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# **College Hill II puts LU "on the map"**

BY TONYA GRANT

With the airing of last Thursday's first episode of "College Hill II," the Langston community and BET viewers across the nation can now see what drama unfolds when eight LU students are placed under one roof.

The cast included Tanisha Taylor, a 21 year old senior music education major from Omaha, Neb; Coti Farley, a 20 year old sophomore biology major from Oklahoma City; Alva "Peaches" Jasper, a 23 year old senior biology major from Lawton, Okla; Nafiys Blakewood, a 22 year old junior elementary education major from Newark, N.J; Brittani Lewis, a 19 year old sophomore radiology major from Oklahoma City; Israel Jacobs, a 21 year old sophomore business management major from Pawnee, Okla; Stacey Stephens, a 22 year old freshman special education major from Bakersfield, Calif; and Jon Walker, a 22 year old junior information science/ biology major from Santa Jose, Calif.

On the first episode of "College Hill II," Israel and Brittani were portrayed as a disputing ex couple, Stacey as a party girl, Tanisha as the Christian role model, Peaches as a loving mother, and Coti as the hilarious jokester. Jon appeared to be the overconfident punk rocker who speaks his mind. And Nafiys was *Please see "College Hill II," pg. 8* 

# Marching Pride Band sets it off in Atlanta

**BY KEVONO HUNT** Editor

A fter months of tedious rehearsals the Langston University Marching Pride Band took Atlanta by storm at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase on Sunday, Jan. 29, 2005. Not even three inches of snow could stop the menacing death march of the Langston's band.

All of the bands performed a medley of old and new school songs at the opening tribute that honored Ray Charles, Jam Master Jay and Rick James. Albert Jackson, director of the Marching Pride Band, was chosen to direct the bands for the tribute.

Please see "Battle of the Bands," pg. 7



photo by De'Shawn Saffold

The Marching Pride Band struts their stuff during the 3rd Annual Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase.

### Lions become new kings of Red River Conference

"College Hill II" cast members Coti, Tanisha, Stacey, Nafiys, Jon, Israel, Peaches and Brittani can be seen on the yard and on TV. Their show airs on Thursdays at 8 p.m. on BET.

BY JAMUEL WALLACE

A fter starting the new year off with a loss to the St.Gregory's Cavaliers, the Langston Lions have won nine straight games and are now ranked #20 in the National Men's Basketball Rating poll. Their latest victory came Monday with a 79-61 win over the University of Texas Permian Basin Falcons in Odessa, Texas.

The Lions are currently 12-1 in conference. They are tied with the Houston Baptist Huskies—a team they defeated 103-89 on Jan. 8—for first place in the Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC).

With only Quentin Beaty (#21) and Keenanlan Clemmons (#44)

back from last year's NAIA National Tournament team, the Lions have brushed off all critics.

"We are playing well right now. Everybody is playing as a team. Everybody is taking the games one at a time," said Lions Assistant Head Coach Jerome Willis.

Beaty, who scored 36 points and 17 rebounds against the Falcons, is leading the team in scoring and rebounding with 19 points and 9.5 rebounds a game. Beaty was named Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Week for his performance against Southwestern Assemblies of God (SWAG) and Wiley College.

Please see "New kings," pg. 5



Photo by John Amatucci/Courtesy of BET

## Gazette

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# -LU Doices — **Behind the scenes on "College Hill**

### **BJ** major shares his experence as a "PA"

### BY RASHEEM JAMES

had the experience of a lifetime working as a production assistant on "College Hill II" when BET came to LU to film the reality TV show last semester.

I was offered the job through a friend and classmate, Lannie Franklin III, who had been hired as the production coordinator. Even though I wasn't paid, the experience proved to be valuable because it gave me the first screen credits on my resume. Not too many people can say, "I've worked on a reality show," or any TV show, period.

By working on the show, I gained hands-on experience. I also made contacts with TV industry professionals and was offered an internship in Los Angeles, Calif. with "American Idol."

Professors are always telling us to explore a field while we're still students. They always say to be willing to start at the bottom. I found out that they are right. From the director all the way down, everybody starts as a "PA.'

"You're a hard worker. If you can get this down, you can pretty much handle anything," is what the director, Ron De Shay, told me. He wasn't screaming and yelling, although there are some directors who will cuss you out all the time. I learned it's nothing personal: It's just business. These people want their product delivered under budget and on time.

According to the Virginia Film Office website, which published advice for students aspiring to be on a crew, "The best thing you can bring with you as a production assistant is a good attitude. Someone with a positive, "can-do" attitude will go much farther than someone with more experience but complains and is not pleasant to be around."

On my first day on the job, I was asked to run a few errands, such as paying bills and getting lunch for the crew members.

That was a job by itself. Just imagine taking 20 different Subway sandwich orders. Sometimes the orders would get mixed up, and it became People would say, "I don't eat pork, and that has bacon on it"---and these were not even the stars. When I did food runs, it was my job to make sure no crew member got something he didn't want on his sandwich. Certain camera operators who only ate organic foods were usually easy to please.

After a week or so, I went from running errands to driving cast and crew members to designated locations for taping. I know some of you are thinking, "Hey, man, you were just a chauffeur," but that wasn't the case. The first thing I learned as a PA was that

my job at times to make it right. a visit to a hip-hop church service. The church had a live band, which played renditions of church songs over hip-hop beats. They treated us all like movie stars. The members of the church set up a VIP section for cast and crew.

> When I wasn't driving or running errands, senior crew members encouraged me to learn how to use the camera equipment, such as the Pelco cameras used throughout the house. They look like the surveillance cameras in a department store. They were on the ceiling, in the bedrooms, in the hallways and laundry room, in the rec room, in the kitchen and by the phone. I was learning to zoom in to get an ex-

"There were times I felt things could have been done differently, and there were times my ideas were overlooked, but I had to keep telling myself, 'that's business'; some things have to be done a certain way. In business, you have to have tough skin."

timing is everything. A lack of planning could jeopardize a whole day of shooting. Because the entertainment business is so deadline driven, a lack of planning also means a loss of money. It was critical that everything was organized. Because the production team was organized most of the time to the very last detail, even planning the shuttle schedule had a part in whether the production would run smoothly.

The housemates, of course, are students, and not all of them had cars. The director wanted them to be on a schedule. So we had four shuttles, at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., to carry them wherever they needed to go-to school or to the doctor or dentist, for example. Cameras were mounted in the car, and a cameraperson would sometimes be in the car to capture trips.

I drove them where they needed to go, to and from the ranch, which is about a 10-minute drive on the outskirts of Guthrie, Okla. I also drove them to the campus from the ranch, which is an additional 15-minute drive, so they could get to class.

On one of their many field trips, I accompanied the cast on treme close up on a face, or zoom in on what a person was eating, or I would position the camera on someone who was having a phone conversation.

I also learned how to use a boom microphone or boom mic. The boom mic is on the end of a long pole or arm. It is very sensitive and used to record natural sound. I learned that it is important to make sure the batteries are charged and meters are checked. Boom mics are used to record sound from those who don't have a portable microphone, and for group conversation. That way, everyone's voice could be heard during a conversation.

