

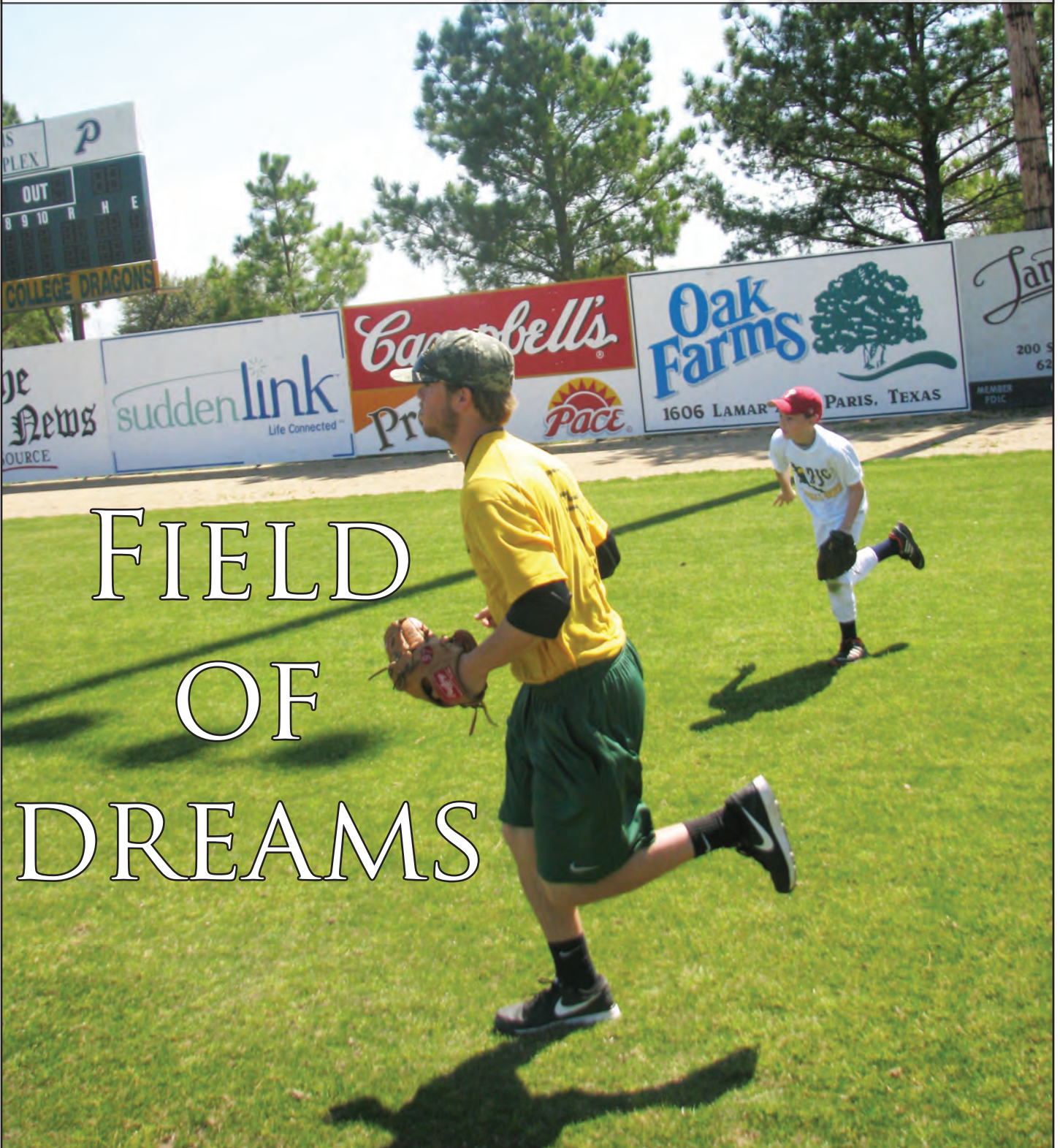
The Bat



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FIELD OF DREAMS

The Bat

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Cover Photo

Alex Bruu and a camper run to the dug out for a water break during a day-long youth baseball camp hosted by Paris Junior College.

