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Gazette

Volume 66, No. 18

March 23, 2005

Journalism students win awards in the "Big Easy"

BY MICKI BIDDLE

New Orleans was the location for this year's National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Region VII Conference & Career

and Texas Southern University.

Among the many speakers and workshop moderators were Russell LaCour, conference coordinator and copy editor for the Tulsa

discussion was held on the under-representation of African-Americans in the media field and what could be done to overcome career obstacles.



Photo by Corey Young, Tulsa World

Students in Langston's student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists pose with Dr. Karen Clark (far left) and Chaz Kyser (far right) in their evening wear before an awards ceremony in which they garnered four awards.

Fair, held for students and professional journalists in Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

"Journalists: Telling the Story with Balance, Diversity & Excellence" was the theme for the gathering. Langston University arrived with 21 students and two faculty members—the largest group to attend the event. Some of the other schools represented at the conference included the University of North Texas, the University of New Orleans, Louisiana State University, Xavier University, Paul Quinn College,

World. LaCour was very pleased with the outcome of the conference, although he had his doubts in the beginning.

"The hardest part about organizing this event was believing it was all going to come together. We had a hard time finding a hotel," LaCour said, "but it worked out perfectly when we found the Double Tree. The location was exactly the right place."

LaCour said the highlight of the conference was the trip to Xavier University in New Orleans where a

"The topic matter was superior. It really related to what it means to be a Black journalist in the 21st century. We had an excellent panel. I was very pleased with the result," said LaCour.

Some workshops made available to students were Cyber Journalism: Writing, Reporting and Producing News for Web-based Organizations. It was moderated by NABJ Student Representative Caleb Wilkerson, who is employed by

please see "Journalism students," pg.7

Betta Kappa heats it up with sex talk

BY CHONDRA KIRKLAND

Battle of the Sexes: What Women/Men Really Want, was one of the many events hosted by the Beta Kappa chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. during their week long Black and Gold celebration.

Held in the student ballroom, the function was hosted by Miss Langston University Shamia Jackson and had a panel of seven representatives.

The panel representatives included students Kimberly Burdine, Cara Hawkins, Natalie Hunter, Greg Thomas, Rommie Smith, and Jeremy Jackson.

The night began with Jackson reading questions composed by Beta Kappa members and audience members. The panel answered the questions and the audience members were then given opportunity to give a rebuttal or their own opinions. One particular audience member, Natural Henderson, better known as Hero, was so opinionated he was added to the panel to share his insight.

"I feel that I was giving the answers that everyone could relate to, instead of being a sexist," said Henderson.

please see "Sex talk," pg.10

Look before you bite



Photo by Peter Johnson

Peter Johnson, a 22 year old junior broadcast journalism student, was glad he glanced at his sandwich before he took a bite out of it while dining in The Caf—if he had not he would have tasted moldy bread. Johnson is just one of many students who have complained this week about old bread being served. Other students have reported undercooked breakfast, which has included sausage patties still red on the inside. What is going to be done to remedy the situation? Check out the Gazette's story on The Caf next week.

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Gazette

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Some HBCU administrators insist on free campus press

BY DAAREL BURNETTE II
BLACK COLLEGE WIRE

When alumni criticized Langston University for allowing Black Entertainment Television to tape its reality show "College Hill" there, the Langston Gazette wrote a story, but newspaper adviser Chaz Kyser had concerns. She was cautioned by some staff and faculty members on the Oklahoma campus that the president wouldn't want the story in the publication, so she went to see him.

"To my surprise, he spent the first 30 minutes talking about how much he loved the paper," she said.

President Ernest Holloway did have some concern about how the article would be perceived, but he reassured her that he didn't want to censor the paper and trusted that the students would be fair in covering the issue.

Administrative support of this kind is almost vital for the survival of a student newspaper, especially if it is not independent.

At many historically black colleges and universities, there has instead been a constant battle between administrators and campus newspapers. Some administrators, feeling battered and bruised by the outside media, say it is the student newspaper's responsibility to print solely positive and uplifting news, said Valerie D. White, an assistant professor of journalism at Florida A&M University and the chairwoman of the Black College Communication Association. BCCA, whose members are newspaper advisers, identifies resources to strengthen communications programs at historically black colleges.

The view that only uplifting news should be published thwarts the student journalist's education, she said.

"Administrators want to give students practical training in every occupational field except student media," White said. "Biology and nursing majors are given opportunities to treat human beings, but student journalists are not afforded opportunities to practice their craft. This is a lopsided and warped ideology or practice. We need to get more students of color in the newsroom, but this is a daunting task when students aren't receiving the proper training."

She added that the responsibility for building and maintaining a

free press on campus does not fall only on college presidents and administrators, but said, "they create the environment in which the students have to work."

Among the Black college journalism programs, censorship attempts occur just often enough, and

atures published in the newspaper, according to Derick Hackett, director of student media. In order to better understand the role of the newspaper and its responsibilities, the administration created a student media office to oversee the newspaper and the yearbook, the Jag-

ists recognize their rights."

"We are a student-run paper," said Keveno Hunt, a senior broadcast journalism major and assistant editor of the Langston Gazette. "The administrators have no say in what goes in the paper. We report the news as is."

Holloway, the Langston presi-

"At many historically black colleges and universities, there has instead been a constant battle between administrators and campus newspapers. Some administrators, feeling battered and bruised by the outside media, say it is the student newspaper's responsibility to print solely positive and uplifting news." — Valerie D. White

are so widely publicized, that when Black college journalists attending a recent national convention were greeted warmly by the host university's chancellor, their jaws dropped.

Edward Jackson, chancellor of Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., held a reception for students and newspaper advisers and pledged support for his campus newspaper, the Southern Digest.

His statement stunned many student editors who have not known administrators who claim affection for their student press. But it came as no surprise to Digest editor Janene Tate.

"Our administrators are never the ones to sweep anything under the rug," Tate said. "They understand that publications on campus aren't their public relations pieces." University officials, including the dean of students, the chief of university police, and faculty and staff members often offer the newspaper scoops on campus happenings, she said.

"We continue to give out information no matter if it's positive or negative because we know they're going to print it as is," said Robert Bennett, Southern's dean of students, who said that outside media too often are biased or unfair in their coverage of Black colleges. "We don't pull any censorship games on what they say. It's a great vehicle for student information and keeps you in tune to what's going on."

It took Southern time to develop that relationship between the campus press and administration.

"When I first came to Southern in 1999, the administrators didn't even talk to us and didn't take us seriously," Tate said.

There was troubled history: In the past, Southern University had been sued by a student over pic-

uar. Since then, Southern has placed a link to the Digest's Web page on the university's home page, and the newspaper has published twice a week.

There are plans to develop a magazine as well, Hackett said.

Hackett and other newspaper advisers acknowledged that students are not getting enough training in the classrooms to do more in-depth stories, which often irk administrators. For now, said Hackett and Kyser of the Langston Gazette, challenges to the status quo usually come in editorials or commentary.

"When administrators have a healthy relationship with the newspaper, that's OK," said Hackett. At Southern, key administrators sometimes respond to criticism by writing letters to the author of the story (the author's e-mail is published with the article) saying how they will address the issue of concern.

"Having a supportive administration can be beneficial because it opens up dialogue and gives students a chance not to fear authority," Hackett said. "It allows them to be more well-rounded journalists and get the same experiences as the local paper's journalists are getting. This type of journalism experience is more realistic of what it's like in the real world."

At the Langston Gazette, one of the first changes made by newly assigned adviser Kyser was to its mission. When she became adviser, she said, the masthead defined the paper as a teaching instrument and public relations vehicle for the university.

Since then, Kyser has encouraged students to use the paper as a forum.

"I'm not sure if we've written anything challenging enough to really make the school angry," she said, "but now the student journal-

paper can assist the administration by being a voice, and (provide) information about events, activities and expectations."

"The stories should be of value to students and the entire community of scholars, including parents and our public," he said. "The coverage should involve factual issues that are important and sensitive to the mission of the institution."

Having a president who understands the newspaper's mission helps student journalists become well-prepared and employable, said White, the BCCA president.

"Black college journalists need to be able to have a free and responsible press so that they can compete with students at traditionally white institutions who are afforded these freedoms," she said.

