



## Slithering snakes send some students screamin'

**ALI PRY**  
Staff Writer

Snakes are not usually considered ideal pets, but Paris Junior College science instructors, Jack Brown of

the Pairs campus and Cheryl Anderson of the Greenville campus think differently. Brown's snake, Eve, and Anderson's snake, C.K., are their pets slithering in cages on campus.

Brown gets his students' attention when he has his 50 pound, 9 foot long friend, Eve, with him.

Former student Amanda Merx says, "I held Eve because no one else would and I

wanted to impress the boys. It gave me a rush when she started moving!"

Eve is a Red Tail Boa Constrictor. This is not Brown's first snake.

He's been interested in nature, snakes, frogs, and dinosaurs since he was about five years old.

When Brown was a child, he was the epitome of a little boy, sticking snakes in his pockets and putting them on teachers' desks or down the aisle of the school bus.

"I spent the better part of my life in the principal's office," Brown says.

A 9 foot long snake isn't everyone's ideal pet, but for Brown, Eve is like a dog. He has even had up to an 18-foot-long snake but says he had to get rid of it because it could

have eaten his children! Eve will grab and hold her prey while wrapping her body around the victim and slowly tightening her wrap until she squeezes it to death.

Brown occasionally takes Eve home with him. She is about twice the size of Brown's kids; yet, like their dad, they treat Eve like any other pet. She is frequently found in the bathroom wrapped around the toilet.

Brown occasionally uses Eve in his biology class to demonstrate how snakes evolved from lizards, but she is mainly used as a student attraction. The students are interested whether they want to hold her or just stand and look.

**Biology instructor, Jack Brown, handles his pet snake, Eve, with care. Weighing in at 50 pounds and stretching 9 feet long, she is a friendly Red Tail Boa Constrictor.**

Ali Pry/The Bat

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## The Bat is a part of PJC tradition

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The student newspaper was named The Bat in 1925, not long after Paris Junior College opened.

People often think the name is funny and ask why PJC hasn't changed it, but the truth is, *The Bat* is a part of the history and tradition of PJC.

While the look and the stories and the staffs have changed over the years, the name of the paper has remained the same.

This is the abbreviated story, excerpted from the first edition of *The Bat* on Oct. 17, 1925. *The Bat* archives are housed in the A.M. Aiken Regional Archives in the campus library.

"Did you ever hear the story of the man who made lemonade out of lemons which

his mockers showered upon him? If you don't know that sweet little story, perhaps you have heard some other nice tale that will illustrate what mankind can do in the way of making capital out of handicap.

That is the idea we have in mind in naming our paper, *'The Bat.'*

Back in the misty past when our institution was young and was being housed in a dark, out-of-the-way, backdoor part of the high school building, some smart, holier-than-thou person derisively called us the *'Junior College Bats.'*

At first that rankled, because we knew it was meant scornfully. Sober reflection led some of us to ask of others, 'Well, what's in a name?'

We decided to find out and we did. It's all in favor of bats, too!"

The story goes into great detail about bats, with information taken from the encyclopedia, but, boiled down, the following is what the first staff found out:

"They fly like birds, they are furred like the four footed animals, and in structure they resemble the monkey. They are harmless and regarded with scorn by only the timid. They destroy pests and unpleasant nocturnal insects.

They are social by nature and dwell together in peace, harmony and good will. No bat harms or destroys one of its own. They are extremely versatile—they fly, walk, slide, stand on their feet or hang by their claws.

Last of all, they know how to enjoy life—stay out all night and sleep all day. And so why shouldn't we call our paper *'The Bat?'*



Tim Shelton (Campus Print Shop) / Courtesy photo

The PJC 2008-2009 Bat Staff includes: left (front), Staff writers, Ali Pry, Randi Johnson, Kelly Shurbet, Whitney Turk; left (back), Co-Editors, Stephanie Norman, Marta Goerte and Adviser/Instructor Sharon Dennehy.

This is one of the largest female staffs in the past ten years. This semester is a new beginning for all six members and all are planning to return next semester. *The Bat* staff will be participating in the homecoming parade at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6. Staffer, Ali Pry, can be found riding on the homecoming court float.



# Opinion/News

## Opinion

# Students fight for success

**RANDI JOHNSON**  
Staff Writer

The line is all the way out the door. Cars are backed up to the road. Sweat is forming on your brow and everyone is racing 100 miles an hour.

