

THE SENTRY

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT ALEXANDRIA

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Finally...after 30 years MPAC opens to students for fall semester

For the Sentry

The Multi-purpose Academic Center at LSU Alexandria welcomed faculty, staff and students for the Fall semester. The first new building on campus in more than 30 years, the MPAC brings a renewed sense of pride to LSUA.

Gov. Bobby Jindal and several legislative delegates and LSU system board members attended the ribbon cutting ceremony in late August.

Faculty and administrators from four academic departments made the move into the building prior to the first days of classes. Facility Services and IET Services worked throughout the Spring semester and summer to prepare the spaces and install technology in the offices and classrooms. Faculty members found offices furnished with new desks, shelves and filing cabinets. New computers and telephones were installed in individual offices.

Professional movers handled the process of moving packed



Photo by Deron Thaxton

Governor Bobby Jindal and LSU Board of Supervisors member Blake Chatelain cut the ribbon to officially open the Multi-Purpose Academic Center on Aug. 29. Jindal and Chatelain were joined by various dignitaries and project leaders including Chancellor Dave Manuel and four former chancellors.

boxes from faculty offices into the new building. Faculty members and departments spent the first week back on campus unpacking and settling into the building which was 98 per cent complete according to official reports.

Shortly into the Fall semester, the building suffered roof links due to heavy winds and rain. Facility services and the building

contractor were quick to respond and had the damage repaired quickly.

Students, faculty and staff are settled into the building now and midterms are here. As Jindal said in his remarks during the opening ceremony, "...LSUA is here to stay, LSUA is here to thrive."

LSUA's Sullivan participates in scholarly program

*By Angel Wilkerson
Sentry Reporter*

One of only 20 participants selected from all over the world, Dr. Susan Sullivan, biology professor at LSUA, recently completed an exclusive year-long residency program sponsored by The American Society for Microbiology (ASM).

The ASM sponsors the Biology Scholars Program with the purpose of requiring biologists to become educated in theories of student learning, to implement teaching methods, and to review student work, modify practices, and deliver feedback.

"I gained a ton from it," said Sullivan. "It was very rigorous, and...universities can gain from having at least one faculty member participate in the program."

To prepare for the program, Sullivan attended a week-long course study in Washington, DC. She then had one year to complete the course. Sullivan kept in touch with the other participants and posted work to a specific website throughout the year.

To apply her studies, Sullivan used the "Blooms Taxonomy" method which identifies three types of learning: cognitive (knowledge), affective (attitude) and psychomotor (skills).

She felt the program has helped her gain a better understanding of which techniques are most affective in the classroom. She was excited to bring what she had learned to LSUA.

"I could not be more proud to be a part of this faculty at LSUA," said Sullivan. "It has a

Center for Teaching Excellence and I believe that is what makes LSUA unique."

LSUA administrators were very supportive and cooperative in allowing Sullivan to complete the program. Before applying, she did extensive research on it, so she was familiar with the program's requirements. She had known of the "Best Teaching Star Program" offered by Louisiana State University which offers a similar objective as the Biology Research Program.

Sullivan would encourage other faculty members to participate in the program but cautions that they need to be very committed, and make sure they have the time to prepare and complete this challenging program.

Sullivan looks forward to

Important Dates

Mid Term Exams
Oct. 10-15

Fall Break
Oct. 20-22

Final Date to drop classes with a "W"
Nov. 1

LSUA Foundation Scholarship Gala
Nov. 5

Thanksgiving Holidays
Nov. 24-26

Final Exams
Dec. 5-10

Commencement
Dec. 15 at 10 a.m.

Christmas Holidays (University closed)
Dec. 26 - Jan 2, 1012



Associate professor of biology Dr. Sue Sullivan participated in the Biology Scholars Program of the American Society for Microbiology.

and plans to engage in similar programs offered in the future.

Out with the old...temporary buildings to be removed

By **Misti Vincent**
Sentry Reporter

The semester begins with a new edition to our campus, the Multi-Purpose Academic Center (MPAC) building. Now students are wondering what the future holds for ERC, Fine Arts, Conference Center, and Oakland Hall.

Students and faculty who have had classes in these older buildings find them hard to forget, with their unique obstacles such as the holes in the ceiling, the heat warming the building in the summer, the cool air howling in the winter. And who could forget the spiders that seemed to outnumber the students?

