

### Olin Hall to Come Down this Fall

Mark your calendar! Olin Hall, built in the late 1960s, is scheduled to be imploded this fall. September 25 and October 16 have been announced as two possible demolition dates.

Olin Hall has been a landmark on the campus of the University of Louisiana at Monroe for years, and plans to bring down the now-obsolete building, which many ULM male students have called "home", have been in the works for months since the announcement of the \$50 million student housing project.

"The building has not housed students since fall 2000 due to its deteriorating condition," Vice President for Business Affairs Dr. Nick Bruno said. "The removal of Olin will contribute to the university's plan to systematically reconfigure the campus appearance."

Most of the negotiations and planning for Olin's demolition were handled by the state. Anderson Excavators of Omaha, Nebraska holds the contract for the demolition work, and representatives of the company could arrive on campus this summer to begin planning the demolition. Both tentative demolition dates fall on the days of ULM home games. Arkansas State University is scheduled to play at Malone Stadium on September 25 and Florida International is scheduled for October 16.

Other dormitories on campus were demolished this summer, including Sherrouse and Hudson Halls, and renovations on Madison and Ouachita halls have already begun.

*(More on page 4)*

### Potts Professorship To Be Established



*Thurman and Nadine Potts*

Industry Advisory Council Chairman Larry Favalora proudly announced at the IAC April meeting that the initial \$20,000 needed to create a \$100,000 Thurman

Establishing an Endowed Professorship in honor of Thurman Potts, the founding director of the school of construction, was one of the primary goals of the IAC and, under the leadership of Charles Poole, it took the members less than a year to raise enough money to make it a reality.

Thurman Potts came to ULM, then Northeast Louisiana State College, in fall 1966 to assume the administration of the newly-created department of building construction after practicing architecture for 20 years. Pott's appointment was announced by

*(Continued on page 3)*

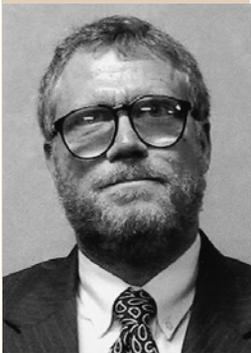
Potts Endowed Professorship had been raised thanks to the efforts of the members of the IAC and the generosity of many School of Construction alumni and friends.

A \$40,000 matching gift was made by the Louisiana Contractors' Educational Trust Fund (CETF). The CETF gift will soon be matched by the Louisiana Board of Regents for a total of \$100,000.

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## DIRECTOR'S CORNER



Dr. Keith A. Parker

### Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I think back and try to put together this edition of "Director's Corner", one word keeps reoccurring. That word – ALUMNI. Although I have been a part of the School of Construction for over fifteen years, I never truly appreciated our alumni until I became the director. What a difference alumni support makes!!! When state budgets are low, our alumni have given financial support. When accreditation issues have arisen, our alumni have been there to show the outstanding quality of our graduates. When planning the future direction of our program, our alumni have participated in the strategic planning process.

Our alumni are not only active with the School

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*"To you, the School of Construction alumni, I would like to say thank you for all that you have done in the past and the commitments you have made for the future."*

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of Construction, but hold leadership positions supporting the university as a whole. JP Pierce currently serves as president of the ULM Alumni Association, Gary Barnhill serves as president of the Dallas / Fort Worth chapter, Michael Smith is the regional vice president of Area Seven, and Ted Williamson serves as president of the Texas Hill Country chapter. The School of Construction alumni are there at every turn. To you, the School of Construction alumni, I would like to say thank you for all that you have done in the past and the commitments you have made for the future. You are truly a group like none other!!!

**Dr. Keith A. Parker,**  
**Director, ULM School of Construction**



### Football 2004 Schedule

09/04/2004	@ Auburn
09/18/2004	Arkansas in Little Rock, Ark.
09/25/2004	Arkansas St.
10/02/2004	@ Wyoming
10/09/2004	@ Idaho
10/16/2004	Florida International
10/23/2004	@ Florida Atlantic
10/30/2004	@ North Texas
11/06/2004	Utah St
11/13/2004	@ Middle Tenn St
11/20/2004	Louisiana-Lafayette

For season tickets call  
**(318) 342-3ULM**

### Upcoming Events Mark Your Calendar

Sept. 25	Olin Hall Demolition (Tentative Date) ULM Alumni Board Meeting Ouachita Parish Shrimp Boil
Oct. 11-16	Homecoming Week
Oct. 14	ULM Alumni Awards Dinner
Oct. 16	Homecoming
Nov. 6	Browse on the Bayou
Nov. 20	Maroon Out and Chili Cook-Off
Dec. 18	Commencement

Check Out More Events at  
[www.ulm.edu/calendar](http://www.ulm.edu/calendar)  
[www.ulmathletics.com](http://www.ulmathletics.com)

## Potts Professorship (continued)

Dr. Dan Dupree, Dean of the College of Pure and Applied Sciences at the time.