You are hustling, with your boss nipping at your heels watching your every move. Every time you turn around, you are told to “do this” and “go do that.” You never feel a sense of accomplishment or any sense of credit for all the hard work you have done.

Welcome to world of part-time jobs.

Life is nice when mommy and daddy pay for all your needs. You never really get a taste of what it means to support yourself and work towards something you want.

The majority of young adults become very aware of the real world

after their high school years. They enjoy four years of freedom and fun, until high school graduation comes and goes.

Then it’s time for college and working in a dead-end job, earning those almighty small paychecks that stretch only so far to cover that “much needed” cell phone and a source of transportation. But sometimes it’s not just the money you want. Sometimes it’s a little more personal; it’s called gratitude and respect.

There are those days when you feel like a hero. You come to the rescue by picking up the slack and put-

ting some order back into chaos.

You are proud of yourself, but sometimes you don’t feel that pride from the boss. You are just another one of those elves in the workshop.

and makes him want to work harder. But employers are not always that gracious.

Sometimes employers don’t pay close attention to simple things like “thank you.”

The majority of the time, they don’t look at the bigger picture or even see a particular person. All that seems to matter to them is getting a customer out the door or meeting a deadline.

An employee can feel like his good nature is being taken advantage of, and it’s a put down. Having that kind of an attitude doesn’t make you want to go way out of your way to help out.

It gives you the “I just don’t care anymore” attitude, and that is a feeling an employee hates to have.

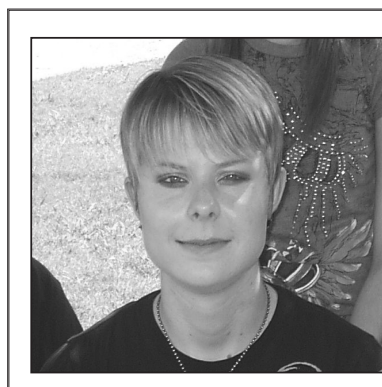
What most college students need to remember is that they are not going to be working that futureless job forever.

When they are not flipping burgers or busing tables, the work they do in college is what will bring them the satisfaction they have been waiting for.

Their education is what will give them that job they want and, finally, that credit they long to receive.

Then they will want to work harder and be all that they can be; that is what a job should really be about.

When the lunch rush is blowing through and the sound you hear is your boss yelling in your ear, and you feel you are hanging on by a thread, just remember there is a new tomorrow that promises a better life and a brighter future.



*‘Life is nice when  
mommy and daddy pay  
for all our needs.’*

A simple “thank you” or “nice work” to a person giving hard effort goes a lot farther than you think. That kind of gesture makes a worker feel some sense of a job well done

### SNAKES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Brown says the busiest parts of the zoo are the reptile displays, so people are just drawn to Eve.

When Anderson taught high school at Wolfe City a few years ago, she almost had a zoo of her own. In her classroom she has kept fish, hamsters, guinea pigs, opossum, and zebra finches, but

C.K. is her only pet on the Greenville campus.



Courtesy Photo

**Greenville instructor, Cheryl Anderson’s Ball Python, C.K., curls up her 4-foot long body in a tight spiral in her cage.**

She named her snake C.K. because at first she didn’t

students to appreciate even the not so warm and fuzzy

know the sex of it. Calvin Klein sometimes uses his initials C.K. for his clothing and fragrances and Anderson liked the name.

C.K. is a 6 pound, 4 foot long Ball Python. Anderson brought the snake to live in her classroom when she taught high school and says, “I began teaching the

creatures of our world.” At PJC, C.K. stays in her office.

She got her at PetCo when C.K. was just a baby and hopes to have her snake for the rest of C.K.’s life.

