

# The Bat



A Student Publication of Paris Junior College  
"The Friendliest College In The South"

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2014  
Volume 89, No. 5

## PIPES AND FIXTURES



## The Bat

The student publication of Paris Junior College since 1925

Member  
Texas Intercollegiate  
Press Association

Texas Community  
College  
Journalism Association

Comments and views in *The Bat*, a student publication of Paris Junior College, reflect thoughts and opinions of individual writers not necessarily the views of other students, staff members, faculty, administrative offices, or the PJC Board of Regents.

## Staff

EDITOR  
DOMETREUS "BO" PRUITT

STAFF WRITERS  
JACK BRYANT  
AMBER CAMPBELL  
KYLEIGH FINGER  
TAYLOR MCCLOURE

ADVISER  
SHARON DENNEHY

## Cover Photo

Jimmy Smith reads a handbook with different fixtures and fittings during his morning plumbing class.

# Plumbing: class for PJC



Bo Pruitt/The Bat

Plumbing students from left are Jimmy Smith, Patrick Daigh, Jay Whitlock and instructor Kevin Adams.

BO PRUITT  
EDITOR

Area industries are in need of apprentice plumbers, and PJC has answered by adding the plumbing class spring 2014. Students will train to become apprentice plumbers to assist in the field with a Master Plumber.

Computers can show you how, but can't fix the problem and one job that demands manpower, is plumbing.

Master Plumber Kevin Adams, PJC Plumbing instructor said, "I'm looking forward to producing a well-trained group



Bo Pruitt/The Bat

These are some of the connection pieces used in plumbing class.

to be ready for the workforce."

Since a student needs 30 credit hours to receive a plumbing certificate, PJC has split the course into two semesters. The first semester is 16 hours and the second semester is 14 hours. The training is mostly hands-on with small classes, so each student will get the opportunity to learn from Adams.

Adams was born and raised in Dallas. He got into plumbing because his dad one weekend needed his help, and from then on plumbing became his career.

"It's an awesome feeling to have the opportunity to be the first instructor for the plumbing program," Adams said. "I look forward to help build a program from the ground up, to turn out apprentice plumbers for area industries."

He said, "An apprentice plumber can start earning from \$12-\$14 a hour, depending on the company that hires the plumber."

An apprentice plumber will have to have 4,000 working experience hours before they

can apply for their Journeyman's license, which is an exam that's given in Austin.

"I have enjoyed the class a lot, learning the mechanics of plumbing and the responsibilities of knowing that my work will have an effect on the public, or the family home I'm working on," said Patrick Daigh, plumbing student.

Adams has contacted area companies like Harrison Walker, Campbell's Soup, and area hospitals to see what they look for in employees, so he can better teach his students the skills of the trade.

"Mr. Adams is a wonderful instructor who teaches hands on material, and he's down to the point," said Daigh. "He directs the class in a way that we all can understand."

***"It's an awesome feeling to have the opportunity to be the first instructor for the plumbing program,"***  
**Kevin Adams**



Bo Pruitt/The Bat

Above, Patrick Daigh looks over fittings during a presentation in plumbing class.



# Home away from home

**AMBER CAMPBELL**  
STAFF WRITER

Going to college is an experience of its own; part of that experience for many students is living in the dorm.

There are three residence halls or dorms: Hatcher Hall, which houses baseball and men's basketball teams, is located next to the Math and Science building; Thompson Hall, which houses softball, women's basketball and volleyball teams, is located across from the Student Center and B.E. Masters Hall, which houses soccer, golf, and academic students, is located across from the Applied Sciences building.

Living in a dorm is similar to living in a house. Residential advisers or "dorm parents"

oversee the entire housing structure. The residential advisers have other jobs than just to watch over the students that walk in and out of the dorms. A few assist coaching sports while others are managing full time jobs at the school.

"I'm going to school for assertive tech (engineering)," said Stacy Dangerfield RA of the B.E. Masters Hall. "It's a two year program."

Advisers do not complain about having to keep the dorms under control; Dangerfield said being an RA is interesting.

"[The students] are not necessarily trouble, they're just young kids who like to go out and listen to loud music but besides that they are good," said Eric Floyd, RA of Hatcher Hall.

Students agree that there



Amber Campbell/ The Bat

**From left: Garrett Dodd, Jake Oden and Trey Mound hangout and play video games to pass time.**

are pros and cons of the living situation. Denisha Crow said her least favorite part about the dorms is the visitation hours for other people who are not

from their dorms to come and visit with them.