Photo by
Bo Pruitt

Camping on the diamond

Bo PRUITT
STAFF WRITER

Elementary and middle school students from Paris and surrounding areas shared the Hub Hollis Field baseball diamond with both players and coaches from the PJC Dragon baseball team on March 16.

About 40 young players, ranging from ages 7 to 14, took part in the PJC Spring Break Baseball Camp led by Head Coach Deron Clark.

“The event was a huge success,” said Coach Clark.

Although the weather lately has been cold and wintery, the weather was just right for the camp. As the parents sat and observed activities on the field, the warm spring breeze provided a comfortable environment to watch their kids enjoy themselves.

A parent/spectator, Cory Woods said, “My son had a wonderful time.”

The PJC baseball team provided training and intense instructions in the mechanics

of hitting, pitching, fielding, throwing, sliding and base running which were all a part of the teachings throughout the day.

PJC players were assigned according to their current positions to particular groups of youngsters. Outfielders assisted the youths in learning to avoid collisions during a fly ball by coaching them to yell, “ball, ball, ball.” Pitchers instructed the campers on proper footing when throwing from a pitcher’s

mound, and the team as a whole demonstrated the proper way to swing a bat.

PJC used the day’s events to practice for upcoming games, where their conference record stands at 9 wins and 5 losses. With 18 more games to play, the Dragons can rally to a conference championship with the determination of Clark who has appeared in four Regional Tournaments.



Bo Pruitt/ The Bat

PJC baseball players Alex Bruu and Brad McDonald practice catching pop flies with children.



Bo Pruitt/ The Bat

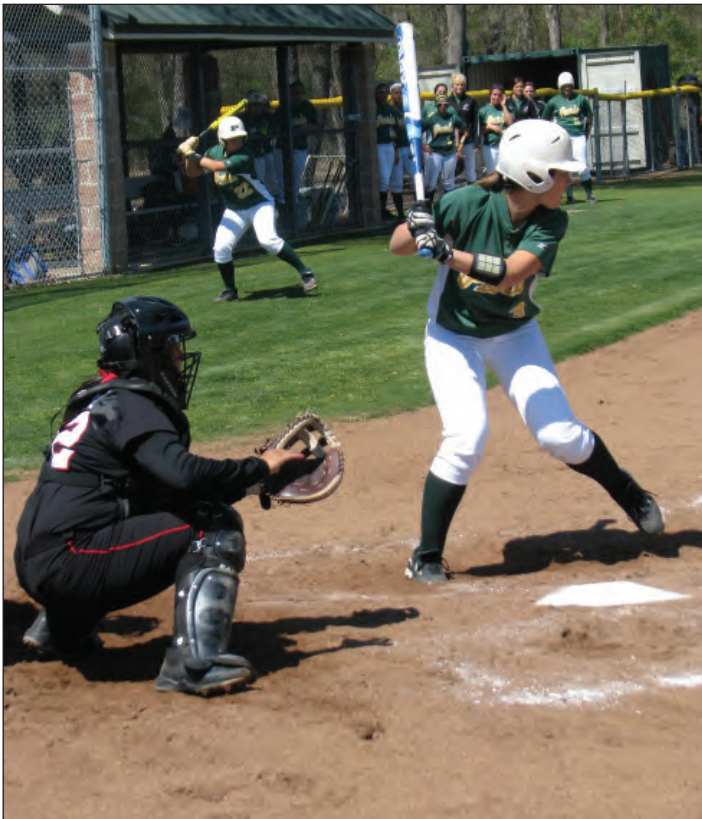
Mitchell Bro lends his advice to some campers on how to properly throw a pitch.



Bo Pruitt/ The Bat

Little campers practice pitching.

Lady Dragons beat Navarro 2-0



Bo Pruitt/The Bat
Chelsea Jordan awaits a pitch from Navarro during the game Wednesday.



Bo Pruitt/The Bat
Players high-five as they run out to left field in celebration after winning the game.



Bo Pruitt/The Bat
Fans watch the Lady Dragons defeat Navarro College 2-0 on Wednesday, March 27.

