Dear Alumni and Friends,

The old saying “time flies when you are having fun” is surely the case for me. It is hard to believe that I have been a part of the Division of University Advancement for more than 13 years – first as a graduate assistant, then as a coordinator, and for the past nine years as the Director of Alumni Relations – and it has been FUN! The opportunity to interact with so many of you has been such a blessing to me, whether it was simply through these biannual letters, at an athletic event or at one of our numerous gatherings of alumni and friends.

Earlier this summer, President Les Guice asked me to join his staff to assist with planning and advancement. This opportunity allows me to continue to interact with you, our most dedicated alumni and friends, as well as with students, faculty and staff across campus. My family and I are excited about the new adventure, especially since it allows us to remain at the university we love and where my wife and I met and earned our degrees.

So the question is – who will be the new Alumni Director? After reviewing numerous applications, we identified an extraordinary alum in Wes Cavin, Class of 2010. Wes will bring wonderful new ideas to the division and will work hard every day to keep you connected to your university. I know you will enjoy getting to know the Cavins and will be willing to assist Wes in his efforts to continue to move our association and our university forward. To learn more about Wes and his family, see Page 11.

As I conclude my final letter for “Louisiana Tech Magazine,” I want to thank the Alumni Association Boards that I have had the privilege to work with, the staff of the Marbury Alumni Center and you, our dedicated alumni and friends, for your support through the years. I look forward to interacting with you as we all strive to make the Tech Family stronger each and every day.

Ryan W. Richard (’98/’02)

A Word from the Alumni Director

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Athletics Roundup
   White Lightning

White Lightning
Athletics Roundup

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We welcome your comments or suggestions.

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Collection of recent Tech photos, updated regularly.
A World of Opportunities…

Two are-better-than-one partnership creates more graduates, jobs and economic opportunities.

Louisiana Tech’s success is measured by the success of our students. Beyond all the national rankings, recognitions and accolades we’ve received, student success is a principle that guides most of our actions.

Our students have been successful, both inside and outside the classroom, and our graduates have distinguished themselves in so many professions and walks of life. Whether through graduation rates, retention rates, degree completion times, national competitions or demonstrated competencies such as communications, creativity and leadership skills, our students rank at the top in the state and among the best in the nation.

Through those successes, Louisiana Tech has established a first-rate reputation, and we see the positive impacts of that every day by an ever-increasing number of high-achieving students who desire to join the Tech Family.

We also see evidence of student success through the large number of employers who have been drawn to our campus and our region, seeking our graduates. Some companies have even set up operations on our campus to take advantage of easy access to our talented students.

One global information technology company, Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC), recently announced their selection of Bossier City to open an innovative Technology Center which will bring 800 high-tech jobs to the area. What was the primary reason for their decision? It was the tremendous opportunities they saw to work with Tech because they know that we can produce the talent they need to be successful as a company. Once again, evidence that the quality of our students is synonymous with the strength of Louisiana Tech.

This partnership with CSC, along with others like the one with CenturyLink, is creating significant opportunities for our students and graduates right here along the I-20 corridor. We are also seeing the likely impacts for more economic prosperity for our region as more businesses follow.

We know that the employees of these companies will see Louisiana Tech as a great place to further their education, to participate in sporting events and recreational activities, and to enjoy cultural experiences and performing arts. These companies will actively seek out our students and graduates from business, communications, design and many more disciplines. They already are.

North Louisiana needs a major national research university to support its educational and social needs and to be a catalyst for economic development. We have demonstrated that Louisiana Tech is meeting those needs. However, to continue to support this as our region and State grow, we recognize that we must grow as well. And to achieve that, we have set a goal of 15,000 students by the year 2020 – clearly an ambitious goal, but one we believe to be achievable. As we pursue this objective, quality won’t be sacrificed for quantity, and we will seek to increase the strength of the student we recruit as well as the strength of the graduate we produce.

Tech offers an outstanding product to our students, and our faculty and staff have been able to offer that product at an exceptional value as evidenced by rankings among the top universities in the nation for affordability, return on investment, highest salaries and lowest debt for graduates.

To achieve our ambitious goals for student body growth and maintaining high standards for quality, value and access, we have determined that scholarship support is our highest priority. The University Scholars Program will enable us to use private resources strategically to recruit the best and brightest students from across the nation. (For more information on the University Scholars Program and how you can strengthen it, see our cover story on pages 6-7.) We also believe that it is essential for us to continue to support skilled, capable and industrious first-generation college students from Louisiana, who have proven historically to be some of Tech’s greatest ambassadors.

This vision for the future is a shared one, and one that belongs to every alumna of Louisiana Tech University. I am convinced that the pride, passion and commitment we share for our University will enable us to achieve our goals and realize our vision. I hope that you will join us on this exciting journey.

Leslie K. Guice

Follow Dr. Guice on his blog at GuiceBlog.LaTech.edu and on twitter @LKGuice.
Investiture of the President

LESLEI K. GUICE
THE 14TH PRESIDENT OF LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY
APRIL 8, 2014

Although it’s a place where formal events are almost as common as Greek mixers and study sessions, Louisiana Tech’s campus had not witnessed this kind of ceremony in more than half a century.

This was no ordinary spring day.

This was the official conferral of office and authority, the investiture of Leslie K. Guice, Ph.D., as the president of Louisiana Tech University. In the storied history of the University, this was one of its more significant events, the official recognition of only the 14th president in the 120-year history of north Louisiana’s long-stable higher education flagship.

For the two-hour ceremony, Louisiana Tech students, faculty and administrators were there, along with alumni, distinguished guests and higher education leaders from throughout the state to witness the official installation of Guice and his reception of the presidential medallion, signifying his acceptance of office and the authority and leadership responsibilities of the institution.

The ROTC Valkyrie Honor Guard, Symphonic Band, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir were there to perform and to entertain. But perhaps most importantly, Guice’s family was there, including his wife Kathy, his mother Marguerite, and his first grandchild, Christopher, in town from Florida to help celebrate one of the most memorable days of his granddad’s life. Born May 25, 2013, five weeks before his granddad took office July 1, Christopher even helped Tech’s newest president plant the 14th and newest of the trees along the entrance to Alumni Walkway, each tree in honor of the men who’ve served in Tech’s highest office.

University of Louisiana System President Dr. Sandra Woodley executed the investiture of office. Both she and University of Louisiana System Board of Supervisors Chair E. Gerald “T-Boy” Hebert presented the presidential medallion to Guice.

Guice assumed the presidency of Louisiana Tech on July 1, 2013, succeeding Dr. Daniel D. Reneau, who had led the university for 26 years and retired as the longest tenured president in the history of the institution.

The investiture ceremony began with an academic procession that included delegates from other colleges and universities, as well as select Tech faculty, student and administration delegates. It included musical selections, greetings and comments from several university and community groups, the presentation of the symbols of office, the president’s address, and the singing of the Louisiana Tech alma mater.
Harry Howard is Louisiana Tech’s first graduate and lone member of the Class of 1897. He was awarded his Bachelor of Industry degree. His graduation ceremony involved Col. A.T. Prescott, Tech’s first president, handing Harry his diploma that May.

For a lot of reasons, Howard, Col. Prescott and the six-member faculty of what was then the Industrial Institute and College of Louisiana would be impressed, if not overwhelmed, with what happened 308 commencement exercises after that first and most informal site. At the 2014 spring commencement on May 24, a packed Thomas Assembly Center honored 957 new Tech grads. A total of 966 degrees were conferred, which included nine dual degrees and 11 doctorates.

Very impressive. Nearly 1,000 students graduate in one spring quarter from a Tier 1 national research university, during the recently completed academic year, Tech conferred nearly 1,900 degrees.

But...in terms of where Tech wants to go, May of 2014 is in the future. Every alumnus can help, and every student recruited helps, and is helpful.

“Growing our student body to 15,000 is central to our vision for Tech. Our academics, our research, our culture are proven strategies that have sustained us through the past six years of constrained budgets,” said vice president for academic affairs Terry McConathy. “We have chosen to move forward rather than retreat and is helped.

As we recruit and retain students and faculty, we will enhance all aspects of what it is to be part of the Tech Family, from academics to co-curricular life to research to economic development. As Tech grows, so grows Louisiana and our region.”

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University Scholars Program – A Key to Tech’s Dynamic Future!

Increasing tuition costs and escalating competition with other universities for the most qualified high school students have significantly increased the need for enhanced scholarship support. The Louisiana Tech University Foundation manages endowments from private gifts that have provided over $1.2 million in scholarship support over the past two academic years from the earnings of those endowments. In addition, in 2013-14, almost $7 million of the University’s operating budget was utilized for scholarship aid to qualified students.

