



"The Friendliest College In The South"

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## Playoff bound!

QUENTIN CARPENTER  
Staff Writer

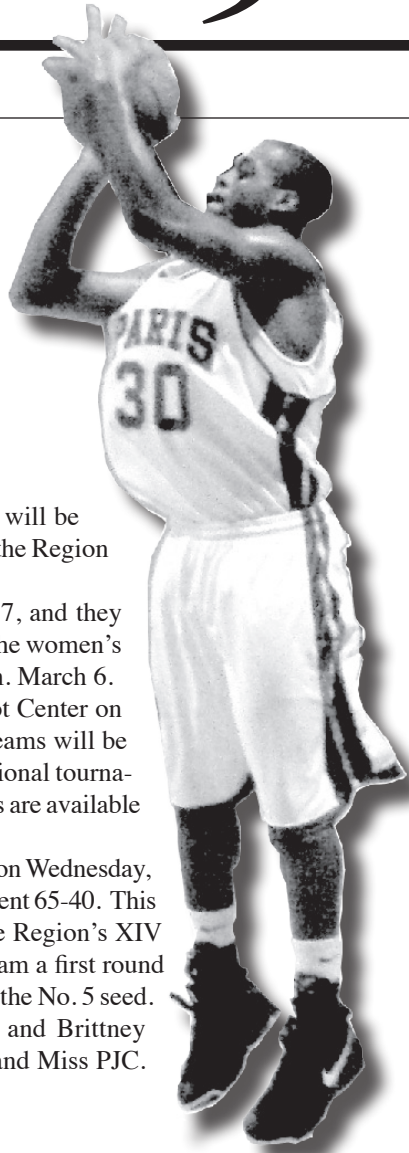
The PJC men's and women's basketball teams will be going to the University of Texas at Tyler to play in the Region XVI basketball tournament.

The men's first game will be at 6 p.m. March 7, and they will play either Trinity Valley or Panola College. The women's team will play No.1 seeded Trinity Valley at 1 p.m. March 6.

All games will be held at the Herrington Patriot Center on the University of Texas at Tyler's campus. Both teams will be competing with 12 other teams for a shot at the national tournament. A map to the center and tournament schedules are available on the PJC website.

The men's basketball game vs. Navarro College on Wednesday, Feb. 25, ended with the Dragons beating their opponent 65-40. This game placed the Dragons in the No. 2 seed for the Region's XIV Men's Basketball Tournament. This insured the team a first round bye in the tournament and moved Navarro down to the No. 5 seed.

During halftime Tomas Solano of Venezuela and Brittney Bennett of Del City, Oklahoma were named Mr. and Miss PJC. For more on Mr. and Miss PJC refer to page 3.



## Students learn from afar

MARTA GORTE  
Co-Editor

Distance learning classes are becoming more and more popular for college and some high school students. The Greenville, Sulphur Springs and Paris campuses enrolled 1,451 individual students this semester in dual credit classes, ITV classes as well as hybrid classes.



PJC History instructor  
Ken Hanushek

"The school now has between 90 and 100 fully online classes, with 30 to 35 of them being hybrid," says Dr. Ken Haley, associate dean and coordinator of distance learning. Hybrid classes are partially face-to-face classroom time and partially online.

ITV, or Interactive Television Classes, are a combination of a traditional classes and online classes and are generally dual credit, which encourage more high school students to take basic college classes. A teacher can lecture from one campus, with the class reaching several other campuses by television.

"The ITV classes tend to go to more rural districts, due to some of the high schools not having enough teachers," says Haley. "The state recently passed a law

which requires all high school students in Texas to take four years of math and science in order to graduate, which will encourage more participation in ITV and dual credit classes."

Ken Hanushek, one of the history instructors at PJC, has been teaching ITV classes for two years and says they're, "A great way to reach out to students. Creativity is one of the most important factors in teaching ITV classes. You have to be able to keep the students' attention," says Hanushek. "The technology can be challenging and you have to learn to be flexible."