Sometimes, an incident involving censorship at one college prompts open discussion at another.

In 2003, when the acting president at Hampton University confiscated more than 6,000 copies of the student newspaper, Lincoln University's then-president David B. Henson approached Mark Nordstrom, adviser to the Lincoln Clarion. They discussed the newspaper's role on campus, Nordstrom said.

"There would never be a time that I would interfere with what's said in the paper in any way," the president told him, Nordstrom recalled. Henson said he would lose his job before he would allow that to happen.

"It floored me," Nordstrom said. "He actually pledged his job in defense of the freedom of speech on the part of the student newspaper. If you can't speak freely on a college campus, where can you?"

Daarel Burnette II is a student at Hampton University.

LU Voices

Perception of hip-hop culture still growing in mainstream America

BY CHUKUMA BELLE, A.K.A. INTALEK OF UNDEVCO.COM

The world of rap and hip-hop seems to have two major categories in which its listeners generally fall under—those who find the majority of their music from television or radio, and those who choose to get most of their music through word of mouth or other less commercialized sources.

To the unexposed listener who hears songs mainly on the radio and TV, hip-hop may appear to be all about money, girls, drugs, and crime. And in truth, rap music does receive a great deal of criticism due to its lyrical content. But, to the avid listener, hip-hop is the most creative, real, inspiring, and powerful voice of African-Americans today. Artists nowadays, in the “Viacom era” that is, are getting away from the gritty, urban sounds that defined them early on in their careers and are replacing the creative elements of their songs with fads, fashion, jewels, and cars.

Whereas some rappers have strayed from their roots after becoming a commercial success, others have revolutionized the commercial style of music without losing expression in their music and music videos. Busta Rhymes, Ludacris, and Redman are examples of what the ideal modern-day rap artist is. The reason I state this is because all three have, and still do, collaborate with other less mainstream artists. These artists have their own unique style, but all three have achieved commercial success on a number of different levels without conforming their original styles to fit the niche of the typical rapper.

More experienced listeners of hip-hop will often tell you the basis for judging an artist is the degree of their lyrical ability. Thus, the question of why the same trends run through commercial rap while the underground community steers toward creativity and innovation comes to the table. Viacom, who now owns MTV, VH1, and BET, virtually determine who will and won't sell in the industry by almost completely cornering the market for music videos. Groups like the Wu-Tang Clan, who have everything from restaurants and clothing lines to record companies and video games, are an exception to this rule. Wu-Tang's albums have sold over 1.3 million copies in their first week without widespread commercial exposure. Consequently, Wu-Tang is considered by many to be the greatest hip-hop group of all-time. Many other artists have come from toiling in the underground ranks to become musical superstars.

Artists such as Talib Kweli, Common, Mos Def, and Rakim, who deliver powerful, strong messages for African-Americans, do not get the exposure many would hope for. Many feel this is because of the market directing their sales to hook women and the suburban communities since they encompass the bulk of their customers. Others feel this weeding out is an honest effort to silence the impact of the real voice of the African-American community. It can also be seen as an attempt to shield underground rap from mainstream White America by replacing it with rappers who speak about the stereotypical rapper lifestyle or conform to the image of the materialistic African-American commonly seen on television. It's this relationship that has many rappers insulting or “dissing” rappers and dismissing them as sellouts. In either case, the true image of the industry remains clouded behind an elaborate web of imagery and gimmicks. As the issue of saving hip-hop from a future of total commercialization comes into play, unexposed listeners remain unaware of the entire situation.

As now the issue of saving hip-hop from a future of total commercialization comes into play, unexposed listeners remain, for the meanwhile, unaware of the entire situation.

Chukuma Belle is an assistant editor at Undevco.com, an online magazine devoted to hip-hop.

Bush's social security plan is a sham

BY CHAZ KYSER, GAZETTE ADVISOR

President Bush hasn't slowed down his disinformation campaign touting how part of his social security plan will help the majority of Americans save more for retirement and have greater control over their retirement fund.

Although I'm more apt to trust my three-year-old niece to reform social security, I must admit that I once thought Bush's plan to help fix this looming disaster was a great idea—so great I found it hard to believe that he and his advisors came up with it. I actually stopped muttering for a moment about how arrogant and ignorant he was during the presidential debates when he talked about how his plan would allow Americans to invest a portion of their payroll taxes, and how their investments could lead to them having more money to live off of upon retiring. And when Bush further explained that the plan would be voluntary and not affect people currently receiving benefits, I found myself thinking that he may not be as short-sighted as most of the world believes he is. These thoughts stayed with me until I finally took the time to fact check his plan. Thank God for the person who invented fact-checking. It turns out that Bush is as narrow-minded as I thought he was, and once again he is attempting, and succeeding, at fooling a large number of Americans through half-truths and scare tactics.

Half-truths: Bush has only partially explained how his voluntary, personal retirement accounts work. He tells us that we would be able to invest part of our payroll taxes (eventually four percent) and possibly reap a high rate of return, and that we could then use this return as we see fit. Yet, I have never heard him explain to the American public that (1) If too many people divert money into retirement accounts, there will be a shortage of money for today's retirees; (2) People's investments are not fool-proof, especially with stocks, and

people could end up losing money or gaining absolutely nothing; (3) Someone is going to have to manage all these retirement accounts,

It turns out that Bush is as narrow-minded as I thought he was, and once again he is attempting, and succeeding, at fooling a large number of Americans through half-truths and scare tactics.

and they won't be doing it for free; (4) Retirees actually have to pay back the money they put in! When people with investment accounts retire, they are required to pay back the money they would have paid into social security under the current system. As if that weren't enough, they then fork over an extra three percent of that money above inflation. After the money that was supposedly theirs is “paid back,” retirees are then required to buy an annuity to ensure they have money to live on. If, and only if, the money left in the account puts them above the poverty line, they are “allowed” to use the remaining bucks (and sometimes it may literally be just a couple of dollars) to do with as they please; and (5) The plan does not benefit the poor (nor African-Americans as Bush has suggested). People who earn less will invest less, and they probably won't have substantial returns on their investment.

Scare tactics: Bush talks as if social security is the only impending economic disaster the country faces. While he could spend his energy drafting plans to pay down the national deficit, or curb the billions of dollars being spent in Iraq, he instead goes from state to state scaring the elderly and younger Americans about a program that, according to the Social Security Administration, will be able to pay 100 percent of all promised benefits until 2042. It makes more sense to think of a comprehensive plan that will effectively save social security, instead of one that's created just to rejuvenate it. By Bush's own admission, offering personal retirement accounts won't do anything to fix the monetary gap between benefits being paid in by workers and given out to retirees. This plan is so ineffective that even the

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has denounced it.

So why doesn't Bush explain his plan in depth? Maybe he thinks it's

too hard for the average American

to grasp. After all, many of us just didn't understand how even though no WMDs were found in Iraq, the country still needed to be invaded and made safe for democracy. No. Bush doesn't bother to give us the details because he knows he can't sell the plan with them.

Bush's words of mass disinformation are just as threatening to America as any weapon of mass destruction. His plan to save, mend, fix, reform, or whatever he thinks he's doing to social security, could be detrimental to our economy. Let's hope the American people and the media won't all fall for this one.

For more information on social security retirement accounts, visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/social-security/200501/socialsecurity3.pdf>

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.

LU Voices

A history of Langston: From a small building to a legacy

My dear Langstonites, my 147th edition of Chapy's Corner will examine the founding of Langston University, which was established on March 12, 1897 as The Colored Agricultural and Normal University (CA&NU) of the Territory Of Langston, Oklahoma.

In 1892 three Langston citizens—David J. Wallace, R. E. Stewart, and Edward Robinson—petitioned the Oklahoma Industrial School and College Committee for an institution of higher education for Black Oklahomans at Langston.

However, it wasn't until 1897, after a series of events favoring the separation of the "races" in educational facilities that the legislature acted on the student's suggestion.

Despite the pleas of the residents of Langston a year later in 1893, the college was not established until Charles Henry William Murce Sulcer carried the fight to the Resolutions Committee of the Oklahoma Territorial Convention in 1894. Sulcer introduced a plank in the statehood platform that asked for the establishment of a school of higher education for Negroes. Sulcer was a religious leader, politician, educator, and the first Negro to serve as a delegate to the territorial governing bodies.