As the University increases its enrollment substantially, raising funds for scholarships is a top priority. The University Scholars Program provides opportunities to establish endowments through the University Foundation and to contribute in other meaningful ways to provide much-needed scholarship assistance. This is one of the best ways alumni and friends can assist the University and its students.

In 2013-14, State support for the operating budget of Tech was only 29 percent; this level is not expected to change substantially in future years, so imperative that private support helps offset scholarship costs.

Your support of the University Scholars Program can make a huge difference as Tech expands both its enrollment and its impact. For information about opportunities to help, please contact Michele Robinson (Michele@LaTechAlumni.org), Corrie Staggell (Correj@LaTechAlumni.org), or Jennifer Riley (Jennifer@LaTechAlumni.org) at (318)-255-7950.

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It’s Fun to be an Alum!

If we missed you on campus, on a road trip or at any of the 40-plus alumni events this year, we hope to see you soon. It’s easy to get involved. Remember it’s YOUR Alumni Association.

1. These faithful Bulldogs and the good times rolled in the Krewe of Gemini Mardi Gras Parade in Shreveport Bossier.
2. Michele Robinson, Tech’s Director of Major Gifts, makes friends withIndiana Kilpatrick, son of Serv. (Class of ’07) and Jeremy Kilpatrick and the youngest attendee of an alumni event in Fort Worth in May.
3. Tech AD Tommy McClelland and coaches Tyler Summitt, Mike White and Skip Holtz during a Q&A at the Fort Worth gathering.
4. Hundreds of Tech fans had a cool time at the annual huge spring party in Shreveport Bossier City.

The Alumni Association is part of the Division of University Advancement and is located in the Marbury Alumni Center.

Director: Wes Cavin
Coordinator: Jimmy Washington
Administrative Assistant: Barbara Swart

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(coordinator: Jimmy Washington
director: Wes cavin
is located in the Marbury Alumni Center.

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A Tech Family welcome to Wes

Interesting summer so far for Wes Cavin.
In June alone, he and Lindsay, his wife since four months after they each graduated from Louisiana Tech, welcomed a newborn daughter to go with their toddler son.
Along the way, Wes turned 27; his son turned 2.
And Wes and Lindsay put their West Monroe home up for sale in hopes of moving to Ruston.
In July, he and Lindsay celebrated their fourth wedding anniversary. Then things really got busy when he left his job of eight years to begin working for and with, of all people, you.
Wes jumped at the chance to become Tech’s newest director of alumni relations.
“I saw the opportunity to work with other alumni as a great chance for me to help carry on the spirit and culture of Ruston and Tech,” he said. “I’ll work to keep each of you connected with our wonderful University by providing lots of opportunities for us to gather and engage and enjoy all the things that make Louisiana Tech great.”
Since his Tech days he’s worked at Med-Camps, an organization which provides children with chronic illnesses and disabilities the opportunity to participate in traditional summer camp activities in a residential camp setting. “The experience and the people I was privileged to work with and for taught me so much about the things that are really important in life, like helping others and the value of teamwork,” he said.
Tech will find Wes to be a natural leader, loyal and devoted, a motivator and hard worker.
“Since he helped me to grow up and to become a responsible adult,” he said. “This University provided me with the tools to become an effective leader in the community, and now I’m excited to use those tools to help Louisiana Tech.”
Tech@Work

Meet a few of our younger alums who love both their jobs and their University.

XBOX MARKS THE SPOT

COREY GUNTER
DEGREE: '14, B.S., computer information systems
HOMETOWN: Natchitoches
NOW RESIDES IN: Charlotte
OCCUPATION: Ops consultant with Microsoft

He grew up playing Xbox. Now Corey Gunter might help with any of its games and designs.

Only 23, Gunter will move to North Carolina this summer to begin his job with Microsoft, one of the world’s most valuable and recognizable companies. He’ll begin as a consultant, using his software development background to develop his design skills while working with clients. But five or 10 years from now?
“Plan on moving into the Windows team or the Xbox team, he said, “and becoming a project manager for either division.”

Gunter followed the footsteps of both his dad and brother to Tech. “They were both successful with their careers,” he said, “so I knew this was the place for me.” Being a “huge fan” of Tech athletics helped him make his decision. Some of his favorite memories of student life are Tech basketball games. But it’s his experiences inside the College of Business that are paying off now.

“Tech takes education seriously, so there is a level of expectation that they have on the students they take in,” he said. “That level of expectation is enough to drive you to do your best.”

Since his senior year graduation, he’s continued to work as an associate consultant at Tech Pointe for FenwayXperience, a company that develops applications for its clients depending on the client’s specific need. FenwayXperience hires students while they’re in college, so I applied while I was a junior,” he said. “This gives the student real-world work experience, which gives them an advantage after graduation. I’m nervous about my new job being with such a big company like Microsoft, but my current job has given me plenty of experience to prepare me for my new career.”

#WOW

KC IFEANYI
DEGREE: '08, B.A., journalism; '13, M.A., journalism, Columbia University School of Journalism
HOMETOWN: Ruston
NOW RESIDES IN: Brooklyn
OCCUPATION: Social Media Producer at ABC’s ‘Good Morning America’

He grew up in Ruston. His parents and friends still live in Ruston. And he still visits Ruston.

“But I’ve always been a New York City kid at heart,” said KC Ifeanyi, a young man born for these fast times of fiber optics, social media and instant communication. A social media freak! Maybe. But so are most 20-somethings. A difference is that Ifeanyi gets paid for it by ABC, the American Broadcasting Company.

“My main duty at GMA is updating all our social accounts, which we have a LOT of. Twitter, Facebook, Google+, Vine, Tumble, Pinterest,” he said. “God help me because I know I’m leaving something off here. I’m also responsible for thinking of larger ideas of how to integrate social media into the show and into ABC as a news division.”

He couldn’t pass up the TOPS money, so he chose his hometown university, dug in with the journalism department at Kenny Hall and learned confidence and self-reliance, an experience he’s willing to share with today’s students. “Don’t settle with the hand that’s dealt you,” he said. “If you find yourself in want of resources, get resourceful. I secured three amazing internships while attending Tech, and it was through what I did outside of what was the ‘norm’ of the department.”

The three internships were at the Ruston-Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau, Tech’s marketing department, and Phoenix-based “Moving Pictures Magazine.” He continued to look for opportunity in grad school and found it through a career expo for Columbia University students.

“I just walked up to the ABC News table and asked if they had any digital reporting positions available,” Ifeanyi said. “The HR representative saw I had social media experience on my resume and told me I should consider this role at ‘Good Morning America.’”

As they say in the social media world, #Wow.

His hobbies include “playing bartender, desperately searching for the good music, forever playing catch-up on Netflix, reading in gross amounts, and rowing,” he said. “I’m kind of addicted to the rowing machine at my gym.”

ON FIRE UP NORTH

JENEE’ JORDAN
DEGREE: ‘12, B.S., Biomedical engineering, concentration in mechanical engineering
HOMETOWN: Baton Rouge
NOW RESIDES IN: Warsaw, Ind.
OCCUPATION: Operations development program engineer for Zimmer Orthopedics

A Louisiana girl battled through an Indiana winter of 120-plus inches of snow and days when the wind chill was minus-30 degrees. But Warsaw, called the “Orthopedic Capital of the United States” because it’s headquarters to America’s top three orthopedic companies, is right where she wants to be.

“Basically this company is huge and I’ve always wanted to work for them but never in a trillion years thought it would be my first job,” Jordan said of Zimmer Orthopedics, which designs, develops, manufactures and sells medical devices – and which just merged with Biomet, another of the Big Three in Warsaw. “I always thought I’d have to work for several smaller companies before I’d be experienced enough to be picked up by any company here. So when I got the call, I was shocked and excited and it’s been amazing.”

Now in her second year at Zimmer, she’s in Amish Country. “We have horse- and buggy parking at Wal-Mart,” she said, “and within driving distance of Indianapolis and Chicago and Notre Dame tailgating. And she found herself surrounded by others who, like her, are all about figuring out how to make artificial hips and knees and elbows and ankles work, how to improve them, how to surgically implant them, and how to move them around the world.

“Tech did do a great job of focusing on skills I use every single day: being organized, independent, multi-tasking, communicating with non-engineers and engineers and non-technical people and anyone else, focusing on budgets and cost saving, as well as being innovative where you can,” she said.

Already, she’s manufactured and launched the company’s newest personalized knee instrument system and has worked on initiatives to save the company in raw materials procurement. Presently she’s helping design, develop, validate and build a 3D printing cell that she says is key in “the future of medical devices.”

