



THE GRAMBLING★CONNECTION

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Election 2024 (Part 4 of 4)

WHO’S REALLY BETTER FOR THE ECONOMY? TRUMP OR HARRIS? LET’S TAKE A LOOK.

Staff Report

Many Trump supporters believe that his presidency would be better for the economy. Delving deeper into why so many believe this, it was not surprising to find that it originated from the man himself, Donald Trump, and his constant self-promotion. It was also not a surprise to find that he isn’t the economic mastermind he often claims to be. Despite his self-crafted image as a business whiz, his history is marked by bankruptcies and failed ventures. From bankrupting casinos (at least four) to a failed for-profit University that ended in him paying out \$25 million to settle fraud lawsuits, to other failures like Trump Steaks, Trump Airlines, the Trump Board Game, Trump Mortgages, Trump Ice, Trump Vodka, Trump Magazine and the list goes on and on. The one thing he was successful at was convincing others he was successful with his tv show, The Apprentice, which helped him to further craft his image.

For a while, Trump managed to sway voters on economic issues, especially as inflation surged and he touted a fictional version of his presidency as presiding over “the greatest economy in the history of the world.” However, recent polling suggests that sentiment is shifting.

But before we get to that, let’s first revisit Trump’s tenure in office.

His economic record is often oversimplified, with his supporters leaning heavily on his assertions of greatness. Yet, a deeper look reveals a more nuanced reality. His tax cuts did not produce the promised growth, budget deficits ballooned, and his trade policies failed to revive the manufacturing sector



Donald Trump

significantly. For context, while Trump added 6.7 million jobs during his presidency, Biden has added 15 million.

By the end of Trump’s term, the trade deficit had surged by over 36%, and federal debt skyrocketed from \$14.4 trillion to \$21.6 trillion. This hardly supports the narrative of an unparalleled economic triumph as he likes to tout.

Fast forward to today, and the job market tells a different story. According to The New York Times, employment levels for those in their prime working years are at a historic high, with wages climbing steadily. Meanwhile, the stock market has consistently hit record highs.

Kamala Harris’s vision for an

“opportunity economy” is resonating with voters as they digest her proposals, which include expanding tax credits for families and small businesses, assisting first-time homebuyers, and raising the corporate tax rate. These ideas are backed by economists and are gaining traction in public discourse.

A recent poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research indicates that Harris’ is now nearly tied with Trump regarding who would better handle the economy. Notably, Harris has a 5-point lead on housing costs and a 2-point lead on jobs and unemployment, while Trump edges her out by 2 points on grocery and gas prices.



Kamala Harris

Also, a recent analysis from the nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget warned that another Trump presidency could worsen Social Security finances significantly. Furthermore, a survey by the Financial Times revealed that 70% of economists believe Trump’s policies would likely increase inflation, while only a small fraction pointed to similar concerns about Harris’s proposals.

Goldman Sachs estimates that job growth under Harris’s plan could outpace Trump’s policies by around 30,000 jobs each month. Even the Wall Street Journal, not known for liberal leanings, reported that most economists anticipate

higher inflation and interest rates under Trump’s potential second term.

Trump’s fixation on tariffs and vague promises isn’t winning him favor. Voters are increasingly discerning, recognizing the positive economic indicators around them. Last month, businesses added a remarkable quarter-million jobs, suggesting a resilient economy.

In contrast to Trump’s scattershot approach, Harris presents a coherent plan built on sound economic principles. As voters engage with her vision, they may begin to view Trump as a high-risk gamble, ultimately favoring a candidate who offers real solutions over one who merely sells himself.

GSU’S HOMECOMING 2024: A PICTORIAL REVIEW

GSU’s homecoming 2024 weekend was full of fun and festivities. Here’s a pictorial look at some of the events that took place.

See **HOMECOMING**, page 6

Homecoming Parade



Photo provided by GSU Marching Band



Photo provided by GSU Marching Band



Photo provided by GSU Marching Band

Opinion

The Stakes of the 2024 Election Are High, Young People Must Vote

By Prentiss Smith

Young Americans have always been at the heart of change in this country, shaping its future and pushing its ideals forward. But the 2024 presidential election is different. It's not just a decision about policies or political parties—it's a decision about the very future of American democracy.

Some call it the most consequential election in generations, and young voters hold the power to decide what direction the country will take. Your voice and your vote matter more than ever before.

Over the last nine years, I have seen the country change, and not necessarily for the best, and some would say for the worst. America has always been a democratic beacon because of its pluralism, diversity, and willingness to embrace new ideas and new ideals.

The 2024 election presents a clear contrast, and it's one that reaches beyond typical debates on taxes, healthcare, or education. It's about the future of democracy itself. One of the leading candidates has openly embraced authoritarian tendencies—challenging the legitimacy of

elections, threatening to use power in ways that undermine the Constitution, and showing admiration for strongmen leaders around the world.

This is not about partisan disagreements but about a fundamental question: Will America continue to be a democracy where the people's voice is heard, or will it veer towards autocracy? That is the question I have been grappling with about the country we all claim to love. America is different today, with the legitimacy of the elections being questioned every day.

