will coordinate statewide initiatives to recruit and train 575 new teachers selected from a broad range of highly qualified mid-career professionals and recent college graduates from diverse backgrounds. For the first year of the LA T2T program, ULM will receive \$485,770.

“We are delighted to be able to work with these other fine institutions in our system,” Cofer said. “The shortage of certified teachers in our state’s classrooms is a problem we are all addressing through this grant. We are grateful to the UL System and their efforts to make this possible. We also want to express gratitude to Congressman Alexander for his assistance in securing this funding,” Cofer said.

### **Athletic Updates**

> University of Louisiana at Monroe punter Joel Stelly, who ranked No. 3 among the nation’s punters last fall, has been nominated for the Ray Guy Award.

The Ray Guy Award, named for the former Southern Mississippi and National Football League punter, goes annually to a player chosen as the nation's best punter by a committee of football experts.

Stelly averaged 46.3 yards a punt last fall as a sophomore. His average was a ULM and Sun Belt Conference record and he was named to the all-conference first team. Indian Coach Charlie Weatherbie says Stelly "can be as good as any punter in the country. I've never been around anybody better and I've coached three punters who made it to the NFL." A former all-state punter as a senior at Cecilia High School, Stelly is also an outstanding place kicker and is expected to handle kickoffs as well as punt in ULM's season opener against Auburn Saturday.

> The University of Louisiana at Monroe's water ski team—the nation's premier collegiate power in the sport—begins its 2004 fall season Saturday and Sunday in the University of Texas Fall Classic. The meet, to be held in Frameswitch, TX, just outside Austin, attracts some of the top teams in the Southwest and the nation, including Louisiana-Lafayette, which edged ULM for last year's National Collegiate Water Ski Association championship.

ULM has won 17 of the 25 NCWSA championships and is expected to be a national contender again this year. Coach Bill Bagley's team includes Regina Jaquess, the world trick champion in 2001-03 and world overall champion in 2003; Matt Curmi, the reigning men's national trick champion; and Ryan Dodd, second only to former ULM skier Freddy Kruger in the recent Master Craft Pro Tour men's jump.

> Both University of Louisiana at Monroe track teams took victories over Louisiana Tech and Centenary in the Pine Hills Twilight cross country meet last Friday. Coach J.D. Malone's Indian men defeated Tech, 24-32, and Centenary, 15-45, in the men's four-mile race. In the women's two-mile event, the ULM ladies won by a 25-32.

> **ULM OFFERS FANS FOUR GAME FLIGHT DEALS** - football fans are being offered four attractive package deals to fly to Indian games in Wyoming, Idaho, Florida and Tennessee in the coming weeks. The flight packages, offered by ULM and the Indian Athletic Foundation, include the plane flight, hotel room, and game ticket—all for only \$400 or \$350 for double occupancy. For additional information, fans can call Molly Pealer at the IAF office, 318-342-5428.

## **AROUND ULM / ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS**

> HOMECOMING 2004 (*ULM...Our Place in the Sun*) is set for October 16<sup>th</sup>! Its time to begin making your plans to join us in Monroe for this exciting weekend of events. **A new ULM Tradition, the OFFICIAL ULM CLASS RING**, will be unveiled during Homecoming weekend. A Homecoming flier is on its way to your home now.

> Join your ULM Alumni Association at our Alumni / Student super tailgate event in Little Rock on September 18<sup>th</sup> when ULM opens its "Home" season against the Hogs of Arkansas. Tailgate time is noon – look for the ULM tent at the **Baseball Complex** located just behind War Memorial Stadium. Wear your **Gold** (maroon at home / gold on the road) and come support our Indians. Food, drink, the opportunity to purchase ULM t-shirts, a DJ playing tunes, and a great time will be had by all.

For a complete listing of all our Chapter and Indian Athletic Foundation events, please view the Alumni Calendar of Events

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

Need to update your alumni record?

<https://www.ulm.edu/webform/alumni/update.html>

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/>

Thanks for helping spread the *good news* about our ULM.

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**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**.

**Good News Count: 3250**