"[My favorite part of living in the dorms] would be locking people out of their own rooms and being able to bond with the team better," said Trey Mound, a freshman baseball player from Flower Mound.

Living in the dorms allows students to meet new people. Student athletes become closer to their teammates and they can also branch out and meet new people who are not in sports.

"I like my teammates but I'm not familiar with the other people who don't play sports," said Ryan Lutz, a sophomore soccer player from Converse.

As well as the fun and games, students believe it's a time to grow up and become mature.

"I like living in the dorms because I get to be on my own," said Sarah Gregori, a sophomore softball player from California. "I have learned how to become independent."



Amber Campbell/ The Bat

**From left: Arika Araujo, Chelsea Jordan, Alexa Anzaldua, Sarah Gregori and Natalia Ybarra lounge around after classes.**

## Forts expert shares photos

**JACK BRYANT**  
STAFF WRITER

Derrick Birdsall, photographer for “Explore Texas! The Texas Forts Trail” and superintendent of the Farmers Branch Historical Park, gave a presentation on the Texas Forts Trail, and its historical importance, on Jan. 27 in the PJC library.

“For people to care about something, they must have a connection with it,” Birdsall said. “I hope that I can show them what is out there so that they will want to go see the magic for themselves.”



Jack Bryant/The Bat

### Photographer Derrick Birdsall at his lecture on campus.

Each has a historical tale and significance. Some have only lost a few buildings over the centuries as others were reduced to mostly chimneys.

With his love for photography combined with an education in history he compiled his photos of the forts into a book he co-authored with Kristine Davis, “The Texas Forts Trail” which is available on Amazon.

In the book, he shows a layout of each of the ten forts in detail.



Jack Bryant/The Bat

**Emily McDaniel, Kelli Ebel, Tai Scott, Gwen Steinecke, Colin Bridgers, Bri Gould, and Jack Bryant are some of The Blend Club members.**

# Club ‘Blends’ local students

**JACK BRYANT**  
STAFF WRITER

Every Thursday The Blend Club sponsors events in the lobby of the library. Dubbed “Connect with the Blend,” each week features a different theme.

The Blend Club, consisting of anyone attending PJC, is exactly as the name implies: a blend of many peoples, cultures, and backgrounds.

“To respect other students and all cultures; The Blend Club represents unity,” says Kelli Ebel, head of The Blend Club. The Blend’s weekly meetings are Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. at the Wesley Center, located across 24th St. from PJC.

Anyone wishing to join The Blend Club only needs to come to Wednesday meetings.

The Blend raised awareness for the Chinese lunar New Year on Jan. 30, and will conduct “Yoga with The Blend” today at 12:30 p.m. in the lobby of the library.

The Blend also had a fundraiser on Feb. 2, at La Belle restaurant where The Blend advocated for pet adoption, and La Belle donated 10 percent of the proceeds, totaling \$250, to LCHA (Lamar County Humane Association).

Anyone is invited to attend. The Blend Club events will be in the library lobby or directly outside if the weather permits. “Everyone believes in unity in theory, but it’s actually quite a daily journey to accomplish,” Ebel goes on to say. “The key we want to show with these events is to react less to those around us by responding more in love.”

Feb. 6	“Yoga with The Blend”	Practice yoga exercises
Feb. 13	“Love with The Blend”	Make Valentine’s cards
Feb. 20	“Drum with The Blend”	Make music together
Feb. 27	“Art with The Blend”	Paint your own piece
March 6	“Catch with The Blend”	Frisbees and baseballs

## Calling creative writers

**JACK BRYANT**  
STAFF WRITER

Are you an up and coming author? Do you get a lot of enjoyment from writing? Enter PJC’s annual Creative Writing Contest and possibly have your work published on campus. Deadline for entries is March 6.

Prizes will be given to the top three places in all categories: short story, poetry, argumentative/informative essay, research essay with documentation, regional literature, and narrative essay.

Also, students may enter to win the William A. Owens award. The requirements to enter the William A. Owens award are submit two non-fiction prose essays and two creative works. The applicant must enroll for at least twelve credit hours, including a three-hour English course, in both the fall and spring semesters of the 2014-2015 calendar year.

To enter the Creative Writing Contest fill out an application available from the Writing Center or any English instructor. Entries must be typed, as well as submitted in digital format, on either a flash drive or CD to English instructor Marsha Dennis by Feb. 27. Her office is Ad 124.

