

# The Bat



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

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**Diamonds in the rough...**  
**Jewelry students polish skills**

## The Bat

The student publication of Paris Junior College since 1925

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### Cover Photo

Second semester students Sarah Wagner and Melissa Walden work on jewelry repair.

Photo by  
Colton Sanders

# Future jewelers study at PJC

AYLA WAQAR  
STAFF WRITER

Ulla Raus gets great pleasure from being part of PJC's Texas Institute of Jewelry Technology (TIJT). TIJT has a reputation of being one of the best in the nation.

"I enjoy every minute and watching students become better jewelers, it's very exciting for me," said Raus, Instructional Supervisor, Jewelry Technology.

Raus originally is from Bamberg, Germany, and left home at age 14 to Kaufbeuren-Neugablonz for jewelry making before moving to the United States.

"You start very young over there, but it's my passion," she said, "My parents picked my profession for me. It seemed I was doing better in art than say mathematics, and they thought what I could make a living out of; jewelry school seemed to make sense."



Ulla Raus

Raus, like all PJC jewelry instructors, is a Jeweler of America certified Master Bench Jeweler, the highest level of JA Bench Professional Certification. The United States has a total of 120 JA certified masteries and five of the instructors are at PJC.

The Jewelry Technology instructors are Shannon Calloway, Harrel Harrison, Serina Omori, and Anthony (Tony) Underwood. Frank Poye is the horology instructor, and Waylan "Butch" Munday teaches both jewelry and horology.



Colton Sanders/The Bat

**Third semester jewelry student, Maria Nelson assembles a ring before setting a stone.**

Raus has been at PJC for 27 years and has seen many students graduate over time. They come to PJC for various reasons.

"We have many older students, either retirees or others who come back to get retrained," said Raus. "Some come for more help for their business, but we get many straight out of high school."

Jewelry stores themselves often bring students to PJC.

"The young ones come because they are interested in how it's made; they give their mother a gift on Valentines Day, and ask the jewelers how it's made and become interested from there on," said Raus.

Kristin Saffel, who worked at a jewelry store in Shreveport, LA, was recommended to PJC by her boss, who also is a graduate from here.

"I like artsy things, but I never thought about this profession until my boss recommended it; it was a good fit though."

Raus said, "There was a girl who came from Colombia to be specially trained in Computer Aided Jewelry Design." CAD

is a newer technology that designs jewelry online, and carves wax from a mill that would usually take 10 hours by hand as opposed to a couple of hours from the machine.

"The machine pays for itself; the procedure is very precise and it makes our students more employable," said Raus.

From international to local students, places like Canada, South Korea, Japan, and Iran. Along with international students, PJC gets many students from all over the United States too. Places like Massachusetts, Minnesota, and California.

"Ever since the stricter laws with the Homeland Security Act, the number of international students has slowed down, and it's getting harder for students to come here, but we do have a student communicating from Iceland, who is thinking about transferring here," said Raus.

Even though there are fewer international students, "We still are a very diverse community," said Raus. "We get students all

**SEE JEWELRY PAGE 3.**

# Jewelers in the making



Colton Sanders/ The Bat

**Mitch Prescott, first semester student solders metal pieces. He is learning fabrication.**

Jewelry continued from page 2.

all over the United States, young and old. A lot of them come from the jewelry industry.”

The jewelry department consists of Gemology, Computer Aided Jewelry Design, and Horology.

The horology department, (watch making) of TIJT was

established in 1942, during World War II.

“A lot of students were coming back from war injured, and they were putting watch making in community colleges for people in wheel chairs,” said Raus. PJC is one of the few community colleges that still offers horology.



Colton Sanders/ The Bat

**Above, Cole Love works on complex soldering project.**



Colton Sanders/ The Bat

**Students work on computer aided design jewelry where they design three dimensional jewelry articles.**

The tuition rate for the TIJT is the same as for other PJC classes, with the same rates as other courses, with exceptions for per semester credit hour fees and extra lab fees. All students have to take an Accuplacer test and send in a transcript.

Many jewelry students get

job offers before they even graduate.

