



HISTORIC BUILDINGS BURN

SEE STORY ON PAGE 2



The Gazette

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

It serves as a teaching tool. The newspaper is published biweekly and is dispersed across campus every other Tuesday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

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Up in flames!

Guthrie loses two historic businesses to fire

By Ronald Diaz
Staff Writer

The process of recovery is often taken to heart. For residents of Guthrie, recovery is something everyone is experiencing.

At about 11:30 a.m., Feb. 24, two buildings in downtown Guthrie caught fire and eventually caved in due to severe damage. The fire was devastating enough; however, the buildings that burned were two of the most historic and prominent locations in Guthrie: Furrow Flowers and the Double Stop Fiddle Shop.

Eva Vasquez of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources was shocked to hear about the fire and its lasting damages.

"Furrow Flowers was the only flower shop that I went to," Vasquez said.

According to an article from the KOCO 5 news website, the fire started in Furrow Flowers and spread to the next building. The cause of the fire, according to an article on the KFOR website, is still under investigation.

What Guthrie residents want the public to understand is not only did they lose buildings that were more than 100 years old, but they also lost history and essentially an essence of the town.

Sandee White, a resident of Guthrie, was at the scene and did what she could to help.

"I called 911 at about 11:30 a.m. and they had already been called," White said.

White recognizes how losing such historic property can affect Guthrie as a tourist location and the people living there.

"We had a fire here in the early 2000s and they restored those buildings better than they were, so hopefully that building can be restored better, [too]," she said.

The Double Stop Fiddle Shop was a popular location for residents all over Oklahoma and contained many antiques that owner Byron Berline valued immensely. Many of those antiques are now gone due to the

fire.

However, White said, despite the damage, Berline plans to move his shop somewhere else.

"On something I saw on Facebook, he said he's going to find a building to sort of start over," she said.

Berline may be able to open his new shop with a few of his best antiques returning.

"Yesterday, they pulled out two safes and this 1923 mandolin was in one of the safes, and the case it was in was charred and opened up, but it was still shiny and beautiful in the inside and it brought tears to your eyes," White said.

White loved how different fire departments, including Guthrie, Coyle and Edmond, came together to fight the fire.

"All these different fire departments worked together so efficiently, and that was amazing to me," White said.

Dr. Nathan Proud of Proud Dental said that they have been neighbors to Furrow Flowers and the Fiddle Shop for awhile.

"Proud Dental has been here in Guthrie for seven years, but we've been in downtown Guthrie for four years," Proud said.

Dr. Proud said the loss of these shops is seriously felt at Proud Dental.

"We've been neighbors for years and we've even had professional and business relations just as well and we know all the people involved on a personal level and it's very sad," he said.

Proud, like White, recognizes the history lost with the fire.

"Majority of all these buildings are well over 100 years," he said.

As far as antiques that could have been saved, Proud said that it's not a 100 percent loss.

"Almost..." he said, "Byron was out of state at the time, on the golf course even, and his son who was here ran in and grabbed his main fiddle that he plays and saved that," he said.

The loss of Furrow Flowers and the Fiddle Shop undoubtedly hurts, but Proud is confident Guthrie will find the strength to move forward.



Photo by Sandee White



Photo by Ronald Diaz

Top: Firefighters respond to a fire in downtown Guthrie on Feb. 24.

Bottom: Two Guthrie businesses, Furrow Flowers and Double Stop Fiddle Shop, were lost due to a fire Feb. 24. The buildings are part of Guthrie's historic downtown district.

Biology department hosts guest speaker

By Monique Bonds
Staff Writer

The Langston University Biology Department has been doing big things across campus.

From a \$5 million contract with NASA to a new research building in front of the football field, there's always something great happening in the department.

On Feb. 26, greatness occurred again. The Biology department hosted a public event with a prestigious guest speaker, Dr. Venkatesan Sundaresan from the University of California-

Davis Department of Plant Sciences.

"Students in the department are often looking for opportunities in biology that could help boost their research experience," said Celeste Cotton, senior biology major. "Although we have programs here at Langston it's always helpful to meet other resources."

