People

Dr. Greg Granger’s review of Bruce Berkowitz’s book *Strategic Advantage: Challengers, Competitors, and Threats to America’s Future* (Georgetown University Press) is in the July 2009 issue of Joint Force Quarterly, published by the National Defense University for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Dr. Granger is professor of political science and director of the NSU School of Social Sciences.

Scott Burrell, coordinator of Theatre and Dance, was a guest faculty member at the 2009 Tennessee Arts Academy at Belmont University in Nashville. The Tennessee Arts Academy is the premier summer teacher training institute for arts educators in the United States. The Academy, which is a program of the Tennessee Department of Education, features weeklong intensive workshops in music, theatre, and the visual arts. During the event, Scott taught a

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Recycling gets underway this month

Bins and receptacles have been distributed throughout campus for NSU’s recycling initiative. Blue desk-side containers can be emptied into centrally-located bins in each building. These will be transported to pick-up areas outside each building.

Six additional outdoor recycling bins will be located on campus. Bins will be adjacent to the east and west sides of Friedman Student Union, and at Kyser Hall, Russell Hall, the Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) Building and Watson Library.

See Page 2 for a clip-out list of recycling guidelines.
Article explores aspects of hope-centered leadership

Dr. Wade Arnold, assistant professor of psychology, and his father have co-authored an article that outlines practical tips for hope-centered leadership. Dr. Danny Arnold is dean of the College of Business Administration at Missouri State University. “Hope-Centered Leadership: Some Practical Tips” appeared in the May 2009 Journal of International Business Disciplines published by the International Academy of Business Disciplines and Frostburg State University.

“The article was a collaboration with my dad. His interest is in leadership and mine is in positive psychology. We discovered there was very little literature on practical steps toward inspiring and developing hope in individuals and organizations,” Dr. Wade Arnold said.

While Dr. Danny Arnold’s theories on leadership are generated from the perspective of an educator training students to enter the business community, they can generally be applied to anyone in a leadership position. Dr. Wade Arnold explained that positive psychology is the study of positive traits and emotions, such as courage, compassion and resilience, as opposed to deficiencies, such as depression or anxiety. Understanding positive emotions can enhance one’s personal life and, by extension, one’s community.

“Positive psychology asks what is good about living and focuses on positive virtues such as integrity, optimism and psychological well-being,” Dr. Wade Arnold said.

The Arnolds’ article identifies theories on how an individual in a leadership position can generate hope, which will lead to motivation, action and better group performance. The tips address fairness, respect, trust, communication and conflict resolution.

“It’s so simple that it gets overlooked,” Dr. Wade Arnold said. “If people have hope that their future will be better, they try harder. A lot of people who end up leadership positions have never been trained to lead.”

“The leader who can generate hope among his or her followers is practicing hope-centered leadership,” the paper concludes. “The key question for the leader who wants to become a hope-centered leader is: What can I do to become a hope-centered leader. This article provides a wide variety of action oriented tips designed to enhance hope among followers.”

To read the article in its entirety, visit www.jibd.org.
The Department of Psychology has completed an external review that examined curricula, resources, faculty credentials and how the department assesses goals and objectives. The review also examined the number of students who go on to post graduate and doctoral programs. Dr. Randolph Smith of Lamar University conducted the review. The department was previously reviewed in 2000.

“The goal of any program review is to make certain that we are staying current and offering the best education in psychology to our students so that they are prepared for and are competitive in the job market and graduate education,” said Dr. Cynthia Lindsey, department chair. “The psychology faculty conducts regular informal review of our program in comparison to psychology programs at similar universities as well as to the American Psychological Association’s recommendations for undergraduate psychology programs.”

NSU’s Department of Psychology offers undergraduate degrees in psychology and addiction studies, Louisiana’s first on-line bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master’s in clinical psychology. Also available within the degree program requirements are concentrations in substance abuse counseling and prevention specialist that meet the academic requirements towards certification by the Louisiana State Board. The master’s program in clinical psychology was accredited for 10 years in 2002 by the Master’s in Psychology Accreditation Council.

The review found the NSU programs and curricula consistent with other programs nationwide and noted that NSU’s programs ensure that students complete courses with both research and applied backgrounds. The department requirements are higher than average because of the degrees that offer specializations.

