

The Bat



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"The Friendliest College In The South"

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Cover Story



Playoffs around the corner!

Cover Story

Dragons beat Panola; Ladies dominate

The Bat

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Staff

CO-EDITORS

Quentin Carpenter
Christina Gunlock

STAFF WRITERS

Samuel Arnold
Michael Carter
Devon Childers
Alexander Thomas

ADVISER

Sharon Dennehy

Cover Photo

PJC's La' Paris Newsom forces a turnover on a Panola player, on Saturday at the Hunt Center.

Photo by Quentin Carpenter

SAMUEL ARNOLD
STAFF WRITER

The Dragons won at home last Saturday against Panola College, 68-65. This puts them at 9-6 for the conference, tying them for second in the conference.

The game ended with an error as referees made an almost game-changing call. With two seconds remaining, Panola had possession and called timeout but Panola had no timeouts remaining. The whistles blew and Panola then had a chance to tie the game and go into overtime.

The Dragons held in there with suppressive defense and ran out the clock, to hold on to victory.

"I'm happy we won, but guess what? If he would have made it and it went into overtime, and we would have lost? I would have been angry," said head coach Chuck Taylor.

Paris' Xavier Roberson and Zach Jones led the Dragons with 15 and 17 points, and had a combined 5 rebounds.

After this win, Paris has a chance to make it to first place in the conference. With four games remaining, two being at home, the Dragons have great chances to end the season well.

Since taking over the team in September, Coach Taylor has led the team to an 18-6 overall record, and 9-6 conference record.

When asked about his transition and his new team, he said, "It's a testament to the players, how they bought into what we were selling and it could have easily gone the other way; that wasn't the case. I told these guys earlier how proud I was of them and that we're family. I'm glad I had an opportunity to coach with them."

Paris faced Navarro at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, in Corsicana, but scores were unavailable at press time.

Ladies stomp Panola, Win 73-39

The Lady Dragons nearly doubled the score of Panola on Saturday, and got a win that elevated them to an even .500 (7-7) for their conference record.

After Panola started the game with a quick three pointer and a field goal, the Ladies answered with 24-0 streak, a wide lead they would hold until the end of the game.

Panola would only get 17 points in reach of the Dragons throughout the rest of the game.

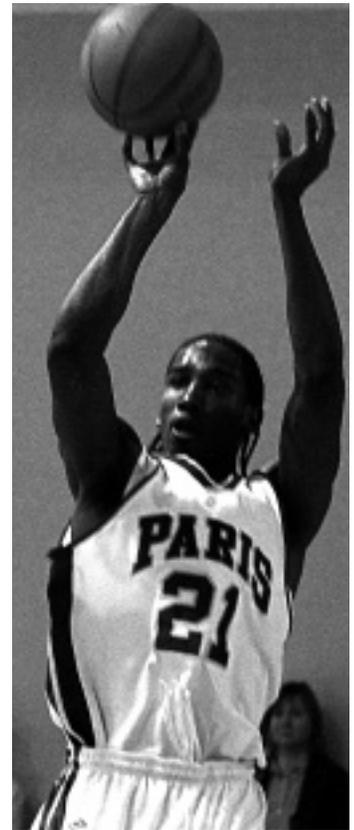
Bianca Hanna led the team with 16 points; Destiny Smith had 14 points, and Dominique Mosley and Parris Price had ten points apiece.

As it stands, the Ladies are tied for fifth place according to the Region XIV standings and with the season coming to a close, the team has three out of four remaining games at their home court; so they can make the most out of the season.

Coach Sean LeBeauf said about this team, "We have to work on a few things, and having the last four of five games at home is definitely going to help going into the tournament. The road games were killing us."

