NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
ADVANCE
AN ACADEMIC ADVENTURE
WWW.ADVANCEPROGRAM.ORG
2006 Yearbook
Perennial favorite activities at ADVANCE include playing cards, shopping at Goodwill, and participating in anything messy!

ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars
ADVANCE Program
makes memories

Left: Erik Isele is a domineering presence at Dodgeball (aka: Deathball). Below (from left): Sophie Huang and Jo-Arn Deans in the chemistry lab.

Left: Josh Douglas (TA) shows his burnt toasts (ADVANCE style) at messy games.

Right: Maddie Ferguson makes a potatoe friend. Far right: Olivia Poland and Joseph Tang share tunes during a break from Algebra 2.

Above (from left): Jacob Gautreaux, Paz Naccari, and Jackie New on a Gold trip to Melissa Plantation. Right: Stephen Faugan...always the gentleman. Far right (from left): Candace Blacklock, Hannah Roberts, Michael "Panda" Lee, Sophie Huang, and Meredith Venuta.
Administration & Faculty

Front row (from left) Dr. David Lambert (Biology), Ms. Rebecca Penfield (Algebra 1), Dr. Randy Back (Physics), Mr. Mazhar Jamil (Pre-calculus). Second row (from left) Mr. Dave Andersen (C++), Ms. JoAnn Forrest (Psychology), Dr. Nate Pritts (Film Studies), Ms. Mary Beocato (Journalism), Dr. Leon Hsu (Analog Electronics).

Front row (from left) Mr. Dallas Robertson (Algebra 2), Ms. Lillian Cutshall (Geometry), Ms. Kristalyn Nelson (Anetbellam South). Second row (from left) Ms. Autumn Grant (Anthropology), Dr. Chris Hynes (Chemistry), Mr. David Zolfer (Digital Design & Animation), Mr. Ralph Adamo (Creative Writing).

Front row (from left): Pat Gresham (Counselor), Harriette Palmer (Assistant Director), Janet Darley (Nurse), David Wood (Director), Below (from left): Maria Kohl (Coordinator of Residential Life) and Allyson Neely (Office Manager/Copy Queen).
Below right: The legendary Dale Clingerman (Night Security).
Teaching Assistants

First row (from left): Benjamin Fortin (Digital Design & Animation), Katie Lopez (Journalism), Marie Maher (Chemistry), Katie May (Anthropology), Josh Douglas (Psychology), Katie Finch (Algebra 1). Second row (from left): Allison Dollar (Biology), Lauren Scott (Computer Science), Cat Calhoun (Antehellum South), Jeremy Jinks (Analog Electronics), Andee Savoy (Algebra 2), Chris Bowes (Creative Writing). Third row (from left): David Beier (Film Studies), Edward Tran (Pre-calculus), Evan Boswell (Physics). In tree: Stephen Funigan (Geometry).

For right: Dan Jaffrani and Katie Finch (TA) study for Algebra 1. Right: Phillip Dentino and Benjamin Fortin (TA) review for Digital Design & Animation.

Classes

Algebra 1
First row (from left): Michael Ong, Ricky Changdani, Rebecca Penfield (Instructor), Callie Baker, Willy Lin, Steven Guo, Katie Finch (TA), Amber Yeh, Patrick Young. Second row (from left): J.J. Gallien, Alex Williams, Dan Jaffrani, Mackenzie Fredricks, Naomi Siegmund, Jason Liu, Ashley McDonald, Judy Wang.

Algebra 2
Analog Electronics

Antebellum South

Anthropology

Biology
First row (from left): Natalie Domingue, Nikki Changlani, Lizzie O'Gorman, Lizzy Florsak, Tommy John, Vijay Kata. Second row (from left): Alison Dollar (TA), Alex Stokes, Fred (the skeleton), Haydel Collins, Stephen Elfer.
Chemistry

Front: Dr. Chris Hynes (Instructor). First row (from left): James McCurdy, Dillon Thompson, Michael Lee, Kevin Staats, Nick Amin. Second row (from left): Ashley Pleasant, Marie Maher (TA), Sophie Huang, Candace Blacklock, Meredith Ventura, Jo-Ann Deans.