As for Oakland Hall, for now it will stay as is according to Chancellor David P. Manuel. The future of this historic building is, "up in the air," says Manuel.

The university hopes to keep

Oakland, because it was one of the first buildings on campus and holds value within its walls. Unfortunately the building needs an asbestos abatement done.

"Thankfully it's not in a dangerous state, so we're going to have to wait to see what kind of long term plans we develop for Oakland Hall," Manuel said. "We don't want to destroy it... So how we use it has not yet hit the planning phases."

The destinies of the ERC, Fine Arts, and Conference Center are grim. This fall the building will be demolished. For many students who had classes in these buildings, the dream to man the sledgehammers or drive the bulldozer that will take down these buildings is a welcomed thought.

After the buildings are removed, the area will be green space. But future plans for this area will have a grand impact on



The Electronic Resource Center (ERC) will be demolished later this semester. The remaining buildings will be moved to Facility Services and used for storage.

our campus.

In coming years this area will be part of a new main entrance to the campus. In the master plan, Middleton Drive will become green space and the grand entrance will lead visitors and students through the massive oak trees that stand on each side of the future walk way.

"All of these changes across the street from Abrams kind of reflect what's included in the master plan for the university, in terms of the physical master plan of the university," said Manuel.

The MPAC building is just the start of the wonderful additions to come. So get ready for more changes at LSUA.

Shuttle provides transportation for students

By **Keisha Swafford**
Sentry Reporter

The LSUA shuttle has been running for three years and it helps students who do not have personal transportation to the university. The shuttle runs no matter the weather conditions because it is on a regular schedule.

The LSUA shuttle runs Monday thru Friday. Round trip shuttle service to LSUA from the downtown Alexandria ATRANS bus terminal departs at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Return service departs from campus at 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Depending on road conditions, it takes the shuttle approximately 18 to 20 minutes to reach LSUA from the bus terminal. The cost is \$1.50 round trip. Drop-off and pick-up points at LSUA are the Student Center, Bolton Library, and Coughlin Hall.

Alnando Cordero, supervisor of the bus shuttle, enjoys meeting new people. Cordero

occasionally drives the LSUA shuttle, but there are several bus drivers who alternate shifts to accommodate the schedule.

Cordero is passionate, enthusiastic, and genuinely concerned about the students who attend LSUA. "We are like the postal service," Cordero said, "We run in rain, sleet, and snow. But it would be nice to have more times available for students. If more students used it, it would be great."

There are disadvantages to students riding the bus shuttle instead of driving their own cars to the university. Waiting for the LSUA shuttle outside can be time-consuming and uncomfortable because of the heat and humidity in the summer. Also, when riding the shuttle, students are putting their lives in the hands of the bus driver. Students need to be aware of their surroundings and know the bus routes to prevent getting lost.

Clenard Simmons, an LSUA



employee and shuttle rider, explains another way to catch the shuttle: "Students can drive their cars in downtown Alexandria, park their cars across the street from the terminal, and ride the shuttle to LSUA. Simmons said, "After their classes are over, students can ride the shuttle back to the bus terminal and drive their cars back home."

There are advantages to students riding the shuttle instead of driving their own cars. Considering today's high gas prices,

riding the shuttle can save money because the cost to ride is ONLY \$1.50 round trip. Students do not need to worry about finding a parking spot or getting fined with parking tickets.

Students can relax in the bus seats because the shuttle is air-conditioned, there's no traffic for students to maneuver, and students can take a nap while the bus driver provides them with a stress-free drive. LSUA student Frankie Frischhertz said, "It is like driving on autopilot."

LSUA business students earn national awards

The LSU Alexandria chapter of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) earned national recognition by receiving the 2011 Hollis and Kitty Guy Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit at the organization's national conference this summer. The award is highest honor for a PBL chapter, and the LSUA chapter has been in existence only one year.

LSUA's chapter was recognized with the honor for its work in coordinating the state PBL conference this past spring.

Five students from LSUA traveled to Orlando, FL for the National Leadership Conference along with advisor Dr. Cathy Denison, assistant professor of management. Because of budget cuts, the group worked to raise travel funds to provide students the opportunity to compete at the national level.

