

# ULM

Teaching 21st-Century Nurses  
The University that Loves Monroe  
National Champions in Class

SPRING 2008  
THE MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA MONROE



**Winners – on the team and in the classroom**

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER



*James & Deborah Cofer*

Learning at the University of Louisiana at Monroe extends beyond the classroom. In this issue of the ULM Magazine, you will discover the limitless creativity of our faculty and staff, who constantly examine new teaching methods. Our nursing students care for simulated patients—computerized manikins that our professors program to emulate medical traumas—in our state-of-the-art Clinical Simulation Center, which mirrors the equipment and the medical emergencies our students will face as professional nurses.

Many of our students, working closely with faculty, staff and alumni, conduct research in our community as part of the new Social Science Research lab. Their research, which incorporates such disciplines as sociology, psychology, marketing and political

science, benefits our economy while giving students real-world experience. Our faculty and staff designed the Mathematics Resource Center and the Write Place, two new labs that utilize the most advanced technology, including online tutorials that give students instant feedback on their work.

While we will always examine methods to better the student experience at ULM, it is equally vital to realize what we have already accomplished. Our student-athletes illustrate that excellence. These students juggle more than their chosen sports; they manage class work, arduous travel schedules, practice, friends and families, all while continuing to excel in the academy. Many have earned spots on the prestigious Athletics Director's Honor Roll, which recognizes GPAs of 3.0 and above. That dedication results in triumph both in the classroom and outside of the classroom. Our cheerleaders and our water ski team members recently secured national championship titles.

ULM earned another national award, one that recognizes the strong character of our faculty, staff and students. Our university accepted the National Marrow Donor Program's Collegiate Innovation Award, which recognizes the extraordinary outcome of ULM's Bone Marrow Drive in 2007, when more than 2,600 ULM faculty, staff, and students as well as members of the Monroe community, poured into our Student Union Building and set a national record for participation in a one-day drive.

Our alumni continue to share their professional achievements with us. I encourage you to read about our featured alumni, including Richard Cravatts (B.A. '72, M.A. '73), whose opinion pieces appear in The New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Boston Globe.

We look forward to hearing from you.

James E. Cofer, Sr.  
*President*

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 2, Spring 2008

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The ULM Magazine is published semiannually for members of the ULM Alumni Association and friends by the University of Louisiana Monroe and the ULM Alumni Association.

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Letters and comments may be published and edited for length.

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## ON THE COVER

*A few of ULM's student-athletes (clockwise, from top): Tyler Collins, co-captain of the national champion water ski team; Tiffany Coker, captain of the national champion cheerleading team; Shannon Lloyd, center for the Warhawks women's basketball team; Darrius Battles, Warhawk football cornerback; Rani Giladi, triple-jump and high jump specialist in Warhawk track and field.*

## Record bone marrow drive wins Collegiate Innovation Award

**M**ore than 2,600 ULM faculty, staff, students and Monroe community members poured into the Student Union Building in February 2007 to set the national record for a one-day bone marrow drive.

unprecedented level of participation. The Clinical Laboratory Science Department and the Office of Student Life and Leadership sponsored the drive.

Snyder was tested during ULM's drive. When he discovered he was a match for a child, he immediately agreed to the procedure.

The awards ceremony was a

"great opportunity," Snyder said. "It was very humbling ... I was inspired by the work of everyone there."

**WE HEARD ABOUT PEOPLE WHO WERE SAVED AND LIVES THAT WERE LOST WAITING. ULM'S DRIVE MADE A DIFFERENCE."**

*—Debbie Wisenor, interim department head of clinical laboratory science*

Representing ULM at the

November awards ceremony was a "true honor," Wisenor added.

When two ULM representatives visited Minneapolis for the National Marrow Donor Program 2007 Council Meeting, they shared the university's spirit with 11,000 people from 31 countries.

Debbie Wisenor, interim department head of clinical laboratory science, and Chase Snyder, College of Pharmacy student and Student Government Association vice president, accepted the Collegiate Innovation Award in honor of ULM's

"I am extremely proud of ULM, especially the student organizations who worked tirelessly to make the Bone Marrow Drive successful," she said. "During the ceremony, we heard testimonials about people who were saved by a bone marrow transplant and about the lives that were lost waiting on a donor match. These stories made me even more aware that ULM's drive made a difference."

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## Agriculture goes high tech with GPS



*Dr. James Casey*

**F**aculty and students in the ULM Agriculture Department have been given a substantial technology boost, making them far more competitive in an increasingly difficult marketplace.

Thanks to a \$70,000 undergraduate enhancement grant resulting from a partnership between the Board of Regents, the university and the ULM Foundation, agribusiness students may make their rounds on tractors featuring the most up-to-date electronic GPS guidance system, among other savvy technology advancements.

To cite just one example, the technology will help students as they survey row crops like corn, soybeans, wheat, and cotton grown on the Morris and Ella Johnson Farm.

The decision to incorporate new and practical applications of biotechnology, mapping software, and GPS/GIS technologies into the agribusiness curriculum demonstrates ULM's participation in the latest industry developments.

"The university is committed to exposing its students to state-of-the-art demonstrations in field laboratory situations and experiences related to farm management," said James Casey, department head.

## Redesigned courses focus on students first

The mathematics and English composition courses required for ULM freshmen are now more user-friendly and effective, thanks to new approaches combined with the two innovative initiatives – the Mathematics Resource Center and the Write Place.

Intro courses were redesigned with an emphasis on sound methodology, student-centered learning, clear assessment criteria, and effective technology. Those four elements reflect the National Center for Academic Transformation (NCAT) Roadmap to Redesign philosophy.

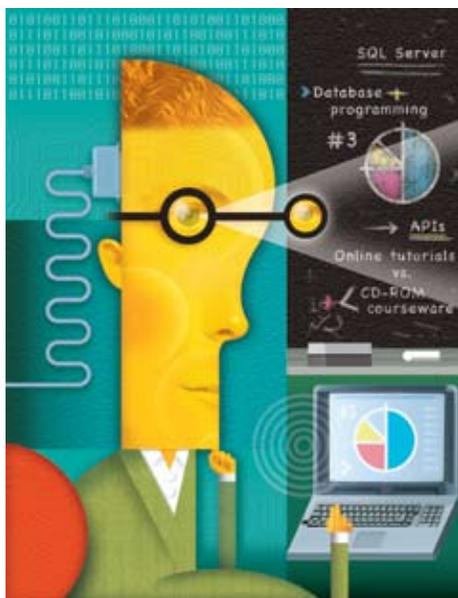


*Dr. Dale Magoun*

With a focus on increasing student retention, the mathematics department fully revamped the college algebra core courses for all freshmen following the NCAT approach, according to **Dr. Dale Magoun**, head of the mathematics and physics department. “This philosophy embraces the notion that even the highest-quality students encounter challenges and require support to progress successfully,” Magoun said.

That support is available in the Mathematics Resource Center in the Hemphill Airway and Computer Science Building, which offers individual training for students of varied skill levels.

For example, the required five-hour course College Algebra with Review is divided into group and individual instruction. Students meet twice a week in the Mathematics Resource Center, where



they use the most advanced software system to complete homework, take quizzes and examinations, and assure they have met each required level of achievement. Faculty and graduate students provide individual assistance while the software gives simultaneous, accurate feedback.

In addition to enjoying redesigned courses, students also have a new site where they can complete writing assignments and exercises for English 101 and 102.

“The Write Place, with its 50 Student Technology Access Plan-funded computers, allows students to work on their assignments individually or to consult one of the tutors, some of whom are English faculty, about their writing,” says director of first-year composition **Dr. Christopher Harris**.

The Write Place, located in the Administration Building, uses the latest technology. Online tutorials offer students instant feedback as they work through the required challenges; new courseware helps instructors track how much time and work each student spends on each tutorial. The tutorials allow instructors to devote more classroom time to writing. Students also have access to individual time with instructors and faculty, who are always available at the center.



*Dr. Christopher Harris*

## University Residence nears completion

The house is becoming a home. In the next few months President James E. Cofer, Sr. and First Lady Deborah Cofer will move into the University Residence—a beautiful Acadian-style home on the bayou side of Bon Aire Drive near the Anna Gray Noe Alumni Center.

Since 1995, ULM has been the only one of the eight institutions in the University of Louisiana System without an on-campus president's residence.

The ULM Foundation Board of Trustees decided to change that.

Foundation members began discussing an on-campus residence in December 2005. In August 2006, the Foundation Board approved a fund-raising



**“THIS IS A COMMUNITY RESOURCE, A UNIVERSITY RESOURCE.”**

— ULM President James E. Cofer, Sr.

campaign for the project, identified leadership, and began raising money to construct the residence at no cost to the university.

“We’ve seen several campus improvements over the past couple of years, but one thing has been lacking, and that’s a residence for the university president,” said ULM Foundation immediate past president Betty Cummins. She added that responses to the fund-raising efforts were “overwhelming.”

The residence includes spacious rooms and

outdoor lawn and patio areas that will be used for special events involving all the ULM family—students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

ULM President James Cofer praised the efforts of the Foundation.

“Deborah and I are impressed by the ULM Foundation’s tireless and visionary commitment to enhancing the philanthropic support of this institution. Their day-to-day efforts already increase donations and community goodwill,” he said.

“We will soon have the proper jewel on the bayou to attract current and future donors, increase campus fund-raising efforts, and provide an appropriate venue to properly recognize faculty, staff, and student achievements.”

Cofer recalled being invited to the new president’s home during his college days at Mississippi State University.

“It is something special to be invited to the president’s home,” Cofer said. “This is a community resource, a university resource. Deborah and I will be the first to live here, but we will certainly not be the last. This is also a gift to future university presidents.”

Open house plans for summer 2008 are being finalized and will be announced soon.



*A carved wood panel in the University Residence echoes the ULM Bell Tower*

## Malone packs 'em in

The tailgating started on Thursday and carried on well past the end of the game.

On Nov. 10, a record crowd of 30,101 packed into Malone Stadium to see the Warhawks take on the Grambling State Tigers. In the end, the Warhawks prevailed 28-14.

