



"The Friendliest College In The South"

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## AASU celebrates black history

TERENCE TRAMMELL  
Staff Writer

When most people think of February, the first thought that comes to mind is Valentine's Day, but the African American community has chosen this month to reflect on and remember its heritage and ancestors and to celebrate achievements of the black community.

"Black History Month is a time to remember all the black people like Martin Luther King Jr., and Rosa Parks, and what they have done for our community today to help us be equal and to get into school," said Chris Bonner president of the African American Student Union.

This year, the AASU is to perform a play by Thomas Meloncon. The play is "Ain't Nothing Wrong With a Gizzard Sandwich," which was written in 1991. The story is based on a poor black family living in poverty-stricken Dippity Doo, La.

"The play is still in its production phase. It will be ready towards the end of the month," said Kenneth Webb, director of Student Life and adviser of the AASU. "To me, Black History Month is every month and we should all be proud of our heritage and who we are."

Carter G. Woodson was the first to organize a black history celebration in 1926, though, then it was called "Negro History Week;" it was later expanded into Black History Month in 1976.

"Black History Month means a lot to me because it gives me a chance to remember all the great black people," said Terrace Bonner, vice-president of the AASU.

The entire PJC community is invited to this free event. Announcements will be posted soon.



Stephanie Norman/The BAT

**President of AASU Chris Bonner, AASU Adviser Kenneth Webb and AASU Vice-President Terrece Bonner are planning a play performance to celebrate Black History Month.**

## Drama students perform play for first time at PJC

STEPHANIE NORMAN  
Editor

The drama department presents "Baby with the Bathwater." The play, written by Christopher Durang, is scheduled to premier at 7 p.m. Feb. 26 and 27. It is set to show again at 7 p.m. March 5 and 6, and at 2 p.m. March 7. All shows will be at Ray Karrer Theatre in the Administration Building at PJC.

"Christopher Durang is one of the most influential playwrights today and he is one of the funniest alive today," said drama instructor William Walker.

General Admission is \$5 for the public and free for PJC students with I.D.

The play focuses on the dysfunctional family of Daisy, a boy whose parents neglected to check his sex at birth and as-

What: Baby with the Bathwater

When: 7 p.m. Feb. 26-27; 7 p.m.  
March 5-6; 2 p.m. March 7.

Where: Ray Karrer Theatre

sumed he was a girl. The comedy is about Daisy's influences and outcomes in life. "Baby with the Bathwater" was originally produced in 1983.

"It's an absurd comedy," Williams said.

The play runs approximately an hour and a half and it is the first time the PJC drama department has preformed it.

The cast includes Aaron Rogers as Daisy, Callie Henderson as Helen, Chad Duval as the school principal, Jason Hayes as John, and Erin Murphy as Cynthia. All of these students, except newcomer Hayes, are "veterans" to the drama department as Williams put it; meaning this is the end of their second year here.

"It's a good fun show. I think people will really enjoy it," Williams said. "Come out and have a laugh."

## Writing contest set

STEPHANIE NORMAN  
Editor

Cash prizes will be awarded to the 2010 Creative Writing Award winners. Paris Junior College sponsors these annual awards to reward and recognize students for their literary creativity. Any student enrolled in at least six credit hours, in the 2009-2010 academic school year, is eligible to enter the contest.

English instructor Marsha Dennis is the contest director. Entry forms can be picked up from her or in the English hall of the Administration Building. All applications must be submitted no later than 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, to Marsha Dennis or the designated box outside the Writing Lab in the Administration Building.

There are six different categories: short story, four prizes; poetry, four prizes; Argumentative/Informative Essay, three prizes; Research Essay with Documentation, two

prizes; Regional Literature, three prizes; and Narrative Essay, three prizes.

There is also a \$1,000 scholarship given to the William A. Owens Scholarship Award winner. In order to be eligible for this scholarship, students must submit two non-fiction essays and two creative works.

Writers may enter all of the contests, but only one submission per category. There are other rules entrants must follow. The rules can be found on the entry forms.

