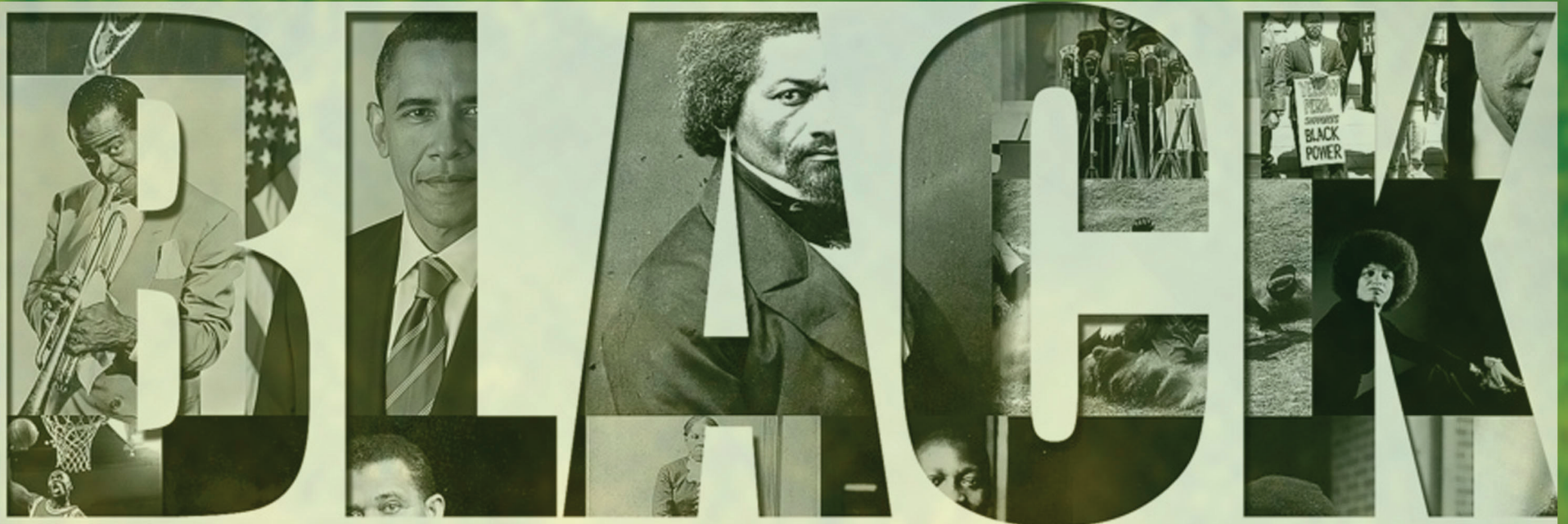


the Gazette

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STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

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the Gazette

The *Gazette* is produced within the Department of Communication at Langston University.

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Editor questions Barbie's intentions

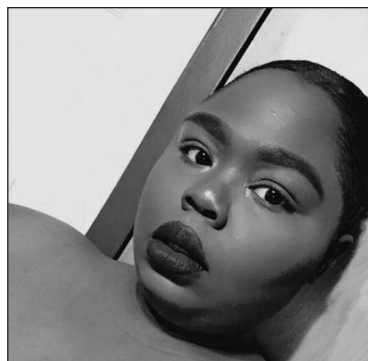
Barbara Millicent Roberts, known as "Barbie," has been the pioneer for young girls for a decade. Barbie started out as just a fashion doll manufactured by American toy company Mattel.

Barbie was first introduced March 9, 1959, and was instantly a hit with young girls around the world. From the time she was introduced in March until Dec. 31, 1959, about 300,000 Barbie dolls were sold. That number has risen tremendously going into the 21st century, with over a billion sold since her debut.

With such large production and selling numbers, the question is: what is Barbie's message to young girls around the world? That's easy! Her message is, "Be what you want to be!" With that message, Barbie has held over 150 different careers, including an astronaut, doctor, veterinarian and even the first female U.S. president-elect!

With Barbie being so successful, what is the problem? Well, Barbie has primarily only been a pioneer for young Caucasian girls. There is a major lack of African-American Barbie dolls. So, is Barbie portraying that only Caucasians can be successful and do anything they put their mind to?

