



Stephanie Norman/The Bat

Instructor Mike Barnett a PJC student 30 years ago, encourages his students the way his mentor encouraged him.

## PJC Profile

# Mike Barnett brings science to life

**STEPHANIE NORMAN**  
Co-Editor

In 1978, Mike Barnett was enrolled in E.C. Hancock's biology class at PJC.

"His enthusiasm for the subject inspired me to study biology further and his continued guidance led me back to PJC to work for him as an instructor," Barnett said.

Hancock and Barnett formed a strong relationship and it grew over the years. Barnett said he was "kind of a father to me." Eventually, Hancock, now retired, was Barnett's supervisor as well as an idol.

"I have been fortunate to have several lifetime influences," Barnett said. Norman Seeliger, a former employer, is also a great friend of Barnett's. John, Barnett's brother, was also a great role model while

growing up.

Barnett said, "My father died when I was 10, and all of these special people played a big role in giving me guidance and advice when I needed it."

Building cars, ranching, baseball and his teaching career as a biology and geology instructor are a few things, which make Barnett the man that he is today.

He has a degree in both agriculture and biology from A&M Commerce.

Barnett was born in 1953 in Paris. Then at the age of 15, he began working as an automobile mechanic. He attended PJC off and on after high school, and then graduated from the junior college in 1979.

He took up an interest in street and drag racing a while back. Even building the racecars was a great deal

for Barnett.

He participated in the vamping of a '63 Corvette, which was raced through the National Hot Rod Association.

His first son, Ben, was born in 1982, and is a graduate from Baylor University. His youngest son, Randy, born in 1986, will be graduating this semester from Texas Tech. Barnett's wife, Terry, has been a second grade teacher at Aikin Elementary for 27 years.

Barnett goes bicycling and works out daily, and enjoys training his American Brittany "Roxie."

"In the summer, I'm president of Paris Teen League Baseball Association. I spend my nights at the ball field making sure everyone has what they need and keeping the league going," he said. "We provide quality

league play for about 120, 16 to 19 year-old players."

As an instructor, Barnett takes pride in his teaching career. He believes that education is a very important key in life.

Ever since his college biology instructor impacted him, he likes to pass that excitement on to his students through his lectures.

Barnett jokes all the time that he makes up half of what he talks about in his biology classes, but he really does take teaching serious.

His techniques really do benefit his students; maybe they don't realize it now, but in the future they may.

"One student in particular I remember. I was teaching an Organic Chemistry lab and I was finding it difficult to convince him that the techniques we were learning would pay off when he

transferred to a university," Barnett said.

"About a year later, I ran into him at a conference I was attending. The first thing out of his mouth was 'thank you.' He explained that when he started his senior biomedical courses, he was the only student that already knew how to set up the experiments in his class. His instructors were impressed and surprised that he was a junior college transfer student that was better prepared than his classmates."

Barnett claims that "returning to college and finishing school" has been his greatest achievement in life so far.

"I'm finishing my 26<sup>th</sup> year here," he said. "With the economy the way that it is, I'll probably continue to teach a few more years."

## The Bat is online

**MARTA GOERTE**  
Co-Editor

The student newspaper of Paris Junior College, *The Bat* is now online on the PJC website.

There will still be printed copies will still be available, but students and staff will also have the option of viewing current and past newspapers online.

"The biggest advantage of having *The Bat* online is that we know many people, students in particular, no longer read a paper newspaper," says Sharon Dennehy, *The Bat* adviser. "Although there is still a place for a paper newspaper on our campuses, I think we will reach more students with campus news in an online version."

The link to *The Bat* is found in the "Current Students," area under "Important Informative Links." It is also available on the WebCT homepage.

*The Bat* is published by students as the lab portion of journalism classes.

## Need money?

**MARTA GOERTE**  
Co-Editor

There are funds available for college tuition.

PJC offers department scholarships as well as grants. Financial aid applicants must fill out the PJC General Scholarship Application and the Pell Grant Application – the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, (FAFSA).

"FAFSA helps students apply for federal as well as state aid," says Linda Slawson, Director of Financial Aid. "Be sure to fill out your FAFSA early, in order to have a better chance of receiving money." There is no exact deadline for the FAFSA application, but the sooner you get it in, the better.

For the PJC General Scholarship Application, students have the option of which departments they want their application sent to.

In order to be eligible for both the Pell Grant and any of the scholarships, students must be enrolled in a full course load of at least 12 hours. Both applications can be found on the PJC website under the "new students" link at the top of the home page, or at the PJC admissions office.

The General Scholarship priority deadline is April 15.

# Opinion/News

## Opinion

# Students lose touch with reality online

**STEPHANIE NORMAN**  
Co-Editor

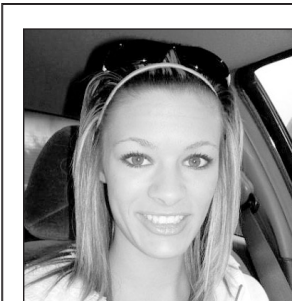
Your life is swirling down the drain as the computer screen stares back at you, MySpace corrupting your mind: new message, new comment, new friend, and a couple of hours wasted filling out repeated surveys from your top friends.