The attendance mark broke the old record of 28,725 set on Oct. 10, 1998 against Louisiana Tech. It was also the fifth-largest attendance for an on-campus game in Sun Belt Conference history.

With a historic 21-14 victory over Alabama, the Warhawks finished the 2007 season on a high note.

"It was a great atmosphere and was everything we thought it would be. These types of match-ups make all the sense in the world and help generate interest in football in northeast Louisiana," said Athletics Director Bobby Staub.



A record crowd of 30,101 filled Malone Stadium to see the Warhawks take on the Grambling State Tigers.

Head Football Coach Charlie Weatherbie was equally excited.

"It was a great crowd. There were a lot of Grambling fans here, as well as a lot of ULM fans. It was great to see our crowd come to life."

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## Turning water and wine into scholarships

What began as a way to fund ULM scholarships has evolved into a premier wine-tasting affair.

Wine Over Water is a signature event for the University of Louisiana at Monroe held in late May.

Begun during ULM's 75th Anniversary in 2006 by the Alumni Association and the Ouachita Parish Alumni Chapter, Wine Over Water offers guests the opportunity to sample wines and hors d'oeuvres from local restaurants. All proceeds benefit the ULM Scholarship Fund.

In addition to the culinary treats, attendees enjoy live entertainment, bayou cruises, a silent auction, and a chance to attend the



prelude to the main event—a Patron Party at the University Conference Center.

For more information, email Tommy Walpole at walpole@ulm.edu or call (318) 342-5420 or (800) 927-4295.

## “All you really want is a number”

It has been said that baseball is the most mathematical of any team sport. The use of statistics in all sports began in the mid-19th century baseball era. Batting averages, runs batted in, win-loss percentages, even the geometric shape of the field are all integral to the game.

But one number is deemed more precious by a player than any statistic—the one on his jersey. And the greatest honor any player can earn is the retirement of a jersey number.

All a baseball player really wants is a number, said an emotional Ben Sheets, #15.

ULM retired the jersey number of Sheets, who pitched for ULM from 1997-1999, and of Chuck Finley, #31, who played at then-NLU from 1984-1985. Sheets and Finley join Lou St. Amant, #24, as the only ULM baseball players to receive such an honor.

To have that jersey number retired is “some-

**LET THEM SEE YOUR FACE,  
LET THEM HEAR YOUR STORIES,  
GIVE THEM HOPE AND TELL THEM:  
IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU.”**

— Chuck Finley, ULM baseball player

thing to be proud of,” Sheets said. “You come up here and you don’t expect anything. All you really want is a number.” Tears welling up in his eyes and his voice full of emotion, he said, “Thanks, that’s all I can say.”

In 2000, Sheets pitched Team USA to an Olympic Gold Medal. He’s now in his eighth season with the Milwaukee Brewers as the ace of the team’s pitching staff.

Finley, inducted into the ULM Hall of Fame in 1996, termed his jersey retirement very special.

“Playing in the big league is very tough; it’s a



Ben Sheets (left) and Chuck Finley (right) with ULM head baseball coach Jeff Schexnaider

lot of hard work. You really don’t think about the numbers until you’re done playing. This makes you very proud. When I came out to Northeast and started playing here, I never thought that this would actually happen, but it did,” said Finley.

“I tell people all the time: you can actually be from a small town and make it. You don’t have to be from a big school. You can be from a smaller school and still make it. It’s very important that you show yourself to kids, let them see your face, let them hear your stories, give them hope and tell them: it can happen to you.”

Finley’s 16-year professional career as a pitcher included stints with the Anaheim Angels, Cleveland Indians and the St. Louis Cardinals.

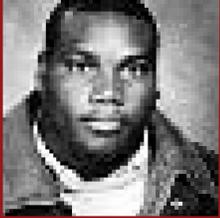
Of the two incredible athletes, ULM President James Cofer said, “It’s a great day for ULM.”

Bobby Staub, ULM athletics director, thanked the baseball greats for returning to their alma mater. “It’s phenomenal to have two players of this stature come from this school.”

Both Sheets and Finley have represented ULM incredibly well, said Jeff Schexnaider, ULM head baseball coach.

“Not a day goes by that their names are not mentioned. Every recruit we talk to, their names come up. That lets them know that their dreams can come true, right here at ULM.”

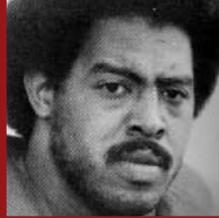
## ULM inducts Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2008



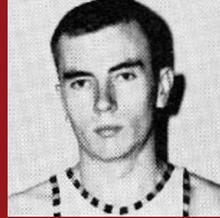
Claude Brumfield



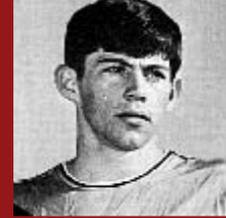
John David Crow



Glenn Flemming



Jimmy Walker



Don Warren

The L Club, the university's official association of former student-athletes, inducted Claude Brumfield (football), John David Crow (football coach & administration), Glenn Flemming (football), Jimmy Walker (men's basketball) and Don Warren (track & field) during ULM's Hall of Fame Weekend April 4-5.

"This is an exciting time for the L Club and its sponsorship of the Sports Hall of Fame," L Club president Bob Cooper said. "Each of these inductees represents former letter award winners and the university in a way we can all take pride. They are now formally recognized as a permanent part of the most distinguished letter award winners from ULM, and we look forward to honoring their selection."

For more information visit [www.ulm.edu/lclub](http://www.ulm.edu/lclub)

**Claude Brumfield** (1984-87) was one of the team captains for the 1987 1-AA National Championship Football Team. Claude made the Kodak, Walter Camp, Sports Network, Football News and AP All-American teams in 1987. He was a first-team all-conference and all-state selection in 1987 and a second-team all conference in 1986. Brumfield had 27 tackles in 1984, 33 in 1985, 52 in 1986 and 50 tackles in 1987.

**John David Crow** served as ULM's head football coach and athletic director. He was a near-unanimous choice for the Louisiana "Coach of the Year" in 1980. Coach Crow was also only the second Heisman Trophy winner to be a collegiate head coach. While athletic director, Coach Crow was instrumental in the

construction of Malone Stadium, the ULM Baseball complex, and converting the Booster Club to the Athletic Foundation.

**Glenn Flemming** (1973-75) was ULM's first two-time, first team All-American in football. He played nose guard and linebacker. Flemming was named All-America in 1973-74. He still holds school records for most first hits with 113 and most blocked field goals with three.

**Jimmy Walker** (1961-64) was a three-time all-Gulf States Conference basketball player. He still ranks among ULM's top 20 scorers with 1,217 career points. He led the team in several categories during his career including scoring (1963-64, 17.8), field goal percentage (1963-64, .443), and rebounding in two seasons (1962-63, 10.7, and 1963-64, 9.9). His top single-game efforts were 34 points vs. Louisiana Tech and 21 rebounds vs. Southeastern Louisiana.

**Don Warren** (1967-70) was the NAIA national long jump champion in 1970 and was named All-American. He won the Gulf States Conference title in the long jump as a freshman and competed in the World University Games in Turin, Italy. From Jackson, Miss., he held both ULM horizontal jump records for many years with bests of 51'-2", the state record at the time, and 25'-0". After 20 years, his triple jump distance still ranked in ULM's all-time top five. He helped ULM win two conference team titles and finish 12th in the NAIA national meet.





# NURSING CONFIDENCE

**SIMULATION EXPERIENCE BUILDS  
REAL SKILLS IN HIGH-TECH NEW LAB**

**By Diana Pinckley  
Photography by Will Crocker**

**L**ying in a state-of-the-art intensive care unit, Mr. Wickersham is clearly very ill. The elderly man is by turns fearful, confused and angry, spouting phrases that don't always make sense. His nursing team has just met him and is in the midst of assessing his vital signs and physical condition when he goes into cardiac arrest.

"We did CPR and brought him back," says team member Tiffany Terra. "Our teachers were nice and let him live."

Monroe resident Terra is a nursing student at ULM, and the environment in which her teachers have power over life and death is the Clinical Simulation Center, on the second floor of the ULM Nursing Building.

For more than three years, ULM has offered the 250 students enrolled in its professional nursing program a chance to learn bedside skills in a hands-on manner through an advanced form of technology called clinical simulation.

The future nurses practice assessment, crisis intervention and day-to-day care on sophisticated manikins programmed to breathe and to produce heart, lung and bowel sounds. The manikins can gag, vomit, and even talk, thanks to integrated computers. They can be programmed to die and can be resuscitated.

Two recent grants underwrite a new critical care simulation facility and a new pregnant manikin, along with video recording equipment.

The Louisiana Board of Regents Enhancement Fund awarded ULM \$40,000 to construct a



*Previous Page, left to right: student Tiffany Terra, Lab Coordinator/Advisor Jan Shows, assistant professor Rayne Lowder, student Mallory Hawthorne, student Haynes Garrett, student Nayana Shrestha, This page left to right: Tiffany Terra, assistant professor Sandra Jones, Mallory Hawthorne.*

realistic ICU—with authentic equipment—that was completed in early March. A Louisiana Nurses Foundation Promise Grant added over \$18,000 to buy NOELLE, a maternal and neonatal birthing manikin, who can “deliver” a baby.

That grant also funds video equipment to record student interaction with the manikins. Faculty members can use the videos for debriefing, and students can review their own performance.

The new investments join significant existing nurse education technology at ULM.

“High school students or students from other universities come in and they may have had experience in a simulation situation that has one room, one bed, one computer,” says nursing skills lab coordinator Jan Shows. “We have two big labs with 15 beds each. We turn the manikins on—they breathe, their hearts beat, they talk—and students are just ecstatic.”

A course focused entirely on simulation is part of the second semester, and faculty use the lab in their courses at all levels.

The clinical simulation exercises allow students to hone essential skills through simple observation as well as experience crisis situations, says Dr. Florencetta Gibson, director of the ULM School of Nursing. “What do you see? What do you

hear? The basic core of nursing is assessment, and this is a wonderful way to teach it.”

Students know that the “patient” is plastic, not flesh and blood. They know that simulators can be adapted to be male or female. But as they get involved, it all starts to seem very real, says Donna Glaze, who holds the ULM Endowed Professorship in Nursing.