According to Brokey McPoverty, blogger for the Postbourgie website, "The first African-



Thompson

American Barbie doll was created in the late '70s during the Black Power Movement of the '60s and '70s, and when word of Barbie's German ancestry slipped, rumors of Nazism and white supremacy began to swirl."

To save her image, Barbie's public relations team pressed her to make a black friend to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that she wasn't racist. Her handlers imported "Christie," a doll from Detroit to fill the void. According to the Wikipedia website, Christie's full name is La'Chrysanthemum Nichole Jackson.

She became "Christie" because Barbie and her camp thought it was "cuter" and "friendlier." They also told everyone she was from Malibu, made her straighten her hair, and put her on a strict diet and

workout regimen to keep her body proportions as unrealistic as Barbie's.

La'Chrysanthemum wasn't as popular as Barbie and the reasons could not be any simpler — La'Chrysanthemum did not sell as fast as Barbie. La'Chrysanthemum wasn't as "publicly appealing" as Barbie, and many young girls didn't like La'Chrysanthemum. They merely saw her as Barbie's black friend.

It wasn't until 2009 that Mattel tried an African-American Barbie doll line that featured African-American dolls with more realistic African-American features (fuller lips and wider noses). Has Barbie really been empowering young girls to be themselves, or has Barbie destroyed their image and self-esteem?

As a true Barbie doll fan, I think Barbie has taught girls that they have to have long, blonde hair and blue eyes, that they are only beautiful if they are a size 2, and even though Barbie is only a doll, the message speaks quite loudly.

I remember feeling less and not as good as others because I did not look the same as Barbie or my Caucasian counterparts. I remember my mother buying me a "black doll" that was a cheaper-made product of the be-

loved Barbie — her hair wasn't as straight as Barbie's and she wasn't as "pretty" as Barbie. I threw that doll away because, at that time, I did not understand that it had nothing to do with Barbie; it was me rejecting my culture because my culture was not widely broadcasted and seen in a positive light — like Barbie was.

Another issue we decided as a society that wasn't up for discussion is size. Why does Barbie only come in one size when young girls in America are all different sizes and shades of beautiful?

I think Barbie has not truly taught all girls that they are beautiful just the way they are. She has taught them that they must fit a certain criteria or stereotype to be considered beautiful. And, instead of truly teaching them that they can be anything they want to be, she has taught them that only certain people can be successful.

Though the problem is complicated, the solution is clear. Large, corporate companies with as much power as Mattel need to start broadcasting more realistic portrayals of the diversity of women around the world.

Kimberly Thompson is a senior broadcast journalism major.

Alumni Connection

"Langston University National Alumni Association is proud to announce the launch of its new membership portal through Member Planet," said LUNAA Executive Director Monique Daniels. Daniels announced that the LUNAA board of directors has worked tirelessly to transition from a manual backend operation to a more systematic way of enhancing its membership process.

The board is continuing to integrate the portal with the LUNAA website (lunaa.org).

Daniels said for members who want to use their mobile devices, there is a mobile application. Over the next few months, the board plans to continue rolling out new features of the portal (polling, event management, elections, LUNAA store, etc.)

to allow alumni a better way to connect with former classmates.

The board is really proud of the new portal and thinks it will create a superior experience for all alumni. Additionally, the LUNAA office has officially moved from the Langston University main campus to the Langston University-OKC campus, located at 6700 N. Martin Luther King Ave., Suite 13.

Alumni Spotlight!

Langston University graduates continue to have an impact in their local communities and cities. Sterling Carter received his bachelor's degree in biology in 1993 and a degree in physical therapy in 1997. He completed his master's at Texas Woman's University in 2007 and his doctorate of physical therapy from Simmons College in 2013.

Sterling is partner and chief operations officer at Sterling Staffing Solutions and president/CEO at Sterling Physical Therapy and Wellness. Sterling lives in Missouri City, Texas.

Ramunda Lark Young received her bachelor's degree in business in 1998. Ramunda and her husband, Derrick Young, recently opened Mahogany Books that has grown from being exclusively an online bookstore to the go-to bookseller for community book events featuring African-American authors in communities ranging from Manassas, Virginia to Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, and reaching as far north as Philadelphia and Atlantic City, New Jersey.

