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Mister & Miss Orange And Blue

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The Gazette

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

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Student claims Thomas is best NFL wide receiver

In the NFL, countless players work day in and day out in hopes of eventually being crowned the greatest to play the game, and that position.

Over time, the wide receiver position has seen so many great players, from Jerry Rice and Michael Irvin to Randy Moss and Terrell Owens. While these players were in their active primes, there was constant debate over where they ranked among one another. Fast forward to 2019, and there is a new batch of immensely talented players that make it tough for analysts to rank them.

Deandre Hopkins and Julio Jones are undoubtedly two of the top three receivers in the league, but who is the other one? Some will say Antonio Brown, but clearly that's a whole different conversation that we can reserve for later, considering the recent controversy surrounding him. Others might say Odell Beckham Jr. is the best receiver. But I say, without question, that New Orleans Saints all-pro wide receiver Michael Thomas is the best.

Why? There are several reasons. Thomas has drastically improved his game each season consecutively, and after completing his third season,



Diaz

he broke the NFL's all-time record for career receptions through a player's first three seasons, a record previously held by Odell Beckham Jr.

From 2016-2018, he raised his receptions from 92 his rookie season to 104 the next and ultimately 125 last year. His total yards have grown every year, too, with 1,137 his rookie year, 1,245 his sophomore year and 1,405 last season. In the 2018 highest-graded wide receivers for the NFC South division, Thomas topped off with a grade of 91.3. Jones came in second with a grade of 90.9. Only Hopkins received a higher grade than Thomas with a 92.5.

Senior broadcast journalism major G'ahri Gassaway is on the opposite end of the spectrum regarding Thomas, though.



Michael Thomas

"Michael Thomas is good, but I don't view stats the same way as others or think they are that much of a factor. It's more about what you see," Gassaway said.

But, if these next generation statistics are correct (which

they are), then naturally, the top three receivers in the league right now are Hopkins, Jones and, of course, Thomas.

Ronald Diaz is a junior broadcast journalism major.

Do you have a poem you'd like to feature in The Gazette?

Do you have an opinion you'd like to express regarding life, politics, entertainment or other various topics?

Then this section of The Gazette is for YOU!

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Campus gets Wi-Fi upgrade

By Tyler McNeal
Staff Writer

As last month's career fair suggested, a big part of college is networking with new people. However, Langston is getting a different type of network upgrade.

Langston's Information Technology Services has corresponding with Oklahoma State University and the Oklahoma A&M System to improve internet and network connectivity across campus.

According to ITS, the staff has taken many steps to improve connectivity, but the network was under performing due to failing equipment. Therefore, the Board of Regents gave the university permission to buy over \$1.2 million in new equipment to upgrade the network

"I only use it on my phone, but it seems way faster."

— Ethan Banks,
sophomore education major

infrastructure on campus. The equipment has now been purchased and is prepared for use.

The first network upgrades began Sept. 23. ITS staff said that because there is so much equipment on campus that needs to be replaced, they will install the upgrades in phases. These phases will be based on available equipment and the status of the network.

In the mean time, some people are already starting to experience a change in the connectivity. A student who stays

in Young Hall confirmed there is a difference.

"The name changed to LU-WIFI," said Ethan Banks, sophomore education major.

"I only use it on my phone," Banks said, "but it seems way faster. There's an LU-GAMING one, too, but I don't have a system to know how it is."

This is opposed to the former Wi-Fi network names of LU-Wireless-Open, LU-Wireless, LU-STUDENT and LU-STAFF. An official email from ITS dated Oct. 3 informed the

campus that as each building is upgraded, the new Wi-Fi network name will be visible for connectivity and users must "update your device Wi-Fi settings to take advantage of the new network."

As these changes are being made, even some professors have noticed the benefits of the new infrastructure.

"It used to work at a somewhat sluggish pace," said Dr. David Carell, professor of English. "But now that you mention it, it has been working rather smoothly lately. I don't use it on my phone or anything, but my desktop connection seems to be faster than it was."

However, this is just a small representation of the campus population. The equipment is still from being installed.

"We can't really get a better idea until more people have it," said Pritchard Moncriffe, chief information officer. "Scholar's Inn, Young Hall, Commons and the Police Department should be done by Oct. 9."

In addition, Moncriffe said, Centennial should be ready by Oct. 10 or 11, "so everyone should have it by (October) the 12."

Upgrades are scheduled to be performed between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Wednesday, each week. Thursdays and Fridays will be reserved to troubleshoot any issues the changes may have caused.