Under Potts' leadership, the ULM School of Construction grew to become one of the largest construction programs in the nation, and was the first program to receive national accreditation in 1976. Potts retired in January 1987 but has remained involved with the construction program to this day.

Potts has been active in numerous organizations throughout his career. He was one of the founders and a past president of the Associated Schools of Construction; one of the founders, past trustee and vice-president of the American Council for Construction Education; and was named a fellow of the American Institute of Constructors.

Born in Oklahoma and reared in Kansas, Potts attended Kansas State University (B.S. Architecture), and the University of Nebraska (M.S. Architecture). Potts' construction career was interrupted from 1942-1945 by World War II during which he served in the Second Marine Division. He received the Purple Heart for wounds received during the Saipan Campaign. Potts started his career as an architect and soon became president of Potts & Associates of Watertown, South Dakota, prior to coming to ULM.

Potts received Professor Emeritus status in 1988, an honor that recognizes the many years of service and dedication to the university and the invaluable contributions to the School of Construction and to the students.

"The School of Construction is very appreciative of the people who contributed to making the Potts Endowed Professorship a reality," Dr. Parker said. "Professorships have a tremendous impact on the university as a whole and more directly on the School of Construction as they allow the school to attract and retain superior faculty to the benefit of the students."

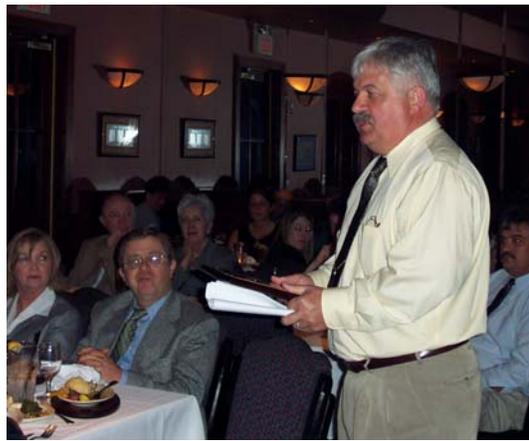
To Thurman Potts' surprise, who was not even aware of the IAC efforts to create the professorship in his name, numerous friends, family members, and former students gathered at Copeland's restaurant on April 2, to celebrate the event with him and his wife, Nadine.



Dan and Jehnell Dupree, Don Greenland III and Larry Favalora.



Dan Dupree, past executive vice-president of ACCE.



Charles Poole was the emcee for the evening.



Left to right: Kathy and David Dumas, Richard Nelson, Ray Windsor, Sally Breckenridge Windsor and David Dorsch.

# Olin Hall Construction History

In the 1960s the lack of suitable land on campus to accommodate 832 men forced the university administration to get away from three-story dormitory models and to build Olin Hall as an eleven-story structure. Olin Hall was named for the Olin family of Olin-Mathieson Chemical Corporation.

The State Board of Education approved the project in November 1965, and appointed Herbert Land and Prentiss Seymour of Monroe as associated architects for the dormitory for men. Preliminary plans and the purchase of the George Phillips' home as the primary site for Olin Hall were approved in March 1966. Final plans and specifications were approved in May 1966. The Board awarded the construction contract to Jesse F. Heard and Sons of Monroe in June 1966. The Board accepted Olin Hall as substantially complete in February 1968, and it was partially occupied at the beginning of the spring semester 1968. The Board awarded the contract for the expansion of the parking lot at the rear of Olin Hall to Bentz and Elmore of Monroe. The total cost of the building was recorded at \$3,124,594.

Source: *The Building of a University, Northeast Louisiana University*, by George T. Walker Ph.D.



Olin Hall

## ULM Student Housing Construction Timeline

### Fall 2004

#### Madison Hall

Technology upgrades to provide phone, cable television, and broadband Internet services as well as renovations to units and common areas, new furniture, perimeter fence and landscaping.

#### Ouachita Hall

Technology upgrades to provide phone, cable television, and broadband Internet services as well as renovations to units and common areas, new furniture, windows, air conditioning and heating with individual thermostats in rooms, and landscaping.

#### Masur Hall

Interior and exterior paint.

### Fall 2005

#### Madison Hall

New windows in units as well as new air conditioning and heating with individual thermostats in rooms, new window blinds in units and medicine cabinets with mirrors in unit bathrooms.

#### Ouachita Hall

Extensive renovations to bathrooms including new showers, sinks, vanities, doors, exhaust fans, accessories and paint.