On Feb. 10, the Youngs celebrated the grand opening of

Mahogany Books, the first bookstore to open in Washington, D.C. east of the Anacostia River in more than 20 years.

Ramunda said that they take a leadership role in the African-American community promoting reading, writing and cultural awareness as tools to improve communities as well as enrich the lives of motivated individuals. Mahogany Books is dedicated to meeting the literary needs of readers in search of books written for, by or about people of the African Diaspora. Alumni wanting to support Ramunda can do so by visiting <https://www.mahoganybooks.com>.

Sterling and Ramunda are two of the many Langston University graduates who are living up to the Langston University motto, "Education for Service."

Q&A

Dr. Sonia Brown discusses significance of the historical Black Arts Movement

By Derdrick White
Staff Writer

The Black Arts Movement of the '60s and '70s set the standard of black culture as we know it today. In honor of Black History Month, Langston University students and faculty are reflecting on this movement and trying to show that it is relevant in today's society.

I sat down with Dr. Sonia Brown, assistant professor of English, who said it's very important

that we understand where we come from as black people from all different angles.

The Black Arts Movement set the standard for theater and poetry in a culture that was still prejudice and perceived colored people as second class.

White: For those who don't know, what is the Black Arts Movement?

Brown: Along with the

Civil Rights Movement, it attempted to redefine a space for black cultural production and black literal production. We don't want it to seem like these ideas die or that they haven't been continuing.

The writers rejected all Westernized standards of the normal European writers, like Shakespeare, Tennyson or Coleridge. The movement poets believed that Africa as a cultural space should be honored, and descendants of African artists need to create their own products and standards to measure themselves.

White: What was the goal of the Black Arts Movement?

Brown: To give credit to the African nature at the essence of the black identity and to recognize the authenticity of black cultural products. To promote a knowledge of blackness and to set up ideals that could accurately measure black cultural products.

They wanted to create their own cultural standards based on the way they spoke, thought, and their own experiences. The goal was to normalize these things so black people felt confident in who and what they are.

So, use black experiences,

use black speech and use black language to talk about black people, black issues, black conditions, black problems. Simply put, it was this reinvestment in self...

White: What were the origins of and who are some important people of the movement?

Brown: The Blacks Arts Movement was founded by Larry Neal and Amiri Baraka, who changed his name from LeRoi Jones. But like most artists of that time, when they realized they had connections to Africa, they changed their names.

They basically set up the black aesthetic, which was those ideals to judge our own products. It was initiated by those people, and it kind of just became this movement in a sense that you had artisans, writers, poets and singers — all that mimicked these things and ideas.

White: How has the Black Arts Movement been incorporated into today's society?

Brown: The rhetoric of that time. Rejection of anything that's against you or anything that's in opposition to the need to create a divine of your own

people, bring your own people up, and the need to stick together... those are all repetitive things in hip hop. It gave us the pivotal statements that which hip hop and other cultural means stand.

White: In your opinion, how has the movement lived on and still stuck with us today?

Brown: I think the Black Arts Movement is significant and important for people to be aware of because it gives people this understanding of our culture and that it didn't just appear out of nowhere.

It allows us to locate changes in this discussion about thought, the changes of how we address ourselves, how we see ourselves.

As African-Americans, or as black people, the more history we have about our people and the struggles our people have gone through, the more that we can articulate those struggles and that history, the better it is for us.

Knowledge of the Black Arts Movement allows us to understand that none of these ideas are new. It's a pivotal idea in black literature, this idea of mimesis, this idea that things repeat and the Black Arts Movement has happened before.



Dr. Sonia Brown

Quiz Bowl team finishes third at Texas Invitational

Special from Kyle Gregory
Quiz Bowl Team Coach

The Langston University Quiz Bowl team competed Feb. 3, at the Texas Invitational Honda Campus All Star Challenge Quiz Tournament, hosted by Prairie View A&M.

Langston finished third out of 10 teams, making the semifinals of the PVAMU Honda Campus All Star Challenge National Qualifying Tournament. Langston defeated teams from Mississippi Valley State University, Arkansas-Pine Bluff and Jarvis Chris-

tian, but lost to eventual champion PVAMU in the playoffs by one question.