I had to fill out log sheets and do tape logging. Now, this was actually fun because I got to review everything that was filmed for that day. You sit and watch hours of tape, and jot down what happens every two minutes, so the editors can find certain incidents or conversations on the tape. (I can't give away the plot: That's part of what I learned, too, about working on a show.) I can say this: There are no retakes: Ain't no startin' overs. That's why they buy so much tape and use so many cameras: They want to catch every detail, happy and sad.

Most people don't really know what goes on when it comes to producing a reality show or even being a camera operator. These are hard jobs to get.

Television, video, and motion picture camera operators held about 28,000 jobs in 2002 and film and video editors held about 19,000, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. Many were selfemployed. About half earned between \$20,000 and \$50,000 a year, the department says, though some can earn much more.

Many of the skills are learned on the job and many of these positions are found by networking. Camera operators in the film and

television industries usually are hired on the basis of recommendations from individuals such as producers or directors of photography, according to the Labor Department's Occupational Outlook Handbook.

So don't try to overstep your boundaries: I witnessed many production assistants acting like directors, instead of taking this time to learn as much as they could.

There were times I felt things could have been done differently, and there were times my ideas were overlooked, but I had to keep telling myself, "that's business"; some things have to be done a certain way. In business, you have to have tough skin.

My ultimate goal was to gain experience, but I also gained new friends, and a new respect for the film industry and the people behind the scenes.



# -LU Doices -

## **MLK Holyday: A** day on, not off!

he purpose of my 142nd edition of Chapy's Corner is to honor a fraternal Alpha brother, a human rights advocate,



Coleman Heritage Center

and minister of the gospel, Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. (b.15 January 1929-d.04 April 1968). It is my hope and prayer that this first Black History Month epistle will inspire us to remember that his holiday, or holyday, is a "Day On (Working), Not A Day Off (Chilling)!"

King's holyday was designed to celebrate the life and legacy of a mere mortal man with human flaws who brought hope and healing to America. We also commemorated (not worshipped) the timeless values he taught us through his example: courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service.

We commemorated King's inspiring words, because his voice and his vision filled a great void in our nation, and answered our collective longing to become a country that truly lived by its noblest principles. Yet, King knew that it was not enough just to talk the talk; he had to walk the walk for his words to be credible. And so we commemorated on his holyday the man of action, who put his life on the line for freedom and justice everyday; the man who braved threats and jail and beatings and who ultimately paid the highest price to make democracy a reality for all Americans, death!

The King holyday honored the life and contributions of one of America's greatest champions of racial justice and equality. This young leader not only dreamed of a color-blind society, he led a movement that achieved historic reforms to help make it a reality.

On King's holyday we commemorated his great dream of a vibrant, multiracial nation united in justice, peace and reconciliation; a nation that has a place at the table for children of every ethnicity and room at the inn for every needy child. We were called on his holyday, not merely to honor, but to celebrate the values of equality, tolerance and interracial sister and brotherhood he so compellingly expressed in his great dream for America.

It was a day of multicultural cooperation and sharing. No other day of the year brings so many peoples from different cultural backgrounds together in such a vibrant spirit of brother and sisterhood. And it is the young people of all ethnicities and various faith-based origins who hold the keys to the fulfillment of his dream.

We commemorated on King's holyday the ecumenical leader and visionary who embraced the unity of all faiths in love and truth. And though we take patriotic pride that King was an American, on this holyday we also commemorated the global leader who inspired Christ-like nonviolent liberation movements around the world.

The King holyday celebrated his global vision of the world housea world whose people and nations had triumphed over poverty, racism, war and violence. The holyday celebrated his vision of ecumenical solidarity and his insistence that all faiths had something meaningful to contribute to building the beloved community.

The holyday commemorates America's pre-eminent advocate of nonviolence-the man who taught by his example that nonviolent action is the most powerful, revolutionary force for social change available to oppressed people in their struggles for liberation.

## **Speak Clearly Please!**

### Instructors' heavy accents cause confusion in class

**BY KEVONO HUNT** Editor

A posit! Aposit! Do you know what this word means? I will give you three guesses. A: Something that is fitting; B: One of a group made up of the 12 disciples chosen by Christ to preach his gospel; or C: Something located directly across from something else or each other.

Well, I learned on the first day of my biology class that the correct answer is C. After scolding myself for not having a better

vocabulary, I discovered that my professor, who has a very heavy accent and whose first language is not English, was attempting to say the word "opposite." I

knew then that I was in for a difficult semester.

My biology professor is just one of many faculty members with heavy accents. Now, normally I would not have a problem with this, but the accents of some instructors make them hard, if not impossible to understand—especially in lecture style classes. In lecture classes the instructor should have a more than adequate grasp of the English language, which includes correct enunciation. An instructor should have the ability to reach his or her students. That only happens when students can understand the concepts being relayed to them. A student does not benefit from a

class when they are unable to absorb what is being taught due to a communication barrier.

When I attended my math class we didn't have a teacher yet (a topic I will save for a later editorial), but one of the other faculty members came in to take roll and to tell us who the instructor would be and what book would be used. All the students began to sigh when they heard the name of the instructor because they knew that he did not speak English too well. Math is difficult enough without trying to decipher every other word coming

"The university needs to screen its applicants more thoroughly. If they did then they would have determined that some of the instructors' heavy accents make them unsuitable to teach lecture style classes."

out of someone's mouth.

Some may think I am being rude, mean or maybe just overreacting. When I complained to a faculty member about the language barrier he stated that students have preconceived notions about foreign teachers, including that they are not going to understand them. He also said that it is not students' fault that they feel that way; we are conditioned when we are younger to not want to learn and to use any reason as an excuse to blame others for our inadequacies—in other words he said the problem is "all in our minds." I replied by saying that I do not have any preconceived notions about any teacher. I like the fact that we have instructors who come from different backgrounds.

However, I cannot learn or grasp concepts from someone who does not speak English well, nor from a person with a very heavy accent, and neither can other students. It does not help the situation when the teacher does not acknowledge the fact that they are difficult to understand. I have found that many instructors do not want to accept that they have a strong accent, or do not consider it a problem.

This has become one of the most talked about issues on campus among students. We walk

out of classes saying, "Did you understand anything that the teacher just said?" We did not pay thousands of dollars a semester to learn on our own; if

that was the case then why do we even need to go to class?

The university needs to screen its applicants more thoroughly. If they did then they would have determined that some of the instructors' heavy accents make them unsuitable to teach lecture style classes.

I know the general attitude is "It's Langston, get used to it" (please see my editorial in last fall's first issue), but enough is enough. We must demand a quality education; part of that includes having teachers who speak English well, regardless of what country they are from.

> Email questions or comments about this editorial to LUGazette@yahoo.com.

