

SGA Offers Donors A Chance to Help Beautify Campus

A STUDENT GOVERNMENT Association project that started out as a way to provide benches near Moody Hall and the Quadrangle has mushroomed.

Benches for Beautification will place benches, tables and trash receptacles across campus.

The project is the brainchild of Bryan Laperouse, a former SGA president for the B.I. Moody III College of Business Administration and recent UL Lafayette graduate. It was intended to improve areas around the College of Business. "But once I brought the idea to the SGA Senate, some students thought it would be unfair to other colleges," he said.

So the project grew and now will be tackled in two phases.

Laperouse has been working with Dr. Ed Dugas, a UL Lafayette professor of health and physical education who retired in 2001, and other mem-



Shown with one of the new benches by Cypress Lake are, from left: freshman Kaitlyn Rowzee of Lafayette; Angelle Babineaux, a sophomore from Arnaudville, La.; and Danielle St. Julien, a senior from St. Martinville, La.

bers of a Benches for Beautification Committee, since then.

"It was a wonderful concept from the start," Dugas said. "The leadership from the student government began this project and is seeing it through."

A \$2,000 donation will place a bench or table at a designated location on campus. Maps detailing available sites have been created by the university's Physical Plant Department.

Phase I of the project will put the seating, tables and trash bins in and

around the Quad, Martin Hall, Moody Hall, F. G. Mouton Hall, Bittle Hall, O. K. Allen Hall and along Cypress Lake near Burke-Hawthorne Hall.

Donors will have the opportunity to choose the location of the bench or table they select and also "name" the bench.

A permanent sign that acknowledges the donation will be engraved and attached to it.

"With these name plates, everyone on campus will see the generosity of this community.

And, some may be inspired to do their own part in keeping our campus beautiful," Dugas said.

Phase II of the project will make other locations available. Funds collected for the benches, tables and receptacles will be placed in an account dedicated to campus improvements.

To make a donation to the Benches for Beautification project, call UL Lafayette's Development Office at (337) 482-0922.

'I ALWAYS DO MY COLLARS FIRST' NOW ON DVD

About 700 people braved heavy rains for the premiere of "I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing" at Bayou Bijou in late January. That's about twice as many as the campus theater can hold, so hundreds waited for a second showing.

Co-directed by student filmmakers Allison Bohl and Conni Castille, the documentary is the first release by the university's new Cinematic Arts Workshop.

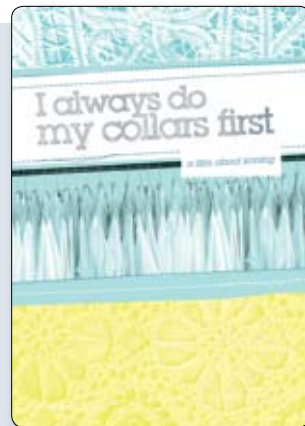
"I Always Do My Collars First" follows four dynamic Cajun women in southwestern Louisiana in their daily lives, illustrating what ironing means to them.

At once funny and poignant, it relies on the rich storytelling voices of the four women, Rookie LeBlanc, Gay Castille, Aunt Be Guidry and Georgie Blanchard.

"Ironing is a nurturing, emotional and learned activity transmitted from mothers to daughters," said Castille, a graduate student in the folklore program at UL Lafayette and the film's writer. "It's performed with aesthetic sensibilities that connect these women to other women in their community."

The film features original music by BonSoir Catin, Anya Burgess, and Dirk Powell, whose work has been featured in movies by Spike Lee, Ang Lee and the Academy Award-winning film "Cold Mountain."

"I Always Do My Collars First: A Film About Ironing" is now available on DVD. It can be purchased from the film's website.



LEFT TO RIGHT: Rookie LeBlanc, Gay Castille, Georgie Blanchard, Aunt Be Guidry

www.collarsfirst.com/about.html

COMMUNITY PROJECTS TEACH LASTING LESSONS

UL LAFAYETTE RECEIVED about \$250,000 this spring to fund nine community service projects that range from helping to restore tourism to testing for mold in homes affected by Hurricane Katrina.

That's more than a third of the total \$618,291 in grants awarded in the first phase of a three-year, \$1.2 million initiative called "ULS Serves." It's intended to increase service-learning at the University of Louisiana System's eight campuses. The funding was provided by Learn and Serve America, a division of the Corporation for National and Community Service in Washington, D.C.

"Often the best instruction students gain is from each other. They look at service-learning not only as service but also meaningful, lasting learning," said Dr. Charles Richard, a UL Lafayette faculty member whose project will enable students to help restore tourism in Acadiana.

Through the nine projects, UL Lafayette students and community partners will help:

- preserve Acadiana's culture and promote tourism recovery;

- plan the expansion of Boys & Girls Clubs in Lafayette;
- provide academic assistance to Lafayette Parish students in grades K-8, with a focus on math skills;

work with Lafayette Middle School students to create outdoor learning environmental classrooms that focus on coastal ecology and restoration;

- develop nutrition and fitness programs that link children and older adults;

transform donated materials into functional and artistic items for the Acadiana Outreach Center;

- conduct comprehensive testing of hurricane-affected homes for moisture and mold damage;

reinstate the 42-year-old tradition of the Deep South Festival of Writers after a four-year absence; and

- help students in hurricane affected low-income elementary schools improve writing skills through art appreciation at



AmeriCorps students will help children improve their writing skills through art appreciation.

the Paul and Lulu Hilliard University Art Museum.

"The caliber of projects being funded is a testament to the leadership of our university presidents and the commitment of their faculty to make service-learning a priority," said UL System President Sally Clausen.

"It is a significant step toward our goal for all students to have a meaningful service-learning experience before they graduate."

Design Student's Hot Wheels Win International Competition

THE NEXT SET OF WHEELS that sophomore Andrew Rudolph puts on his Honda Element will be made by a major manufacturer.

But the wheel design is all his.

Rudolph, a second-year industrial design major, won an international competition organized by König Wheels and sponsored by *Modified* magazine, a publication for fans of sport compacts. His prize for contributing to the 2007 König Wheel product line is one of the first sets of wheels made from his design.

"All of the finalists had great designs, but Andrew's rolled over the competition," states an article in the February issue of *Modified*.

Rudolph said "wheels currently in production by König Wheels, architectural elements and concept car wheel design trends" inspired his winning entry. His project began in September as a doodle in a sketchbook. Two days later, it was a 3-D computer model.

A week later, Rudolph found out he had been chosen as one of three finalists.



Andrew Rudolph's winning design

The winner was determined later by public voting on the *Modified* website.

Since the magazine is prepared months before it hits the newsstand, the UL Lafayette student had to wait five months to see his winning wheel design in print. He picked up a copy of the February issue at the UL Lafayette Bookstore on campus.

"It was hard not to shout and dance around in the middle of the bookstore," he said.

Jerry Malinowski, director of the Transportation Studio within UL Lafayette's industrial design program, said students are encouraged to "push the envelope of inquiry and problem solving in the design process."

He noted that one of the projects the Transportation Studio tackled was improving the body design and functionality of cooling UL Lafayette's "Ragin' Bot," a 2005 DaimlerChrysler Jeep Wrangler Rubicon. Ragin' Bot will compete in the DARPA Urban Challenge, a contest to be held in November for autonomous ground vehicles that are capable of maneuvering in a city environment.

Malinowski, who helped design the first Ford Mustang, described Rudolph's work for "Ragin' Bot" as "meritorious."

Rudolph said he's not sure that cars are his primary design interest, "but they definitely appeal to me."