She’s paid off two student loans, bought a car and started a 401K. “And,” she said, “I’ve introduced co-workers to the wonders of king cakes, crawfish etouffee, gumbo, Mardi Gras and what Southern hospitality actually means.”

LIVING THE LIFE

ERIC GEIGER
DEGREE: ‘98, B.A., speech communications
HOMETOWN: Luling
NOW RESIDES IN: Nashville
OCCUPATION: Vice president at LifeWay Church Resources

He came to Tech because of its reputation of being “a great school with professors who are approachable and available,” he said, something he practices as a leader and teacher now. “I still benefit from the relationships I formed at Tech,” he said. “I have friends who loved me when I was a skinny college kid living in Houston dorm. Knowing that has been liberating, has given me freedom to take risks and to try big things, because I know there are folks who will be there for me, no matter what.”

He served as a pastor and as a company vice president in charge of a division that has more than 500 employees, Eric Geiger knows that success is all about relationships, something his time at Tech helped him learn how to build.

“My college experience really marked me,” said Geiger. “I made life-long friends mainly through relationships developed at the Baptist Collegiate Ministry. And most importantly, I fell in love with and married my wife, Kaye. She is so, far by the best thing about college for me.”

Geiger leads the Church Resources Division at LifeWay, the division responsible for serving churches with Bible studies, leadership resources, events, consulting, kids’ ministry, student ministry and worship resources. He is connected to churches in the Nashville area as a teaching pastor and layman and has served congregations as interim pastor.

“After graduating from Tech, I served on staff at several churches, most recently as the executive pastor at Christ Fellowship in Miami,” he said. “Through my studies, speaking and writing, I came to know several members of the executive leadership team at LifeWay. They asked me to come serve alongside them.”

10 | LOUISIANA TECH MAGAZINE
WWW.LATECH.EDU | 11
During the past three winters, Bulldog basketball has mirrored the impact of a successful campus and community renewal project. Attendance and interest has quickly soared: wins, championships, a pedal-to-the-metal style of play and a White-hot coaching staff will do that for you. What remains is the unfinished business of an NCAA Tournament bid.

During the back-and-forth, fast-paced struggle that was Louisiana Tech's last-second victory over Iona in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) in mid-March, Tech senior Shelby Maddox (below), near midcourt of Thomas Assembly Center, suffered a knee injury. And he wasn't even suited up to play.

One of the fanatical Blue Crew, an expanding group of Bulldog basketball lovers, Maddox and friends were dancing around for the ESPN cameras, doing the Harlem Shake during a first-half timeout. His shoe caught on the mat behind the ESPN crew's bench.

"Twisted my kneecap right out of socket," said Maddox. "It's probably the only instance I know of where someone watching a sport got an actual sports injury." Paramedics checked him. The team doctor popped the kneecap back into socket. He was done dancing for the night.

"It hurt," said Maddox, who earned his nanosystems engineering degree two months later. "It hurt a lot.

But as the Bulldogs did all season, Maddox battled.

"I wasn't leaving," he said. "Not that game. If I would have left, after the way it ended... I couldn't have lived with myself." A Speedy Smith put-back at the buzzer won it for the Bulldogs, 89-88, another in a long list of season highlights that Maddox and thousands of revitalized Bulldog basketball fans enjoyed.

"This was my fourth season, so I remember when there were more people on the court than there were in the stands," Maddox said. "I didn't expect it to get turned around so fast.

Last year was a big step, and this year…fantastic." Maddox said. "I didn't expect it to get turned around so fast. The backing of the coaching staff will do that for you. What remains is the unfinished business of an NCAA Tournament bid.

As expected, other programs came after Tech head coach Mike White, who in three seasons built a staff and team that rewarded Tech faithful with a couple of conference titles and NIT runs. White chose to remain at Tech: the obvious goal for him and the 'Tech Bulldogs, now a team completely built by White and his staff, will be to return to Tech to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1991.

"We have garnered much interest from other universities, and that's just a part of this business," White said. "The job that my staff and players do will continue to draw attention to our wonderful institution and community. Tech has given us the opportunity to build something special here though, and we plan to continue to do so.

"The success we've had wouldn't have been possible without the support we've had from our administration, alumni, fans and student body," he said. "These collective Bulldogs have embraced our student athletes, encouraged them and supported them. Louisiana Tech is a special place, and our team and staff are very aware of that."

The 2014-15 Bulldogs must replace seniors Chris Anderson, Jaron Johnson, Cordarius Johnson and McNeal, a quartet whose contributions should be remembered for a long time. Next winter's team will be much younger and more inexperienced (outside of the starting five) than last year's, but will also be taller, longer and more athletic.

The backcourt will have something not too common in Smith, Alex Hamilton and Appleby: three all-league guards. One of the country's best-shot blockers is back in Kyser.

Health and developed depth will be key. One of the new faces that could slide in as the fifth starter is forward Erik McCure, a 6-8 lefty transfer from Murray State who's practiced with the Bulldogs for a year.

The recruiting class resembles a starting lineup in itself with three guards, a forward and a center. Dayon Griffin (6-5 point guard) and Jacobi Boykins (6-5 shooting guard) are from Speedy Smith's hometown of St. Petersburg, Fla. Combo guard Xavian Stapleton (6-6) and center Joniah White (6-11) are from Mississippi. Branden Sheppard, a 6-8 forward, played at Shreveport's Huntington High.

Add all that up, and the Tech fan has plenty to look forward to.

"I can't wait," said Maddox, who, with the help of a knee brace and a month's time, healed from the kneecap injury and now attends games at Huntington.

"I have friends with no ties to Tech who've told me they'll drive over and watch these guys next year. If they're anything like last year's team, they should. This is a team that plays so hard, start to finish. They're easy to pull for."
Louisiana Tech won’t have to wait long to see what its football team is made of this fall. The Bulldogs open the season in Norman against the University of Oklahoma, whose most recent game was a 45-11 blitz-flavored thumping of Alabama Jan. 2 in the Allstate Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

The Bulldogs are not coming off the type of season-ending momentum or preseason hype enjoyed by the Sooners, ranked a Top-10 team by most publications. Nor does Tech have the preseason hype enjoyed by the Sooners, turned the ball over—and over and over. But that was last year. Now it’s a different ballgame in that this year’s season presents challenges starkly different than last year’s. The Bulldogs have an idea now of who can and can’t do what and a new staff has had a year to recruit and season its team. But the schedule, which includes trips to Oklahoma and Auburn and has the Bulldogs on the road in four of the season’s first five games, is much more demanding. Wondering who will quarterback? It’s the season’s biggest question.

Ryan Higgins, who split time last fall with the departed Scotty Young, is back for his sophomore season. Two high school signees and Cody Sokol, who transferred from Iowa, enrolled at Tech in June and have one year of eligibility left, will be among his challengers.

The offensive line, inconsistent last year in contrast to 2012’s four-senior, one-junior starting lineup, should be stronger and in better shape but loses three 2013 starters. Hopefully a go-to receiver or two will emerge. No receiver last year caught more than 36 passes or two touchdowns.

To the NFL draft, the defensive line lost Justin Ellis (Oakland) and All-Louisiana end I.K. Enemkpali (New York Jets), making more consistent play from the linebackers all the more important. With lots of depth and talent, the secondary should be the team’s strongest unit.

Another bright spot: Kyle Fischer, a redshirt freshman kicker last fall, proved to be one of the season’s highlights.

Coach Skip Holtz is nothing if not a speedster who can do a lot with a little; he had five catches for 114 yards and two TDs—one on this 70-yard catch-and-run—in the T-Day Spring Game.

Looking To Make A Run

Tech the season before; and, With little margin for error due to such inexperience, the Bulldogs turned the ball over—and over and over. But that was last year. Now it’s a different ballgame in that this year’s season presents challenges starkly different than last year’s. The Bulldogs have an idea now of who can and can’t do what and a new staff has had a year to recruit and season its team. But the schedule, which includes trips to Oklahoma and Auburn and has the Bulldogs on the road in four of the season’s first five games, is much more demanding. Wondering who will quarterback? It’s the season’s biggest question.

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The Ty That Binds Maybe everything old can be new again.

Tyler Summit, only 2) but tied to the old Louisiana Tech-University of Tennessee women’s basketball rivalry in a unique way, was hired as the Lady Techsters head coach in April to revive a program that was once the game’s standard.