In his biennial message in January 1895, our third Territorial governor, William Cary Renfrow (1893-1897, D-OK), proposed a reform program. One section of the program recommended the establishment of a territorial university for Negroes.

The desire for a college of their own induced the citizens of Langston to raise \$500 to purchase a 40 acre tract slightly to the northwest of the town and directly north of the College Heights Addition on the western boundary of Langston. On Sept. 30, 1897, Prince Hamby, a member of the fundraising organization, purchased the land, and on Oct. 5 1897 he donated it to the

board of regents of the university.

The legislature, forced to choose between integration and the creation of separate institutions for the races, opted for the latter. So, on Feb. 4, 1897, council president and an eminent Oklahoma City lawyer, J. W. Johnson, introduced "Council Bill 87" to establish the Colored Agricultural and Normal University (CA&NU). Henry S. Johnson (later the democratic governor of Oklahoma) piloted the bill through legislature channels until its final adoption by both the council and the house (House Bill 151) on March 12, 1897. It was then signed by J. C. Tulsley, speaker of the house, and signed into law by Governor Renfrow.

Section one of the House Bill 151 act stated: "The Colored Agricultural and Normal University of the Territory of Oklahoma is hereby located and established at or within a convenient distance from Langston, in Logan County, Oklahoma Territory; the exclusive purpose of which shall be the instruction of both male and female colored persons in the art of teaching and the various branches which pertain to a common school of education; and in such higher education as may be deemed advisable by such Board and in the fundamental laws of the United States, in the rights and duties of citizens and in Agricultural, Mechanical and Industrial Arts."

The school's goal was to provide an education that had all the functions of a liberal college, those of an agricultural and mechanical college, and those of a teacher education institution.

The university also was expected to achieve its objectives with only nominal funding at the offset.

The university was actually created during the administration of Governor Renfrow, a democrat, but he suffered from weak support by way of appropriations and the failure to assign to the school the public lands to which

it was entitled by the James Smith Morrill Act of 1890.

However, Governor

when added to the territorial appropriations (\$5,000), provided a total budget of \$9,000. On that

fiscal foundation the development of the university began.

Governor C. M. Barnes' administration finally

provided university with the land-lease money it needed to fulfill its potential as an institution of higher learning.

By the spring of 1898, the board of regents had adopted specifications and plans for a two-story structure with a basement and four rooms at an estimated cost of \$5,000. That would be the first building con-

structed on the campus.

On May 4, 1898 the regents appointed Inman Edward Page (b.1852—d.1935), then president of Lincoln Institute at Jefferson City, Missouri, to head the new university. The board also hired Moses J. Johnson and Wayne Manzilla to assist the president and to serve the faculty.

On Sept. 3 1898, the university, without any building on its campus, opened its doors in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (The Coleman Heritage Center is a replica) in Langston with four faculty members: Johnson, professor of mathematics; Manzilla, professor of English literature and literature; Zelia N. Page, instructor of music and the eldest daughter of the president; and Marie Williams, matron. In addition to his duties as president, Dr. Page taught moral philosophy and psychology. Zelia Page, later Breaux, was the only music instructor for the next 20 years. First day enrollment included 41 students.

Look where we have come my dear Langstonites! Today, fourteen presidents later, and under Dr. Holloway's dynamic administration, we have grown beyond many expectations, save those who always believed that if we were given just a little of what was simply due to us we could compete with any institution of higher education in the world.

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

Do you feel strongly about a current issue? Would you like to voice that opinion to Langston students? Email Kevono Hunt at kmhunt76@yahoo.com about possibly having an opinion article published in the Gazette

Chapy's Corner

By Dr. Eric Anthony Joseph
Chaplain
Coleman Heritage Center



Renfrow's immediate successor, Governor Cassius McDonald Barnes (1897—1901), a republican, fiscally supported the university by making it possible for the university to continue its work without serious embarrassment until an appropriation could be made for support by the next legislation.

The university's share of the land-lease money (\$4,000),

Let Terri Schiavo die in peace

BY KEVONO HUNT, ASSISTANT EDITOR

Terri Schiavo's right to decide whether she lives or dies has been taken away.

Our government has intervened in a matter of a husband's right to carry out the wishes of his wife. The Terri Schiavo case has sparked national attention about who has the right to decide whether this woman, who has had minimal brain activity for almost 15 years, should live or die.

Her husband, Michael Schiavo, has been by her side since she suffered severe brain damage in 1990 following a heart attack. The brain damage left her unable to care for herself so for the last 13 years she has had a feeding tube in her for nutrients and fluids. Many forms of rehabilitation were attempted in the first years of her condition, but she did not respond or recover.

She is now in a hospice. Several doctors, including those appointed by the courts, have pronounced her to be in a "persistent vegetative state." However, her parents have hired doctors that claim that she is conscious.

Her husband has sought for years to remove the feeding tube that keeps her alive so that she may "die naturally,"—in other words starve to death. While this may sound cruel, she would not feel the pain of hunger because when the feeding tube is removed she will be given a morphine drip to prevent any pain. He has stated that while she was living she said she would not want to be kept alive in a position such as the one she is in.

The bond between a husband and wife should never be challenged. Families often have discussions about what they would prefer if they died, or became incapacitated and living only by means of life support. Unfortunately, very few people put these wishes in writing, as in the case with Terri.

Some say what's the harm in letting her live; her husband does not have to pay for her care thanks to a malpractice suit that was filed due to her injuries. That's wrong because you are not fulfilling her wishes. It should be her choice to live or die. And since she cannot physically speak, then her husband should be allowed to make the decision for her in respect to her wishes.

Sports Den

Track team breaks records, earns honors

BY JAMUEL WALLACE

Brandee Means, a freshman from Tulsa, Okla., made history at the 2005 SunTrust-National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Indoor Track National Championship in Johnson City, Tenn. She became the first female track and field athlete at Langston to earn All-American honors as she finished fifth in the 400-meter finals. Means broke her school record in the 400-meter with a time 56.93 in the semifinals.

The 11 participants in the national meet were Monique Carroll, Darnesha Sellers, Trenesha Foreman, Tatiana Simon, Brandee Means, Tasia Galbreath, Dominique McDonald, James Hall, Akeem Lavoll, Lamar Dewberry, and Brian Smith.

Other records broken during the championship included the 200-meter dash record by

McDonald, who ran a time of 25.70 and she finished 16th overall in the 200-meter. Means, Simon, Foreman, and Sellers broke their 4x400-meter record by ten seconds as they ran a school record time of 3:56.28; they finished eighth overall. Simon finished 20th overall in the 55-meter dash with a time of 7.35.

James Hall also broke the 200-meter dash record with a time of 21.91. The previous record was held by Kendrick "KY" Young with a time of 22.02 set back in 1999. Hall finished 11th in the 200-meter.

The outdoor track and field season begins on Saturday at 10 a.m. at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee at the Bison Relays.

The team looks forward to competing in the Red River Athletic Conference Outdoor Championship on April 30 in Austin, Texas and then the NAIA Outdoor National Championship in Louisville, Ky. on May 25-28.



photo by Jimmie Hilliard

Brandy Means shows off the trophy she received after earning All-American honors at a national indoor track championship in Johnson City, Tenn.

Lions finish off a successful season

BY WILLIS HUFF, JR.

The Langston Lions made it to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division I Men's Basketball Tournament in Kansas City, Mo. They lost in the first round to the St. Xavier Cougars (Illinois) 60-55. The loss ended the Lions' post-season effort and they finished 25-8.

At the season's end, Greg Webb, the Lions' head basketball coach, was named Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC) Coach of the Year. Steven Alexander (#23) was named RRAC Post Season Tournament MVP for his efforts in the Lions' three conference tournament wins.

Alexander was Co-Newcomer of the Year as well. He and Quentin Beatty (#21) were RRAC All-Conference First Team. Kendrick Mebane (#13) made the RRAC All-Conference Second Team. Keenanlan Clemmons (#44) made the RRAC Honorable Team.

Next season, the Lions will return with three starters. The Lions will also bring back some role players as well.

Coach Webb is pleased with the team's efforts and looks forward to next season.

