

# The Ouachita CITIZEN

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INSIDE...

Thursday, February 28, 2013

75 CENTS

## WMHS teacher honored

Mitzi Murray, a civics and law studies teacher at West Monroe High School, was recognized by the Louisiana State Bar Association's with the President's Award for Outstanding Civics Teacher.

She was recognized with the award for promoting the practical understanding of, and respect for, the law in the classroom.

See Page 8A

## Morrison, Nance indicted

A warrant was issued for the arrest of Ricardo Nance, a former city of Monroe engineering department employee, who was indicted Feb. 21 along with his former boss, Sinyale Morrison.

The warrant and indictment are the last in a series of events that began with an investigation into Nance's qualification for disability retirement.

See Page 2A

## Mayo singles out City Council

Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo said convincing the Monroe City Council, including three new members, to cooperate with the administration is the top challenge facing the city during his state of the city remarks last week.

Mayo also told the public that crime was down in the city of Monroe. The annual crime report released to the public by Mayo and Chief Quentin Holmes on Feb. 12 showed otherwise.

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## A NEW NAME, A NEW LOOK

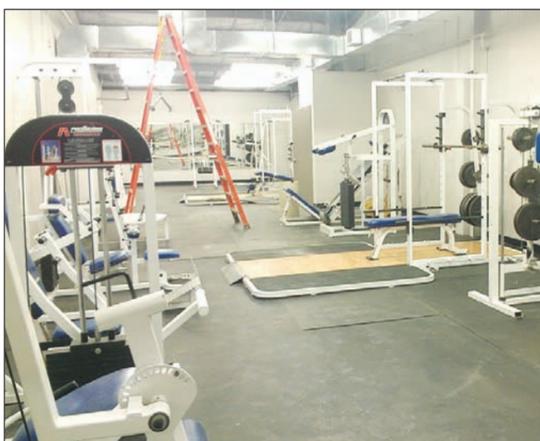
### Complex reopens Monday following \$700,000 in renovations

By Zach Parker  
The Citizen

The West Monroe Sports Complex, now called "The Rec at Seventh Square," opens for regular business on Monday after eight months of renovation.

City employees and workers for Advantage Roofing were busy this week adding the finishing touches to the complex and cleaning up the facility for the re-opening.

Doug Seegers, the city's director of parks and recreation, said the renovation project began after city officials gauged the need for



Citizen Photo

**THE WEST Monroe Sports Complex** — now called "The Rec at Seventh Square" — opens for regular business on Monday.

updating the 40-year-old facility.

"It's as new of a building as an old building can be," Seegers said. "We've seen tremendous improvements in the facility. It looks great and will definitely be something the citizens of West

Monroe can be proud of having."

Seegers said the building would no longer be the "West Monroe Sports Complex," but "The Rec at

Please see  
NEW / 11A

## Council approves term limits

### Monroe mayor says he will veto ordinance

By Johnny Gunter  
The Citizen

Monroe Mayor Jamie Mayo knows he's fighting a losing battle with City Council members who voted Tuesday night to change the city's charter to impose term limits.

The City Council voted 4-1 to hold an election to let voters decide if term limits should be imposed on the mayor and the five council members. The ordinance states that council members and the mayor would be limited to three consecutive terms.

Councilmen Dr. Ray Armstrong, Kenneth Wilson Betty Blakes joined City Council Chairman Eddie Clark in voting for the ordinance. Councilman

Gretchen Ezernack cast the lone no vote.

The City Council acted on the matter during its regular meeting.

Wilson and Blakes spoke in favor of term limits, saying their constituents asked them to support it. Blakes proposed the ordinance at the City Council's Feb. 12 meeting.

Ezernack and Mayo spoke

Please see  
LIMITS / 11A

## Lawmakers react to Jindal budget proposal

By Sunny Meriwether  
The Citizen

Gov. Bobby Jindal unveiled his proposed budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year late last week, describing the \$24.7-billion spending plan as responsible and balanced.

The proposed budget erases a projected \$1.3-billion revenue shortfall.

Jindal's proposed budget is

more than \$1 billion less than the budget state lawmakers approved for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30. The 2013-2014 fiscal year begins July 1.

Jindal's proposed budget is not predicated on his proposal to abolish state income taxes and replace them with a state sales tax that's levied on more transactions. Instead, his budget is based on the state's current revenue picture. The tax proposal

will be considered separately.