Winners are to be announced at 2:30 p.m. April 14, in the Student Center Ballroom on the Paris campus. The winning pieces and honorable mentions are to be published in the 2010 *Swingers of Birches*. The Communications Division reserves the right to publish, amend and abridge any entry.

For more information about the Creative Writing Award contact Dennis at (903) 782-0317, mdennis@parisjc.edu, or visit her in room 124 of the Administration Building.

# Opinion/News

## Opinion

### Homeschooler kicks the jitters

**CHRISTINA GUNLOCK**  
Staff Writer

Jan. 20, the first day of my grand new adventure, was my first day of college. I had anticipated and dreaded this day for months. As the oldest of six kids, I am the first to go to college. Add to the normal college jitters the fact that I am a homeschooled; I have never in my life attended a public school before. I did not know what to expect.

Questions hummed through my mind, "What will my teachers be like?" "Will the schoolwork be hard?" "Will I have anything in common with my classmates?" Oh, I had so many questions.

On my very first, "first day of school" I was up before the sun. When I got to campus I hoisted my backpack on my shoulder and headed to my first class, algebra. It's 8:25 a.m. and I have algebra. Regardless, I got through class without a problem.

Difficulty raised its annoying head when



*"I had anticipated and dreaded this day for months."*  
Christina Gunlock

I tried to find my second class. The campus map I had printed was no help; I turned it one way, then the other trying to figure out where I was going. Finally, I saw a sign pointing the way.

I went to the wrong room for English. I did not realize it until the teacher was reading a book that was not on my required textbooks list. At home, the only way I could go to the wrong room was if I went to the kitchen instead of the living room. But come to find out I was not at fault. An incorrect room number had been posted on the website. I had not been the only one to

follow directions and end up in the wrong place.

There are some differences between my homeschooled life and my new college life. I have to wake up early and get ready for school rather than just waking up and doing school in my PJ's. I need to attend specific classes at specific times, and I now have several teachers instead of learning on my own or being taught by my mom.

Being in a classroom full of people I don't know is also a new experience. By introducing myself to several people, I have gained a few new friends. Though, the classroom atmosphere is not entirely foreign to me. The constant activity, chattering, and temperature changes do not bother me since my family often does school in the same room at home.

By the end of this semester I should have a hold on the college life. Already this homeschooled is starting to feel at "home" on the PJC campus.



#### **Are you ready for campus fun?**

The Library plans on doing their first ever Mario Kart Tournament at 9 p.m. today, in the library. Students should bring their computers for any additional playing they want to do. Some computers will be provided. Get ready for some fun, food, music and a good time.

#### **Spring 2010 Loan Check Pick-ups**

Loan check pick-ups will be available Thursday, Feb. 18 from the Business Office located in the Administration Building 3 - 4:30 p.m. Must bring picture I.D.

#### **Games! Games! Games!**

SGA sponsored night playing board games for prizes. Held in the downstairs Student Center, Feb. 16 students play games such as dominos and twister for gift cards. Starts at 9 p.m. with free snack and drinks.

#### **Mr. and Miss PJC Voting**

Students who are chosen by PJC faculty are voted for by students. You can vote Feb. 17 and 18 outside on the campus lawn, inside the school cafeteria, or in the office of Deanna Young downstairs in the Student Center.

#### **Around the town Scavenger Hunt**

The Scavenger Hunt will take place Tuesday, Feb. 23, starting at 8 p.m. downstairs in Student Center. A list will be provided and the hunt will take place on and off campus. The winning group gets a prize. Free snacks and drinks will be provided during item checks.

#### **"Notebook" featured at Book Club**

Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 4 p.m. The library's Book Club will be discussing "The Notebook" by Nicholas Sparks. Snacks and drinks will be provided; short clips from the movie will also be shown. Next month's book will be "Push" by Sapphire also known by its movie debut "Precious."

### Film Festival shows six free movies

**CARMEN MARTIN**  
Staff Writer

PJC Hispanic Club is holding their Third Annual Film Festival all through the month of February downstairs in the Student Center, with films showing at no charge.