“The instructors have prepared the patient with a name and an armband,” Glaze explains. “They set the vital signs and introduce the patient to the students as if they were in a hospital setting.

“In one case, the scenario involved an older gentleman recovering from prostate surgery. The nursing team approached the patient, introduced themselves, and when they drew back the sheet, they saw a significant amount of blood loss. (Of course, it was artificial blood.)

“They got their gloves on and went to work. And I will never forget their faces when they saw the ‘emergency.’ It was real to them—they showed nothing but compassion and concern.”

Such situations also emphasize the importance of teamwork, Glaze says, adding that everyone quickly understands and carries out their roles.

The faculty members who work with the simulation program observe behind one-way mirrors.

They can “talk” for the simulated patients—in the voice of an elderly man, a woman, a child—but they aren’t available to give clues about the right approach.

“Students respond without us going ‘Hey, don’t you want to look over there?’ and that makes it even more successful,” says associate professor of nursing Rayne Lowder, who teaches a course in the simulation lab. “When you’re out there by yourself, it’s a whole other ballgame.”

In the safety of a school lab, students can simulate care that is appropriate for situations that do not commonly occur—or the things that happen during the parts of a hospital day when students are not present.

Simulators and other technological innovations have changed the way nursing is taught, says Gibson. Previously, at end of the day in a clinical setting, faculty relied on debriefing students and discussing what steps to take if certain situations had progressed. But with simulation, nursing students can deal hands-on with those complications.

nursing educators, nearly 1,600 qualified applicants are on waiting lists for nursing programs in the state.

Finding enough clinical sites for nursing training has also become more of a challenge, given an increasing focus on outpatient services that has led to more programs vying for fewer slots.

“We can only assign a limited number of students per medical unit,” says Gibson. “When we have other schools of nursing and professional healthcare units seeking to assign to those same units, we have to be cautious to not overbook.”

Patient safety is a universal priority; simulated patients enhance it because they give students experience in a fail-safe setting before they move on to a clinical site.

In a letter of support that was part of the grant application, Darlene Smith, chief nursing officer of St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, wrote “A nursing lab is the appropriate environment for students to practice their skills before they go into the clinical environment. Practice in an

**HAVING SIMULATION EQUIPMENT AND BEING ABLE TO BUILD IT INTO THE CURRICULUM HAS MADE ULM EQUIVALENT TO LARGER SCHOOLS OF NURSING ACROSS THE NATION.”**

— DR. FLORENGETTA GIBSON, DIRECTOR OF THE ULM SCHOOL OF NURSING



“Simulations will never replace interaction with real patients and they’re not intended to,” says Glaze. “But it’s hard to practice with a real patient.” Adds Shows, “It really helps students to go through an experience in a controlled setting rather than in a hospital, where things can get out of control.”

Gibson points out that manikins are useful in teaching nurses to be sensitive to needs of diverse cultures and groups. “Some manikins have scenarios that take into account race, poverty or affluence,” she says. “Our students have to be prepared to take care of the general population, and that includes a lot of variety.”

Simulation training carries many benefits for the real world. Recent statistics indicate that the state has 4,000 to 5,000 unfilled slots for registered nurses. Because of a shortage of experienced

appropriately outfitted nursing lab alleviates much of the anxiety when [they are] performing a procedure on a patient for the first time. A more confident nursing student equals a less anxious patient.”

After integrating the nursing clinical simulation labs into its curriculum, ULM’s College of Pharmacy has obtained its own manikin. Shows has a vision of all ULM health sciences areas working together in a multidisciplinary lab to provide a seamless simulation experience.

The simulation lab will also be used for continuing nursing education, as well as demonstrations for elementary school classes, scout troops and the like.

“The feedback is just astounding,” says Lowder. “Students are happy about it—and once they have the hands-on experience, they don’t ever forget.”



# Victory 360

By Diana Pinckley • Photography Will Crocker

## ULM STUDENTS POST WINNING RECORDS, IN COMPETITION AND IN THE CLASSROOM

**W**hen senior cornerback Darrius Battles lifted his arms in a gesture of victory at the end of last season's ULM win over Alabama, it wasn't just because the Warhawks had just defeated the legendary SEC football powerhouse by a touchdown.

Battles' upraised arms also marked a very personal win. Forced to sit out the 2006 season for academic ineligibility, he came back strong. In the spring 2007 semester, Battles was one of 105 student-athletes with a 3.0 or better academic average to earn a place on the ULM Athletic Director's Honor Roll.

*ULM athletes left to right: Rani Giladi, Tiffany Coker, Darrius Battles, Tyler Collins and Shannon Lloyd*

“You have to be disciplined, because time doesn’t wait on anyone,” says Battles, a general studies major with an emphasis in criminal justice. “You have to use your time wisely. Once it’s gone, it’s gone.”

Discipline and time management are universal skills for ULM student-athletes in all sports, including the championship water ski and cheerleading teams.

### A QUESTION OF BALANCE

Battles points out that ULM football coach Charlie Weatherbie uses quotes during practice to motivate his team. “My favorite one is ‘as you think, you are.’ I feel confident on the field. And that quote helped me see that if I can be more confident in the classroom, then my level of accomplishment would go up. It started to happen like that, too. On the field and in class, it’s the will and drive that make the difference.”

Battles plans to take a shot at the pro football draft this spring; he hopes eventually to return to ULM for a graduate degree in criminal justice or mass communication.

He is looking forward to graduation in May—when the Mobile, Ala., native will be the first in his family to receive a bachelor’s degree. “My mom loves football. She loves to see me play. But a degree will be the ultimate gift that I can give her,” he says.

While athletes may love their sport, like Battles, they are in college to earn degrees. The pressures can be intense.

“One of the big challenges for a student-athlete is just trying to balance everything,” says Lauri Mondschein, former ULM assistant athletics director for academics and compliance. “If you’re a student and not an athlete, college is challenging enough. You have to balance class time, study time, a social life, perhaps a part-time job or family obligations, and go home on some weekends.

“An athlete does all that and then puts in two, three or four hours a day in practice, as well as travel, team meetings and competitions. It’s a

significant commitment of time and energy to be good at all your roles—athlete, student, friend, son or daughter—and to save a little down time for yourself, too.”

ULM student-athletes seem to have developed ways to manage the challenges well. Their graduation rates exceed the university-wide average, and many of them plan to seek graduate degrees.

Shannon Lloyd, a senior child psychology major from Collinsville, Miss., plays center on the Warhawks women’s basketball team. In the heartbreaking final game of the season, when the Warhawks lost to Troy by one point thanks to an unlikely last-second basket, Lloyd scored a career-high 19 points and pulled down a team-best eight rebounds to lead ULM.

“The hardest thing to learn was managing my time,” says Lloyd, echoing Battles. “I had to learn to say no to my friends who wanted me to go to a party or to the mall.

I starting hanging out with my teammates, with us all being bored together or studying together.”

The formula has clearly worked. With a 3.0 average, Lloyd plans to pursue a graduate degree in child psychology at ULM and work

**ULM STUDENT-ATHLETES SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPED WAYS TO MANAGE THE CHALLENGES WELL. THEIR GRADUATION RATES EXCEED THE UNIVERSITY-WIDE AVERAGE, AND MANY OF THEM PLAN TO SEEK GRADUATE DEGREES.**

with abused children, perhaps as part of the criminal justice system.

Now that her participation in the sport she has played since seventh grade is over, Lloyd admits that she misses spending so much time with her teammates. “But there is something to be said about not having those 7 a.m. practices and being able to sleep,” she says.

Rani Giladi, a senior accounting major who competes in the long jump and triple jump, came to ULM from Deganis Bet, Israel, after a stint in the Israeli army. “I had been doing track all my life,” he says. “Some friends went to the United States to study and told me a lot of good things about what’s going on in college track here. So I saved my money, worked hard, got better, and got a scholarship from ULM.”

Giladi practices six days a week, from three to five hours a day. Weekends and nights are his

**“It took me until the middle of my sophomore year to learn to manage my time. I realized I can’t do everything my friends do **AND** keep my grades up **AND** perform like I need to on the basketball court.”**

*—Shannon Lloyd, a senior child psychology major from Collinsville, Mississippi, who plays center on the Warhawks women’s basketball team.*



study times. “I do what I have to do,” says Giladi, who also tutors other athletes. “School is equally as important as track. In track, if you work hard, do what you’re supposed to do, and are prepared, you can get the job done. It’s the same with school.”

Giladi is indeed getting the job done. He was one of 36 ULM athletes selected for the 2007 Sun Belt Conference Commissioner’s List in recognition of an academic average of 3.5 or above. After graduation, he plans to become a CPA and begin his career at a U.S. accounting firm.

Despite the commitments of athletics and academics, Giladi enjoys his college experience. “I have a personal life; I have a lot of friends even though I used to go out a little more during my freshman and sophomore years.”

### **SYSTEMATIC SUPPORT**

ULM has many structures available to help student-athletes. Among the most important elements: a supportive faculty. “Being a student-athlete is not easy, but with the understanding and support from the professors, the burden is lessened,” said Warhawk offensive lineman Larry Shappley during a fall speech to an Envision ULM program. Shappley, a junior from West Monroe, attends ULM on both an athletic and an academic

scholarship. He was also selected for the 2007 Sun Belt Conference Commissioner’s List.

“Anytime I needed additional help or support, or if I needed an extension on a test due to a game, the professors were always willing to work with me and my schedule,” said Shappley, who plans to attend law school after graduation.

Most of the 350 ULM students who compete in a dozen different NCAA sports are required to spend at least six hours a week in supervised study, said Mondschein.

Student-athletes come to the Student Success Center at any time between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. that fits the individual’s schedule. They check in using Student Athlete Management System software, which times their study and generates reports for coaches and staff.

“This gives students some control,” said Mondschein, noting that previously study halls took place during specific night hours and allowed little flexibility in scheduling. “This way, students can come in during a class break and get an hour and half of study time, and the evening is theirs.”