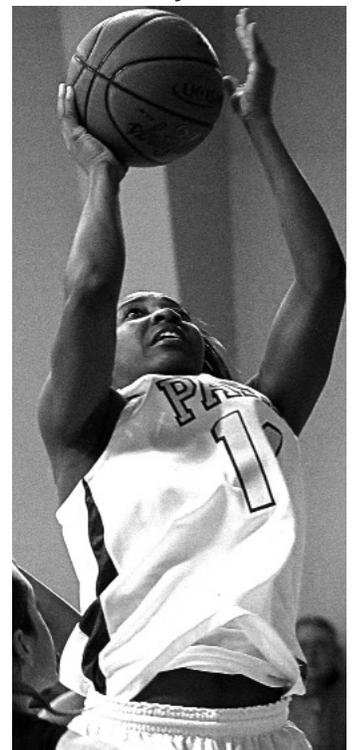
The Lady Dragons face Angelina College, Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Hunt Center. Angelina beat Paris in their last meeting in overtime, 68-66.

Both basketball teams are set to go to the Region XIV Tournament on March 3-7 at UT-Tyler. Seeds will be decided at the end of conference play.



Zachary Jones

Destiny Smith



Frugal fashionistas

Cheap clothes close to campus conserve cash

DEVON CHILDERS
STAFF WRITER

The days between winter and spring can be somewhat of a fashion collage in Texas. This time of year is when fashionistas work their magic with both beautiful and functional clothing suitable for the bipolar weather changes.

But how can the citizens of small

towns like Paris find attire both suitable for the weather, the fashion world, and their wallets without traveling across the nation?

The answer may just be in your very own home. The ever-changing wonderland of the fashion world has been raving over long coats, leggings/skinny jeans, knee high or even above the knee boots, and trendy hats for those cold days, as well as lace, high-waisted flare jeans, and happy prints.

These looks sound a little familiar? Simply look through your mother or grandmother's photo album and you may see them.

The reality is, these looks are

not newly birthed. The saying "history repeats itself" is a major influence in the fashion world. This season is all about the '60s and '70s with its high-waists, long dress-like coats, and mixed floral prints for women, as well as the '80s British gangster, old-school biker, and preppy collegiate look for men. Though an aspiring fashionista may want

to tread happily to the nearest mall to pick up her must-have look for spring, the simpler solution may be to visit the nearest thrift store in town.

Thrift stores are always great places to find bargains on sweet vintage treats. The key is to look for items that you can change or pair with other pieces of clothing. There are always small finds with small price tags that you can jazz up to make your own look. Adding pieces of fabric here and there, taking up the hem-line, and adding your favorite accessories are just a few ways to make this possible.

For instance, a plain white long-sleeve shirt can be boring

alone, but there are plenty of things that can be done in order to bring the shirt to life. Doing



photo by Christina Gunlock

Patterson tries on an outfit that costs between \$15 and \$20.

things such as changing the sleeve length to a three-quarter-sleeve, layering a lace shirt under or over it, adding accessories, such as a belt at the narrowest part of the waist, or simply pairing it with skinny jeans, knee high boots, and a long colorful coat can completely change the look of your whole outfit.

"It's amazing what you can find in stores like these," PJC student Britney Patterson said as she scanned the racks of Goodwill.

The local Goodwill, as well

as other stores such as Salvation Army and the Safe-T Thrift Store, are great treasure chests of fashion possibilities. Anything from blouses, jackets, pants, shoes and even a wedding gown are easy to find on the racks. Some of these items still have the original price tags on them, but are marked down to extremely low prices.

Do-it-yourself looks are also a sure-fire way to get noticed and get out cheap, so any jewelry or fashion accessories you make on your own are bound to get comments. Looking up DIY fashion projects in your favorite fashion magazines or blogs can bring incredibly cheap and easy finds.

Though the fashion world is primarily glitz and glamor, not all that glitters is gold. Sometimes its simply gold plated. Afterall, who said looking like a million bucks had to cost that much?

"It's amazing what you can find in stores like these"
- Britney Patterson



photo by Christina Gunlock

PJC student Britney Patterson tries on clothes at the local Goodwill.

Contact Information

Goodwill
1161 Nw Loop 286
(903) 784-0657

Salvation Army
333 Grand Ave
(903) 784-0249

Safe-T Thrift Store
2246 Bonham St
(903) 785-0044

MICHAEL CARTER
STAFF WRITER



MY TOWN



ALORA PAINTER

Sulphur Springs

A PJC student majoring in Medical Records Coding, Alora Painter, is a bubbly, fun young woman who always says hi to whomever she knows in the hallway and even to those she doesn't. Though she no longer lives in Sulphur Springs, staying in the girl's dormitory at PJC, she has moved around to different places including Arlington and Florida. Not having been restricted to only Paris, Texas, Painter can give a different view on what her town is like.