Stats show Dragons at best

BO PRUITT
STAFF WRITER

With the baseball diamond constantly in use, it is apparent there's talent on the PJC Dragons Baseball team.

As of March 24, Maury Salinger, a baseball statistician for the NJCAA Region XIV Conference, showed PJC has the best team hitting average with a .317 avg. Three of the players are ranked in the Top 10: G.R. Hinsley, Blake Johnson and Chase Harvey are No. 1, 4 and 7 respectfully.

Hinsley has been up to the plate 109 times and has hit the ball 52 of those 109, giving him an outstanding overall average of .477. The team has a combined total of ten home runs with seven of those contributed by Hinsley.

The Dragons are also equipped with one of the best pitchers in the conference; Mitchell Bro. Bro has an ERA of 2.51 and is ranked fourth in conference followed by his teammates Heston Van Fleet with a 3.65 ERA and Hobie Harris who has pitched a 3.76 ERA thus far. There have been 145 strikeouts for the Dragons and more are sure to come.

Remaining games of Dragons' schedule

3/29	Panola College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/1	Eastfield College	Paris, TX	3 p.m. (1x9)
4/3	Navarro College	Corsicana, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/13	Angelina College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/15	Richland College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (1x9)
4/17	NTCC	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/20	Bossier Parish	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/24	Panola College	Carthage, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)
4/27	Navarro College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7&9)

BOLD denotes East Conference game.

Speed is another factor that has brought the Dragon's success this year. The team as a whole has stolen 43 bases on opponents, and out of the total bases stolen, 23 were credited by three of the PJC players. Travis Lee has stolen 9, Ryan Fickel, 7 and Hinsley also 7.

The Dragons are ready to play against any opponent and the leadership that the group shows

has spoken for itself when the 2013 Region XIV conference stats were released.

Hub Hollis Field will welcome anyone coming out to support the Dragons. The next home game will be on Friday, March 29 at 1 p.m. The Dragons have a conference record of 10-6 and are looking to improve with home field advantage over the next few weeks.

Golf team ranked 7th in the nation

In the latest National Junior College Athletic Association Division I golf poll, Paris Junior College ranked seventh in the nation with 58 points. First and second ranking went to Odessa College and McLennan Community College with 98 and 92 points, respectively.

The PJC Dragons also made a second-place showing in the District II Preview held March 10-12 in Dennis, Texas.

"We didn't get many putts to fall on the first day," said PJC Golf Coach Dave Johnson. "The second day we had the low team score with 291, and the low

individual score of 71 was posted by Zac Oliver. Overall, I thought we played well and made good decisions," Coach Johnson said.

- COURTESY OF PJC PUBLIC INFORMATION
OFFICE

Five PJC Dragons basketball players receive regional NJCAA honors

The National Junior College Athletic Association's Region XIV recently honored five members of the Paris Junior College men's basketball team.

Sophomore Anthony Adams of Pontiac, Mich., was named to the All Region XIV Second Team as well as All Conference North Zone First Team.

"I'm really proud of him," said PJC basketball coach Chuck Taylor. "This is a great accomplishment for him. Obviously, he was our team leader this year; he led us in points, assists, and steals. Without a shadow of a doubt I feel he was one of the best players in the league and the coaches have confirmed what I already knew with this tremendous honor. He's been really fun to watch these past two years. It will be really tough replacing him."

Sophomore Eddie Leal from Dallas, Texas, made All Conference North Zone Second Team.

"Eddie is a terrific young man who had a phenomenal year and his best basketball is ahead of him," said Coach Taylor. "I'm really proud of the effort and energy he put



Courtesy Photo

Shown from the left are: freshman Delvin Dickerson of Houston; sophomore Eddie Leal of Dallas; PJC Basketball Coach Chuck Taylor; sophomore Anthony Adams on Pontiac, Michigan; sophomore Mike Harmon of Houston; and Antonio Arnold of McKinney.

in the season both on and off the court. This is just a small indication of how hard work pays off."

Freshman Delvin Dickerson of Houston, was named Third Team All Conference North Zone.

"Delvin had a phenomenal freshman year," said Coach Taylor. "He matured a great

deal in a short time. I'm looking for bigger and better things from him in the future and am very proud of his efforts."