MySpace is like a drug to many young adults today. After you create an account, you spend hours trying to make your profile reflect your personality and then you begin searching for friends. Before you know it,

MySpace sucks you in like a black hole in space. You will be addicted as if to nicotine.

Instead of sitting down at the computer to type up an English essay or check WebCT, students are using the computer lab and library computers to get on MySpace.

It may be your intention to log in and out really quickly, but when you see you have a new message, you get all excited and just have to message back. Then you read that someone added new photos, so you have to view them and leave photo comments.



“MySpace is like a drug to many young adults today.”

—Stephanie Norman

It’s a domino effect. Every click away on the MySpace website leads to another ten minutes of wasted time; time you could have been using to take care of more important priorities.

People on MySpace tend to portray themselves

as people they’re not. For example, you may lie on the questions of stupid surveys to make everyone think you did or didn’t do something. This is how rumors are started and such actions have consequences.

Each profile is a

distinctive reflection of the user. It portrays your fantasy world of who you think you are and who you wish to be. As easy as it is to lie in person, it is just as easy to put false information on your profile, which gives your MySpace “friends” a distorted version of you.

People are gullible and believe a lot of what they read and see on MySpace. You as an individual need to be able to sift through the gossip and determine what is right and what is wrong. When you spend every free waking moment online reading worthless

junk on MySpace, you lose track of your top priorities.

Then there are those people who spend countless hours awaiting that message from their MySpace “wanna be boyfriend/girlfriend.” Again, this is a waste of time. It is just as easy to talk to someone in person as it is sitting on your behind waiting for a new message to pop up. Get a real life as opposed to living in your online fantasy world.

Time isn’t wasted when you’re getting work done, but time is wasted when you are getting wasted on MySpace.

# Construction is now in progress for new dorms

**RANDI JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

Construction is underway on campus for the new residence halls that will be up and running by the fall semester of 2010.

The new residence halls are going to be located on the south side of the campus behind the library and adjacent to the Hunt Center.

“Each room will contain suite baths, wireless Internet, cable link for television, a commons area, plus a small kitchen,” said Dr. Pamela Anglin, PJC president. Each hall will hold up to about 60 beds.

These residence halls will be for students who are on a housing scholarship, or students who wish to live on campus.

There will be some recreational activities for the students as well.

“In the commons area, there will be a study area, as well as a lounge that can be used for playing cards or watching TV on the big screen television set that will be present in the area, also,” said Anglin.

The old residence halls will remain open for the extra room to house students.

“Our main goal is to house all students in the residence halls and eventually move all students out of the masters apartments and then tear them down,” said Anglin.

There will be a grand opening of the new residence halls before the fall 2010 semester for students to tour the facility.



Randi Johnson/The Bat

**The new dorms will be located on the south side of the PJC campus. Progress is visible on the construction site by evidence of pink survey flags outlining the foundation of the dorms. Date of completion is July 2010**

# The search is on for the new 2009 Homecoming theme

Plans are beginning to take shape for the 2009 PJC Homecoming set for November 6-7.

To help set the stage for the celebration, a theme

contest is being held by the PJC Alumni and Friends Association.

All students are invited to submit entries in writing to the Office of Institutional

Advancement/Alumni Affairs in the Rheudasil Learning Center, Room 102.

Winner of the contest will receive a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card.

Any student, full or part-time, may submit multiple entries. With each entry include your name, e-mail address and phone number.

The contest runs through

noon, Friday, April 17.

A select committee will review the entries and select a prize winner. The theme will be used throughout the celebration from the parade

to the homecoming night basketball games.

Theme for the 2008 PJC homecoming was “Dragon Pride.”