Hanushek makes an effort to go to the high schools where his ITV classes are being reached in order to meet his students in person, so the classes are more than just students on a screen.

## Come and get it

ALI PRY  
Staff Writer

Do Ramen noodles for lunch and pizza at midnight sound familiar? Living on your own can be tough when it comes to eating well. Students usually don't eat the most high quality food.

"If it wasn't for the cafeteria, I'd be living off pizza rolls," PJC student Courtney Waters said.

The PJC cafeteria is open to the public, students, and college employees whether they live on campus or not. It's a gathering place not just to eat, but to socialize as well.

"I still live with my parents, but sometimes I'll go to the cafeteria just to eat with my friends," Hannah Sain said.

Diners get fast service, two or three different choices of food per meal, dessert, and a salad bar each time they enter the cafeteria. A 12-day meal plan is \$1,056 and a 19-day meal plan is \$1,308. Individual meals can be purchased as well. Breakfast is \$4.50 while lunch and dinner are \$5.85. Also available is a 12-meals ticket for \$48.

Students who have a meal plan become spoiled with this luxury. If they have never lived on their own, they may take for granted the comfort of not having to worry about going grocery shopping, making the time to prepare and cook a meal, cleaning up the kitchen, or doing the dishes. All these tasks are eliminated when they eat in the cafeteria. They go in, get a quality meal, and leave.

Cafeteria staff member Margaret Ford said, "I wake up every morning at 4 o'clock to get ready to make breakfast."

It takes a lot of planning and the cafeteria workers are passionate about their jobs, starting at 5:30 a.m. to prepare breakfast for the students.

So who are the people that some may take for granted? As cafeteria cook, Sherry Campbell said, "We can't just twitch our noses and have it done."

Charlotte Norris has been working at PJC since 1986 and took over as food service director in 1989. Norris makes up the menu and she and Campbell consult with Ford who is in charge of salad, Renee Doyle who is in charge of desserts, and Crystal Haley, the server.

Just inside the cafeteria door, there is a suggestion box to the right and cashier, Juanita King, to the left. King is in charge of recording who comes through the line and is "the students' favorite" as Norris said.

The old stand-by meals are the most popular. Norris explains that the favorite food choice will slightly vary each semester, which determines how much and what needs to be cooked. Most of the students' preferred meals are the traditional hamburgers, pizza, childogs, hot wings, and chicken fried steaks.

According to Norris, hamburgers and french fries are favorites with the staff cooking up to 120 pounds of potatoes and around 200 hamburgers at a time. Two trucks of food, two deliveries of dairy, and one bread order every week.

On a typical day, around 275 to 300 customers eat in the cafeteria. If the cafeteria workers know the volleyball team, basketball teams, or baseball teams have a game, they will adjust how much they will prepare since some of the "regulars" may not be on campus to eat those meals.

The atmosphere in the cafeteria is inviting with workers who love to please the students. The staff will decorate the cafeteria for special occasions and occasionally have activities planned. Recently, they planned Chinese New Year and Mardi Gras.

"We have fun with the students," Norris said.



Sherry Campbell



Renee Doyle

# Opinion / News

## Opinion

### Americans seek to rebuild trust in one another in order to be united again

**RANDI JOHNSON**  
STAFF WRITER

Trust, at this point in time, has been put into question. Deceit has shaken numerous Americans, and now we have developed trust issues. In some form or another, we have all been stricken with betrayal.

We have been betrayed in our personal investments, which has left us in a state of fury, because we have been conned. We have been betrayed by government officials, gambling with our trust as if they have nothing to lose, who think politics is just a round of craps in Las Vegas. Trust from us, citizens of this country, is what they have to lose, but many of those officials feel they are invincible.



“We in America have been swept into this tornado of turmoil.”

—Randi Johnson

We in America have been swept into this tornado of turmoil. People we were inclined to trust have turned what we believe in completely upside down.

Our economy has taken a downward spiral into the toilet. The national debt continues to grow and still clashes between Democrats and Republicans rage on as they attempt to formulate a solution to bring us some relief. Each side plays tug-of-war with the other about

who’s to blame, when, in reality, it’s a shared blame. No one wants to admit to their own faults; they just point their fingers at the others and we must realize that method never seems to work.