Creative Writing

First row (from left): Chris Bowses (TA), Ralph Adano (Instructor), Hannah Connolly, Yong Lin, Patrick Johnson, Li Lin, Nick LaRocca, Elise Prete. Second row (from left): Zach Veeleman, Dustin Noel, Mason Joiner, Amelia Robert, Lara Skyrpynyk, Stephen Levy, Maddie Ferguson.

Digital Design & Animation

First row (from left): Charlie Deese, Jesse Tan, Sekhar Khatree, Lindsay Landry, Jasmine Holmes, Claire Detweiler, Victor Saller. Second row (from left): Josh Callandret, Philip Dentino, Erik Istrate, Doug Wagnespach, Benjamin Fortin (TA), Garrett Vick.
**Film Studies**

**Geometry**

**Journalism**
First row (from left): Nadia Rahman, Katie Lopez (TA). Second row (from left): Hira Qam, Alex Ashkar, Deven Glover, Stephanie Morales. Third row (from left): Catherine Tucker, Kelsey Mayfield, Tiffany Burke, Kate Rash.

**Physics**
Pre-calculus
First row (from left): Alice Yeh, Kelly Zhang, Daisy Fok.
Second row (from left): Kitu Pannu, Edward Tran (TA), Cory Jones.

Psychology

ADVANCE is great for hands-on learning
Bottom left: Joe O’Gorman in the physics lab. Bottom right: Tony Trong and Brittany Zoro are challenged by analog electronics.
...and the best dances ANYWHERE!
Residential Advisers

Back row (from left): Rex Neg, Devin Drouin, Celia Mangham (Head RA), Jason Stelly, Jeanique Darby, Seth DuBois, Kyle Boudreau.

First row (from left):
Daniel Losle, Ally Nevares, Jerry Zhang, John Dehais, Eliane Spanier, Cat Collins, Katy Maloney, Savannah Birdwell, Sunedh Deoras.

Front row (from left): Isobel Plais, Olivia Poland. Second row (from left): Andrea Rachel, Lindsay Landry, Lindsay Boley, Corinne Bachaud, Ally Nevares (RA), Amanda Marel. Standing (from left): Kelly Zhang, Erica Catlett, Elise Prete, Christen Edens, Heather Connelly.

Above: Jason Stelly (RA) pours it on at messy games.
Right: Seth DuBois (RA) is our very own superhero!

Cat
First row (from left): Heather Hale, Kelsey Mayfield, Mahry Broach, Cat Collins (RA), Rachel Johnson (on Cat’s back). Second row (from left): Hannah Roberts, Kate Rash, Delaney Webb, Tiffany Burke.
Celia

Front row (from left): Catherine Eberly, Isabelle Jargowsky, Ashley Bailey, Emily Gooete, Kate Elfer. Back row (from left): Chris Wendling, Brittany Zeto, Jessica Rash, Celia Mangham (RA), Liz Roberts, Seema Kumar, Christie Durehlet, Jackie New.

Daniel
(aka: Jelly)

Front (left to right): Andrew Galatas, Daniel “Jelly” Lusk (RA), Aditiya Yadalam. Back row (from left) Jackson Wimberly, Kevin Stanga, Jesse Tan, Michael Lee, Lynn Truong, Scott Li. Back row (from left): Garrett Cordes, Dillon Thompson.

Devon


Eliane

Jason

Jeanneke
Seated (from left): Sophie Huang, Candace Blacklock, Naha Munsat, Niha Jain, Daisy Fok, Alice Yeh. Standing (from left): Lizzie Fiorek, Lizzie O’Gorman, Schar Khateeb, Lana Skypnynk, Hannah Roberts, Meredith Ventura, Jeanneke Darby (RA).