Students found Sundaresan's visit to be effective as they packed the classroom and left no empty seats during his seminar. Sundaresan started off the seminar with a PowerPoint and an open mind. He was deter-

mined to introduce all students to the genomics of plant reproduction.

"It was cool to think about the different ways plants affect life," said Kyra Murray, junior biology major. "He talked about how we need to work to better our plant production because we're not going to be able to produce enough to support the people we have."

Sundaresan was able to cover a difficult topic in a favorable way that everyone could understand. His first slide was the introduction to the genome, which is the DNA contained in the set

of chromosomes in an organism. He started from the beginning of the process and slowly worked his way to the end.

"He did a good job of explaining something that is really complex," said Dr. Gnanambal Naidoo, assistant biology professor. "He started with the basics of biology so that anybody could understand."

At the end of the seminar, he invited students to apply for a National Science Foundation internship. The internship is a plant genome research program that is four weeks long, from June 7 to July 3.

The first two weeks of the program will be held at the University of Oklahoma, and the last two weeks will occur at the University of California-Davis.

This program is looking for three future scientists who are interested in reproduction and genomics of plants to use state-of-the-art image systems, learn molecular biology and participate in ongoing research projects.

Any students interested in applying for this position should contact Naidoo in Hamilton Hall, Room 218, or email her at g.naidoo@langston.edu.

Quiz Bowl team wins Honda Campus All-Star Challenge

Special from Kyle Gregory
Langston Recruiter

Scholars on the Langston University Quiz Bowl team won the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge National Qualifying Tournament, hosted by Harris-Stowe State University on Feb. 8.

This win secures Langston's National Championship Tournament berth in Torrance, California, in April.

Langston defeated the 2017 national champions from Oakwood University in the first round of the playoffs, 410-310, and went on to defeat Kentucky State University, 385-240, in the championship match.

LU students took the top two positions in scoring at the tournament. Kyle Lewis led all scorers in points per game and Fisher Davis finished second. The schools participating in the tournament were: Langston University, Kentucky State University, Harris-Stowe State University, Oakwood University, and Philander Smith College.

Over 10,000 HBCU students are taking part in the 30th annual HBCU National Quiz Championship. Langston University has earned \$121,500 in grants from American Honda since the beginning of the program. Honda established the Honda Campus All-Star Challenge in 1989 as a way to highlight and recognize the academic talents of HBCU students.

More than \$8.5 million in

grants from Honda have provided support for books and tuition, scholarships, enhancement of student programs and other investments to improve campus facilities.

In addition to Lewis and Davis, the LU Quiz Bowl team also consists of Mark Barber, Bryahna Zavala.

Kyle Gregory serves as the team's coach and adviser. He is the all-time leading-scorer in Langston Quiz Bowl history, winning a regional tournament and leading LU to the Sweet Sixteen twice as a player. He also founded the quiz bowl team at Arkansas-Little Rock in law school and won a Regional Division One Championship while playing at the University of Oklahoma in law school. Kyle is also as a recruiter for Langston University.

Lewis is a liberal education major, minoring in math. He first began to attend Langston University in 2010 as a McCabe scholar, leaving in 2015 for the Navy. Kyle's dream is to one day open a school in his native city of Detroit.

Barber is a senior music education major from Oklahoma City. He is a former band member of the Langston University Marching Pride and a current member of the LU Scholars Club, LU Concert Choir and the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society. He is also a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of



Courtesy Photo

The Langston University Quiz Bowl team shows their LU pride after winning the national qualifying tournament, hosted by Harris-Stowe State University. The team will now advance to the national championship tournament in April. Pictured (from left) are Kyle Gregory, Kyle Lewis, Mark Barber, Bryahna Zavala, Fisher Davis and Troy Stoutermire.

America Inc.

Barber had the opportunity to study abroad in The Gambia and Senegal in 2013 and in Barbados in 2015. One of his most memorable moments includes being crowned Mr. Langston University 2017-2018, in which he became the first Mr. Langston to compete in the Mr. HBCU competition.