It was a difficult field, with four of the teams in attendance finishing in last year's "Sweet Sixteen."

"We were able to beat some very difficult teams and help put Langston on the map," said team member Troy Stoutermire, senior agribusiness major. "We hope to be able to keep improving and compete for a National Championship."

This is the third time in the last four tries that Langston

has made the playoffs at the National Qualifying Tournament.

Overall, that places Langston roughly in the top 20 of the 76 registered universities and positions Langston well to qualify for the National Championship Tournament where teams will compete for the \$75,000 grandprize grant for their university. However, just by making it to the National Championship guarantees each school a \$3,000 grant.

The team members credit their Quiz Bowl success to the quality of education that

Langston University offers.

"The events put on by College Bowl and American Honda have allowed our group to show off the intelligence that we have gained from our professors at Langston," said Fisher Davis, team member and junior computer science major.

Over 10,000 HBCU students are taking part in the 29th annual HBCU National Quiz Championship. From Power Searches to Campus Tournaments and HCASC Club sessions to the National Qualifying Tournaments and

the National Championship, HBCU students are demonstrating the success that comes from an HBCU education.

The National Championship Tournament will again be held in Los Angeles and part of the event will be hosted at Honda headquarters.

Langston's Quiz Bowl team consists of four members, including Stoutermire and Davis. The other two members are Coleton Dudley, senior English major, and Alexander Smith, senior animal science major. Their coach is Kyle Gregory, recruiter for LU.

Love at Langston



Students keep 'pure' relationship before marriage

By Destinee McClain
Staff Writer

If you think dating and waiting is impossible, Quentin and Takeisa Dixon have proven otherwise.

Takeisa Dixon, 26, moved from Los Angeles to Langston to attend college. Langston University is where she met Quentin Dixon, age 27. But, when Takeisa first met Quentin, she did not know that he was going to be her husband.

"Initially, when I met Quentin we were just friends," Takeisa said. "He would take my best friend and me to Walmart all the time. One night during one of our infamous Walmart trips, Quentin said God told [him] I was going to be his wife. I laughed and said, 'Well, God didn't tell me that.'"

Quentin was persistent, though, in a way that Takeisa had never experienced. Takeisa asked God through prayer who Quentin really was.

"I heard Jesus say that Quen-

tin is who I have for you," Takeisa explained.

Quentin and Takeisa dated for five years before they were engaged, and their relationship was nothing like traditional relationships are today.

"God reminded Takeisa and I that we wouldn't follow anything familiar," Quentin said. "Several times we tried to conform to what other couples around us exhibited, but one thing we knew was that we must keep our relationship pure."

By "pure" they meant that they wanted to remain abstinent until they were married, and this couple knew there was a reason behind their patience in the relationship.

"We knew that God would use us to be an example to many and to bring glory to God with our relationship," Quentin said.

Many people do not wait until marriage to have sex. According to the Waiting Till Marriage website, only 3 percent of the human population waits until

marriage today, and, as far back as 1954, only 11 percent waited until marriage.

"It wasn't easy, but because God was our foundation, when times got rough, we became strong," Quentin said.

Quentin and Takeisa were married July 6, 2016.

"Our wedding day was absolutely breathtaking," Takeisa said. "It was more than I ever dreamed. To see all of our family and friends there to celebrate our union was awesome."

Their inspirational union has impacted many people, including Quentin's mentee, SGA Vice President Jarae Williams.

"It gave me hope for my life," Williams said, "just to see that there are people out there that are willing to wait until marriage is inspiring to me."

The Dixon's believe that dating just to date is meaningless, and they offered some advice to all couples.

"If your intentions aren't marriage, then don't date," Quentin said.



Courtesy Photo

Takeisa and Quentin Dixon get married after meeting at Langston as students. The two wed July 6, 2016.

Staff members, alumni find 'the one' during college

By Tallorial Bonds
Staff Writer

How do you know you have found "the one"? Even when you think you know, how can you be sure? Jay and Misty Wakefield found the answer to these questions right here at Langston University.

