

# The Bat



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

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# Dragon Power

**SOFTBALL &  
BASEBALL**

*Schedule of upcoming  
games for both teams*

**SOCCER**

*New sport to bring in new  
students and diversify  
student body*

**FAN VS. NON-FAN**

*A look at sports from two  
perspectives*



## The Bat

The student  
publication of  
Paris Junior College

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### Cover Photo

Number 22, Ladon Carnegie going for the ball against a Navarro player. 56-54 in favor of the Dragons. Cover Photo by Christina Gunlock

# Dragons go for the trophy!

ALEXANDER THOMAS  
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

The PJC men's basketball team has had a good season. They are going on to Regionals, which are being held March 8-11 in Tyler. The winner will advance to the NJCAA National Tournament. This is where The Dragons are looking to bring home another championship. They won the National Championship in 2005.

"We made it," said Chuck Taylor, head coach of the PJC men's basketball team.

PJC is ranked number one in the North Zone conference but to secure that spot they will need to beat Trinity Valley.

"We have been doing a lot of practicing and shooting," said Landon Carnegie, number 22 from the Dragons. "Right now we are just taking it one step at a time; got to win these next games; we are going to come out hooping."

"We practice hard," said Morris Mitchell, manager of the Dragons. "Our hardest games were Blinn, Lon Morris, and Navarro."

The Dragons are number 14 in the region and have two regional titles, according to NJCAA.com, with 20 wins, five losses and one cancel, it has been a solid year for the Dragons.

"We are staying focused," said number 13, Kendrick Fugett.

The Dragons winning the



Kaitlyn Skidmore/ The Bat

**Number 24, Phil Hawkins, taking a shot from the two point line while number 32, Cornelius Cammack, looks on.**

conference championship would be a huge thing for the Paris community, giving PJC bragging rights until this time next year.

"It would mean a lot for the simple fact that we have 14 new players," said Taylor. These new players are all sophomores who were honored in the Wednesday night game, which was in progress during press time.

They were honored, "to let them know how much we appreciate them," said Taylor.

Fans are excited about how far the team has come and how good their season has been.

"Trinity Valley always has size, always has speed, and always has shooters," said

Montario Earls, a sophomore fan on the Paris campus.

"The team has a lot of heart, I feel emotionally attached to them," said Tracy Scott, Director of Student Activities and a fan of the Dragons.

"The number one seed means everything in the tournament; I feel like the way the team carries themselves says a lot about their unit, they have good communication. They are humble, they talk to everyone. How they act in school is the same way they act on the court. It says a lot about the way they were raised," said John Demand, a freshman fan on the Paris campus.

# Soccer comes to PJC

**CHRISTINA GUNLOCK**  
EDITOR

Come fall 2012, PJC will kick off a new period of PJC sports history with the addition of soccer.

February 27, the PJC Board of Regents unanimously approved adding men's and women's soccer to the Athletic Department.

When looking to add another sport, many community colleges choose soccer, says PJC President Dr. Pam Anglin.

"It has become more popular the last five to seven years," she says.

Soccer will bring increased enrollment to PJC, says Anglin. Hopefully that will increase the number of students living on campus and help the

involvement in student activities and the community.

According to a January 27 article in *The Paris News*, Jeremy Beshirs, Paris High's boys head coach, says "Obviously, the biggest thing in all this is to get your degree. Soccer is a bonus. If you can do both, that's a plus. Getting kids to go to college in this area is going to help both them and the college."

"It will diversify the student body even more," says Anglin.

The idea was first broached two years ago when the community began asking the board and Anglin what would become of Noyes Stadium. The stadium was used by Paris High School until their new stadium, Wildcat Stadium, was built.

The board asked Anglin to create a proposal outlining potential costs, possible levels of competition, and colleges PJC would compete against. The idea was tabled until this year.

Following spring break, Anglin and Sean LeBeauf, PJC's Athletic Director and women's basketball coach, will sit down and discuss the logistics, then divide up the steps.

Anglin says they will figure out what will need to be done to Noyes Stadium and plan renovations with the head of the maintenance department.

As for the coaching staff for soccer, PJC will begin advertising near the end of March.

The coaching might be divided into two part-time positions or one full time position depending on the person's

qualifications.

If someone can coach and teach a class, such as math or English, a full time position would be a possibility, explains Anglin.

PJC would compete in Division I in both men's and women's soccer. The season would run through the fall semester until November.

The teams would compete against other Division I teams, such as Northeast Texas Community College, Lon Morris and Tyler Junior College.