For young voters, this threat is especially urgent. The decisions made in this election will shape the world for decades to come. The erosion of democratic norms can happen slowly, almost unnoticed, but once it begins, it's hard to reverse. Voting is your chance to stand up against those who want to consolidate power and strip away the freedoms that have defined this country for generations.

Historically, young Americans have had lower voter turnout than older generations. But in recent years, that's begun to change. The youth vote surged in 2018 and again in 2020, and young voters were critical in shaping the results of those elections.

You have the numbers, and the

power, to tip the scales again in 2024. This is why I encourage young people to participate in the franchise. You have the power to make a real difference.

Millennials and Gen Z now make up a significant portion of the electorate. With over 70 million young people eligible to vote, you represent a force that can no longer be ignored. When you vote, you're not just casting a ballot—you're sending a message about what kind of future you want. Whether it's climate change, student debt, racial justice, or healthcare, the issues that matter most to you are on the line.

Voting is the purest form of democracy—it's how we, as citizens, exercise our right to have a say in how we are governed. Without voting, there is no democracy. It's easy to feel like one vote doesn't matter, especially in a country as large as the United States. But that couldn't be further from the truth. Elections have been decided by razor-thin margins in the past, and they will be again.

By voting, you're not just participating in a political process—you're ensuring that your voice is heard. It's a direct line to power, and it's one of the only ways we can hold our leaders

accountable. Democracy is not just a system of government; it's a promise that each of us, no matter where we come from or what we believe, has a say in the future of this nation.

If young people stay silent, others will make decisions on their behalf. Older generations tend to vote in much higher numbers, and their priorities may not align with yours. If you don't show up at the polls, the issues that matter most to you could be sidelined or ignored entirely.

This election, more than any other, will determine what kind of country America will be. Will it be a democracy where every voice matters, or will it slide into authoritarianism, where power is concentrated in the hands of the few? Young voters are the key to ensuring that democracy not only survives but thrives.

Register, research, and show up at the polls. The survival of American democracy is in your hands, and your vote is the most powerful tool you have to protect it. This election is about you—your future, your rights, your country. Don't let anyone else decide it for you.

The stakes couldn't be higher. The time to act is now. And that's my take. smithpren@aol.com

The Soap Box... My Point of View!

‘Another Way of Life’ (Part 1 of 2)

By Brenda Daniel

One of my favorite places to travel in the world is Brazil. I am always fascinated with its rich culture, beaches, and historical beauty of architect, landscape and people. Perhaps what the average person doesn't know is that there is so much more to most places than what syndicated news, social media or television will ever show or tell... such as it is with Brazil.

Our journey this time took us to about an eight-hour drive outside of the hustle and bustle of the metropolis of the state Sao Paulo, (Brazil's capitol, and the 5th largest city in the world) to a small isolated quilombo. (Quilombo's are settlements and rural communities founded by African taken as slaves of the transatlantic slave trade, who escaped from their captors and fled to dense mountainous jungles for refuge). It was before Brazil abolished slavery in 1888 that these village-like communities were strategically established by the Africans and to date, over 400 years later there are at least 3500 known quilombos yet existing throughout the country.

During my earlier travels to Brazil, I learned that of the mass number of Africans taken from their countries, the majority were not brought to the United States as I always assumed, but rather they were transported to South Americas, Brazil holding the highest number.

I might also add, a “wow” moment of learning for me as of the early 2000's when I first began to travel to Brazil, I learned that outside of the country of Nigeria Africa, the largest number of Black populations in the world is in Salvador, the capital city of the state Bahia, where 80% of the population is made up of Afro descents. Maybe we missed class the day this was taught in our history classes in North America, huh?

Well, back to my first visit to the Quilombos... Our group was invited by an African American Missionary who was a dear friend and had lived in Brazil for over 30 years. She wanted us to experience these unique environments where time seemed to have stood still; and where she had done humanitarian work for several years. The Quilombalians were at

this time completely off the grid of mainstream life. They had no social services or governance from the outside, and strictly lived off the land in which they cultivated, farmed, and developed.

It was a two-day process for our host to send word to her contacts in the quilombo, to get permission from the Leaders/Elders to allow us access. To our surprise, upon our arrival from an eight- hour bus ride, we had to trek a five mile walk on a trail to the river through dense bush, and a forty-five-minute boat ride on a man-made canoe, where we would be carried on the small canoe six at a time across the river to the quilombo. Before boarding the canoe, we were briefed and given specific instructions from a community leader who greeted and welcomed, us as their first Black American group that had visited their quilombo. Until then, they had only met our host or heard stories or read in sparse materials given to them about African Americans. It was certainly to our advantage that our host had learned the Portuguese language and was fluent in speaking and understanding it. But, unfortunately, there was one of her and 18 of us who only spoke and understood English... Not really considering these dynamics I wondered how could this possibly turn out okay!

To be continued...



Group in Brazil.



Canoeing on river in Brazil.

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VOTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

Nov. 5 is the Presidential, Open Primary and Congressional Elections. Dec. 7 is the Congressional General Election and early voting will begin on Nov. 22 and end on Nov. 30. According to the Secretary of State’s website, votes may be cast (for both elections) from 8:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. However, offices for early voting for Dec. 7 will be closed on Sunday, Nov. 24, Thursday Nov. 28 and Friday Nov. 29.