The entire installation schedule is projected to be complete by the end of December 2019, according to the email from Oct. 3.

Daycare closure leaves some in a bind

By Jade Valenzuela
Staff Writer

Langston University said its final goodbye this year to the Early Childhood Laboratory, a center on campus that offered

childcare to faculty, staff and students for over 20 years.

An official university email announcing the closure was sent July 8, which informed the LU community that the daycare was permanently closing

July 31. A

ccording to the email, the yearly costs to operate the center far exceeded the university's capability to continue to provide the funding needed to support quality childcare ser-

vices on campus.

Dr. Evia Davis, former professor of family and consumer sciences, first helped open the doors of the daycare. She said what began with five to seven children grew to many more of all ages after she decided to open the daycare services to the entire LU community, including students who had children but no transportation services or other childcare options.

Located in the former Bro Hall dormitory, the Early Childhood Laboratory took children from the age of 6 weeks to 12 years old. Students, faculty, staff and Sodexo employees could take their children to be watched and taught while they worked or attended classes. This was convenient for students and employees because they didn't have to worry about where their children were going to stay or figure out how to get to a further location because it was right on campus.

This means that the loss of the daycare caused a heavy impact on those with children, particularly students.

"The daycare impacted everyone. My son lost friends, great educators. They were a family and the family was

broken up," said Shayvon Timmons, senior psychology major. "Ever since the daycare closed, I have to drive all the way to Stillwater, near Ponca City, to take my 2-year-old to daycare because there isn't any daycare near that will take him. It's literally a 45-minute drive one way to this daycare."

Sonya Moore-Davis, extension educator in the School of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and former director of the Early Childhood Laboratory, was also saddened to see the daycare service go, especially because the educators at the daycare offered excellent service to the kids.

"At Langston, the teachers were paid well and all held degrees as well... they were offering really good care for the children," Davis said.

Although it may be closed for now, it doesn't mean there isn't hope for a new type of daycare facility to take its place, but nothing is certain. Davis said she has received a new grant that could potentially help with childcare; however, the details are still in progress.

The Gazette will provide more information as it becomes available.



Photo by Malcolm Quattlebaum

The former campus daycare sits vacant with a faded sign. The daycare, officially named the LU Early Childhood Laboratory, closed its doors permanently July 31, which left several students, faculty and staff looking for alternative childcare options.

Students seek career opportunities

By Jeremy Anderson
Staff Writer

Students put on their business attire and polished their resumes to attend the annual career fair at Langston University on Sept. 28, in the C.F. Gayles Gymnasium.

Most juniors and seniors were there looking for jobs and internships while freshmen and sophomores were searching for topics of interest to help them choose the best-fitting major.

AJ Spriggs Kirksey, recruiting director for the Oklahoma City Human Resources Society, said the career fair is a great opportunity for students to explore their options and see what fields interest them and what do not.

Spriggs added that it's also "a great networking opportunity to meet employers, so you're coming face to face with employers and putting your name out there, especially if you have a resume, that's excellent!"

The career fair also gave students insight on what exactly they can do with their degrees upon graduation.

"[The career fair] brings so much more to the students that they might not have thought about [otherwise]," said Oklahoma Highway Patrol Lt. Kara Phillippe. "I have spoken with a lot of students today that are going a different route [than they thought] they were with their degree. So I believe that it just opens up a lot more opportunities for them."

More than 40 different companies and businesses attended the career fair. One business, Hormel Foods, was looking for information technology engineers, and a bank was looking for journalism majors, which surprised some students.

"I think the career fair...gives them an opportunity, whether you are a freshman or a senior, to know just what opportunities are out there from a variety of different organizations..." said LU alumnus Andre Brooks, a recruiter from the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. "Whether you are going to school to be an IT engineer in computer science, if you are involved in nursing or media, it really doesn't matter if you don't know what opportunities are out there. What you don't know can hurt you. Career fairs can help because it gives you the information you need to make a better decision."

However, there are still some students who did not understand the importance of the event. Particularly, some LU students might think the event caters to upperclassmen. They often assume that they don't have enough knowledge or experience to decide on a major or start working in their major just yet. However, one Langston alum offered some advice to these students.

"Students who do not attend [miss] out on a great opportunity," said Langston alumnus and Hormel Foods accountant Tyler Lewis.



Photo by Micah Garden

A student stops by the Stillwater Medical Center booth during the Career Fair to discuss job and internship opportunities.