"There are a lot of returning players coming back next season, so our expectations are going to be high," said Coach Webb. "It is our job as coaches to put the best players on the court. We will continue to recruit in the spring time. We have to make sure the players that we bring in will fit in our program. This tournament run will help bring the top players to us and give us the pieces to the puzzle for us to win the tournament next year."

Lady Lions miss playoffs, but hope for another shot

BY WILLIS HUFF, JR.

The Langston Lady Lions lost to the Texas Wesleyan Lady Rams 76-45 on March 4 in the second round of the Red River Athletic Conference Tournament (RRAC) in Waxahachie, Texas. The loss ended the Lady Lions' season and kept them from going to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Tournament. They finished the season 18-15.

At the end of the RRAC Tournament, three Lady Lions made the All-Conference Team. Kim Braxton (#43) made the Women's RRAC All-Conference First Team. Jessica James (#24) made the RRAC All-Conference Second Team. Imani Miller (#3) received an RRAC Honorable Mention.

In the off-season, the Lady Lions plan to reexamine the team and make changes to ensure they make it to the national tournament next year.

"We plan to go back to the basics," said Head Women's Basketball Coach Donnita Drain. "Coach Greene and I will figure out what went wrong this season. We are going to try to bring in better personnel next season and we also need a stronger mix of more fundamentally strong players as well."

Congratulations Lions and Lady Lions for a successful season

De'Shawn Saffold

De'Shawn Saffold, affectionately nicknamed the "LU Paparazzi," can be seen taking pictures at nearly all school events. The freshman broadcast journalism student from Los Angeles, Calif. works full time for the Gazette and the sports information department as a photographer.

Saffold, who has a twin brother who also attends Langston, chose LU after hearing good things from his family members who are alumni.

He got the opportunity to become the sports information photographer after applying for the position through the work study program here on campus. And because he excelled at his job he also landed the Gazette photographer position.

"While I have been working for the Gazette and the sports in-

formation department, two people have had major influences in my life: Gazette Advisor Chaz Foster-Kyser and Sports Information Director Jimmie Hilliard. I would have never dreamed of taking pictures at an HBCU or even being able to travel with the sports teams here on campus, and I appreciate them giving me the chance," said Saffold.

Being a photographer at LU offers Saffold a lot of perks.

"I got to travel with the LU Marching Pride Band to competitions in St. Louis and to the Battle of the Bands in Atlanta," Saffold said. "It was a great experience because I was on the field taking pictures next to professional photographers and their advice has made me even better," he said.

As if being a full time student and photographer weren't enough to keep Saffold busy, he also runs his own company, The Next Step Pho-

Inside Athletics by Kent Floyd



photo by Chaz Kyser

tography.

"I take a variety of photographs, including ones for weddings and portraits," said Saffold. After he graduates, Saffold plans on owning a magazine company and his own photography studio.

Women find it hard to choose LU's sexiest man

BY TATYANA-LASHAY JOHNSON

Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated held their annual competition to seek out Langston's "sexiest man." Approximately 30 young men competed on March 4 in the multi-purpose building for the title.

Participants competed in six categories: Tall and Tantalizing, Short and Sexy, Chocolate Thunder, Business Attire, Abs, and Sleep Wear. Each young man got a chance to show both the audience and judges why they were the most desirable man on campus.

"We [the Zetas] sat around polling each other and other students to see what categories would most interest the viewers and keep the men enjoying themselves," said Iris Young, competition coordinator, member of Zeta Phi Beta, and a computer science major from Fort Worth, Texas. She feels that the month of planning and hard work



Photo by De'Shawn Saffold

The ladies of Zeta Phi Beta cool down with participants in their Sexiest Man contest.

paid off.

The audience consisted of women who yelled and even tried to touch the young men as they showed off their sex appeal.

"I liked how the women in the audience were paying all of us lots of attention. They helped us to keep smiles on our faces," said Fred Burks, a sophomore business management major from Lawton, Okla.

"I'm new on campus so I got to meet people while having fun and showing out a little bit."

The men "showed out" by treating women to strip teases, lap dances, and allowing them to pour water on parts of their bodies.

"I enjoyed viewing all of the different men that participated in the competition," said Crystal Washington, a senior criminal justice major from Okmulgee, Okla. "They all had something different to bring to the table, whether they were shy, excited or just having fun.

"I felt real good about myself and was happy with the women that showed us support," said Darnell Brown, a sophomore computer science major from Chicago, Ill. "My favorite category was the abs section because I feel that is the sexiest feature on my body."

In order to be eligible to win the title, the contestant had to be in at least three categories and have the highest overall score.

Marcus Walker surpassed the other contestants and was named the Sexiest Man for 2005-2006. Walker is a freshman technical computer design major from Dallas, Texas.

"I was shocked once I heard that I had won. I had only entered the competition to have something to do," he said. "I was nervous at first, but opened up as the competition went on. I really liked the competition and would encourage others to be a part of it."

Congratulations Marcus Walker!

Zeta Phi Beta hosts poetry night

BY KEVONO HUNT,
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Lambda Alpha chapter of Zeta Phi Beta hosted their annual poetry night contest March 3 in the Student Union Ballroom.

The night started with jazz music played by Soulfactor, a group of musicians from Oklahoma Christian University, University of Central Oklahoma, and Langston University. The crowd got into the spoken word mood by waving their hands and snapping to the words being spoken by their peers.

"I really enjoyed it--the atmosphere and the poetry really relaxed me after a long day of classes," said Tyrone Walker, a senior major from Altus, Okla.

Michelle McKelly (a poet formerly featured in the Gazette) read one of her more controversial poems. She was not the only regularly performing poet on campus. Lavembre Edwards, a freshman theater arts major from San Francisco, Calif.; Natural



Photo by De'Shawn Saffold

Cookie Turner and Ckai Dawson of Soulfactor provide additional entertainment during poetry night.

Henderson, a freshman agriculture business major from Houston,

Texas; and Janaki Bahati, a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Sacramento, Ca. also entertained the crowd with original poems.

Each contestant was judged on their flow, creativity, and presentation. The first place winner of \$25 was Tena Turner, a junior nursing major from Oklahoma City, Okla. The second place winner of \$15 was Johnny French, a junior elementary education major from Cleveland, Ohio; and the third place winner of \$10 was Marcenial Dareden, a freshman psychology major from Ft. Worth, Texas.

A musical interlude was given by Thomas Flagg, a senior music education major from Detroit, Mich.

"Overall, it was a really good show with great attendance," said Ckai Dawson, a senior secondary English education major from Oklahoma City, Okla.



Photo by De'Shawn Saffold

John Loudermill styles Robert Turner's mohawk at the Zeta Hair Show hosted during Zeta Week.

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in the LU Calendar for
free! Send an email
with full details about
the event to
LUCalendar@yahoo.com
one week in advance
of our Wednesday
publication date*

Journalism students, continued from pg.1

ESPN.com.

Others included Do You Know How Powerful You Are? Public Relations for Everyday People, moderated by Angela McClendon, an NABJ member and public relations representative for the city of San Antonio, Tx.

Students interested in various

Mannie Fresh, as well as tour the facility and network with the Saint's public relations department."

"Normally, public relations is left out or not given as much attention as other fields in journalism. But this year we were able to attend workshops that were dedicated to the discipline of PR."



Russell LaCour, the conference's coordinator, holds the second place award for best student newspaper that the Gazette earned in the Ma'at Awards Ceremony. Pictured with him are (l-r) Shaunna Cooper, former editor of the Gazette; Chaz Kyser, advisor for the Gazette, and Kevono Hunt, assistant editor of the Gazette.

fields of journalism were able to attend practicums that gave them hands-on experience. Kevono Hunt, a senior broadcast journalism major and assistant editor for the Gazette, participated in a public relations practicum held offsite at the New Orleans Saints Superdome.

"It was awesome!" he said. "Angela McClendon was the moderator and was very motivational. We were able to meet hip hop artist

Langston's NABJ chapter president, Steve Jackson, a senior broadcast journalism major and NABJ Region VII student representative, was instrumental to the success of this year's conference. Answering directly to Wilkerson and LaCour, Jackson oversees all NABJ students and their chapters in Region VII.

"It took a lot of hard work on our part. Last year we only took nine students and didn't win any



Jamuell Wallace (left) and Steve Jackson, right, share the spotlight given to them after Russell LaCour, the conference's coordinator, awarded them for placing second in the professional radio show category for "The Steve and J Show."