From two different parts of the United States, it was almost fate for the two to be together. Before she was Misty Wakefield, she was Misty Ognibene from Guthrie. She explained that she didn't originally plan on going to college, but she received a large amount of scholarships, so she decided to attend LU. She said it was the best choice for her because of how close it was to home.

Jay Wakefield, from Chicago, didn't meet Misty until the end of spring 1998, but they both felt a connection. Misty said they hung out a couple times and she had an unexplainable pulling force toward Jay. The two didn't get serious until a few years after they met.

"You know how you meet someone and there's something about that person that you can't put your finger on, but you can't stay away from them. Also, we had things in common, like our life goals," Misty said. "We had common interests, we both were at Langston, we both shared the same kind of friends."

All of these things were signs that made them realize they were meant to be together. Ironically, they are

brother and sister — through their Greek organizations, that is. Misty crossed Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. in spring 2001. Jay crossed Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. in fall 2001.

"It brought us closer together just because we joined a brother and sister fraternity and sorority, and that was just something that we could share together," Jay explained.

Kids weren't exactly planned out for the two but after their first child they decided to start a family. They have four kids: Jathaniel, 16, Abrielle, 10, Nylah, 5 and Emmarie, 11 months.

Misty said even while dating they would constantly talk about the decision to have kids.



Courtesy Photo

Jay and Misty Wakefield take a family photo with their four children. The two met at Langston as students and now work at Langston as staff members. Pictured is (from left) Abrielle, 10; Jay; Nylah, 5; Jathaniel, 16; Misty; and Emmarie, 11 months.

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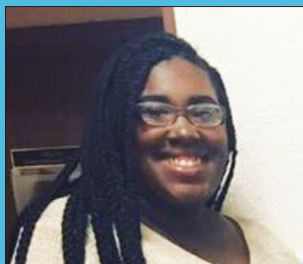
Campus Question

Who is someone significant to you from Black History?



Lillian Paris – Freshman Biology Major

"My great-grandfather because he was the first generation of an African coming to America in our family. He wrote a book and was in movies and paved the way for the Paris family."



Tiana Jackson – Senior Business Management Major

"Malcolm X because I believe in his beliefs."



Eugene Buckman Jr. – Senior English Major

"My father, Eugene Buckman Sr., and my older brother, Marcus. They both instilled in me the qualities it takes to not only be a LEADER but a God-fearing man. In today's society where there's a lack of male mentorship, it's because of these two STRONG BLACK MEN that in able to pave the way for the next generation."



Nia Simpson – Senior English Major

"My grandfather. He was born in South Carolina somewhere around 1936. He put himself through school, sleeping in janitors' closets and working unsavory jobs. He was in the military and awarded for his marksmanship (although he was not able to compete because of his race). After he was Honorably Discharged, he was a teacher in D.C. Public Schools and a professor at Gallaudet University. My Papa has his Ed.D."

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After having their son during Misty's senior year of college, the two decided to get married. Although Jay was here for an education, at the time he was more focused on surviving Langston than being a student.

After their first child, though, Jay knew it was time for a change and he wanted to become a great example for his son and also try to reach his own personal goals. Jay knew since his first child that he was no longer a college kid but now a father so he decided to take things more seriously.

"I had to come to a place within myself to say, 'Hey, I'm going to make an honest woman out of this woman,' and her father wouldn't have it any other way," Jay said. "When I decided to make an honest woman out of her and after I got her father's blessing, that was something that I needed to do in order to start a family."

As Jay was trying to figure out his college situation, Misty stayed supportive of him. Jay said that Misty was a great motivator for him.

"As [Misty] started to matriculate and knock off her goals, I had to make a decision about how I wanted to mesh in that relationship," Jay explained. "She helped me get focused on my study plan, and I took

my own drive and initiative to build upon that."

Support goes both ways in a relationship, too. Jay said he supported her when she had to be a working mother. He would give her encouragement and any additional support that she needed to accomplish her goals.

To this day, they both work together in a partnership. They both work at LU; Jay is an operations manager for Sodexo and Misty is an academic adviser. They both have busy schedules but manage time for family and constantly support each other. Others around them take note of their relationship.