Mondschein encourages ULM athletes to build a support system and keep it all in perspective. “You need someone to talk to—family, teammates, friends outside of athletics—when things are not rosy and perfect,” says Mondschein, who

competed in the heptathlon for the ULM track team during her student years between 1981 and 1985. “Students should also take some ‘me’ time. College is an important time for building the future, but it’s also a time when you’re building happy memories and friendships. It shouldn’t be so stressful you don’t take time to enjoy it.”

## CHEERING CHAMPS

ULM cheerleaders work up the spirit that supports intercollegiate teams—and they are also winning athletes in their own right. The 19-member team placed first at the Universal Cheerleading Association National Championships in January, competing in the small coed division I category and defeating teams from George Mason University, Sacramento State, Hofstra and the University of Oklahoma, among others.

The squad shines academically as well. Joanie Williams, coordinator of spirit groups for ULM, notes that nine members of the national title-winning squad have a grade-point average above 3.0; two of them have a perfect 4.0.

“These guys put in a lot of hard work,” Williams says. “They all wanted it.

When you have a team where everybody has the same goal, it works to your advantage. At the national competition, they went out there and nailed it every time. They amazed us.”

It’s not the first time the ULM cheerleaders have been at the top of the national pyramid. They also hold the national titles from 2004 and 2005. Squad captain Tiffany Coker, a senior nursing student from Monroe was a member of the 2005 team.

“This has been an amazing year for the cheerleaders,” said Coker. “We have had so many great opportunities to show our pride and spirit for ULM. From getting to cheer on our football team and watch them beat Alabama to bringing home our own big win, it has been a year we will always remember.”

The team practiced for nine hours a day, every day, for a couple of weeks over Christmas break to get ready for the competitions. This is in addition to a fall filled with cheering at football games and basketball games, participating in parades

around the region, and school appearances—not to mention classwork. “One Drug-Free-Schools week, we went to five different elementary schools,” says team member Stephen Martinez, a senior kinesiology major from Midland, Texas.

“For cheering and for school work, we try to stay on top of things, setting a good basic image and being role models for younger students.”

The team’s success is important in encouraging those younger students to attend ULM.

“It helps recruit, especially in Louisiana where cheerleading is big,” says Jessica Huskey, a junior elementary education major from Junction City, Arkansas. “People want to come where you’ve won and have a good squad and good coach.”

Almost all of ULM’s cheerleaders have coached cheer teams at local junior highs and high schools, says Williams, and many spend the summers at cheerleading camps, working with students who may be interested in ULM. Cheerleaders receive a

\$500-per-semester scholarship initially; the amount increases by \$100 for every semester they’re on the team. Those who live outside Louisiana also get out-of-state fees waived.

“Our cheerleaders are

truly ambassadors for ULM,” says Williams. “But when you see them compete, you realize it’s such a sport. It truly takes a lot of talent and hard work.”

## RULERS OF THE BAYOU

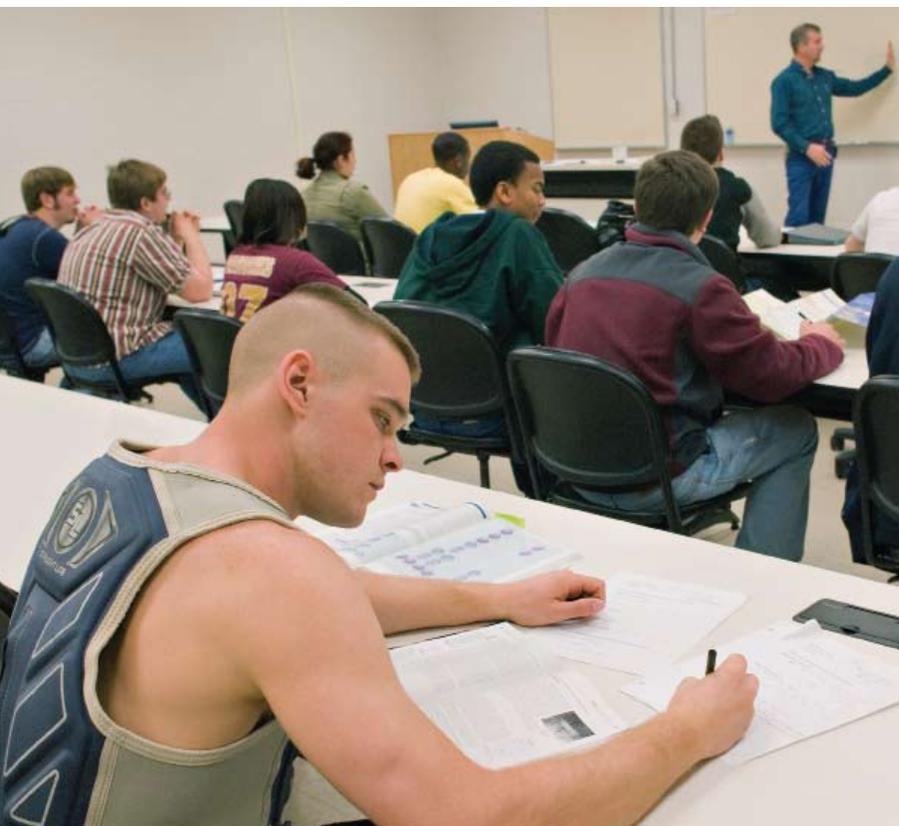
It’s a definite dynasty. ULM’s water ski team has captured the national title—again. In an October competition, the Warhawk skiers won the championship for the 20th time in the 28-year history of the National College Water Ski Association.

“No one else in the country can compare,” says Tyler Collins, team co-captain and a senior aviation major from Murray, Kentucky. “ULM is right on the bayou. I can ski and walk to class with wet shorts five minutes away. It’s unbelievable. At most schools, you travel at least 15 or 20 minutes to get to the boat.”

ULM is known across the globe as the place to be for collegiate water skiers. The current 14-member team has members from Belarus, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Colombia, Belgium,

**“WE TRY TO STAY ON TOP OF THINGS, SETTING A GOOD BASIC IMAGE AND BEING ROLE MODELS.”**

—Cheerleader Stephen Martinez



**“No one else in the country can compare. ULM is right on the bayou. I can ski **AND** walk to class with wet shorts five minutes away. It’s unbelievable.”**

*—Tyler Collins, team captain and a senior aviation major from Murray, Kentucky.*

Canada and the United States. And most of them have known each other for a long time. The world of high-level skiing is a fairly small one, says team adviser Treina Landrum, and many team members knew each other before ULM.

“Most people don’t know anyone from out of the state, let alone out of the country,” says Collins, who plans to be a Marine aviator. “We get to see what the world’s really like, even though we’re still in Louisiana.”

Because water skiing is not an NCAA sport, the skiers are awarded talent scholarships, not athletic scholarships. Most team members are “three-event skiers” which means they compete in slalom, trick and jump, Landrum says. “A three-event skier spends a lot of time at practice. How do they fit in schoolwork? It’s a lot more pressure. They’re really good at time management. They can make practice count and study time really count. They’re used to working with a lot of pressure—they’ve done it since they were little.”

Landrum describes her team as “smart kids who work hard and work focused.” The result—a team average grade of 3.3 for the fall 2007

semester, despite a season that lasts from spring through fall.

The ULM community also supports the skiers, Landrum says. “People love to come down to the bayou to watch them. Our team has the top skiers in the world. It’s like seeing ESPN when you watch them ski.”

But skiing isn’t the most important thing to team members, says Tyler Boyd, a graduate student in political communications and former college football player from Houston, Texas, who is team co-captain with Collins.

“ULM cares about student-athletes as people first and athletes second,” Boyd says. “We want them to do well at their sport but excel at whatever they’re doing academically.”

Boyd plans to go into public service of some sort, perhaps in the military or a domestic political post. “Most people come to college with a dream to be somebody and that’s what we want them to be,” he says. “National championships end—you have the ring on your finger, or the trophy on the wall. But an education is forever.”

# MORE THAN



# MONEY



## ULM'S IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY OF THE REGION EXTENDS TO CULTURE, R&D, COMMUNITY SERVICE—AND TURTLES

By DIANA PINCKLEY  
Photography WILL CROCKER

**E**conomic impact may seem a relatively straightforward number. ULM employs 2,063 people, with a total annual salary and benefits figure of \$73,270,385. Add the appropriate multipliers that take into account the jobs created when ULM employees spend their salaries in the community, and you'll have a simple equation with a concrete answer, right?

According to ULM economist Dr. Robert Eisenstadt, head of ULM's Center for Business and Economic Research, there's more to the story.

While ULM employs more people than any private company in the region, the university's impact on Monroe and what has become known as the "North Louisiana Frontier" also encompasses voluntarism, culture, sports, human capital, diversity, training and tools for teachers, health care and counseling outreach, research and development, support for entrepreneurship, and providing the information and resources that help grow the north Louisiana economy.

An illustration: Consider the impact of the alligator snapping turtle. Studies by ULM biologist John Carr and his students brought a British film crew shooting for the Discovery Channel to Monroe for several days. They ate in local restaurants, stayed in hotels, rented equipment, and spent dollars in other ways.

The show, to be part of the Animal Planet series, “Nick Baker’s Weird Creatures 2,” focused on the endangered turtles that grow to 200 pounds or more. The turtles’ Black Bayou Lake wildlife habitat is supported by ULM volunteers, including Ann Smith, director of academic interns, who is president of the Friends of Black Bayou, and Eisenstadt himself, a leader in the habitat’s preservation. Carr’s work is also known worldwide, inserting Monroe into far-flung scientific circles.

In addition, eight endowed chairs and 50 endowed professorships, more than \$21.8 million in research and over \$3 million in contributions to ULM support academic efforts that create a critical mass of intellectual capital for the region.

**Sports:** Warhawk teams, a source of entertainment, also build community enthusiasm.

**Human Capital:** Eisenstadt points out that ULM is a catalyst for diversity, which means that new ideas are brought into the community. “The university also is the source of a diverse and the

## “THE PURELY MONETARY IMPACT OF THE UNIVERSITY IS JUST A FRACTION OF ITS TOTAL IMPACT.”

—Dr. Robert Eisenstadt, head of ULM’s Center for Business and Economic Research



“When you talk about economic impact, you can talk about all kinds of single examples,” says Eisenstadt. “It’s a myriad of little things that, taken together, are so much greater than the sum of their parts.”