Micki Biddle, a senior staff writer for the Gazette, proudly shows off her 2nd place award for best feature story, which she received for one of the first articles she wrote for the paper: "Baby on Board: Student parents juggle children and family life."

awards," said Jackson. "I was proud of our chapter because we worked hard and planned carefully. It payed off," Jackson said. "We all had good attitudes and conducted ourselves in an adult manner. That proved to the region that Langston University is about business!"

Also expressing pride for the students was Dr. Karen Clark, chairperson for the department of communications and advisor for the Langston student chapter of NABJ.

Clark and Chaz Kyser, a journalism instructor and newspaper advisor for the Gazette, chaperoned the trip and guided the student's efforts toward success for Langston University. The Gazette won second place for best student newspaper. Micki Biddle and Shaunna Cooper, staff writers for the Gazette, won 2nd and 3rd place respectively in the category of best student feature story. And "The Steve and J. Radio Show," hosted by Jackson and Jamuel Wallace, won 2nd place in the professional category for best radio show.

"I felt it was definitely a worthwhile trip and I was very proud of our student's performance," Clark said. "I think students came back with a better perspective about the



Shaunna Cooper, a contributing writer for the Gazette and former editor, displays her third place award in the best feature story category, which she received for her story "Students take educational journey to West Africa."



Conference participants hung out in the Big Easy when they weren't in workshops. (l-r) Chaz Kyser, Gazette advisor, and students Tatyana-LaShay Johnson, Latrise Horton, Akia Douglas and Jimmy Early Jr. pose with one of the city's friendly citizens while shopping.

industry and the things they have to do in order to succeed."

Offsite activities were abundant with Harrah's Casino being right next door to the hotel. The food, and sites and sounds of the city drew students and faculty alike after each day of hard work. Bourbon Street, Canal Street and the RiverWalk, all centers of attraction

for tourists fleeing to the "Big Easy," were within walking distance.

The conference ended with a brunch, featuring the gospel singing group "Beyond Measure." The 12 hour long bus ride home was packed with excitement and chatter about awards won and friendships forged.

Effects of new sales tax uncertain

BY MICKI BIDDLE

A new sales tax was implemented after an election was held in Logan County on March 1. The 3/4th of a cent sales tax will be used to build and operate a new county jail.

What does a 3/4th of a cent sales tax mean for consumers and businesses?

For every \$100 spent on items bought in Logan County, which includes the cities of Coyle, Guthrie and Langston, 75 cents will be added to the cost of the product. While this tax will make purchases more expensive, most local merchants and businesses do not expect any change in business.

"3/4th of a cent is not much of a sales tax, so customers shouldn't see much of an increase in our prices, if any," said Jerry Hernandez, manager of Mazzio's Pizza in Guthrie.

The manager for Rent-A-Center, Cory Holdge, and employees of

Guthrie Comfort Dental Group, also agree that it is unlikely this tax will be detrimental to businesses or patrons.

Kristi Long, a senior physical education major at Langston, doesn't mind having to pay a few extra cents to fund the new jail.

"I think the sales tax was a good idea because either way you go someone is going to end up paying for it in the long run," said Long. "I shop in Guthrie a lot and am not going to stop because of this."

Cory Maker, a freshmen computer technology major at Langston, voted against the tax. His family has lived in Logan county for many years, and until now did most of their shopping in Guthrie.

"I voted against the sales tax because I figure if people are in jail, then they don't need any comforts or special treatment. If the tax was for another purpose I would have been for it, but me and my whole

family were against it. We have already started shopping somewhere else," said Maker matter-of-factly.

The decision to build a new jail with revenue from the sales tax was made because of the jail's decrepit conditions. The 98-year-old jail, the oldest in Oklahoma, was identified as one of the five worst jail systems in the state. Space for inmates is vastly limited and the walls are crumbling, rodents and insects have free reign, and plumbing is outdated and in constant need of repair. Because of these conditions, the jail's liability insurance was cancelled in June of 2004 because the facility fell so far out of compliance with state jail standards.

The newly constructed jail will be located at the corner of Harrison and Broad in Guthrie, Okla. Construction and equipment costs are estimated at 1.7 million dollars. The jail will be designed to hold 166 beds, as well as for easy expansion in the future if needed.

Langston to help expand 4-H program

The 4-H program, one of the largest youth development initiatives in the country, is receiving help from Langston University to organize its clubs in underserved communities in 44 Oklahoma counties.

The educational program is overseen by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, state land-grant universities, and county governments. There are approximately seven million boys and girls involved in the program, which is operated by federal, state and local extension staff, as well as volunteers. Participation in the 4-H program is open to all interested youth, regardless of race, color, sex, creed, national origin, or handicap. The four H's stand for head, heart, hands and health.

As communities are challenged with the social and economic problems of this era, such as teen pregnancy and drug addiction, the 4-H program continues to offer youth positive alternative choices. Dr. Holloway, a recent inductee into the national and state 4-H Hall of Fame, said, "4-H is a program of unlimited opportunities and Langston University has renewed its commitment to bring the benefits of this organization to underserved and under-served Okla-

homa communities."

To reach more communities in Oklahoma and help children and families become involved in organized 4-H programs, Dr. Holloway, said he plans to encourage collaborative partnerships with faith-based, civic and youth-focused organizations that will work with the 4-H cooperative extension-outreach staff.

The push towards reaching more communities is needed because there continues to be a disproportionate number of minorities that are not participating in key events, especially at the state, national, and international levels. In the past, Langston University had a big presence in Oklahoma 4-H, but for a period of time was not involved in organizing and managing clubs.

Through the efforts of the Langston University extension-outreach staff, Langston has enlisted 59 volunteers in 12 counties. Nine clubs are organized and functioning, and an active collegiate 4-H club operates on campus and within the surrounding community, providing leadership and community services to local residents.

"The unique thing about Langston University 4-H is that

youth have opportunities to work with local volunteers and the Langston University staff in safe and caring environments. They work on character and citizenship development, and other projects that support lifelong achievements," said Dorothy Wilson, the state 4-H program leader for Langston University.

For additional information on 4-H clubs, contact Cheryl Glover, extension specialist, at 405-466-3836.

To place
an ad in
the
Gazette
call
Chaz Kyser
at
466-3245

New members, leaders chosen for danceline

BY TONYA GRANT

Langston students cheered for their classmates as they tried out to become Golden Feline Dancers (GFDs) in the I.W. Young Auditorium on March 1.

Twenty-seven ladies auditioned but only nine were selected. The 2005-2006 GFDs are Chondra Kirkland, captain; Brandy Williams, co-captain; Kayvryelle Harmon, Candace Antwine, Marzett Kirk, Raniesha Franklin, Jacqueline Jackson, Rachel Goff, and Lovli Bell.

The ladies had a week to learn a challenging routine for the tryouts, which was open to the Langston community. A panel of nine judges evaluated the women on their rhythm, showmanship, dance skill, stage presence, memorization, style, and overall technique.

"The routine consisted of hitch kicks, ballet, a toe-touch, cat rolls, and other basic dance movements," said Kirkland. "I felt that the routine was well put together; it showed great skill and technique."

The top scorers were chosen, and out of the ladies who were selected, five of the girls are returning GFDs.

"I think this year's squad is a pretty good group of ladies," said Gail Latimer, sponsor for the danceline.

Benefits of being a part of the danceline include having the opportunity to travel across the U.S. with the band, showcasing their talents and skills. They also perform at parades, in band pageants, and special events.

The GFDs hold tryouts every year. A person wanting a shot at being on the danceline should be in good standing with the university, be enrolled in at least 12 hours, and have at least a 2.0 g.p.a. Of course, being able to dance is also a prerequisite.

Like any audition, everybody who tries out won't make the team.

"There's always a new criteria of what they may be looking for each year so it may be helpful to take dance lessons," said Kirkland. "If you didn't make the team this year, be sure to come back next year because you never know what can happen."

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Attention all students!

Please see if your name is on the following list. If so, you must take a mid-level assessment test that will access your skills in English, reading and math. The test is required by the Oklahoma State Regents. If your name is on the list, please also check your test date, which is determined by your last name. Contact James Wallace at 466-3462 to confirm your attendance. Should you have any questions call 466-3207.

