

1 Association and USA Softball Hall of Fame and he was honored by his coaching peers of
2 the National Fastpitch Coaches Association with the prestigious Donna Newberry
3 "Perseverance" award; and

4 WHEREAS, in 2014 Coach Lotief led the Ragin' Cajuns softball squad to their sixth
5 Women's College World Series appearance, defeating both the University of Texas and the
6 University of Arizona teams to earn the right to compete in the tournament in Oklahoma
7 City, Oklahoma; and

8 WHEREAS, Michael Lotief has built a solid softball program at the University of
9 Louisiana at Lafayette and in 2016 he guided the team to a third consecutive national seed
10 in the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament and a regional host site on their
11 own turf at Lamson Park; and

12 WHEREAS, the participation in these tournament games in 2016 was the fifth
13 straight NCAA Regional and NCAA Super Regional appearance and the fifth straight Top
14 15 finish for Coach Lotief's teams; and

15 WHEREAS, the current string of five consecutive seasons finishing in the Top 15
16 is the second-longest streak in program history, trailing only the eight Top 15 finishes
17 notched by the program from 1990 through 1997; and

18 WHEREAS, Coach Lotief has led his teams to over forty wins in each season of his
19 head coaching career, eight seasons with fifty or more victories and a school record sixty
20 wins in 2004; and

21 WHEREAS, on the day the Ragin' Cajuns softball team obliged their coach by
22 handing him his seven hundredth win, the team, playing a doubleheader, added the seven
23 hundred first victory as well, with a five inning victory over Alcorn State University by a
24 score of fourteen to four; and

25 WHEREAS, Coach Lotief has brought success and honor to the Ragin' Cajuns
26 softball program, although he continues to assign credit for the positive results to a
27 supportive administration at the school, an outstanding athletic department, loyal fans, and
28 to the outstanding young women who have come through the program; and

29 WHEREAS, despite Coach Lotief's humility, the players' position on the ability and
30 success of their coach is reflected in this quote from Lexie Comeaux, a sophomore on the