“A positive aspect of the curriculum is that there is a wide variety of courses offered, which gives students ample opportunities to sample advanced topics in the discipline other than merely the standard areas,” the report stated.

The department was commended for offering the course Psychology as a Profession to help majors with issues relating to the unique features of a psychology major.

Smith recommended the inclusion of a course in cognitive psychology and praised the graduate and undergraduate administration. He commended the department’s success in linking its goals and outcomes to those outlined by the American Psychological Association and recommended the department bring those goals into alignment with the university’s Continuous Improvement Plan. He noted that the psychology faculty are particularly dedicated to teaching and service.

“It is beneficial to have an external reviewer, especially one of Dr. Smith’s caliber, evaluate our program objectively with his knowledge and understanding of the field of psychology, the goals for teaching psychology and the best practices for reaching those goals,” Lindsey said. “He offered great ideas to enhance the program and it was rewarding for him to recognize the faculty as a strength of the department because of their commitment to the students and to teaching. I am proud of this faculty and staff and our program.”

“The University takes the process of review and the results very seriously,” said NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb. “We will support the department in addressing the recommendations identified in the external review.” Improvements in the department will be addressed as resources allow.

We want to hear from you!

Watch your email! As part of our assessment and improvement program, NSU will conduct an online survey of recent graduates in the next month. We look forward to receiving your response. For more information contact: Roni Biscoe at ramirezv@nsula.edu or 318-357-6359.
New EMS streamlines facility reservation process

Northwestern has implemented a new event management system that will allow designated users to browse events, reserve campus facilities and import information onto a university calendar. The new system will eliminate much of the time and legwork that used to be required to reserve facilities, coordinate seating and catering needs.

Jason Mercer, graduate assistant and Student Union event coordinator, presented a series of workshops over the summer to brief faculty, staff and students on the system’s capabilities and how to use them. One designated person from each department, building or Recognized Student Organization will be authorized to create an account with access to the university calendar. Users can browse a list of facilities, view photos and seating diagrams and pick from a checklist of amenities, such as podiums, serving tables or electronic equipment, before making a request to the building manager for a reservation.

“It works very much like a hotel reservation search,” Mercer said. “It should make the planning process easier.”

Events placed on the university calendar and can be linked to information about ticket reservations, admission, parking or other important notes. The university calendar will also list academic dates, such as the day residence halls open and orientation details, and will be linked to the Registrar’s page. Browsers will be able to search for events related to the WRAC, Greek life, athletics, arts and culture, summer camps and the Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts.

To access the university calendar, visit www.nsula.edu/calendar.

FACS students attend Vegas ICSC conference

Fashion merchandizing and housing and interiors majors in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences traveled to Las Vegas, Nev., for the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Global Retail Real Estate Convention (RECON) May 16-20. Associate Professor of Merchandising Bette Howell Maroney led the seven students to explore a more in-depth approach as to how shopping malls and developments seek out what retailers want for their centers.

General sessions covered such topics as to how to maintain a sense of positivity during the recession, learning about upcoming retailers, and ones that are doing well despite the recession. Students had a chance to see major shopping malls such as the Forum Shoppes at Caesar’s Palace and the Fashion Show Mall.

Additionally students enjoyed the décor and entertainment offered at major hotels such as the Bellagio, Palazzo, and Treasure Island where the group stayed. The students took time to see “LOVE,” the Cirque du Soleil celebration of the musical legacy of The Beatles at the Mirage Theater.

In addition to the RECON General Sessions, concurrent sessions were selected to serve the needs of the students. “You Need to be LinkedIn Now More than Ever,” presented by Lori Gale, CEO of Fastlane Hires, explained what to include on online profiles and what to disregard. One of the major things she stressed was to use LinkedIn to maximize network. Another workshop the students utilized was with Marsha Weiner, who is an international management consultant. Her workshop was directed toward listening skills and how to keep commitments in line no matter what, and how to compensate for them if not followed through. The “Global Retail Runway” gave students an idea of what is to come as far as new retailers like Havaianas sandals from Brazil, and also what retailers are doing well such as Payless, Pinkberry.
As part of the celebration of Northwestern’s 125th anniversary, the Cammie G. Henry Research Center has developed an exhibit of photography by former President John S. Kyser and from his collection housed in the University Archives.