Two LSUA students won individual awards at the national conference. Richard Emberly, of Alexandria, who graduated in May

with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, took 2nd place and was named Runner-up National Champion in Business Law. He also took 8th place in Management Concepts.

Jennifer Smith, a senior business administration major from Pin-ville, took 6th place in the Client Service Competition event.

Other attendees included recent graduates Jennifer Theriot of Lecompte and Faith Ducote of Mansura, and senior Robert

Jones of Alexandria.

Phi Beta Lambda is the collegiate version of Future Business Leaders of America. FBLA-PBL is the largest and oldest student business organization in the country.

For more information about the LSUA PBL chapter or its programs contact faculty advisor Denison at cdenison@lsua.edu or call 318-427-4484.

Campus Subway open for business



By Leeann Ashley Borrel
Sentry Reporter

Restaurants have come and gone on LSUA's campus, but Subway is here to stay according to manager Kevin Williams. The official ribbon cutting for the restaurant was held Sept. 15.

In the early years, hungry students could access a few vending machines or go to the cafeteria, now called the Magnolia Café. But the cafeteria had limited hours.

In August 2007, the Red River Pub and Grub was established, and then mysteriously left in the middle of the night. Next Niko's Italian restaurant came to campus in September 2009 but closed soon after. Most recently, Subway opened two weeks prior to the beginning of the Fall 2011 semester. So how can we be sure that Subway is here to stay?

Subway is one of the fastest growing franchises in the world with over 35,000 restaurants in 98 countries. According to Kevin Williams, manager of LSUA's restaurant, Subways have a less than one percent failure rate.

Williams is enthusiastic about the investment that his father and he have made in putting a Subway on the LSUA campus. The support from the administrators, faculty, staff

and students has given them the extra confirmation that this was the right decision.

"The night class students and OAK residents have seemed to really enjoy having a Subway on campus," said Williams.

Subway offers a variety of sandwiches and salads. They also serve breakfast, available all day, and a variety of cookies to help out with that sweet tooth for those long study sessions.

LSUA Subway
Open Daily
from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Located at the
Oakland Plantation Golf
Course Clubhouse

Everyone deserves a second chance...First Drop can help

By Hannah Bunting
Sentry Reporter

You get your first F and you think it's no big deal, you can bring it up. Then you end up on academic probation and now you're a little nervous, but still not too worried. Uh-oh, now you are on academic suspension and you think there is nothing you can do about it, right? Wrong.

LSUA has the First-Drop Program. This program allows students to remain in school while on suspension. However, students are allowed to take a limited schedule of no more than of six hours and must attend a mandatory study skills seminar and academic counseling sessions every other week.

Students in the program must maintain a C average to stay enrolled at LSUA. Those who do not maintain the grade are suspended from the university for one calendar year.

If put on academic suspension a student must get permission from Student Services to be in the First-Drop Program.

Students who are re-admitted into LSUA after being suspended for academic reasons will be on scholastic probation. These students will remain on probation until their overall grade point average becomes a 2.0 or higher. The student must remain at this average or will be placed on academic suspension again.

By offering the First Drop Program, the school is hoping students will acquire better study skills to give them an opportunity for success.

Kathy Wimmert, LSUA's personal counselor said, "The ultimate goal of the First-Drop Program is to retain the students by diagnosing their weaknesses and helping them with interventions."

To be in this program students must be ready to make a



Pictured above is professional advisor Elizabeth LaBauve as she counsels a student in the Advising Center.

commitment and pay attention. "But with the First-Drop Program, I can remain in school and continue on to success." They are being given a second chance at school and to prove themselves. Unfortunately, only about 60 per cent of the students in the program will make changes and the remaining 40 per cent will have to sit out.

"Being given a second chance is the best thing because I was scared I was going to have to sit out a semester," said student, Amber Shephard

"Studying expands knowledge and knowledge is power."
—Unknown

Campus Halloween events set for Oct. 27

Rob Young
Sentry Reporter

LSUA will be hosting the annual Trick-Or-Treat Street on Oct. 27th, from 5 until 7 p.m. around the campus block. Representatives from student organizations and faculty departments will be dispensing candy and treats from themed booths along the streets of the LSUA campus. Trick-Or-Treat Street is a safe, family-friendly event, and children of all ages are encouraged to attend.

