

the Gazette

STUDENT VOICE OF LANGSTON UNIVERSITY



VOL. 74, NO. 6

FEBRUARY 16, 2012

Upcoming Dates

Mr. Langston Pageant

Thursday, Feb. 16,
7:30 p.m.
I.W. Young
Auditorium

LU Basketball

Saturday, Feb. 18,
5:30 p.m.—Women
7:30 p.m.—Men
C.F. Gayles
Fieldhouse

Women's Softball

Sunday, Feb. 19,
1 p.m.
Oklahoma Christian
Univeristy

Gospel Concert

Sunday, Feb. 19,
7 p.m.
I.W. Young
Auditorium

Miss Black Langston Pageant

Saturday, Feb. 25,
7 p.m.
I.W. Young
Auditorium

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Arts p 7

Sports p 8

Student wins first place at research competition

By Andrea Perry
Staff Writer

Ten Langston biology majors took a trip to Kansas City, Mo. for the Kansas-Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence symposium Jan. 13-15.

They were sponsored by Dr. KJ Abraham and Dr. Gnanambal Naidoo.

The K-INBRE symposium is an annual conference that hosts keynote speakers, scientists and students from all industries involved in biomedical sciences.

While some students went along for the networking opportunities, Phoebe Lewis, a junior biology major, was specially invited for her outstanding research in cell biology.

Lewis delivered a speech about the immune

see **K-INBRE**, page 3



Courtesy Photo

Phoebe Lewis, a junior biology major, works on cell research in a biology lab in Hamilton Hall. Lewis presented her research at the Kansas-Idea Network of Biomedical Research Excellence symposium Jan. 13-15. Lewis also gave a speech about the immune changes in the livers of macaque monkeys, which won her first prize in the oral competition.

City of Langston starts new construction projects

By Zach Holmes
Staff Writer

The citizens of Langston have a lot to be excited about this spring. The city will soon be the home of a new farmer's market and a softball field.

The farmer's market, which is expected to be 30,000 square feet, will be built from the ground up.

Grants coordinator for the IAD/HUD/HBCU Programs Office, Roosevelt

Haney also served as a structure designer of the market.

"The market will be contemporary style, with an open-air pavilion," Haney said.

Construction for the market began in mid-September last year; construction documents are in the finalizing stage. A groundbreaking ceremony was held Sept. 29, 2011, at the T.G. Green Park.

Linda Tillman, director

of Langston's IAD/HUD/HBCU Programs Office, noted that several grants were awarded to the City of Langston and the university to build the market and the field.

"A \$300,000 portion from Langston University's \$800,000 grant, which was awarded by the HUD/HBCU organization, was used as the main funding for the market," Tillman said.

The market, which will

accommodate a snack-food counter, along with 15 different vendors, will sell a wide variety of produce as well as other foods.

"There is one agriculture professor that will teach Langston's city workers about horticulture and how to take care of the grass on the softball field," Tillman said.

"The class will also be see **PROJECTS**, page 3

the Gazette

The *Gazette* is produced within the Department of Communication at Langston University. It serves as a teaching tool and public relations vehicle. The newspaper is published bimonthly and is dispersed across campus every other Thursday, except during examinations, holidays and extended school breaks.

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Send story ideas,
comments and
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Opinions expressed in LU Voices are those of the writers whose names appear with the articles. Letters to the editor should be emailed to nkturner@lunet.edu. Please include your name and telephone number. The newspaper retains the right to edit, accept and/or reject items deemed to be contrary to the best interest of the publication, Langston University and/or any of its governing bodies.

*Proud to be black***Woman embraces heritage**

A friend of mine asked me, "Why should I be proud to be black? Why should I be proud of my big lips and my big nose? Why should I be proud of my nappy hair? Why should I be proud to be black when black people are always late for stuff?"

"I don't even know anything about our history. I don't wanna go to Africa!"

I was appalled. Now, I am publicly responding to her questioning her black pride.

You, my friend, should be proud to be black because scientific studies suggest that the DNA of the furthest human related to those of us on this planet today was traced back to Africa — A Mitochondrial Eve. An African Eve. So, yes, everyone has a little African blood in them.

You should be proud to be black because your ancestors persevered through the struggles they endured as slaves.