Sophomores Mike Harmon of Houston and Antonio Arnold of McKinney, received All Conference North Zone Honorable Mention.

Harmon is second on the team in three-point and free-

throw percentage. He had a two game stretch where he made 13 three pointers. Harmon has been with the team two years. Taylor said Harmon's best basketball is ahead of him.

- COURTESY PJC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Courtesy Photo

Kelsei Ewings, Voché Martin

Basketball players regionally recognized by NJCAA

The National Junior College Athletic Association's Region XIV honored two players from the Paris Junior College women's basketball team.

Voché Martin, a sophomore from Desoto, was named to the All-Region Team.

"I want to congratulate her on being named to the All-Region Team," said PJC Women's Basketball Coach Sean LeB-

eauf. "Despite a slow start to her season, she began to figure things out and once her effort and energy changed, so did the results. That culminated in her selection to the All-Region team in one of the top conferences in the country."

Kelsei Ewings, a sophomore from West Point, Miss., received Honorable Mention.

"This was a well-deserved honor," said LeBeauf, "because she came out every day with the attitude and focus of trying to be better. With her humble spirit she has a chance to make more strides forward as far as her game."

- COURTESY PJC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

DRAGON



PUFFS

Applying for Graduation

All students who wish to walk across the stage at commencement May 10 must turn in the proper information no later than April 1.

More details can be found by going to the PJC website, www.parisjc.edu, clicking through to the A-Z Links, and then scrolling down to Graduation Information.

Grow Compassion

The Blend Club has invited Indian guest speaker, Jai Siddahtama to speak about compassion Thursday, April 11 from 12:15 to 1 p.m. in the Math and Science building Room 102. Students, staff, faculty, and all community members are invited. Contact Kelli Ebel at 903-782-0312 for more details.

Last Day To Drop

The last day to drop with a "W" is Thursday, April 11. Drop forms can be picked up from Student Records.

Creative Writing Awards

The awards ceremony for the annual Creative Writing Contest is 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17 in the Student Center Ballroom on the Paris campus.

Furr-tastic!!!

AYLA WAQAR
STAFF WRITER

You might have seen students walking around campus with what appears to be tails and paws.

They are not just trying to make a fashion statement; their accessories have a deeper meaning. Costumes are based in "anime style." Anime is Japanese animation, that has formed a sub-culture that has been around for decades.

Along with physical costumes, hand-drawn and computer animated anime also is inspired by movies, television series, video games, and comic books.

There are many anime fans around the world along with a few fans right here at PJC.

"It balances my spiritual energy," said Troy Jones, who wears a bright lime-green colored tail and gloves.

His accessories are inspired by a mountain lion.

"It's a style of art; they are called "furries," said

Jones. "Some people channel the animal spirits and give the animal human-like characteristics. It's hard to explain to people; they have to understand the history of anime and that it's simply another form of art."

Another anime fan, Dominic Jamin, channels a more realistic fur tail, half-fox and half-wolf.

"I could not choose between the two," he says. "The wolf represents power and speed, and the fox represents cunningness and also speed."

Jamin was always a fan of anime art, but became interested in furies when he went to A-Kon (anime convention), where many furry fans come and show their fursuits (animal costumes).

Emily McDaniel also wears exotic tails and accessories.

"I do it for fun; it puts a smile on people's faces, especially little kids," she said. "I think it's important to be different and a little quirky."

Some make their own fursuits and others purchase them from online websites



Colton Sanders / The Bat

Above, Troy Jones poses with his bright green tail and paw accessories. Background, Dominic Jamin poses with his realistic looking fox-wolf tail.

and conventions.

Fursuits are worn during conventions, furry parades, and fundraiser events. Many fundraisers support animal rescue charities. The A-Kon conventions are held every year from May 31 to June 2 at The Hilton Anatole Dallas.



Colton Sanders / The Bat

Emily McDaniel, Spanish Instructor Kelli Ebel, and Hillary Pearce of The Blend, prepare clues and locations for their first "Kindness Scavenger Hunt," the latest event in a series of The Blend sponsored awareness events.