What is your hometown?

Sulphur Springs, Texas

Were you born there? How long did you live there?

Yes I was born there. I lived there actually for the first 12 years of my life.

How does your hometown compare to Paris, Texas?

It is pretty much similar to Paris. It very rural and agricultural. It has some of the same restaurants as Paris does.

How is Sulphur Springs set apart distinctively from Paris?

People are a lot friendlier in Sulphur Springs. Paris is a little bigger than Sulphur Springs but not too much. Unfortunately, there are no clubs.

Girl's night, Guy's night out?

Pretty much the only free days that I have from school. Friday and Saturday nights. Even though there aren't any clubs in Sulphur Springs, for my Girls Night Out, my friends and I like to go to Club Flow in Dallas, Texas

What do you do for fun?

I love to shop. Give me a store with a discount or a sale and I am there!

Your favorite restaurant in your town?

Juan Pablos is my favorite.



Courtesy photo

Richard Adams, right, is the new full-time police officer on the PJC Greenville campus. Here he is welcomed to the campus by Richard Clark, Greenville Police Department. Adams, who transferred from the Paris campus, has 30 years experience with the Paris Police Department and Lamar County Sheriff's Department.

Student government association returns

QUENTIN CARPENTER
CO-EDITOR

Paris Junior College is to have a Student Government Association again, after operations where halted last semester so the constitution could be revised.

The first meeting of the semester is Monday, March 7, at 12:30 p.m. in the Student Center, Room 105. Students who have a minimum GPA of 2.5 are eligible for membership. Officers must have a minimum GPA of 2.75.

"The SGA constitution did not include Greenville and Sulphur Springs campuses," said Kenneth Webb, Director of Student Life. "The new constitution will include them and it will be

one combined Student Government Association."

Among the members will be a representative from each organization on campus including the sports teams.

The SGA will go back to running events such as Teacher Appreciation Day, canned food drives, on-campus trash-off days, reading programs through local elementary schools, voter registration and other activities selected by the association and approved by Webb.

The organization is to be run by elected student officers and Webb will act as adviser. Election time has yet to be decided.

South Campus men's wing takes shape

CHRISTINA GUNLOCK
CO-EDITOR

The future men's wing of the South Campus dorm is taking shape. Inclement weather has stopped work occasionally but the building is on schedule for its July completion.

The building, which is designed to house 64 men, will be open for use for the fall 2011 semester.

Despite PJC budget cuts, the construction has not been affected, because the funding had already been budgeted. Kenneth Webb, Director of Student Life, says, "It'll pay for itself."

New housing on campus is important; it attracts new students, encourages student involvement on campus and gives students a taste of real life.

Webb says record enrollment is a good indicator for the number of students that will live on campus. PJC has definitely had record enrollment in past

semesters.

In the fall of 2009, 207 students lived on campus, in the fall of 2010 that number swelled to 245 and an estimate of 275 students is anticipated for fall 2011.

Eventually, an average of 300 students is expected to live on campus.

Webb expects the men's wing of South Campus to be full in the fall, especially since men, more than women, tend to live on campus.

Once finished, South Campus will be the fourth dorm on campus and there are no plans at present for any more major construction.

Thompson and Hatcher halls were remodeled before the construction on women's wing of South Campus began and only touch-up painting will be needed.

Eventually, one day, B. E. Masters might be torn



The new South Campus men's wing construction continues on a clear day after severe winter weather.

down but that day is a long way down the road. "I think everything we have is still going to be needed," says Webb.

Emergency Response Plan: Dragon Alerts

ALEXANDER THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

The Emergency Response Plan Dragon Alerts is helping to improve the safety and awareness of PJC students and employees.

The plan has been put to the test since the semester started. With snow and ice causing cancelation of classes for several days, Dragon Alerts has helped a lot of students and faculty get needed information.

