A
fter nearly 50 years, PJC is in the process of adding a new science and math building to the campus. Classes are expected to be held in the new building in January of 2013.

With the groundbreaking that happened just this August, preparation for the demolition of the Bob Berry Complex (BOC) and the campus police building is underway. They are scheduled to be torn down this week.

Students can expect to see a new, very modern, state-of-the-art facility according to Dr. Pamela Anglin, PJC president. The new building will offer convenient, wireless technology, that will be of use to students attending PJC.

“This new building will have science labs that college professors dream of,” Anglin said smiling.

There will also be a place for the math center in the new building where students will be able to receive help from teachers and their peers. Anglin went on to explain that the Greenville campus building offers a vision of what the new science and math building might look like.

The new building will be two stories and is about 42,000 square feet. The cost of the entire project is about $11 million. The building has yet to be dedicated to anyone or named.

“We’ve needed this (building) for a long time,” Anglin said.

She expects the building to bring in new faces to PJC in the semesters following it’s opening and adds it will provide more space for students as well as faculty.
Theatre students present ‘Elves’

AARON MUSTIN
STAFF WRITER

Beginning Friday, Sept. 30 and continuing through Sunday, Oct. 2, the PJC drama department will perform “The Elves and the Shoemaker” at the Ray Karrer Theatre inside the Administration Building.

The play will open at 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are $5 for adults, $3 for children, and are free for anyone who has a valid PJC ID.

“The play is about a shoemaker and his family who learned a valuable lesson about how money does not buy happiness after expecting help from a peddler, who gives them that mediation which summons a pair of elves. This take on the classic Grimm’s fairy tale of ‘The Elves and the Shoemaker’ does a great job of being relevant for today’s audiences while maintaining the spirit of the original story,” director Alex Pevey said.

“With only three weeks of production preparation, I can’t say enough for the work and dedication the actors and crew members of Paris Jr. College are putting in to make this a complete and successful performance,” Pevey said.

For many students, this is their first year in PJC and this will also be their first of many performances at PJC.

“There are a lot of new students who show potential,” drama instructor William Walker said.

“The Elves and the Shoemaker” was picked to be performed because it is a family-friendly play, the like of which has not been performed at PJC in a while and local schools are encouraged to attend according to Walker.

“Anybody can come,” Walker said. “Children of all ages will enjoy it. We have some great students who just really make it fun to attend.”

South Campus opens new dormitory wing; commons area links men’s and women’s areas

KATLYN SKIDMORE
STAFF WRITER

The new men’s dorm, located on the south side of the PJC campus, officially opened Aug. 2011. The women’s wing opened in August 2010. Joined together by a common area the two wings are considered coed. The building is yet to be dedicated and is currently called South Campus.

South Campus has a common area with a TV, plenty of study areas, cable T.V., and Internet. There are 64 rooms total, with two students per room, 30 women’s, 34 men’s. There are four resident advisors and one supervisor. This week, there is a door decoration activity to get all the residents talking and to know each other better.

While some PJC students think living with the opposite sex would be really cool, others think it could be awkward. Male to female views on the new dorms differ from each PJC dorm resident.

“It doesn’t really matter to me, but it’s good in some ways because if you have a boyfriend or girlfriend you can see them down in the common areas,” Chevin Pockins said. Pockins said his favorite thing about the dorms being coed is the socialization; there is always someone to talk to.

Renisha Murph, who lived in the PJC all-girl’s dorm last semester, said, “It’s definitely different that is for sure; there is a little awkwardness.”

Murph said she does not really like having such strict curfews. Curfew is 10:30 p.m. each night. Fines will start at $25 Dollars then go up from there for each offense of breaking curfew and other rules.

Tony Wallace, one of the four resident advisors said “They’re going to strictly enforcing curfew because if you have a boyfriend or girlfriend you can see them down in the common areas.”

The whole city was going crazy,” Hawkins said. After a while, everyone’s parents came and got them. No one was leaving their homes and all the stores were closed.

School was cancelled for a week and when they returned to school, they weren’t allowed a recess period for a time.

“I felt like I was there, even though I wasn’t,” Hawkins said. “I could have been one of the victims.”

Don Kosterman, chemistry instructor at PJC, was at the Pentagon three days before it was hit. Kosterman was there on September nine to see his childhood friend from Paris, John Jumper, sworn in as Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Kosterman, his wife, and Jumper took a tour of the Pentagon on September 10. After the tour, the Kostermans left to return to Paris. The next day, September 11, they watched from their home the attacks on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon.

“Don’t happen,” Kosterman said to his wife as they watched. The realization of what was happening didn’t hit right him off the bat.

“I was there yesterday, what’s going to happen next?” Kosterman said. When it came time to go to work, he went and watched the attacks with his classes on television in the biology room for the rest of the day.

Beata Louquet, secretary in the PJC Jewelry Department and a PJC student, was living in Brick, NJ when the attacks happened.

She was painting her bedroom when her sister called her from Poland and told her that New York City was being attacked. Louquet did not know that the city was under attack until her sister told her. Four days later Louquet and two of her friends, Bob Valentine and Paul Phillips, went to see the remains of the Twin Towers.

It was raining, that day. Entering the city, people were so used to seeing the Towers, Louquet said, “It was different, empty. It was crazy, unbelievable.”

When they got to Ground Zero, the workers already had the area fenced off and there was a large crowd standing in the rain, in the street, watching the workers sift through the rubble looking for survivors.