Tickets are \$3 per person, and can be purchased in advance from the LSUA Auxillary Services Office located on the 2nd floor of the Student Center. Tickets can also be purchased at the event.

For more information, contact Kyra Turner, Coordinator of Student Life, at 427-4403.

And for you “older kids”...

The Costume After-Party will be held at the Oaks Residence Hall beginning at 7:30 p.m. and going...until! There'll be a D.J., food, and a costume contest featuring the scariest students on campus. Admission is free, and door prizes will be awarded. Come out to the party...if you dare!



Theta Phi Alpha offers Continuous Open Bidding

Theta Phi Alpha is LSUA's only national Greek women's organization on campus. The sorority practices Continuous Open Bidding, which means that invitations of membership can be offered to a woman who is interested at any time during a semester. Throughout a semester, the group hosts a variety of interest parties, where women can learn more about the organization and get to know the women who are sisters of Theta Phi Alpha.

To be eligible to become a Theta Phi Sister, a woman must: be a full time student at LSUA, have at least a 2.5 GPA, pay all national and local dues, and attend all mandatory events (absences due to work and class are excused). For more information or if you are interested in becoming a sister of Theta Phi Alpha, please contact lsua@thetaphialpha.org.

Theta Phi Alpha is a national sorority that was founded in

1912. The primary focus areas of Theta Phi are: sisterhood, scholarship, service, and self-value. The friendships formed by being in Theta Phi Alpha will help women along their journeys through college and life. Each sister is beautiful and unique, similar to the organization's flower, the white rose. When put together, they become an even more impressive bouquet. Each rose is valued for its unique differences and what it can add to the group.



LSUA senior named Outstanding PR student

By Courtney Leopard
Sentry Reporter

Natalie North, a senior at LSUA, earned the Outstanding Public Relations Student for 2011, given by the Cenla Chapter of the Public Relations Association of Louisiana (PRAL). The award is given to a public relations student who consistently strives for excellence both in and out of the classroom.

Missy LaBorde, assistant professor of communication studies, nominated North for the award.

“In selecting a student for this honor, PRAL asks all teachers at surrounding colleges including LSUA, Louisiana College and Northwestern State University to nominate an outstanding student.”

“There were two very strong

candidates this year and both were selected for the award” LaBorde said. Amy Bryant of Louisiana College also received the award.

North says she is “appreciative and humbled to participate as a student member in Cenla Chapter of PRAL. It is a wonderful opportunity and valuable experience getting to be a part of a professional organization as a student.”

North has also won the award for Outstanding Student Leader for LSUA in 2010. Her leadership skill is demonstrated by her present role as president and founding member of Theta Phi Alpha sorority. She was very active with the Foundation Scholarship Gala and 50th Anniversary events at LSUA. North is currently employed with KALB News.

North will graduate in December with a degree in communication studies. After

graduation she plans to “continue working at KALB”, but not before she “celebrate[s]”.



We're looking for...

The Sentry is looking for a student editor for the spring semester. If you are an organized student writer interested in applying for this paid position, please email Missy LaBorde at mlaborde@lsua.edu.

Got news?
Send it to
The Sentry at
sentrynews@lsua.edu

LSUA Foundation Scholarship Gala
Nov. 5th
Limited number of discounted student tickets available!
Call 318-619-2916 to get your ticket today!

Explain those fees, please!

Student fees vary from school to school

By Hannah Gremillion
Sentry Reporter

At the beginning of each semester hundreds of students are rushed in and out of different offices; asked to sign this, read that, initial here, smile there and pay for all of it in accounting. Most people are so relieved to be finally out of the madhouse that they never have time to question exactly what they are paying for.

Besides tuition for classes, every student at LSUA is required to pay mandatory fees. Teresa Seymour, Enrollment Management Executive Director and Registrar, explained that. Fees vary from school to school, and the fees that LSUA changes are used to pay for various things for LSUA individually.

The amount of money required from each student this semester was \$123.75. That is a nearly thirty dollar difference from the \$91.25 students were paying in the fall of 2008.

To explain this rise (and sometimes fall) of fees, Belinda Aaron, Budget and Risk Management, explained that rather have students pay many small fees for the things they take advantage of every day by being an LSUA student, the fees are lumped together. For example, instead of a student paying for each individual copy of the school paper, the student will pay for the cost of the paper in his or her mandatory fees while also covering the cost for things like parking and the children's center.