Jenny

John
Standing: John Durham (RA), From left: Jacob Gautreaux, Devin Mullin, Devin Rooney, Insun Chong, Erik Haydel, Kittu Punnak, Steven Green, Li Lin, Kenny Gray, Eric Rastroph.
Standing: Katy Malvarney (RA). On ground (left to right): Brenna Skowey-Thomas, Sara Lowenburg, Natalie Domingue, Casey Moser, Rachel Quay, Ashlee McDonald, Naomi Siegmund, Stephanie Morales, Nikki Changlani, Jasmine Holmes, Caroline Stokes.


On ground (left to right): Judy Wang, Robin Bowman, Hira Qureshi. Standing (from left): Amelia Roberts, Rachel Segrest, Betney Dickerson, Jamie Park, Kriti Upadhyay, Misha Molani, Nida Rahman, Savannah Birdwell (RA).
Seth


Sumedh


ADVANCE Activities Activate Students

By Alexander Ashkar

The 2006 ADVANCE Program at NSU was jam-packed with activities that gave the 175 students a chance to enjoy themselves after a long day of college-level classes.

Sports activities at the 2006 ADVANCE Program included soccer, flag football, tennis, dodge ball, kickball, ultimate Frisbee, capture the flag, bowling and basketball.

The ADVANCE program also incorporated arts and crafts activities like beading, tie dying, Scalpely, making collages and bracelet sets, making yarn dolls, t-shirt and bottle decorating and creating duct tape accessories.

Large numbers of students turned out for some activities, but events like Scalpely weren’t a big hit.

Middle right (from left): Lindsey Beley, Amanda Marcik, Judy Wang, Christine Dockins, Jenny Zhang (RA), and Kelly Zhang make bracelets. Right: Too many participants to list for Capture the Flag.

Jason Liu, a 13-year-old participant of Scalpely, said only about five people showed up.

Benjamin Fortin, the teacher assistant for digital design and animation, said the real reason the Scalpely activity took place was to do away with all the old clay the ADVANCE Program had collected over the previous years.

Other activities included board games, card games, movies, Front Street, swing dancing, mud fights and dining at FJ’s or Magee’s.

Front Street gave students a tour of downtown Natchitoches and became one of the most liked activities during the ADVANCE Program.

Philippe Dentino, a first year student said, “ADVANCE had a great selection of activities. Fun for everyone.”
Creative Cafeteria
Cuisine at ADVANCE

By Nadia Rahman

The Advance cafeteria may not be Chef Emerald's first pick, but it's good enough for the Advance students. The cafeteria served Advance breakfast, lunch and dinner. Advance came from six states and all had different eating habits. But they all had opinions about the food.

Second-year Advance student studying the antebellum south Rachel Segrest said, "You eat more unhealthy here because there are more fried foods and starches."

Algebra I student Naomi Siegfried said, "When I eat such an early dinner, I get big time munchies at night."

Some students are vegetarians and others couldn't or wouldn't eat certain foods. Sehar Khateeb, a vegetarian student at Advance said, "They don't have that many options for vegetarians, which is unfair."

Digital animation student Jasmine Holmes said, "It's substance, not food!"

On the other hand, residential advisor Savannah Birdwell said, "The cafeteria workers do the best they can with the ingredients they have."

Cafeteria worker Carita Simmons complained, "The cafeteria doesn't have enough budget for both the workers and the food."

First-year anthropology student at Advance Misha Molani agreed, "They could do better with their fifty thousand dollar budget."

Algebra I student, Ashlie McDonald summed it up for everyone when she said, "It doesn't matter what they have, I'll eat it cause I'm hungry."

Saturday Night Fever
ADVANCE Version

By Hira Qurni

Saturday Night Fever on the dance floor. It happened every weekend after Advance students scrubbed their dorm suites and then their faces.

A typical Saturday at ADVANCE consisted of breakfast, morning class, lunch, and then evening activity.

Some Advance students were tempted to sit back and relax, but even those who had used all their energy on dodge ball or DDR got really pumped up when it came time for the popular ADVANCE dances. The dances were never ordinary and never predictable.

Students Mariam Mathai and Mariam Molani recalled when some of the male resident advisors dressed up as girls, while Naiba Mustafar, a physics student remembered, "watching everyone jump up and down to stupid songs."

Fourth time ADVANCE student Usair Qurni said, "There's always a dance-off type thing that's pretty hilarious."