Zavala is a senior nursing major with a minor in corrections from Oilton, Oklahoma.

She is also a Regents' Scholar in Langston's Honors Program and is in the Scholars' Club.

Davis, a senior from Pryor, Oklahoma, is a computer science major at Langston University and a USDA 1890 Scholar. This scholarship gave Fisher the opportunity to intern at the Economic Research Service in Washington, D.C. He also assisted in research on a bioinformatic study at Langston. Fisher also helped Langston finish in

the top four in the Kansas City Federal Reserve code-a-thon and participated in Thurgood Marshall Leadership Institute.

In addition, Troy Stoutermire, of Muskogee, Oklahoma, is the assistant coach of the team. He was a two-year player on Langston's Quiz Bowl team and holds a degree in agriculture from Langston University. He also serves as the outreach and engagement specialist at Langston University.

Royalty Reigns at LU

Craft wins Miss Langston title

By Ashlynn Coffee-Harris
Staff Writer

It's that big time of the year again where Langston University crowns the new Miss Langston University.

On Feb. 24, five women competed for the title — Taylor Lampkin, Ryle Wilson, Desjanay Banks-Hill, Kaci Craft and Zoe McGowan — but only one took the crown. The lucky lady who will serve as the 73rd Miss Langston University is Kaci Craft, sophomore biology and chemistry major.

"As soon as they said her name, I just started shouting and crying and thanking God for everything he has done for her," said Craft's mother, Nikki Hedge-Cooper.

In the Miss Langston pageant, there are five stages of the competition, consisting of private interview, on-stage question, swimwear, talent and eveningwear.

For her talent, Craft experimented with something unique and focused on science because it is her strong point. She used a base and catalyst to create a foam on stage in front

"As soon as they said her name, I just started shouting and crying and thanking God for everything he has done for [Kaci]."

— Nikki Hedge-Cooper,
mother of Kaci Craft

of the audience. However, her talent wasn't Craft's most favorable moment of the night.

"My favorite part of the pageant was all of the dancing numbers," Craft said. "In the beginning, they seemed so complicated and so fast-moving, but thanks to my girl, Jas, she helped me hit every move almost perfectly."

From the pageant, Craft learned how to be more patient with herself and not to force things overnight. Craft has always had patience with others; however, she has never really had it with herself until going through the pageant experience.

Craft is also very driven. When tasks are in front of her, she likes to make sure she understands them perfectly so she can do them correctly the

first time. That's one mantra she had about the pageant.

Craft comes from three generations of Langston alumni. Her mother graduated from Langston and so did her grandfather, Dr. Clarence Hedge. Dr. Hedge also retired as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 2016 after working at LU for 40 years.

So, it is no surprise that her whole family was in the audience, cheering her on as she earned the Miss Langston title.

Craft also has a lot of confidence in herself and in her faith. She lives by God's plan and believes that if something is supposed to happen, it will.

"Kaci always has a lot of confidence and passion in what she does," said her grandfather, Dr. Hedge. "So I know she will be a great queen."



Courtesy Photo

Kaci Craft becomes the 73rd Miss Langston University. The pageant was held Feb. 24, in the I.W. Young Auditorium. Craft competed against four other women to win the title.

Spring pageant season in full swing

By Lakeria Kelley
Staff Writer

Langston University is known for its many pageants in the spring semester where the Elite Connection and Greeks showcase their royalty.

The pageants at Langston draw in people from all over, including other universities. Pageants consist of the contestants introducing themselves, as well as an interview, talent showcase, on-stage question and formal wear.

"I cannot wait for the upcoming pageants because Langston puts on good, quality shows," said Tania Davis, senior psychology major.

An upcoming pageant is Miss Black Langston where seven girls will compete for the crown. The winner will earn a scholarship and be one of the

faces of the university.

"I have high expectations for the Miss Black Langston pageant. I want to ensure that all my contestants are learning what they need to and also being confident," said senior broadcast journalism major Jasmine Mayes, who will hand off her title of Miss Black Langston at this year's pageant.