"If you are a freshman or sophomore, you will be missing out on knowing the requirements on what you need to do to get internships or a job later on," Lewis explained. "If you are a junior, you are really missing out because a lot of jobs are looking to hire juniors for internships. If you skip doing your internship junior year, a lot of companies will not want you for an internship anymore because they are looking to hire you by your senior year. For seniors, if you are missing out, this

is your last chance to get your resume out there. I'd say it's easier to get a job through the career fair than it is after you've graduated and went a couple years without doing anything

in your major."

The next career fair will be held during the spring 2020 semester, so look for flyers on campus for more details about the event.

Scholars' Inn makes changes

By Walter Harris
Staff Writer

Scholars' Inn residents returned to campus this fall to find that their microwaves and closet doors had been removed from each room. This setup is now similar to the Centennial Court residential living area, with one microwave per apartment.

Dr. Carolyn I. Eastlin, assistant dean of students for Residential Life, said they did this "to reduce fining students for damages of closet doors and microwaves."

Scholars' Inn residents have differing reactions to the new arrangement. Remi Jackson, senior broadcast journalism major, is adjusting well to no longer having his closet door.

"I have a curtain I put up and it goes with my room," Jackson said, "and it actually helps me keep my room and closet clean because I used to just throw my clothes in the closet."

However, Ashlynn Coffee-Harris, junior broadcast journalism major, disagrees.

"I'm used to having my own microwave in my room. I don't know how others take care of their property, so it's uncomfortable for me right now and it will have to take some getting used to," she said.

Regardless, these slight changes will ultimately help the university save money.

"We decided that it was just best to remove [the microwaves and closet doors] to also reduce multiple cost repairs," Eastlin said.

A red poster for a "Water and Gatorade Drive" organized by the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice (NABCCJ). The poster features a black silhouette of a fire hydrant on the left and a hand holding a water drop on the right. The text reads: "National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice", "Water and Gatorade Drive", "For the Logan County Fire Departments", "Donations Accepted: Sept. 9 - Oct. 31", and "bring donations to Moore Hall room 108".

Langston crowns new royalty

By Ashlynn Coffee-Harris
Staff Writer

Once again, the former Mr. and Miss Orange & Blue handed over their titles to two new lucky freshmen, Keyshawn Watson and Maya Williams.

On Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. in the I.W. Young Auditorium, the Langston University Elite Connection held the first scholarship pageant of the school year. The theme was "Soca Carnival."

"My favorite part of the pageant was seeing all the contestants bonding and becoming a family," said sophomore elementary education major Beyoncia Cox, who noticed this as she helped with the production of the pageant.

This year, eight women competed for the 2019-2020 Miss Orange & Blue crown, including Williams, Kayla Smith, Emoni Clark, Zanya Darthard, Taylor Myers, McKenzie Richardson, Daishnda Smith and



Left: Maya Williams wins the 2019-2020 Miss Orange & Blue crown.



Courtesy Photos

Right: Keyshawn Watson waves to the crowd after winning the title of Mr. Orange & Blue.

Havelyn Frierson. For Mr. Orange & Blue, seven men vied for the title, including Watson, Tanner Calhoun, Tyler Jackson, Tyrone Washington, Jacoven Hinson, Christopher Daniels and De'ontae Hill.

Williams explained what she was feeling when she walked

across the stage in front of the judges for the final phase of the competition.

"I'd say my favorite part of the pageant was formal wear because, at that moment, I knew it was close to the pageant being over," Williams said, "and I knew it was kind

of the last time the judges [could get a] look at me. It just made me feel like I had given everything and left it all on the stage – all the doubt and hard work and fear – I left it all on the stage and looked every judge in the eye as I walked to let them know, 'Hey, this is me,

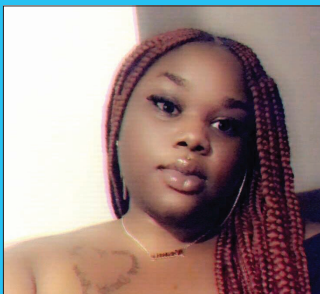
authentic."

In the Orange & Blue Pageant there are six phases of competition, consisting of interview, introductions, active wear, casual wear and formal wear. In most phases, contestants are judged on confidence and how they interact with the crowd.

Campus Question

What are you looking forward to the most during Homecoming 2019?

Compiled by Monique Bonds and MarQuan Goodman



Antonice Johnson
Sophomore
Broadcast Journalism Major

"The concert. I'm excited to see who is performing this year!"