Exam Schedule

March 28: 9 a.m.-12 noon	Abra to Colb
1-4 p.m.	Cole to Hami
March 29: 9 a.m.-12 noon	Hamm to Jose
1-4 p.m.	Kend to Okem
March 30: 9 a.m.-12 noon	Omej to Snow
1-4 p.m.	Spig to Youn

ABRAHAM, VERNELL S
ADAMS, DAYNAR
ADKINS, DANARA W
AGBARAKWE, CHADD
ALEXANDER, NAKIMBRA
ALLAH, MUHAMMAD
ALLEN, SHAVON M
ANDERSON, KIMBERLY
ANDERSON, QUINCY E
ANDERSON, WENDY R
ARMSTRONG, ELIZABETH
ASBERRY, TOMMISA M
ASEME, BEN B
ASHTON, NORMAN L
ASSAYE, ROMAN D
AWOSANYA, ADEYEMI O
BAHATI, JINAKI C
BAILEY, JAMIL
BANISTER, ETHAN J
BARKER, APRIL S
BARNETT, BRANDON K
BASSE, JEAN PIERRE
BATES, DAMERON C
BATTLE, MELANIE K
BENEFEE, DONE, III
BENNETT, DEWONE E
BLAKEWOOD, NATIYS
BLYTHE, DEREK C
BOWEN, ASHIRAT
BOWERS, TIFFANY V
BOYD, JASMINE N
BRASHEAR, ALONZOL
BREAUX, ANTONE' C
BRIDGEMAN, MARTYN
BRIDGEWATER, TONY D
BROCK, ANTHONY L
BROCK, TRIMANA N
BROOKS, TASANAL
BROWN, AARON B
BROWN, DAVID D
BROWN, DEJAY T
BROWN, JOANI M
BROWN, KAEISHA J
BURRELL, BRITNE D
BUSH, ENJAI D
BUSH, NAKIA Y
BUTLER, LATOYAN
BUXTON, LATASHA S
BYRD, DEREK D

CAMACHO, BONITAL
CARTER, LATASHIA L
CHANDLER, CHAWNTAYE
CHAPMAN, JASON J
CLARK, LORIA
CLARK, NAIOMI R
CLAY, YOLONDA S
CLAYTON, ANTWAINE D
COCHRAN, JUSTIN D
COLBERT, GRAIGORY A
COLBERT, SIOBHAN N
COLE, TERRIE
COLEMAN, JENNIFER D
COLLINS, SERETHA J
COPRIDGE, KATASHA L
CRAFT, CHRISTINA M
CRISP, PAMELA R
CRUSE, ANDRON D
CUBIT, BRYAN D
CULVER, RALPH, III
CURRY, LATURAC
DAVIS, BERNARD B, II
DAVIS, ERMA D
DAVIS, KENESHA Q
DAVIS, SHAWN T A M
DENNIS, KIVAL
DIBABU, MERID B
DICKSON, ALBERT A
DIXON, SHARI N
DIXON, STEPHEN D
DOOLEY, MARION, JR
DOTSON, APRIL D
DOUGLAS, AKIAC
DOZIER, KENDRICK L
DUNKIN, KEITH M
DUNNUM, SEMEKAN
DURANT, JAMIE L
EDWARDS, DONCHELLE E
EDWARDS, LAVEMBRE R
ELZY, KENDAL K
EVANS, CANDACE M
EVERIDGE, REGINALD, JR
FINE, CLARISE L
FINLEY, LINDA JOYCE
FORD, BENNETT D
FOREMAN, TRENISHA P
FRANKLIN, LANNIE R, III
FRANKLIN, RANIESHA C
GALBREATH, TASIAD

GALLOWAY, MELISSA S
GARRETT, TOMICA D
GEBREHIWOTE, MAKDA
GILLIAM, MELLENEE L
GILLIAM, SHUWANNAD
GIPSON, SHANNON D
GIPSON, SHARITTA A
GIRMA, SELAMAWIT S
GLOVER, MARIO D
GRAHAM, DENISHA C
GRANT, ROSHAUN V
GRANT, TONYA M
GREEN, DOMINIQUE N
GREEN, KLINE R
GUNTER, DONALD R, JR
GUY, SHANTAE L
HAILU, ELFINESH T
HAIRSTON-WILSON,
JAMIE O'KEITH
HALEY, DASHELL M
HALL, KENNETH J
HAMILTON, DONALD
HAMMACK, MARY E
HAMPTON, RONALD D,
HARALSON, KEITH
HARLEY, JAMALL
HARPER, YOLANDA S
HARRISON, TAMYKA C
HAYDEN, THERESA D
HAYWOOD, LEWIS
HEMPHILL, JACQUELINE
HEMPHILL, SHAMAR O.
HERBERT, DAMON K
HICKS, ERINE
HICKS, LATASHA R
HICKS, MICHAEL T
HIGGINS, SONCEARAY C.
HILDEBRANDT, LORIJEAN
HILL, CHRISTOPHER V
HINDS, KATRINAL
HINES, CHRISTIAN R
HODGE, ORVILLE E
HOLIDAY, RODRICK J
HOLLAND, DAVIAD
HOLLAND, ESSIEL
HOLT, JAMAAL R
HOOKS, MURCEDES S
HOPKINS, TISHEA M
HORNE, ZACHERY L
HOUSER, MELISSA A
HOUSER, SYLVIA D
HUNT, LAMONTEE A
HUNTER, NATALIE N
HUSANADEEN, RAHIMA
HUTSON, DOYLE R
IVORY, AINE
JACKSON, CHASITY J
JACKSON, JACQULINE N
JACKSON, JEREMY L
JACKSON, JOHNATHAN
JACKSON, LEAH C
JACKSON, LORIA M
JACKSON, SHAMIA L
JACKSON, TAMARA R
JAMES, TYRELL D
JEFFERSON, JENNIFER N
JENKINS, DANIELL
JOHNSON, DORY S
JOHNSON, ELLISA R
JOHNSON, FREDRICK E
JOHNSON, KATHY J
JOHNSON, PATRICK J
JOHNSON, QUINITA M

JOHNSON, TATYANA
JONES, AARON O
JONES, BARRYA
JONES, JENNIFER J
JONES, RANA C
JONES, SHERRIL
JONES, TERRID
JONES, WENDELL C, JR
JOSEPH, SABA T
KENDRICK, BISHOP K
KENNEDY, NATASHA S
KENNEDY, TAMIKA A
KERBY, ROSHAWN P
KILLINGS, TOIYAR
KIMBELL, TAMIKA S
KINES, TYRRELL L
KIRK, SHOAN D
KIRKLAND, CHONDRA R
KNIGHT, CONSTANCE J
KOTEY, EUGENE
KPELI, GEORGES
LADD, SHAYLON L
LANG, ERIC M
LAWRENCE, JOHN
LAWRENCE, TOMEKIAL
LAWS-RODRIGUEZ, JESSE
LAWSON, PIA R
LEONARD, TAISHA S
LEWIS, ASHLEY D
LEWIS, ASHLEY D
LEWIS, GREGORY E
LEWIS, JAMESE L
LEWIS, LHEA O
LEWIS, MARCUS A
LINDSEY, SHERMAN
LOCKSON, KRISTEN M
LYONS, LOIS-MARIE
MACK, CANDACE R
MAJORS, CONTESSA S
MALATH, EUNICE S
MARSH, ROBERT L
MASON, MEASHLIK M
MASON, TARYN L
MATTHEWS, MELVIN D
MAYES, BRANDON D
MCCRARY, JERYME R
MCCUIN, LASHUNDA D
MCCULLOUGH, CRYSTAL
MCDUFFIE, FALANA N
MCFERREN, REOLA R
MCNEELY, TYLER C
MEBANE, KENDRICK M
MEKONNEN, ABIY D
MERRELL, BOBBIE M
MIDDAUGH, GARY L
MILES, KEONTAE E
MILLER, DOROTHEA E
MONTGOMERY, JONATHAN
MOORE, NAKITA J R
MOORE, SYLVESTER L
MORRISON, DEMETRIA M
MOSES, TANESHA M
MUHAMMAD, MUNIRAN
MUMFORD, ANDRE D
NERO, ROBINETT M
NERO, SYBIL D
NICKENS, JAYVON T
NWEKE, CHUKWUHONSO
OKEMWA, NELLIE K
OMEJIA, ADA E
OSEI, JASMIN N
OSEI, RICHARD
OUTLEY, STEPHANIE D