Perry

You should not think they were stupid or weak for being enslaved, but you must understand the progress we as a people have made despite our oppression.

You say you weren't taught that black was beautiful when you were a child. Teach yourself now. Love your black self inside and out. Embrace the beauty of our earthy skin tones, our curly, nappy and kinky hair, and all the soul we put into everything we do.

Wear your hair in twists proudly. Sport your afro gracefully. You are beautiful.

I'm telling you now. This is your affirmation that black is beautiful, and you are black. So that automatically makes you beautiful.

Wear your big lips with pride. For, you can give your children better kisses. Be thankful that you can smell with your big nose. It's a luxury for some. Embrace yourself. Don't buy into the stereotypes people so often put on us. Forge your own way.

Be proud that Madame C.J. Walker was the first black woman millionaire for creating a hair grower that jumpstarted her career with her African-American cosmetic line.

You should be proud that Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman were activists for two things that you represent: a woman and an African American.

You should be proud of Rosa Parks and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for their parts in the civil rights

movement.

You should be proud that Historically Black Colleges and Universities exist, because if they had not been created, you would probably not have had this opportunity to further your education, let alone get any education at all.

Educate yourself about your history. Don't just wait for your professors to assign you to read something about your history. Study your history for yourself. Read for yourself. Go to the Melvin B. Tolson Black Heritage Center and learn something new for yourself. Only then will you understand your true beauty.

So, say it with me as if the man, James Brown, were here today, "Say it loud... I'm black, and I'm proud!"

Happy Black History Month!

Andrea Perry is a junior broadcast journalism major.

Question of the Week

Who do you personally think is the most influential person in black history?



"The Black Panthers because they're radical and defiant."

Faith Gunn,
junior special
education major



"Carter G. Woodson because he's the creator of Black History Month. Without this month, the significance of our history wouldn't be as prominent to the masses."

Asya Marshall,
sophomore nursing
major



"Malcolm X because he encouraged us to fight back."

Stefon Bussell,
freshman undecided
major



"Thurgood Marshall because from what he's done with his career, he has set the tone for what can be done, and there aren't any barriers for what someone can do."

Alejandro Robles,
sophomore biology
major

Compiled By
Sherrard Curry

Kyrgyz Republic professors visit LU to learn importance of goat research

By Darrell Strong
Staff Writer

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources hosted visiting professors from the Kyrgyz Republic on Jan. 28, showing them an overview of the American Institute of Goat Research.

Dr. Steve Hart, a research scientist at E (Kika) de la Garza Institute for Goat Research at Langston University, said the presentation was intended to show the visitors how useful goat research is, and how to better utilize goats in their country.

He said the visiting professors are from an agrarian society. They have an economy that greatly relies on agricultural production.

"Being that we are one of the top in the world at goat research," Hart said, "they came to better understand and see some of the techniques used so they can take what they learned back to their country."

The overview was sponsored by the International Visitor Leadership Program.

Some of the program objectives included examining the U.S. system of higher educa-

tion, its structure, administration and support services as well as exploring the challenges of higher education in the U.S. and other elements of American society.

Hart said the International Visitor Leadership Program and other programs like it, not only allow the goat research at LU to gain exposure, but also the university as well.

"We may not be able to go to 45 countries, but 45 countries can come here," Hart said.

Roger Merkel, a research scientist in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said the goat research program has been at LU for 25 years.

Hart said the previous dean of the department, O.C. Simpson, had experience in goat research and nutrition and spent 20 years developing the program at LU.

Merkel said LU conducts the largest amount of goat research of any other university in the U.S. But even with that statistic, the goat research at LU is still relatively unknown to many Oklahoma natives.

"Goat research is better known in other countries than in Oklahoma," Merkel said.