### 2005/2006

#### East Side of the Bayou Apartments

408 single-occupied bedrooms in 129 apartment-style units; new furniture for bedrooms and living areas; technology wiring to provide phone, cable television, and broadband Internet services.

#### Student Health Center

Also to include separate counseling center.

### Spring 2006

#### East Side of the Bayou Suites

160 single-occupied bedrooms in 80 suite-style units; new furniture for bedrooms and building common areas; technology wiring to provide phone, cable television, and broadband Internet services; and conference area.

### Fall 2006

#### West Side of the Bayou Suites

120 double-occupied bedrooms in 120 suite-style units; 224 single-occupied bedrooms in 112 suite-style units; new furniture for bedrooms and building common areas; technology wiring to provide phone, cable television, and broadband Internet services; laundry facilities; leasing office; retail space; and guest quarters.

*Bayou-Side Park Amphitheater and volleyball court.*

## Dorms Demolition Schedule

Hudson Hall	Summer 2004
Sherrouse Hall	Summer 2004
Olin Hall	Fall 2004
Lemert Hall	Summer 2005
Monroe Hall	Summer 2005
Slater Hall	Summer 2005
Breard Hall	Summer 2006
Cosper Hall	Summer 2006
Harris Hall	Summer 2006

Ouachita, Madison and Masur Halls are currently being updated, modernized and refreshed. Renovations include rewiring, new air conditioning systems and replacing doors and windows. Matching red roofs will be put on these buildings in 2005.

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friends.

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Editor  
Vanessa Doherty

# Construction Alumni participate in Campus Housing Project

JPI, one of the nation's largest fully integrated commercial real estate firms specializing in the acquisition, development, construction and management of residential communities, has a long history with ULM. In fact, Stan T. Waldrop (BS '81) was one of the original six founders of JPI. Stan was the original construction partner and his responsibility was to build a construction company that grew into an organization that built over \$1.5 million of finished product per day for a decade. "To build such an organization I needed talent," Stan recalls. "So we grew our own talent and hired directly from ULM (then NLU) and paired them with experienced builders who made for partners and trainers for the green recruits who have today grown to be recognized as the best in the business."

A total of seven ULM School of Construction alumni are involved in the current \$50 million housing project at ULM, and JPI anticipates hiring more interns from the School of Construction.

**Craig Cummings** (BS '84) is the senior vice president and has been with JPI for 12 years. He is responsible for the overall risk management and construction for the project. "My education at ULM gave me the basic understanding of what I would encounter in the real world," he said. "It is a great feeling and honor to be able to go back to my alma mater, knowing that I will be part of enhancing the university. This project will upgrade the university housing to the twenty-first century. It will definitely be a draw for new students."

**Karl Meeks** (BS '93), an active member of the ULM School of Construction Industry Advisory Council, is the regional vice president of student living construction. Karl has been with JPI for 11 years, and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations, including working closely with the construction managers and project managers to see that all jobs are delivered on time and within budget. Karl also spends about half of his time working with the development and construction estimating team on new business needs. "We have been selected to build projects for some of the most prestigious universities in the country," Karl said. "I can honestly say that I am prouder of being a part of this project than any of the other projects we have been a part of." Karl chose to study at ULM because it had the first ACCE accredited construction management program in the nation. "The program had long been regarded as one of the best programs of its kind," he said. "After graduation, I was fully prepared for an entry-level management position with a large contractor." Karl is currently involved in \$105 million worth of projects at different universities across the U.S.

**Doug Sorey** (BS '94) joined JPI in 1995 and is the construction manager for the ULM project. Doug's duties include managing the contract negotiations with subcontractors. **Mike Dixon** (BS '86) is the project manager and **Scott Pipsair** (BS '95), senior lumber analyst, is responsible for estimating and purchasing the lumber materials needed for JPI's construction projects.

**Tim Breaux** (BS '02) has been with JPI since graduation. As the assistant superintendent, his responsibilities include ensuring that all trades, from foundation to rough-in to finish end, complete their work accurately per plans and specification. "I am looking forward to returning to ULM to help give the campus a fresh new look," he said. "It will be good to come back to Louisiana for a while." Originally from Plaquemine, La., Tim is currently finishing up his second on-campus student housing project with JPI at California University of Pennsylvania. Tim chose to study at ULM because he liked the smaller classes which foster a better student/professor relationship. "The School of Construction gave me the classroom experience I needed to do my job," he said.