Montana Ezell
Junior
Business Management Major

"Just school spirit. You know, everyone being involved and no one being quiet. I need everything live. I need high intensity from the students!"



Rosslyn Carroll
Junior
Psychology Major

"I want to know who's coming (for the concert). That's like my biggest thing. Everybody knows D'Marreo been planning this, and we know he's going to do big things. Now we just want to know who's coming."



Micaela Browner
Freshman
Psychology Major

"I guess I'm excited to know who's coming (for the concert), seeing people's family, seeing people have fun, seeing the boys win – you know, all that good stuff!"

Langston remembers Mr. Hill

By Monique Bonds
Editor

On Wednesday, Sept. 18, the entire Langston University community felt a wave of sorrow as the difficult news spread across campus. Faculty, staff and students entered the university that morning expecting to have a normal day but instead spent it mourning the loss of professor Anthony Charles Hill, better known as simply, Mr. Hill.

"My teacher came into class silent at first, then [the teacher] said, 'One of my friends died,'" said Remi Jackson, senior broadcast journalism major. "He had to write Mr. Hill's name on the board because he couldn't get it out (verbally)."

Mr. Hill passed away Sept. 17, in Edmond, which has impacted the university in a major way.

"For students and faculty alike, he was always doing whatever he could to show that he cares," said Lonnie Johnson Jr., instructor and acting chair of the communication department. "Whether telling a joke, making us smile or offering words of encouragement, he was there for us."

After graduating with his master's in mathematics from Clark Atlanta University, Hill was hired in 2001 in the mathematics department at dear Langston. For the past 18 years, he has taught students life-long lessons and encouraged them; he's been a listening ear for students and so much more.

It is for these reasons that many students took the loss of Mr. Hill quite hard. They looked forward to seeing him on campus daily. Students also took the loss in different ways, with some even looking to social media to express their sentiments.

"I'm so hurt right now," said Twitter user @alysa_morgan. "My favorite teacher since freshman year. [Mr. Hill] always made sure I was good, even in the summer he made sure I was good. Rest in Peace Mr. Hill."

Many people saw Mr. Hill the same way – as one of the

most genuine hearts Langston University has ever had.

"Mr. Hill always made sure everybody was straight and was one of the most genuine professors at Langston," said Twitter user @fallexus.

It has been just as difficult for Mr. Hill's colleagues. Many faculty members shed tears and canceled classes the days following the news to grieve the loss of not only their co-worker, but their friend.

"It was a joy working with you," said assistant professor of mathematics Vicky Fondjo, reflecting on her time at Langston with Hill. "I will never forget the warmth your smile and availability brought each and every day to the math department in particular and Langston University in general."

Hill left a legacy here at Langston, and the university family was sure to let that be known.

"I loved everything [the university] did for Mr. Hill," said Da'Kecia Hall, junior child development major. "Each event was necessary to show the love we have for Mr. Hill."

Since his passing, the university community has expressed an outpouring of love through several events in honor of him.

Sodexo first paid tribute to Hill by decorating a table in the cafeteria that many would call "his table," which is where he often sat each day to eat lunch. This table included decor such as a tablecloth, balloons and a framed message that showed the love many people had for him.

"We dedicated the table to Mr. Hill because he was an outstanding customer and professor of this university," said marketing intern Brandee Jones, senior accounting major. "He sat at the same table every day for two years straight. He participated in all the celebrations I've had [in the caf] for the past two years, and he always gave me the real about the food in the caf."

Next, the university gathered students and faculty for a prayer circle and moment of silence with the Rev. Eric Har-



Courtesy Photo

The Langston University Marching Pride band pays tribute to Mr. Hill by spelling out his last name as part of a fieldshow formation during the first home football game of the season.

ris. Everyone showed up with open arms to support one another as they mourned the loss of a long-loved Lion.

"The prayer circle was nice because they threw an important event for somebody who represented Langston and was for the students," said Bryianna Fips, sophomore business management major.

The university then honored Mr. Hill with a tribute from the Langston University Marching Pride Band. The LUMP spelled out "Hill" during the first home game half-time performance.

"I was happy we did it because he deserves the recognition," said band member Madison McClellan, junior psychology major. "He was always around the band and he was always supportive."

Lastly, the university held a "Hill-ing Hearts" memorial for Mr. Hill to celebrate his life and the time he spent at Langston. Some classes were canceled during this event for both students and faculty to honor Mr. Hill without interruptions.