For voters needing assistance, disabled voters and the person assisting them will go to the front of the line at the Registrar of Voters Office, or at designated locations, when voting early. Voters are eligible to receive assistance during voting if they are unable to read, or vote, without aid due to physical disability or impaired vision. Voters may choose to use an audio ballot instead of receiving assistance.

Those prohibited from assisting voters are election candidates, employers or employers' agents, union agents and residential facility staff members. If a voter needs assistance, then a statement must be filed either in person or by mail before the election. Other options are to complete an affidavit, and/or provide disability documentation to the registrar or commissioner during early voting.

Disability documentations that are accepted include letters from a medical doctor, optometrist, physician assistant or nurse practitioner that certify the disability. Copies of current documentation showing eligibility for disability benefits from social security, veteran's, paratransit services, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities or Louisiana Rehabilitation Services are also accepted.

LINCOLN PARISH POLLING LOCATIONS BY PRECINCT

The Lincoln Parish Registrar of Voters just recently listed the Polling Places by Precincts in Lincoln Parish. Check your voter registration card or call the Registrar's office to find out your particular polling place to vote. Here's the list:

Parish LINCOLN - 31		
Wd/Pct	Poll Place Name	Poll Place Location, City
01/01	GRAMBLING CITY HALL	127 KING ST, GRAMBLING
01/02	MT OLIVE FIRE STATION	422 GARR RD, RUSTON
01/03	MCLANE RECREATION CENTER	601 JAMES ST, RUSTON
02/01	GRAMBLING CITY HALL	127 KING ST, GRAMBLING
03/01	SIMSBORO HIGH SCHOOL	114 TIGER DR, SIMSBORO
03/02	GREENWOOD CLUB HOUSE	886 MITCHAM ORCHARD RD, RUSTON
03/03	SIMSBORO HIGH SCHOOL	114 TIGER DR, SIMSBORO
03/04	NOBLES SCHOOL FIRE STATION	440 NOBLES SCHOOL RD, DUBACH
03/05	VIENNA TOWN HALL	5168 HWY 167 NORTH, RUSTON
03/06	GREENWOOD CLUB HOUSE	886 MITCHAM ORCHARD RD, RUSTON
04/01	DUBACH TOWN HALL	7833 ANNIE LEE ST, DUBACH
04/02	DUBACH FIRE STATION	118 SMITH ST, DUBACH
04/03	MINERAL SPRINGS FIRE STATION	4428 HWY 822, DUBACH
04/04	COLVIN MEMORIAL	6598 HWY 822, DUBACH
04/05	HICO FIRE STATION	747 HIGHWAY 152, DUBACH
04/06	MINERAL SPRINGS FIRE STATION	4428 HWY 822, DUBACH
05/01	CHOUDRANT HIGH SCHOOL	2555 HWY 80 EAST, CHOUDRANT
05/02	SIBLEY FIRE STATION	132 HIGHWAY 821, CHOUDRANT
05/03	CHANDLER ROAD FIRE STATION	985 CHANDLER RD, RUSTON
05/04	CHOUDRANT HIGH SCHOOL	2555 HWY 80 EAST, CHOUDRANT
06/01	GLENVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1601 BITTERSWEET AVE, RUSTON
06/02	GLENVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1601 BITTERSWEET AVE, RUSTON
06/03	GLENVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1601 BITTERSWEET AVE, RUSTON
06/04	RUSTON CIVIC CENTER	401 N TRENTON ST, RUSTON

06/05	MCLANE RECREATION CENTER	601 JAMES ST, RUSTON
06/06	MCLANE RECREATION CENTER	601 JAMES ST, RUSTON
07/01	HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301 E KENTUCKY AVE, RUSTON
07/02	HILLCREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301 E KENTUCKY AVE, RUSTON
08/01	RUSTON CIVIC CENTER	401 N TRENTON ST, RUSTON
08/02	CHANDLER ROAD FIRE STATION	985 CHANDLER RD, RUSTON
08/03	LP SCHOOL BOARD MEDIA CENTER	504 E ARIZONA AVE, RUSTON
09/01	LP SCHOOL BOARD MEDIA CENTER	504 E ARIZONA AVE, RUSTON
09/02	LP SCHOOL BOARD MEDIA CENTER	504 E ARIZONA AVE, RUSTON
09/03	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON
09/04	LP SCHOOL BOARD MEDIA CENTER	504 E ARIZONA AVE, RUSTON
10/01	RUSTON PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX	701 E TENNESSEE AVE, RUSTON
10/02	RUSTON PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX	701 E TENNESSEE AVE, RUSTON
10/03	RUSTON PUBLIC WORKS COMPLEX	701 E TENNESSEE AVE, RUSTON
10/04	GREENWOOD RECREATION CENTER	1306 CORNELL AVE, RUSTON
10/05	GREENWOOD RECREATION CENTER	1306 CORNELL AVE, RUSTON
10/06	I A LEWIS SCHOOL	1000 MITCHELL AVE, RUSTON
11/01	I A LEWIS SCHOOL	1000 MITCHELL AVE, RUSTON
11/03	I A LEWIS SCHOOL	1000 MITCHELL AVE, RUSTON
11/04	CATHERINE'S DANCE STUDIO	131 R W E JONES DR, GRAMBLING
11/05	I A LEWIS SCHOOL	1000 MITCHELL AVE, RUSTON
12/01	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON
12/02	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON
12/03	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON
12/04	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON
12/06	LUFFEY CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER	813 CAREY AVE., RUSTON

Quaneshia Hamms Appointed Interim Vice President for Finance

(Grambling, LA) Grambling State University has appointed Quaneshia Hamms, MBA, CPA, as Interim Vice President for Finance, effective November 1, 2024. Currently serving as Senior Associate Vice President for Finance, she brings over 18 years of experience in finance, accounting, and operations leadership across multiple industries.