"I see their relationship as something to be cherished," said Misty's sister, Cherie Ognibene. "They have been through a lot, and even though it gets rough sometimes, they continue to work through things instead of just throwing in the towel when things get hard."

Being married for 20 years is not as easy as it sounds, and Jay and Misty have an understanding within their relationship.

"Every relationship is not going to be 100 percent on one or the other," Misty explained. "There are going to be days where one is going to hold 80 percent and the other is going to hold 20 percent. Know that people evolve, your preferences evolve, your resources evolve. You have to be able to not be so tunnel-vision focused and you have to be able to communicate."

ITS offers free services to students on campus

By Charles Leggs III
Staff Writer

Students buy laptops for school but they often come without programs needed to be successful in college courses.

The Information Technology Services department offers students a solution to this problem. ITS handles mostly everything related to technology on the Langston University campus. When students' Wi-Fi goes out or when they need to troubleshoot their computers, ITS helps out.

According the LU website, ITS's purpose is to deliver key systems, products and services to support and enhance the instruction, research and administration on campus.

There are services that ITS offers that some students may not be aware of.

"We offer a malware protection and an anti-virus," said Chief Information Officer

Pritchard Moncriste.

Moncriste also said ITS personnel will load programs onto students' computers, such as Microsoft Office, and ITS also is looking into offering Adobe Master Collection as well. Adobe is a program that was offered in the past, but because of licenses expiring, it was no longer offered.

Tiana Jackson, senior business management major, said ITS was very accommodating to her.

"Mr. Smith installed Microsoft Office onto my computer and put spyware on it, too," Jackson said.

Leonard Smith, who worked on Jackson's computer, is the systems engineer for ITS.

In addition, ITS also offers help with student IDs, passwords and email accounts.

Moncriste encourages all students to stop by if they have any questions or problems with their computers.

Langston School of Nursing applications due by March 1

By Remi Jackson
Staff Writer

Are you interested in being a nurse?

Nursing is one of the largest and most vital professions in the American healthcare system, and it ranks as the most trusted profession. Nurses are educationally prepared to greatly impact healthcare, health promotion, health education and health outcome, according to the National Center for Biotechnology Information.

The nursing program at Langston University provides small class sizes to students, which allows for individualized attention to educational needs. The program shoots for a high National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) passing rate. Also, the program can be done on a full-time basis, which consists of two years of study.

"I believe we have an excellent program that can successfully prepare graduates to pass the NCLEX/RN exam on first attempt," said Dr. Teresa Hunter, dean of the School of Nursing.

The LU School of Nursing

"No matter how hard things may get, remember what you are working for and remember to think about the future... not the now."

— Mary Smith,
senior nursing major

is accepting applications now through March 1.

Classes will begin in August. The application period for the LU SON is once yearly, from Jan. 1 through the deadline of March 1.

To be considered for acceptance into the SON, students must have admission to LU, and they must have passed all prerequisite courses. They also are required to have at least a 2.5 GPA.

Included in the application, applicants must submit a brief essay and evidence of good health. The LU SON requires all official transcripts from every college, university and/or professional school attended.

This may seem like extensive requirements, but nursing students think the application

process is definitely worth the time.

"No matter how hard things may get, remember what you are working for and remember to think about the future... not the now," said Mary Smith, senior nursing major.

The course prerequisites for the nursing program are English Composition I and II, Advanced Composition, College Algebra, Elementary Statistics, General and Developmental Psychology, Chemistry, Sociology, Nutrition, Biology, Human Anatomy, Human Physiology and Microbiology, according to the LU website.

For more information about application to the nursing program at LU, please contact Etta Godwin at 405-466-3415 or emgodwin@langston.edu.

Mr. Langston attends, competes in HBCU King's Conference Pageant

By Nahjee Williams
Staff Writer

Mr. Langston University Mark Barber competed at the Mr. HBCU King's Conference Pageant on Feb. 3, at Lincoln University in Missouri.

The purpose of this conference was to bring different HBCU kings together to discuss brotherhood and community service, and then so they could bring those ideas back to their perspective campuses.

Barber, senior music education major, enjoyed meeting new kings around the country.

"One of the things that I enjoyed the most was the breakout sessions," Barber said. "We were really getting to know each other, me and my king brothers."