C.K. is about 14 years old and ball pythons can live up to 30

**Cheryl Anderson holding pet C.K.**



Courtesy Photo

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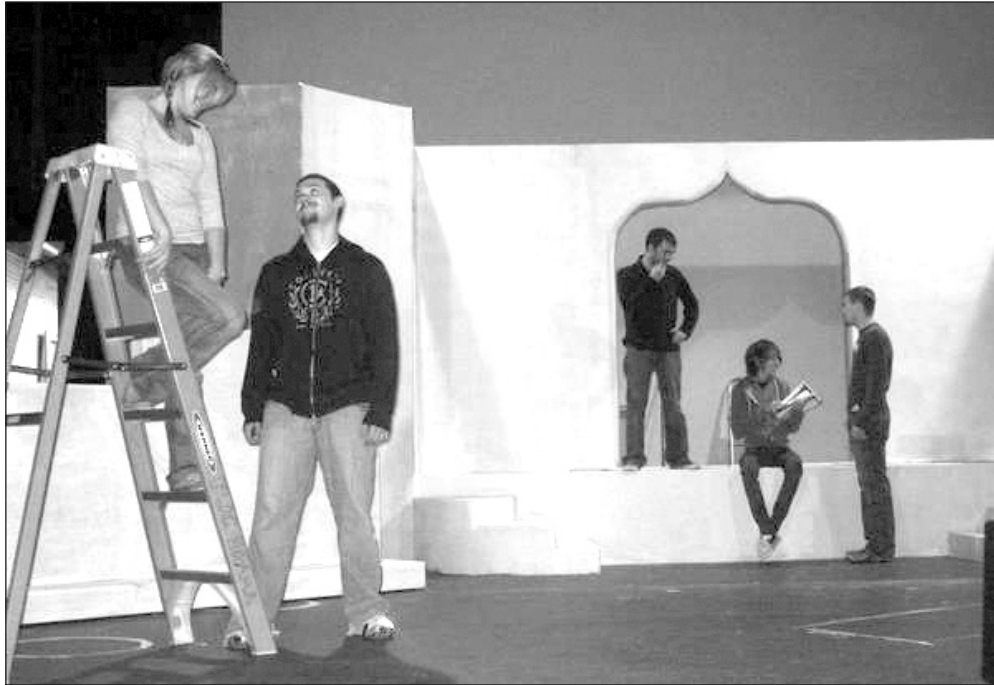
*The Bat* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed, and include a telephone number. Mail letters to *The Bat*, 2400 Clarksville St., Paris, TX 75460. Letters will be edited for spelling, grammar, and libelous statements.

To reach staffers: 903-782-0321  
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# Features

## Fall production “She Loves Me!” is in action



Whitney Turk/The Bat

**WHITNEY TURK**  
Staff Writer

The PJC theatre fall production, “She Loves Me!” is set for the first two weekends in November. “She Loves Me!” is a tale about two people, Georg and Amalia, who feud in real life, but unknowingly become pen pals and fall in love. The movie “You’ve got Mail” is based on this play.

The production is at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov.7; 2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, Nov.8 and 9; and 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 14 and 15. The play is free for all PJC students showing PJC ID, \$5 for children and \$10 for adults. It will be showing in the Ray Karrer Theatre, located on the PJC campus. Directing the play will be PJC theatre instructor, Alex Peevy.

The cast includes: Arpad Laszlo, Micah Haynes; Ladislav Sipos, Chase Nation; Ilona Ritter, Amanda Merx; Steven Kodaly, Chae Caldwell; Georg Nowack, Chad Duval; Mr. Maraczek, Rowdy Peacock; Amalia Balash, Katie

**PJC Theatre students, Amanda Merx, Chae Caldwell, Chad Duval, Micah Haynes and Chase Nation rehearse for the fall production “She Loves Me,” directed by Alex Peevy.**

## Homecoming activities begin

**WHITNEY TURK**  
Staff Writer

“Dragon Pride,” is the theme for homecoming 2008. Activities will begin

with the homecoming parade, at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov.6.

Entries for the parade will start lining up in front of the Hunt Center, on Collegiate, around 3:30 p.m. The

parade will turn on Clarksville, go to the square, around the plaza, and then back to the college.

The float with the best representation of the theme will receive

\$100.

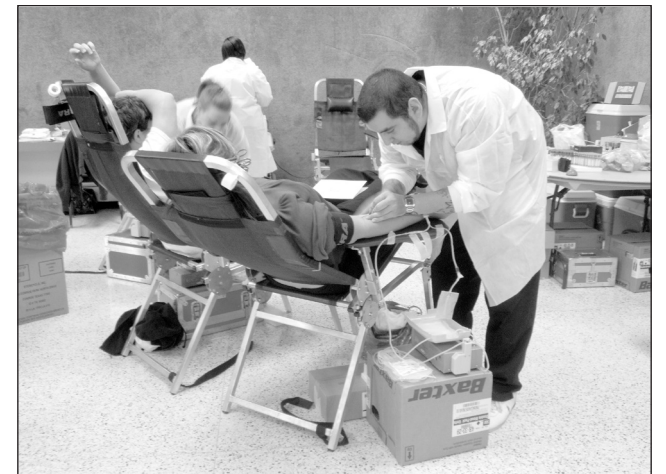
From 5:30 – 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 7, there will be a President’s Reception in the cafeteria of the Student Center. There is no charge for the reception, but all attendees must sign up with Gloria Richter in Room 202 of the library.