Monroe’s amenities and attractions may exist on some level in the absence of ULM, Eisenstadt says, “but in the presence of the university, they’re so much better than they otherwise would be.”

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The economic impact of the university goes beyond anything that can be quantified in dollars and cents, even though the amount in tuition and federal and state money that ULM brings in is significant.

Among the non-fiscal areas Eisenstadt cites:

**Culture:** The university, a center of cultural activity for the community, offers a critical mass of theatre, music, dance and the arts that the region’s population is not large enough to support otherwise.

**Intellectual Excitement:** Speakers, the Presidential Lyceum Series and the Chautauqua Nexus, among others, offer forums for exploring different viewpoints.

deep pool of highly-skilled people. That expertise permeates into the community.”

**Voluntarism:** Several studies confirm that the higher their education levels, the more likely people are to give time and money to charitable causes. The ULM family’s record of community service is impressive.

**New Residents:** By its very nature as an academic institution, Eisenstadt says, ULM does more than any other single force to attract people from out of the area to relocate to Monroe.

**Visitors:** The university sponsors conferences that bring out-of-towners to the area. In addition, its programs and attractions may encourage those visiting for other reasons “to stick around an extra day and leave more of their income behind them when they depart,” Eisenstadt says.

**House Prices:** “Because the university brings in a large number of professionals, it creates an upward pressure on housing prices,” the economist says. “Houses here are worth marginally more than they otherwise would be because university employees are out there purchasing homes.”

## TOOLS TO HELP BUSINESSES GROW

Eisenstadt heads the ULM Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER), which “provides unbiased, independent, reliable, and high-value information and analysis of and for the 12 parishes of northeast Louisiana.” CBER ([cba.ulm.edu/cber](http://cba.ulm.edu/cber)) publishes an annual report on the economic and demographic climate of the region, including quality of life indicators.

“When businesses and site locators consider moving an enterprise into an area, they have to have information on a variety of indicators,” Eisenstadt says. “If it’s too costly to go accumulate all the separate pieces of information they need, site locators might not consider the Monroe area. We provide the same kind of information that an economic development agency in Dallas would. We package it in an attractive way, and we partner with the Monroe Chamber of Commerce to create a one-stop shop for economic information.”

The College of Business Administration also is host to the Small Business Development Center. The newest addition to the ULM business portfolio is the Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center, designed to advance entrepreneurship and support economic development by creating a regional business incubator.

“We thought it was very appropriate to use the resources of the College of Business Administration, our faculty, our students and our staff to make a difference in our community by providing training,” said Dr. Ron Berry, dean of the College of Business Administration during a February ceremony thanking Congressional members and business leaders for their support in helping ULM land \$450,000 for the center. “Entrepreneurial development is critical to our region—we have to grow our own businesses and help them to succeed.”

## R&D ON THE NORTHERN FRONTIER

The Social Sciences Research Laboratory ([www.ulm.edu/ssrl](http://www.ulm.edu/ssrl)), founded in June 2007, by ULM psychologist Dr. Joe McGahan (arguably the man who originated that “North Louisiana Frontier” phrase) and political scientist Dr. John Sutherlin, encourages research across academic disciplines and university boundaries. The idea is to promote

the economy of northeast Louisiana by combining the talents of faculty, staff and alumni to offer services to the region while giving ULM students real-world experience.

“Many times, we don’t think of north Louisiana as having intellectual capital, but it does,” says Sutherlin. “Look at the universities—ULM, Louisiana Tech, Grambling, Northwestern, Centenary. We’ve got a lot of people spending a lot of time developing concepts and trying to create opportunities for young people.”

That intellectual capital is critical for economic development, he adds. “Whenever we talk about new jobs, we talk about developing a 400-acre site for a manufacturer. We only have so many 400-acre sites—that’s limited by land space. But there’s unlimited development capacity in the human mind. Relying on intellectual and service industries is more sustainable in the long term than trying to chase manufacturing jobs.”

In addition to giving students research opportunities and bringing together faculty from different departments and different universities, the Social Sciences Research Lab encourages entrepreneurs to invest in research and development on Louisiana’s northern frontier.

Currently, eight projects are under way:

**Justice Seekers:** The Youth Services Planning Board and SSRL are developing a guide to community services for Ouachita and Morehouse Parish



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youth at risk of entering the criminal / juvenile justice or foster care systems—and their families.

**Legal Beagles:** Students research indigent defense statistics and resources.

**Don't Give a Hoot:** This Monroe urban planning project analyzes survey data, explores feasibility of an R&D corridor that includes Louisiana Tech and Grambling, and endeavors to establish a cross-cultural music and arts hub downtown.

**Pathfinder:** In conjunction with Louisiana Tech's Institute on Blindness and the Louisiana Center for the Blind, this interdisciplinary research-based project hopes to improve the lives of blind people in Louisiana and Africa.

**Litter Assessment:** Students and faculty analyze existing litter and recycling ordinances in Monroe and make recommendations for improvement.

**Wild Bunch:** Research draws on psychology, sociology, political science and marketing to help create a new vision for the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo in Monroe.

**B cubed:** Students will survey opinions about Monroe's Better Business Bureau and study bureaus in comparable cities to recommend ways to improve local perceptions.

**Weight of Responsibility:** This empirical study seeks to determine any relationship between a person's proclivity to indulge and his/her feelings about freedom and responsibility, hoping to illuminate behaviors underlying obesity.

### LEARNING BY SERVING OTHERS

McGahan and Sutherlin also received a \$30,000 service learning grant earlier this year that will allow them to research and produce a documentary film on "what it is about north Louisiana that would attract a young person to stay instead of going to a neighboring state or another part of the country," says Sutherlin, who has produced two dozen other documentaries that are distrib-

uted and shown worldwide. Students will participate in every aspect of production.

Those dollars were part of \$100,948 awarded to ULM for four projects that clearly connect education and citizenship through hands-on learning.

The grants come through the University of Louisiana System from the Learn and Serve America division of the Corporation for National and Community Service.

ULM received the highest allocation of any university in the system. Other ULM projects supported by the money include:

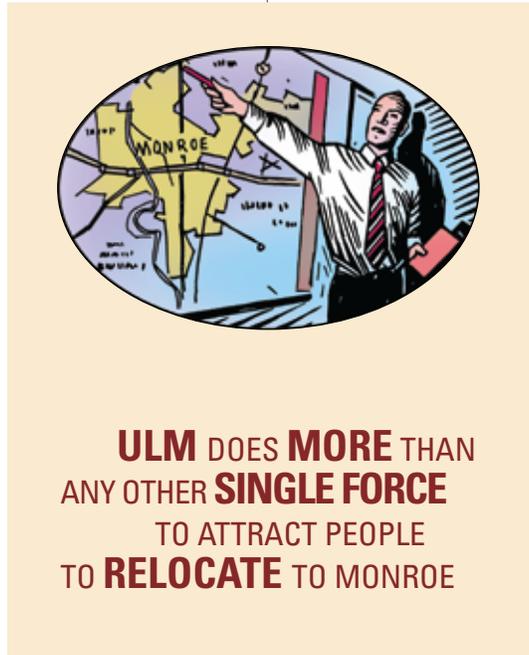
**CPR at School Training Program,** partnering ULM kinesiology faculty and students with Glenwood Regional Medical Center, St. Francis Medical Center, the American Heart Association and area schools to teach middle and high school students how to perform basic CPR.

**Environmental Podcasting,** teaming ULM's College of Education and Human

Development students with Region VIII Instructional Technology Coordinators, local meteorologists and the Black Bayou Wildlife Refuge to create podcasts that address hurricane preparedness and environmental issues to enhance the classrooms of Louisiana teachers.

**Louisiana Lower Atmosphere Research Collaborative,** linking ULM geosciences faculty and students with three schools in Plaquemines, LaSalle and southern Ouachita Parishes to allow K-12 students to collect information and establish a database of the lower atmosphere. Information will be shared with the National Weather Service and the Hurricane Prediction Center.

Studies show that service learning offers many benefits to students who participate—improving leadership ability, grades, retention, degree aspirations, critical thinking skills and commitment to helping others in difficulty – as well as helping the communities they serve. At least half the students who engage in community service during college continue volunteering after they graduate.



ULM freshmen showed their community spirit in the fall, raising \$5,000 for the Red Cross. Freshman Year Seminar (FRYS) participants and others who are part of Learning Communities—where students of similar majors live in residence halls together and take classes together—sold “FRYS boxes” for a dollar, with disaster relief as the focus. The printed boxes were posted in the Student Union Building. Students wrote about their experiences, said assistant professor of English Dr. Christopher Harris, who received a service learning grant last year to support the project.

**THE IMPACT OF GIVING BACK**

Voluntarism on the ULM campus has earned national acclaim. In February 2007, more than 2,600 ULM faculty, staff, students and members of the Monroe community set a national record for participation in a one-day bone marrow drive, earning the National Bone Marrow Donor Program’s Volunteer Innovation Award (see story on page 2).

ULM facilities extend many volunteer services to the community. Among clinics and laboratories recognized during a recent CenturyTel Accent on Excellence Breakfast:

*The Dental Hygiene Clinic*, providing dental services to approximately 2,000 patients a year at ULM and 600 more at off-campus locations.

*The Speech and Hearing Clinic*, offering diagnostic evaluations and therapy for children and adults and helping 2,258 individuals last year.

*The Counselor Education Clinic*, extending confidential individual, group, and family counseling about personal, career, school, relationship, substance abuse and other concerns for a total of more than 550 hours in the last year.

*The Marriage and Family Therapy Center*, working with more than 420 clients yearly to offer nearly 2,250 hours of service.

*The Human Performance Laboratory*, provid-

ing health-related fitness evaluations for more than 900 public school students through a \$1.7 million grant from US Department of Education.

ULM’s commitment to community impact extends all the way to the top. In October, ULM First Lady Deborah Cofer was named Business & Professional Person of the Year by the Monroe/West Monroe Business and Professional Women for her many volunteer efforts. Among them, opening a Relief Center for more than 1,200 students affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, managing ULM’s hurricane hotline, answering

e-mails and making sure students received necessary counseling and financial resources in that unprecedented time.