**Andrew Pruett** (BS '90) has been with JPI for 8 years. As the senior scheduler, he is responsible for monitoring the status of the construction project manager schedule and providing updated weekly and monthly status reports to the project team. He is also assisting the efforts of field staff in the coordination of labor, subcontractors and material deliveries. "It is very exciting to be a part of this project, both personally and professionally," he said. "Personally, because, as a native of West Monroe and a graduate of ULM, it is an opportunity to give back to the community and faculty for their dedication and commitment to higher education. Professionally, because JPI's commitment to quality and design has been and still is a hallmark of all its projects."

Andrew chose to come to ULM because his oldest brother also graduated from ULM with a construction degree in 1974 and has had a very successful career. "More than anything, my education at ULM gave me the confidence to pursue a career in any arena of construction; whether it was commercial, industrial or multi-family," he said. "The construction program had depth and quality and the faculty were well rounded in their experiences. Those combined characteristics provided a solid foundation for my first steps into the construction industry." Andrew has been on project teams for over 90 conventional and student-living projects with JPI.

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## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Gary Young, '79**  
**President and Founder,**  
**Young Contracting Co. Inc.**

**Young Contracting Co., Inc.**  
**General Contractors**



Gary Young

Born and raised in Mobile, Alabama, Gary Young has always been fascinated by the construction industry. "It is very results oriented," he explains. "You can see what your efforts produce in the form of a new facility, retail center, office and the likes."

Upon graduation from then Northeast Louisiana University in 1979, Gary began his career with a national construction firm located in the southwest, where he gained significant experience constructing industrial facilities, retail strip centers, regional malls and office building projects. After promotion to Division Vice President, he was given responsibility for the Atlanta Regional Office. In 1991, Gary decided to venture out on his own and founded Young Contracting Co. Inc.

"The ULM construction program significantly targeted my interest in building," he recalls, "and upon graduation, after gaining experience with a growing construction company, the program also prepared me to go into business for myself."

Today, as president of Young Contracting Co., Gary oversees the day-to-day company operations, including business development and administration and is involved in all aspects of company operations.

Among recent company projects is Camp Creek, located in Atlanta, Ga. The Camp Creek project was over 300,000 retail square feet and was successfully completed within eight months. During construction, even though rainfall totaled 60 inches

over a record-setting four months, all deadlines were met or exceeded and within budget. The Atlanta Business Chronicle recognized the project as Retail Deal of the Year and the completion of the project brought an increase in the community tax base by \$750M, creating 3,000 new jobs for the South Fulton County area.

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*"The ULM construction program significantly targeted my interest in building, and upon graduation, after gaining experience with a growing construction company, the program also prepared me to go into business for myself."*

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The Georgia Branch of the Associated General Contractors of America also recognized Young Contracting Co. Inc., for their excellent results with the Camp Creek project by selecting them for the 2004 Build Georgia Award.

Gary is very involved in the construction industry. In May 2004, he was installed as the 77<sup>th</sup> President of the Georgia Branch of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc., and his primary goal during his term is to maintain the chapter's

status as one of the top five AGC chapters in the country.

Gary's advice to construction students is simple, "while in school, get involved in the construction industry and as many extracurricular activities as possible. After school, take on as many different projects as possible to learn as much as you can in the shortest period of time, it makes you more valuable to your employer."

Gary has been married to Donna Young for 27 years, and they have 2 daughters, Jana and Laura. He enjoys playing golf, fishing and hunting.

### ABOUT YOUNG CONTRACTING CO., INC.

Founded in 1991, Young Contracting Co., Inc. is an industry-leading retail construction firm with a team of talented and highly skilled professionals committed to building quality projects on time and within budget.

Young Contracting Co. Inc., began as a small commercial contracting firm and found its niche in the retail industry. Initial projects included pharmacies and small to medium-sized strip shopping centers, and quickly moved to larger "big box" projects. Within ten years, the company has grown substantially. With offices in Georgia and Florida, revenues topped \$60 million. Young Contracting Co. Inc., currently has 57 employees. [www.youngcontracting.com](http://www.youngcontracting.com).

## INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

The spring meeting of the Industry Advisory Council took place on April 2, 2004, at the School of Construction with 17 members in attendance.

Dr. Parker reported that the spring enrollment had slightly increased to 177 students. Faculty members have attended numerous recruiting and promotion events in and out-of state.

A motion was passed to accept the following new members: **Gary Thornton**, Thorn Co.; **Andy Jones**, VCC; **Dean Hart, Jr.**, Dean Hart Construction; **Michael Smith**, Frank Dale Construction; and **Collin Dunn**, Rangers Steel Erectors.

Dr. Parker renewed his "Director's Challenge" by making his third \$1,000 personal donation to the School of Construction Foundation. IAC members are strongly encouraged to pledge their minimum contribution of \$500 per year. Long-term commitments are also needed. Donations should be made to the "ULM Foundation – School of Construction."