The son of legendary Lady Vols former head coach Pat Summit, Tyler grew up as close as you can get to one of the premier athletic programs in NCAA athletics in the past 35 years. In the women’s college game, the Lady Techsters program ranks second all time in wins with 1,043, Tennessee is No. 1 with 1,247.

The Lady Vols finished 29-6 last year and lost in the Sweet 16. Tech’s 27 NCAA Tournament appearances rank fourth all-time, but the Lady Techsters have not been in the tournament since 2011. Obviously, the two rivals were going in different directions.

So why hire a Hatfield to coach the McCays, besides the fact that the Hatfields were winning? Tech athletics director Tommy McClelland decided Summit was uniquely qualified, even though he was two years shy of being born when the Lady Techsters in 1988 won the most recent of the program’s three national championships.

Summitt worked closely with his mom’s program when the Lady Vols won two national crowns between 2007 and 2009, and since birth through his early teens, Summit had heard both at the gym and at home that Louisiana Tech was the early standard of excellence in the game. He’s been in a championship culture since birth, Tennessee has won five national titles in his lifetime.

Two, his overall record as a walk-on guard for the Vols, as a volunteer assistant for his mom’s teams in Knoxville, as a rookie assistant and recruiter at Marquette and as a coach of AAU championship teams showed a mature knowledge of the game.

And finally, McClelland is banking on his energy and expertise as he develops his philosophy of developing champions on the court, in the classroom and in life as being enough to make the Lady Techsters relevant again and, then, champions.

The sixth head coach in Tech women’s basketball history inherits a program arguably slightly behind the one a Tech P.E. teacher was tossed in 1974: that’s when Sevja Hogg, at the dawn of a Hall of Fame career, was handed some basketballs, towels, a few hundred bucks and keys to the gym to start the program.

She and Summit have something in common besides a long history with Tyler’s mom, and that’s Mickie DeMoss, Tyler’s first hire and her associate head coach.

DeMoss is a 25-year veteran of college coaching, was Pat Summitt’s assistant for 20 years at Tennessee and was the Lady Techsters’ original point guard.

Summitt comes to Ruston from Marquette, where he was an assistant for the past two seasons. On June 1, 2013, he married his high school sweetheart, Anne Dennis ‘AnDe’ Ragasdale Summitt (below).

MUTUAL ADmiration society: Once fierce but friendly rivals and now Hall of Famers, Summitt (middle) and Barmore (right) each share a deep admiration for the Lady Techters’ new head coach.

“I know he is 23-years-old, ” Barmore said, “but he has been coaching since he was 1. I really like the direction we have gone.”

Shootaround with Summit

Q: How often will you and AnDe be able to get back home? A: To AnDe and me, Ruston is home. We’re going to focus on making relationships here. To all the alums: we need your support. Each and every one of you can help make a difference for us, and we would truly appreciate your help in bringing this program back to where it belongs.

Q: With Hall of Famer Leon Barmore close by, do you expect to ask him for any occasional help or advice? A: I’ve talked to Leon at least once a week since my hire. He will be a mentor for me and a resource that we will consistently draw on.

Q: What can fans expect to see on the floor? A: The type that will be as much up-tempo. I think fans will enjoy this exciting style and will also appreciate our players’ effort.

Q: Can Lady Techster fans expect some ‘new’ traditions? A: With one of the richest histories in women’s basketball, we don’t need to reinvent the wheel. My staff and I will embrace the tradition that we have and use it to benefit our future.
The club level will include luxury premium seating options with 102 chair back seats, multi-functional dining space seating up to 360, a private dining room with field view, and a full-service commercial kitchen. In addition to generating additional revenue streams for the University and athletic department, this area will be utilized for campus, student and community events.

In addition to several key initial leadership gifts from loyal supporters, the Louisiana Tech student body self-assessed a student fee that will help generate millions more towards the construction of the facility. There are naming recognition opportunities available in the new facility; for details, contact Nate Warren at the Louisiana Tech Foundation, (318) 255-7950.

PAW PRINTS

Erica Smith Taylor, who starred for Lady Techsters basketball from 2001 to 2005, returned to campus in May for a signing book at the Louisiana Tech Barnes and Nobles Bookstore. An English grad, Erica has received strong reviews for her children's book titled "Fijter: My Imaginary Friend." Published by Parkhurst Brothers Inc., the 24-page paperback is geared for children ages 4 to 8...

Nominations continue to be accepted for Louisiana Tech Athletics Hall of Fame. Forms are available from the Athletics Department by emailing Malcolm Butler at MButler@LaTech.edu or by logging on to LATechSports.com and clicking on Fan Zone, then on the LA Tech Hall of Fame link. The most recent class was inducted in 2013; the next class will be inducted in 2015 in the every-other-year process...

No surprise here: Former Tech offensive tackle Willie Roaf is in the 16-member College Football Hall of Fame 2014 Induction Class; he will be enshrined in a New York City ceremony Dec. 9. A four-year lettermen at Tech from 1989 to 1992, Roaf is already a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame (Class of 2012), Louisiana Tech Athletics Hall of Fame (2003), Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame (2007) and Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame (2009)...

Tech’s communications team earned two national honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). LA Tech’s football game programs, organized by associate athletic communications director Patrick Walsh, were ranked fifth in the nation; the cover of the women’s soccer media guide, under direction of assistant athletic communications director Kane McGuire, was voted best in the nation.
Tina Newbill of Jackson, Tenn. earned his associate's degree in Community College, where he pitched for Jackson State the state and the surrounding amount of talented players in a great place to start our recruiting appearance in 24 years. Campbell's first NCAA Regional was a talent player, and he is looking forward to next year already. "It was an awesome season for Victor, " Parks said. "I think he finished outside the top 25 only twice all year. To be the first player to ever represent our school at regionals, it was a great honor for him."

Lange fashions historic season
Sophomore Victor Lange finished 25th in the NCAA Regionals, the first Tech golfer to ever represent the program at an NCAA Regional. Lange finished the 54-hole event at Briggs Ranch Golf Course in San Antonio with a 220 total, including a 68 in the second round. He finished 14 strokes out of first, and five teams advanced from the regional to the NCAA Championships.

From Johannesburg, South Africa, Lange finished the year with a 72.80 average, setting a new school record for the best season stroke average; the old record was 73.34 set by Matthew Harvey in 2007-08. Lange was All-Louisiana and All-Western Athletic Conference as a freshman and earned second-team all-conference honors this year. He was a Conference USA Golfer of the Week in February. Coach Jeff Parks resigned to accept a private business opportunity, but made certain the student will graduate with a degree and a dog in the (Derby) race that day. "The Triple Crown's the biggest stage in racing and, along with winning the Breeders' Cup, is the reason people get into racing," Gowan said. "The money and the chance to win the Crown – it's good incentive to run. But it's a grueling five weeks. Other than the Belmont, (Ride On Curlin) was rock-solid all year, and that includes a hard campaign to get him into the Derby. He performed excellent. It's been a fun ride, I'll tell you that."

In the near-record crowd of 164,906 fans at Churchill Downs May 3, two Louisiana Tech graduates had a special stake in the 140th running of the Kentucky Derby. Each Bulldog had a dog in the fight, so to speak. Gowan was not enamored with jockey Calvin Borel's ride as Ride On Curlin, at odds of 17-1, finished seventh. With Joel Rosario in the stirrups, Ride On Curlin finished second in the Preakness in the Triple Crown's second leg. In the Belmont, Rosario rode Torist to victory, spoiling California Chrome's Triple Crown bid. Ride On Curlin, guided by a different jockey for the third straight race, suffered a slight injury and finished far back when "he was clearly worn out," Duncan said. "The Triple Crown's the biggest stage in racing and, along with winning the Breeders' Cup, is the reason people get into racing," Gowan said. "The money and the chance to win the Crown – it's good incentive to run. But it's a grueling five weeks. Other than the Belmont, (Ride On Curlin) was rock-solid all year, and that includes a hard campaign to get him into the Derby. He performed excellent. It's been a fun ride, I'll tell you that."