Even the university mascot, Ace, the ULM Warhawk, gets into the act. With the help of ULM faculty and staff, ACE is teaching children about biology, conservation, music, art and more in his first book “ACE’s Adventures at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. ACE Explores Campus.” The 20-page activity book, geared for Pre K - second graders, was distributed in the fall at no cost to elementary schools in 15

northeastern Louisiana parishes.

It is the first in a series of free age-appropriate activity books that are aligned with state standards. Its Web site ([www.ulm.edu/aceadventures](http://www.ulm.edu/aceadventures)) includes lesson plans and innovative online activities. More than 18,000 students are enjoying the first edition; work is under way on a version for third- and fourth-graders.

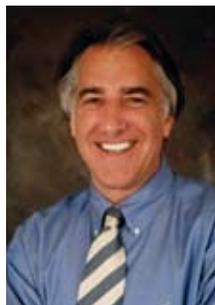
Most members of the ULM family don’t think much about their impact on the community as they carry out these diverse and important activities. It’s simply doing what needs to be done.

“University professors are blessed,” says SSRL’s Sutherlin. “We have great jobs, a great environment, and we work with young people who are interested in learning.

“We have a special responsibility to give something back.”



**THE HIGHER THEIR EDUCATION LEVELS, THE MORE LIKELY PEOPLE ARE TO GIVE TIME AND MONEY TO SUPPORT CHARITABLE CAUSES**



**Richard Cravatts (B.A. '72, M.A. '73)** began writing seriously at the age of 15. Since then, his 180 feature stories, op-eds, book reviews and articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Boston Globe*,

*Christian Science Monitor*, *Harvard Crimson*, *Washington Examiner* and other newspapers and magazines around the world.

Cravatts, who also holds a Ph.D., teaches marketing, advertising, consumer behavior and marketing communications at business schools at Boston universities. He has served as associate publisher and editor-in-chief of the *Greater Boston Restaurant and Wine Review*. From 1976-78, Cravatts was the first director of publications at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and the founding editor of the school's magazine.

Several professors at then-NLU shaped him into the writer, publisher and professor he is today.

In his first semester, he met a "singularly remarkable English professor," Dr. Pat Garrett. "He was the kind of teacher who taught Hemingway but listened to Bob Dylan, hunted and fished but published sentimental books of poetry and short stories. He has the gentility and

wisdom of a true Southern gentleman, completely free of judgment, self-involvement and conceit, and that model has always been with me as I tried to interact with my own students now in the effortless and very profound way Dr. Garrett was always able to do with us."

Another professor, Leonard Rubin, a New York City transplant, "brought Madison Avenue to the bayou," Cravatts said. "I had written and was getting ready to design and publish two books of poetry in 1969, and Professor Rubin's instruction in copywriting, design and layout, and general principals of marketing communications helped shape the way those books were developed, and also how I later practiced and now teach advertising and marketing."

The university's then-director of research and development, Oliver Hensley, was a third powerful influence. "Like my other powerful mentors, Dr. Hensley was brash, intellectually muscular and creative in the way he drew federal funding into the school and helped create model schools in the newly-desegregated public school systems."

Of his passion for writing, Cravatts said, "For the past 30 years, both because I enjoy being published and because one finds that you can actually influence public opinion with the power of well-formed ideas, I've written constantly."



### **Harihara M. Mehendale,**

professor of toxicology, received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in Charlotte, N.C., during the 28th Annual Conference of the American College of Toxicology.

### **1948**

**Cecil C. Johnson '48** captained a USTA Super Sr. 70 tennis team that won the Louisiana State Championship and competed in the Southern Sectionals in Columbus, Ga., in March.

### **1959**

**Jon Barker '59** retired from Louisiana Tech with the honor of Professor Emeritus after teaching 37 years.

**Sylvia Crosby Bartlett '59** was chosen to represent Mama Lucia's meatballs as Mama Lucia in a national commercial to run through August.

### **1961**

**William (Bill) Case '61** is a retired advisory radar engineer with 35 years at (Westinghouse) Northrop Grumman in Baltimore, Md.

**Donald McGough '61, '75** and wife **Julia Lanier McGough '57** have a son, Ed McGough, who is senior vice president of manufacturing pharmaceutical operations at Alcon Laboratories, Inc. in Fort Worth, Texas.

### **1963**

**Milton V. Linder '63** is principal of Fort Necessity Jr. High. He is a graduate of Fort Necessity and is excited to be back as principal. He and his wife **Priscilla Thompson Linder '74** live in Delhi.

### **1964**

**Virgil Nix '64** is a retired U.S. Army colonel living in Jacksonville, Fla. He has one daughter, a school teacher in Fort Worth, Texas, and one granddaughter, 5.

# BRIGHT FUTURES DESERVE SUPPORT



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*For more information, contact:  
Anne Lockhart, Director of Development  
University of Louisiana Monroe Foundation  
700 University Avenue, Monroe, LA 71209  
(318) 342-5426 lockhart@ulm.edu*

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.ULM.EDU/GIVING](http://WWW.ULM.EDU/GIVING)**

## 1967

**Carolyn Cole Hetherwick-Goza '67** was widowed in 2004 after 39 years of marriage and has now married Michael Goza. She is semi-retired and working part time at Seattle Pacific University. They live in a northern suburb of Seattle.

**Doris Busby Marshall '67** retired from Hope Cottage Pregnancy and Adoption Center in January.

## 1968

After operating independent pharmacies for over 25 years, **James (Jim) Giddens '68** sold out in Dallas to Eckerd in 1996, moved to Paris, Texas, and worked part-time for Eckerd/CVS until retiring in July 2006. He entered ULM's pharmacy school in 1964, working full time at St. Francis Hospital. Thanks to his study partners **George Elliott '68** and **C.A. Daniel '68** for the all-night study sessions and also to his wife and three children for getting through the rough years with him. He and wife Sue will celebrate their 48th wedding anniversary in August.

## 1969

**James Plank '69** has earned certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) from the Human Resource Certification Institute and is affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management.

## 1970

**Paul Thompson '70** retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 2005. He and his wife **Pat Thompson '70** are enjoying retirement and a leisurely lifestyle.

## 1971

**Juanita Coburn Palmer Rowe '71** is a rehabilitation coordinator with the Black Hills Special Service Cooperative in Rapid City, S.D. She has national certifications in rehab counseling and in vocational evaluation and works primarily with veterans who have limits. She left Louisiana 15 years ago and still misses okra and fresh peaches. She has two daughters, one in Lafayette and one in Vermillion, S.D.

## 1972

**Rachael Schlottman Brignac '72, '92** has a 15-month-old granddaughter named Rachael Lanora Stoner who lives in South Carolina.

**Earl Denning '72** is president and CEO of Hillcrest Health Care System and the Oklahoma Division of Ardent Health Services. He has over 33 years of professional health care experience, serving hospitals and health systems in Louisiana, Texas, California and Florida.

## 1973

**Sharon Dunnings Davis '73** is assistant principal with the Bossier Parish School Board. She was the first African-American to be elected to the NLU Homecoming Court as Miss Freshman 1969-70.

**John Sonnenberger '73** is living in Dallas. He received his AS from Nicholls State University, a BS from Tampa College and an MBA from the University of Phoenix at Dallas/Ft. Worth.

## 1975

**Otto Benavides '75, '76** is at California State University-Fresno as director of the

Instructional Technology and Resource Center for the School of Education and Human Development and director of the NASA Educator Resource Center. He is also on the faculty in the Curriculum Teaching and Educational Technology Department.

### 1977

**Kay Johnson Boyd '77** is working for Goodrich Petroleum in Shreveport as a lease title analyst.

**Dave A. Buchheim '77** recently served in Baghdad, Iraq, where he was assigned to the 28th Combat Support Hospital. While there, he rehabilitated and treated soldiers and local nationals with physical disabilities. He is back at Ft. Drum, N.Y., working in the physical therapy department and teaching CPR. He plans to retire in September.

### 1978

**Winston Batchelor '78** is an independent pharmacist in DeQuincy. His pharmacy houses the Wellness Store, a natural pharmacy, and the Take Charge Professional Weight Loss Program. He has three grandchildren ages 10, 5 and 18 months.

### 1979

**Mary Hooker Boley '79** completed the master of nursing science, with a focus in education and management, from the University of Phoenix online program in 2007. She was named employee of the month for LSU Health Services Center-Monroe for October 2007.



### Jack Heflin,

creative writing professor and published poet, received the Individual Achievement in the Humanities Award from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

### 1980

**Diane Hirson '80, '82** has been promoted to director of marketing for Hastings and Chivetta Architects in St. Louis, Mo. Her daughter Chelsea is a high school senior and is considering continuing the legacy by attending ULM.

### 1983

**David Blitch '83** was inducted into the Louisiana Restaurant Association Hall of Fame in August 2007. The LRA honors a member each year for outstanding, faithful and dedicated service to the association. Blitch has been a LRA member for over 20 years, serving on the LRA State Board of Directors and as president of the Greater New Orleans Chapter. He was elected LRA chair in 1995 and currently serves on the board of the Emeril Lagasse Foundation.

### 1984

**Ivonne Blanco Martinez '84** has worked for the Institutos Educacionales Asociados in Venezuela for 22 years. She and husband **Felix Martinez '84** have a 14-year-old son, Ignacio.

**Irwin Thompson '84** was a 2006 Pulitzer Prize winner for Breaking News Photography for the *Dallas Morning News* coverage of Hurricane Katrina.

**Dewayne Trichell '84** was presented the State Farm President's Award, given to the top 50 agents from a field of over 17,000 nationwide.

**Debora (Debbie) Franklin Valentine '84** has two sons at ULM, Dustin, a junior and Logan, a freshman.

### 1986

**Ka Kam Chui, '86, '88** is an adjunct assistant professor at New York University, teaching Cantonese at the School of Social and Cultural Analysis. He served as the Cantonese interpreter for Dalai Lama in his three days teaching at the Radio City Music Hall in New York City in November.

### 1987

**Erich Ponti '87**, a homebuilding and remodeling contractor in Baton Rouge, is state president of the Louisiana Homebuilders Association. He is past president of the Capital Region Builders Association.