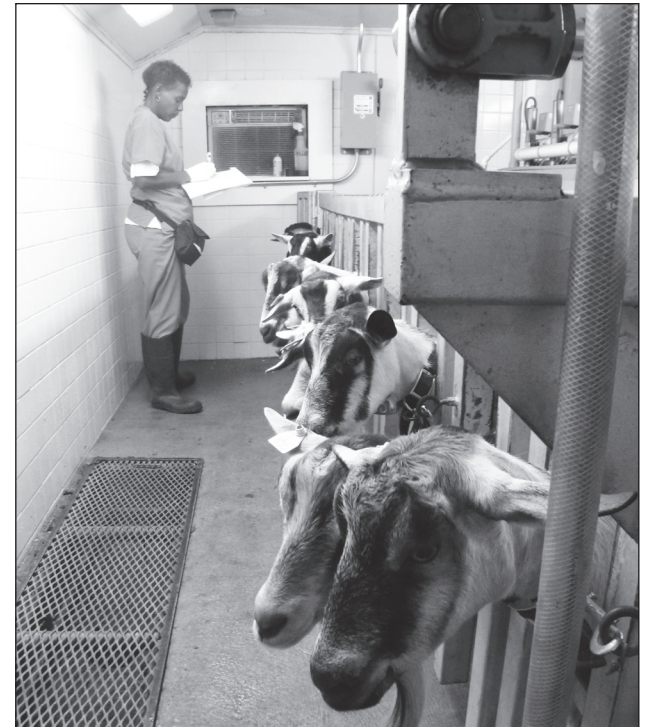


Photo by Rashawn Mance

Glenda Bryant studies and checks on goats at the E (Kika) de la Garza goat farm.

K-INBRE from page 1

changes in the livers of macaque monkeys while presenting her research.

Her speech won her first prize in the oral competition.

Abraham said, "She is

an outstanding student, a very good speaker and very confident of what she did. And her confidence, perhaps, is one reason why she was able to present so well.

"Though she competed with graduate students, post docs and other undergraduates, she stood out, because she was very

clear and knew the subject matter really well," Abraham said.

Lewis competed against 30 other scholars to present her abstract to K-INBRE.

From those 30, only eight were chosen to give oral presentations. Of those eight that presented, Lewis received first

place recognition.

Naidoo was pleased with Lewis' achievement as well.

"Personally, I was overjoyed, but it was well deserved. They started announcing the winners, and it was almost unanimous," Naidoo said.

The other nine students who attended the symposium were Cari Quick, Decole Snowball, Tristan Allen, Tashae Harrison, Angela Glander, Keondra Doyle, Sasha Watts, Terry Phillips and DeAngelo Stevens. Of the nine, five of them participated in poster presentations.

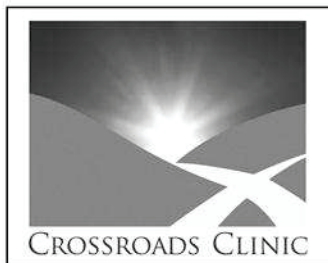
Abraham and Naidoo take students on this trip

every January.

The program started at Langston in 2004, but Abraham took Dr. Sonya Williams' place as coordinator in 2006.

Abraham said the conference is for students to get familiar with what's going on in the area of research across the country and around the world and also for them to explore the career opportunities that are available to them in biomedical science.

Students interested in a career in biomedical sciences (medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and physical therapy) may contact Dr. Abraham at 405-466-3310.



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PROJECTS from page 1

open to student volunteers, fraternities, sororities, etc. These classes will be announced later in the spring.

"Dr. and Mrs. Lester Clark, who are retired teachers from Langston,

will teach classes on how to make jelly, jams and how to can/preserve vegetables," she said.

The construction for the market is expected to be finished this month.

For more information, please contact Charles King or Redelia Grayson from the City of Langston at 405-466-2271.

Matthews wins Miss Langston

By Darrell Strong
Staff Writer

The 66th Miss Langston University was crowned Feb. 11 in the I.W. Young Auditorium.

Among the tough competition, Dontreka Matthews, a senior psychology major from Amarillo, Texas, was able to win the title of Miss Langston University.

When she was announced the winner, Matthews said she had many emotions.

"I am thankful to God because, although this was a competition for me, in my heart it was much more," Matthews said. "It was an opportunity to inspire others to go after their aspirations with all of their might because as my platform expresses, failure is not an option! I would like to lead by example as I urge my fellow Langstonites to dream big!"

That particular approach is one of the many characteristics that has had Deshnick Lewis, university events coordinator, in awe.

"She represents the totality of a woman; she has a

passion for the university," Lewis said.

Matthews' desire to become Miss Langston University dates back to her freshman year.