State Rep. Jim Fannin chairs the House Appropriations Committee. Fannin and his staff will examine the governor's budget and develop the legislative plan to get it passed.

"It takes us about two weeks to go through the budget, and we're in the process of that now," said Fannin, D-Jonesboro.

Fannin said one area in which the governor's budget anticipates

savings is through public-private partnerships between the LSU Medical System hospitals, including Monroe's E. A. Conway, and private health care providers. Fannin said it's not accurate to call that privatization because the hospitals would still belong to the state. About 7,300 current hospital employees

Please see  
JINDAL / 11A

## 'Retirement' kind to fire chief

**Jimmie Bryant will collect almost \$200,000 annually in retirement benefits and compensation as COO for the City of Monroe.**

By Johnny Gunter  
The Citizen

Retiring Monroe Fire Department Chief Jimmie Bryant says it will be his job to work with Mayor Jamie Mayo to improve efficiency in all city departments when Bryant assumes his new job as the city's chief operating officer.

Mayo announced Feb. 12 that Bryant would fill the new post to help him streamline city operations.

Bryant, 52, will retire as fire department chief on Friday. He served as fire chief for almost 15 years. A start date for Bryant to begin the COO job has not been set.

"You know I'm taking a cut in pay to take this job," said Bryant, referring to the COO post.

"I feel like God brought me here (from Shreveport) and he has blessed me," he said.

According to Bryant, he was not interested in serving as COO when Mayo first approached him about the job.

"But it stayed with me so I decided the Lord was calling me to do it," Bryant said.

Though Bryant contends he will take a cut in pay to serve as COO, *The Ouachita Citizen* discovered Bryant's compensation will increase by more than \$40,000 annually when he begins his new job. Utilizing public records requests, *The Ouachita Citizen* obtained the financial information from the city and the Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System.

As chief of the fire department, Bryant is paid some \$156,579 per year. That figure includes his salary and benefits. It also includes \$6,000 in state supplemental pay.

When Bryant retires from the fire department, he will draw \$103,216 annually in retirement pay. That figure does not include his Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) valued at \$257,052.

Upon his entry into DROP several years ago, Bryant's status with the Louisiana Fire-

Please see  
KIND / 11A

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# Yoyo fishing a great time with the kids

There is nothing like being daddy's girl in the Cheniere Lake Swamp in West Monroe. I still remember running yoyos with him, the accompanying sights and smells as we motored ever so carefully through the cypress knees and stumps.

We would have the best time cleaning the fish and bragging about all our secret locations. I do not have my daddy anymore and I, for the life of me, cannot find those secret places anymore, but now my new ones are being set as waypoints on my GPS.

I enjoy the whole concept of yoyo fishing. You can set out up to 50 per person and run them at your timely leisure within the next 24 hours. Let me stress to you, this is truly a great opportunity to take a child, because you are going from one site to another. It's anything but boring.

The yoyos are a triggering device that you set and a spring action inside cause it to retract if a fish tugs on the line. This helps to set the hook on the fish or if the fish is too small it will just throw the trap and your bait is saved for another try.

If you are white perch fishing with small shiners, it is best to set your line about three inches deep. Now I would not suggest cat-

fishing with yoyos because a large catfish will tear up your yoyo. A new set of regulations from the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has some lakes posting restrictions and limits so check them online or in your 2013 Fishing Regulation Pamphlet before you head out. Finding the best location of course depends on the fish you are looking for, the time of the year, and if in spawn.

It is always good to find a low-hanging limb that is

green and flexible for the yoyo to give with a fish pulling and flopping on the line.