Trust doesn’t seem to have the respect it once did. There was a time when trust was what made life have true meaning.

We live in a country where the founding of our independence was richly

based on trust in one another. Having trust in our fellow man is what drove our cause to become a reality. Now where has the trust gone? Has trust become a faded memory, or can we relive the memory once again?

America is down to the wire and has to be built back up again. The foundation of trust needs to be repaved so we, as a nation, can stand on solid ground to reconstruct our faith in one another.

But the end is not near yet. Hope still exists within our nation, but we must act quickly, or we are headed towards a direction of utter chaos in this country.

We, as a people, must hope that trust will rise once again, and we will know what it feels like to be united as one.



Ali Pry/The Bat

## Talent show reminder

The PJC talent show will be held today, Thursday, March 5, at 7 p.m. at the Ray Karrer theatre located in the Administration Building. PJC freshman, Yliana Castro, practices her talent show performance in front of a few friends in the Student Center. She will perform a clogging routine to the country song, “Firecracker” by Josh Turner and the pop hit, “Circus,” by Britney Spears. Castro has been clogging for about seven years and says she wants to show the student body “a different type of dance.” She made up all her own choreography for “Firecracker” and had help from other PJC students, Brandi Amos and Jeremy Lee, to make up the fast-paced dance routine for “Circus.”

## PJC music students sing in All-State Choir, prepare for national anthem performance at Texas Rangers game

**CATHERINE JONES**  
STAFF WRITER

The spring season is always a busy one in the PJC Music Department. The department had the largest number of students participating in the All-State Choir when the choir performed in San Antonio February 14. Of the 27 colleges attending the Texas Music Educators Convention, PJC had ten students taking part, more than any other school.

Students making the All-State choir include Justin Frazier, Josh Mooneyham, Alex Fowzer, Trent Little, Chase Nation, Cade Bailey, Brandi Amos, Kristyn Phillips, Val Schmidt, and Sattriona Nyachwaya. Justin Hughes made the All-State Band, the first PJC student to do so in decades.

The month of April is particularly packed full of shows and events in the Music Department.

On April 2 at 7:30 p.m., the Music Department presents its student recital. This presentation is designed to showcase the work of students who are taking individual voice or instrumental lessons.

“It’s exciting because people get to see everyone practice the techniques we’ve been working on all semester, as well as who can master those techniques in front of an audience,” says PJC choir director Pat Fowzer.

On April 3 at 7 p.m., the PJC Chamber Singers will, for the fifth time, sing the National Anthem for the Texas Rangers. The trip is becoming an annual tradition for the choir, an advanced group that often works on a cappella and sacred music. They have also performed for the Frisco Rough Riders.

This year the group will sing the anthem at an exhibition game between the Rangers and the Kansas City Royals, held at the Dr. Pepper Ballpark in Frisco (home of the Frisco Rough Riders).

Tuesday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m., the Chamber Singers present “Songs of Hope,” an assortment of music to encourage and inspire today’s stressed-out world, at First United Methodist Church. The performance includes modern pieces as well as old favorites.

“Everyone has stresses in their lives, whether it’s money, relationships, work, grades...so we chose as many different beautiful things as we could in the hopes that maybe someone will go away feeling just a little better,” says Fowzer.

April 14 at 7:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, the department’s largest choir, Chorale, will present “Groovin’ to the Modern Musicals,” with excerpts from everything from “Sweeney Todd” to “Mamma Mia” to “Little Shop of Horrors.” Smaller group numbers, as well as solos, will also be presented.

Finally, the department will round out the month and the season with “Encore presents: Rock Star Encore!” on April 24, 25, and 26. PJC’s award-winning show choir, Encore, has chosen to perform Rock and Roll songs from the 80s and 90s, which have been popularized anew by games such as Guitar Hero and Rock Band. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7:30 p.m., and the Sunday matinee is scheduled for 2 p.m. Admission is \$3, or free with a PJC Student ID.

