



## Résumé costs ULL coach job

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LAFAYETTE - The Glynn Cyprien Era of UL-Lafayette basketball lasted 72 days, and ended on Friday before he ever took the floor with the Ragin' Cajuns.

Cyprien, the former Oklahoma State assistant coach who was hired on May 5 to be the school's 11th head coach, was terminated after a University investigation found incorrect degree information in his résumé.

Nine-year assistant coach Robert Lee, a finalist for the position awarded to Cyprien, will assume head coaching duties.

"We got some calls indicating Cyprien did not have the degrees he claimed to have," Schexnayder said. "We began looking into it, and found that he does have degrees, but not degrees that are acceptable to the University."

Cyprien's résumé claimed a bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of Texas-San Antonio after attending Southern University and, from 1987-90, UTSA.

The National Student Clearinghouse has verified that Cyprien did not earn a UTSA degree.

Cyprien attained a bachelor's degree in 2000 in educational counseling and a master's degree, cum laude, in physical education in 2002 from LaCrosse University, an online school based in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

The Louisiana State Board of Regents voted unanimously in 2002 not to renew LaCrosse's license in the state, prior to its move to Mississippi.

"I relied upon information from his prior positions," Schexnayder said of Cyprien, who previously coached at Nevada-Las Vegas, Western Kentucky, Jacksonville and Lamar before Oklahoma State and got glowing recommendations from former ULL and OSU athletic director Terry Don Phillips, among others.

"What I assumed was that he would meet our requirements, and that was a poor assumption on my part. It's not good. I should have done better."

The Board of Regents approved Cyprien's hiring, partially based on the Texas-San Antonio degree.

Ironically, when Cyprien was hired to replace Jessie Evans, he was charged with the task of improving the Cajuns' classroom performance after several academic suspensions marked the last two years of the Evans regime.

UL-Lafayette requires all employees of the athletic department to have degrees from accredited, four-year institutions, and Schexnayder pledged more attention to investigating that detail in the future.

"It's my responsibility," Schexnayder said. "I will obviously make that point specifically before we announce that anyone is joining our athletic department."

Cyprien's firing came one day after newly hired Grambling State football coach Melvin Spears cleared questions about his degree from Northern Arizona University.

"I did not feel any (added) pressure to check credentials," Schexnayder said. "Glynn's résumé appeared at Oklahoma State and at other schools where he coached. It should have been checked by athletics."

When confronted with ULL's investigation into his résumé, Cyprien told Schexnayder that he had submitted a revised résumé to the athletic department. Schexnayder has not seen it.

"Obviously, Dr. (Ray) Authement is not happy," Schexnayder said of the University's president. "It's not a positive for the University. But our actions today reflect that we are serious about academics and want to do things the right way."