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. is planning its Miss Purple and Gold pageant for April. This organization is helping the contestants by having practice every day.

Also, the previous winners of the pageant are helping the contestants to fully understand how to compete in a pageant.

"I would make sure my contestants make sure they have everything together," said junior psy-

chology major Kalifa Cooper, the current Miss Purple and Gold. "I would get the girls ready with a prayer, then tell them no matter the outcome, I enjoyed working with the contestants and that everyone did great. I would just keep them uplifted."

Other upcoming pageants include:

- Mr. Langston - March 10
- Miss Black Langston - March 31
- Miss Blue & White - April 16

Be sure to attend these events to see who will be next to join the LU Elite Connection and royal court. Also, be on the lookout for flyers posted about other Greek organization pageants this semester.

Building Relationships, Overcoming Stigmas

BROS supports black male initiative

By TaLeah Richards
Staff Writer

Building Relationships Overcoming Stigmas — that's what Langston's BROS is all about.

In spring 2017, De'Marreo Felder, a then freshman and newly reigned Mr. Orange and Blue, decided to bring this new organization to campus. He called up his friends he made during the pageant to see if they could help, and they all got to work.

"We stand for black collegiate males taking the initiative," said Mateo Durham, a junior psychology major.

Durham is one of the original members of BROS.

"Our four pillars are self-identity, growth, wellness and brotherhood."

BROS has had two member intakes since the organization has been established. Members have become

"The organization has definitely helped me with my maturity. I [have] more assertiveness to do things. My intentions are more real; if I say that I'm going to do something, I'm more likely to do it. BROS has definitely helped turn me into the man that I want to be."

— Martarius Wilson,
BROS president

ambassadors, part of Greek letter organizations and have won royal titles. Like every organization, though, they have their difficulties.

"We are still growing as an organization," Durham said. "We don't just want people to get in BROS and just get a shirt. We have kind of experienced that in a way."

BROS is preparing for its first

scholarship pageant. The members are looking to crown their very first "First Lady."

"It was just one of those ideas, you know, that was just tossed up in the air for fun. Now we're here. That's literally crazy," said Martarius Wilson, BROS president and junior health, physical educational and recreation major. Wilson is also one of

the original members of the organization. "We want our First Lady to have intelligence, self-respect and elegance."

BROS is only on Langston's campus, but the members are hoping that it will eventually branch out to more colleges and universities.

"When Jonathan Solomon (a Langston graduate) went to St. Louis, he worked with the [upward] bound program at Harris-Stowe State University," Wilson said. "He modeled BROS and made his own little black male-initiative program."

The organization has helped shape these men into who they are today.

"The organization has definitely helped me with my maturity. I [have] more assertiveness to do things," Wilson said. "My intentions are more real; if I say that I'm going to do something, I'm more likely to do it. BROS has definitely helped turn me into the man that I want to be."

Campus Question

What are your plans for spring break?

Compiled By TaLeah Richards



Cameron Jackson
Junior
Broadcast Journalism Major

"I don't plan on doing anything for spring break. I'm kind of boring."



Dariana Williamson
Freshman
General Education Major

"My spring break includes spending two days in Miami, Florida. Then, from there, cruising out to the Bahamas."



Jerrime Neal
Senior
Liberal Education Major

"I haven't made any plans yet. So I'll probably go back home to Houston and train for spring football."



Ray McDonald
Sophomore
Agriculture Business Major

"For spring break I plan on going to Miami and taking lots of naps on the beach."

Campus hosts annual Black Expo

By King Mason
Staff Writer

A business that makes nothing but money is a poor business. It's about so much more than that, starting with culture.

The Beta Epsilon Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. and the Langston University Roundtable partnered to host the annual Black Excellence Business Expo on Feb. 22.

The Black Expo was created to give entrepreneurs a chance to market their brand and connect with like-minded individuals. This year, the expo featured barbers, hairstylists, designers, artists, paintings, jewelry, clothes and much more.