"I heard Taylor Byrne speak at opening convocation," Matthews said. "I was so amazed with her eloquent speaking and how pretty she looked in her beautiful crown. I did

not understand that being Miss Langston was not about beautiful words and a sparkly crown, but about service," Matthews said.

Matthews knows all about service due to her involvement with the Langston University Ambassadors.

"I've entered this great institution to learn and I will exit to serve humanity," Matthews said.



Courtesy Photo

Deshnick Lewis, university events coordinator, and 2011-2012 Miss Langston University Micah Byrne, crown Dontreka Matthews as the 66th Miss Langston University. Matthews, a senior psychology major from Amarillo, Texas, will reign during the 2012-2013 academic school year. She competed against four other women on Feb. 11 in the I.W. Young Auditorium to win the title.

Three LU students receive scholarships from OKC foundation

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma City Community Foundation has awarded the Virgil and Pauline Jackson Scholarship to three Langston University students: Brandon Flanagan, Anthony Crawford and Leah Phillips.

The students are enrolled in the School of Education and will each receive awards of \$1,000 for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Flanagan, a transfer student from Tyler Junior College, is a senior health and physical education major.

Crawford, a graduate of Westchester High School (Los Angeles), is a senior English education major.

Phillips, a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa, is a senior elementary education major.

"We are pleased to award scholarships to these deserving students," said Anna-Faye Rose, scholarship fund administrator. "They are outstanding students who will honor the legacy of Virgil and Pauline Jackson."

The scholarship fund was established at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation by Mrs. Jackson in 1998 in memory of her late husband, Virgil, to benefit full-time students majoring in education at Langston University.

Although childless, the couple had a deep love and devotion to young people. A longtime teacher, Mrs. Jackson died in 2003.

Sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in the university's School of Education are eligible and encouraged to apply.

Scholarship information and application forms are available at www.occf.org/scholarshipcenter/scholarshipdirectory.com.

Founded in 1969, the Oklahoma City Community Foundation is a public charity that works with donors, companies and nonprofit organizations to make a lasting impact through charitable endowment funds such as the Virgil and Pauline Jackson Scholarship fund.

For more information, please visit www.occf.org.

FROM THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

Please be sure that you have completed a **2012-2013 FAFSA** (Free Application For Student Aid) by visiting www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Students and parents should file their income tax returns early, because FAFSA income information for tax filers will need to be pulled directly from the IRS website. March 15, 2012 is the priority processing date for Federal Aid applicants.

Information that you will need to complete the application include:

- Langston School Code: 003157
- Parent Taxes from 2011

Should you need further assistance in completing this application, please contact **Office of Financial Aid - (405)466-3282**



Questions or Concerns?
admissions@lunet.edu
(405)466-3428

Five men compete for Mr. Langston

By Andrea Perry
Staff Writer

The 2012-2013 Mr. Langston University pageant will be held Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the I.W. Young Auditorium.

Five men will compete to make history and be selected as the 29th Mr. Langston.

Contestants will include Edward Johns, Kavaris Sims, Kendall Myers, Quentin Dixon and Darrell Strong.

Johns is a junior business management major from Oklahoma City.

Sims is a senior computer science major from Austin.

Myers is a sophomore business management major from Kansas City, Mo.

Dixon is a junior business management major from Norman.

Strong is a sophomore broadcast journalism major from Kansas City, Mo.

These men are in for a tough competition, but Mr. Langston 2011-2012, Dontavious Robinson, said he has been encouraging the contestants and gives them helpful tips



Johns



Sims



Myers



Dixon



Strong

when needed.

Robinson said, "The future Mr. Langston gets to look forward to a year of excitement, a year of future development, a future full of exuberating

challenges and a life full of great opportunities."

Robinson also added, "What the next Mr. Langston is also looking forward to seeing is working with some great people, receiving a great

opportunity to venture off into the corporate and networking world, expounding on his abilities as a leader and having lots of fun."

The pageant is free and open to the public.

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Local publisher, editor speaks to LU communication classes

By Andrea Perry
Staff Writer

The Department of Communication served as host for guest speaker, Mark Radford, the owner and editor of *The Logan County Courier*, to talk to broadcast journalism students about writing for a newspaper and the work it takes to edit and publish a paper.