## MCAA NEWS

On March 3, 2004 at the Mechanical Contractors Association of America's (MCAA) annual convention, Dr. David Manry and three students – Michael Barron, Gary Beard, and Heath Lenert – represented the SOC as it obtained its MCAA student chapter charter. The establishment of the *MCA Groundbreakers Chapter of the University of Louisiana at Monroe* continues the work of both the faculty and the industry advisory council (especially Henry Heier, Mechanical Electrical Committee Chair) to provide more avenues for student involvement and job opportunities in the specialty contracting field.

The SOC thanks Bob and Chris FitzGerald of FitzGerald Contractors, Inc. in Shreveport for spearheading the effort to get the MCA of Shreveport-Bossier, Inc., to sponsor the SOC chapter. This new association with industry is already showing dividends as Dr. Manry applied for and has already received a \$4,000 Emerging Chapter Grant from MCAA. Half of the grant will provide scholarship money to SOC students and the other half will be used to help support the chapter's activities – including field trips, industry speakers, community service projects, and MCAA student competitions.

## A Fishing Trip To Remember

On May 15 and 16, another group of four embarked upon a fishing adventure with Larry Favalora ('73), chairman of the School of Construction Industry Advisory Council and president of Favalora Constructors.

Randy Alexander of Fitzgerald Mechanical Contractors, his son-in-law, Josh Rea, his father-in-law, Vernon Anderson, and his friend, David McLemore were the lucky winners of the fishing trip auctioned off at the fall 2003 Guild Contractor's banquet. The group stayed in a 3-bedroom house on the water in Barataria, La., and fished Saturday and Sunday morning.

More than the number or kind of fish they caught, the group will likely remember the good times they spent together on the boat and at the house. "We had a wonderful time and Larry went out of his way to make sure we did," Randy said. "The food and fellowship couldn't have been better."

According to the group, there were several memorable moments and Vernon, who earned the nickname "You know what I mean – Vern," seemed to have been involved in all of them.

"Saturday morning we were all huddled up under the boat's small canopy top trying to stay as dry as we could during the hard blowing rain," Randy fondly remembers. "Everyone was wet except for me, I had a complete rain suit and everyone else just had a top or a piece of one. After an hour and a half, my son-in-law, Josh, was shivering cold and wet when 'You know what I mean – Vern' asked him if he would like a rain suit and said 'I've got one in my back pocket.' Cold and wet Josh replied: 'You're telling me after all this time you've got a rain suit in your back pocket!?' Vern said yes, reached in his pocket and pulled it out. We all laughed so hard that our stomachs were hurting. Another incident was when Larry was going to make a long cast and hit Vern in the back of his head with the heavy lead weight. When he saw that Vern was going to live he said 'I'm sorry Vern-You know what I mean,' and the laughter started again. Actually the laughter never stopped the entire trip."

Another fishing trip will be auctioned off at the fall 2004 Guild Contractor's Banquet, so start saving if you want to experience the Favalora fishing adventure!

## Groundbreaker Newsletter

*Note: The Contractor's Banquet is the students' main fundraiser. All proceeds go toward helping students attend the convention of their choice.*

# STUDENTS' NEWS

## Groundbreaker Newsletter



Todd Harris  
Highest GPA



Gary Gunter  
Outstanding Graduate

## ÓË Awards

The Xi Chapter of *Sigma Lambda Chi* held its awards ceremony in March 2004. Congratulations to Todd Harris, who received the Highest GPA Award, and Gary Gunter, who received the Outstanding Graduate Award. The spring 2004 *SLX* inductees are Phillip Beasley, Greg Bienvenu, Danny Bolden, Matt Bridges, Harold Curry, Ryan Elkins, Heath Lenert, Kyle Lowery, Tommy Tran and Brian Webster.

Other members included Allyson Sheppard, president, Wes Cruse, vice-president, Andrew Clack, pledge trainer, James Clark, Ryan Grigsby, Gary Gunter, Jr., Todd Harris, Jeremy McMorris, Glen Moore, Phillip Perot, Brandon Rogers, Justin Scarborough and James Thomas.

The 2004-2005 *SLX* officers are Kyle Lowery, President, and Andrew Clack, Vice President.

## Potts/AGC Golf Tournament

The Thurman Potts/AGC Scholarship Golf Tournament was held on Monday, April 26 at the Audubon Trail's Calvert Crossing Golf Club in Calhoun, La. Proceeds from this event go towards funding the Thurman Potts-AGC Scholarship given to a construction student at the ULM School of Construction. This is the premier scholarship given to construction students at the university. Due to the overwhelming success of the tournament, four additional scholarships have been added as well – two go to construction students at ULM and two go to students in Louisiana Tech's Construction Engineering Technology Program.