At the memorial Sept. 26, students, faculty and staff shared thoughts and sentiments in his memory.

"The service was very sentimental for the ones who were



Anthony C. Hill

Dec. 19, 1977 – Sept. 17, 2019

close to him," said Diamond Moore, junior psychology major. "It gave people closure for the ones who didn't get to say their last goodbyes."

While many students are still grieving, some are trying to stay positive with the belief that he is now in a better place.

"He was just a really spiritual person," said Enjoli Johnson, sophomore psychology

major. "If you needed anybody, it was him... He just had that uplifting spirit."

For anyone going through this challenging time alone or just looking for someone to listen, please call the 24-hour Student Assistance by Mercy helpline at 855-225-2SAM (2726) or visit the LU Counseling Center in University Women, located across from Moore Hall.

'Study Sesh w/SAB'

Student Activities Board holds monthly study sessions

By **Walter Harris**
Staff Writer

Raising the bar for academics, the LU Student Activities Board is hosting study sessions each month from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Black Heritage Center.

"Study Sesh w/SAB" was an initiative to help meet students in the middle with receiving extra help on work outside the typical classroom setting," said Activities Coordinator De'Marreo Felder, senior education major.

He added that the study sessions provide "students with a comfortable space to do homework or ask questions without being judged."

In addition, the study sessions also provide tutoring for most core classes.

"We offer help from student instructors along with professors from many different departments, including reading, math and science," Felder said.

Students who have attended, so far, are grateful for the opportunity and have taken advantage of the extra

help.

"I get a lot done. Not only does it help me achieve good grades, but it also allows me to gain new knowledge that I didn't know before," said Austin Hughes, senior psychology major.

Another student, Isleigh Cotton, junior psychology major, likes the fact that both students and professors are there to tutor.

"Just in case you can't comprehend what the professor is saying, the student can interpret," Cotton said.

The remaining dates for "Study Sesh w/SAB" are:

- Oct. 8
- Oct. 29
- Nov. 12
- Dec. 3

"Some of our hopes and goals are knowing that students are getting the help that they actually need; to improve scores in reading, math and sciences; and to soon pack out the Black Heritage library with resources and students," Felder said.



Photo by **Walter Harris**

Students gather in the Black Heritage Center for a "Study Sesh w/SAB." The Student Activities Board hosts monthly study sessions with students and professors.

Musical Greeks stroll the yard

By **G'ahri Gassaway**
Staff Writer

The musical Greeks of Langston University strolled on the yard and provided information about their organizations at the annual "Meet the Musical Greeks" event.

On Sept. 25, at 8:03 p.m., the Kappa Rho chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity Inc. and the Pi Kappa chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America held a showcase and introduced themselves to the campus community. During the event, members showed off their stepping talents.

One upperclassman went to the event to support his friends because he enjoys seeing and learning about the rich traditions of the musical Greeks.

"There are a lot of good men and women who come from these organizations, and they may not be a part of the Divine 9 (Greek organizations), but they still put the same amount of work in for their campus just like any other organization we have," said senior economics major Clifton Thurman.

Another student explained that she was having a rough day before attending, but the atmosphere at the event quickly changed that for her.

"I woke up in a terrible mood, but after spending time learning about these musical Greeks – their unity and togetherness – it put me in a great mood," said chemistry major Erin Richardson.

For Tyrone Davis, junior business management major, "Meet the Musical Greeks" taught him something new.

"Before the event, I did not know that even though Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity Inc. is mainly a [female] organization, that it is in fact a fraternity still," said junior business management major Tyrone Davis.

Ambassadors host movie night

By **Marquala Ealom**
Staff Writer

The Langston University Ambassadors hosted a movie night where students could relax and take a break from classes.

The event featured the movie "Girls Trip." According to the IMDB website, the movie's premise is about "four lifelong friends who travel to New Orleans for the annual Essence Festival." During

their trip, "sisterhoods are rekindled, wild sides are rediscovered, and there's enough dancing, drinking, brawling and romancing to make the Big Easy blush."

The purpose of the event was to get freshmen out of their dorms and more involved on campus.

"The movie 'Girls Trip' is one of my favorite movies," said freshman business major Alonna Jacobs. "I love the movie because it's about a group of female friends who are already established in life just going on a trip to catch up on old times and experience the things they did when they were young again. One day I hope that when me and my girlfriends graduate from college, we can all come together and have that same experience."