Not just anyone can add to the student fees, explains Aaron. Depending on the amount and purpose, there may be a very detailed process involved. Some fees are simply handled by student government, while others must be approved by legislature.

Many of the students of LSUA voted to pay current fees. One example is the athletic fee. The money gained for the athletic fee is used to make it possible for LSUA to have baseball and softball teams. The money gives them a place to play and means to travel for games.

Once a fee is created, it may be there forever or it may be taken away once the project it was needed for has been completed.

There are several different fees

for LSUA students. The money taken in from the mandatory fees account is divided into at least twenty accounts set up for different things. A list of how the fees are divided can be found on LSUA's website. Some fees are restricted. Others are unrestricted.

Aaron explained that when a restricted account is set up for a new fee, the money that is put into that account can be used for what it was set up for only. Money in unrestricted accounts are slightly more flexible.

The good news is that LSUA doesn't predict any substantial rises in the mandatory fees. LSUA is doing its best to keep the burden of student fees to a minimum.

Students encouraged to register, choose to vote

By Joe Wright
Sentry Reporter

Qualifying for statewide and local elections was completed in September in the Clerk of Courts office.

This fall, the state of Louisiana will be Electing Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Insurance Commissioner, Attorney General Senators and Representative. Local parishes will be electing Sheriffs, Police Jurors, Clerk of Court and even some city officials.

Rapides Parish will be electing Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Police Ju-

rors. The ballot also includes tax measures for some parts of the parish.

This year's elections in the state and most parishes come after an exhausting legislative session of re-apportioning offices to fill the "one man, one vote" mandate of the federal government. One man, one vote" dictates a division by districts throughout the state where the districts approximately all have the same number of people.

"I never paid much attention to voting until a discussion with my dad," said Britton Patton, an

LSUA student. He stressed the importance of a person's vote. "I want my vote heard, so I will be voting on October 22 and November 19," Patton said.

Registering to vote is the first step to making your voice heard. Registering is quite easy. LSUA has forms to fill out and mail in to the Registrar's office. All libraries, the motor vehicle offices, and all high schools have forms as well. You can even go online at Geauxvote.com, fill out an application and send it in to the registrar's office and it will then be sent to the proper parish.

There is no excuse not to be registered. If you have not registered, get busy and do so. You want your voice heard.



LSUA Remembers 9/11

By Nathan Lewellyn
Sentry Reporter

Sunday, September 11, 2011 marked the ten year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center. Memorial events occurred all over the country as the nation came together to remember that terrible morning. LSUA marked the anniversary by competing with ten other organizations in the September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance 10th Anniversary Challenge.

The goal of LSUA's service project was to meet the needs of the veterans housed in Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The VAMC is a primary and secondary care facility that serves a potential veteran population of over 100,000 and that has an active patient roster of over 37,000. A collection center was set up on campus to receive donations

for personal hygiene products, refreshment supplies, and recreational items.

According to Kyra Turner, coordinator of student activities, LSUA collected more than 1000 individual items to support the patients at the VA hospital.

In addition to donations by individuals, the LSUA student organizations stepped up to support the effort. Groups participating included Baptist Collegiate Ministries, Criminal Justice Association, Phi Beta Lambda, Gamma Lambda Tau, Catholic Student Center, Student Nurses Association, Clio Society, and the Biology Student Organization.

Departments participating included Business, Education and Student Services. The Avoyelles Parish Sheriff's Department contributed as well.

Pre-Constitution Day held



LSUA held Pre-Constitution Day activities on the Quad on Sept. 13 with Dr. Steve Vanderslice, professor of English and philosophy, giving the address. The program included a Drill Demonstration by the cadets from the Louisiana Youth Challenge Program. Bob Tillie from the LSUA Veterans' Services Committee presented Vice-Chancellor Barbara Hatfield a plaque representing the university's recent designation as a Military Friendly Campus.

Students see fewer sections, larger classes this fall

By Faith Normand
Sentry Reporter

The fall 2011 semester is in full swing with students making use of the new Multi-Purpose Academic Center. Unfortunately, even with the new classrooms filled with modern technology there seems to be a complaint from some students: larger classes.