Those taking home trophies and prizes from this year's event were:

**Champion Flight:** First place went to the Hertz Equipment Rental (Monroe) team, which consisted of Paul Nelson, Jason Hogg, Randy Rhymes and Shubert Willis. Second place winners were Craig Newton (TXI-Monroe), Clint Cheaney (TXI-Shreveport), Dave Jackson (Dave Jackson Builders-Rayville) and Foy Gadberry (Lazenby & Associates-West Monroe). Third place went to the team of Eric Lafitte (James Construction Group-Ruston), Marshall Hill (DOTD-Monroe), Barry Lacy (DOTD-Baton Rouge) and Kevin Crosby (Lazeby & Associates-West Monroe).

**First flight:** The first place team in this flight was from Rogers Manufacturing (West Monroe). Included on the team were Derek Moody, Brad Black, Marc Rockett and Norm McKenna. The second place finishers were Jeff Boatright, Roger Fuller, Mike

Mullins and Chris Nichols of the Murco (Monroe) team. Third place went to Jack Gullede (TXI-Shreveport), Dan Poole (McInnis Bros. Construction-Minden), Mike Turner and Holt Mead (both with Walton Construction-Shreveport).

**Second flight:** Taking home first place was the Louisiana Machinery (Monroe) team of Josh Toney, Cole McEacharn, Robert Ellington and Gabe Landry. Second place was Matt Massey (Insight, Inc.-Ruston), Scott Thompson (Lincoln Builders-Ruston), Ken Slusher (Ouachita Parish Schools-Monroe) and Brian McGuire (Hugh Parker Architect-Monroe). Finally, third place winners in the flight were Glenn Golson (Golson Architecture-West Monroe), James Henry (James H. Henry & Associates-Monroe), Greg Weston (The Hartford-Metairie) and Phil Norton.

Individual honors went to Jason Hogg (Hertz Equipment Rental) on the Longest Drive competition, and Closest to the Hole awards went to Norm McKenna (Rogers), Stacey Manning (Hi-Tower Concrete Pumping) and Randy Rhymes (Hertz).

Louisiana AGC would like to thank everyone who participated and to the sponsors who helped make this year's event another great success. A special thanks to Labor Finders for donating all the ditty bags, TXI for supplying lunch to all participants, Irrigation Mart for contributing drinks at the tournament, and Kenny Bates for operating the Longest Drive competition all day. Finally, thanks to the ULM Construction Guild and the Calvert Crossing staff for their efforts, Charles Poole (James Construction) and especially to the small, but hard working Golf Committee, Danny Matthews (Irrigation Mart), Dodd Lewis (Labor Finders) and Larry Manning (TXI).

Check Out  
Our Students'  
Resumes  
at  
[www.ulm.edu/  
construction](http://www.ulm.edu/construction)

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES

### Spring 2004

Ryan Elkins	Glen Moore
Gary Gunter	Lee Moreau
Todd Harris	Matthew Neal
Phillip Perot	James Reneau
Allyson Sheppard	

### Summer 2004

Andrew Brown
Wes Cruse
Todd Hale
William Kays
Jeremy McMorris
Stewart Smith

## ACCE Headquarters Move

This semester, the headquarters of the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE), the accrediting body for construction programs throughout the nation, moved from Monroe, La., to San Antonio, Tex., after Dr. Dan Dupree's retirement. Dr. Dupree, former Dean of the College of Pure and Applied Sciences at ULM, served as executive vice president of the ACCE for 15 years from July 1989 to July 2004. The Council showed its respect and admiration by renaming its construction education trust The Dan and Jehnell Dupree Construction Education Trust Fund. This will be a living gift to the Duprees in honor of their devotion to ACCE. Mike Holland is taking Dan's place as executive vice president and Dr. Bill Bernes, Dean of Southern Polytechnic State University out of Marietta, Ga., serves as the new ACCE president.

Four Guild members - Wes Cruse, Andrew Clack, James Reneau, and Kyle Lowery - volunteered their time and energy to load up the moving van to make the move easier and faster for the ACCE employees. To show their appreciation, Mike Holland and Dan Dupree presented them with a \$500 check. Dr. Dupree also donated over 100 three-ring binders to the university.



*Left to right: Mike Holland, Kyle Lowery, Andrew Clack, James Reneau and Dan Dupree. Missing in the picture is Wes Cruse.*

### 2004-2005 Guild Officers

Andrew Clack	President
Kyle Lowery	Vice President
Ali Hajazi	Secretary/Treasurer
Kelly Barkley	AGC President
Dustin Jordan	ABC President
Robert Rice	MCA
Michael Armstrong	NAHB

### Internships Needed!

The Industry Advisory Council recently created an Internship Committee to investigate the possibility of developing a system of internships or summer jobs for the students of the School of Construction. The School is now looking for companies willing to participate in this summer internship program. If your company is interested in participating in this program, contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1860.