Today at 4 p.m., they will show "Mr. Bean's Holiday," a film about a man who wins a contest and receives a free trip to France and camcorder; only after arriving does he realize there is a language barrier. The second showing, at 6:30 p.m., is "Mo-

liere" a film about a boy who gets freed from prison by a wealthy man who wants him to be in his play to seduce a young widow.

Thursday, Feb. 18, at 4 p.m. is "Slumdog Millionaire" winner of eight Oscars. A boy from the slums of Mumbai becomes a contestant on the show "Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?" The 6:30 p.m. showing of "Babel" has actors Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett vacationing in Morocco and they fall victim to an act of violence that unfolds over the span of four countries.

The final night of the film festival, Thursday, Feb. 25, features a 4 p.m. showing of "Wings of Desire," a film about an angel who falls in love with a beautiful circus performer while drifting through West Berlin. The 6:30 p.m. showing is "Shinobi: Heart Under Blade," a Japanese film with a little bit of "X-Men" mixed with "Romeo and Juliet;" two lovers of two fighting tribes must bring their tribes together against all odds and impossible tests of strength and endurance.

### VISTA volunteers needed; financial benefits

**SPECIAL TO THE BAT**  
Submitted

Big Brothers Big Sisters is looking for skilled, self-motivated individuals to become Americorps/VISTA volunteers in the Paris office.

Americorps/VISTA volunteer opportunities are open to people over age 18 who are not currently attending school or have another job. This is a full time, 12 month position beginning in early 2010. The VISTA volunteer will be entitled to a living stipend of \$800 - \$900 per month, vacation and sick

leave, basic individual health insurance. The VISTA member can have deferment of student loans for one year and \$5,350 toward school loans or future schooling.

"Just as significantly, VISTA workers will be able to add a year of experience with a national organization to their resumes," said Emily Neeley, BBBS Regional Executive Director. "They will develop leadership, marketing and networking skills while supporting an organization that makes a difference in children's lives through mentoring."

The VISTA project at the local BBBS chapter may include recruiting children for

the mentoring program, public relations and marketing, assisting with fund development and grant writing and helping to build community partnerships.

Applicants must submit a resume by March 1, 2010. Qualified candidates can submit a resume to [eneeley@bbbstx.org](mailto:eneeley@bbbstx.org) and also should go online to [myamericorps.com](http://myamericorps.com) and complete the online application (select Big Brothers Big Sisters of North/West Texas as a program where they would like to serve). For additional questions, contact Emily Neeley at (888) 887-2447 ext. 503.

#### **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.

To reach staffers: 903-782-0321  
[sdennehy@parisjc.edu](mailto:sdennehy@parisjc.edu)

## 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.

#### **EDITOR**

**SPORTS EDITOR**  
**STAFF WRITERS**

#### **ADVISER**

#### **STEPHANIE NORMAN**

**QUENTIN CARPENTER**  
**BARBIE HOOKER**  
**CHRISTINA GUNLOCK**  
**CARMEN MARTIN**  
**TERENCE TRAMMELL**

#### **SHARON DENNEHY**

# Sports / News

## Baseball Schedule

2/12	Hill College	Hillsboro, TX	Noon (2x7)
2/13	Hill College	Paris, TX	Noon (2x7)
2/17	NCTC	Paris, TX	Noon (2x7)
2/20	Grayson College	Denison, TX	Noon (7/9)
2/21	Johnson County	Paris, TX	Noon (1x9)
2/22	Richland College	Dallas, TX	2 p.m. (1x9)
2/26	Carl Albert	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (2x7)
2/27	Carl Albert	Poteau, OK	1 p.m. (2x7)
3/2	Eastfield College	Paris, TX	2 p.m. (1x9)
3/3	Grayson College	Paris, TX	Noon (7/9)
3/8	Richland College	Paris, TX	2 p.m. (1x9)
3/17	Angelina College	Lufkin, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
3/20	NETCC	Mt. Pleasant, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
3/24	Lon Morris	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
3/27	Panola College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
3/31	Texarkana	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/2	Bossier Parish	Shreveport, LA	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/7	Navarro	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/10	Angelina College	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/14	NETCC	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/17	Lon Morris	Lufkin, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/21	Panola College	Carthage, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/24	Texarkana	Texarkana, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
4/28	Bossier Parish	Paris, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
5/1	Navarro	Corsicana, TX	1 p.m. (7/9)
5/15-19	Region XIV Tournament	TBA	TBA

## Softball underway



Quentin Carpenter/The Bat

Sophomore infielder/pitcher Taylor Russell gets a hit in the Feb. 3 double header against Carl Albert College. PJC lost 13-9 in the first game and won the second 5-3.