The streets were clean from the rain which had washed the dust and debris away but the shops just behind Louquet had dirt and debris still in them.

The feelings Louquet had were disbelief, shock and sadness. The crowd stood in silence as the workers looked for people, both dead and alive. As Louquet stood and watched, she felt this energy coming through the crowd.

“I felt safe in this crowd, which was ironic,” Louquet said.

“I couldn’t believe someone got us; why?”

Louquet sums up her experience in an essay she wrote for her English class entitled “The Circle of Life.”

“New York was about people of every ethnic background, the freedom of lifestyle and the chances,” she wrote. “The city I knew until September 11, always gave me a sense of confidence, joy and adventure. I was surprised how fast I moved on and almost got used to seeing the empty space in the skyline I saw each time I drove toward the city after 2001.”

Recalling 9/11: three from PJC tell their stories

ALEXANDER THOMAS
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

September 11 was a day that will be remembered as a surreal moment in American history, maybe more surreal for some than for others. Here are the accounts of three people — student Phillip Hawkins, chemistry instructor Don Kosterman and secretary Beata Louquet, who were close to the destruction that fateful day.

Phillip Hawkins, a basketball player for the PJC Dragons basketball team, lived five minutes from the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. at the time of the 9/11 attacks. At the time he was 11 years old and went to John Tyler Elementary School, which was a ten-minute drive from the Pentagon.

He was in class when the principal and other teachers came into the room and told them, “We’re getting attacked.”

They turned on the TV to watch the attack on the Twin Towers. Not long after, they heard a loud “boom.” It was the Pentagon being attacked. Everyone went to the basement of the school for protection.

“The whole city was going crazy,” Hawkins said. After a while, everyone’s parents came and got them. No one was leaving their homes and all the stores were closed.

School was cancelled for a week and when they returned to school, they weren’t allowed a recess period for a time.

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Police officers are like the fathers of a town; we expect them to teach us right and wrong, protect us from the monsters who lurk in the shadows, and, at some point in our lives, we want to grow up to be just like them.

Shane Boatwright spent close to 21 years with the Paris Police Department. He left the police department as Detective Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division and came to the PJC Paris campus as Chief of Campus Police.

He now uses the same skill and intent with which he served the city to protect our college community. In August of 2010, he revised the campus security plan and brought a new safety net to the college.

“The current plan provides a set of guidelines to be followed in the event of a campus emergency, including armed subjects and fire emergencies,” Boatwright said.

From severe weather procedures to mass chaos, the current plan provides safety regulations and a plan devised for everyone to remain calm and unharm.

In the past decade and longer, the news has been flooded by instances of abrupt fear and unsettling images caused by fires, extreme weather, and shootings, such as the ones that occurred at Virginia Tech.

Virginia Tech came under much criticism because of the time gap between the first offense and the first emergency notification. Warnings were not provided as early as they should have been, and results were broadcast in the news hours later. However, due to technological advances, the PJC campuses have a tool sufficient enough to prevent this type of time gap: Dragon Alerts.

“Dragon Alerts are Paris Junior College’s mass notification system,” said Boatwright. “The system is used to warn of impending severe weather, school closures and emergencies on campus.”

Dragon Alerts are able to send both text and email alerts, and are easy to sign up for. Visit the PJC website to sign up for the alert system or go to the Security Office, now located in the bottom of the Student Center on the Paris Campus or in the Faculty area, room 213 on the Greenville campus.

PJC Police Officers are licensed officers, licensed by the State of Texas. Their primary responsibility is to investigate criminal activity on campus. They maintain a close working relationship with other law enforcement agencies where they maintain campuses.

So even though Shane Boatwright isn’t in his old uniform patrolling the streets of downtown Paris, Texas, he is still a protector. He still teaches us right and wrong and he still protects us from those same old monsters.

Feeling safe on campus

“I think one of the lessons learned from the Virginia Tech shootings is the importance of making timely notifications when an emergency occurs,” Boatwright said. “The ability to make a mass notification is crucial to warning students and faculty of dangerous situations on campus.”

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What you want to know to make campus life easier

**Christina Gunlock**  
**Co-Editor**

Prior to the start of the fall semester, several PJC facilities were relocated on the Paris campus. The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) and the Print Shop moved into the Old Gymnasium. Campus Security, which once occupied its own little building between the BOC and Student Center, has moved into the bottom of the Student Center in room 108. The Bat and journalism department has also moved. It is now located in the Administration Building, room 158. The reason for the relocation is the destruction of the EOC and Security Office.

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**Volleyball girls spike their way to 11th in NJCAA poll**

**Barbara Torres**  
**Staff Writer**

The PIC volleyball team has come far this season, placing 11th in the National Junior College Athletic Association Top 20 for the first time in the program’s history and third place in conference. So far they’ve played three tournaments and have won them all.

Tuesday, September 20, the Lady Dragons played a close game vs. Tyler’s Apaches, losing the match 2-3. They lost the first set 14-25, rebounding into the second set, winning it 25-21 and third set 25-23, and losing the fourth and fifth set by less than five points.

During the game the lady dragons tied the game about eight different times, but shortly after they fell behind.

“This year’s team consists of a great talented bunch,” the returning sophomores and talented, incoming freshman have worked hard according to Coach Justin Maness. He went on to say that it’s a long process, and to the him and the team, this is nothing but good news.

“The girls are competing very well,” says Coach Maness. “Conference is tough which makes for very competitive, very competitive conference.”

The next game will be today in Corsicana, against Navarro College at 6 p.m.