## The Bat

The Paris Junior College student newspaper

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

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### LETTERS POLICY

*The Bat* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed, and include a telephone number. Mail letters to *The Bat*, 2400 Clarksville St., Paris, TX 75460. Letters will be edited for spelling, grammar, and libelous statements.

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# Features

## PJC triumphs over Navarro

Photos by Stephanie Norman and Marta Goerte



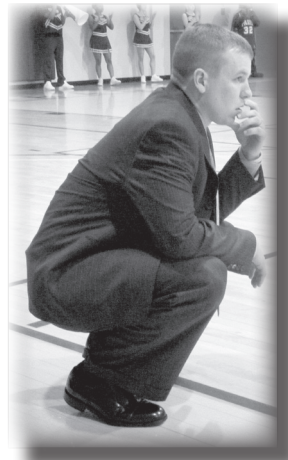
Above: Mr. and Miss PJC winners for 2009 are Tomas Solano and Brittney Bennett. Solano has been a member of the PJC Dragon baseball team for two seasons now. Bennett is also an athlete and plays for the Lady Dragon basketball team.



Above: Players from both teams position to win the tip-off at the Feb. 25 game. The Dragons will play in the second round of the Region XIV tournament on Saturday, March 7.



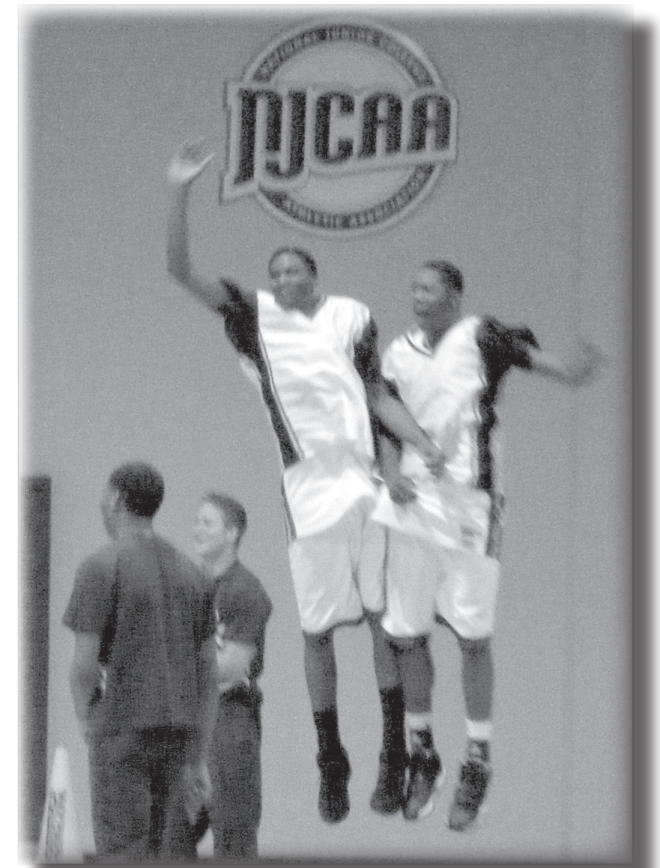
Left: Mr. and Miss PJC nominees included, Brittney Bennett, Jason Timmis, Jamie McFatrige, Chae Caldwell, Amanda Merx, Tomas Solano, Jessica Wilson, Zach Sneed and Ali Pry. Not pictured is Michael McLaughlin.



Above: PJC head coach Ross Hodge keeps his head in the game.



Left: Fans get into the action at last Wednesday's conference game at PJC. The Dragons won the game 65-40.



Above: PJC starting players Latay Darden and Jonathon Simmons feed off the crowd's energy as they are introduced prior to the Navarro game.

# Sports / News

## First year coach leads softball team to early success

**QUENTIN CARPENTER**  
Staff writer

It is always a mystery how well a team will do with a new head coach but the Lady Dragons softball team and first year head coach Corey Lyon have started off 12-4 this spring season.