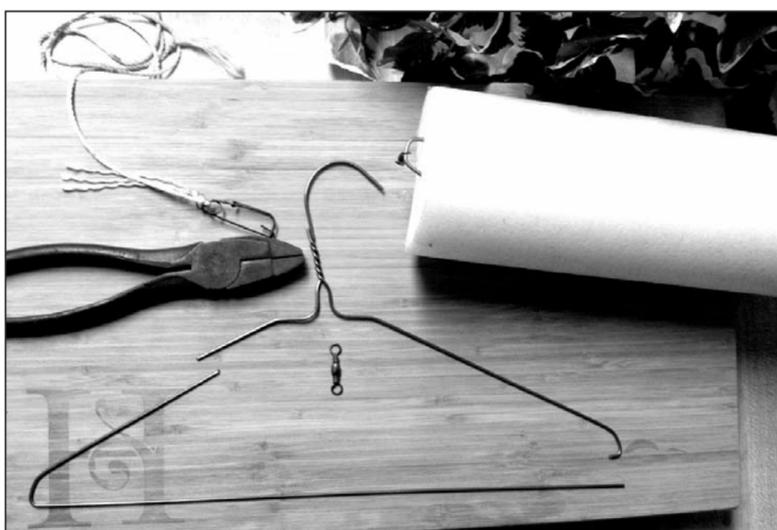
A brittle limb will break, causing you to lose both the fish and yoyo. I have the yoyo tie line tied in a loop, so I can wrap the loop over the line and drop the yoyo back through the loop.

This makes the placement and removal very quick. The yoyos are easily stored in a two-gallon bucket by hanging along the rim.

The memories we built with our children, when they were young, were fishing with jugs, or noodles as it's called now. We would set the jugs out and then watch them from the pier, take off over the lake. The kids would all load up in the boat and by troller motor chase down the jugs and my husband and I would sit on the pier laughing at all the hooting and hollering that ensued.

The tales of the fish caught will change at every telling but the fish frying was so sweet for the kids eating their own catch.

Today, we make our noodles very simply using



**RENE HATTEN** says, for yoyos, cut the clothes hanger, add swivel to the angled end, thread the long piece through the noodle until all of the angled wire is insert into the noodle and then bend wire on the other end back into the noodle so the wire does not pull back through.

a cylindrical piece of polyethylene foam, a wire clothes hanger, and swivel. Cut the clothes hanger so that can be bent back into the foam on both ends and cannot be pulled through when a fish gets a hold of it. The loop on the end has the swivel slipped on it before it is hooked back into the foam end for support. These noodles will lay flat on the water until the fish are hooked and then it flips up on end alerting you that you got a good one to chase.

I advise you to also have a pole with a large hook on the end to retrieve the line, just in case there is a gar or something unexpected on the other end.

Be prepared to haul in your catch by having ice in your chest to layer your fish because you will be out there for a while.

Never leave your jugs or noodles out unattended for over 24 hours because your catch may die and that is a waste and un-sportsman like behavior.

That being said let's talk about un-sportsman like

behavior: I have talked to several people prior to writing this article. They all seemed to have stories of being done wrong by other fishermen running their lines, stealing their yoyos or just plain cutting them off.

Now this is not right. And it is not the ethical tradition to teach to respect property while in the great outdoors. It is our responsibility to ensure that all wildlife is preserved, maintained and taught ethically to future generations.

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**CROSSWORD**

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**THEME: Name That Sport**

**ACROSS**

1. Money under mattress, e.g.
6. Convex and used for cooking
9. Practice in the ring
13. Male contessa
14. "A likely story!"
15. Pipsqueak
16. Run \_\_\_\_\_ of the law
17. George Gershwin's brother
18. Speak like Pericles
19. "Chariots of Fire" sport
21. "Mr. Miyagi's sport"
23. Sticky stuff
24. Not a hit
25. Writing point of pen
28. Comfy spot
30. Agitated
35. In a frenzy
37. To buy something "for a \_\_\_\_\_"
39. Stallion's cry
40. What Simple Simon wanted to taste
41. Glorify
43. Expunge
44. Open-mouthed
46. Time for eggnog
47. Son of Aphrodite
48. "Manny Pacquiao's sport"
50. At a great distance
52. Lusitania's last call
53. Flipside of pros
55. Part of smog
57. Gourmet's organ?
60. "Grand Tour sport"
64. Meeting place
65. Fish eggs
67. Divided country, e.g.
68. Compacted mass
69. Delivery vehicle
70. Give the boot
71. Freebie
72. Young newt
73. Office stations