Work must be inspired by the right ideals, and education must not simply touch work, but life based on those ideals. — W.E.B Du Bois

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the writers whose names appear with the articles and are not necessarily those of the Gazette, Langston University or any of its administrators and/or governing bodies. Letters to the editor are welcomed from any individual officially connected with Langston University. They should be neatly typed, double spaced and signed by the person writing the letter. All letters, along with a copy on disk or cd, should be personally brought to the Gazette office located in Sanford Hall, Room 318. The Gazette retains the right to edit, accept and/or reject items deemed to be contrary to the best interest of the publication, Langston University and/or any of its governing bodies.

## **Housing situation improves**

BY ALASHA ROLLINS

**S** tudents who had to resort to sleeping on friend's couches and floors because of a lack of available housing should finally be able to get their own accommodations. According to Peggy Raskob, general manager over Scholars' Inn, the housing situation has improved.

At the beginning of the semester, The Commons had a waiting list and Centennial Court had no space for males, leaving many students who had expected to live in those apartments in a bind. Raskob said that some students may have found themselves without housing because of their grades from last semester, holds on their accounts, or just poor planning.

Even though there is not any space in Centennial Court, according to Raskob as of today there are two spaces open in The Commons, which are for faculty, staff and students with children; and plenty of space in Young Hall, which are available to any student. There are also 20 spaces open in Scholars' Inn. While Scholars' Inn was originally for scholars only, Raskob said that they are now accepting all students because of the housing shortage.

Raskob advises students to plan ahead for next semester.

"Students should apply for housing during pre-enrollment, Raskob said. "All of the applications for housing are the same. Students can pick up an application at the property or they can pick one up at student affairs and fill it out for where they would like to stay."

### **SGA** expecting busy spring semester

#### BY AKIA DOUGLAS

The Student Government Association (SGA) has once again planned another activity-filled semester. They have already gotten students to show their support for The Marching Pride band by renting a bus and attending this year's Honda Battle of the Bands held in Atlanta, Ga.

In February, the SGA has planned many activities promoting student involvement. To honor President Holloway's 25 years of service at Langston University, the SGA is encouraging different student organizations to do community service projects from now until Feb. 25. With Black History Month being celebrated in February, the SGA will try to help Langstonites acknowledge the importance of their history.

"We really want to educate students in an entertaining way about Black History Month," said SGA President Vanessa McGlothen. "Right now we are in the process of trying to put together a Black history show so that students can appreciate themselves and where they come from."

The SGA also plans to focus on previously unaccomplished goals. During the fall the organization spent most of its energy on homecoming because it was back on the yard. "This semester we really want to focus more on students' academics. We want to know what it is that they need and what's lacking in their academic field," McGlothen said.

McGlothen was slightly disappointed with last year's participation in SGA activities. When running for president there was only one other person who ran against her, and no one ran against SGA Vice President Joshua Busby.

"SGA wants to get more people involved in what they're doing. There seems to be a lack of interest. We are the voices of the student body and we don't utilize it that much," she said.

For information on SGA activities, call 466-5416.

### Internships available in transportation industry

### BY KAY WACHTSTETTER

Special to the Gazette

Now is the time to submit resumes and applications to Langston University's Transportation Center of Excellence for a chance at several summer internships, jobs and fellowships with various transportation related government agencies.

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) offers the Summer Internship Program for Diverse Groups (STIPDIG). It is part of the USDOT's effort to promote the entry of women, persons with disabilities, and members of diverse groups into transportation careers where these groups are underrepresented. This program pays for students to work in a government transportation related agency in another state. Moving and living expenses plus a bi-weekly stipend are paid. Applications should be received in the STIPDG office in Washington D.C. on or before Feb. 28, 2005, and the internship participation period is from June 6 to Aug. 12, 2005. Application packets can be found on the web at www.fhwa.dot.gov/education/ stipdg.htm, or contact the Transportation Center of Excellence for an application and/or assistance in preparing an application.

The Federal Highway Administration sponsors the Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program. There are three programs open for applications: the Graduate Transportation Fellowship Program, the Faculty Fellowship Program, and the Eisenhower Historically Black Colleges and Universities Fellowships Program.

The Graduate Program provides funding for the pursuit of master's or doctorate degrees in transportation related fields, which covers a broad spectrum of majors. It pays a monthly stipend of \$1,700 for the master's level and \$2,000 for the doctoral level. The application deadline is Feb. 18, 2005.

The Faculty Fellowship offers stipends from \$1,000 to \$3,000 for a faculty member to enhance their expertise by attending transportation conferences, courses, seminars or workshops. These stipends pay for travel, per diem, course books and event registration. There are two review and selection periods each year with application deadlines on April 15, 2005 and October 15, 2005.

Submit resumes to Kay Wachtstetter, Assistant Director, Langston University Transportation Center of Excellence, 4205 North Lincoln Blvd., Rm 155, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, or email them to mkwachtstetter@lunet.edu. For more information call Kay Wachtstetter at 962-1679 or Vicky Simental at 962-1677.

## News to Know

**COMPILED BY JESSICA P. LOWE** 

#### **Bush reaches out to Black leaders**

Washington DC—Although the Black community overwhelmingly opposed his re-election, President Bush opened the White House to meet with about 20 pastors and community leaders yesterday afternoon. Representative Melvin Watt, new chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, had a chance to get off to a better start at a meeting today with President Bush. During last year's political campaigns, Republican officials said they were making a more concerted effort to reach out to the Black community through powerful religious leaders.

### Students polled on press freedoms

A survey of 112,003 students discovered that 36% believe newspapers should get government approval of stories before publishing. 51% say they should be able to publish freely, and 13% have no opinion. Asked whether the press enjoys too much freedom, not enough, or about the right amount, 32% say "too much," and 37% say it has the right amount. 10% say it has too little.

### Jury selection continues in Jackson case

Santa Maria, Calif.—A young witness is now ready to testify against superstar Michael Jackson in the upcoming child molestation case. Jackson, 46, has been charged with molesting a 13-year-old cancer patient after giving him alcohol. Today, 150 people are scheduled to arrive to court to be screened as jurors and alternates.

#### Iraq votes for democracy

Baghdad, Iraq—Polls opened in Iraq on Sunday, Jan. 30 at 7 a.m. Iraq time and closed at 5 p.m. Iraq Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi wants to "begin a national dialogue to guarantee that the voices of all Iraqis are present in the coming government." Overall turnout was high, but Sunni participation was considerably low. Final results are not likely for a week or more.

### U.K. crash in Iraq causes ten presumed deaths

London—Ten of Britain's military personnel are missing and presumed dead after the downing of a military transport plane north of Baghdad on Sunday. An Iraqi militant group is considered responsible for shooting down the plane. If the deaths are confirmed, it will be the largest loss of British lives since the beginning of the Iraq war.

#### Oil prices will stay high

Vienna, Austria—The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) warned that oil prices will remain high through the spring season. With prices already hovering near \$50 a barrel, consumers are worried about the price of heating oil during the winter months. Kuwait's oil minister, Sheik Ahmad Fahd al-Ahmad al-Sabah, said the group's decision was aimed at bringing more stability to the market and influencing consumers and producers to "walk together…for prices to be acceptable."