Radford gave two lectures to Dr. Lisa L. Rollins' 10 a.m. Writing for the Mass Media class and her 11 a.m. Communication Seminar class on Jan. 30 in Sanford Hall.

Radford talked about important journalism issues like remaining objective and other ethical concerns. He motivated students to keep writing, taking pictures and practicing to get better at their skills.

Radford said, "As a writer, you're gonna get some rejections. You're gonna get some criticisms. What you're gonna have to learn

is that criticism is gonna make you stronger." Radford talked about the power of words.

"You have the opportunity as a wordsmith to put one word with another to form an action," Radford said. "Words have the power to evoke emotion. If you want to be an OK writer, you write once in a while. If you want to be a good writer, you write every day."

The lectures also included information about how Radford started his small-town newspaper and what it takes to be a writer and photojournalist.

"We had a need. I didn't start, because I loved writing. I didn't start, because I wanted to own a newspaper business," Radford said. "The need is that people want to hear about their lives. People want to see their grandchildren in the paper. People want to see themselves in the paper."

Radford emphasized the importance of newspapers

and the need to inform and entertain people in his community.

He encouraged Langston students to submit stories to his newspaper and said that working with Professor Rollins, he planned to develop student internships and practicum opportunities.

To date, *The Logan County Courier*, in a partnership between Radford and LU's Department of Communication, has already published photos and stories by LU students such as Rashawn Mance, Julia Bryant and Karla Dunn.

He said he plans to continue providing this outlet for students to report the latest news, gain experience and help build their journalism portfolios.

The Logan County Courier is a weekly paper that is distributed to about 1,200-

plus consumers each week throughout Logan County.

Radford estimated that more than 3,500 people read his newspaper each week. Subscriptions, advertisements, story ideas and other inquiries should be sent to news@lccourier.com.

Channel 97 Broadcast Schedule Monday-Friday Feb. 20-24

MONDAY

- 9-10 a.m. At the River I Stand
(LU Black Heritage Center Archive)
- 10-11 a.m. Student Produced Magazine Program, "The Crosswalk"

TUESDAY

- 9-10 a.m. Black Panther & San Francisco State: On Strike (LU Black Heritage Center Archive)
- 10-11 a.m. This Far By Faith African-American Spiritual Journeys-PBS Archive

WEDNESDAY

- 9-10 a.m. The Black Press Soldiers Without Swords (LU Black Heritage Center Archive)
- 10-11 a.m. Student Recorded & Edited "Gospel Fest 2008"

THURSDAY

- 9-10 a.m. Eyes on the Prize-The Time Has Come (America's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965)
- 10-11 a.m. This Far By Faith African-American Spiritual Journeys-PBS Archive

FRIDAY

- 9-10 a.m. Eyes on the Prize-Two Societies (America's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965)
- 10-11 a.m. LU Student Photographer "Obama Rally 2006"

MONDAY-FRIDAY

- 11-Noon OETA Gallery-Passages, Featuring LU Web Master, Victor Driver
- Noon-1 p.m. Student Produced Sample Video Productions For State Competition
- 1-2 p.m. LU Student Produced Music Videos
- 2-3 p.m. LU Theater Arts Production
- 3-5 p.m. When We Were Colored (movie)

Channel 97 Broadcast Schedule Thursday, Friday Feb. 16, 17

THURSDAY

- 9-10 a.m. Eyes on the Prize-The Time Has Come (America's Civil Rights years 1954-1965)
- 10-11 a.m. OETA Stateline-Behind the Curtain II

FRIDAY

- 9-10 a.m. Eyes on the Prize-Two Societies (America's Civil Rights years 1954-1965)
- 10-11 a.m. OETA Stateline-Saving Yesterday

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

- 11-Noon OETA Gallery-Passages
- Noon-1 p.m. Fall 2011 Greek Step Show
- 1-2 p.m. Student Produced Music Videos & Video Essays
- 2-3 p.m. LU Theater Arts Production
- 3-5 p.m. When We Were Colored (movie)

*Experience Costa Rica***Study Abroad offers new destination**

By Jennifer Williams-Bradshaw
Staff Writer

A country rich in cultural diversity, Costa Rica is a new destination for the Study Abroad program at Langston University.

Shelia Shoemake-Garcia, Spanish instructor, is excited about the upcoming trip to Costa Rica.