Hamms has held significant leadership roles, including Controller at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), where she oversaw accounting and finance operations, and Senior Risk Advisory Consultant at Ernst & Young LLP. Her extensive background also includes roles as Senior IT Compliance Analyst at

Navient and Risk Management Consultant at Ingalls Information Security. Hamms owns QTArmstrong, CPA, LLC, providing bookkeeping, attestation, and advisory services to small businesses, particularly in the nonprofit sector. In addition to her professional achievements, Hamms is committed to education. She has served as a full-time accounting professor at Grambling State University and currently teaches as an adjunct professor at both Grambling State and Tarleton State Universities, mentoring future accounting professionals. She holds a BS in Accounting and CIS from Grambling State University, an MBA in Accounting from Indiana Wesleyan University, and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) at the University of Dallas. Hamms is actively involved in professional organizations such as the Association of International Certified Public Accountants

(AICPA), the Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants (LCPA), and the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA), reflecting her dedication to community and professional service. “I am both humbled and excited to take on the role of Interim Vice President for Finance at Grambling State University,” said Hamms. “Dr. Edwin Litolff made meaningful contributions during his tenure, and I am committed to ensuring a seamless transition while continuing to advance the financial stability and strategic growth of our institution. As a proud alumna of Grambling, this opportunity holds personal significance for me, and I look forward to working closely with our community to achieve our shared goals.” Hamms succeeds Dr. Edwin Litolff, who will transition to a new role as Vice President for Finance at the University of New Orleans. Dr. Litolff will work closely with Hamms through the end of the year to facilitate a thorough handover of financial responsibilities.

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The Elimination of US Department of Education

By Christi Mills

"Project 2025," outlines a plan to completely dismantle the US Department of Education. This proposal put forth by conservative authors, should spark concern among students, educators, and advocates who understand that there will be a significant impact on higher education. Chapter 11 of the document explicitly states that "Federal education policy should be limited and, ultimately, the federal Department of Education should be eliminated. By eliminating, I mean that under this proposal parts will be merged with the Department of Labor and Treasury. The plan calls for ending the federal government's role as a guarantor of student loans, eliminating loan forgiveness programs, and dissolving accrediting agencies, which the report refers to as "gatekeeper agencies." The impact of merging the Department of Education with the Department of Labor, a move critics argued, would lead to drastic funding cuts for education and give state government say on how federal money is distributed to their colleges. The plan offers little if anything in the way of alternative solutions. Concerns about the potential consequences of such a move by a Trump administration, are heightened by the unpopular sweeping changes to abortion laws, unfair tax restructuring and changes to elementary and secondary education set during the Trump administration. In 2014, the Obama administration issued guidelines urging secondary schools to limit disciplinary actions like suspensions and expulsions, particularly for students of color, who were disproportionately affected. However, these guidelines were rolled back under the Trump administration's Department of Education. To fully know what Impact “Project 2025” will have on Higher Education will require a wait and see method. Unfortunately, if Trump is reelected and control of the senate and house reverts to a conservative majority, there will be very little that can be done to save the department of education from what many know it to be today...a protector of the physically disabled, economically disadvantaged and unfairly targeted student through racism and discrimination. Christi Mills may be contact by calling 318-402-1318.

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We Want To Hear From You!

What would you like to see covered here? What topics would you like us to write about? Remember this is a community paper and we want to cover the things that are important to you. So let us know at: Letter to The Editor, gramblingconnection@gmail.com

Thank you!

Community

Jonetta’s Locs find a permanent home

By Joice M. Dunn

Priscilla Butler, owner of the Heavenly Hair Beauty Salon, has been a licensed cosmetologist since 1985, giving her 39 years of experience in the beauty industry. For the past seven years she has been operating at her current location on 2084 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave, in Grambling.

“Business has been thriving, and I am incredibly blessed. Most of my clients have been with me for many years, with few walk-ins,” Butler said. She continued to explain that most of her new clients primarily come through her booking site, "Booksy," or by word of mouth.

Butler said she always wanted to be a business owner, so she attended Grambling State University to work on a business management degree. “Because I wanted my cosmetologist license, in 1981 I left Grambling to pursue a license which I received in 1983,” she said.

After becoming certified, Butler and her sister were recruited by reps from the International Hair Care Beauty Salon. She returned to Grambling in 2019 and graduated in business in 2022.

In addition to Butler’s professional work, she strives as a graduate student at GSU majoring in criminal justice to better understand the laws of government and her goal is to complete it in 2025.

“I believe that nothing happens by accident; everything is orchestrated by divine timing and purpose. There is a time and place for everything in the universe, and I trust that what is ordained in the highest heaven will manifest on earth at the right moment,” Butler said.