### 1988

**Diana Gentry Breen '88** is a nurse anesthetist at St. Francis Medical Center. She and husband Mike, have two children, Conner, 4, and Lauren, 3.

**Ron Gipson '88** and **Kay Reed Gipson '90** have two children, Breau, 15, and Paige, 12, who attend Calvary Baptist Academy and are active in sports. Breau is able to play football for Ron's former NLU teammate Doug Pederson and baseball for former Monroe resident Rodney Traweek.

**Audra Chesney Hearn '88** and husband **James P. Hearn Jr. '90, '94** have three daughters, Chesney, 12, Lily Grace, 8, and Maddie, 4.

**Jana Derrick Milleson '88** has two children, Jack and Grant.

**Gayle D. Smith '88** is the church pianist for First Baptist Church in Alma, Ga. She also teaches piano.

# CLASS NOTES

# ALUMNI



Referring to his alma mater as “the greatest place I have ever loved,” **Jeff Walker** is a ULM alumnus (B.A. '79 in criminal justice), published author, and the head football coach

for Bellaire High School in Houston, Texas. He is also a very passionate history teacher, seeking—and succeeding—to inspire his students to embrace a lifelong love of learning.

Walker received a prestigious 2007 Fund For Teachers grant. He chose to take a closer look at the life of influential football coach Jack Chevigny—a man who'd led a storied life, but whose own story had yet to be told in full measure. Walker aims to give the man his due, putting writing skills he developed at ULM to good use. His journey to Iwo Jima, where his subject lost his life in the invasion, will give him needed insight to complete Chevigny's biography this year.

He wants his students to see that “by valuing history we are then able to value the present. If we can learn to value an individual from the past—an individual we've never met—it becomes easy for students to see that their own lives are valuable, that their moment in life can mean something to somebody 60 years from now, and that inevitably we are all connected to the past and future.

“ULM impacts my life on a daily basis, probably most through my experiences in Pi Kappa Alpha and as a member of the football team...Without any doubt, it is what you do in college that can carry you through your life in a way you can inspire and uplift others.”

Chief among his good fortunes, Walker places marrying fellow alumna **Paula Nugent Walker (B.A. '78)** and raising their two children.

Referring to Chevigny's formerly sketchy life story, he said, “There are just too many threads of the past to simply close someone's bio with a terse line.” His own richly successful life is ample proof of that.

**Jeff Thompson '88** has opened Cajun Steamer Bar & Grill Restaurants in Hoover, Ala., and Trussville, Ala. A third is scheduled for a Nashville suburb this year. Despite his restaurant success, he said his real passion remains in the home-building business.

## 1989

**Mike Brady '89, '90** has been named director of human resources for Knight Oil Tools, Inc. and its operating companies in Lafayette.

**Catrina Oliszewski Mayo '89, '91**, an executive sales professional for Sanofi Aventis pharmaceutical company, has been placed in the management development program and is an interim manager. She and husband **Kevin Walker Mayo '90, '96** live in Denville, N.J.

**Virginia Fouse Miller '89** was recognized as the 2007 National

Middle/Junior High School Counselor of the Year by the American School Counseling Association. She was one of eight national award winners honored. She is the middle school counselor for the Jessieville, Ark., school district and is a licensed marriage and family therapist in Arkansas.

## 1990

**Jocelyn Hill Whitney '90** lost her daughter Trinity in January 2004. She has two sons Jonathan and Jeremy and lives in Camden, Ark.

## 1992

**Marilyn Jo Humphries Curtis '92** is a special education instructor at Beechwood Elementary School in the Vicksburg Warren School District.

**Cindy Moore Frazier '92** was promoted to principal of Creswell Elementary School in

the Caddo Parish Schools in January. She and husband **Trevor Frazier '92** live in Shreveport.

**James Ruiz '92** was granted promotion and tenure at Penn State Harrisburg School of Public Affairs Criminal Justice Program in May 2007. He also has a book out entitled *The Handbook of Police Administration*.

## 1993

**Courtney Brown Feltus '93** teaches kindergarten in Natchez, Miss. She has a 5-year-old daughter, Allie Claire Feltus.

**Donna Odom LaCaze '93** received her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the University of New Orleans in December. She received her master's and specialist degree from McNeese State University. She and husband **Todd LaCaze '92** live in Covington.



**Mark R. Clark**, who directs opera and musical theater at ULM, had his book, *Guide to the Aria Repertoire*, reviewed in the December 2007 edition of *Opera News* magazine.

**Ernise Singleton '93** has accepted a job with the Louisiana Department of Education as an educational technology consultant in Baton Rouge.

### 1994

**Gary Chatelain '94** has been promoted to journeyman forecaster for the National Weather Service in Shreveport. He and his wife **Ingrid Knaps Chatelain '91** and son Christian live in Bossier City.

**Rita (Mollean) Stotts Young '94** is a relief pharmacist for two local hospitals and some retail pharmacies in Ville Platte. Her husband Jonathan is a staff pharmacist at Savoy Medical Center in Mamou. They have two children, Alyse, 7, and Aaron Michael, 6.

### 1995

**Henry Florsheim '95** is chief operating officer at Louisiana Immersive Technologies Enterprise, one of the world's leading 3D visualization and supercomputing centers.

**Kieykeisha Ricks '95** is a customer care professional with JPMorgan Chase in Monroe. She is the proud godmother of London Reney Martin, 3.

### 1996

**Chris Carlino '96** and wife **Ashley Turnage Carlino '97** have opened an Eskamoe's in Waxahachie, Texas.

**Angela Foster Hammond '96** has been promoted at Brookshire's to pharmacy supervisor where she will supervise 21 stores in Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi. She and husband **John Robert Hammond '97** live in West Monroe.

### 1997

**Jennifer Goodwin Ables '97, '99** is a pharmaceutical sales representative for Hawthorn Pharmaceuticals. She and husband **Anthony Brandon Ables '01** live in West Monroe and have two children, Jenna and John Rome.

**Kevin Busch '97** is a head football coach and teacher with Tulsa Public Schools. His wife Tracy started a new business, Agents Recruiting and More.

**Amy Reynolds Green '97** is a teacher with the Lincoln Parish School Board. She and husband **Greg Green '00** have two children, Colby and Savannah.

**Marcus Martin '97** has been named president and CEO of Education is Freedom, a national non-profit organization in Dallas that provides college scholarships to young people who are overlooked by traditional scholarship programs.

**Alissa Ford North '97** is an account manager for Teksystems in Richland Hills, Texas. She has a 21-month-old child.

**Angela Gormanous Veatch '97, '99** is a national board-certified teacher who teaches math at Dutchtown Middle School. She lives in Baton Rouge with husband Clifton and daughter Abigail, 6.

### 1998

**Donald Hudleston '98** was promoted and assigned to Secure Border Initiative Network where he works with Homeland Security to develop a high-tech fence to help control the influx of illegal aliens. He and wife **Leanne Morace Hudleston '97** live in Athens, Ala.

**Melinda Murphy '98** became a national board-certified teacher in 2006 and began graduate studies in counseling at ULM in 2007. She has one son, 7-year-old Zach, who is a regular at Coach Shake's baseball camps at ULM.

### 1999

**Margaret Ellis Hayden '99** is a clinical instructor in the communicative disorders department at ULM.

### 2000

**James Skeen Jr. '00** has been accepted in the graduate program in the College of Agriculture at LSU to pursue a master's degree in agricultural and extension education.

### 2001

**Ashley Morgan Bertrand '01** works for Camelot Place Nursing Home in Crowley as the Rehab Director and Occupational Therapy Assistant.

**Julie Jeane Roe '01** is a stay-at-home mom to 2-year-old Ava. They live in Beaufort, S.C.

### 2002

**Seth Mulhearn '02** started his own construction company Mulhearn Wilson Constructors, Inc., along with a co-owner, in North Little Rock, Ark., specializing in finish-out and client services and complete ground-up projects as well.

### 2004

**Renee Copes Parnell '04** is one of 106 sculptors representing 26 states who have joined together to undertake an art project where artists will work in groups of five to nine people to create an immense body of collaborative three-dimensional artwork.

**Continued on page 31**

**John Carr,**  
biology  
professor and  
associate curator  
of the ULM  
Museum of  
Natural History,  
created — in  
Spanish — a  
field guide called  
*The Turtles and  
Crocodilians  
of the Tropical  
Andean  
Countries.*



# CLASS NOTES

# ALUMNI

## In Memoriam

Fern Brantley Norris '34  
Rosalie "Rose" Ballard Spohrer '39  
Tommy Sands (FB 1942, 47) '47  
Jack Wilson '52  
James "Curtis" Houston BS '53  
Louise McFarland BS '53  
Elaine Lolley Simmons BS '54  
Charles Anderson Walker BS '56  
Sarrah Ann Lee Green BS '57  
James E. Hale '58  
Richard W. Burgoyne BS '62  
Jerry O. Brosset BA '64  
Judith "Judy" Ann Cathey Cook BS '66  
Sue Cooper Towns '68  
Elbert "Bert" Fred Hodge Jr. BA '69  
Joseph A. Johnson BS '70  
Marilyn Veneda Maxwell BA '70  
Vernon Berryman McCoy BBA '71  
Roger Pinton BBA '70  
Lucius Walter Martin MEd '73  
Louie Manuel McIntosh BS '74  
Larry Young BA '74

Wayne Keele Jr. BA '77, MEd '84  
Theodore Oren Emmerich II BFA '80  
Michael A. Hoyem BA '80  
Lamar Elwood Rogers Jr. BA '81,  
MEd '88  
Marshall K. Parks BA '83, MEd '90  
Charles Douglas "Chuck" Wilson Jr.  
BA '95  
Michael T. Tinnerello BBA '98  
Joel B. Tucker BA '99  
Raymond Romeo Jones BA '03  
Aric Jai-Shon Lexing BA '05, MA '07

## FACULTY/STAFF/FRIENDS

Cynthia Dobson Bennett  
Orlando Bobo (FB 1994-95)  
Dr. Frank P. Forwood Jr.  
Dr. Eugene Fox  
Jeffrey Michael Gibson  
Gloridean Cheatham Henderson  
Dr. Thomas R. McCann  
Dr. John H. Myers  
Kathleen H. Neal  
Stella Whitecotton Sherrouse



**Anthony Feig**, assistant professor of geosciences, appeared on the Travel Channel's "The Best Places to Find Cash and Treasures." He spoke about the formation of geodes and "thunder eggs," which are volcanic rocks that occasionally yield crystal formations.

