

# EDITOR'S *note*

## A chance to get it right

I actually wrote two separate columns this month, one about hope and one about anguish. It's ironic that the source of my anguish is the LSU Tigers, and the source of hope is our parish council - when just a few months ago, it was the other way around. In re-reading and trying to decide which column to use, I noticed the parallels between the two.

Coach Miles is a good football coach but I feel he so missed the boat in his coaching of the last few games of the season that it is bewildering. He had seemed to be a man of courage and conviction, of daring and innovation. Yet he has been none of those in the last games and especially in his handling of Jarrett Lee and his coaching of the BCS championship game.

I realize Miles has a vast knowledge of coaching I could never fathom, but I know this: Jordan Jefferson selfishly and recklessly got involved in an altercation, with not a thought as to how his action would affect his team. Lee stepped up and took the helm and guided them to their first several victories with his exemplary play and preserved their number one ranking.

Then, when Jefferson came back and eventually was tapped as the starter again, I thought, okay, Miles sees him in practice everyday; he believes he's the best player, and he has to play to win. Surely Lee will still see some playing time, I felt, because he had earned it, and he is a good quarterback and could contribute to the team. He could relieve Jefferson, thereby resting him and possibly preventing an injury. It would also give the opposing team two different-styled quarterbacks to defend against - a game plan Miles touted at one time. But Miles went against common sense and persisted in ignoring Lee and treating him with disdain, sending him into one game for the final play just to kneel the ball. Despite this humiliation, Lee continued to play by the rules and displayed nothing but loyalty and class.

Just as in the prior games, I and everyone this side of Timbuktu believe that Miles should have put Lee, a senior, into the championship game on January 9, not only to repay his loyalty but to see what he could do. We didn't expect Lee to be perfect, just to give it his best effort. He certainly could not have played any worse than Jefferson. The crowd was chanting for Lee, and the dome would have erupted in



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# LIVINGSTON BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE JOURNAL

JANUARY 2012

Volume 5 Number 7

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Livingston Business & Real Estate Journal  
P.O. Box 1474 • Zachary, LA 70791  
(225) 773-6600

[www.LivingstonBusiness.com](http://www.LivingstonBusiness.com)

## On the Cover

The lights are on at the newly-opened Investar Bank. The new, high-profile location of this community bank is drawing many visitors, comments and new customers. Visit Investar at 482 S. Range Ave., Denham Springs, one block south of Albertson's to find out they provide "banking the way it's meant to be."