The first teams will be recruited from area high schools before graduation and from try-outs.

The college foundation has authorized up to 18 partial scholarships available to soccer athletes.

## Mr. and Miss PJC 2012 Nominees



**Demarcus Richardson, and Morgan Kilgore** were crowned Mr. and Miss PJC during half time of the men's basketball game last night at the Hunt Center. Pictured are all the nominees for Mr. and Miss PJC, from left: (seated) Lauren Pyka, Kilgore, Stephanie Goudy, Christina Gunlock, (standing) Richardson and Garrett Killgore. Individuals are Jacob Allen (top, left) and J.D. Allison (top, right).

Courtesy Photos

# PJC Dragons up to bat



Kaitlyn Skidmore/The Bat

The PJC Lady Dragon’s Softball team practices on the baseball field by the Paris Civic Center last Wednesday.

## Men’s Baseball Schedule

## Women’s Softball Schedule

March 3	Bossier Parish	Game 1: Noon
	Bossier City, La	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.
March 7	Panola College	Game 1: Noon
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.
March 10	Navarro College	Game 1: Noon
	Corsicana, TX	Game 2 : 7/9 p.m.
March 12	Central Lake College	Game 1: Noon
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 1/9 p.m.
March 17	Lon Morris College	Game 1: Noon
	Jacksonville TX	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.
March 19	Eastfield College	Game 1: 3 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 1/9 p.m.
March 21	Texarkana College	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.
March 24	NCTC	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.
March 28	Bossier Parish	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 7/9 p.m.

March 2-4	Region 14 Crossover	TBA
	Longview, TX	
March 7	Trinity Valley CC	Game 1: 2 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 4 p.m.
March 10	Lon Morris College	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Jacksonville, TX	Game 2 : 3 p.m.
March 15	Murray State	Game 1: Noon
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 2 p.m.
March 16	Navarro College	Game 1: Noon
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 2 p.m.
March 17	Texarkana College	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Paris TX	Game 2: 3 p.m.
March 19	Hill College	Game 1: 1 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 3 p.m.
March 21	Trinity Valley CC	Game 1: 2 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 4 p.m.
March 24	Bossier Parish CC	Game 1: 2 p.m.
	Paris, TX	Game 2: 4 p.m.
March 28	NTCC	Game 1: 2 p.m.
	Mt. Pleasant, TX	Game 2: 4 p.m.



# MY TOWN

**KAITLYN SKIDMORE**  
STAFF WRITER

*Philip (Phil) Hawkins, sophomore engineering major at PJC, describes life in Washington D.C. as a lot colder and snowier version of Paris, with a few differences in culture and food. Phil is number 24 on the PJC Dragons basketball team. Even though he stands at 6 foot, his game matches up to players taller than he is.*



Kaitlyn Skidmore/ The Bat

**Phil Hawkins, number 24, during the February 22 game.**

**What is D.C. known for?** Obviously, the White House.

**What is your earliest memory in D.C.?** Going to the White House when I was seven; I was in a raffle drawing in elementary school and the top five students got to go.

**What are your favorite hangouts, or places to go, in or around D.C.?**

Georgetown; you can shop and just hang out there.

**What is everyday life in D.C. like?** About the same as it is here: get up and go play basketball.

**What one word would you use to describe D.C.?** Different. In D.C. there is more of a mixture of things. Here there is mainly Mexican food. Well, there are all kinds of food and culture in D.C.

**Is there anything famous or infamous about**

**D.C.?** Famous restaurant Ben's Chili Bowl. They serve chili and soul food.

**What are your favorite activities?** I enjoy playing basketball and just hanging out.

**Do you ever return there?** Over the holidays.

**Why did you choose to attend college at PJC?** Wanted to get away to something different.

**Where are you headed after PJC?** Not sure yet.

**Where do you see yourself in five years?** I hope to be successful, but I guess that is what everyone wants.

**What is successful to you?** Being able to do things for myself and keep my family happy.

**Are there any special holidays in D.C.?** No special holidays we just celebrate President's Day more than here; some people even have cookouts.

**What is the one thing you miss most about D.C.?** There is more going on there and more things to do.

**What do you wish other people knew about D.C.?**

It's a cool place to just go and relax. It is not all busy like most would think.

**How did you end up living in D.C.?** I was born and raised there.

**Would you ever move back to D.C.?** Definitely. It's where I am from; it is where my family is.

**What is a unique story you have about living in D.C.?** 9/11 was crazy. I remember the whole town shutting down. I was 10 and remember school getting canceled. I did not realize the impact at the time but I remember teacher saying, "Remember this day; it will become an infamous day that will affect America forever."