“Our students end up all over the United States in jewelry stores, manufacturing, or end up with their own business,” said Raus.

# Capitalizing on capitol experience

**PJC students visit Austin, meet with state representatives, learn how community colleges get funding, and stress the need for affordable college to the legislature**

A trip to Austin for Paris Junior College students to mark Community College Day got off to a great start Monday evening Feb. 4 as the group met PJC President Dr. Pamela Anglin to see the State Capitol Building lit up at night.

"They really enjoyed spending time with Dr. Anglin," said PJC Director of Student Life Kenneth Webb, "and the trip to the Capitol provided lessons they'll remember all their life."

Webb also is sponsor for the PJC Student Government Association.

Making the trip were PJC students Jerry House of Bogata; Carlee Bishop and Taylor Bigony of Greenville; Lucas Robertson and Rose Lindsey of Paris; Ruger Carstens of Quinlan; Jamie Williams of Roysce City; and Lynsee Parish of Yantis.

A very busy Tuesday began early with a meeting between the students and State Sen. Kevin Eltife's education aide. The students told their individual stories and stressed the importance of community colleges to Texas.

Next they attended a rally with about 1,500 students and college representatives.

Then they were off to meet with State Rep. Dan Flynn of Van just outside of House chambers as the Legislature was in session. After lunch, the students had a quick meeting with State Sen. Bob Deuell of Greenville and then went to a meeting with State Rep. George Lavender of Texarkana.

The Texas Association of Community Colleges and the Texas Junior College Student Government Association sponsors Community College Day. The event allows students to gain insights into the legislative process and meet with their representatives.

"I took government and thought they [legislators] had it easy and that's not the case," said Lindsey. "I learned how hard our state senators and representatives work. Rep. Lavender, especially, took an interest in us and every individual comment we made he took the time to give a thoughtful answer."



**Eight students from Paris Junior College attended Community College Day at the State Capitol in Austin on Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 4 and 5 and met with their legislative representatives to discuss funding and other issues. Shown from left are Lucas Robertson, PJC President Dr. Pamela Anglin, Jamie Williams, Taylor Bigony, Lynsee Parish, Jerry House, State Rep. Dan Flynn, Ruger Carstens, Rose Lindsey, Carlee Bishop and PJC Student Life Director Kenneth Webb.**

"My experience was great, everyone was very professional, and we had fun," said Williams. "I also learned that there are representatives and senators and clerks who specialize in college funding."

"The trip gave me a real sense of what Texas is about," said Robertson. "I never knew how simple it is to speak to your legislators."

Parish agreed: "It was my first trip to Austin, and I never knew how regular people could go to the Capitol and talk to their senators and representatives, and they'll actually listen to you. All the people we talked to were wonderful."

"I wasn't aware of the Conceal Carry Act that would allow handguns on campus," said Bishop. "I learned a lot and I think we accomplished quite a bit."

"It was cool meeting the people for our area and putting faces to names," said Bigony. "We got good information about how our government works."

"I had no idea of the size of the Capitol, with the two underground levels,

before this trip," said House. "We had productive meetings that put a face on the legislators' constituents in college."

"The first hand look into the political process that we received was immensely educational," said Carstens. "It was quite fulfilling to know that my words, and the words of my fellow students, could potentially have an effect on the decisions that will be made regarding community college funding. I am thankful to have been chosen to represent Paris Junior College. The school has given me so much, and it was an honor to be able to speak on its behalf."

"Taking PJC students to talk to legislators during each session is very effective in our lobbying efforts," said Dr. Anglin. "Legislators can hear first hand what PJC being affordable and accessible means to students."

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## PJC celebrates Black History Month

The African American Student Union of PJC celebrated Black History Month Feb. 27 in the Math / Science Building. There was poetry, singing, dancing, a reading and other events open to students and the community.



Courtesy Photo

Above: AASU member Heather Rowe practices reciting a short, but powerful poem.

Below: Devin Childs and Flavia Taylor perform dance routine.



Colton Sanders / The Bat

# Cyrano!

*Poet! Soldier!  
Philosopher!  
Musician!*



ABOVE: During rehearsal, Roxane, played by Collins is wooed by Cyrano, played by Naron who pretends to be Christian, played by Calhoun.