"This course is going to introduce students to social, political, environmental and cultural realities of present-day Costa Rica," Shoemake-Garcia said. "Since this is a study tour, we hope to bring alive those sorts of issues."

The students will partici-

pate in a service learning day by volunteering at a local elementary school to gain local perspective. While there, the students will introduce the local children to the American culture, speak English to them, bring books to them and officials will tell the students more about the educational system.

"It's a great way to get a local perspective from a Costa Rican," Shoemake-Garcia said. "Not just to read about it, but to be immersed in the culture."

Costa Rica is best known for its bio-diversity, so they will travel to national parks and go on wildlife tours with biologists so they can see the flora

and fauna of the region. Costa Rica conserves more than 25 percent of its land, more than any other country in the world.

"They are very protective of their land because of its biodiversity," Shoemake-Garcia said.

Students also will learn about their healthcare system. Costa Rica has a strong, universal healthcare system, much like the healthcare system that President Obama wants in the United States.

Students will learn basic Spanish on this trip as well as learn all about the people in the country.

"An interesting fact is that there is what is called a happy

planet index, and they ranked how satisfied people are with life in general in all the countries of the world and Costa Rica ranked No. 1 and the United States ranked below 100 on being satisfied with life," Shoemake-Garcia said.

She said some of the reasons they are so happy are because in 1948 they abolished their army; all of their resources went toward education and their former president earned a Nobel Peace Prize.

Students will participate in jungle zip lining, white water rafting, visiting volcanoes and taking a Caribbean bike cruise.

"We are going to be on local transportation," Shoemake-Garcia said. "Eat in local

restaurants. We are kind of roughing it."

Amber Coriano, junior nursing major, is looking forward to visiting Costa Rica.

"Being in the nursing field and traveling, I'm going to come across people that may not be able to speak English, and with me going to Costa Rica it will enhance my Spanish-speaking skills as far as helping people," Coriano said. "It will help me become well-rounded."

The cost for the trip to Costa Rica is \$1,600 plus tuition of a three-hour course. The trip is from July 26 through Aug. 7. It is still possible for students to go on the trip, but spaces are limited.

STUDY ABROAD**Spring & Summer 2012**

- **Kenya, Africa** May 15-22
Dr. Edward Manyibe: 405-962-1621, eomanyibe@lunet.edu
Dr. Mose Yvonne Hooks: 405-466-3339, myhooks@lunet.edu
- **China** May 21-31
Dr. Mose Yvonne Hooks: 405-466-3339, myhooks@lunet.edu
Mr. Clark Williams: 405-466-6101, cawilliams@lunet.edu
Dr. Steve Zeng: 405-466-6145, szeng@luresext.edu
- **The Gambia and Senegal, Africa** May 30-June 30
Dr. Mary Mbosowo: 405-466-2013, mmbosowo@lunet.edu
Dr. Mose Yvonne Hooks: 405-466-3339, myhooks@lunet.edu
- **Costa Rica** July 26-Aug. 7
Ms. Shelia Shoemanke-Garcia: 405-466-4350, slgarcia@lunet.edu
Dr. Mose Yvonne Hooks: 405-466-3339, myhooks@lunet.edu

Black artist displays work, gives seminar on campus

By Kayla Jones
Staff Writer

In light of the black history celebration, a famous black artist from Virginia visited Langston University with knowledge to share with the student body.

"How to Survive as an Artist" was the name of a seminar sponsored by Tau Rho Beta, Inc. in the Melvin B. Tolson Black Heritage Center, featuring artist Alleo Marquis Palmer on Feb. 8.

Palmer said art is an avenue for many people to tell their story.

"The objective of this seminar is not to make anybody an expert at anything; it's for artists to open up your mind to certain things," he said.

Palmer was invited to LU to speak about what it takes for an artist to make it as a professional. With a bachelor's degree in graphic art from Old Dominion University, Palmer has been creating all types of art such as Web design, painting, drafting, photography and some 3-D clay work.

Palmer has 20 years of experience as an artist.

He said one thing that is neglected is making students understand that once they master an art, they need to learn how to use it to survive.

"A lot of students go out prepared to do the work, but don't know how to bring the work to them with a paycheck," Palmer said.