## Marriages

**Becky Ward Comeaux '06** to **Sean Michael Newman '01**, Jan. 12, 2008.

**Allison Renee Hartwell '05** to Joby Lacombe, Oct. 6, 2007, in Lake Arthur.

**Kimberly Deanne Hatchett '02** to **Jeremy Brock McCarty '05**, July 21, 2007.

**Megan Ruth Makar '02** to Mitchell Kincaid Jefcoat, April 21, 2007. They live in Monroe where Megan is Facilities Coordinator at ULM and Mitchell is a sales representative for Hill Oil Company.

**Michelle Nicole Manley '07** to **Trever Wade Minter '04**, June 23, 2007.

**Amber Meshell Mayfield '99** to Adam Yates, Sept. 15, 2007.

**Cassandra Michelle Olin '07** to **Kevin Scott Berthelot '06**, June 2, 2007. Cassandra works for the Louisiana State Bond Commission and Kevin for Blue Streak Technologies in Baton Rouge.

**Paige Lynette Prewitt '04** to Tony Spencer Yelle, March 24, 2007, in Broken Arrow, Okla.

**Jared Prudhomme '05** to Aischa Simon, Oct. 25, 2007, in Antigua. They both work for the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office.

**Kristen Maria Washinton '97** to Arnold F. James Jr., Sept. 15, 2007, in Mankato, Minn.

**Tamiaka Rochelle Washington '02** to Leroy Robinson Jr., June 17, 2006.

**Danielle Williams '01** to Marcus Booker, June 23, 2007. She is a sales and marketing specialist for the Small Business Insurance Agency in Plymouth, Minn.

## CLASS NOTES

### Births

Anna Catherine Arnett, Dec. 11, 2006, to **Sam Arnett '93** and **Susanne Gordon Arnett '94**. She is welcomed by a big brother, Sam Jr.

Alexis Robin Craft, July 27, 2007, to **Melinda Jordan Craft '01** and **Donald R. Craft '06**.

**1** William Claude Crawford, March 14, 2007, to **Elizabeth Vaughn Crawford '93** and husband Brian. He joins brothers Garrett and Aaron.

**2** Elise Dalynn Ebersole, Dec. 12, 2007, to **Justin Ebersole '04** and **Courtney Walker Ebersole '02**.

**3** William Allen Herod III, Nov. 12, 2007, to **Bill Herod '99** and wife Angel.

Brooke Elizabeth Lambeth, Dec. 5, 2006, **Kelly Miller Lambeth '92** and husband Dale.

James Aidyn Medaries, Sept. 17, 2007, to **Chris Medaries '97** and wife Melissa.

**4** Seth Lane Menard, Dec. 27, 2007, to **Tricia Feucht Menard '99** and **Neil Menard '99**.

**5** Setler Griffin Mulhearn, May 27, 2007, to **Seth Mulhearn '02** and wife Susan.

**6** Jack Nathan Neal, Sept. 13, 2007, to **Rhonda Wray Neal '94** and **Mark J. Neal '93**. He joins brother, Noah, 4.

Haygen Ross Schneider, Aug. 23, 2007, to **Rachel Goodrich Schneider '04** and **Robert A. Schneider '02**.

**7** Amelia James "Jami" Singley, Dec. 3, 2007, to **Patty Weber Singley '01** and **Michael "Mike" Singley '79**.

**8** Jackson Levi Waller, June 10, 2007, to **Samuel Waller '00** and wife Kelli.

Cy Thomas Wixson, Aug. 15, 2007, to **Kim Dupuy Wixson '95** and **Stewart B. Wixson '92**. He was welcomed by brother Mason, 10, and sister, Anna Blair, 7.

**Jana Sutton,** director of ULM's Marriage and Family Therapy training facility and an assistant professor in the program, has recently been elected president of the Louisiana Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.



# CLASS NOTES

# ALUMNI



Once **Robert E. Luttrell III (B.B.A. '94)** started up the path to success, he never faltered, beginning with his academic training at ULM and arriving at his employment today in the Dallas office of Munsch Hardt

Kopf and Harr as a business litigator.

When he isn't solving business conflicts for his prestigious firm, he can reflect back on an outstanding career, having served as a Judge Advocate in the U.S. Air Force with distinction, earning the Achievement Medal, Commendation Medal, Kuwaiti Liberation Medal (issued by both the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti governments), Meritorious Service Medal, and the Southwest Asia Medal.

"ULM gave me the building blocks for my career—I was a marketing major, and ULM helped me understand how business people think. In my job, I am trying to help people make business decisions and avoid litigation, though we do litigate. You need to understand the business side of things and not just the legal side, and I think

ULM helped me with that aspect of my job.

"My favorite memories are of football and basketball games—we were really good at both. I also loved Spring Fling, and mud volleyball. I still have Spring Fling T-shirts. My mentor while I was there was Dr. Robert Stevens [faculty member in management and marketing]. I think I took every class he taught."

Luttrell tried a wide variety of cases during his military service, while also training junior lawyers on trial advocacy skills. His final duty was to serve as the Air Force's top prosecutor in Europe. He entered private practice in July 2007. He is married to Marisa, and they have a six-year-old son, Noah, and a three-year-old daughter, Isabella.

"I studied hard at ULM and have been very dedicated to my chosen career. I had some very good mentors along the way as well. My advice to job seekers is to not give up on what you want to do and be dedicated to whatever profession you choose."

*Continued from page 28*

**LaKeshia Lemons Price '04** and husband Toby have a 3-year-old son, Keoby.

T.D. (Tommy) Tumey, oldest son of **Kathleen Aldrich Tumey '04**, is on the ULM track team for the javelin.

## 2005

**Olivia Lawdins '05** works for Abbott Diagnostics in Corpus Christi, Texas.

**Kellie Schulingkamp Doolittle '05** is an occupational therapist with Lakeview VA Neurocare in Charlottesville, Va., and works primarily with military traumatic brain injuries (blast injuries) sustained during war.

**John Tulos '05** has been promoted to underwriting manager for Zurich Insurance in the Clark, N.J., regional office.

**Brennan Chad Wright '05** is assistant buyer for Neiman Marcus in Dallas.

## 2006

**Keitha Black Falkenstine '06** lives in Shreveport with husband Eric and their two daughters.

**Betsey Goodson Smith '06** is an instructional design specialist at Mississippi State University in the Research and Curriculum Unit. She writes and revises curriculum for the family and consumer sciences courses and counseling areas for the Department of Education in Mississippi.

**Barton Harrison '06** is director of bands at Pulaski Academy in Little Rock, Ark.

**Jeremy Jenkins '06** is a programmer for Wal-mart Stores, Inc., in Bentonville, Ark.

**Jacqueline Leonard '06** is a home visitor for the Monroe Volunteers of America at the Twin City Head Start.

## 2007

**Crystal Powell Smith '07** is a medical technologist at Scott and White-University Medical Campus. She and husband William are building their first house in Cedar Park, Texas.

**Felecia Yates Whitstine '07** is an accountant with Johnston, Perry, Johnson CPA. She is taking additional classes at ULM in preparation for the CPA exam.

## Christopher Blackburn,

history professor, authored a grant awarding ULM \$34,753 to fund "Nazi Germany and the Holocaust," a summer institute for 20 secondary school teachers who specialize in the humanities and social sciences in northeast Louisiana.





## DONNA GLAZE

The path from being a freshman to watching fresh young faces light up—as she implements nursing technologies that help them help others.

**M**y time at ULM began 25 years ago when I arrived at the university as a 17-year-old freshman. I had no idea what the future held for me, nor could I have conceived that I would be in the position that I am today—Assistant Professor and Director of Nursing Technologies in ULM’s School of Nursing.

ULM nursing students often talk about their desire to become a nurse—an ambition that for many begins in childhood. Influential role models and powerful experiences often motivate these students to attend ULM, conquer their prerequisite coursework and enter nursing school with a clear vision of what they will be and what they will do for others.

My path to ULM nursing, in contrast, was a series of opportunities brought forth by mentors who guided, challenged and inspired me to do well in school and introduced me to computer technology, which would later become my foremost interest. After completing a BS and M.Ed. at ULM, I worked for the University Computing Center where I conducted training sessions for faculty and staff from all areas and departments on campus. I met people who amazed me with their interests and knowledge. Among them was the faculty of the ULM School of Nursing. I was captivated by their passion for their professions, impressed by the vastness and diversity of their knowledge and their dedication to the education of future nurses.

In 1999 I had the great fortune of joining those faculty. As Assistant Professor and

**“AT ULM, I MET PEOPLE WHO AMAZED ME WITH THEIR INTERESTS AND KNOWLEDGE.”**

Director of Nursing Technologies, I consider it a true privilege to teach students about the myriad of technological innovations in the field of patient care. My position allows me to work on a fascinating range of projects. I assist faculty in augmenting student clinical experiences with human patient simulation, I incorporate Web-based applications for enhancement of critical thinking skills, and

I aid students in exhaustive Internet-based research and the use of handheld documentation and reference systems.

I also work with nursing faculty to pursue opportunities for making equipment and programs available to the school that allow us to keep pace with the rapid changes in nursing and healthcare.

Given our desire to provide more online learning opportunities, including the proposed Master of Science in Nursing Administration degree program, which will be conducted entirely online, I can work with other nursing faculty to develop creative and engaging methods of presenting course content and facilitating learning and collaboration among students online.

The path that I have taken through ULM has led me to a place of great pride where I get to spend my days working with exciting and ever-changing technology, colleagues whom I respect and who inspire me, and students who light up when they speak of how they are going to help others. I am looking forward to what the next 25 years will bring.

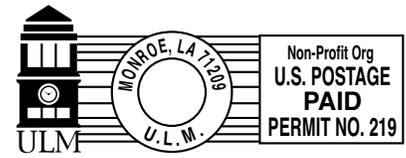


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