OWENS, BRITTANY N
OWENS, CRAIGA
PALMER, QUATOSHA N
PATTERSON, JOLONDA
PATTON, ASHLEE' M
PENMAN, DONALD J
PENN, COURTNEY J
PERRY, CHARLES F
PONDER, JESSICA R
POWELL, ALLAN D
POWELL, SHERRIL
PRICE, THOMAS L
PRICE, TRAHERNE
PRIDE, NEKIA S
RAINER, KIMBERLY D
RANDLE, MAHALIA A
RANGE, SHAMEIKA D
RASHIDI, TALORIA R
REED, QUANITAN
RELERFORD, QUANETTA
REUPERT, ANGELA J
REYNOLDS, MYESHA S
RICHARD, TARRANCE T
RICHARDSON, JENNID
RICHARDSON, LLOYDA
RICHMOND, GRADINA D
RICKETT, JONATHAN R
RIDER, ALIYA J
RIDGLE, KEVIN B
RIGGINS, DEKOVENE
ROBERTS, KENNETH L
ROBINSON, MONIQUE E
ROGERS, CHARLES C
ROLAND, CHELSIE P
ROLLINS, ALASHAN
ROSSITER, YVONNE M
ROUSE, NATOSHIA F
RUBIN, ALANDEZ T
RUCKER, KUINENT T
RUTLEDGE, MYQUICHE C
SAMPSON, BRICE J
SAMUELS, COREY D
SANDOVAL, ARMIDAS
SELLERS, CARMALLITTA
SELLERS, DARNESHA E
SEYBOLD, SCOTT N
SHUMATE, LATOYAR
SIMPSON, DESTIN D
SIMPSON, MICHAELA,
SINCLAIR, DAVID L
SLONE, MICHAELA, JR
SMITH, JAMONT K
SMITH, JANICE M
SMITH, LARISA D
SMITH, SHAYLAY
SNOWBALL, DESIRE J
SPIGNER, ALFONZOL
SPILLMAN, LAQUITA R
STENNIS, ALEAHL
STEPHENS, DAKARAI J
STEVENS, JUDY K
STRIPLING, LAMARAS
SUMMERVILLE,
JACUELINE
SUTTON, TAJMAH J
TATE, TAQUOYAL
TAYLOR, REGINALD
TAYLOR, TIFFANY L
TESFAZGHI, TAMAR M
TESSEMA, GENET D
THOMAS, JESSICA A
THOMPSON, ANICE
THOMPSON, JARVIS L

THOMPSON, SHARON D
THREATT, SHARICE R
TITTSWORTH, RODNEY E
TODD, SYNDIA S
TOLIVER, TORRIENTE
TOURE, JABARIA
TREADWELL, JERMELA
TSEGAYE, MAKKANNEN
TYE, CORY T
TYNER, LASHAWNA
VALENZUELA, CHRISTINA
VULGAMORE, REGGIE T
WALKER, CHRISTOPHER
WALKER, SILVIA A
WALLACE, EDWARD
WALTON, MICHAEL K
WASHINGTON, AARON S
WASHINGTON, EBONE'
WASHINGTON, LETICIA E
WATSON, DARNELL, JR
WATSON, FELICIA R
WATSON, KALA SM.
WATSON, VICTORIA J
WATT, WILLIAM
WEATHERBORNE, RICARDO
WELLS, TANISHAN
WEST, AVERY A
WICKS, LAKEESE C
WILKERSON, TODD A
WILLIAMS, AARON B
WILLIAMS, BOBBY R
WILLIAMS, BRADY L, JR
WILLIAMS, BRANDY S
WILLIAMS, MONICK
WILLIAMS, MONTOYA M
WILLIAMS, NATHAN J
WILLIAMS, PORTIAL L
WILLIAMS, TIFFANY N
WILSON, JEFFERY A
WOLFE, TYRELL J
WOODS, SHALONDA M
WRIGHT, JUNNELL B
WRIGHT, SHERITAL
YARBROUGH, LISAM
YATES, JUDY B
YOUNG, RILEY B

Good luck on your test!

News to Know

COMPILED BY JESSICA P. LOWE

First Grader Thinks Crack is Candy and Passes it Out to Friends
Chicago Heights, Illinois—A 4-year-old child reportedly took crack to school on Friday after discovering 40 small bags of cocaine in his school bag. The child allegedly handed the drug out to his classmates thinking it was candy. The Department of Children and Family Services took the boy into custody Friday and placed him in a relative's home. Authorities are attempting to locate the boy's mother and other relatives. The boy's guardians could face narcotics and child endangerment charges.

Parents Fight to Save the Life of their Brain-damaged Daughter
Tampa, Florida—On Tuesday, a federal court judge denied an emergency request to reinsert a feeding tube for Terri Schiavo, a severely brain-damaged woman. The attorneys for Schiavo's parents appealed the ruling and claim that Terri is being slowly starved. Schiavo has been without food and water since Friday at her husband's request so that she will die and, according to him, end her suffering.

High School Student Kills 10 People

Redby, Minnesota—A high school student went on a shooting rampage Monday and killed nine people, wounded 13 others, and then turned the gun on himself. Police report that the student, Jeffrey Weise, killed two of his grandparents, and then went to his high school and killed seven people there. Eyewitnesses said he smiled and waved as he fired shots at the high school. Floyd Jourdain, chairman of the Red Lake Ojibwa Nation, said, "This is a small community. There will not be one soul who isn't touched by this tragedy here in Red Lake."

Child Abducted in Georgia

Jonesboro, Georgia—Early Tuesday morning a statewide alert was issued for a man who assaulted his ex-girlfriend, shot her 64-year-old father in the face and chest, and then abducted her two small children after fleeing in her car. The two children are a four-year-old girl and a 5-year-old boy.

Gasoline Up 19.7 Percent In Past 12 Months

Gas prices are soaring as the average price for regular unleaded gas throughout the country is up to \$2.07. The Department of Energy released its revised price projections for petroleum upward another \$2.00. It now says oil will average \$48.70 a barrel for the first quarter of 2005.

Increase Noted in Number of American Youth Abusing Inhalants

Washington—More than one million American teens voluntarily inhale the vapors of common household products, government officials say. Inhalants commonly sniffed by children as young as eight years of age include gasoline and lighter fluid, spray paints, cleaning fluids, paint thinners, degreasers, hairsprays, and odorizers. Stephen Pasierb, president of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, said parents were failing to educate their children about the dangers of inhalants.

Mandela Raises \$1.6M in AIDS Concert

George, South Africa—Former South African President Nelson Mandela told a crowd of 20,000 that women bear the brunt of the AIDS epidemic that has infected some 25 million people in Africa. Mandela was the host of his second AIDS awareness concert on Saturday.

Sex talk, continued from pg. 1

Henderson's favorite question of the night was "What type of girl is a guy looking for?"

"Every guy looks for a girl with brains or to give brains," said Henderson.

The questions ranged from "What's the scoop on D.L. (down low) brothers?" to "What do men and women really want?"

Natalie Hunter, a sociology major from Los Angeles, Ca., felt the audience learned "insight." "I felt it opened a lot of people's eyes," she said.

Hunter's favorite question of the evening was "Why do women disrespect themselves but expect men to respect them?" That was one of the questions that caused a lot of uproar at the forum because various audience members had different views.

The panelists felt the forum was productive and mind opening. Hunter felt the most strongly about "breaking the barriers between women and men." "We tend to focus on the differences instead of the commonalities," said Hunter.

At the end of the program audience members came to the microphone to ask their own questions for the panel and/or audience to answer.

"I hope the audience gained knowledge that would help them to mature and be more comfortable where sex, relationships, adulthood, college life and overall character is concerned," said Burdine, a senior mathematics education major from Oklahoma City.

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G O T A I D S ?

How do you know if you haven't been tested?

Evaluating job offers

Of course you want to make the right choice. You didn't come this far to get stuck with a low paying job or one that doesn't challenge you. You want a salary your mom's eyes will widen over, a benefits package your friends wish they had, perks to die for, a boss who has your back and co-workers who want to see you succeed. Okay—it would be fantastic to have all of those things, but more than anything you want to know that the chair you're sitting in at work is the chair you were destined to be in.