Constipation, another horse from Davison's stable, was 3-3 for the first 16 races of the year, had beaten Torist and was one of two horses with strong Tech connections in this year's Derby, stretching out under the watchful eye of the popular Gowan (below): "He's a skilled horseman…You could make an argument that Ride On Curlin was the third best horse in the (Derby) race that day." Gowan was not enamored with jockey Calvin Borel's ride as Ride On Curlin, at odds of 17-1, finished seventh. With Joel Rosario in the stirrups, Ride On Curlin finished second in the Preakness in the Triple Crown's second leg. In the Belmont, Rosario rode Torist to victory, spoiling California Chrome's Triple Crown bid. Ride On Curlin, guided by a different jockey for the third straight race, suffered a slight injury and finished far back when "he was clearly worn out," Duncan said. "I took my daughters back at Christmastime, I rode through Tech to the old barn and showed them where this all started for me. A lot of things have changed… but I'll never forget where I started training." As a Tech student and for a Texas owner named Ruston, who was an assistant men's golf coach at Texas Tech, was hired June 16. "It was an awesome season for Victor," Parks said. "I think he finished outside the top 25 only twice all year. To be the first player to ever represent our school at regionals, it was a great honor for him. He is a talented player, and he is looking forward to next year already."
Ag Department presents the $64,000 answer
A combination of 50 continuing students and incoming freshmen were presented $64,000 in scholarships at the Department of Agriculture’s annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet. “We’re proud of the help we are able to give to our students through scholarships; it’s things like the poinsettia sale each Christmas and the livestock sales we hold that allow us to do so,” said department head Gary Kennedy. “We have 62 incoming freshman, and those kinds of scholarships help in attracting students to the department.”

Nine graduating students headed to veterinary school were presented with stethoscopes during the banquet, 15 Agriculture Ambassadors and 10 Mascot Care Team members were also recognized. “Our Agriculture Ambassadors help with all the events we hold, like the poinsettia and livestock sales, and they also serve as our student recruiters and other things like that,” Kennedy said. James “Mac” Baxter, the department’s Alumnus of the Year, was recognized during the banquet, as were the four department members honored earlier in the spring during Tech’s College of Applied and Natural Sciences Day. Award winners were: Paul Jackson, Outstanding Instruction for 100/200 level courses; Maureen Hilliard, Outstanding Instruction 300 level courses and above; Elizaheth Carraway, Debra L. Martin Service Award; Julie Rutledge, John D. Griffin Award for Outstanding Professional Service.

Student Spotlight
ONALISE HILL, Senior
Hometown: Pineville
Major: Forestry, concentration in wildlife habitat management

“I want to be a wildlife biologist with a government association. Such a job would entail hands-on work with a variety of different animals such as songbirds, white-tailed deer, Louisiana black bear, red-cockaded woodpecker, a variety of waterfowl, and more…

“A degree from Tech means something to employers. Every degree is not created equal…

“Wildlife biology is a delicate mixture between blue-collar work and white-collar science. Not only do you have to do the hands-on, in-the-weather data collection and land management, but you also have to draw conclusions and make treatment plans. There is also a strong economic side to forestry. Timber is Louisiana’s number one crop, so measurements and finance cannot be overlooked in pursuing such a degree…

“The Forestry Club and Wildlife Society are assets to Louisiana Tech, without a doubt. South Campus students and professors treat you like family, making the college experience more rewarding and even more educational. I have never sought help and been treated like a number.”

Disaster drill tests response elements
Tech’s Division of Nursing, Counseling Center and Police Department, along with the Ruston Fire Department, Ruston Police Department, Northern Louisiana Medical Center and Green Clinic Surgical Hospital, teamed in April to conduct a disaster drill at Hutcheson residential hall.

The drill was used to test several key response elements for each organization and department. For students, the drill provided a real-life experience of how emergency responders handle certain situations.

Tech’s administration had an opportunity to deal with specific issues that would be presented during a campus crisis. Community law enforcement, firefighters and paramedics were also tested and challenged, and medical personnel practiced handling the potential aftermath of “injured” patients.

Two inducted into HOF
A new tradition began for the college May 8 when, in collaboration with the Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, the College held the first annual Hall of Fame Banquet at Square Creek Country Club.

Tech alums James Davison and Glen Post were inducted into Tech’s College of Business Hall of Fame. Davison earned a business administration degree from Tech; Post received both his accounting and master’s of business administration degrees from Tech.

Both alums remain very active in business, in growing north Louisiana’s educational and economic health, and in their support of the University.

The Community Trust Bank Deans’ Excellence Award was presented to Tech faculty members Selwyn Ellis and Jason Hart, and the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to retiring Tech professor Joe Pullis.

Bising named interim dean
Associate dean of graduate programs and research and associate professor of economics Tim Bisping became the College’s interim dean in June. A committee led by Terry McCray, vice president for academic affairs, is conducting a national search for a permanent replacement for former dean James Lumpkin, who accepted a position with the University of Texas at Tyler.

“The College of Business at Louisiana Tech is a special place, and I am honored to be a part of building upon its rich history of academic excellence,” said Bisping.

Bisping, a native of Kansas, earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Wichita State University, and his Ph.D in economics from Oklahoma State University. He has served as associate dean of graduate programs and research in the College of Business since 2011, and holds the Jack and Peggy Byrd endowed professorship.

Online MBA options available
The 100-percent online MBA program has been launched, designed for students who live out of the region or cannot come to the Ruston campus. The course work is not tied to a particular class time; all it takes to complete the program is will and an internet connection.

“The College of Business began offering online MBA courses several years ago, and we have taken our time to fully develop the program to ensure that it meets the high standards we set for all of our programs,” said interim dean Tim Bisping. “This spring we decided that the program was ready for a full launch, and we are accepting applications for the Full 2014 quarter. We have already admitted a number of students.

“It has been great to hear from Tech alums around the state and country who have expressed interest in our online MBA program,” Bisping said. “I hope they will continue to call us and help spread the word about our online MBA program.”

More information is available at the College’s website or by calling (318) 257-4526.

Student Spotlight
SAM HUSSEIN, Junior
Hometown: Shreveport / Major: Finance

“I want to become an investment banker or financial analyst. I’d like to work for a major company such as J.P. Morgan, Wells Fargo or Merrill Lynch…

“I would tell a high school senior thinking about Tech that Tech is like one big happy family, and there is something for everyone to do here. There are so many different organizations here that you would have to try to not be involved…

“I am involved in a number of organizations on campus. I was over Spring Fling for Union Board, over sports promotion on the Student Government Association, was president of the Peer Leadership Council, on the executive council of the Business Student Association and was the fundraising chair on the National Society of Leadership and Success. Being so involved on campus has taught me discipline and time management to balance my extracurricular activities and my studies at the same time. Also being involved has helped me to fit in and meet some of my best friends through these organizations.”
Hegab, Class of ‘89, Tech’s newest dean

He does more than just play shirts-and-skins basketball in the Lambright Sports & Wellness Center during his lunch breaks. Hisham Hegab is also Tech’s newest dean.

Hegab, professor of mechanical, nanosystems and cyber engineering, had been the College’s interim dean since July 13 when Stan Napper became vice president for research and development. Hegab joined Louisiana Tech’s faculty in 1995 and has served as an academic director for the computer science, electrical engineering, electrical engineering technology and nanosystems engineering programs. He also served as associate dean of undergraduate studies before being named interim dean for the 2013-2014 academic year.

During his tenure as interim dean, Hegab was credited with successfully concluding the College’s campaign for a new Integrated Engineering and Science Education building. The new facility will double the College’s classroom space, provide new faculty office spaces and provide a new 250-seat auditorium.

Originally from New Orleans, Hegab and his wife, Beth, have three children and reside in Ruston.

Student Spotlight

T.J. SPENCE, Senior

Hometown: Farmerville / Major: Electrical engineering and mathematics

“I want to work with microelectronics. More than that though, I want to build things that no one else has built…’

A degree in engineering from Louisiana Tech means that I have the training to create new things and solve problems that few others are really prepared to handle…”

“...my major is electrical engineering. We do a lot of project-based work. I didn’t realize how much work we would be expected to put in outside of class. It was definitely a surprise, and it took adjusting from the typical ‘high school’ workload. Students put in a lot of work, but it’s exciting and very fulfilling to see a robot that you built and programmed on your own moving around on an obstacle course…”

“Tech is unique. We have some professors who really do care about you and your future and take an interest, and we’re small enough that you can actually be given attention as an individual. Everyone is so willing to help, not just the teachers. Upperclassmen are encouraging, and they even will help you with your schoolwork or with just adapting to college life…”

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Debate team recognized worldwide

The Louisiana Tech Debate Team has accomplished what teams from colleges around the world have been attempting for years: win tournaments, participate in elite competitions and host a tournament. Last year the team competed in tournaments at Yale, United States Air Force Academy and La Verne University, also taking second place at Purdue. This year the team competed in Canada and India.

Two Tech debaters made history as the first team from Louisiana to have been accepted to compete in the World Universities Debate Championship (WUDC), recognized as the largest and most prestigious debate tournament in the world.

The team was invited to participate as one of four teams competing in the Westminster Debates in January as a part of the Southern Political Science Association's (SPSA) national conference in New Orleans. To be invited is to be considered one of the top debate programs in the nation.