### Georgia finally thaws out

Atlanta—Power has finally been restored to thousands of homes and businesses hit by a winter storm this past weekend. Stranded airline passengers spent uncomfortable nights in airports, homes were chilled without heating and electricity, and at least two Georgia drivers are dead from the slick roadways throughout the state.

### What happened to \$9 billion?

Washington—The U.S led authority that oversaw Iraq after the 2003 invasion did not keep track of approximately \$9 billion that was transferred to government ministries. An inspector general has found that the transactions lacked financial controls, security, communication and adequate staff, which has left the billions of dollars unaccounted for. U.S. officials relied on Iraqi audit agencies to account for the funds, but those offices were not even functioning when the funds were transferred between October 2003 and June 2004.

# -Sports Den

### New kings, continued from pg. 1



photo by De'Shawn Saffold

Lions center Nafiys Blakewood (#50) moves into the paint against Jarvis Christian on Jan. 24.

Kendrick Mebane (#13) is second in scoring with 18 points and is first on the team with free throw percentages, with 75 percent. Mebane's high game for the second half of the season was a 30 point game in the Lions' 87-80 overtime win over SWAG.

Steven Alexander (#23) has had a big impact on the team since transferring from University of Central Oklahoma. Alexander is third on the team in scoring with 15 points a game, second in rebounding with seven per game, and first in steals with two steals a game. Alexander's best game so far was a 35 point explosion against Houston Baptist. Alexander was 7-7 from the three point line and 7-7 from the free throw.

The Lions' next game is against the Texas Wesleyan Rams. The Rams handed the Lions their only conference loss with a 77-73 defeat back on Dec.11, 2004. The game starts at 7:30 p.m.





photo by De'Shawn Saffold

In the midst of their nine game winning streak, Steven Alexander (#23), has been one of the Lion's keys to success.

# -Sports Den



### photo by De'Shawn Saffold

Tara "Nyke" White (#45) drives past a Jarvis Christian defender in the first half of the Lady Lion's 60-50 win on Jan.24.

## Track team starts off on a good foot

### BY JAMUEL WALLACE

The Langston Lions Indoor Track and Field Team got off to a blazing start this new year with an impressive showing at the Oklahoma Christian Indoor Invitational #1 at the University of Oklahoma's Mosier Indoor Facility.

"The first meet kind of gave us a starting point on where we need to go and things we need to do to get better," said Head Track and Field Coach James Hilliard."

On the women's side, Monique Carroll finished fourth in the high jump with a jump of  $5-2\frac{1}{2}$ . In the 60-meter dash Tatiana Simon finished first with a time of 7:93. Tasia Galbreath finished third with a time of 8:16, and freshman Guaneka Williams finished sixth with a time of 8:27.

In the 200-meter dash Simon finished first with a time of 26:72. Brandee Means finished third with a time of 27:18, and Galbreath finished fifth with a time of 27:55. Stephanie Rusky finished seventh in the shot put with a throw of 33-9 1⁄2.

On the men's side, Brian Smith finished first in the long jump with a jump of 23-0<sup>1</sup>/4. In the 60-meter dash Junnell Wright finished second with a time of 7:05, and James Hall finished third with a time of 7:06.

In the 60-meter dash Akeem Lavoll finished fourth with a time of 1:28. In the triple jump Smith finished second with a jump of 46-43/4. Randy Moore finished fifth with a jump of 42-10, and Lavoll finished sixth with a jump of 41-2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

In the 200-meter dash Hall finished third with a time of 22:32.

The Lions' next indoor meet is Friday afternoon at the University of Oklahoma's Mosier Indoor Facility in the Oklahoma Christian Indoor Invitational #2.

# Lady Lions back on the winning track

BY JAMUEL WALLACE Sports writer

espite a 68-63 loss to the Uni versity of Texas Permian Basin Lady Falcons, the Langston Lady Lions are poised to make a run at a fifth NAIA National Tournament appearance in Jackson, Tenn..

The Lady Lions are 9-4 in conference and 9-12 overall. They are tied for third place with the Lady Falcons and have eight games remaining.

Before Monday night's loss, the Lady Lions' only setback of the new year was a 60-52 defeat at the hands of the #3 ranked Houston Baptist Lady Huskies on Jan. 8.

Junior Center Kim Braxton (#43) has been on a scoring rampage over the last seven games, averaging 19 points and eight rebounds per game, while shooting 63 percent from the field. Braxton also has claimed the women's Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Week the last two weeks.

Imani Miller (#3), who helped lead the Lady Lions to a 83-77 victory over the Texas A&M International Lady Dust Devils with 26 points, three rebounds, and a steal, is averaging eight points and five rebounds.

Jessica James (#24) is second on the team in scoring and rebounds, with 10 points and six rebounds.

The Lady Lions next game is against the Texas Wesleyan Lady Rams at the CF Gayles Fieldhouse on Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

## **Kendrick Mebane**

his week the spotlight is on Kendrick Mebane, a 22 year L old junior physical education major from Houston, Texas. In his first year on the Lion's basketball team, Kendrick has emerged as the "go to guy." He has led the team in scoring, averaging 18 points per game, and is second on the team in steals. He contributions have helped lead the team to a record of 15 wins, and they are now ranked #20 in the National Men's Basketball Rating poll.

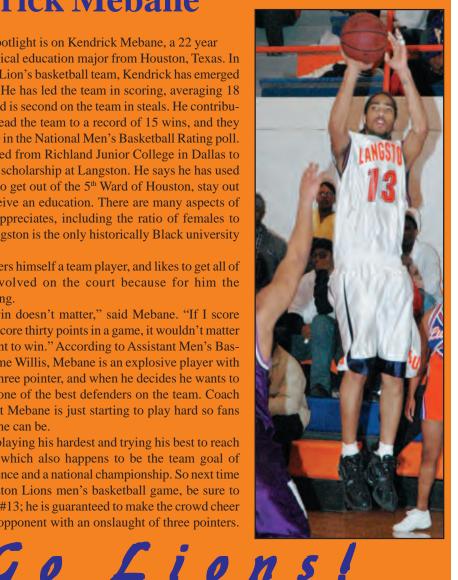
Mebane transfered from Richland Junior College in Dallas to accept a basketball scholarship at Langston. He says he has used the sport as a way to get out of the 5th Ward of Houston, stay out of trouble, and receive an education. There are many aspects of Langston that he appreciates, including the ratio of females to males, and that Langston is the only historically Black university in Oklahoma.

Kendrick considers himself a team player, and likes to get all of his teammates involved on the court because for him the bottomline is winning.

"However we win doesn't matter," said Mebane. "If I score three points, or if I score thirty points in a game, it wouldn't matter to me because I want to win." According to Assistant Men's Basketball Coach Jerome Willis, Mebane is an explosive player with deep range on the three pointer, and when he decides he wants to play defense he is one of the best defenders on the team. Coach Willis also said that Mebane is just starting to play hard so fans will see how good he can be.