Due to budget cuts, fewer class sections are being offered resulting in overcrowded classrooms. Many LSUA students are feeling the effects of being more removed from their professors.

"I think it slows down the pace of class and how much I can engage with the teacher," said senior student, LeeAnn Borrel, in her frustration after leaving her overcrowded "standing room only" American Lit class. "I'm not known as an individual in the class," she said.

While student morale seems to be on the upswing, students and faculty are still worried about the looming budget cuts. One could very well make an argument that these overcrowded classes are damaging the morale on campus. Student have to work to get noticed, and faculty have to work harder with larger classes.

"I just want my education," said nursing major Hannah Normand, "But I feel like I have to fight even more to get the classes I need, especially if I want a specific teacher." She went on to say that being crammed in her classes definitely takes away from the educational experience in each class.

Some students are dealing with their frustration over these morbidly obese classes by getting to class early and trying to be the student the professor remembers in a classroom of strangers.

Students adjust to parking issues at the MPAC

By Hannah Chaumont
Sentry Reporter

Parking at LSUA has been an issue for years now. Just ask any student who commutes to campus.

Some say parking is worse now because of the new MPAC. A small parking lot was added near the newest building, but according to our students, the number of new parking spaces is not sufficient.

Numerous cars have been parked in illegal parking spots, parked on the grass, in staff only parking places, and even in the middle on the new construction areas.

"There is parking, it's just not convenient," said Emily Heiman, a current campus police officer. Heiman is a graduate of LSUA and is very open-minded about the current parking status. "We realize that it is inconve-

nient, but we have to do our job," said Heiman.

Campus police are required to write tickets when the law is violated. They understand the inconvenience and even gave out warnings the first weeks of school to help the students become aware of other vacant parking lots on campus.

Now that the students have been warned, the police must enforce the law. Parking ticket fines start at \$10 and go up according to the severity of the infraction. Be sure to avoid handicap parking if you do not have a sticker. The fine for the first offense is up to \$250 and even higher for the second offense.

Heiman also said that the current empty space near the MPAC will be green space, not extra parking. She said as for now the parking would most likely stay the same.

Campus theater will provide opportunities

By John Taylor
Sentry Reporter

The LSUA Arts, English and Humanities department is excited to see the dream of an on-campus theater come to fruition. LSUA now proudly boasts a Black Box Theater able to seat 175 occupants. The theater space also includes surrounding dressing rooms, costume and scenery shops, and design rooms.

The theater is part of the newly constructed Multi-Purpose Academic Center completed August 2011. The \$10 million center is the first new academic building constructed on campus in over 30 years.

According to stage manager and costume creator Georgia Fox, students and faculty are all excited about the new theater, and the opportunities it offers.

"Up to this point we held performances in the Kress and Coughlin Saunders," says Fox. "It is expensive, and hopefully we will be able to use that money for supplies."

In addition to the anticipated price break, the new performing space allows for costume and set designers to create and store props and costumes in a centralized location.

The theater support rooms are also in close proximity to where performances will take place, a vast improvement from what was previously a rigorous process of moving props and costumes out to remote locations.

"For me personally, it will be nice to have a workspace in the same location as the rehearsal and not having to lug around my sewing machine!" says Fox.

When using off campus venues, limited time is available to access and use the theater for rehearsals and stage setup. This limitation is now avoided with the on-campus theater. Student actors will now be able to enjoy working in the actual performance space from the beginning of the rehearsal process.