The dances started out with the usual chart topping songs requested by the students. But there was always time for ADVANCE favorites like "Istanbul (not Constantinople)."

The dances always ended with "It's the End of the World (as we know it)."

Christine Wendling, a fifty-time Advance student, said, "A group of my friends can stand in a circle and go absolutely insane and no one will look at us twice because everyone else is doing exactly the same."

Below: Erik Heydel and Etica Cofett enjoy the dance. Below left: Too much fun for everyone!

Roommates & Relationships

By Catherine Tucker

Caddo Hall is a looming, red brick building. Inside are endless stairwells. But in the suites, the lonely rooms, the abandoned hallways and even the laundry rooms, memories remain, piled up like dust on the floors.

The memories are of the relationships between ADVANCE roommates who lived in Caddo during the summer session but have now returned to their homes. For three weeks, the students filled Northwestern State University's campus with activity. Students mingled, made new friends and created relationships with their roommates. Some relationships became long lasting, but others never made it past the first week.

Some roommates became friends, helping each other, chatting and hanging out. However, other roommates were more distant.

Hannah Rose Roberts, a psychology student at ADVANCE, said her roommate "lets me borrow clothes, and I give her food sometimes."

Roberts said one of the best times they had together was "probably her making fun of Paris Hilton- that was really funny."

Delaney Websly, also a psychology student, said one of the best times she had with her roommate was "eating ice cream together after lunch."

Patrick Johnson, a second-year student didn't think having a roommate was hard. In fact, he thought his roommate was awesome.

Sometimes, however, it can be difficult to have a roommate. A student said, "They may live a different lifestyle than you do."

Johnson said conflicts among roommates usually occur "because of the little things." He also said the disadvantage to having a roommate is "if you don't really get along with him, it's hard to get along for three weeks."

Many ADVANCE students became close friends with their roommates and enjoyed their common interests and differences. Maybe, after another school year, these same students will come back to make some new memories and frame the 2006 memories that were left in Caddo Hall, piling in the dust of the empty rooms and lonely hallways.

Above: Roommates Natalie Dominguez and Nikhil Chaglani. Left: Doug Waguespack and Claire Derwiler take a break from DDR.

ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars


**RA s and T A s Play Leadership Roles**

By Tiffany Burke

Long before students arrived on campus for 2006 ADVANCE, the assistant director of ADVANCE Harriette Palmer hired the resident advisers and teaching assistants after conducting interviews and carefully reviewing their applications.

RAs supervised the students when they went to breakfast, class, dinner, and other activities. RAs also helped the students socialize.

TAs assisted teachers. They graded papers, checked homework, supervised study hall, and other duties the teachers assigned them.

RAs and TAs socialized, but they had to be disciplinarians too. RAs and TAs sometimes punished a student by assigning trays. This meant the student must put away other students' trays. The number of trays depended on the severity of the infraction.

Cat Collins said she enjoyed being a 2006 RA because she had great kids and rarely had to give out trays. “The most (trays) I've ever given is seven, so a student who was late three times.

Some ADVANCE students like senior Jessica Rash want to become an RA or TA. Rash, who has wanted to become a TA for five years, said she wants to continue "the grand education that David Beire (the TA for film studies) is giving the students now."

RAs and TAs emphasized their jobs weren’t always easy. They coped with homesick kids, students with attitudes, stubborn students, and a few loud, obnoxious teenagers.

So how did an RA or TA deal with these problems? Simple: they called the counselor.

**ADVANCERS VISIT REAL WORLD JOURNALISM**

By Kelsey Mayfield

The ADVANCE journalism class walked into the KTBS TV news station without a clue about how the news stories on television were written. However, at the end of the 3-week journalism program, the nine students knew how to write not only for the broadcast media, but also for print.

The student journalists toured Shreveport's Channel 3 and the Sci-Po public relations department to see how "news is made."

At the KTBS newsroom, the students saw a lot of people working like bees in a hive. People were sorting out commercials, reporters and producers were scrambling to perfect their stories, photographers were editing footage and announcers were recording commercials in soundproof booths.