Terri Link, director of Student Life, went in support of Barber. She was impressed with the leadership and gratitude of other black men.

"It's always good to see black men come together," Link said. "It was good to exchange information with each other, talk about what they do differently on campus, and understand each other's platforms."

There were six students selected to go on the trip to support Barber during the pageant. Kayshe Houser, junior business management major, was one of the students from the SGA board who traveled to Lincoln University.

"It was a bunch of black greatness," Houser said. "It was nice seeing most of the contestants again from this past summer coming from NASAP (National Association of Student Affairs Professions)."

The Mr. HBCU King's Conference was held from Jan. 30 to Feb. 3. There were 15 kings registered for the conference and the pageant.

Though Barber did not place in the pageant, he said he enjoyed his experience.

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Valentine's Day kicks off National Condom Week

Special from Oklahoma State Department of Health

Buying flowers or candy for your Valentine? How about condoms?

Valentine's Day was also National Condom Day and was the first day of National Condom Week (Feb. 14-21).

The Oklahoma State Department of Health shares the primary goal of National Condom Day in promoting safe sex and normalizing the use of con-

doms.

National Condom Day began in the late 1980s and is recognized on Valentine's Day because studies indicate condom sales are 25 percent higher compared to other days of the year.

Of all birth control methods available, the condom is the only option to also protect against the spread of sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV, gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis.

Oklahoma continues to see

a steady increase in STDs. In 2016, the OSDH reported more than 21,000 cases of chlamydia, more than 7,500 cases of gonorrhea, nearly 6,000 cases of HIV/AIDS and nearly 700 cases of syphilis.

Jan Fox, director of the OSDH HIV/STD Service, said the primary purpose of promoting National Condom Day is to educate the public about the need for practicing safe sex at all times. Studies indicate people are more likely to use condoms

if they are available prior to a sexual encounter.

"We want more people to be comfortable with purchasing, carrying, talking about, and using condoms," Fox said. "We hope that one day, buying condoms at the store will feel as normal as buying a gallon of milk."

The OSDH partners with community-based organizations throughout the state who provide condoms and lubricant, along with additional materials,

throughout the year.

County health department sites across the state also offer condoms. These sites can offer important guidance and information about the proper use of condoms as well.

For more information about condoms and preventing STDs, visit <https://www.hivstd.health.ok.gov> or <https://www.cdc.gov>.

Media inquiries should be directed to Jamie Dukes at 405-271-5601 or jamed@health.ok.gov.

White reviews newest album from Beatking

By Derdrick White
Staff Writer

For those that don't know rapper Beatking, he has had hits like "Throw that A**," "Crush" and "Hammer." If that still doesn't ring a bell, then go to a Langston party because you've been living under a rock.

But the Houston, Texas, rapper has dropped more club music on his latest album, "Stripper Friends," only 9 months after dropping "Astroworld 2." Beatking's cover art on his albums are always unique and funny in a way that perfectly represents his personality. Also, some of his tracks, such as "Bak Bak," "Bad Af" and "Apologize with Money" have hilarious beginnings to them.

The entire album, produced mainly by Clubgodzilla himself with his brand of music we have all come to know and love, will make any guy bob his head and any girl who enjoys dancing get lit.

"Pink Ranger" has a New Orleans bounce vibe to it, and my personal favorite, "Molly Monster," has the best beat and could start off any party the right way as King states, "Explicit*, you don't got thick since you had that baby."

As he has been referred to many times as, "this generation's Uncle Luke," Beatking has lived up to that name tenfold, and he continues to do so with "Stripper Friends."



Heard of cows visits the LU



Courtesy Photo

Not just any college campus is prone to a visit from livestock, but at rural Langston University, roaming four-legged animals are not that uncommon.

A heard of more than 10 cows were spotted Feb. 8 on the the southwest side of campus, between the police station and the goat farm.

Whether they were visiting their fellow furry goat friends or just simply wandering away from their pasture, they made for a sight to see, and *The Gazette* staff could not help but let everyone know about our unexpected visitors on campus.

Lady Lions fight through challenges

By Jadason Morris
Staff Writer

The Lady Lions basketball team has continued to fight through adversity in the midst of a challenging season.

