Cover Story

Homecoming Hoopla
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**Cover Photo**

The cheerleaders showing their Mardi Gras spirit during the annual PJC Homecoming Parade, Thursday, Nov. 11.

Photo by Christina Gunlock

Riders on the 2010 Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration float. The float, titled “Tank the Vikings” won first place in PJC’s annual Homecoming Parade.
The Health Occupations float driving down Clarksville street last Thursday. The float tied for second place.

The Computer Information Systems float tied for second place in the annual PJC Homecoming Parade Nov. 11.
PJC honors six alumni

Alexander Thomas
Staff Writer

Six people who have supported PJC since 1924 were inducted to the PJC Hall of Honors Saturday November 13, 2010 for their outstanding achievements both while in school and outside of school and after graduation.

These people are former students, faculty, and friends of the college and they are:

Kelly Baxley
Class: 1980
Achievements: Graduated with honors, “Sales Professional of the Year” three years in a row, nominated for “Presidents Circle” twice. Recognized in the field of heating/air conditioning.

John Dickson “Dick” House
Class: 1939
Achievements: Former member of PJC board of regents (59-65), editor of the Galleon (PJC yearbook no longer published), class officer, captain of the basketball team, and lettered in three sports, founder, owner/manager of Dick House’s Good Housekeeping Shoppe in the Williamsburg Shopping Center for over 25 years. Recognized in the field of business.

Mark Hudson
Class: 1969
Achievements: Mr. PJC, 1969, currently Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Student Services for Paris ISD, honored as the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) Outstanding High School Principal for District 8 in 1991 and honored by the TASSP as Middle/Junior High Principal from District 8 in 1998. Honored in the field of education.

Marva Joe
Class: 1957
Achievements: Retired from Kimberly Clark, member of the Facilities Committee for planning and construction of the new Paris High School, member of the City Charter re-write committee, currently co-chair of the Diversity Task Force. Honored in the field of social science.

Michael D. Miesch, Jr
Class: 1953
Achievements: Retired entomologist from National Chemical, earned M.S. from Purdue University, Ph.D from Oklahoma State University. Honored in the field of science.

DuWayne Wirta
Class: (fall of 1966-spring of 1968)
Achievements: retired in 2009 after a 36-year career with the Central Intelligence Agency as Senior Intelligent Services Officer, President of Wirta Consulting, LLC and works with Honeywell International. Honored in the field of criminal justice.

The road to the float

Christina Gunlock
Co-Editor

Clouds threatening rain float overhead. An empty flatbed trailer sitting behind the Applied Science Building is about to be transformed into a colorful platform for an immense diamond ring. The ring and trailer comprise the Jewelry and Horology departments’ 2010 homecoming parade float.

Two jewelry department students carry a large hay ring (a metal ring used to contain hay for livestock) out of the welding shop and place it on the trailer. Cardboard reinforces the sides of the hay ring, with a gold plastic material covering them. Come to find out, the gold plastic material is tablecloths. The hay ring will be the ring band.

The sky starts to sprinkle intermittently. In the absence of a truck, the students pull the trailer under the welding shed. A few minutes later, it pours. Students pull out trailer decorations and wrap gold cellophane around the ring.

As the daylight dims, the rays of the setting sun cause the vibrant gold, purple, green and red decorations to gleam. Abnormally sized Mardi Gras masks are attached to the trailer towards the end. Glitter from the masks gets everywhere.

The activity winds down and students begin to leave to eat dinner before the cafeteria closes. The last item to go on the float for the night is a pocket watch made from a tire.

Please See Road on Page 7
Outside, the air was chill and crisp, and the dancing fall leaves swept through the gray atmosphere. Inside, DeShong Chapel buzzed with the chatter of the women and men who lined the pews. Many of them wore similar attire.

The patches on their arms and the words on their hats may not have matched exactly, but everyone, PJC students, employees, and military members past and present, gathered into the small chapel for one distinct reason... Veterans Day.

The Veterans Day ceremony on the Paris campus was held as tradition dictates, at 11 a.m. Thursday, November 11, the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

As Allen Williams, history instructor on the Paris campus, made his way to the podium, the chapel’s chatter decreased to silence.

“I love helping to put this ceremony together,” Williams said. “We just don’t do enough to thank veterans for the things they sacrificed and did.”

Williams then spoke about the history of the date, talking of the sacrifices the nation’s veterans had made.

He spoke of the memorial at the front of the Administration Building that stands bold and strong next to the flagpoles, and how the 61 names engraved on its hard outer structure are all PJC alumni and war casualties from WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. A moment of silence was then held in respect for the 61.

“We want you to know that your special service to America will always be treasured,” Williams said.

The PJC Chamber singers sang “America the Beautiful.” The room fell silent once again as the singers each paid respect to those who have both retired their uniforms, and those who wear them today. Ken Hanush, history instructor and retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force, rose to share his own words on Veterans Day.

He read each of the 61 PJC veterans’ names engraved in the memorial. The church bells rang after every name to show respect and gratitude to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. He then asked those who are veterans or are currently serving in the military to rise.

Finally, Williams asked those veterans currently attending PJC to stand.