Tiffany Burke, an eighth grade ADVANCE student, said, "It makes me want to go into broadcast because...the people that were there, they were really good."

Other students were interested in how the brain of the station, the control room, worked. Jennifer Gray, the ADVANCE tour guide who is a weather forecaster for KTBS, told the students that the control room is the “most important place in the entire station.”

Merri Kate Rash, an ADVANCE student journalist, said, “I think it’s more interesting to be behind the scenes than to watch.”

Some students like Catherine Tucker, 13, thought broadcast looks “action-packed” and “fun to dig up my own news”, but for some others, the station wasn’t influential.

“I never really wanted to do broadcasting. I always wanted to do print,” Alex Ashkar, a first-year journalism student, said.

Next stop was Sci-Po, a children’s museum devoted to making science fun.

Sci-Po’s public relations guru, Eric Gipson, showed the students the best tricks of the trade, like how to write press releases. Gipson said, “You have to catch their attention.”

Many Advancers said they weren’t really influenced to go into public relations.

Tucker said, “It would be a lot easier to be assigned something to write on.”

However, Rash said, “I think it sounds interesting. You get better pay and better hours. You have time for yourself.”

Above: Brenna Slowey-Thomas shoots a scene for the Film Studies class.
An Academic Melting Pot

By Stephanie Morales

Students of all ages and backgrounds came from all over the United States to attend the 2006 ADVANCE program for young scholars, which acted as a melting pot, not only academically but also culturally.

According to information from the ADVANCE director’s office, the diverse racial and ethnic background breakdown among the 175 students was 59.4% white, 29% Asian/Pacific Islander, 6.8% black and 2.2% Hispanic. There were 104 whites, 49 Asian/Pacific Islanders, 12 blacks, 4 Hispanics, 4 others and 2 Native Americans who attended the 2006 ADVANCE program.

Although ADVANCE had different racial and ethnic groups, Andy Cheng, a third year Asian student, said, “The diversity doesn’t affect how I interact with people because I can hang out with everybody.”

“ADVANCE is a great environment to get to know and experience other people’s cultures, because you can interact freely through the different activities,” Christie Duronkelet, a multi-racial student said.

Cheng thinks ADVANCE should probably try to reach out and have more people who belong to the minority groups attend so they won’t be a minority anymore.

Savannah Birdwell, an ADVANCE RA, says, “Advance is pretty well rounded ethnically wise, because there’s a lot more diversity here, than at a regular high school.”

Legend of Doom Team Wins Basketball Tournament

By Doven Glover

The Legend of Doom basketball team passed, shot and scored to win the 2006 ADVANCE three on three basketball tournament.

Six different teams entered the tournament. Each team had three players and an option of one substitute who could come in during timeouts or dead ball situations.

After a team had lost two games, they were out of the tournament. The Golden Ballers, who did not win any games, were the first team to be eliminated.

Ashlei McDonald, team captain, said, “The games were pretty competitive. I didn’t like the bracket set up because we played the top two teams.

After each team played two games, the Legend of Doom team remained undefeated.

Team captain Darrin Mitchell thought the games were not very competitive. Mitchell was entering the basketball tournament for the third year. He said, “I was more than comfortable playing against the teams.”

The championship game was between the Legend of Doom and the Three People team. Vijay Katar, leading scorer was surprised when his team won.

A member of the losing team said, “Well, Vijay just put up some lucky shots. I really didn’t play that hard either. Now it’s time to beat them mercilessly. I’m going to teach them how to play the game of basketball.”

The Legend of Doom won the championship game with a score of 15-2. “I’m a baller,” Mitchell said. “I just wanted to go on and get the game over with.”

Right: Charlie Drink, Danielle Buskard, and Edward Wu are forces to be reckoned with as Capture the Flag. Above: Sports activities, such as dodgeball (or deathball) are always popular at ADVANCE.
Living the Dorm Life

By Kate Rash

Sharing a bathroom, bedroom, and a building with people that one barely knows can be difficult. Being in a real college dorm isn't always easy. Some ADVANCE students were nervous because they had never shared a room or a bathroom.