RIGHT: Roxane pleads with Christian to express his love for her, poetically.

BELOW: Cyrano walks among his fellow soldiers.



Photos by Colton Sanders / The Bat

Cyrano de Bergerac opens at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28 in the Ray Karrer Theater on the Paris campus under the direction of drama instructor Alex Peevy.

The production runs through Sunday, March 3. It starts at 7 p.m. Thursday-Friday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

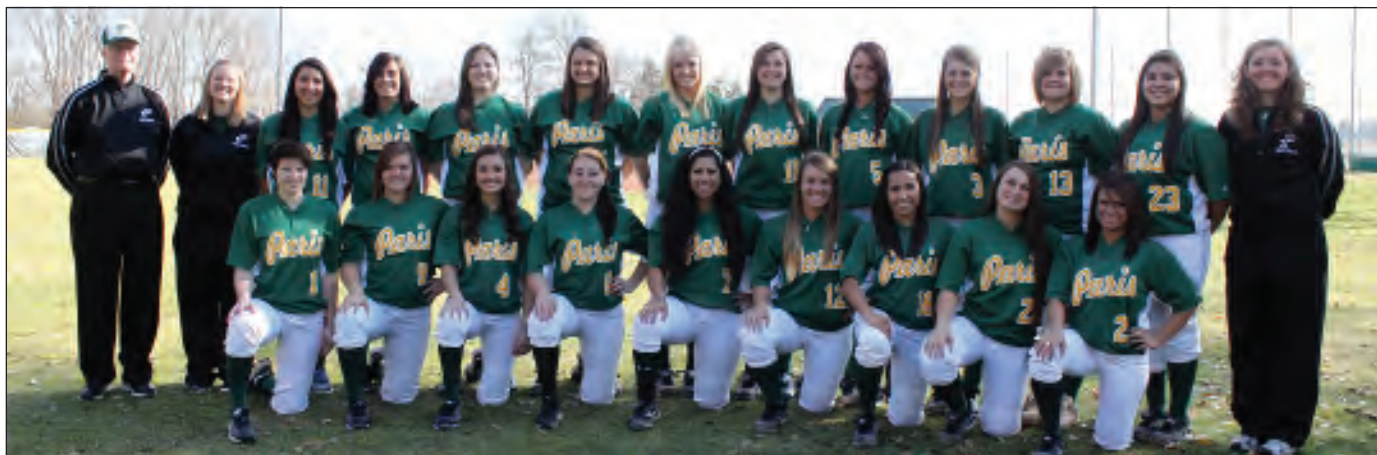
Admission is \$5 but students are admitted for free with a student ID. To reserve tickets in advance or for more information, call 903-782-0488.

"This is a fun, classical and lighthearted love story with a little tragedy," said Kevin Calhoun, who plays Christian. "You'll come, you'll laugh. Christian is a guy searching for love and he falls into a game."

The cast of Cyrano is: Katrina Bishop, Ryan Box, Roger Bridges, Kevin Calhoun, Paige Collins, Kathryn Comer, Justin Cox, Shelby Gilliam, Austen Naron, Lucas Robertson, Taren Sartor, and Derick Waugh.

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Courtesy Photo

From left, front, Kristin Henry, Samantha Goines, Erin Ross, Jaime Godwin, Audrey Farfan, Ali Hargis, Clarissa Garcia, Katlyn Bardwell, Jessica Branam. From left, back, Volunteer assistant Jack Butler, Assistant coach Chelsey Jordan, Samantha Reynoso, Dara Hendon, Sara Smeltzer, Katlin Alexander, Chancy Williams, Sarah Gregori, Emilee Reed, Chelsea Jordan, Samantha Kennedy, Alexia Padilla, Coach Nicole Dickson.

## Lady Dragons motto: 'Work hard, play hard'

**BO PRUITT**  
STAFF WRITER

The Spring 2013 softball season for PJC has arrived with potential of going to the next level in conference play. The Lady Dragon softball team has shown talent, will, and determination with the help of first year Head Coach Nicole Dickson.