It is easy to sign up for Dragon Alerts; go to the Paris Junior College website at

www.parisjc.edu and click on the "current students" tab to gain access to the Dragon Alerts sign-up site or you can sign up in the Campus Police Office. A message will be sent out by text or e-mail.

People can sign up for all four of PJC's campuses to receive alerts if need be. There are already more than a thousand people signed up. Also, people do not have to sign up every semester; once signed, they are signed until they choose to opt out.

Some people may wonder how the system works. It is

wireless so either Chief of Campus Police Shane Boatwright or Dr. Pam Anglin can send out a message from home if need be. Also, notifications will be placed on local T.V. and radio stations.

Boatwright says, "The alerts system covers any type of on-campus emergency."

There are some bugs that still need to be worked out as Boatwright says people who get service from Sprint who are not able to get the message will need to call their phone company and have them take down the "block" that is can-

celling out the message to their phones.

Boatwright says, "The plan will be evaluated each year so that additions and corrections can be made." There is only a small percent of PJC students and employees who did not receive the message during the weather alerts.

Since it is impossible to tell where or when or even what kind of emergency will occur, the Emergency Response Plan exists as a guide to provide a common sense approach to dealing with emergency situations.



Sara, Class of 2014

Hometown: San Antonio, Texas

Major: Business Administration

Why I chose Texas A&M University-Commerce: It gave me the opportunity to do the two things I enjoy the most - learn and play golf.

Favorite Class I've Taken: Macroeconomics

What It's About: Macroeconomics taught me that it is very important to be aware of what is going on in the world, because it affects us individually. I also learned how the economy functions, and how one country's economy can deeply affect other parts of the world.

Best Professor So Far: Dr. Ray Gunn. I had him for Intro to Psychology. The way he conducted class made it clear that he had a passion for the subject.

Cool Stuff I've Done: I qualified for every golf tournament during the fall season, and achieved a 4.0 GPA in the Honors College.

How A&M-Commerce Changed Me: Ever since I came to college, I think I have become a more mature individual. Being at A&M-Commerce made me realize that if I want to achieve my goals, I need to take responsibility, use my time wisely, and make intelligent decisions.



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Fostering creative expression

Creative Writing Awards

**BY CHRISTINA GUNLOCK
Co-EDITOR**

Ever write a memory in the form of a short story? Or argue a viewpoint in an English paper? Show your style and gumption by entering the annual PJC creative writing awards.

The competition, begun in 1976, is intended to recognize and reward creative and imaginative writers at PJC.

The William A. Owens Scholarship was named after Dr. William A. Owens, a former PJC student and writer-in-residence at Texas A&M.

Current PJC students, who are enrolled in at least six credit hours, are eligible to enter. Students may enter every category, but only one entry per

category.

The categories are short story, poetry, argumentative/informative essay, regional literature, narrative essay and the William A. Owens Scholarship Award.

Cash prizes range from \$15 to \$1,000 for the Owens Scholarship. Outstanding work will be published in the 2011 *Swingers of Birches*.



An outside juror will be chosen to judge the entries.

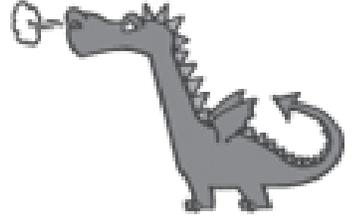
Marsha Dennis, English instructor and Creative Writing contest coordinator, encourages as many entries as possible.

Entries must be submitted by 4 p.m. Feb. 24. A box will be placed in the Administration Building hall for entries next week. Strict adherence to instructions is imperative.

The awards ceremony is April 20 at 2:30 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom.

For specific instructions on entering, information and entry sheets may be picked up in the Administration building hallway by the writing center. For more information contact Marsha Dennis at (903) 782-0317 or mdennis@parisjc.edu

Dragon



Puffs

**ALEXANDER THOMAS
STAFF WRITER**

Hispanic Club

The Hispanic Club is going to be showing "Sin Nombre," the last film in their International Film Festival at 9 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 22 in the Student Center.