Though the event was targeted at freshmen, several upperclassmen attended as well to meet new faces and catch up with some familiar ones.

"Watching this movie was a good experience and to be around all of the people around campus that you never really get to see made it even better," said Ronrico Brown, junior psychology major.

Brown also said he enjoyed popcorn, candy and drinks at the movie night, too.

Although the Ambassadors hosted the event, they were still able to participate and mingle with fellow students.

"It was a successful night," said Desjanay Banks-Hill, senior liberal education major and Langston Ambassador. "There was a decent amount of people who came and said they had a good time... I appreciate everyone who came out."



Lady Lions fall short to Lady Eagles

By Devin Dourisseau
Sports Writer

It was a fight to the finish, but unfortunately your Langston Lady Lions fell short 3-2 to Southwestern Christian University on Sept. 26, at the C.F. Gayles Fieldhouse.

It was a dog fight at the beginning with the Eagles taking the first set 25-21. The Lady Lions countered with 27-25 in the second set, but then Southwestern struck back with a 25-20 win in the third set. In the fourth frame the Lady Lions tied it up 25-20 going into the fifth set, but ultimately they fell short in the final match 18-16.

"We fought hard last Thursday and unfortunately we came up short and couldn't bring home the win," said freshman Jada Murray. "We have been doing our best to gain a stronger game day mentality that

will help us compete better," she added, explaining how the team can get over the hump in close matches moving forward.

According to the Dakstats website, the Lady Lions were led by Brittani Bailey who had 26 kills and 20 digs. Antonesse Tatum racked up 18 kills and six digs, and De'Asha Banks put up nine kills and five digs.

Regardless of the first half of the season, the Lady Lions still feel confident in their abilities.

"Despite the losses, I feel as if our season is going pretty well," Murray said. "We have improved a lot since day one and we're finally learning to play together... we can and will definitely overcome this slump."

As of Oct. 4, when The Gazette was sent out for publication, the Lady Lions had a record of 2-14 overall and 1-7 in conference.



Courtesy Photo

Lady Lions Jada Jolly (far left), Antonesse Tatum (middle) and Serena Torres get in defensive position as they prepare to guard the net during a home match.

Stomp-N-Shake brings 'urban style of cheer' to campus

By Lea Houston
Contributing Writer

Moving, shaking, stomping! That is what's getting the campus energetic during basketball games and pep rallies at Langston University.

Floydrika "Flo" Young, junior elementary education major, is not only the 2019-2020 Miss Black Langston University, but she also is the captain of LU's Stomp-N-Shake team, which performs during basketball season.

"Stomp-N-Shake is an urban style of cheer and dance," Young said. "We're kind of like cheerleaders, but we're a little more aggressive. It's a real funky style of cheer."

"I remember it was my freshman year, [and] Stomp-N-Shake was hosting a two-day tryout," Young said. "The first day, we learned the dance and cheer; then the second day, I tried out and I made the team," Flo said.

Stomp-N-Shake has been on Langston's campus since 2017. It was founded by previous captain and 2018 Langston alumna Chelsy Carter.

Before Stomp-N-Shake became an official organization on campus, it originated from students who were interested in the cheer team. However, Carter and some others felt that the cheer team was losing its culture and HBCU spirit, and that's something they weren't willing to sacrifice. So, Carter led a group of students to create Stomp-N-Shake. From then on, the team began to prepare for Midnight Madness, which was the team's first live performance.

Being an incoming freshman and Stomp-N-Shake being a new organization on campus at the time, Young thought this team would lead her to better exposure for her future endeavors, and it has done just that.

Stomp-N-Shake has not only exposed Young to who she is and what she does on campus, but it also helped her achieve the title of Miss Black Langston.

"Stomp-N-Shake is definitely something I can come to and really just be my whole entire self," Young said. "I feel with Stomp-N-Shake I can express

myself through my passion for cheer and dance. This is something I take seriously and see myself doing in the future."

As captain of Stomp-N-Shake, Young's day-to-day responsibilities consist of reminding the team about prac-

tice and hydration, making sure dancers are mentally and physically healthy, and ensuring that everyone maintains the GPA requirement to stay in the organization.

Stomp-N-Shake is not a year-round organization; the

team mainly performs during the basketball season. Tryouts usually take place each spring in April.

Stomp-N-Shake's first performance of the year will be at Midnight Madness in the C.F. Gayles Gymnasium on Oct. 21.



Courtesy Photo

The Stomp-N-Shake cheer team performs for high school students during their visit to Langston University last spring.