Also in January, they competed in the Pan American Debate Championship, making it to quarterfinals and securing a title as one of the top 16 debate programs in North and South America.

The team hosted the Hot ‘N’ Spicy Debate Tournament in March on Tech’s campus, bringing in teams from Clemson University and University of Mississippi. The style of debate Tech competes in is an international style of debate called “Worlds.” In this style, a two-person team receives a topic and position 15 minutes before the debate starts. Topics range from geopolitical conflicts in the Middle East to the Grammys—and everything in between.

By Hannah Schilling, a journalism and political science double major

Singh, students focus on Friendship

Kevin Singh, an associate professor of architecture, was named one of “Building Design + Construction” magazine’s 40 under 40 this spring for his career achievement, service to architecture and his service-learning projects.

Singh is currently working with volunteers from the city of Ruston and from Louisiana Tech to revitalize the area of Ruston south of California Avenue. This allows architecture students to work with Ruston residents and give back to their community. The next project Singh, the volunteers and the students are focusing on is to build a Friendship House in the neighborhood.

By Hannah Schilling, a journalism and political science double major and president of Tech’s debate team

Hilburn legacy lives in award winners

The legacy of journalism professor emeritus Wiley Hilburn lives on as students on The Tech Talk staff added up award after award this spring.

From the Society of Professional Journalists, six students received a winner classification, and two students received honors for being in the finalist category.

Also, after competing at the Southeast Journalism Conference, Tech’s journalism department came home with 11 awards, including one first place in sports writing and five second place awards, with one for best magazine.

By Hannah Schilling, a journalism and political science double major and president of Tech’s debate team

Hall of Distinguished Alumni

Phil Robertson became the University’s newest Tower Medallion recipient when he was inducted into the University’s Hall of Distinguished Alumni during spring commencement exercises Saturday, May 24, in the Thomas Assembly Center.

He gave up college football to call ducks, but he didn’t give up on either his education or his dreams. History indicates that those were good decisions for Phil Robertson. Robertson (Classes of ’69 and ’74), former Louisiana Tech quarterback, outdoor icon and star of “Duck Dynasty,” cable television’s most successful reality TV series ever, became the 74th inductee into Tech’s Hall of Distinguished Alumni when he was awarded the University’s Tower Medallion.

His wife, Kay, and one of his sons, Alan (above right), accepted the award in the Thomas Assembly Center on his behalf since “the Duck Commander” had a prior commitment.

The annual recipient is selected by a committee from the Louisiana Tech Alumni Association. It recognizes those alumni who have achieved greatly in their professions while remaining loyal to their university.

“Dad was very honored to be recognized by Tech, but I think our family was even more so,” Alan said. “Dad has always shied away from being recognized officially—you know how he lives—but it meant a lot last year to reconnect with Terry Bradshaw and go home’ to Tech.

“He gets a lot of criticism these days as being backwards…but his education from Tech validates his intelligence and understanding of how the world works,” Alan said. “He is a very spiritual man, but he is also a learned and educated man, and we very much appreciate Louisiana Tech for providing that education and also a great small-town commitment to Godly values and our family’s spiritual beginnings in nearby West Monroe.”

Robertson returned to campus last fall for Tech’s Tulane game. It marked the first time since 1968 that former teammates Robertson and Bradshaw, FOX-TV broadcaster and NFL Hall of Famer, were on the Alien Stadium football field together. The famous pair was honored with name-plated jerseys at halftime.
covering 5,000 square feet, 1500 Bulldog Drive was completed in 1973 at a cost of $137,000, the fifth in a line of seven homes built during that time for Louisiana university presidents. Funds from oil wells discovered on the properties of the Nicholls State and McNeese State campuses covered the cost.

Following the 1987 retirement of F. Jay Taylor, the first Tech president to live in the new home, the residence was updated when Dan and Linda Reneau and their family moved in. More than a quarter-century later, the home was recently updated again – through a true group effort – for Tech’s newest President and First Lady, Les and Kathy Guice.

Connie Howard, noted designer and Tech graduate, also Privileged Director of the Tech Foundation, graciously donated her design services and supervised the entire project. The beautiful walnut floor was donated by James Davison who, like Howard, is a former Tech Alumnus of the Year. The floors were expertly finished and installed, as was the ceramic tile in the master bathroom and guest bathrooms, by Lincoln Flooring of Ruston, the firm of Tech alum Stanley Dupuy. Tech’s Building and Grounds crews did much of the necessary demolition and landscaping that enhanced the grounds: the result is a beautiful view of the lake from the patio.

Kathy (left) stands on the upper level of the reception rooms. In the background is the seating area of the upper level of the rooms, and in the foreground is a treasure of the University, the piano on which John Graham composed the Alma Mater.

The lower level of the reception rooms (top right) overlooks the beautiful patio and has a lake view. Large windows and French doors make it inviting and warm. The furnishings include the comfortable red leather chair and ottoman, several club chairs, a beautifully upholstered sofa and a grand entertainment center that also features Tech memorabilia collected by the Guice family.

The upper level fireplace (middle) is original to the home and is a unique, provincially inspired design; it was restored in the renovation. The brick used to build the fireplace was from the original A.E. Phillips school, first constructed on the Tech campus in 1917. Although the welcoming front door (above right) remains the same, the home’s dining area (bottom), as well as the master bedroom and entry way (next page) were included in the fall updating. Some furnishings were purchased new, but many other pieces were reupholstered and restored, and the Guices also incorporated much of their own furniture and accessories into the home.

(continued)
The kitchen is a beautiful Tech blue with granite countertops and stainless appliances that can accommodate the large events at the President's home. The large island was new in the renovation, and the window coverings feature the Tech Bulldog mascot.

The view off the large covered patio has been enhanced by the clearing of underbrush and now offers a clearer view of the new lake below. For the Wells & Parker architecture firm in 1973, one of their employees and a then-recent Tech graduate designed that same patio. The architect’s name? Les Guice. When the Guices were moving in, Kathy found in a file cabinet her husband's original drawing of the patio.

Although the home is clearly a University centerpiece, the Guices’ lifestyle and taste while being also home reflect the Guices’ lifestyle and taste while being also home. It’s a masterpiece, the result of lots of considerable expert thoughts and talented, accomplished hands.

**H.J. “Tony” Sachs**

Tony Sachs is arguably the greatest professor in Louisiana Tech's history... Most students simply recall his dynamic controversial classroom lectures.

But, in 1929, Dr. Sachs knew that his Jewish ancestry -- he was born to East European immigrant parents in 1904 in Chicago -- could be a liability in the Deep South.

In a remarkable conversation with the Tech president at the time, Dr. George Bond, Sachs said, “You know that I am a Jew and if my appointment would not be good for the school, or embarrass you in any way, I will go back to Chicago in the morning.”

Bond had no such reservations and welcomed the 25-year-old to the campus. Years later Bond wrote, “There is no man I have admired or respected more than Dr. Sachs.” Sachs never hid his liberal views in his classrooms or in Ruston. He pushed integration, and is widely credited with playing a role in Lincoln Parish’s relatively peaceful transition to desegregation.

It seems remarkable that Sachs, a Jew, could get away expressing such liberal views in conservative north Louisiana. But the region held him in almost reverent respect and admiration.

There was no synagogue in Ruston, but Dr. Sachs often attended Trinity Methodist Church and he even gave lectures -- or sermons -- there. The Trinity pastor at the time, Dr. Doug McGuire, liked and admired Sachs.

Though his opinions on politics were strictly liberal, Sachs always made the final point that, “We should strive for tolerance and get along with one another.”

Maybe that’s why he was at one with the community whatever his politics. Or this quote from Wordsworth expressed why he was so valued: “The best portion of a good man’s life is little nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.” I just don’t know why a proud Jewish liberal was embraced by conservatives in Ruston. But he was.

His constant chain-smoking amused students.

You could see him ambling across campus with his sloping gait, white dress shirts, suit and dress shoes, always with a cigarette dangling from his mouth. He smoked in class and sent students to get him cigarettes.

Dr. Sachs never learned to drive properly. He couldn’t shift gears and he would come flying out of his campus parking slot, never looking back, letting the shriek of brakes and a shrill horn alert him to danger. Students and faculty gave his car a wide berth.

A power far beyond his department head status, Sachs was – naturally at Tech – on the Athletic Council. He was close to Joe Aillet, the legendary Tech coach.

**The Hyman J. Sachs Endowed Professorship in English was established to honor the influential educator. Dr. Pat Garrett is currently the Sachs Professor of English.**
Donors of the Louisiana Tech University Foundation offer private gifts for a pure and
deep purpose: support the educational mission of the University. For information on
how to be a part of the Foundation’s mission, call 1-800-738-7950.