This belief aligns with the work of Dr. Rixie Thompson, founder of the More Than a Conquerors Breast Cancer Survivors Group and a Survivorship Coach. Dr. Rixie has been seeking a location to house over 200 high-quality wigs donated by Tamisha Moats, daughter of Jonetta Jackson, for women undergoing breast cancer treatment. These wigs are given to the women free of charge.

“Jonetta and I were not only friends but also schoolmates, classmates, and teammates in both basketball and softball. We shared meals and experiences throughout our time at Shady Grove High School, a close-knit, family-oriented community. Even after graduation, our paths continued to cross, as we eventually ended up in the same neighborhood in Lincoln Parish. Our bond never wavered. As Jonetta faced her battle with cancer, I witnessed



Priscilla Butler adjust wig as picture of friend Jonetta sits on the vanity.

her incredible strength and resilience. She never let the disease rob her of her joy or her faith, and her daughters remained her greatest source of inspiration,” she said.

She said, “Dr. Thompson had visited several businesses, but none aligned with her vision. As I’ve mentioned, everything has a divine purpose, and after no success with other locations, the Higher Power directed her to Heavenly Hair Beauty Salon. The universe had already arranged for More Than a Conqueror, Heavenly Hair, and Jonetta’s Locs of Love to connect for this meaningful cause. This connection is spiritual, and we believe in the power of healing. As these courageous women face the changes brought on by hair loss, they can choose a wig, knowing that they are more than conquerors. I am deeply honored to be part of this mission, believing that inner beauty and strength will always shine through life’s challenges.”

“I am certain that the Creator intended for Jonetta’s Locs of Love to be housed at Heavenly Hair Beauty Salon. Our connection was meant to be everlasting. I give glory to the Most High for granting Tamisha Moats the



Cheryl Ivory offers prayer.

vision to honor her mother, for Dr. Thompson’s dedication in bringing this vision to life, and for the opportunity to house these wigs at my salon. I am eternally grateful to be used for this purpose at the right time, and I remain thankful for all that has been done to support this cause,” explained Butler.

The women of More Than Conquerors Breast Cancer Support Group recently met at the Heavenly Hair Beauty Salon as they celebrated Open House and Mocktails while they introduced the new “Jonetta’s Locs of Love” Wig Parlor open to breast cancer survivors near and far. The members as well as their supporters glimmered in their varied shades of pink.

Dr. Thompson welcomed the group as they received pink gift bags, relaxed and enjoyed each other’s company. There were a 110 years of survivors sitting around the room as they listened to each other’s story as to why they were present.

“I joined the More Than Conquerors Support Group because three years ago I had breast cancer and Mrs. Rixie reached out to me. The group sent me a care basket, they have been a good support system, and I would like to support others,” said Beverlyn Jackson of Grambling.

Those who wanted, shared their story as groups of fours received the opportunity to choose two wigs from the closet for themselves. Supporters as far as the Monroe area came to participate in the evening.

History of Grambling (Part 2 of 3-part series)

By Reginald Owens

(Continued from 10/18/24 issue)

MAKING A LIVING

The initial attraction to the Grambling area was economic -former African captives seeking a way to make a living, Lawrence Gamer (a Professor of History at Grambling State University) noted.

These early Lincoln Parish settlers also were part of the late 1800s Agrarian/Progressive movement in the U.S. that promoted ownership of land and the equipment to work the land, according to Garner. The movement prompted the formation of African-American churches, religious organizations and agricultural cooperatives.

For most Blacks coming to the area, Grambling presented a rare economic opportunity during a period when African-Americans were the victims of some of the

most violent and racist actions in U .S. history. It was difficult for former African captives to find employment or even a safe place from White antagonism and attack. Following the defeat of the Southern Slavocracy, millions of ex-captives were suddenly thrust into the job market to compete with already resentful poor Whites for the scarce economic resources of a defeated South. This contributed to a tide of White racism that prompted an increase in the number of lynching and other physical attacks on Blacks.

During this critical period, Black communities throughout the South and Southwest were safe havens for African-Americans moving westward trying to find a place following the Civil War - Grambling included.

[During this time] many acts of violence took place in north Louisiana, including Lincoln Parish, where both African-American; and Whites lost their lives. They were both determined -the former plantation captives to be free and the former slave owners to wrest back control of the South.

BLACKS ORGANIZING FOR SELF-HELP

African-Americans responded to this wave of violence by building institutions to help them through one of the most difficult periods in their history in North Louisiana, Lafayette Richmond led the effort to organize African- Americans for social, political and economic self-help.

The efforts started with individual churches in the late 1860s and, later, church groups. For this area, Grambling became the meeting place for African-American organizations.

In 1882, sixteen churches met at Liberty Hill Baptist Church in Knowles,



Charles and Martha Adams.



Site of Grambling campus in the early years.

about three miles north of Grambling, to form the Liberty Hill Baptist Association, an organization of churches located in North Central Louisiana. Rev. Phillip Lewis Sr., founding pastor of Liberty Hill Baptist Church and one of the principal organizers of the association, was elected the first president of the group. He also was one of the large African- American land owners in the area. Lewis did not live to serve out his term. His son would later become an influence in this organization and in the Allen Greene Normal and Industrial Bible Institute which the group later established and which became Grambling State University.