At noon, Saturday, Nov.8, in the Student Center Ballroom, there will be a Distinguished Alumni Luncheon honoring PJC alumni, Weldon Veteto, class of 1937, and Joy Lynn Phillips Fenner, class of 1955. The luncheon is \$14 and the last day to purchase tickets is Friday, Oct. 31. All attendees can purchase their tickets from Richter in Room 202 of the library. For more information about the reception or the luncheon, contact Richter at 903-782-



Office of Public Information/Courtesy Photo

The homecoming court nominees include, from left (front), Ali Pry, Makesa Richey, Shay Ristau, Jessica Wilson and Brandi Amos, from left (back), Justin Miller, Nick Stelte, Tomas Solano, Donovan Irby and Quenton Stewart. Homecoming queen and king are to be announced during halftime of the men’s basketball game on Saturday, Nov.8.



Stephanie Norman/The Bat

## PJC participates in Carter Blood Drive

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 28, Carter Blood Center held a blood drive in the Student Center for PJC staff and students. In all, there were 50 donors.

**Above: Phlebotomist, Andy Harmon, sets up to draw blood from a PJC student. Below: Aliesha**



Randi Johnson/The Bat



# Sports / News

## Enroll early for spring semester

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Early advising registration, on-campus, for the Spring 2009 semester will be Nov. 3 through Dec. 10, 2008.

Online registration will be conducted from Nov. 3 through Jan. 8, 2009,

All students who are eligible to register online are encouraged to do so.

Returning students not eligible to register online because of TSI status can see a staff member in the Counseling/Advising Office on the Paris campus, their program specific faculty adviser, or one of the academic advisers on the Greenville or Sulphur Springs campuses from Nov. 3 through Dec. 10, 2008 during office hours.

## Volleyball team still has a shot at Region 14 District Tournament



Office of Public Information/ Courtesy photo

The Paris Junior College volleyball team still has hopes of going to the Region 14 District Tournament in Carthage. According to Head Coach Justin Maness, the Lady Dragons have a 15-19 overall record in the Region 14 standings and Maness says, "The team has completed many of the goals they set out to complete." The team faced Navarro College Monday night, Oct. 27, at the Hunt Center with results of (W)25-20, (L)20-25, (L)22-25, (W)26-24, (L)11-15. Although the Ladies lost, a chance to make playoffs is still in the picture. Panola and Navarro play tonight, October 29, in Panola at 6 p.m. If Panola loses, the PJC ladies team will have a playoff game with Panola to determine who will go to the Regional Tournament. The 2008-2009 team includes from front (left): Hillary Baugh, Mallory Johnson, Logan Anglin, Kaitlin Vasquez, Jamie McFatridge, Stefanie Barnett, Tess Williams, and Nicole Matus. Back (left): Assistant Coach Tennessee Brown, Dacia St. Julien, Morganne Fikes, Hillary Dunegan, Nicole Cadenhead, Amber Cantu Curry, Miranda Guzman, Adrienne Boswell, Kamesha Hall, and head coach Justin Maness.



Kelly Shurbet/The Bat

2008-2009 Cheerleaders: front, head cheerleader Danee Mitchell; back, from left, Gre'nessa Dillard, Jessica Gonzales, Micha Bedford, Elizabeth Scott, Jeremy Lee, Courtney Young, Taylor Poteet.

## Cheerleaders are ready for the 2008-2009 season

KELLY SHURBET  
Staff Writer

Firing up the crowd this basketball season will be eight cheerleaders and team mascot, Pyro the Dragon.

This season's cheerleaders are head cheerleader Danee Mitchell-Lewisville; Micha Bedford-Paris; Grenessa Dillard-Paris; Jessica Gonzales-Paris;

Jeremy Lee-Humble; Taylor Poteet-Paris; Elizabeth Scott-Paris; and Courtney Young-Paris.

The squad cheers at all out-of-town basketball games. Fans say they believe the cheering helps build momentum.

Remembering the nationals last spring in Hutchinson Kan., English instructor Bill Neely said,

"I was really impressed at how hard they worked to get the crowd behind the team. They just never quit yelling."

Cheering is not limited to games. This year's activities included the celebration of PJC's record fall enrollment, Walk Your Buns Off, and a community-wide Paris back-to-school block party.