One member, Baldwin Hamilton Jr., senior business management major, acknowledged the origin of this event.

"It's been a long and prosperous relationship between a lot of vendors and black-owned businesses in the Oklahoma region," Hamilton said. "We started doing it two or three years ago with Rashid Troupe; he was the original pioneer behind the event. We connected with the

roundtable so we can reach out to the community to make the expo as big as possible."

The vendors set up shop in the multipurpose gym and patiently waited as customers roamed around the room looking to purchase items.

Sophomore vendor Ivory Caldwell discussed her experience at the event, regarding selling her jewelry.

"I feel like this expo was one of my most successful ones due to the fact I was around people I went to school with," Caldwell said. "I've done it in the past, but I don't think I sold a lot; it was more about exposure. My words of encouragement to other vendors trying to start a business is to continue to keep doing it. The more you do it, the more something is going to come."

Not only did the vendors and other organizations enjoy themselves, but the customers also had a great time shopping, too.

Montana Ezell, a sophomore business management and financial planning major, attended the Black Expo looking for paintings.



Photo by Nahjee Williams

Langston student Kaleb Barnes works on creating his own paintings to sell during the Black Excellence Business Expo.

"This is my first expo, so seeing everyone promote their businesses and putting themselves out there is a good thing because a lot of people don't get

this opportunity," Ezell said. "I cashed out! I got a bunch of stuff that's able to benefit me, but at the same time supporting vendors as well. A lot of them I

know personally, and I just feel like it's only right to support their business and product and look to help them in the future, again, again and again."

Langston seniors reminisce about college experience

By Charles Leggs
Staff Writer

If your school is boring, it's because you're boring. As graduation approaches, some seniors are reminiscing on the past four to five years at Langston University.

In fall 2015, Lea Grant, senior computer science major, left her home in Kansas City, and started her freshman year at Langston. Grant was heavily involved in the LU cheerleading team, but she still made time to enjoy her college experience.

"When I first got here, it was lit. Everybody was at everything," Grant said.

Most of the students who stayed on campus attended the events and had a great time during the 2015-2016 school year. There were several different events the student body

enjoyed. There were parties like "The Chill," presented by the Beta Kappa chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. The Beta Epsilon chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc. held a concert during Sigma Week, in spring 2016, where Kstyis performed.

Nahjee Williams, senior broadcast journalism major, also arrived at Langston in 2015. Williams had a different way of getting involved on campus. Instead of joining an organization, Williams created his own production team with some friends, Martez Jackson and Kelvante Murray. While attending Langston, Williams noticed a lot of upperclassmen and alumni use the phrase "back when Langston was the LU."

"I think it meant that people were not boujee and liked to have a great time," Williams said.

We know that times always change and sometimes traditions changed with them. Brandon Jones, senior psychology major, arrived in fall 2015 and was involved with the student activities board general body. Outside of SAB, Jones also styled hair.

"When I arrived at the LU, the most memorable thing that I can remember is the fashion show," Jones said.

Over the years, Jones has had different opportunities at Langston, and one of them was becoming the 2018-2019 SGA activities coordinator. Langston has always had the tradition of having a fashion show during homecoming week, but Jones broke that tradition, and with that he became the first activities coordinator to have a music artist perform during Welcome Back week.

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'Empire' actor charged with felony, developments continue to unfold

By Micah Garden
Staff Writer

"Empire" actor Jussie Smollett was charged with felony disorderly conduct in February after allegedly staging a hate crime, according to the Chicago Police Department.

Investigators said that Smollett paid two men to attack him as a ploy to raise his profile because he was not getting enough attention regarding a threatening letter that was sent to Fox studios Jan. 22, according to the ABC News website.

Police said that Smollett paid the two Nigerian men \$3,500 for the attack and instructed them to scream MAGA, which stands for "Make America Great Again," the slogan President Donald Trump used during his campaign. Smollett was arrested and charged with a Class 4 felony that carries a three-year prison sentence.