“You represent a special part of our PJC students,” Williams said.

At this time, Williams asked three PJC Veterans, William Johnson, Cameron Penn, and Josh Winters, to come forth to carry the flags and Veterans Day wreath to the memorial for proper placement and an end to the ceremony. In single file, the crowd followed the veterans to the memorial site.

“Dedicated to the glory of God and to the memory of these former students of Paris Junior College who made the supreme sacrifice.”

Everyone joined in putting their hands over their hearts, and some veterans honored the flag by saluting it.

The PJC police vehicle sat to the left of the memorial with lights on in honor of the veterans.

The crowd separated into smaller groups, some leaving and some standing behind to admire the memorial once more.

On its solid exterior, they read these words that wrapped the ceremony into one simple sentence.

“Dedicated to the glory of God and to the memory of these former students of Paris Junior College who made the supreme sacrifice.”
When I graduate, I want to start my own business. I’m confident that my degree from A&M-Commerce will make it possible.

—Don, Class of 2014
Rocking the stage

Quentin Carpenter
Co-Editor

Some may remember getting up early Saturday mornings to watch. Some will remember sitting in class while the teacher plays a video of some outdated cartoon, with surprisingly catchy songs, such as “I’m Just a Bill” or “Conjunction Junction.”

“School House Rock” is familiar to everyone and PJC’s Drama Department took it live this past weekend.

“It is very iconic and if you ask most of my generation about ‘School House Rock’ they know a good many of them. I grew up with them; I would get up on Saturday mornings just to watch ‘School House Rock’,” says William Walker, head of the Drama Department.

Some of the songs are still used today, and are pretty well know once the music starts playing.

“With the songs being so well known, we thought people would sing anyways, so we decided we could at least provide the lyrics,” says Walker.

Although “School House Rock” was originally a television cartoon, in the early ’90s authors of the cartoon took their creation and turned it into a live musical stage production. The play made its first appearance in Chicago, then eventually on to Broadway.

The play tells a story of a schoolteacher and his alter egos getting ready to teach the first day of class. The teacher goes through lessons on gravity, math, English, planets and more.

Although the first performances were this past weekend, another round is up this weekend; Friday-Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Phil Briggs, head of the Music Department was charged with the duty of putting together the band and working with the singers at rehearsals. The band consists of drums, keyboard and two guitars.

“We held rehearsals to find some students for the band and we found some good people,” says Briggs.

Students taking Music Appreciation course are required to review some live musical event. If you want to get your work done on campus, “School House Rock” does count as one of the events you can review according to Briggs.

Tickets are available at the door. Free with PJC ID, $8 for adults and $4 for 13 and under. To reserve a seat, call 903-782-0488.

Drama students riding on homcoming float From Left: Hayden Colbert, Cassidi Alford, Taylor Jackson, and Rebekah Mills.
Lady Dragons basketball team goes into a huddle before the game. The lady dragons won 51-41.

Ronald McGhee (25) and Cornelius Commack (32) go up for a rebound at, in PJC’s mens homecoming game.

PJC basketball teams cap off Homecoming weekend with victory over Carl Albert college

Men’s team still undefeated after Homecoming

Samuel Arnold
Staff Writer

The men’s basketball team won their Homecoming game 82-74 against Carl Albert staying undefeated with a 5-0 record.

Xavier Roberson scored 18 points leading the Dragon’s victory; Anthony Jones had 14 points, Mo Hughley had 4 points and 9 rebounds, and freshmen, Cornelius Cammock had 13 points and 9 rebounds on Saturday.

The Dragons have out scored their opponents 430-217 in the five games this season. With the 5-0 record and a new coaching staff all eyes are looking toward today’s game at 7:30 p.m., in the Hunt Center, against Eastern Oklahoma.

Chuck Taylor is the new Head Coach for the men’s basketball team. He was assistant coach in 2000-2002 when Bill Foy was head coach. Under Foy, Taylor and the Dragons had a 44-20 record for those years. The Dragons were also runners up in the region XIV Conference Tournament in 2002 under Foy and Taylor.

Albert Talley is the new assistant coach for the men’s team. He spent four years at Panola College as assistant coach.

Head Coach Chuck Taylor said, “The other team is long and athletic. We’ve got to read the defense, execute plans.” He also added that the Dragons need to keep turnover baskets to a minimum.

Lady Dragons down Carl Albert college, 51-41

Samuel Arnold
Staff Writer

The Lady Dragons won their Homecoming game Saturday against Carl Albert 51-41 putting their record 4-2 for this season.

Pushing the Ladies ahead of Carl Albert were Dominique Mosley who led the team with 14 points and 8 rebounds and Destiny Smith who had 6 points and 21 rebounds.

The Lady Dragons improved their game at Homecoming according to Head Coach Sean LeBeauf.

“Performance was better on Saturday than it was last week,” he said.

The Lady Dragons played Monday night in Shreveport, LA vs. Southern Shreveport. At press time the scores were unavailable.

Tonight the Dragons play a home game vs. Eastern Oklahoma at 5:30 p.m. at the Hunt Center.

Their first conference game is December 1, against Panola College.