Winners will be announced at 2:30 p.m. on April 16 in the Student Center ballroom. Some winning entries will be published in the “Swingers of Birches” literacy magazine.



# Rec Center opens to students

**TAYLOR MCCLOURE**  
STAFF WRITER

The Paris Junior College Recreational Center is now open for student use on the weekdays starting Spring 2014 semester.

The Paris Junior College Recreational Center, located at 950 E. Austin St. behind Paris Regional Medical Center South in the building previously known as Paris Fitness and Aquatics, was purchased by Paris Junior College a year ago and is now open for students to utilize.

"This sounds pretty good. I would go all the time," said Kerry Washington, a PJC student. "I'd use the basketball courts the most."

The center is also used for kinesiology courses, Continuing Education courses, eero-bics, fitness swim, racquetball basics, and is a practice area for the volleyball team.

"I'm excited about the gym being open so I can use all the different equipment and have more options," said Heather Rowe, a PJC cheerleader.

"I can save so much money by going there instead of buying a gym membership somewhere else," said Rowe.

Spring 2014 the PJC Recreational Center is open for all students on Monday through Thursday from 4-8 p.m. free of charge as long as students bring their current student ID. The building is overseen by

Kim Bertelson, who is always there during those hours to supervise the students.

Students have access to a pool, gym, racquetball courts, volleyball courts, a weight room, and basketball courts during the open hours, unless there is a class going on.

"I feel like going to the Recreational Center is a lot better than paying over \$60 a month for the gym membership that I currently have," said PJC student Tabatha Friday.

"I'd really like to work out on a treadmill or an elliptical machine," said Friday. "I think I've only been there once before, but I'd love to go again."



Taylor McCloure/The Bat

**Austyn Beach and Joel Pierce are using the gym area in the Rec Center.**

## Student Activities Schedule

Many student activities are scheduled for the Paris Junior College campuses for the 2014 Spring semester in Paris, Greenville, and Sulphur Springs.

### Greenville

**Thu 2/20**-Movie Night- Majestic 12 Theater (Any movie that is available during 7-8 p.m. hour)\*

**Wed 3/19**-Taco Day- Lobby 12-1 p.m

**Thu 3/27**-Ice Cream Social- Lobby 12-1 p.m.

**Thu 4/17**-Bowling Night- Shenanigans 10 p.m-12 a.m.\*

### Paris

**Tue 2/11**-Movie Night- Movies 8 (Any movie that is available during the 7-8 p.m. hour)\*

**Tue 2/18**-President's Q&A- Math&Science 101/102 12-1 p.m

**Wed 2/26**-Black History Program-Math & Science 101 12:30 p.m

**Tue 3/4**-SGA Talent Show- Ballroom 7:30 p.m.

### Sulphur Springs

**Wed 2/12**-Bingo-Break Room 12-1 p.m.

**Thu 2/13**-Movie Night-Starplex Cinema (Any movie that is available during 6:45-8 p.m. hour)\*

**Wed 3/26**-Ice Cream Social-Break Room 12-1 p.m.

**Wed 4/16**-President's Q&A-Break Room 12-1 p.m.

### **Monday-Friday, March 10-14**

Students and faculty on all campuses are out for Spring Break.

\*Activities that are off campus are free with student ID

# AASU announces events for Black History Month

BO PRUITT  
EDITOR

The PJC African American Student Union (AASU), recently scheduled activities and events to commemorate Black History Month.

Black History Month is celebrated nationally during the month of February to acknowledge African-American history for the contributions and strengths that helped encourage better futures.

Dr. Curtis O. Hill, vice-president of Student Services said, "I knew about the African-American program, but I would like to make this program a staple, by adding different events that were not included in previous years."

"Black History Month is for all cultures to celebrate and appreci-

ate," Hill said. "It is a civic-minded event to get the community involved, because PJC is here for that reason."

February 22, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will be hosting a banquet in the PJC ballroom at 6 p.m. Tickets for the banquet can be purchased through English instructor Joan Mathis, or Director of Student Life Kenneth Webb for \$25.

On February 26, the annual AASU Black History program will be held in the Math and Science building room 102/101 at 12:15 p.m. The AASU members are asking students, faculty, staff, and the community to attend to help celebrate. There will be reading and singing from the AASU members.

Tsavonti Daniels, AASU president, will be the master of ceremonies.

He said, "If the youth of tomorrow can have someone to point them in the right direction, I think it should be our generation and we do that by setting a very positive and impactful example."