The exhibit, “The Camera’s Eye of a Northwestern President,” is being presented in the Center, located on the third floor or NSU’s Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library.

Kyser, an avid photographer and collector of photography, served Northwestern 44 years as professor and president. During his tenure, much of modern NSU took shape.

“The exhibit highlights photographs taken and collected by Dr. Kyser and reflects both his interests during his tenure as Northwestern’s president and as a professor geography. He was both a photographer and a collector of photographs that documented the cultural geography of Northwestern and Louisiana,” said Mary Linn Wernet, NSU archivist.

The exhibit will continue through September. For more information, contact Mary Linn Wernet at 357-4585 or wernet@nsula.edu

People...Continued from Page 1

number of master classes to high school teachers focusing on the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique. While there, Scott met guest speakers Michael Stern (conductor and son of Isaac Stern), George S. Clinton (composer and score writer for such films as Austin Powers and Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee) and saw special performances by Ballet Memphis, Thomas Studebaker and Jeffrey Wells (Metropolitan Opera), and the Tennessee Shakespeare Company.

Dr. Gillian E.A. Rudd, associate professor of chemistry, participated as an external peer reviewer of 2008-09 American Chemical Society Student Chapter Reports in June. Such reviews included constructive comments directed to each chapter; positively phrased suggestions for improvement and overall comments on their 2008-09 activities.

After a meeting in Washington in July, ACS staff are now working to finalize the e-mail messages and letters to each of the approximately 300 chapters that was under consideration for an award. Notification on chapter award decisions is expected to be by the end of September.

Dr. Barbara Duchardt, coordinator for graduate programs in the College of Education, co-organized with Kris Braud and Joyce Russo (Louisiana State Department of Education) the 8th annual Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) Summer Institute July 7-8 at the Natchitoches Events Center. Teachers and principals from 12 parishes attended.

Dr. Duchardt co-presented the following sessions on July 13-14 at the 2009 Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) International Conference in Lawrence, KS: Preconference Session: Integrating and Enjoying SIM in Higher Education and SIM as a Change Agent.

Dr. Duchardt and Jodi Shirley have published in the Summer 2009 edition of Collaborations Journal of the Louisiana Early Childhood Association “A Scholarship/Study Tour of South Korean Culture and Education: Part 1.”

Dr. J. Mark Thompson, professor of music, and fellow music assistant professor Paul Christopher performed with the Des Moines Metro Opera company from June 8-July 12. Christopher served as principal cello and Thompson served as bass trombone for the Iowa-based company that just completed its 37th season. Performances included three operas (Rossini’s Barber of Seville, von Weber’s Der Freischütz, and Puccini’s Tosca) and a young artists’ concert entitled “Stars of Tomorrow.”

From July 21-August 1 Thompson returned for his 12th season as bass trombone with the Lancaster Festival in Ohio. While there he performed on two chamber orchestra concerts featuring works including Mussorgsky’s Pictures at an Exhibition and Rimsky-Korsakov’s Scheherazade. The Festival Orchestra also performed for celebrated artists The Temptations and Lee Ann Womack.


Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Shane Rasmussen, Louisiana Folklife Center, College of Liberal Arts, received notification of an award of $2,000 from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities—Outreach Grant for “New Populations in Louisiana: Narrative Sessions at the 2009 Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival.”

Ms. Maxine Johnson, College of Nursing, received notification of an award of $54,194 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, for “Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students” -- $26,893 for Radiologic Technology, $8,030 for Associate Degree, and $19,271 for Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing.

Dr. Kimberly McAlister, College of Education, submitted a proposal and received notification of an award of $821.21 from the Louisiana/Kentucky Campus Compact Service-Learning Train-the-Trainer Institute for Travel Grants.

Dr. Henrietta Pichon, College of Education, submitted a proposal and received notification of an award of $300 from the Louisiana/Kentucky Campus Compact Service-Learning Train-the-Trainer Institute for Travel Grants.

