

Alert System Passes Real-Life Test

RIGHT AFTER A BANK near campus was robbed this summer, thousands of phones started spreading the news. The University of Louisiana at Lafayette's web site and its hotline announced the crime, too.

"We needed to alert the campus community about a possible threat as a result of this armed robbery. We wanted to ensure the safety of all students, faculty and staff on campus," said UL Lafayette Police Chief Ray Lucas.

It was the first time the university activated First Call, its new emergency notification system, to issue an alert. Previously, it had only been activated for tests.

Warnings about the robbery were sent via text messaging and by calls to all campus phone lines and all cell phones registered with First Call. UL Lafayette's hotline gave callers a recorded message.

"The system performed as it was designed to perform," Lucas said.

A second message was distributed after a suspect was arrested later that day.

UL Lafayette President Dr. Joseph Savoie said he was pleased with the system's performance. "The safety of our students, faculty and staff remains a top priority for this university," he said.



Savoie encourages all UL Lafayette students and employees to sign up – at no cost – for First Call by providing their contact information. They can give additional e-mail addresses and phone numbers for First Call to automatically contact in case of an emergency. For instance, a student may furnish his parents' home phone number as an additional contact number.

First Call is only activated for emergencies and tests of the notification system. It does not distribute any advertising.

UL Lafayette students and employees can register their contact information online at <http://ens.louisiana.edu>

The First Call service is part of an initiative by the Louisiana Board of Regents and supported by the University of Louisiana System.

Universities across the nation began implementing emergency notification systems after a disturbed student shot and killed 32 students on the campus of Virginia Tech before killing himself last year. A review panel criticized Virginia Tech administrators for failing to take steps that might have reduced the number of casualties, such as informing students more quickly about the shootings.

T-Shirt Swap Puts More Red On Campus

TIRED OF SEEING any other university colors worn by UL Lafayette students on campus, the University Program Council's Spirit committee held a T-Shirt Swap at the annual Yell Like Hell pep rally.

Students could trade other university shirts for limited-edition UL Lafayette T-shirts. They were invited to stay after the pep rally to watch other shirts burn in a bonfire intended to get students fired up for the Cajuns' Homecoming game and spark more school spirit.

A total of 150 UL Lafayette shirts were given away. An additional 90 shirts had to be ordered to give to students later who had brought shirts to the event to swap.

"I never expected to exchange as many shirts as we did that night. It was such a success that we may sponsor another T-shirt Swap in the near future," said Laura Bullinger, UPC Spirit Committee chairperson.

Aimee Graunard, UPC president, said she hopes there won't be a need for many more T-shirt exchanges.

"Ideally, we will get to a point where we don't have to host this type of event because everyone on campus will be sporting UL shirts all the time," she said.

Turn It Up!

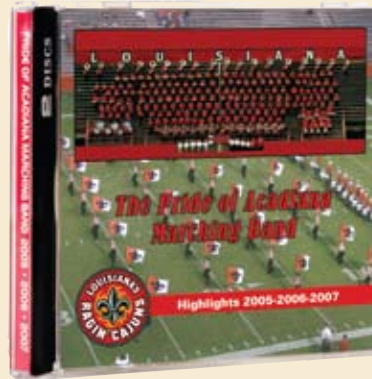
RAGIN' CAJUNS fans can enjoy the music of UL Lafayette's Pride of Acadiana Marching Band long after the football season is over.

A new two-CD set offers crowd favorites, such as "Respect," "Fight Song" and "Tear the Roof Off." It features drum cadences and percussion pieces, as well as tunes performed during halftime shows in the past three years.

There's a bonus: Songs the band played during the 2005 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. The Pride of Acadiana was one of only two university bands invited


to perform in the parade that year.

A number the band performed in Herald Square at the end of the parade is also included. It's a medley of "When the Saints Go Marching In," "On the Sunny Side of the Street" and "South Rampart Street Parade" that's called "When the Saints Go Marching Down the Sunny Side of South Rampart Street."



The CD set can be purchased at the UL Bookstore in the Student Union on campus, Follet's Bookstore on St. Mary Boulevard and Louisiana Hot Stuff on Ambassador Caffery. For more information, call the UL Band Department at (337)

482-6014 or visit its web site.

 www.ulbands.com