**Your Newest Teammates**

**Nate Warren and Tyson Baldwin**

**NATE WARREN, Assistant A.D./Development**

**Hometown:** Knoxville

**Degree:** Tennessee ’11, sports management; Kansas State ’11, M.S.,
education administration and leadership

**Contact:** Nate@LaTechAlumni.org / (318) 255-7950

Nate came to Ruston soon after football season and immediately
made himself part of a vibrant, energetic team leading the charge
to grow Tech athletics in every way.

“I enjoy helping people understand the impact their
philanthropy has directly on student-athletes,” Nate said, “but it’s
just as rewarding for me when I can connect an alumnus, friend,
or fan back with the school they love in a meaningful way for them.
By being a part of Louisiana Tech Athletic Club (LTAC),
or giving to a special project such as the Quest for Excellence,
alumni can feel a tremendous sense of pride and ownership of all
Louisiana Tech’s success on the field, in the classroom, and in life,”
he said. “Every time a student-athlete earns a diploma, scores a
touchdown or aces a job interview, supporters of our programs can
participate in the programs of the
University and University Foundation.

**Tyson Baldwin, Director of Louisiana Tech Athletic Club**

**Hometown:** Monroe

**Degree:** Arkansas ’10, communication; Mississippi State ’11, M.A.
sports administration

**Contact:** tyson@LaTechAlumni.org / (318) 255-7950

Always game time: Seldom are Warren (left) and Baldwin not suited up
for a game. Support for Tech athletics benefits every student.

After working for 18 months as the coordinator of athletic
advancement with Adam McGuirt, now Tech’s associate athletics
director for internal operations, Tyson took over this crucial part
of the University’s mission.

“I can help the alumni and friends of Tech athletics by getting
them set up with LTAC and with any questions they may have
about their donations,” Tyson said. “Also I handle the football and
basketball parking and tailgating on game days, and I’m happy to
answer any questions about that.

“Every time a student-athlete earns a diploma, scores a
touchdown or ace a job interview, supporters of our programs can
take pride in knowing they were a direct and crucial part of that.”

**Michele Robinson:**

**Michele Robinson, Director of Major Gifts**

**Hometown:** West Monroe

**Degree:** Tech ’05, English education; ULM ’06, M.A., marriage and family therapy

**Family:** Husband Elvan, daughter (and Tech student) Kaitlin

**Contact:** Michele@LaTechAlumni.org / (318) 255-7950

More than two decades of working in nonprofit organization management, consulting and
investment – plus a college education earned in Ruston – were among the things that brought
Michele back to Louisiana Tech early this spring. Most recently of Baton Rouge as president of the
Louisiana Association of United Ways, Michele now spends most of her days talking with donors
and potential donors about Tech’s vision, foundation and momentum.

“I work to cultivate and secure major gifts through the Louisiana Tech University Foundation
in support of the University’s mission and strategic initiatives,” she said. “(Tech president) Dr. Guice is
committed to ensuring that Louisiana Tech has the private support that is essential for growth, and I
am working directly with him as well.

“In essence,” she said, “I will be meeting and developing relationships with members of our
extended Louisiana Tech family, telling the Tech story and inviting people to invest in its future and
the success of its students.”

**Benefactors Dinner**

“Because of You” was the theme of a dinner honoring major benefactors and loyal donors to the Foundation on April 25. Donors of
equipment, planned gifts, professorships and eminent scholar chairs, along with meticulous donors, were given some insight
into the impact of their gifts by President Les Guice and panel discussions by professors and scholarship winners.

**Michele Robinson, Director of Major Gifts, visits with a panel of students to discuss the difference
that scholarship support has made in their educational opportunities at Tech and their future plans.**

**Dr. and Mrs. Guice visit with Bill (far right) and Kathy (far left) Hogan of Ruston.**

**Jennifer Riley, Executive Director of Advancement, quizzes the panel of professors about the impact
of private donations on the faculty.**

**Michele Robinson, Director of Major Gifts, visits with a panel of donors about Tech’s vision, foundation and momentum.**

**The more than 200 difference-makers in attendance enjoyed a dessert reception after dinner, providing time for discussions among
donors, faculty, staff and students.**

**Benefactor Bill Hogan of Ruston visits with Michele Robinson, Director of Major Gifts.**
JAN (‘00, ‘01) AND ETHAN (‘99, ‘00) SCHRADER

“You’ve learned that my own plans are not the best, and I need to let God lead with the best plan.” – Ethan

JAN: DEGREES: Biology, education
HOMETOWN: Lake Charles

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO FRESHMEN? Get out of your dorm as much as possible your first quarter and work hard at building friendships – but don’t forget to study! Tell us about your job/career now. Why did you choose this? What hope do you have for the future?

JAN: I am an attorney. One of my favorite hobbies is gardening. I am also a member of the Garden Club of Texas. I love to grow flowers and vegetables in my garden. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, and I like to travel. I keep in touch with everyone on social media. You can follow me on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

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1993
Sandra B. Mays, health and physical education (master's curriculum and instruction 1993), of Shreveport has been named a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. She has served as senior vice president and general manager for the New Orleans Saints and is a former U.S. Congressman. 

1994
Monty L. Sullivan, pre-law (master's education 1994), of Alexandria, Va., has been appointed Director of University Affairs, Global Strategies, for Armstrong Atlantic State University. Sullivan has more than 20 years of government relations experience.

1995
Sandra Binger Mabry, health and physical education (master's curriculum and instruction 1995), of Ruston has been named assistant professor at Louisiana Tech University. Mabry is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Mabry, both of Ruston.

1997
Tom G. Russell, agricultural business, of Bossier City has been promoted to assistant area manager for Bunge North America. In January, Russell was elected a member of the Louisiana Agricultural Industries Association. Russell and his wife, Brenda, have two children.

1998
David C. Cassels, forestry, of Monticello, Ark., has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Forestry Association. He is the west zone representative for the Regional Timber Group of Monticello and is responsible for representing the diverse timber properties in Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma. 

1999
Joseph M. “Mike” Lynn, pre-law, of Omaha, Neb., recently passed Mosaic as senior vice president and general counsel. Mike Lynn was in Washington, D.C., for the former U.S. Congressman John Cooksey, and later graduated from Creggton University of Law in Omaha. He spent the previous 11 years as corporate counsel for RivaCrest Bushland.

2000
Ben L. Irwin, dietetics, of Alexandria, La., has been named as senior director of sales and marketing for the New Orleans division of Rapid Information Systems. Irwin is a New Orleans designer known for her moody yet structured designs.

2001
Kevin G. Cabbell, master's curriculum and instruction, of Monroe was named president of SCM Architects. Cabbell received his B.A. in Architecture from the University of South Alabama and his M.S. in Architecture from SCSC Architects. 

2002
Jordyn M. Petrowski, civil engineering, of Stoner Marion, has been promoted to his professional engineering license. Petrowski is a licensed professional civil engineer in the state of Texas and Forte and Talida, Inc.'s Shreveport office.

2003
Gentry Camille Carroll, merchandising and consumer affairs, and Wesley James Martin, Jr., of Alexandria were named assistant principals of Merryman High School.

2004
Jordyn M. Petrowski, civil engineering, of Stoner Marion, has been promoted to his professional engineering license. Petrowski is a licensed professional civil engineer in the state of Texas and Forte and Talida, Inc.'s Shreveport office.

2005
Chadlopp M. Williams, forest management, of Ruston was named a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Williams has more than a decade of experience in real estate and development.

2006
Bradon Manning, secondary education, of Franklin was named a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Manning is a member of the Louisiana Tech Athletics Hall of Fame and is a member of the Louisiana Tech Athletics Hall of Fame.

2007
Amanda Maule-Deleon, interior design, of New Orleans, debuted her fall 2014 collection at New York Fashion Week.

2008
Kevin G. Cabbell, master's curriculum and instruction, of Monroe was named president of SCM Architects. Cabbell received his B.A. in Architecture from the University of South Alabama and his M.S. in Architecture from SCSC Architects.

2009
Monica Garlach Brown, political science, and Stephanie Solis Swainfeld, Oct. 12, 2013, Deeg, Idaho

2010
Annie Frank Smith, accounting, of Monroe's Bankruptcy Administration has been promoted to assistant vice president of finance for PFM Services, Palmetto Hospital Trust, and Palmetto Healthcare Liability Insurance Program and its subsidiaries. Smith has more than a decade of experience in finance and accounting.