It is because of the political networking of North Louisiana churches that Grambling became a focal point for area African- Americans.

"This (the church) is how you get the interconnectedness of the communities of this region (Grambling)," said Gamer. "That is why Grambling even today is connected to scores of communities throughout North Louisiana. It was through the church."

Richmond was one of the first African

Americans to see the need for Blacks in the region to begin major community- building projects. As early as 1887, he and other African- Americans had "talked in undertones of the many problems" that existed between Blacks and Whites in North Louisiana, Dr. [Lena] Carter's thesis noted. "Richmond conceived the idea that one way Negroes could help themselves would be through some type of farm relief organization," Carter wrote. "For nine years following this encounter, Richmond walked, rode horseback, and traveled on the train to different places in Lincoln and adjoining parishes, meeting people in churches and talking to them about his idea of establishing a farm organization."

In 1896, under Richmond's leadership and in the spirit of the Agrarian/Progressive movement of the time, a mass meeting was held to discuss the concerns of African-Americans in the region. The result was the North Louisiana Colored Agricultural Relief Association Union. Lafayette Richmond was elected its first president, Carter noted. This organization consisted of more than 1,500 members representing five parishes: Lincoln,

Jackson, Claiborne, Union and Ouachita.

Gamer said that members of the Liberty Hill Baptist Association were also members of this new farmers' group. "They worked together. These were basically the same people," Gamer noted.

In 1899, the organization decided to make Grambling its headquarters and to establish an industrial training school for the children of the area, according to Carter. That year, the group also bought a 22-acre tract of land for the school. The site was located about one mile northwest of the present campus of Grambling State University and served as the founding site of the university. An historical marker, however, on the present grounds of the Liberty Hill Baptist Association lists 1896 as the founding date of the school.

THEN CAME CHARLES P. ADAMS

When Charles P. Adams stepped off the train August 4, 1901 in front of what is now Mt. Zion Baptist Church on West Martin Luther King Drive, he was met by the Revs. Dennis Hollis and P. B. Lewis, Dr .Mildred Gallot notes in her history of the university. At 6'4", Adams was an imposing man to these two representatives of the local farmers and church groups, said Gallot, who chaired the History and Geography Department at the university.

African Americans were busy building a community when Adams came to town to head a school started by the local farmers and ministers.

For the Grambling community , Adams' arrival marked the beginning of a major influx of African-Americans from distant places -both within the state and other areas especially in the Southeast U.S.

Three things contributed to the growth of Grambling as an African-American city during this period. First, the political and social turmoil of the late 1800s helped to establish the area as the economic and cultural center for African-Americans in the region. Second, African-Americans in the area owned large tracts of land and were basically self-sufficient. This attracted Blacks from other areas who sought employment here. Third, the establishment of a school for African-Americans and the organizational headquarters of church and economic groups helped to make Grambling an important area for Blacks in the region.

(Reprint from egrambling.com, “The City of Grambling: Historical Information”, 2005)

Reginald Owens is the retired chairman of the Department of Journalism at Louisiana Tech University where he was the inaugural holder of the F. Jay Taylor Endowed Chair of Journalism. He also served as director of the former Tech news bureau and associate director of university communication. He also taught at Grambling State University, where he was also publication director for The Gramblinitie.

Community

Grambling Chamber to hold banquet Friday, Nov. 1

Staff Report

The Greater Grambling Chamber of Commerce will recognize five persons during its 13th annual banquet on Friday, Nov. 1 at the Fred Hobdy Assembly Center on the Grambling State University campus.

There will be a wine and cheese event at 6 p.m. and the dinner and awards ceremony will begin at 7 p.m.

Dr. Mark Hunter will present the recipient for the Pinkie C. Wilkerson Life Center/The Dr. Dorothy Alexander “Read - Me - A - Story” Program and honoree Theresa Watt; Augustine Moore will present Johnny Gray; Alicia Williams will present the (NAMI-Ruston) National Alliance on Mental Illness and Dr. Rhonda R. Pruitt will present Pastor Juluis Sumler.

The R.W. E. Jones Education Award will be presented to the Pinkie C. Wilkerson Life Center/The Dr. Dorothy Alexander “Read - Me - A - Story” Program Founded in 2001, the Pinkie C. Wilkerson Life Development Center Foundation (PCWLDC) has been a cornerstone of public service for the citizens of Grambling, Louisiana, and its surrounding areas.

The foundation's mission is to promote human welfare through education, social and physical development, political awareness, and economic empowerment. Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, PCWLDC is dedicated to improving the quality of life for the community through its innovative programs. One of its most celebrated initiatives is the Dr. Dorothy Alexander "Read Me A Story" Program, which has been serving children in surrounding parishes for over a decade. This program focuses on literacy, leadership, and educational development for children aged 4-9, providing an enriching experience that fosters a love for reading and learning.

The L. D. Land Government Award will be accepted by Theresa Wyatt, a proud mother and grandmother whose commitment to her family is matched only by her dedication to public service. She is the mother of two daughters, Acqueline Bobbitt (Richard) and Marshal Moore Hodge, and the loving grandmother of two grandchildren, Erin and Ellington Moore Hodge.