## Students Visit Disney Job Site At AGC Convention

This semester, thanks in part to the money raised at the Guild Contractor's Banquet, 14 students were able to attend the 85<sup>th</sup> annual AGC Convention in Orlando, Florida. They were Kelly Barkley, Andrew Brown, Wes Cruse, Jason Deal, Todd Hale, Kyle Lowery, Brian McLawchlin, Jeremy McMorris, Glen Moore, Daniel Peterson, James Reneau, Stuart Smith, Tommy Tran, and Shane Williams.

Guided by Jack Blitch ('71), vice president for project management, they had the opportunity to visit one of Walt Disney Imagineering's job sites, a new animated ride with I-MAX screen. Walt Disney Imagineering (WDI) is the master planning, creative development, design, engineering, production, project management and research and development subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company, and its corps of Imagineers is responsible for the creation, from conception to

initiation through installation, of all Disney resorts, theme park attractions, real estate development, regional entertainment venues and new media projects. The students met with one of the project managers, who showed them the stages of the project using 3-D and 4-D technology softwares. They received a free Disney tee-shirt as a souvenir and went to the Disney park afterwards.

The students enjoyed the convention and met with a wide range of contractors. Some of the students even received job offers after making contact with companies at the convention. "The convention offers a lot of networking opportunities," James Reneau, past Guild president said. "We met a lot of people at the exposition, as well as students from other schools, including people we competed against in Dallas, Tex., last February. It was great to get into the real world."

## Alumni Meetings



### Dallas Crawfish Boil

Left to right: Dr. Keith Parker, Sam Adams, Gary Barnhill, Addison Moore, Chris Guice, Karl Meeks, J.P. Pierce, Michael Smith, Ryan Wright, Josh Kidd, and Mark West.



### Caddo-Bossier Crawfish Boil

Left to right: Brian Weems, Kevin Bryant, Keith Parker, and J.P. Pierce.



John "JP" M. Pierce

## Construction Grad Is President of Alumni Association

John "JP" M. Pierce (BS '77, JD '98) has been elected to serve as the 2004-2005 president of the ULM Alumni Association. John is vice president at Chamberlin Waterproofing & Roofing Systems, Inc., in Dallas, Texas. He and his wife, Lynette, live in Dallas and have one child, Blake. He is the former president of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of the Alumni Association as well as a life member of the Alumni Association. John is a member of the Indian Athletic Foundation and has served on the Alumni Association Board for five years.

"It is the mission of the Alumni Association to support the fulfillment of our university's mission through the meaningful engagement of our alumni," he said. "So, I encourage you to support the university and get involved at any level, pay your Alumni Association dues (they're only \$25 per person, or \$35 for a couple) or, become a Life Member, apply for a ULM credit card provided by MBNA, purchase season tickets to athletic events, and attend a chapter function. There are many activities during the year to choose from. Simply log onto [www.ulm.edu/alumni](http://www.ulm.edu/alumni) for updates, information, activities, events, and schedules. I look forward to seeing you at the next alumni event."

This spring semester was another busy semester on the road. The School of Construction and the ULM Alumni Association organized and attended many alumni meeting throughout Louisiana and out of state.

On March 27, the Alumni Association held its annual meeting in conjunction with Browse on the Bayou and the Hall of Fame week end. We met with the Dallas, Texas, Chapter on April 24, with the Lafayette Chapter on May 1, with the Lake Charles Chapter on May 15, with the Austin, Texas, Chapter on May 23, and with the Caddo-Bossier Chapter on June 26.

Many more meetings are planned for next semester. For more information on the dates and locations of these meeting check out the alumni web site at [www.ulm.edu/alumni](http://www.ulm.edu/alumni) If you wish to start or revive a construction alumni chapter in your area contact Dr. Keith Parker at (318) 342-1860. It's great to hear from you!

## Construction Alumni Inducteed Into Hall of Fame

**Harold Thompson** ('80), the all-time leading tackler in ULM history, recording 509 career stops from 1976-79, recently became one of the newest members of the ULM Athletics Hall of Fame. He was inducted on March 27 together with Lawrence A. "Larry" Giambelluca, M.D., William E. "Billy" Laird, Bob DeMoss and Larry Turner.

"These gentlemen not only made significant contributions on the field, but continue to be great ambassadors of our University," Brian Moreau, Executive Director of the ULM Indian Athletic Foundation, said.