The team's motto is "Work hard, Play hard."

The Lady Dragons hold a record currently of 10-6 and on Feb. 16, won The Carl Albert Tournament in Poteau, OK.

With a total of 96 runs scored, the Lady Dragons have only allowed 45 runs from their opponents.

The team's only four pitchers are freshman led by Chancy Williams with 6 wins and 3 losses and a 3.19 ERA.

"I'm excited to have a team that works hard and tries to get better," said Dickson. "They've improved a lot."

The team regularly works out by running sprints and lifting weights to get stronger.

The result is home run power throughout the Lady Dragons lineup. The team concentrates on hitting and has combined a total of 11 homeruns to date. Sophomore Emilee Reed has a .567 batting avg. with two home runs and 17 RBIs. Dara Hendon has stolen nine bases and bats a .431 average.

Returning sophomore Audrey Farfan led the 2012 conference season with six home runs and a slugging average of .636.

Although the team consists of both Texas and Oklahoma natives, Sara Gregori is a freshman from Riverside, CA. Coach Dickson recruits from around the country to find talented

women to join the Lady Dragons softball team.

Each summer Dickson goes to tournaments where hundreds of teams compete, to find individuals such as Gregori to whom they offer scholarships. California doesn't offer athletic scholarships for junior colleges, and that's one state Dickson looks for talent.

The majority of the games are played away from Paris, which has brought the team closer to one another since they must travel.

"We have good team chemistry; they're good people with good characters and good morals," Dickson said.

Some goals the Lady Dragons are looking to achieve, include: to have a 3.45 GPA as a team, have the best pitching staff ERA, to have the highest team batting average in conference, and to win conference as a whole.

With two weeks left of preparation before conference play, the coaching staff expects to win and would prefer no other way.

There have been recent injuries on the team, but Dickson said, "That's opportunity for other players to step up and take advantage."

"There are a lot of sacrifices the team has to make, but it's definitely worth it if you're here for the right reasons," said Dickson.

The Lady Dragons start their conference season March 16 in Bossier City, LA, but will have their first home game March 18 against Rose State at 1 p.m. at Love Civic Center fields. Fans are welcome to attend, to support the Dragons on a journey to a winning season.

# What my phone says about me

Kelsei Ewings, basketball player at PJC, gives us a tour of her iPhone.



### GroupMe

App used to talk to my family together or for Bible study sessions I have with my friend.



### Facebook

I just use it for social purposes. Post pictures, all that.



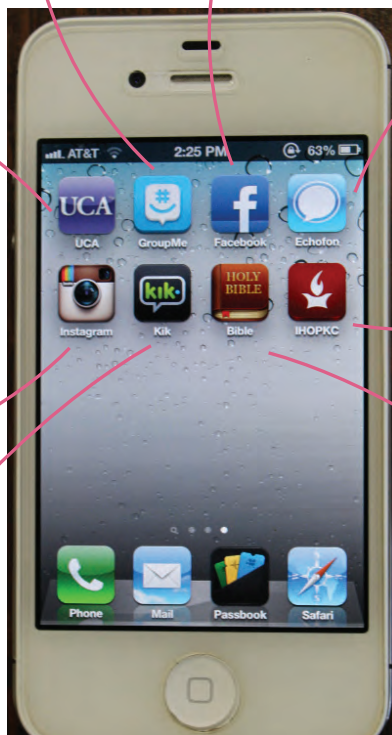
### Ecophon

It's my Twitter app. I use it for social purposes. I think it's better than the Twitter app because it changes the color of my background and it updates faster.



### UCA

The school I'm going to next (University of Central Arkansas). I like to keep in touch with them and keep track of women's basketball games.



### IHOPKC

I use it for midnight services. 24 hour pray room and I will listen to prayers and worship sessions.



### Instagram

I use it for social purposes. I like photography, so I'm on it more than I am on any of them.



### Kik

For my friends that can't see my messages from my iPhone, I Kik message them.



### Bible App

If I don't have my Bible in hand, I just use my Bible app. For better understanding, it has different versions of the Bible.

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