“A lot of this has to do with buying into a different philosophy, my approach to the game is a little bit different than what they were used to in the past.” says Lyon.

Under Lyon’s leadership, the Lady Dragons have outscored their opponents 89-47, and have also posted wins against Division I (Wichita State) and Division II (Henderson State) schools in the fall.

“One of the games I am most proud of is a game we



Photos by Stephanie Norman

**During practice Feb. 25, Katie Clark and Taylor Russell have Stevie Furra in a pickle while pitcher Kaci Crawford watches to see what happens next.**

did not win,” says Lyon. “We were playing in the Cowtown Tourney against the returning national champs, Wallace state. We played a solid tooth and nail

game. They hit a homerun in the bottom of the seventh, which is a real tough way to lose. But I think that game helped our girls see that if we play a certain way we can compete with anybody.”

The Lady Dragons have a few freshmen players contributing to the wins, too. Pitcher Kaci Crawford has done her part in helping the team this season.

Lyon says, “Whenever you get freshmen in, you never know how they are going to adjust, but I think Kaci has been above and beyond. We knew that she was going to be good, but we didn’t expect her to be this good, this early.”

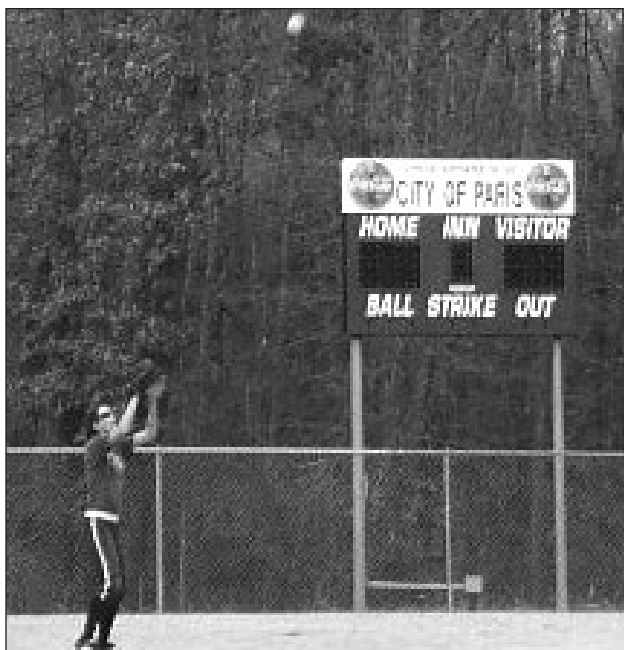
The Lady Dragons also have two freshmen infielders, Taylor Russell and Megan Brigance, who have been helping with their

high level of play as well.

But the team MVP so far is Makesa Richey. According to Lyon, “She came out of fall, and probably had the best fall out of all of our players. She has really stayed driven and she has come out on fire since the start of the spring. Probably hands down our best player thus far.”

Coach Lyon continues, “We set three goals: to win our conference championship, regional championship, then obviously, to reach the national championship.”

With conference games just around the corner, the Lady Dragons will start on completing their first goal. But until they get through the conference, the other goals will have to wait.



Makesa Richey positions herself to catch a pop fly.



Shay Ristau pitches to Kasey Cantu at warm-up.



Taylor Russell tries to get out of Emily Giles’ throw.

The golf team pictured from left is Kevin Geisbrecht, Tom Bourne, Preston Spoonemore, Jesse Durham, Zane Caillier, Jason Timmis and Jay Ryan. They placed fourth overall with a score of 636 in the Tyler Junior College Men’s golf competition held March 1-3. Timmis led the team with a score of 150. Durham was second on the team with a score of 156.



## Spring Volleyball is coming up soon

The PJC volleyball team will participate in three tournaments this spring season.

The first tournament is the Hill College Tourney at Hill College on March 7. The volleyball team’s first game in this tournament will be against Hill College

at 11 a.m.

The second tournament will be at Texas Women’s University March 29 and the third at Brookhaven College April 4. Both the time and opponents for these two contests are yet to be determined.