Thompson's 175 tackles in 1977 still stand as the university's single-season record and he was named to the All-South Independent Team his senior season. The Monroe native helped lead the Indians to a 6-4-1 record in 1978, John David Crow's first season as head coach. Thompson earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Building Construction from ULM in 1980, graduating Cum Laude and he was selected to Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. He is now the Senior Vice President for Metzger Construction Company in Houston, Texas, and lives in The Woodlands, Texas.

# ALUMNI UPDATES

Keep in Touch. It's great to hear from you!

## Sgt. Christopher "Aaron" Armstrong '03

After finishing up training at Camp Beaugard, Aaron left the U.S. for Afghanistan in April 2004. "We work closely with Kellogg-Brown & Root and also local nationals on survey and quality control of runway apron extension, survey and quality control of rotary helicopter pads, design of simple structures, Auto-Cad drawings, quantity take-offs for dirt and concrete, and project supervising and team leading. We are starting a road and some of my duties will include survey, design, scheduling, quality control and terramodel."



*Sgt. Christopher Armstrong.*

## Michael Cruse '79

Senior Vice President, Ford, Bacon & Davis, LLC., Greenville, S.C.

While at ULM, Michael was inducted into *Sigma Lambda Chi*, served on the student chapter of the AGC and was President of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. He joined FB&D in 1979 and started as a Proposals Manager at the Monroe office and later served the company at its offices in Monroe, Atlanta, Ga., and Jacksonville, Fla. as Business Development Manager, Director of Business Development, General Manager, Vice President of Business Development and Vice President of the Pulp, Paper and Power Business Unit. During the years 1992 through 2000, Michael left FB&D to serve as Vice President with Brown & Root in Houston, Texas and Vice President with Jacobs Engineering in Greenville, South Carolina. In May 2000, he re-joined FB&D as Senior Vice President of Operations. He currently has overall responsibility for projects in the power, pulp & paper, building products, specialty chemicals and industrial /manufacturing industry sectors. Project work for these sectors is carried out from FB&D Monroe, Baton Rouge, La., Bangalore, India, Houston, Tex., and Greenville, S.C. offices.

## Lenfield D. "Butch" Gilley '03

Project Manager, Engineered Retaining Wall Systems, Dallas, Tex.

"I am responsible for delivery of materials, inventory of materials, watching a crew of 10-14 workers, coordinating with other superintendents, and much much more. Every day is a new task and goal. So far I have been from Alabama to North Carolina to Virginia to Pennsylvania and now Iowa. I haven't been so happy with a job in all my life until now. Once again many thanks to all the professors at the School of Construction."

## Dean Hart, Jr. '96

Construction Manager, Dean Hart Construction, West Monroe, La.

## Charles Michael Mardis '03

Project Manager/ Estimator, Butch Thompson Enterprises, Inc., Kennesaw, Ga.

## Christopher M. Mardis '03

Project Manager, Perry Butcher and Associates, Rogers, Ark.

## Nikolaj Morris '03

Building Superintendent, America's Home Place, Hattiesburg, Miss.

## Martin R. Scheve II '74

Vice President, Brice Building Company, New Orleans Division, La.

Martin has recently taken on additional responsibilities as Director of Estimating for the New Orleans division. A native of Baton Rouge, La., Martin joined Brice in 1974. He is President for Life of the Construction Industry Association, New Orleans Chapter. In addition to his role as Director of Estimating, Martin has overall responsibility for Brice's Ochsner Clinic Foundation projects.

## Allyson Sheppard '04

Job Site Superintendent, America's Home Place, Ga.

## Michael Smith '89

Vice President Field Operations, Frank Dale Construction, Ltd., Dallas, Tex.

## In Memoriam

**Donald L. Smith '83**, passed away on February 9, 2004, at the age of 43 of a heart attack. He worked for Turner Construction Company, and was on special assignment in Dallas, Tex., working with Boeing and the TSA. He is survived by his wife of 22 years, Melanie, and his three daughters, Melissa (18), Michelle (14) and Marie (12). He lived in Powell, Ohio.

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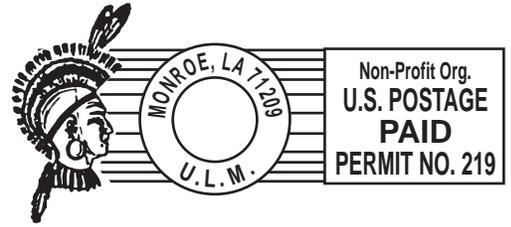
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## ALUMNI NEWS, KEEP US INFORMED !

### ALUMNI UPDATE:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Grad.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signed/Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return your news to **Editor Groundbreaker**, University of Louisiana at Monroe, School of Construction, Monroe, LA 71209-0540. Or e-mail to: **kparker@ulm.edu** ; or fax to (318) 342-1861