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, submitted a proposal and received notification of an award of $897.65 from the Louisiana/Kentucky Campus Compact Service-Learning Train-the-Trainer Institute for Travel Grants.

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, submitted a proposal and received notification of an award of $300 from the Louisiana/Kentucky Campus Compact Service-Learning Train-the-Trainer Institute for Travel Grants.

Bossier Parish Community College (BPCC) and Northwestern State University’s (NSU) College of Nursing (CON) have been selected to receive funding under the U.S. Department of Education’s (USDoE) “Title III-A Strengthening Institutions” cooperative endeavor grant program. Assuming satisfactory progress from year to year, this $1.92 million grant will extend over a five year period, i.e., from October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2014. The purpose of this particular federal grant program is to provide funding on a competitive basis to eligible institutions of higher education that will enhance their efforts to (a) improve their academic quality and institutional management, (b) promote fiscal stability, and (c) increase their self-sufficiency.

BPCC and NSULA applied for this grant to address the ever-increasing shortage of qualified health-care professionals in Northwest Louisiana. Under this grant, the two institutions of higher education will work in tandem to eliminate barriers that prevent students from completing their courses of study and entering the workforce in our communities. Increasing the number of health care professionals will be accomplished by (a) analyzing current practices to improve retention and transfer of Nursing and Allied Health students at both institutions; (b) integrating effective academic/student-services practices and strategies that will support positive outcomes and improve student transfer and transition between the two institutions; and (c) implementing curricula and instructional revisions to improve the academic skills of students. This cooperative agreement will bring the two institutions together and provide a focused agenda which will increase the second-year-success rate of academically under-prepared students from both institutions, increase student retention-to-graduation in BPCC programs, increase the number of students who transfer from BPCC to NSU to study nursing, and increase the graduation rates of BPCC allied health students who transfer to NSU’s nursing programs. The two objectives are to increase student retention and transfer rates by improving academic instruction in common gateway barrier courses in Nursing and Allied Health programs and to develop joint Student Success programs with services that increase student retention and graduation rates in Nursing and Allied Health programs.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Ms. Claudia Triche, Department of Social Work, College of Liberal Arts, submitted a proposal to the Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, for “Undergraduate Training in Child Welfare.”

Mr. Dion Boyett, Small Business Development Center, College of Business, submitted a renewal application to the Louisiana Small Business Development Center of $162,000 for “SBDC Entrepreneurial Assistance and Training.”

Dr. Paul Nagel, College of Education, submitted a proposal to the National Geographic Society for “Strategic Planning for Geography Education.” For more information regarding funding opportunities, visit ORSP’s website at www.nsula.edu/orsp.
Dr. Kwangho Lee, a business education professor at Kongju National University (KNU) in South Korea, is the first exchange visiting professor with NSU, arriving in May. KNU is the largest and most leading teacher education program in South Korea.

Dr. Kwangho Lee will conduct co-research with the College of Education faculty. He is especially interested in learning and researching about how the American teacher education program is different and how student teaching is conducted. Dr. Lee will have the opportunity to observe some of the College of Education classes and its student teachers’ while at Northwestern.

Dr. Lee holds a Ph.D. in economics at Kyunghee University and an Ed.D. in business education at Seoul National University in South Korea. He was the Department Head of Business Information Education at KNU. He will also serve as the President of the Korean Research Association for the Business Education from January 1, 2010.

Dr. Lee participated as a panelist with Dr. Kioh Kim and his family at the Korea Culture of the NSU Folk Festival on July 18. Dr. Lee enjoyed his life in Natchitoches and Louisiana very much. “I am fortunate to be in this peaceful and beautiful town Natchitoches. This little town is what I exactly dreamed before my arrival,” he said.
Maisey - The Galactic Girl
An interplanetary tale about doing it right...the first time!

An original play for children by (NSU student) Megan Berry

Aug. 6–8 • 1 p.m. • Theatre West, NSU Campus
Tickets are $4 each (group rates available for groups with 10 or more people) Reservations are recommended (required for groups with 10 or more people)

Call (318) 357-4483 for more information or reservations

Summer Dinner Theatre presents...