During the seminar, Palmer provided information on how artists get financially fit and learn how to market themselves. Some of the topics he covered included practical planning strategies, techniques of marketing strategies and financial resources.

"As an artist, it's important to know yourself," Palmer said.

Pilar Clark, a senior education major, listened eagerly to what Palmer had to say, and took notes. Clark said he really enjoyed the seminar and got a lot out of it.

"Yeah, I feel like I learned a lot," Clark said. "I didn't know when it came to your taxes that you can write off certain things."

"The objective of this seminar is not to make anybody an expert at anything; it's for artists to open up your mind to certain things."

— Alleo Marquis Palmer, artist

The seminar was geared toward visual artists but Palmer gave advice not only to up-and-coming artists, but to all students who attended as well.

Palmer's art was displayed in the Black Heritage Center on Feb. 6-10.

Women's basketball coach reaches 100th career win

By Jabril Bailey
Staff Writer

In the sports world, 100 wins is an accomplishment that many coaches do not get to celebrate.

But one Langston University coach recently had this particular honor.

Jerome Willis is in his fourth season as the head women's basketball coach and halfway through the season he reached the 100-win milestone Jan. 16.

Willis said the keys to his success are preparation and a good coaching staff.

Willis has had one assistant coach on staff.

In the past three years Coach Natasha Doh has been under Willis' direction, learning the ways of coaching and also keeping the logistics of the team.

Doh, who is an Oklahoma native, ended her playing career at Oklahoma State University.

After graduating, she pursued a career in the



Photo by Rashawn Mance

Head Women's Basketball Coach Jerome Willis studies his players on the court. Willis reached his 100th career win Jan. 16.

journalism field but soon switched to her coaching career.

"Coach Willis is allowing me to grow as a coach and at the same time

teaching me a lot of new things," Doh said.

Willis wasn't afraid to praise the work of his assistant either.

"I think the chemis-

try is the most important thing," Willis said. "Coach Doh has a good rapport with the girls and that allows me to get things out, and the girls

will talk to her if I didn't make things clear."

Willis and Doh both said the preparation they provide for their team is crucial to his success.

"We try our best to ensure that the girls have every bit of information, everything they need about the other team, to give them the best chance to go out there and compete at the highest level," Doh said.

Willis is at 105-22 overall for his career, winning 86 percent of his games and is still going.

"I know what it feels like to be down," Willis said. "Once you feel like you're unbeatable, that's when you let your guard down and teams beat you."

Both the women's and men's basketball teams will finish the season Feb. 25 in San Antonio at Our Lady of the Lake University.

For a complete game schedule, go to www.langstonsports.com.

Softball team is eager for spring season

By Charles Tucker
Staff Writer

In the sixth season at Langston University, a new softball team prepares for the Red River Athletic Conference with high expectations.

The LU softball team has revamped the game plan coming into the 2011-2012 season.

The players have waited throughout all the sports on campus and now it's time for them to step up to the plate.

Sharla Revis, a junior corrections major, is a returning player from last year and is excited to start this season off right.

"We've learned how to play with each other and put our abilities together to make a solid team."

— Sharla Revis,
junior corrections major
and softball player

"We've worked so hard during off-season; it's natural to feel like it is for grabs to take it all the way," Revis said.

The players said the game is 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical when it comes to any sport.

The players said they always think about the games before they go out on the field.

"To mentally prepare myself I pray, then go out there and let my God-given abilities show what I know," Revis said.

The softball team has been placed in a different situation than other softball teams because they didn't play in the fall. They are just starting the spring season.

Jasmine Wilson, a junior agriculture major and returner from last year, is another leader on the team. Having the experience from last year will show on the field this year.

"I tell the team to smile no matter what because as soon as you get down on yourself you can't play to your full potential," Wilson said.

The players have not yet played an official season game with one another,

but they have been through tests physically and mentally at practice.

The chemistry, though, will be determined the day they step out on the field together.

"One word to describe the team is 'blossoming,'" Wilson said.

The team has come together since day one and displayed true teamwork.

"We've learned how to play with each other and put our abilities together to make a solid team," Revis said.

Head Coach Quinton Morgan will lead his troops into battle against Oklahoma Christian University on Feb. 18 in Edmond.