## 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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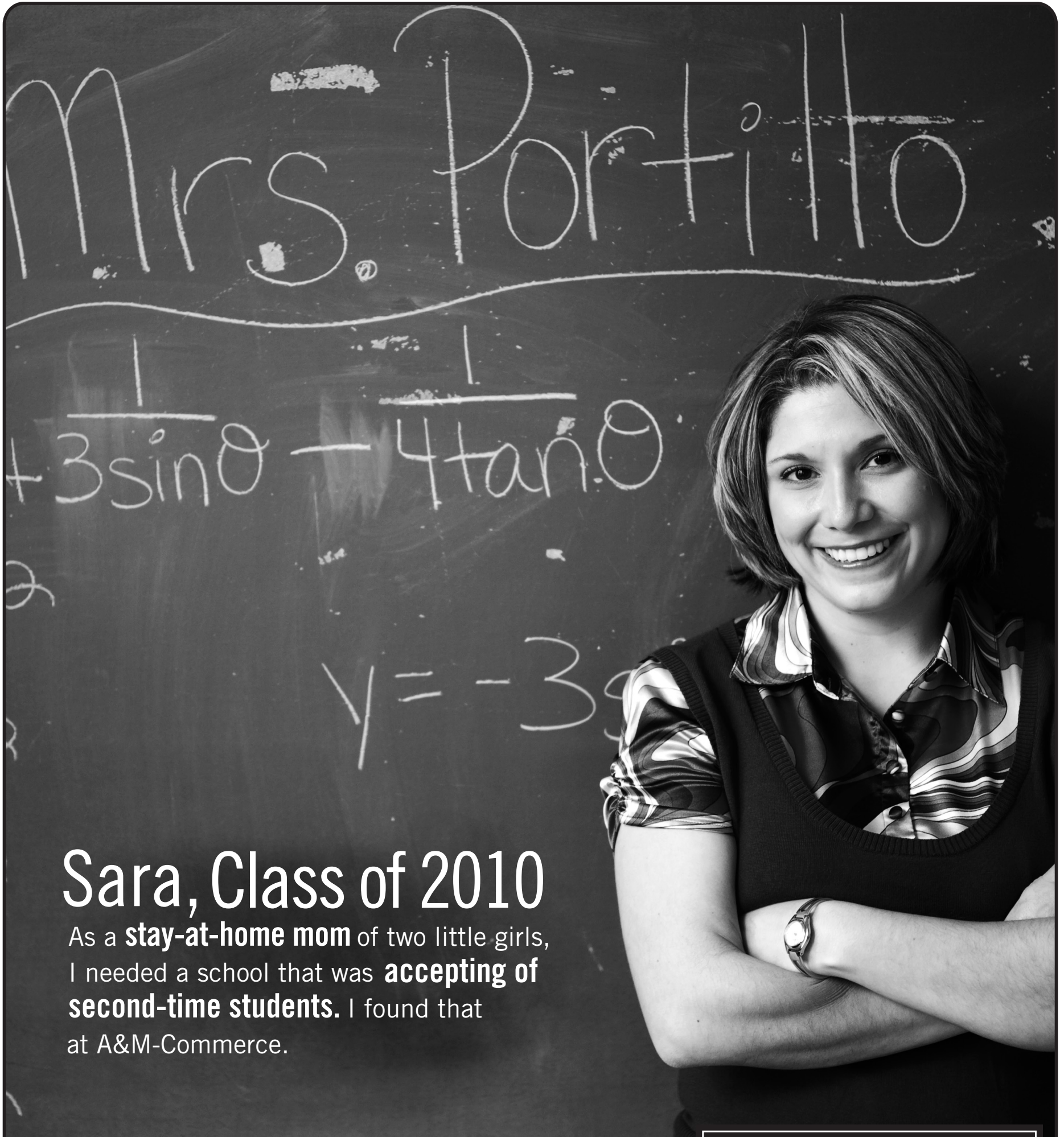
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### LETTERS POLICY

*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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## Sara, Class of 2010

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# Sports / News

## America's favorite pastime

Photos by Ali Pry



Preston Spoonemore and Kevin Giesbrecht are into the game eating hot dogs.



Brandi Amos, A.D. Fullylove, Deanna Young, and Tramell Bonner get ready to make their hot dogs. The student government provided food and drinks.

Fan Day was held Monday, April 1, to bring the students together and support the softball women in their double header against Texarkana. Bottom left: A.D. Fullylove gets a front row seat to watch the PJC women bat. Bottom right: Cristina Griffin, Jessica Wilson, Stevie Furra, Rachel Damiris, Katie Clark, and Kasey Cantu gather up during the game to take a quick photo.



Bottom: Director of student life, Kenneth Webb, greet Chris Arocha and Yliana Castro while he prepares hot dogs for all the students at the softball game.



## PJC men's basketball team finishes second in conference

**QUENTIN CARPENTER**  
Staff writer

The PJC men's basketball program finished with yet another blue chip year, for a blue chip program. The team finished second in the regional tournament, ending the season with an overall

record of 23-5 and a conference record of 14-5.

"I think expectations are always high for our program at Paris," says head coach Ross Hodge, "especially with the success we have had over the past ten years and even more so the past five years."

The team was knocked out of the regional tournament March 10 in Tyler in a double overtime loss to number 5 ranked Navarro, the team they beat 50-49 last year to win the regional title.

"The double overtime loss to Navarro (74-71) still stings a bit but I thought

our guys played as hard as we could and just came up a little short," says Hodge. "Those games always come down to very small margins and Navarro was able to make a few more plays than we were down the stretch."

With the team made up of a majority of freshmen, this

experience is sure to help them grow.

"I think our freshmen will use it as motivation this off-season and next fall to get over the hump. There will definitely be a few people missed next year," Hodge says.

"I especially want to

thank Shannon Shorter, Kenny Gabriel, Eddie Thompson, and Raymond Sims for the time they put into our program and their total dedication to our school and community.

I wish them the best moving forward and will miss them dearly."