Drama

The Drama Department is going to present "The Violet Hour" at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 24 through Saturday, Feb. 26 and at 2 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 27 at the Ray Karrer Theatre.

Basketball

Basketball games will be held in the old gym at 8 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for anyone who would like to play.

Mr. & Miss PJC

Voting for Mr. and Miss PJC will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 21-22. in the Work Force Training Center and in the Student Center. The crowning will be held at half time during the men's basketball game on Saturday, Feb 26.

Halo in the Library

A Halo gaming tournament is going to be held in the library on March 3. Registration will be at 9:30 p.m. and the tournament will start at 10 p.m.

Art Department competition

**BY CHRISTINA GUNLOCK
Co-EDITOR**

The time has come once again for PJC's annual art competition, in conjunction with the Creative Writing Awards. All current PJC students are eligible to enter artwork. All artwork must have been completed within the last 12 months and preferably ready to hang. There is no cost to enter. Cash prizes will be awarded to 1st through 3rd.

Entry Categories are as follows:

- Painting
- Life Drawing
- Drawing

Photo 1 – can be digital or traditional, color or black and white.

Photo 2 – can be digital or traditional, color or black and white.

Design 1 – 2D, can be digital or traditional, must be ready to display.

Design 2 – 3D, can be any medium, digital or traditional, must be ready to display.

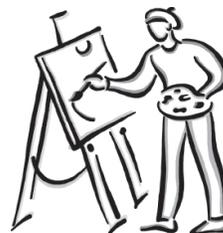
Entries will be accepted to April 4 and the entries will be judged by an outside juror soon after. A label, with the entrant's name, address, title piece, entry category and current phone number, needs to be firmly attached to the back of entries.

Students whose artwork is accepted will be notified before the awards ceremony on April 20. Pieces accepted need to be retrieved and prepared for pre-

sentation before being returned for the show.

Artwork not accepted can be picked up Tuesday, April 12.

The awards ceremony will be on April 20 in the Ballroom at 2:30 p.m. A selection of the award winners will be published in the *Swingers of Birches*. If you have any questions about the competition you may contact Susan Moore at (903) 782-0438 or at smoore@parisjc.edu.



Dragons split double-header against NCTC

Justin Scharf(right) closes for the Paris Dragon's split double-header with NCTC Wednesday, winning the first game 2-1 but losing the second 8-1.

Coach Deron Clark said about this year's team, "They are more athletic, they run better, they have more athleticism as a group. We just haven't done the things as well as we did in the fall; the weather has had something to do with it and we just haven't been able to hit our stride."

The team has games all weekend, starting at Hillsboro on Friday at noon. Saturday is at home at noon, and Sunday the team goes to Wilburton, OK to end the weekend stint.



Quentin Carpenter/The Bat

Lady Dragons scorch Vikings in double-header



Alyssa Nisperos led the team to a win over Carl Albert.

SAMUEL ARNOLD
Staff Writer

The women's softball team won the first and second games against Carl Albert Wednesday, 11-7 and 12-6 respectively.

In the first game, Paris scored 8 runs in the third inning keeping the lead for the rest of the game.

Freshman pitcher Alyssa Nisperos got the win in the first game of the double-header with 10 strikeouts, 2 of which were in the bottom of the seventh.

Head Coach Corey Lyon commented, "A day like today, with the weather conditions obviously, we're more conducive to hitting, the hitters had the advantage."

The Lady Dragons outscored Carl Albert 23-13 in the double header.

"You just got to stay with it, there is no such thing as a big lead, and there is no such thing as being down too far," said Lyon.

In the second game, sophomore Kasey Carlock pitched the entire game with 4 earned runs, and 5 strikeouts. Sophomore Kodie Garner went 3-4, scored 3 runs and had 2 RBI's.

Sophomore Ashley Endsley went 2-4 and batted in two runs. Sophomore Jessica Viramontez went 2-2, with 2 runs, and a run batted in.

Next up for the Lady Dragons is Friday's game against Ranger College.

After two more road games with Hill College and Eastern Oklahoma, their next home game is Wednesday, Feb. 23, against Ranger.