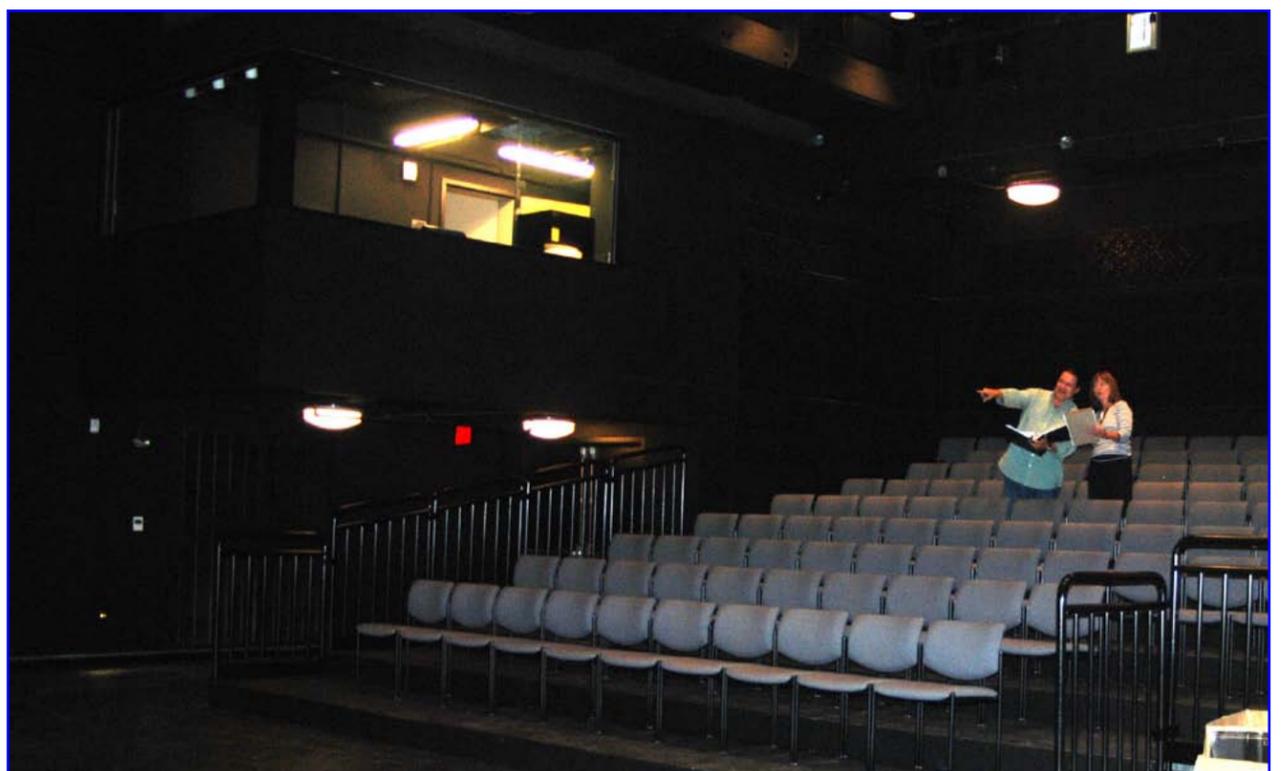
"The Multi-Purpose Academic Center has important auxiliary spaces that we never had before," says Arthur Rankin, chairman of

the Arts, English and Humanities department. "Each space also serves as a classroom for students to learn about the theatrical arts." LSUA's Black Box Theater will not only service students but the community as well.

"I believe having a theatre on campus will make our work more visible to the [Alexandria] community and hopefully encourage more students to become involved," says Fox. "You don't have to be an actor to be part of theatre. We need people to build, paint and decorate sets. We need people to work backstage and in the booth with light and sound equipment."

Look for "A Possum Grape Christmas LIVE!" coming to the theater this November. This performance by the Empty Space Players will take full advantage of the new theater space as it boasts a large cast, music and an explosion. Performances will be Nov. 10-12 and 17-19 at 7:30 p.m. and on Nov. 13 and 20 at 2:30 p.m. Contact Dr. Rhonda Shook for more information at rshook@lsua.edu or 318-473-6537.

Rankin says, "Even without a theater space of our own, the Empty Space Players have provided award-winning performances to Central Louisiana. Just imagine what we can do now."



Bob Harper, director of *A Possum Grape Christmas Live!*, and Dr. Rhonda Shook, interim director of theatre, are pictured above in the new MPAC Black Box Theatre. Shook wrote the play which will be the first performance in the new space.

Reaching the GENERAL population

By James Spellings
Sentry Reporter

Attention! is an order given by a commanding officer to put the focus on him. Well, Generals' Coach Dan Purvis is calling all of the students and faculty to attention to bring into focus the expectations of the baseball team.

After a disappointing 11-38 seasons last year, Purvis spent many grueling hours this summer recruiting players to improve the team.