Neil Simon’s “Last of the Red Hot Lovers”
August 5-8 • 6pm • $20 (meal and show)
Reservations Required 318-357-4483

Directed by Wm. Perry Morgan-Hall, Asst. Professor of Musical Theatre

Barney Cashman married his high school sweetheart. Now he feels he is missing out on life. On three different afternoons, he attempts to have an extra-marital affair; each woman offers a different challenge. Can Barney go through with it—and cheat on his wife? This comedy will linger with you even after the laughs become an appreciative memory. (This show is suggested for audiences 13 and older.)

ULS announces service-learning conference

The University of Louisiana System is committed to promoting service-learning as pedagogy at its eight institutions. In the last three years, the UL System has awarded NSU a total of $111,831 in support of service-learning courses and projects.

This year’s Service-Learning conference is scheduled for Monday, August 10 at the Claiborne Building in Baton Rouge. NSU Alumna (2008) Stephanie Quinn will guest lecture on “Service-Learning from a Student’s Perspective.”

All Northwestern faculty and staff interested in learning more about service-learning are invited to attend this FREE one-day conference.

For more information please contact Steve Gruesbeck in the Office of Service-Learning at 357-5911.
Sympathy

An event to celebrate the life of Sharon Sampite, former assistant director of Institutional Advancement and the NSU Foundation, was held Aug. 1 at the Natchitoches Events Center. Sharon passed away on July 4. Memorial contributions can be made to two NSU scholarships: The Sharon Sampite and John and Allison Van Hoof Education Scholarship, established through the NSU Foundation, and the Sampite Family Baseball Scholarship, established through the NSU Athletic Association.

Funeral Services for Evelyn Cobb, grandmother of LaDonna Rachal, Human Resources, were held July 14 in the chapel of Roseneath Funeral Home in Mansfield. Ms. Cobb passed away Saturday, July 11. Friends may make donations to the Provencal First Baptist Church Building Fund.

Funeral Services for Mrs. Ella Lee, mother of James Jefferson, site manager for Red River Sanitors, were held on July 22 at Dorsey – Keatts Funeral Homes in Waco, Texas.

A donation was made to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital in memory of Mrs. Cora Lee Rufty, mother of Sandra Rufty at NSU Shreveport Nursing Library.

A spray was sent to the funeral service of Mr. Joe Roberson, Sr., father of Carolyn Roberson, Student Accounting/Business Affairs.

A spray was sent to the funeral service of Mr. Kermit Pharris, retiree from the Warehouse.

A spray was sent to the funeral service of Mr. Charlie Longino (grandfather) but raised Mike Salard as if he were his father. Mike Salard is an Electrician/Preventative Maintenance, Physical Plant.

Furr presents at Oxford Round Table

Paula Furr, head of the Department of Journalism at Northwestern State University recently attended the Oxford Round Table at Oxford University in England. An invited participant, Furr was one of 29 attendees there to discuss “Education and Cyberspace Law.” Held at the historic St. Anne’s College at Oxford University, the conference is an educational “think tank.” Furr’s presentation, “From the Printed Book to Facebook,” focused on related privacy issues and the effects of technology on mass media and society. She also served as a discussion leader after another presentation.

“I was honored to attend and represent NSU,” Furr said. “I’m glad to have had the opportunity to meet international colleagues and experience Oxford University.”

Furr was invited to participate based on a nomination by a previous participant. Furr has taken part in international conferences in the Ukraine, Denmark and Warwick, England.

The Round Table seeks to provide an interdisciplinary forum for the discussion of contemporary issues that affect the public good in all its various forms and ramifications. The public good is expansively interpreted by the Round Table to include all matters that enrich the human experience and enhance the human condition.

The Oxford Round Table is a unique forum, not a conference in the conventional sense, but rather an opportunity for scholars and leaders to discuss government policy in a collegial, “think-tank” atmosphere.

Each session of the Oxford Round Table is designed around a format that enables participants to present papers and to engage in discussions regarding those papers in both formal colloquy and informal dialogue. Papers presented at Round Tables may be submitted for publication in the Forum on Public Policy, an online and a hard copy journal of the Oxford Round Table.

Birth Announcement

Amy Werner, Alumni and Development, and Dr. Michael K. Cundall, Scholars’ College, welcomed their third son at 5:08 a.m. Tuesday, July 21. Thomas Connor Cundall weighted 8 pounds 5 ounces and measured 21 inches in length.