Theresa Wyatt

Theresa's legacy of leadership and service extends far beyond her family, reaching deep into the heart of Lincoln Parish. Theresa served with distinction on the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, where her influence and accomplishments were widely felt. She made history as the longest-serving female president of the Police Jury and was the first woman to serve as chairman



NAMI Ruston

of the Lincoln Parish Sales Tax Commission. Her leadership was marked by significant achievements, including traveling to Washington, D.C., for three consecutive years, where she successfully helped secure more than \$75 million in funding for the Tarbutton Exchange project. Her impact continued during her tenure at the Lincoln Parish Event Center, where she played a pivotal role in securing over \$9 million in funding, making the health unit a reality for the community.

Theresa's dedication to equality ensured that all districts were represented fairly on committees with large budgets, emphasizing her commitment to creating a more inclusive and equitable local government. The City of Grambling also benefited from Theresa's leadership. Her efforts contributed to the overlay of streets, the awarding of adjudicated properties for the city's growth, and a level of community service that set a high standard for others to follow. Through her tireless work, Theresa Wyatt has left an indelible mark on Lincoln Parish, shaping its future and championing progress for all its residents. Her career stands as a testament to the power of dedication, leadership, and a vision for equality and community growth.

Johnny Gray will receive the A.D. Smith Business Award. Johnny's career is marked by an impressive range of accomplishments and ventures. From 1968 to 1972, he began his professional journey as a life insurance agent with Constitutional Life. His entrepreneurial spirit took flight in 1972 when he founded Gray's Insurance Agency, a business he has successfully run for over five decades. That same year, he also launched Gray's Trailer Park and Rentals, further establishing himself as a leader in his community. Johnny's commitment to public service extended beyond business. For more than 50 years, he has served as an



Johnny Gray

official for football and basketball, a role that has earned him respect and admiration in the world of sports officiating. His other roles included serving as a parish Notary Public since 1979 and managing Western Union telegraph services from 1982 until 2024.

From 1983 to 2017, Johnny operated the Greyhound Bus Line in Grambling, further contributing to the town's infrastructure and connectivity. He also founded and operated A&A Bail Bonds from 1988 to 2002, continuing his diverse entrepreneurial ventures. In addition to his business and civic engagements, Johnny has been an active member of various organizations, including Kappa Alpha Psi and Alpha Phi Omega. He is also a dedicated member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Grambling, Louisiana, where he has remained committed to his faith and community. Johnny Gray's life has been one of service, entrepreneurship, and leadership. Through his businesses, public roles, and community involvement, he has played a vital part in the growth and well-being of Grambling and the surrounding areas. He continues to be a proud entrepreneur and insurance agent, always driven by the joy and reward of serving the people and the institutions he loves.

The Thelma Smith Williams Community Service Award will be presented to the National Alliance on Mental Illness – Ruston, Chapter (NAMI Ruston) is a distinguished nonprofit organization with a rich 38-year history of serving individuals and families affected by mental health challenges. Founded by a dedicated group of 12 family members from Grambling and Ruston, NAMI Ruston has grown into a vital community resource with 250 active members and volunteers. NAMI Ruston's mission is to improve the lives of individuals, families, and communities impacted by mental health conditions through education, support, advocacy, and raising public awareness. Serving North and Central Louisiana, it stands as one of six affiliates in the state and is part of a larger national network, comprising over 700 affiliates across the country.

In 2022, NAMI Ruston was awarded a \$662,349.00 three-year contract from the Louisiana Department of Health – Office of Behavioral Health. This funding supports Postsecondary Education Peer Support Programs at Grambling State University, Louisiana State University – Shreveport, and Northwestern State University in Natchitoches. These programs provide crucial peer support for students navigating mental health challenges during their academic journeys, further expanding NAMI Ruston's reach and impact in the region. NAMI Ruston is guided by a dedicated leadership team committed to advancing mental health advocacy.

Through its unwavering commitment to advocacy and support, NAMI Ruston has become a cornerstone in Louisiana's mental health landscape. Its work em-



Julius Sumler

powers individuals, supports families, and educates communities, offering hope and help to those who need it most.

Pastor Julius Sumler will receive the Special Recognition Award.

In the heart of Grambling, Pastor Sumler stands as a beacon of wisdom, leadership, and faith-driven mentorship. His journey, deeply rooted in both academic achievement and extensive pastoral experience, positions him as a pivotal figure within his community. Since May 2002, Pastor Sumler has been a guiding light as the Pastor and Teacher at New Rocky Valley Missionary Baptist Church in Grambling. His academic path, characterized by a relentless pursuit of theological knowledge, sees him on the brink of earning a Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) degree from The New Testament Church School of Theology in Jonesboro, anticipated in 2024. His academic foundation was laid with a Master of Arts in Religion from the Baptist Missionary Association Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas, and a Bachelor of Science in Organization Management from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, complemented by his formative years at Carroll High School in Monroe.