Mebane is now playing his hardest and trying his best to reach his personal goal, which also happens to be the team goal of winning the conference and a national championship. So next time you attend a Langston Lions men's basketball game, be sure to keep a close eye on #13; he is guaranteed to make the crowd cheer as he lights up the opponent with an onslaught of three pointers.

### **Inside Athletics** by Kent Flo



### Battle of the Bands, continued from pg. 1

LU's show included old school joints like "In the Stone" by Earth, Wind and Fire and "If This World Were Mine" by Luther Vandross, which flag line member De'Vin Lewis and alumni David L. Taylor sung live. The band then manipulated a series of precision movements and formations while bringing in new school joints like "Lovers and Friends" by Usher and "Goodies" By Ciara. They also did a tribute to Atlanta by playing "Welcome to Atlanta" by Ludacris. When the band hit the field the crowd rose to their feet at the sound of the Marching Pride.

"I think everybody was shocked that this small school came with such force," said Kandis Griffin, a senior psychology major from Amarillo, Texas.

Ten bands were selected to perform at the showcase. These bands traveled from all over the country to show why they are the best of the best. North Carolina Central University and Virginia State University represented the Central Intercollegiate Association (CIAA). Bethune-Cookman College and Florida A & M University represented the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC). Clark-Atlanta University and Tuskegee University represented the Southern Intercollegiate Conference (SIAC). Alabama A & M and Prairie View A & M represented the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC). Langston University and Savannah State University were both independents.

During the Celebration Tour, which took place during the college football season, HBCU commissioners, presidents, band directors and fans judged 40 participating schools on showmanship, musicianship and fan interaction to see who would make the cut to enter the Battle of the Bands. The invitational showcase is considered the "Super Bowl" for marching bands. Because Langston University was not a part of a traditional conference, LU had to overcome some obstacles to get to the Battle of the Bands.

"Because we were an independent school and we didn't get as much coverage as the other schools in conferences, we had to go out to different schools and get them to vote for us," said band member James Taylor, a senior music education major from Chicago, Ill.

The Marching Pride Band has grown from 77 members to approximately 150 members. They have traveled all over the U.S. giving firstclass performances.

"You set up a program and you set the training up at the level which you want the students to perform," Jackson said. "Some student are not used to the discipline that we enforce here, but they realized it was worth it when they saw the other schools crashing and burning."

The reaction to LU's band was phenomenal—even BET gave Langston University accolades on a job well done.

American Honda Motor Company Inc. is the official sponsor of the Honda Battle of the Bands. Each of the ten participating schools received a check for \$10,000.

For more information about the **Honda Battle of the Bands**, visit www.HondaBattleoftheBands.com.

Photos taken by Public Relations and De'Shawn Saffold













### **College Hill: TV vs. Reality**

#### **BY TONYA GRANT**

Most of us know that the average Langston student does not live a life of luxury, unlike the eight students who participated in this season's "College Hill II."

So when the cameras began recording the lives of eight Langston University students for BET's second season of "College Hill," I searched high and low to figure out just what was and wasn't reality.

**TV**—The students move miles off campus into a two-story ranch house, fully furnished with sheets on the beds and pictures already hanging on the walls.

**REALITY**—The real deal is that most of Langston University's students stay on campus. Even if you were to rent the furnished campus apartments, you would receive only such items as a couch, a kitchen table and a mattress to sleep on—nothing that could ever compare to the magnificence of the "College Hill" ranch.

**TV**—On "College Hill II," the refrigerator was always full because the cast had production assistants who would make food runs upon request.

**REALITY**—At Langston University's main campus, meals are provided by the cafeteria known to students as The Café. Meal plans start at about \$1,000 per semester. Food can't be taken out of The Café, so there are no food runs for most students. The alternatives on campus include a small food court with some fast food.

**TV**—On the show, students were chauffeured to and from their destinations, on and off-campus.

**REALITY**—The majority of Langston University students don't have a car (or a driver). According to the campus police, 1,826 parking decals have been issued to staff and students.

**TV**—The eight Langston University students sleep under one roof, in a house with a floor plan making members of the opposite gender share bedrooms and common living areas. Two guys shared one room. Two ladies stayed in another room. Two guys and two girls shared one big room.

**REALITY**—This has never been allowed at the university. In fact, if you live in the dorm halls, you aren't allowed to have visitors of the opposite sex under any circumstance, not even family members. There's also an expectation that if you're renting a campus apartment with a member of the opposite sex, you're married.

**TV**—The eight coeds had to ask permission to travel anywhere outside of the house.

**REALITY**—When students go to college, they are considered to be adults. No one has to ask to go anywhere, not even to leave class early.

**TV**— "College Hill II" may seem to make the university appear less secluded than it really is. The crew made group field trips chosen by "College Hill II," including trips to a nightclub, a church and a radio station off campus.

**REALITY**—If you go to Langston University and live at the main campus, you're in a pretty remote place. It's 11 miles east of Guthrie, Okla., and 40 miles northeast of Oklahoma City. There's a Dollar Store and a Subway nearby, but the reality is that there aren't a lot of places where a student is going to go for fun without traveling to one of the cities. Campus is your main setting.

**TV**—Let's not forget the camera man who follows the cast members' every move, and the hidden cameras inside the house in mysterious places, including the closets, trying to catch uncensored things for television.

**REALITY**—Well, this is one case where TV almost matches reality. While cameras may not follow students around, rumors certainly do, especially on a small college campus where some people have nothing more to do than discuss the personal lives of others—students and faculty.

## College Hill II, continued from pg. 1

slightly typecast as the laid back, "mind my business" kind of guy.

Most would agree that the show brings recognition to the university, but while "College Hill II" has definitely put Langston "on the map," the verdict is still out on what image the show will leave behind. Some Langston alumni have already expressed their discomfort with the first episode. They will most likely be tuning in again on Thursday to see who else may parade around the house naked; and if more of the students "show their butts," literally or not, the administration could get some calls from disappointed former Langstonites.

Langston students have varying views about the first episode and the show itself.

"I thought that the show was cool; it was a little slow though," said Ckai Dawson, a senior English education major from Oklahoma City. I also thought that we should've seen more dimensions of the characters. You can't really judge Langston based on the perception from BET."

"As far as entertainment and television goes, it's going to depict the negative aspects of college life, especially Black college life," said Vanessa McGlothen, a senior sociology major from Las Vegas, Nev. "All in all I hope it gives Langston University the increased enrollment that we need, and the exposure, but I thought of the show as a typical reality show with the typical characters."

"It was cool. I think it made Langston look spiffy," said Joshua Fields, a freshman computer information system major from Ardmore, Okla. "I'm looking out for the next episode. Overall, I liked it."

Now that the taping is over, the "College Hill II" crew has had a chance to reflect on the experience.

"I thought applying for the show would close some doors in my life that were left open," said Brittani. "I am more happy with myself than I've ever been."