Well, unless God gives you a pretty good sign, you'll need faith, intuition and research on the company whose offer you're evaluating in order to make a wise decision. Not all jobs are worth the taking. Making the right decision becomes even more important when you're considering moving away to take a position. Consider the following when evaluating a company and its job offer:

1. The Industry

- √ History of growth
- √ Predictable future need for goods and services
- √ Degrees of dependence on business trends

2. The Organization

- √ Prestige and reputation
- √ Growth potential
- √ Size
- √ Financial stability
- √ Quality of management team

3. The Job

- √ Training program
- √ Day-to day activities
- √ Amount of stress/pressure
- √ Requirements to relocate, travel
- √ Requirements to work long hours/weekends
- √ Responsibility/autonomy
- √ Opportunity for advancement or individual achievement
- √ Salary
- √ Benefits package
- √ Involvement with supervisor, peer associates
- √ Physical work environment

Now What?
advice for the graduating senior

By Chaz Foster-Kyser
journalism instructor

- √ Social significance of work
- √ Pace of work
- √ Opportunity for continuing education/training

4. General Lifestyle

- √ Your comfort with the organization's goals/philosophy
- √ Geographic location
- √ Recreational, cultural and educational facilities
- √ Proximity of educational institutions for further study

**From the Job Search Handbook of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, used with the permission of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, copyright holder.*

Other important factors to consider

√ The number of African-Americans and other minorities present and the primary positions they hold (entry level, middle management, management).

√ The female to male ratio and the primary positions women hold (entry level, middle management, management).

√ What is deemed professional and unprofessional as far as styles of dress, hairstyles and jewelry. Some companies may demand that you come to work in a business suit everyday. Other companies may consider your khari shell necklace, braids, or short cropped natural hairstyle as "unprofessional."

It's good to get other people's opinions on the job offers you receive, but the final choice will be yours. People determine how good a job offer is according to their own values and goals, and you must do the same. What is worth more to you? Money? Peace? Excellent benefits and

perks? Challenging work? Do you want the chance to rise in the ranks, or do you really just want something that will

keep you busy and provide a steady paycheck? There's no wrong or right answer, just think about the kind of person you are and the type of environment you will be comfortable in. A person who hates working in teams will probably despise a job that requires them to work on a lot of team projects. Someone who has no sense of time doesn't need to be in a deadline driven environment. An ambitious, hopeful young professional has no place in a company that hardly ever promotes from within. Also consider your gut feeling about the company. You know, the little voice that says there's something funny going on with this company, or you and your employer probably won't get along.

After the interview, reflect on your initial thoughts about the company. What positive aspects of the company stood out? What did you find odd? Did you feel like you wouldn't fit in right after you met the person who may become your boss? Did the employees look or act like the last people you'd want to work with or did they make you want to start work with them off-the-clock? You should take all these issues into consideration when you're evaluating a job offer.

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.

What's the Word?

Do you think that Terri Schiavo's feeding tube should be removed so she can be allowed to die?



"Yes, because her quality of life has been bad for over 15 years and because it's torture to allow someone to live in that state."

Kevono Hunt, senior broadcast journalism major Dallas, Texas



"No. I personally believe that it is cruel to starve her to death even though she is brain dead."

Bridgette Jones, senior broadcast journalism major Oklahoma City, Okla.



"No, they shouldn't remove the tube because she would die suffering and starve to death. Americans don't practice cruel and unusual punishment and removing that tube would be just that cruel and usual."

Shamia Jackson, junior broadcast journalism major Tulsa, Okla.



"No. It doesn't make sense to only remove her feeding tube. If they ultimately want her to die, the government should just turn off all the machines."

Shaunna Cooper, senior broadcast journalism major Stillwater, Okla.

COMPILED BY DE'SHAWN SAFFOLD, GAZETTE PHOTOGRAPHER

LU Calendar

Ongoing Events

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.

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.

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.

The Langston University Association of Black Journalists (LUABJ) hold meetings every Wednesday at 4 p.m. in Sanford Hall, Rm. 310W. More information: call Dr. Karen M. Clark, ext. 3297, or Steve Jackson at (405) 834-4829.

Immediate Events

Wednesday, March 23

L.U.P.H.C is having a general body meeting in Scholars' Inn clubhouse on Wednesday, March 23 at 6 p.m. An award of \$1,000 will be given to the organization with the most members presented.

Lion of the Week

In loving memory of Leon Clark

BY SHAMIA JACKSON

“You couldn't ask for a more beautiful person,” said Dr. JoAnn Clark about her brother-in-law, Leon Clark, while reflecting on his recent death. Leon Clark, an adjunct mathematics professor, died in a car accident on Feb. 26, 2005.

Born to Brownie and Florena Clark on Aug. 23, 1943 in Byng, Ok., Clark was the youngest of nine brother and sisters. During his lifetime he was considered to be a mild tempered, family man.

“He wasn't a conflict person and he never talked bad about people,” said Clark. “He was always helping, doing whatever we needed him to do. He didn't ask—he just did.”

Clark initially joined the Langston family as a student. He majored in mathematics and was listed in the Who's Who Among American College Students. He was a member of the Beta Kappa chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

After graduating in 1974, Clark began his professional career in the public school system. Soon he was provided with the opportunity to teach while coaching basketball, which was his first love, for the girls team at Northwest Classen High School. As their coach, Clark taught the girls valuable rules: How to win and lose gracefully, good leadership qualities, and that the world's greatest game is life.

Clark began his professional career at Dear Langston in 1999. During his short time here, he touched many lives.

“I was shocked after hearing the news,” said Anthony Hill, a mathematics professor.

“It put me in a complete state of shock. I immediately began to think about his students and how they would react.”

Clark was known for being an amusing and witty professor with a very warm per-



sonality.

“They [the students] really enjoyed his class. A couple of students had to go to the counseling center after hearing the news. Another student said that she hated that she didn't have a chance to see him again because she missed his class the Friday before his death,” Hill added.

“He was so great,” said Chrisaura Haynie, one of Clark's students. “I never liked math, but he took the time to help me understand. Anytime I needed help he was right there.”

Along with many broken-hearted students, Clark leaves behind a plethora of close friends and relatives, including his wife Gwen, and their children—Eric, Sonya, Elizabeth, Dorie and Marlon. He will be especially missed by his siblings—Otis, Rufus, Lester, Ella May, Ruby and Izora.

Leon Clark's deeds were great and his efforts will not be forgotten. He will be missed greatly by both his immediate family and the Langston community.

We love you Mr. Clark

A **career fair** will be held in the multi-purpose building on Wednesday, March 23 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Professional attire is required for entry to the career fair.

Thursday, March 24

A **corrections/criminal justice senior exit exam** will be administered on Thursday, March 24 at 3:30 p.m. Those taking the test should meet in Moore Hall in Rm. 121.

The Miss Omega Pageant, hosted by the Phi Psi chapter of Omega Psi Phi, will be held Thursday, March 24 at 7:33 p.m. in the I.W. Young Auditorium. Admission is \$2.

Spring Revival 2005 will be held at the Mount Bethel Baptist Church from March 24-25 at 7 p.m. The church is located in Langston right across the street from the university.

Saturday, March 26

An **Easter egg hunt** sponsored by the L.U.P.H.C on will take place on Saturday, March 26 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will be held on the Chapel lawn. Children ages one to 10 are welcome to come and hunt for eggs and prizes.

Friday, March 30

The SGA will host B.E.T comics Rickey Shaw, Cornbread, Michael Prince and Darius Bradford on Friday, March 30 in the I.W. Young Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 without I.D.; and \$1 with it.

April 20-23

A **cheerleader clinic** will be held from April 20 to 23 in the multi-purpose building at 6 p.m. Please pick up applications in Rm. 204 of Sanford Hall. Bring a copy of a high school or college transcript. There will be a try-out fee of \$5.00. Actual try-outs will be Monday, April 25 at 6 p.m. in the multi-purpose building. To watch the tryouts will cost a \$1 at the door.

To nominate someone for Lion of the Week, send an email with the person's contact information and reason why they should be nominated to LUGazette@yahoo.com