In Caddo Hall, eight suites occupy six large halls. Each suite has three separate rooms for two people. Each suite has one bathroom, with two halls on each of the three floors.

Beyond the doors to the student suites, decorations covered the walls. Each hall has its own theme. The head resident adviser, Celia Mangham, said the decorations are always really fun to make. "The RAs stay up late doing the decorations. It's good staff bonding time."

Some unwanted and unwelcome residents included the bugs. They sneak, crawled and slithered through the dorm windows, doors and ceiling cracks. The bugs didn't bother David Beier, film studies teaching assistant, who joked, "They're scared of me."

Life wasn't all books and study. Students like senior Jessica Bash created their own entertainment. She said, "I like to bother the front desk workers (usually Seth or Celia) and eat copious amounts of junk food."

Living in a dorm for three weeks was an experience for the students of ADVANCE. They learned quickly how dorm life will be when they become full-time college students.

ADVANCE was only a baby step to that level.

Right: (from left) - Kate Eller, Hannah Roberts, Kelsey Mayfield, Heather Hale, and Mahay Breach (dancing) bond while doing laundry. Below: (from left) Rachel Segrest and Mishal Malik enjoy crafts.

There is always something to do

Far left: Isabella Pridal's alter ego Left: Vajay-Kata passes time playing ping pong. Below: (from left) - Cathrine Eley, Amelia Roberts, Kelsey Mayfield, Tiffany Burke, Jackson Wimbrel, Chris Woodling, Isabelle Jorgenson and RA Kay Melby (sitting) enjoy an Italian themed murder mystery.

Left: (from left) - Kate Eller and Tammy Gupteli study physics...in the hall Above: Kevin Stanga chills while playing his guitar.
The ADVANCE Talent Show...

AWESOME!

Above: Hannah Roberts sings "Leaving on a Jet Plane" and dedicates it to all the fifth year students.

Above right: Garrett Vick and Doug Wagerup perform with their band (other members are Evan Cordell, Josh Callaide, and Haydel Collins). Right (from left): Steven Green, Jessica Rush, Liz Roberts, and Devin Mullin emcee the annual talent show.

Left: Jackie Now performs a number from "Thoroughly Modern Milly". Below: Grey Eleson plays and sings for the crowd.

Above: Danielle Batford sings with passion. Left: Catherine Elroy and Chris Wendling perform the one-act play "Sure Thing" by David Ives.
Right (clockwise): Uzair Qureshi, Sharon Shih, Mariam Molani, and Mariam Mahdi visit Melrose plantation with their class. Below (from left): Chris Wendling, Ashley Bailey, Brittany Zeno, Jessica Rash, and Liz Roberts are fifth year students. Best of luck to you ladies. Middle left: Erin Haydel wins in a friend’s signature book.

Above right (from left): Jasmine Holmes and Stephanie Montes in the lobby of Caraka. Right (from left): Madeline Ferguson, Jo-Ann Dennis, and Steven Green in the courtyard.

We LOVE our students & staff

Left: Chris Bowes (TA) and Andrea Savoy (TA) at the last dance. Below: Kristalyn Nelson (Instructor) and her TA Cat Calhoon with Autumn Grant (Instructor) and her TA Katie Mah. Bottom left (from left): Katie Finch (TA) with Katy Malvancy (RA) take a break at a dance. Bottom right (from left): Jocimique Davis (RA) and Lauren Scott (TA) in the small lobby.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Northwestern State University
www.nsla.edu

Louisiana Scholars’ College
www.nsla.edu/scholars

Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts
www.lsmsa.edu

Cleco Corporation
www.cleco.com

Duke University’s Talent Identification Program (TIP)
www.tip.duke.edu

Centennial Wireless

Ms. Rose Thomas, LSMSA Custodial Services

Photography: Josh Douglas, Autumn Grant, Celia Mangham, and Harriette Palmer

ADVANCE Program for Young Scholars
www.advanceprogram.org

The next program will be held June 3 - June 23, 2007.
See you next summer
June 3 - 23, 2007