"It's a good feeling to be on the show. I've always wanted to do something like this," said Israel. "The show brought me and Brittani back together when I thought I had gotten away. It was like I was back in the relationship and trying to find my way out all over again. "There are some good things and some bad things that happened in the house, but that goes with all college students at any college," said Tanisha. "My personal goal was to try and stay who I was."

As the shows air on BET from week to week, cast members are certain to learn of how they are perceived by others watching the show.

Some cast members have already had problems as a result of being on the show.

Peaches said, "I'm nervous and anxious to hear what my roommates had to say in the closed interviews. I'm sure it's going to make us all mad. The perception of me, however, is not all true—I was offended after seeing the title that they placed me with. The name could have been more original than "Baby Mama," and the child in the commercials isn't my child. I have a girl, and the baby in the commercials is a little boy."

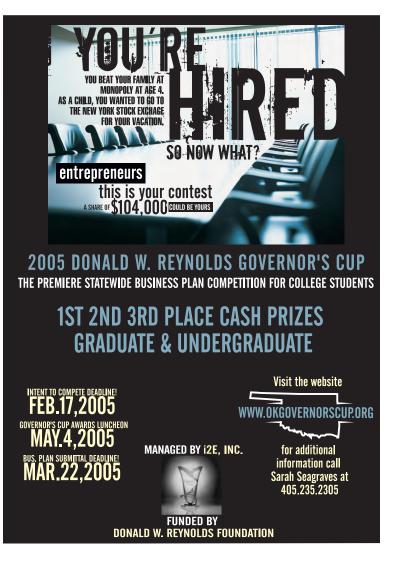
"My mom was very upset about me doing the show, so she disowned me through the holiday season," Coti said.

Still, he does not regret being a part of "College Hill II."

"I know what kind of person I am regardless of the camera in my face. I knew what kind of image I wanted to portray, and I didn't change anything. I would describe my experience as being unique because not everybody has the opportunity to experience this."

What can viewers expect to see in future episodes? In one show the cast gets to throw a party to bring entertainment to the bunch. "The bathroom scene gets juicy," Israel said. Also, someone comes out with a deep, dark confession, and due to unknown circumstances someone gets kicked off the show. "One rule was violated to the point that someone's life was in danger," says Brittani.

Viewers will have to wait and see who gets kicked off and what other unexpected incidents will occur. Until then, stay tuned to the show, which is airing every Thursday at 8 p.m. on BET.



# **Mapping out your future**

As a beginning freshman you may have worked with a counselor on what is commonly known as a degree plan. This plan stated the degree you were trying to achieve, outlined the classes needed to receive that degree, and then gave you a time line indicating how long it would take before you could don a cap and gown.

Now, you may have followed your plan to the letter. Or, if you were very indecisive and changed your plan frequently, you may have ended up adding a couple of more semesters to your college experience. But what mat-

ters now is that you are about to graduate. You would still be adding up the hours of wasted classes, however, if you had never had that degree plan mapping your way in and out of college.

With the start of a new phase of your life a new plan is needed. This plan will map out what will hopefully be an exciting and rewarding career, thus we'll call it your Career fairly well, are respected, have a Plan.

Besides mapping out your future, your Career Plan will also help keep you focused. Sometimes we forget exactly what our goals are and the reasons why we made these goals. Having something written down can reassure us that we're heading in the right direction, and remind us why we're working so hard.

The Career Plan you make for yourself should answer four basic questions:

 $\sqrt{\text{What are my career goals}}$ ?

- $\sqrt{\text{Why have I set these goals}}$ ?
- $\sqrt{\text{How will I achieve these goals}}$ ?
- $\sqrt{\text{When should I reasonably be able}}$ to achieve these goals?

#### What are my career goals?

This part of your plan will state In order to be an African-Amerithe goal(s) you want to reach in your career. This can be as simple as stating what title you want to hold, such as an African-American History Professor, or an Accountant for one of the nation's leading accounting firms.

If you have two very different career goals, like you want to be a Public Relations Director and a Clothing Designer, then you would need to make a Career Plan for both goals. It's okay if you are unsure can history.

about exactly what position you hope to hold, but know what field you want to work in. For example, instead of writing that you want to be a Dentist, you could put that you want to work in dentistry. However, the more specific you are the more helpful your Career Plan will be.

Why have I set these goals? This part of your plan will simply explain why you've set your stated career goals. The explanation should be straightforward. For example: I am going to be an Afri-

Now What?

advice for the graduating senior

By Chaz Foster-Kyser,

journalism instructor

can-American History Professor

because (1) I love sharing knowl-

edge about African-American his-

tory, (2) college professors get paid

high level of autonomy, and a flex-

ible work schedule. (3) I want to

work in academia, (4) I know I'll be

How will I achieve these goals?

This part of the plan explains

what you have to accomplish to

achieve your goal(s) step by step.

Research on your desired profes-

sion may be needed to fill this sec-

tion out. If you wanted to be a

College Professor, for example,

then talking to your former profes-

sors and researching various

graduate programs would be de-

Once you've done your re-

search you should be able to write

out a general path you have to fol-

low. For example, you might write:

can History Professor I have to:

ceive my Master's in History, while

assisting in teaching undergrad

ceive my Ph.D. in African-Ameri-

can Studies, while teaching

undergrad classes and working

search and work in African-Ameri-

-Become noted for my own re-

part-time to support myself.

2.Attend school part-time to re-

1.Attend school full-time to re-

a great professor.

sirable.

classes.

-Network with other professors, especially at schools with an African-American Studies Department. 3. Work on my dissertation.

4. Apply for a full-time teaching position with a university with a respected African-American Studies Department.

### When should I reasonably be able to achieve these goals?

The biggest question is almost always "when?" Answering the "when" question will help keep you on track once you've decided what you're focusing on becom-

ing. The word "reasonably" is inserted into that question so that you'll set a realistic time line. Setting deadlines in your time line that are close to impossible to meet will discourage you when they aren't realized. On

the other hand, setting deadlines that are too easy to meet will keep you from working hard and going as far as you can in your career.

The time line you make will be based off of what you wrote down in "How will I achieve these goals?" For each step you wrote down you should give a maximum amount of time allotted to get past that step and on to the next one. Research will definitely be needed to determine how long each step should take. Some will be taken simultaneously and should be written as such. The following is a sample time line.

### **Career Time Line**

Get my master's in African-American History while assisting in teaching undergrad courses. -2 Years

Get my Ph.D. in African-American Studies while teaching undergrad courses. — 4 Years

·Work on my dissertation and complete my. Ph.D.-1 Year

Estimated time to working as an African-American History Professor: 7 Years

Your time line may have to be adjusted due to unforeseeable circumstances that happen down the road. You might find shortcuts to reaching your career goal(s) or have to take additional steps. What's important is that you have a plan to follow. The following is a sample Career Plan:

### Shane's Career Plan

#### What are my career goals?

To work as an African-American History Professor at a university with a respected African-American Studies Department.

### Why have I set these goals?

- 1. I love sharing knowledge about African-American his tory.
- 2. College professors get paid fairly well, are respected, have a high level of autonomy, and a flexible work schedule.
- 3. I want to work in academia.
- 4. I know I'll be a great professor.