Congratulations to the Werner-Cundall family.
Six students from the College of Business representing the NSU Phi Beta Lambda chapter joined 1,776 PBL members from across the nation at the 2009 National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Ca., June 20-23. All of the students were there to compete in various contests within the conference theme of “GET THE EDGE.” At the opening general session, NSU PBL was featured as spearheading a new service project, “Operation Christmas Child.” Over three days, NSU students competed against national peers with the following results: James McAlpin placed 7th in business law, Josh Russell placed 9th in financial concepts, and Nancy Giffin placed 4th in human resource management. Hannah Salter placed in the top 15 in the Future Business Executive contest.

Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne, Dr. Julie McDonald, and Dr. Walter Creighton were at the Phi Beta Lambda 2009 National Leadership conference in Anaheim to attend sessions and advise and chaperon students.

Dr. Jerry Wall, dean of the College of Business, attended the annual meeting of the Southwest Business Deans Association (SWBDA) in mid-June. While there he served as a board member and was elected to the position of Secretary which places him in line to be President in three years.

While at the SWBDA, Wall received a certificate for the NSU Beta Gamma Sigma business honorary chapter which was recognized as a Premier Chapter by its national organization. This is the highest level that can be achieved.

Wall also authored an article that appeared in Business Perspectives entitled “Hurricanes, Oil, and Broken Crystal Balls: The Louisiana Economy in 2009.”

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Fusilier and Durlabhji authored an article entitled “e-business Education Worldwide: On the Right Track?” accepted at the International Journal of Management Education:

FACS...Continued from Page 4

and Dunkin Doughnuts. This session also displayed some new concepts for store layout. A large area of the Las Vegas convention center was devoted to the leasing mall and trade expo. The leasing mall offered many popular retailers the opportunity to show a sampling of their store layout and also their products. Examples would be The Burger King Corporation, Dressbarn Inc. Maurices, and McDonalds Corporation.

Lastly, students were present at a luncheon at the Las Vegas Hilton honoring the “Hot Retailer Awards of 2009,” which was hosted by Carson Kressley. Kressley is most famous for his television shows “Queer Eye for the Straight Guy,” and Lifetime’s series “How to Look Good Naked.” The awards highlighted four upcoming retailers, and how they are soon to be expanding. The four winners were Edward Beiner, designer eyeglasses; Blues Jean Bar, a place set up like a bar to purchase designer jeans; Fashionology, a place for children to design apparel, and OrangeCup, a new way of making frozen yogurt fun and delicious. After the show students were able to speak with Kressly, who reminded them he’d been to Natchitoches for the filming of the movie “A Year Without A Santa Claus.” After exchanging condolences regarding the movie, Carson signed autographs and posed for photos. Overall the students had a great time viewing the sights and encountering the bigger picture when it comes to their chosen concentrations In FACS, Maroney said.
Natchitoches citizens recognized for tobacco control efforts

Natchitoches citizens from various walks of life have demonstrated their commitment to educating others about the dangers of smoking and second-hand smoke. During the May Natchitoches City Council meeting, Northwestern was also recognized for the recent implementations of a campus wide footage requirement where smokers maintain a distance of 25 feet away from entrances and exists in an effort to protect non-smokers from the dangers of secondhand smoke. Dr. Tara Gallien, assistant professor Health & Human Performance, was recognized for her personal and professional commitment to tobacco control and advocacy education. Awards were also presented to Dan DeBlieux, owner of Sport-A-Pak Bar, who voluntarily went smoke-free February 2006, prior to the Louisiana Smoke-Free Air Act (Act 815), and James W. Scarborough, health advocate and owner of S & S Flower Shop & Tuxedo Rentals.

The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living (TFL) Regional Coordinator Feamula Bradley and Louisiana Tobacco Control Program (LTCP) Tobacco Control Officer Judy Daniels also recognized Elite Broadcasting Company (KNOC Newstalk AM 1450), John Brewer, technical manager at Elite Broadcasting Company, and Shane Erab, news director, for their commitment to providing a venue where listeners can receive valuable information on smoking dangers and cessation (quitting).