# Dragon



# Puffs

## Back-To-School Bingo

Student Activities is hosting a back-to-school bingo night after spring break, March 20 at 8 p.m., in the PJC ballroom.

## Movie Night on the Lawn

There will be a movie showing on the field next to the library, March 27 at 9 p.m.

## Second Half of Loan

The second half of the loan will be mailed for students who get it on March 29.

## "Tom, Dick and Harry"

The PJC drama department will be presenting the play, by Ray Cooney and Michael Cooney, March 2 - March 3 at 7 p.m., and March 3 - March 4 at 2 p.m., in the Ray Karrer theatre. For reservations or performance information, call 903-782-0488.

## Spring Graduation

Applications for Spring graduation are due by 5 p.m. March 2 in the Registrar's Office.

## Lady Dragons play Kilgore

Lady Dragons will play at Kilgore, Tx. on March 3 at 6 p.m.

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# Sports Non-Fan vs The Fan

**BARBARA TORRES**  
STAFF WRITER

It is that time of year, and baseball and softball seasons are here. There are many sports fans around campus, but not everyone is a baseball or softball fan.

Personally, I am not a big baseball fan. It may be because I don't really understand it; yet again I have never really tried. I find it kind of boring, because I feel like there is not enough action, but I would like to learn a bit more about it. I enjoy going to the batting cages and hitting some softballs, but I don't really know much about a real game.

The Dragons played a double header with the Lon Morris College Bearcats on Wednesday, Feb. 22, and the Dragons won both games 8-1 and 13-3. At the game, I found another Paris Junior College student who is also not very interested in the sport of baseball, but he was there to support a friend.

"I am not a big baseball fan because it is a very boring sport. I'm also left handed; when I tried to play baseball I would get hit by the ball," says Stoney Lynn.

"If they're as good as our basketball or volleyball team, then they should be set. I believe in the PJC's coaching staff, yet again this is my first baseball game to attend so I don't really know," says Lynn.

The baseball team has fans, other than the players' parents. Not only were there students supporting the Dragons, but there were also some of the PJC staff at the game. If the schedules were different, the Dragons would probably have more people supporting them. Afternoon games are hard to attend for students who work.

The men seem to be in shape and ready to play ball. At the game they all seemed to have a good teamwork skill, which makes a stronger team. They seem to enjoy this great American sport.

Whether you are a baseball fan or not, there is always something about the game that people enjoy. "I like any of the larger events, like going to watch the Rangers, because they serve alcohol," says Lynn, laughing.



Kaitlyn Skidmore/ The Bat

**Barbara Torres and Christina Gunlock**

**CHRISTINA GUNLOCK**  
EDITOR

I am a beginning basketball fan. I am not a fanatic who watches the games religiously or collects everything with their team's logo, but each season I am a little more on fire. As a relatively new fan, (I have only become interested in the sport in the last two years) I still have a lot to learn. I follow two teams; PJC's Dragons and the Dallas Mavericks.

Attending a Dragon's home game last week reminded me why I became a fan. It is all about the experience, from the moment I enter the gym (free courtesy of a PJC Student I.D.) to the last buzzer. The game is fast-paced, and the leaders change frequently. You cannot hear a cell phone ring over the crowd.

I try to keep up with the action as my camera clicks away. Basketball provides wonderful opportunities for photography; you never know what you will capture next.

Every once in a while, I pause and yell along with everyone else. Even though my heart is racing, I still have to hold still to get the best shots on the court.

Cheerleaders and sound bites amp up the crowds. Everyone is caught up in the fervor. People clap and stomp their feet while shouting a running commentary. "Come on!" or "Haha, look at that boy!" are heard frequently. The majority of the crowd is PJC fans, with gold and green dotting the crowd on both sides of the court.

When the Dragons win 56-54, the crowd floods on to the court, cheering.

I first began watching basketball on the TV with my grandparents. We would settle into our spots on the couch eating ice cream as we watched the Mavericks play. We would yell at the TV, encouraging Dirk or Jason Terry.

Occasionally, my aunts and uncles would join us, crowding into my grandparents' theater room to watch the game. I cherish those memories built around watching the games and hope to create many more.

Someday, I want to attend a Mavericks game live, to hear the massive crowds, eat food priced way too high and see the giant men play the game.

With the basketball season pretty much over, there are not many more opportunities to watch a game. However, PJC has several sports, such as softball, baseball, and golf. Take the time to go watch a game; who knows, you too might become a fan.

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