2011
Chadlopp M. Williams, forest management, of Ruston was named a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Williams has more than a decade of experience in real estate and development.

2012
Jordyn M. Petrowski, civil engineering, of Stoner Marion, has been promoted to his professional engineering license. Petrowski is a licensed professional civil engineer in the state of Texas and Forte and Talida, Inc.'s Shreveport office.

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Jonesboro:
Zelia Faye Dixon Evans, 1952, human
Chester Forrest "Trees" Johnson Jr., business, Jan. 10, 2014, Monroe

Bessemer, Ala.:
Jan. 25, 2014, Shreveport
Roy Samuel Hurley, 89, accounting, Feb. 21, 2014, El Dorado,

Vicksburg, Miss.:
Robert Lynn "Bob" Tettleton, 84, business administration, April 8, 2014,

Miss.:
Rosemary McKellar Gray, 84, art, April

John Charles Ford Sr., 89, mechanical engineering, March 16, 2014,

Burley DeVille,
Mary Frances Tinsley Brown,
Courtney Alfred "Mike" Reed Jr.,
George Valentine Evanoff,

Katy, Texas:
Robert Edwin "Bob" Dixon,

Mechanical

Engineering

Robert Edwin "Bob" Dixon,

Mark Thomas

Octavia Oye Thomas

Stuarth B. Hall

Theo A. McLean

Tulane University

Mark Thompson


Walter Legier Prevost,

Cynthia Ann Colon Gay,


Vernon Colton "Buck" Shafer, 80, accounting, Feb. 22, 2014, Minden

Alan Gray "Al" Frennald Sr., 80, business administration, Dec. 15, 2013, Dubuque

Mandeville:
Roy Samuel Harris, 89, accounting, Jan. 25, 2014, Shreveport
Carl B. Kendrick,

Edward E. "Bud" Hale Jr., 84, master's education, July 3, 2013, Quitman

Morrison

Gary Lee "GB" Barker,

Maurice Dagwild Regan Sr., 82, master's counseling, April 2, 2014, Shreveport

Larry Eugene Shakeshak, 62, health and physical education, Jan. 2, 2014, Bossier City


William Marvin "Bill" Bradshaw, 86, Jan. 30, 2014, Shreveport


"ADDICTED TO BUSY"

Pastor Brady Boyd (journalism ’89) shows you how to live a life that embraces stillness and solitude and find the peace that God wants for you. Are you busier than you want to be? Than you need to be? Than you are meant to be?

It’s time to ‘break’ busy. Boyd and his wife, Pam, live in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he serves as senior pastor of New Life Church.

Available on Amazon.

“LUCA’S RUN”

Dr. John O. Mecom (biology education ’61) weaves a story of deceit, war and murder that spans three continents and six decades. Curious about military artifacts found among his deceased father’s things, Mecom’s main character traces the origin of a single photograph to a small Louisiana town. Mecom and his wife, Caroline, live in Richardson, Texas.

Available on Amazon.

“How to Be Happier in the Job You Sometimes Can’t Stand”

Dr. Ross West (social studies ’65) offers 12 practical ways to help you be happier in your work—even if you sometimes can’t stand it. This book is filled with stories that make the message personal. West and his wife, Martha, live in Dallas.

Available on Amazon.

If you’re a published alum, send your information to the Marbury Alumni Center so we can include it in Bulldog Bookshelf. Send to News@latech.edu.
Louisiana Tech University, or Tech or LA Tech, is the flagship university of north Louisiana.

**ESTABLISHED:** 1894

**MOTTO:** Union, Justice and Confidence

**MISSION:** As a selective admissions, comprehensive public university, Louisiana Tech is committed to quality in teaching, research, creative activity, public service and economic development. Louisiana Tech maintains as its highest priority the education and development of its students in a challenging, yet safe and supportive, community of learners. Louisiana Tech provides a technology-rich, interdisciplinary teaching, learning and research environment to ensure student and faculty success.

**ENROLLMENT:** 11,014

**LIVING ALUMNI:** 76,467

**HOW TO ENROLL:**
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- Apply on campus at Hale Hall
- Call (318) 257-3036 or (800) 528-3241
- Needed: $20 for application fee, ACT/SAT scores, high school transcripts
- Out-of-state fee waived for legacies

**SCHOOL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY:** offers three undergraduate degrees in the specialization areas of family and child studies, nutrition and dietetics, and merchandising and consumer studies. Two undergraduate degrees, family and consumer sciences education and early childhood education, are offered jointly with the College of Education. The School also offers a master’s degree in nutrition and dietetics.

**Bulldog in a bulb**

It’s only a light bulb, but there’s a Tech Bulldog inside it – like a ship model in a bottle – and the bulldog lights up golden when the bulb’s plugged in (left). Don’t see that every day. Actually, no one saw the light for 30 years, until it was brought out of storage for the University’s centennial celebration in 1994.

“I cannot come close to telling you when it was actually made, but I’ve talked to a lot of people about it and some old timers say that they remembered there were two or three of these light bulbs in the Tech bookstore for sale back in the ’20s,” said Bill Cox (’59, geology) in a story written by Paul Harris in the February issue of The Tech Talk. “I’ve seen a lot of Tech stuff around, but I don’t know if there are any others like this around.

“My understanding is that maybe an electrical engineer from Tech created the bulbs and brought them back to the University,” Cox said. “Thank goodness I saved it because it is a great piece of memorabilia that has represented this great University for a long time.”

In the mid-’60s, the mom of one of Cox’s friends gave Cox a lamp of her son’s when her son died; the two men had been friends. Cox kept the lamp stored in his barn and never noticed the bulb under the lampshade until he was cleaning his barn out around 1980.

He gave the lamp away but kept the bulb, and during the winter he gave that away too. Housed in a shadow box Cox built for it, the bulb is in the 16th floor office of President Les Guice. The bronze plate Cox had made for the box’s front reads this: “Louisiana Tech University, lighting the way since 1894.”

An investment in our students

Elbie McDaniel Hall (right) in ’94, lives in her Ringgold home surrounded by her flowers and frequent bird visitors, and has been retired from various jobs "for a lifetime. For decades…"

But she hasn’t forgotten what it’s like to be a financially struggling student.

She grew up a Depression-era Ruston girl whose family “didn’t have two nickels to rub together,” she recalled on a spring trip to University Hall for the School of Human Ecology’s (more school information, left) annual awards reception. “I graduated from Ruston High and stayed here for school because it was cheaper.”

By donating money for scholarships, today she makes it easier for students who have financial needs. Although she’s a 1942 human ecology honors graduate of Tech and supports that college, she also strongly supports the College of Engineering and Science. The spring reception honored her and other donors, incoming freshmen, graduate and honor students.

“The University has changed quite a bit,” she said. “I was lost when I got here after not being on campus for years.”

She and her late husband “prayed a lot about what to use our reserves (saved money) for; we knew we wanted to glorify God with it,” she said. “I think that is a great way to build up children who are trying to get an education. We’ve helped several be able to go to school and get other training. Helping build them up and helping the University, that’s a wonderful way to invest in these kids”

Bogard Hall: Engineered to Last

Perhaps no building on campus in Louisiana Tech history has consistently gotten more value out of its every square foot than Bogard Hall.

Nearly three-quarters of a century after it opened, Bogard today houses administrative and faculty offices on its first floor, classrooms on the second, student organization offices and storage space on the third, and in the basement are more classrooms and project space and a machine shop.

Its long service of sheltering premier chemical, civil, electrical and mechanical engineers continues to be accomplished with no auditorium, small classrooms and labs, no lobby or display cases. This is 102,952 square feet of work area.

As a public works project for Louisiana Polytechnic Institute, the building was completed and the old Mechanical Arts Building torn down in 1940. Built and equipped at a cost of $546,392.42, Bogard Hall is named after Frank Bogard (picture), who passed away in 1937. He was the University’s dean of engineering for 25 years.

Bogard was renovated and air conditioning installed in 1982. A campaign was recently completed for a new building, one that will provide the College of Engineering and Science much-needed additional space for classrooms, labs and faculty offices. Corporations and many alumni contributed financially in support of the new building, which will not only serve academic needs but also aid recruiting for the program, helping to further cement Tech’s reputation as a national leader in engineering and science education. The site will be determined soon and the new building will allow the University to more than double the number of engineering graduates it annually produces. Construction could begin as early as 2015.

For more information, visit coes.latech.edu/building. Special thanks to Archives and Special Collections, Prescott Memorial Library, to Sam Wallace, and to Joshua Williams and Thomas Soto, authors, “Louisiana Tech University Building History.”

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