The Natchitoches City Council also recognized May 31 as “World No Tobacco Day” by signing a proclamation through which the city recognized that tobacco use is a leading cause of death and disability, and efforts to prevent tobacco initiation and use should be a priority.

Anyone interested in obtaining more information about local and statewide tobacco initiatives or volunteering should call Feamula Bradley, TFL Region 7 Coordinator at (318) 573-2339 or visit www.tobaccofreeliving.org.

Donations being sought for family whose home burned

Thomas Smith, NSU grounds employee for 10 years lost his home to a house fire Tuesday, July 14, 2009.

The family will have to replace all household and personal items. Mr. Smith has a wife named Martha and two daughters, Hayley and Chasity.

The following is a list of clothing sizes:

- **Thomas**: 42 pants, 3X shirt, 10-1/2 shoe
- **Martha**: 16 pants, XL shirt, 8-1/2 shoe
- **Hayley**: 5/6 pants (Y), Medium shirt (Y), 11 shoe (children)
- **Chasity**: 16 pants (Y), XL shirt (Y), 4-1/2 or 5 shoe (children)

Any items or monetary donations can be delivered to the Grounds Department or you can call Gary Nolley at 6197. Please leave a message and he will pick the items up from your office. Thomas can be reached at 356-8022 and 609-6088 if you have any questions.

The family would deeply appreciate anything that you feel you could contribute to help them get back on their feet.
Northwestern rolled out a redesigned Web site just prior to the start of the Fall 2009 semester. The site at www.nsula.edu went live July 31 and is designed to be the main information source for prospective and current students, alumni, faculty and staff, friends of NSU and anyone seeking information on Northwestern.

“The new site is clean, logical and will make it easier for the user to find what they are looking for,” said Vice President for Technology, Research and Economic Development Dr. Darlene Williams, who has overseen the yearlong makeover of the site. “We have made an effort to have each area of the university represented. What users will see is just the beginning. The site will be continually improved and new features will be added in the months to come.”

Visitors to www.nsula.edu will find an improved interface and independent search engines to quickly take them to specific areas on the site. The site is also compatible with mobile devices allowing users to access the site and its features on the go. Site administrators can also update their sites on mobile devices.

“This site is a big step forward for Northwestern and the first of a phased implementation,” said Associate Director of Academic Services Phillip Gillis. “This isn’t a case of doing some minor redesigns and calling it new. The site and the workflows associated with content publication and collaboration have been completely overhauled and will play a major role in positioning Northwestern for the future.

“We know how important the Web site is to Northwestern as many prospective students use it to help them begin to decide where they will attend college. This will help them find out what Northwestern is all about and will also help current students get the information they need.”

Northwestern’s new site will also provide significant cost savings to the university. The site uses free open source software instead of purchasing, licensing or leasing it from a vendor.

“That move into the open source realm is a practical and exciting move for the university,” said Gillis. “The new software is also the first production release demonstrating the university’s move into technical virtualization which will reduce maintenance and energy costs. The new virtualization technology reduces the physical footprint needed, the savings in energy costs fits in with Northwestern’s Green Initiative.”

Gillis said a number of University faculty and staff have worked together to create the new site. Each area of Northwestern designated an individual to work on gathering and updating information for departmental pages.

“The faculty and staff have been enthusiastic about this project and the future possibilities,” he said. “They understand how an effective Web site will be appealing to prospective students. We are excited to be able to ‘flip the switch’ and let people see what we have done.”

Love fund established for Lodrigue child

Jayden Lodrigue, infant son of Shane (University Police) and Crystal Lodrigue, underwent open heart surgery on July 28 in New Orleans to repair an Atrioventricular Canal Defect. A blood drive was held in the Student Union Ballroom on July 21.

Atrioventricular Canal Defect is a large hole in the center of the heart. It is located where the wall between the upper chambers joins the wall between the lower chambers. This septal defect involves both upper and lower chambers. Also, the tricuspid and mitral valves that normally separate the heart’s upper and lower chambers aren’t formed as individual valves. Instead, a single large valve forms that crosses the defect in the wall between the two sides of the heart.

A love fund for Jayden has been established at City Bank and Trust.