### How will I achieve these goals?

- 1. By attend school full-time to receive my master's in his tory, while assisting in teaching undergrad classes.
- 2. By attending school part-time to receive my Ph.D. in Af rican-American studies, while teaching undergrad classes and working part-time to support myself.
- 3. By becoming noted for my own research and work in African-American history.
- 4. By networking with other professors, especially those at universities with an African-American Studies Depart ment.
- 5. By applying for a full-time teaching position with a univer sity with an established African-American studies depart ment.

When should I reasonably be able to achieve my goals?  $\sqrt{10}$  Get my master's in African-American history while assisting in teaching undergrad courses. —2 Years

 $\sqrt{\text{Get my Ph.D. in African-American studies while teaching}}$ undergrad courses and working a part-time job to support myself. — 4 Years

 $\sqrt{10}$  Work on my dissertation—**1** Year

End Goal: Working as an African-American History Professor Estimated Time: 7 Years

Chaz Foster-Kyser is a journalism instructor and newspaper advisor at Langston University. The articles in the "Now What?" column are taken from a book she has written, "Embracing the Real World: The Black Woman's Guide to Life After College." Questions/comments on this article can be emailed to cjkyser@lunet.edu.

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## Ledge magazine confronts **Black students on HIV/AIDS**

The silence among Black stu dents on HIV/AIDS is being disrupted by the new HBCU magazine, Ledge.

With the slogan "Don't Fall Off," the free, Black AIDS Institute sponsored publication seeks to create conversation and change by offering statistics, prevention tips and other information to students of color.

"The magazine is by Black college students, for Black college students, and the content reflects that," said Freddie Allen, Ledge managing editor. "So you're going to see pieces in the magazine about sexuality, dating on campus, and what scares students the most about unprotected sex."

Howard University alumnus Christopher D. Cathcart first envisioned the publication more than a year ago and pitched the idea to the Black AIDS Institute, of which he is a board member, as a way to connect with African-American students.

"A student-driven HIV/AIDS awareness magazine is the perfect tool to mobilize Black college students in the fight against the epidemic," said Cathcart.

Along with 62 ways to fight AIDS, Ledge's premier issue features exclusive Jill Scott poetry and a story with a headline on the cover that asks, "AIDS, sex and trust on campus: Where is the love?"

"HIV/AIDS is real and it's on campus right now-whether we want to admit it or not," Allen said. "It's not going away unless we deal with it through open dialogue and by making healthier decisions in our personal lives."

### MLK (continued from pg. 3)

This holyday honors the courage of a man who endured harassment, threats and beatings, and even bombings. We commemorate the man who went to jail thirty times to achieve freedom for others, and who knew he would pay the ultimate price for his leadership, but kept on marching and protesting and organizing anyway.

Every King holyday has been a national "teach-in" on the values of nonviolence, including unconditional love, tolerance, forgiveness and reconciliation, which are so desperately-needed to unify our politically divided country. It is a day of intensive education and training in King's philosophy and methods of nonviolent social change and conflict-reconciliation. The holyday provided a unique opportunity to teach young people to fight evil, not people, and to get in the habit of asking themselves, "What is the most loving way I can resolve this conflict?"

King once said that we all have to decide whether we "will walk in the light of creative altruism or the darkness of destructive selfishness." Life's most persistent and nagging question, he said, is "What are you doing for others?" King would also quote Mark 9:35, the scripture in which Jesus of

Nazareth reminds His disputing disciples James and John that "...whosoever will be great among you shall be your servant; and whosoever among you will be the first shall be the servant of all."

And when King talked about the end of his mortal life in one of his last sermons on Feb. 4, 1968 in the pulpit of Ebenezer Baptist Church, even then he lifted up the value of service as the hallmark of a full life.

"I'd like somebody to mention on that day [that] Martin Luther King, Jr. tried to give his life serving others," he said. "I want you to say on that day that I did try in my life...to love and serve humanity."

I pray that you commemorated King's 76<sup>th</sup> birthday last month as "a day on" not off! I hope you were committed to serving humanity with the vibrant spirit of unconditional love. This was his greatest strength, which empowered all of the great victories of his leadership.

Dr. Eric Anthony Joseph was born and raised in Los Angeles, Calif. He is in his eighth year as a dean, professor, chaplain and chairman at Langston University. For further information contact Dr. Joseph at (405) 466-2901 or e-mail him at: eajoseph@lunet.edu.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that African- Americans total 12.3 percent of the U.S. population and disproportionately account for more than 39 percent of the AIDS cases estimated since the epidemic began. Though United States data might appear bleak, they in no way compare to the catastrophe the disease has caused in Africa.

"Entire generations of sub-Saharan Africans face extinction today because of the devastation caused by this disease," Allen said. "We need to get in front of this

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thing now, in our own country, and be more active in helping our brothers and sisters abroad."

Allen and Cathcart, the creators of Ledge, envision their audience taking an active part in the publication.

"We want students to take ownership of the magazine and the very important roles they must play in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic," Allen said.

Students interested in contributing to Ledge or obtaining additional information on HIV/AIDS and its effects on the Black community can log on to www.ledgemagazine.com. Students interested in receiving a free copy of Ledge may contact Kevono Hunt at 405-466-3296.

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you or your partner know if you don't get tested?

# Entertainment

# What's the Word?

Who is going to win the Super Bowl?





"I think the Patriots are going to win because they have more Super Bowl experience. Tom Brady is a good quarterback and he knows how to lead."

Joshua Fields, freshman CIS major Ardmore, Okla.

"I think Philadelphia is going to win. I want to root for the underdog."

> Ckai Dawson, senior English education major Oklahoma City, Okla.





Vanessa McGlothen, senior sociology major Las Vegas, Nev.



"I think Philadelphia is going to win the Super Bowl. I hope they win becauseDonovan McNabb needs a ring. They been to the NFC championship these past times and didn't get one."

> Darnell Watson, junior finance major Chacago, Ill.

### LU student poised to become R&B star

**BY KEVONO HUNT** Editor

**R**& B fans will be mesmerized by the sultry voice of Langston's own Jeramiah Johnson, a 22 year old business management major from Duncan, Okla.

His first original mini-album is titled "Advance." Johnson wrote and produced all eight cuts on this album. It really teases you and leaves you longing for more.

My favorite cuts are "Come With Me," a romantic love song that invites you to grab someone and hold them close, and "If I," a song that reminds you of the legendary Gerald Levert.

Johnson is inspired by Babyface, Shania Twain and Boys II Men. Johnson hopes his album jumpstarts his career.

"I want to bring back true R& B," said Johnson. "It's my dream and passion to share my music with the world."

You can't go to the local music store and find him yet. Purchase



Singer Jeramiah Johnson on his "Advance" album cover.

your copy directly from Johnson for \$5 or email him for more information: jeramiahjj@yahoo.com. I rate this album 4.5. on a 5.0 scale.