"Honestly, I feel like the allegations against him are pretty vivid, and I feel like he was wrong for what he did," said Gerald Hartford, senior computer-aided drafting and design major, in response to the campus question from Gazette

issue No. 6. "He should have never lied because [there's] a lot of stuff going on as far as white supremacy and gay rights and everybody wanting to be equal. So, I just feel like he put a big damper on everything with this scheme."

Smollett told investigators that two men beat him in the early hours of Jan. 29. He went on to tell investigators that his attackers were shouting racial and homophobic slurs. He said they tied a noose around his neck and poured bleach on him all while yelling, "This is MAGA country."

"Today we witnessed an organized law enforcement spectacle that has no place in the American legal system," said Mark Geragos, a lawyer part of Smollett's defense team, in a statement. "The presumption of innocence, a bedrock in the search of justice, was trampled upon at the expense of Mr. Smollett and, notably, on the eve of a mayoral election," Geragos continued. "Mr. Smollett is a young man of impeccable character and integrity who fiercely and solemnly maintains his innocence and feels betrayed by a system that apparently wants

to skip due process and proceed directly to sentencing."

The two brothers' lawyer later released a statement on their behalf that said, "My clients have tremendous regret over their involvement in the situation, and they understand how it has impacted people across the nation, particularly minority communities and especially those who have been victims of hate crimes themselves."

The latest news on this case, according to the ABC News website, is that investigators have launched an internal investigation "to determine who anonymously leaked information about the Jussie Smollett case to the press."

Anthony Guglielmi, a spokesperson for the Chicago Police Department, said that "several agencies briefed with information during that time and some of the information that went out was not factually accurate," which is why they are now investigating the leak. "These types of investigations are fairly common so that we can determine if we have any integrity issues for future cases," Guglielmi said, according to the ABC News website.



Photo from Foxnews.com

Jussie Smollett's mugshot after being arrested by Chicago police.

BLACK ENTERPRISE announces most powerful women in corporate America

Special from PR Newswire

BLACK ENTERPRISE President & CEO Earl "Butch" Graves Jr. announced the publication's list of Most Powerful Women in Corporate America and Corporate Diversity as featured in the magazine's first quarter 2019 cover story.

The final roster was culled from thousands of potential candidates across numerous industries, including the finance, pharmaceutical and retail sectors.

The women selected on the list have authority over budgets totaling billions of dollars and control subsidiaries, divisions or departments that affect the fiscal health and direction of their respective busi-

nesses.

"Our editorial team developed this list to not only celebrate the black female business elite," said Graves Jr. "but to demonstrate that it requires unparalleled expertise and resilience to break through barriers that female executives continue to face today. Although we honor those featured among our Most Powerful Women in Corporate America—including our cover subjects Debbie Dyson of ADP, Sandra Phillips Rogers of Toyota and Gloria Boyland of FedEx—we found less than 150 such leaders out of the more than 2.5 million top executives nationwide. Let's get serious about using our power to provoke change. We must ensure

that corporate America will practice true equal opportunity."

The executives on the list were recognized during the BLACK ENTERPRISE Women of Power Summit on March 2, at The Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Women of Power Summit, the nation's No. 1 executive development and leadership conference for women of color, annually attracts more than 1,400 corporate executives, professionals and businesswomen from across the country. These exceptional women of power have overcome barriers and challenges, proving there is nothing women of color can't accomplish.

This year, we have decided

to also recognize women who are champions of diversity, who set about the task—every day—of ensuring all employees are included in the opportunities generated in this era of record corporate profits and trillion-dollar market values, in the Most Powerful Women in Corporate Diversity list.

The 45 women on our list ensure their organizations prioritize the hiring, retention and advancement of professionals who reflect the country we live in and the diverse consumer market driving the bottom line.

They lead the charge on courageous conversations about race in the workplace, cultivate an environment of inclusion and belonging and hold their fellow senior managers

accountable for implementing diversity & inclusion strategies as a business imperative.

The 136 women on our Most Powerful Women in Corporate America list is our largest ever made up of the crème of the crop of black women executives. They have succeeded by leading with performance, deeply understanding their company culture, deftly navigating the corporate landscape, and—above all—wisely wielding their power to determine their own destiny.