PJC is committed to producing for the surrounding communities, and would like to share with all cultures the 2014 Black History Month program.

**For more information on Black History Month, students can follow PJC on Twitter @parisjc for the latest news and events.**



Bo Pruitt/The Bat

AASU members from left; Tyler Murphy, Daneé Mitchell, Kadija Pannell, Denisha Crow, Monique Dickerson, Tsavonti Daniels, Heather Rowe, Chevin Dockins, Valarie Murray, Marcus Kraut, Tyasha Allen, and Kenneth Webb, Director of Student Life.

# PJC programs bring in men, women from around world

**KYLEIGH FINGER**  
**STAFF WRITER**

Recruitment is a major factor in the athletic program and some of the other programs at PJC speak for themselves and draw people from all over to have the Paris Junior College experience.

The athletic programs combined have a number of student athletes that are from out of the country as well as some that are from out of state. Not only is the athletic program culturally diverse, programs such as The Texas Institute of Jewelry Technology has out of state students too.

In athletics, recruiting from out of state is very common. Most come to Paris because of scholarships, but some, such



**Abigail Cox**

as Abigail Cox and Tim Hildreth, both from Vermont, come to Paris to be with friends. Hildreth and Cox came here on financial aid and other sources of money to play for former coach, Lance Noble. Hildreth is one of the two goal keepers



**Tim Hildreth**

for the Men's team and Cox is an outside midfielder or forward for the Woman's team. Other players, such as Herge Hekamanu, who was the other Goal Keeper on the PJC Men's team this year, are on scholarship.

"I came to Paris because my friend told me to go to the website and fill out the recruitment form," said Herge Hekamanu from The Congo.

"The coach told me about the tryout dates and I made it. I got the last available scholarship as the back-up keeper."

Soccer also just recruited a player from Brazil, Caesar Cid. The soccer program is not the only population with foreign and out-of-state players, in some of the other sports programs there are a few.



**Lukas Lampe**

Players Oliver Stephens from Canada and Lukas Lampe from Germany came over to play golf for the school. Golf interacts with the other sports throughout the week and has welcomed these two players in.

Although Paris is a small junior college, athletes go out and support each other and



**Oliver Stephens**

spend time together outside of athletics as well. Many players in this program say this is one of the main reasons people come to this school.

"That's something we tell our recruits, is that that is the good thing about our college is that everyone supports each other, everyone gets along," said softball Coach Angel Castro. She spoke as the baseball and softball teams worked together to clean up the softball diamond and get the field ready to play on.

A close-knit group can attract people from all over because it gives players from far away a chance to enjoy themselves here apart from the game they play for the school.

"At PJC, different athletes support school spirit and other sports" said woman's soccer coach Lauren Hatch.

"It helps when recruits see that because they feel as though they want to be in that situation and be important like those players as well."

The jewelry program at PJC is also a main attraction as

students in the TIJT program and its alumni consider it one of the best in the state.

"My boss went here and he said it's one of the best programs to go to," said Kirsten Sassel from Shreveport, Louisiana.

"He pretty much wouldn't hire me unless I went here."

When asked if he regretted anything about leaving home for Paris, Jory Wall a jewelry student from Glasgow, Montana said "No, I like it here!"

One of the biggest changes in Paris from Lewisburg, Tennessee, according to Zach Kirby jewelry student, was that Paris has

restaurants that allow indoor smoking.

Although these three jewelry students would like to do activities such as soccer or baseball here, jewelry is a course that takes up most of the day so they don't have the option to do sports or an arts course, for example. Yet they say they enjoy PJC despite the limitations to do other things outside of the program.



**Kirsten Sassel**



**Jory Wall**



**Zach Kirby**





## *Complete* your degree at A&M-Commerce.



There are *no limits* to  
what you can achieve.

Texas A&M University-Commerce is committed to transfer students who want to complete their undergraduate degrees. Whether you complete your degree to receive a promotion, change careers or to be the first college graduate in your family, any reason is a good reason!

**Transfer scholarships up to \$2,000 with 45 transferrable hours.**

\$500 housing scholarships also available when credit hours and GPA requirements are met. \*Dependent upon GPA

**Phi Theta Kappa members are eligible for scholarships up to \$3,000.** \*The Phi Theta Kappa scholarship is not stackable with the general transfer scholarship.



[tamuc.edu/CompleteYourDegree](http://tamuc.edu/CompleteYourDegree)  
[DegreeCompletion@tamuc.edu](mailto:DegreeCompletion@tamuc.edu)