### 1. Mario "Let Me Love You" 2. Ciara "1,2 Step" 3. Lil Jon & the East Side Boyz "Lovers And Friends" 4. Destiny's Child "Soldier" 5. Snoop Dogg "Drop It Like It's Hot" 6. The Game "How We Do" 7. 50 Cent "Disco Inferno" 8. Green Day "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" 9. T.I. "Bring Em Out" 10. Nelly "Over and Over" 11. Kelly Clarkson "Breakaway" 12. Usher "My Boo" 13. Gavin DeGraw "I Don't Want To Be" 14. Usher "Caught Up" 15. Ludacris "Get Back" 16. Kelly Clarkson "Since U Been Gone" 17. Ashanti "Only U" 18. Eminem "Mockingbird" 19. Llovd Banks "Karma" 20. Jesse McCartney "Beautiful Soul"

**Billboard Top 20** 

The Gazette is searching for a for a cartoonist, as well as students interested in writing movie and music reviews. Please contact Kevono Hunt via email at LUGazette@yahoo.com

COMPILED BY WILLIS HUFF JR.

# -LU Calendar

### Ongoing **Events**

The school of physical therapy is seeking candidates for enrollment in the doctor of physical therapy program. Classes begin in July 2005. More information: contact Dr. Millee Jorge for an application and program information at 466-3427 or 466-2925.

Free tax help is being offered from the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for Elderly (TCE). There is no charge for this service. Meetings will be held from now until April 13. You can ask questions Monday and Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., or on Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Moore Hall, room 203. More information: call Dr. Wede Brounell at ext. 3473.

The Langston University College Republicans will have meetings every Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Agricultural Building Conference Room. More information: contact Martyn William Bridgeman at 466-4182.

A female Sexual Assault Survivors Group will be held on Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Professional Counseling Center, Rm. 104. More information: call 466-3401.

The Psychology Club will have meetings each first and last Thursday of the month. The meetings will take place in Rm. 218W in Sanford Hall at 11 a.m. More information: contact Charles Perry, president, at ext. 4875.

The Pre-Alumni Council will have meetings the first Thursday of every month. Membership dues are \$10. The meeting location will vary. More information: contact Vonnie Ware-Roberts, ext. 2999.

The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ), a student organization on campus aimed at undergraduate broadcast journalism majors and those interested in journalism, hold meetings every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in Sanford Hall, Rm. 310W. More information: call Dr. Karen M. Clark, ext. 3297, or Steve Jackson at (405) 834-4829.

The Langston Chapter of LUNAA will have monthly meeting in the Research and Extension Building in Rm. 105S. National dues are \$50.00 and local dues are \$25.00.

Free AIDS testing is available the first working day of the month at the Langston University's Clinic, located on the 1st floor in the University Women Building.

Lion of the Week

**BY MICKI BIDDLE** 

## Soncearay Colette Higgins

Though most know her by her middle name, Colette, her first name, Soncearay, means "morning light" in Apache and this best describes her character.

Prior to beginning her journey at Langston University in 1995, Colette worked as a customer service representative at Wal-Mart for 14 years. She started her career at Langston in the

research and extension

office as an administrative assistant. From there she went to work for the accounting department in grants and contracts, then on to public relations where one of her proudest accomplishments was serving as editor and chief of Langston's 2002 yearbook. Later in 2002, she transferred to the copy center, where she now works as the director of creative services.

While juggling these responsibilities would be a full plate for anyone, Colette has even greater aspirations. She is currently pursuing a degree in accounting.

"It's a challenge, but I may as well get it done while I'm here," said Colette. "It's a good opportunity, but it's hard to relate to students as a 40-year-old with a classroom full of 20-year-olds. I believe I have my priorities in order, even when my professors don't understand that I'm someone who is in the workforce and taking the opportunity to get my education."

Colette is the wife of Dennis Higgins, and the mother of Catina and Brittany Jordan, both students at Langston University. She and her family have lived in Guthrie, Okla. all their lives and have just purchased a new home. While balancing a busy schedule as a wife, mom and full-time employee, she also serves as the church secretary at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

"I do all of the printing and public relations as secretary for the church. As a matter of fact, I do all that for my family and friends too! My mom calls me the mediator, coordinator and peacemaker of the family!" laughs Colette.

Although it sounds as if her schedule would be too much for anyone, Colette takes it all in stride. She attributes her success in the copy center to her staff.

"They are the backbone of the operation," she said. "They do all the hands on work. I coordinate and delegate, although I don't mind getting right in there with them—and I will.'

Her staff is comprised of two full-time employees, Margaret Kinney and Seth Leslie, and one part-time employee, Felecia Watson.

"I couldn't do it without them," Colette proudly boasts.

As for the future, Colette is excited about their current goal for the year. She and her staff plan on expanding and increasing student mail services. Currently, they only handle the faculty and staff's mail.

Colette brings new meaning to the words "nontraditional student." Her ability to maintain her many responsibilities speaks volumes about her character, her sense of servitude and faith. Simply put, Colette is a true asset to the university. "I love it! I love what I do," she said.

To nominate someone for "Lion of the Week" send a brief email to LUGazette@yahoo.com explaining why they should be "Lion of the Week." Also leave their contact information.

"College Hill II," featuring eight Langston students, will air every Thursday at 8 p.m. on BET. Tune in every week to see what wild, crazy, and wild antics the crew is up to.

Salters Chapel A.M.E Church wants willing workers and singers for Christ. Salters Chapel is located at 119 Washington St. More information: contact Rev. Dr. Samuel R. Craig, pastor, or Elizabeth Bostic at 466-4269.

### **Immediate Events**

### Wednesday, Feb. 2

A substance abuse educational discussion group will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 2 at noon and end promptly at 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided through the Langston University Cafeteria. More information: contact LaDonna McCune at 466-3401.

### Wednesday, Feb. 2

A Miss Jabberwock informational, hosted by the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Sorority, will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 3 in the Annie Laurie Coleman Heritage Chapel at 7:13 p.m.

### Friday, Feb. 4

The Independent Artist Association will present "Da Proverbs," a theatrical play written by Moses Washington in the I. W. Young Auditorium at 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 4.

### Saturday, Feb. 5

The girl's and boy's basketball team will have a double header on Saturday, Feb. 5 against Texas Wesleyan University in the C. F. Gayles Fieldhouse. The game starts at 5:30 p.m. for the Lady Lions basketball team and at 7:30 p.m. for the men's basketball team.

### Monday, Feb. 7

The girl's and boy's basketball team will have a double header on Monday, Feb. 7 against Texas College in the C. F. Gayles Fieldhouse. The game starts at 5:30 p.m. for the Lady Lions basketball team and at 7:30 p.m. for the men's basketball team.

### Saturday, Feb. 12

The Miss Langston Scholarship Pageant will be held on Saturday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the I.W Young Auditorium. Admission is free.

Email calendar events at least one week in advance of the event to LUCalendar@yahoo.com

CALENDAR EVENTS COMPILED BY BRIDGETTE JONES