## Dragons ranked in top 20; defeat Seahawks 84-58

**QUENTIN CARPENTER**  
Sports Editor

The Dragons men's basketball team picked up an 84-58 victory over Lamar State College-Pot Arthur Seahawks, on Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the Hunt Center.

The win keeps PJC at the front of the conference and in control of their conference tournament chances.

The National Junior College Athletic Association ranked PJC as number 20 in the nation in Division I junior college basketball this week. PJC is the only Region XIV

team ranked in the national polls.

"The nice thing about being in first is, if you take care of your business you don't have to worry about what happens under you," said head coach Tom Schubert.

"We've been playing pretty well, except for our loss to Angelina," sophomore guard Bryce Cartwright said. "I think we played good defense today and it led to early buckets."

Cartwright scored 15 points in the game, second only to the Dragons leading scorer of the night, Desmond King with 18.

The Dragons are riding a four-

game win streak; as long as they win the remaining games they will finish as the number one team in the conference, a spot which, in recent years, has not always foreshadowed a conference championship.

"We want to win the regular season, even though it is a bit of a curse based on the results of the previous years," Schubert said. "We could still finish lower in our division, but if we play with this intensity it will come down to the last two or three weeks."

### Basketball PJC vs Panola

Location: Hunt Center  
Date: Feb 20  
Time: 2 p.m. & 4 p.m.

Get in free with PJC I.D.

Lady Dragons  
keep it close  
but fall short

**QUENTIN CARPENTER**  
Sports Editor

The up-down trend for the Lady Dragons basketball team continued with a 59-51 loss to Angelina College Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the Hunt Center.

The last time PJC played Angelina College was January 20 at Angelina. The Lady Dragons lost that game 70-49. Despite losing the second game to Angelina this time PJC kept it close.

"We have played better, the first half was probably the best, but we have played better," Said sophomore Taylor Ammons

The last time the team won back-to-back games was mid-January when they beat Kilgore College(65-50) and Blinn College(50-47).

"We have been turning it over, we have been giving up offense, and we have been missing free throws," said head coach Sean LeBeauf.

## Softball Schedule

2/12-13	Cowtown Classic Tournament	Fort Worth	TBA
2/16	E. Oklahoma	Paris	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
2/17	Grayson County	Paris	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
2/19	Carl Albert	Poteau, OK	1 p.m. 3 p.m.
2/21	E. Oklahoma	Wilburton, OK	1 p.m. 3 p.m.
2/23	Connors State	Paris	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
2/26-27	Temple Tournament	Temple	TBA
3/1	Seminole State	Seminole, OK	4 p.m. 6 p.m.
3/3	Seminole State	Paris	4 p.m. 6 p.m.
3/5-7	Region XIV Pre-Season Tournament	Longview	TBA
3/10	Trinity Valley	Paris	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
3/13	Lon Morris	Jacksonville	TBA
3/20	Texarkana	Paris	1 p.m. 3 p.m.
3/24	Trinity Valley	Athens	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
3/27	Bossier Parish	Paris, TX	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
3/31	NETCC	Mt. Pleasant	TBA
4/7	Texarkana	Texarkana	4 p.m. 6 p.m.
4/14	Navarro	Paris	1 p.m. 3 p.m.
4/17	Bossier Parish	Shreveport, LA	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
4/21	Navarro	Corsicana	TBA
4/23	NETCC	Paris, TX	TBA
4/24	Lon Morris	Paris, TX	TBA
4/29-5/2	Region XIV Tournament	TBA	TBA

# Michelle, Class of 2011, SGA President

From my first day on campus, I knew I wanted to **make a difference**. As SGA President, I can fulfill that goal of impacting others as the voice for thousands of students on campus



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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