Promoting togetherness, growing compassion

The Blend Club held a Kindness Scavenger Hunt Thursday, March 21. The prize was a pizza party and a film with The Blend, where the winners were invited.

"The clues were crafty, and it was very enjoyable! We look forward to the next one," said Kaytlyn Sims, who won the hunt with Edward Kelley.

The scavenger hunt brings the campus together. "PJC is growing in a positive way, and The Blend is promoting togetherness," said Kelli Ebel, Spanish Instructor and The Blend Club sponsor.

PJC offers new kinesiology courses

COLTON SANDERS
STAFF WRITER

This semester Paris Junior College welcomed more than just the gem that is the new Math & Science Building. PJC has also acquired, under the direction of PJC President Dr. Pamela Anglin, a fitness center, just a moment's drive away from the Paris Campus.

The Paris Junior College Recreational Center sits at 905 E. Austin Street and is formerly known as AeroFit to most Paris residents. The facility offers a potentially wide range of opportunities for the college.

During the spring semester, credit courses in weight training and aerobics have been offered, as well as a Continuing Education course in swimming.

However, the Rec Center is a big building, and the few new courses offered this semester are just a preview for what is to come. With the right amount of student support and a healthy amount of admin-



Colton Sanders / The Bat

The PJC Rec Center is located at 905 E. Austin Street. Both new credit and Continuing courses, such as raquetball and aqua aerobics will be offered beginning with the Summer I semester.

istrative ingenuity, the new Rec Center will house credit courses like raquetball, aqua aerobics, and swimming starting in the Summer I Semester.

PJC also hopes to add a yoga class to the schedule for the 2013 Fall Semester.

Continuing Education will also offer the courses Low-Im-

pact Aerobics and Swimming starting Tuesday, April 2. For more information on continuing education, go to www.parisjc.edu/ce

Students to produce “Taming of the Shrew”

The first ever PJC drama production produced entirely by students will show at 7:30 p.m. April 5 and 6 in the Ray Karrer Theatre.

“This is history in the making,” says student Justin Cox, director of the play, of the first production handled solely by students.

“Taming of the Shrew” is a comedy written by William Shakespeare. It is a story of vulgar, rivaling wit, conspiring suitors, and an atypical romance.

Advertising is being handled by Production Manager Lucas Robertson, Kevin Calhoun is the Tech Director and Stage Manager, and Kaytlyn Sims is in charge of Costumes and Make-up.

The production stars Paige Collins as Katharina, Kathryn Comer as Bianca, and Taren Sartor as Petruchio.

Admission is \$5, and is free for PJC students who bring their student ID.

6th Annual Student Showcase set April 26, 27

Paris Junior College’s Music and Drama Departments, working together in collaboration, holds their sixth annual student showcase Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 in

the Ray Karrer Theatre.

The Student Showcase is a series of scenes from the world stage, including bits of traditional theatre and numbers from musical theatre.

The showcase also features dancing and professional choreography, by an industry professional brought in specifically for the showcase.

“We do this to give our

kids the chance to work with professionals,” said Drama Instructor William Walker.

The event will be free to the public.

MEET MARIANA

Class of 2013



SCAN THIS QR CODE To learn more about Mariana, watch her video profile and learn how Texas A&M University-Commerce can change your future.

Mariana, a native of Mexico and mother of four, came to A&M-Commerce to pursue a career in bilingual education, something that wouldn't be possible if it weren't for a group of alumni who took the time to teach her English.

"Wow, my life has changed so much after coming to A&M-Commerce," she said. "I have grown as a person, as a woman, as a mom, and as a citizen. I am really glad I decided to get involved with university life."

A Stars on the Rise scholarship recipient, Mariana is excited to work in elementary education helping to bridge the gap between Hispanic families and American schools. She also hopes to pursue a master's degree in Spanish so she can teach and share her knowledge with others.

When she's not in class, Mariana enjoys volunteering with the Office of Hispanic Outreach and unwinding at the Morris Recreation Center.

"The university staff has been so helpful with studying, scholarships and showing me opportunities to get involved," she said. "I really love being an A&M-Commerce student."

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