The complete list of the Most Powerful Women in Corporate America and Corporate Diversity listing is available in the first quarter 2019 issue of BLACK ENTERPRISE, currently on digital newsstands.

Langston Lions clinch senior night win, fall short during first round of playoffs

By Devin Dourisseau
Staff Writer

It was a night to remember for the seniors on the men's basketball team as they blew out the Bacone Warriors on Feb. 23, at C.F. Gayles Fieldhouse with a score of 121-78.

According to the Dakstats website, the men's basketball team had a decent shooting percentage that night with Langston jointly putting up 50 percent (45-of-89) of overall shooting and going 18-of-42 from three-point range and knocking down 13-20 from the free-throw line.

Malik Young, senior guard, expressed his feelings as the team went into the last home game of the season.

"I felt confident going into senior night," Young said. "I knew my teammates wanted to send us out the right way, so I wanted to go out there and give everything I had."

Leading the way for the Langston Lions was senior guard Jeremy Grace, who had 28 points and went 10-of-15 overall shooting, which includes going six-of-nine from three-point range, making it his

"I felt confident going into senior night. I knew my teammates wanted to send us out the right way, so I wanted to go out there and give everything I had."

— Malik Young,
senior guard

new season high for points.

Senior forward Jorori Coleman had his fair share of 18 points and three rebounds, and also Young and junior guard Tyrone Killings Jr. both put up 15 points.

Grace explained how he felt going in to senior night.

"I felt great. The environment of the people and having my parents in attendance was a great feeling," Grace said.

Langston led by as much as 21 points in the first half before leading 60-42 at halftime. The Langston Lions outscored the



Photo from Langstonsports.com

No. 5 for the Lions, Jorori Coleman, takes on an Oklahoma City University defender during the first round of the playoffs. The Lions fell short to OKCU on Feb. 26, 84-73.

Warriors in the second half, 61-36, tallying up a new season high of 121 points in the 121-78 victory.

Langston finished the regular season at 21-9 overall and 13-9 in the SAC standings and clinched the fourth seed in the SAC tournament.

"I felt we had a pretty good

season as a team," Young said. "We took some losses we shouldn't have, but overall it was a good season."

The Lions lost in the first round of the SAC tournament to Oklahoma City University on Feb. 26, but they still have a chance in the national playoff system. They now wait to see

if they receive an at-large berth in the NAIA DI championship tournament, which will be announced live at 5 p.m., March 13, according to the Langston Sports website.

"Our mindset is that it's time to take care of business and use this playoff momentum to get us to nationals," Young said.

Lady Lions dominate final game of season

By Malik Young
Staff Writer

The Langston Lions women's basketball team faced its last opponent at home against Bacone College for senior night.

The Lady Lions started the game off on a 27-5 first-quarter lead. It was their largest first-quarter lead all season. Going into halftime, the Lady Lions went on a 7-0 run to close the period, which made the lead 43-22.

Coming out of halftime, the Lady Lions still came out with lots of pressure and momentum. The Lady Lions held Bacone College to just 9 third-quarter points.

The fourth quarter was no different, besides the Lady Lions having fun and enjoying

"It was a good season, but we didn't finish how I wanted to. But I was grateful to play with the girls I played with."

— Jhordyn Patton,
senior guard

playing with one another one last time this season. It was a 77-52 victory for the Lady Lions.

Senior guard Jhordyn Patton had nothing but smiles at the end of the game.

"It was a good season, but we didn't finish how I wanted to. But I was grateful to play with the girls I played with," Patton said.

The Lady Lions finished the regular season with an 11-19

overall record and 6-16 conference record. Having only four seniors, the Lady Lions will have seven returners for next year's team.

Senior Guard Tennia Hill thinks this team could have done a lot better, though.

"It wasn't the best," Hill said. "I feel like I played my part well as a senior and leading, but team-wise, we couldn't come together as a whole to make our season a great one."