**DOWN**

1. It's often there for life
2. Vegan's protein choice
3. Soon, to a bard
4. What bee did
5. Roman Sol
6. American Revolution supporter
7. Propel, in a way
8. Uniform shade
9. Evening in Italy
10. Everglades deposit
11. Chips, perhaps
12. Pastrami holder
15. Decline
20. Pirate's necklace
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday
24. Marie Antoinette's garments
25. Muslim ruler honorific
26. Insect, post-metamorphosis
27. Laundry booster
29. Jimi Hendrix' "\_\_\_\_\_ Lady"
31. Formally surrender
32. Wedding cake layers
33. Icy hut
34. "Bobby Fischer's game"
36. Civil War headgear
38. "Subject of "A Good Walk Spoiled"
42. Like kale and spinach greens
45. Live in a tent
49. Caught
51. Did this to one's world
54. Bundle of axons
56. Taken to field in baseball
57. "a.k.a. "the sport of kings"
58. Mojito, \_\_\_\_\_ drink
59. Coal unit
60. Copper coin
61. Eye part
62. Adam's apple spot
63. Gangster's pistols
64. Communications regulator
66. Stumblebum

# LSU wins first road game against ULL

Fourth-ranked LSU (7-1) won its first road game of the season Tuesday night, defeating Louisiana-Lafayette (7-2) by a score of 11-2 in front of a sellout crowd at Moore Field.

LSU, which defeated Southeastern Louisiana, 13-1, on Sunday has produced 24 runs on 33 hits in its last two outings.

"I'm extremely proud and encouraged by our team's performance, especially playing on the road for the first time this season," said LSU coach Paul Mainieri.

"Cody Glenn was magnificent on the mound, and he set the tone with an tremendous outing. I thought we were aggress-

sive at the plate the entire night and demonstrated how productive we can be throughout the lineup. It was an excellent overall effort by our club in a challenging environment."

The Tigers came out swinging, scoring two runs when designated hitter Mason Katz scored on an ULL infield error.

The Tigers increased their lead to 5-0 with a three-run home run from freshman shortstop Alex Bregman, the first home run of his collegiate career. Bregman went on to finish 2-for-5 with four RBI.

A perfectly placed RBI bunt in the fourth inning from catcher Ty Ross increased the LSU lead to

6-0.

In the fifth inning the Tigers continued their success at the plate with a two-RBI triple from designated hitter Tyler Moore, who finished 3-for-4 with three runs batted in after pinch hitting for Edward in the fourth.

Glenn (1-0), a sophomore, left-hander, earned the win with a stellar performance on the mound, throwing seven shutout innings while allowing three hits and recording one strike-out.

Louisiana-Lafayette starter Kody Smith (0-1) suffered the loss, allowing five runs in 2.1 innings.

LSU reliever Nick Rumbelow worked a

scoreless eighth inning, giving up one hit in his season debut after fighting back from a pulled oblique muscle suffered earlier in the season.

LSU 11, Louisiana-Lafayette 2 (Feb 26, 2013 at Lafayette, La.)

Pitchers: LSU - Cody Glenn(8); Joey Bourgeois(9) and Ty Ross; Michael Barash.

Louisiana-Lafayette - Smith, Kody; Plitt, Matt(3); Cockrell, Cord(5); Carter, Ben(9) and Strentz, Michael.

Win- Cody Glenn(1-0) Loss-Smith, Kody(0-1) T-2:17 A-3790

HR LSU - Alex Bregman (1).

# PROFIT

of Fame. In 1971, Profit was selected in the first round of the NFL draft as the sev-

enth-overall pick, but the first draft choice for the Atlanta Falcons. Profit also played for the New

Orleans Saints.

Before his football career ended, Profit signed a contract with the Birmingham franchise of the new World Football League in 1974. Profit set the Legion Field game rushing record, scored the first touchdown in the World Bowl and became the leading rusher in the final WFL championship game.

A career-changing knee injury during his stint with the Falcons gave him a new perception on life and helped turn his focus toward business and higher education.

After graduating from ULM, Profit received a Doctor of Philosophy from Haywood University and an honorary doctorate from Logos Graduate School.

For three consecutive years, "INC.500 Magazine" ranked his company, Communications Inter-

national Inc. (CII), as one of the fastest growing privately-held companies in America in 1987, 1988 and 1989.

CII was instrumental in the development of the new telephone communications platform, and as technology advanced, so did the company, as it branched into digital broadcasting, becoming the new company, Multimedia Digital Broadcast Corporation.

Profit was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, the Business and Professional Hall of Fame, and the Institute of American Entrepreneurs as a lifetime member.

He has also been featured in USA Today and Essence Magazine as well as the Money section of The Wall Street Journal. Profit is the founder, President and CEO of Multimedia Digital Broadcast Corporation.

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