In spite of a disappointing season, Purvis wants to bring attention to a couple of diamonds in the rough: Tid Hilger and Cullen Vujnovich. Hilger lead the team with a .382 batting average followed by Vujnovich with a .376. Hunter Decell hit .301. Purvis hopes with Hilger, Vujnovich and the new players this season will help the Generals improve to a winning record.

Josh Palmer, and Ryan Waters are two recruits that Purvis is ex-

pecting a lot from. Both pitched in the junior college world series. Purvis feels that their experience and maturity will bring a confidence to the rest of the team in crunch time.

Though many of the recruits may be rookies to our Generals, they are not freshmen on the field. Many transferred from junior colleges.

Even with the experienced transfer students, "I am going to need for everyone to step up," Purvis said. "Especially on hitting. That was one of the problems last year with only three-players batting over .300."

Purvis has high expectations this year, but he knows that he has to take a risk. The risk is sacrificing fielding for hitting. "Whoever can hit will play," Purvis said. "In order to win the team has to score."

Purvis also believes leadership will play a big role in the success of the team. "We need our seniors



to step up... Tid Hilger, Colton Knuckols, and James Ott... we need them show the new players how to take care of business in the offseason from workouts, to diets, to how to conduct themselves off the field."

The most important thing to help our team is campus support. Students, student organizations,

and faculty showing support and coming to the games will create an atmosphere that lets other opponents know that the Generals are a family.

So let us all get ready for next season, purchase our LSUA baseball gear and umbrellas and pay attention to our Generals.

Sibley brings passion for the game to LSUA

By Derek Goyne
Sentry Reporter

Coaching is not just a 9-5 job. For Ron Sibley, it's a passion.

Coaching is a passion that goes beyond the sport. It impacts the kids involved and provides a positive influence to help them reach their goals both athletically and in life.

Sibley is just this type of coach, from the time we spoke about coaching and kids and what his aspirations were in this field his eyes lit up with excitement. There is no doubt that LSUA has got a special coach and person in their newest addition to the Generals with their assistant coach.

Like most coaches Sibley played throughout his high school career in this hometown of Los Angeles, California. As a baseball standout at catching, Sibley barely blinked an eye at any other

sports realizing his passion and talent were in baseball.

After high school he took his talents to the nearby junior college at LA City College in Los Angeles. There he spent the next two years living the dream every high school athlete has to play college baseball. After those two years were over he was even more blessed to have the opportunity to play at Cal State Dominguez where the catcher finished up his playing career.

After his playing career was over, Sibley realized that his passion for the game could continue by teaching others about the game. His first job was as baseball coach at Lakeview High School. Next, Sibley brought his talents to central Louisiana where he spent his childhood summers on his grandparents' farm raising cows and chickens.

Sibley's aspirations were

fulfilled at LSUA this summer. While talking to a advisor, he met one of the Generals, Trey Barnes. After talking to Barnes for a while, they both went to the field to talk to Coach Purvis (LSUA's Head Baseball Coach). After this, Sibley said the rest was fate as Purvis asked him to be the assistant coach while finishing up his degree from LSUA to be a health teacher.

Currently, Sibley is commuting to LSUA from

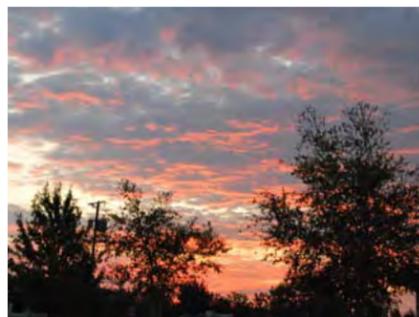
Natchitoches to be both student and teacher. He also works as a substitute teacher in the Natchitoches area.

"I feel very blessed and excited in the opportunity to do some college coaching now," Sibley said. He enjoys coaching while he works on his degree to ultimately become a college head coach after he's done with school.

It is no doubt that with Sibley's motivation, he will be able to "build men up for the next level" like he has always aspired to do.



ALBC/LSUA Scholarship Bass Tournament held



The 2nd Annual ALBC/LSUA Scholarship Bass Tournament was held on Sept. 17 at the Colfax Landing on the Red River. Proceeds from the tournament fund student scholarships. Photos above are (left) members of the Criminal Justice Association, (center) a beautiful sunrise on the river, and (right) heading out to find the fish.