The Lady Lions have a record of 8-16 and are on a six-game losing streak.

Adding on to the challenges the ladies have faced this season, the team's second leading scorer and leading rebounder, junior guard Tashara Jones, is out with an injury.

According to the Dakstats website, Jones is averaging 14.0 points and 8.2 rebounds per game.

Despite the hardships, the Lady Lions refuse to give up. Jones explained how the team has responded to the difficulties.

"I believe we've handled it very well," she said. "We've had our point guard – who was leading us – end up leav-

"...we've had a lot of different adversities, but we've pushed through. So hopefully we finish out the stretch hard."

— Tashara Jones,
junior guard

ing, going back home to Atlanta for family reasons.

"We've had another one of our big players leave, so we've had a lot of different adversities, but we've pushed through. So hopefully we finish out the stretch hard."

With Jones out, the Lady Lions will look to senior forward Shanequa Gaston and junior guard Tennia Hill to carry the load.

Gaston is now the team's leading scorer with 15.9 points per game, according to the Dakstats website. Hill is the team's leading 3-point shooter and is sixth in the country with 66 3-pointers

made, according to the Dakstats website.

Head coach Elanie Powell said she expects the team to continue to play as hard they can every game and leave everything out on the floor.

"Just have heart. Just come out here and compete," Powell said.

"I'm OK with the outcome as long as you compete and fight hard," she continued. "That's all I ever wanted to do from the time we started preseason until now. Whatever happens at the end you can live with it as long as you're competing and you're trying hard."



Photo from <https://langstonsports.com>

Junior guard Tashara Jones brings the ball down the court during a home game. Jones is currently out with an injury this season.

Students react to Philadelphia Eagles' Super Bowl victory

By Malcolm Quattlebaum
Staff Writer

The Philadelphia Eagles soared sky-high, landing right on the Lombardi Trophy as they became the Super Bowl 52 champions.

This is Philadelphia's first Super Bowl championship. They have not held an NFL title since 1960, before the era of the Super Bowl.

The Eagles defeated the New England Patriots 41-33. Many refer to this game as one of the most entertaining Super Bowls in recent history.

According to the Super Bowl game statistics, there were 1,151 yards of total offense between the two teams: 538 for Philadelphia and 613 for New England. This was the highest total yardage in Super Bowl history by a margin of over 200 yards.

There was only one punt the entire game by the Eagles' punter Donnie Jones. There was only one sack the entire game when Brandon



Graham stripped Tom Brady. This one sack was ultimately the game-changer that led to the Eagles' victory.

Sophomore broadcast journalism major King Mason is a huge Eagles fan and is ecstatic that his team is the world champ.

"I am proud of them – I was so excited!" Mason said.

He thinks this is the best offensive showcase in Super Bowl history, but on the flip side, he thinks both defenses were terrible.

Sophomore broadcast journalism major Ronald Diaz is a diehard New Orleans Saints fan, but he is content with the

Eagles beating the Patriots.

"I'm tired of seeing Brady in the Super Bowl," Diaz said. "The Eagles didn't get the respect they deserved once their star quarterback (Carson Wentz) went down."

"They were the underdogs all throughout the playoffs. I'm glad they proved everyone wrong and beat Tom Brady."

Diaz said the Eagles deserve the championship win.

"It's a good fit for them. It's fresh and new; they are built to be a good team for a while," he said. "The Eagles will be a great challenge to my New Orleans Saints in the



upcoming years."

The only aspect of Super Bowl 52 that was underwhelming was Justin Timberlake's halftime performance.

Mason said he didn't even watch the halftime show because he was just ready to get back to watching the game.

Diaz thought Timberlake's performance was subpar.

"It was a solid performance, but it will not be one remembered years from now," Diaz said.

"[Timberlake] didn't match

the bar set by Beyoncé or Katy Perry in previous Super Bowl performances," he added.

Philly residents erupted after their Eagles won the big game, and Oklahoma native Mason wishes Oklahoma could have a professional football team.

"We have so much land to build a stadium, and we fully support the pro and collegiate teams we do have," Mason said. "It's time Oklahoma gets a professional football team."