Pastor Sumler's educational pursuits extend beyond his formal degrees, having engaged with esteemed institutions such as the American Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee, Shreveport Bible School in Shreveport, Louisiana, Grambling State University, and the Gary Job Corps in San Marcos, Texas. Each of these experiences has enriched his pastoral capabilities and deepened his commitment to academic excellence. The tapestry of Pastor Sumler's pastoral career began in January 1981 at St. Paul Baptist Church in West Monroe, Louisiana, weaving through various congregations including St. Mark Baptist Church in Keithville, Louisiana; Zion Hill Baptist Church in Ruston, Louisiana; and St. John Missionary Baptist Church in East Palo Alto, California, before culminating in his current role. In each position, he has embodied the dual role of Pastor and Teacher, fostering spiritual growth and educational empowerment. Over three decades of service, Pastor Julius Sumler has exemplified a life of devout leadership and community engagement.

His stewardship at New Rocky Valley Missionary Baptist Church stands as a testament to his profound influence on both his congregation and the broader Grambling community. The life and work of Pastor Julius Sumler exemplify a profound dedication to serving others through spiritual guidance and educational leadership. His continued scholarly pursuits in theology and organization management amplify his ability to nurture and lead his community effectively, marking him as an indispensable leader and an enduring source of spiritual inspiration.

LPRE honors area education retirees

By Joice M. Dunn

Lincoln Parish Retired Educators (LPRE) recently honored area education retirees during its October monthly meeting. Several officials were present to inform and welcome the educators.

Kay Prince, legislative liaison for the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association for district 10, talked about protecting retirement benefits. She explained the effects of both the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) on those receiving a government pension. Prince said according to Louisiana Representative Garrett Graves, the WEP impacts approximately two million social security beneficiaries, and the GPO affects around 800,000 retirees.



Dr. Martin Lemelle

“If a retiree or their spouse worked and paid into social security, these programs will cut the earned social security benefits,” Prince said. “If the spouse dies first, the surviving spouse will get no benefits. Some states have eliminated it, but Louisiana did not. Approximately 68 million social security beneficiaries across the country are affected.”

A proclamation, declaring Friday, Oct. 11 as LPRE Day in Grambling, was read by Delores Wilkerson-Smith, mayor pro tem, making the retirees feel more welcome.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Martin Lemelle Jr., the 11th president of Grambling State University, who first congratulated the group of retired educators for all their hard work and dedication. Lemelle said, “If there wasn’t a you, there would not be a me.”

Dr. Lemelle is a fifth-generation alum of GSU and a native of Grambling. He



Dr. Liz White and Delores Smith hold proclamation.

earned a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting from Grambling in 2006; a Masters of Business Administration from George Washington University, Washington D.C. in 2016 and a Doctorate in Business Administration degree from SKEMA School of Business, Paris, France in 2022.

Lemelle enlightened the crowd about the upcoming Student Services Center which will house Campus Living and Housing, the Center for Career and Professional Development, Admissions/Recruitment, Registrar and Financial Aid departments. He proudly informed the group about the progress of the university's nursing program.

“It was thrilling to hear that the GSU nursing BSN students achieved a 100% passing rate on the NCLEX exam for the last three consecutive years,” said Liz White, president of the LPRE. Lemelle encouraged the group to visit the recently dedicated only digital library in the state as well as at an Historical Black College/University (HBCU). He acknowledged the receipt of a \$2.1 million Hawkins Grant from the Biden-Harris administration to help sustain education, of which the school's outstanding Call Me MISTER program

was referenced. Several of the MISTERS were in attendance, serving as ushers and assisting retirees during the event.

The project provides tuition assistance through loan forgiveness programs for admitted students pursuing approved programs of study in teacher education.

The meeting began with an icebreaker where members of the group shared a meet and greet as they fellowshiped over refreshments.

“The work of these retired individuals has truly made our community a better place to live, work, and retire. So, we take this opportunity to thank them for staying involved and for making a positive difference,” said White, as she greeted the retirees.

“We wanted to let them know that their many years of service and the work they continue to do to impact our communities have not gone unnoticed,” she said.

The next LPRE meeting, Bill Jones, member of the L.P. Library Board of Control, is scheduled to speak for Thursday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. in the Lincoln Parish Community Room.

The public is invited to attend. For more information about LPRE, please send an email to: lrta.lpre@gmail.com.

Recipes of the Week

By Hazel Hunter

Spiced Tea

- 2 cups Tang instant breakfast
- 1 teaspoon of ground cinnamon
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- ½ teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 1/3 cups instant tea mix
- 2- or 3-ounce pkgs Lemonade mix
- Combine ingredients. To make a quart, ¼ cup of mix.

Cream Cheesecake

- 3 sticks of butter
- 7 eggs
- 3 cups of sugar
- 4 cups of cake flour
- 1 – 8 oz package Philadelphia cream cheese
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 2 teaspoons Vanilla flavor
- Blend sugar, vanilla, cream cheese and butter in a large bowl until light until light and fluffy. Mix dry ingredients together. Add to first mixture alternately with dry mixture and one egg. (Start with dry mixture and end with dry mixture). Pour into 10” greased and floured tube tube pan. Bake at 350 degrees for one hour and 15 minutes or until done.

Campus Corner

HOMECOMING from page 1

Alumni Band Takes Field At Halftime



Photo provided by GSU Marching Band



Photo by T. Valentino

Miss GSU and Court with Dr. Lemelle



Photo by T. Valentino

GSU Band & Orchesis On Field



Photo by T. Valentino

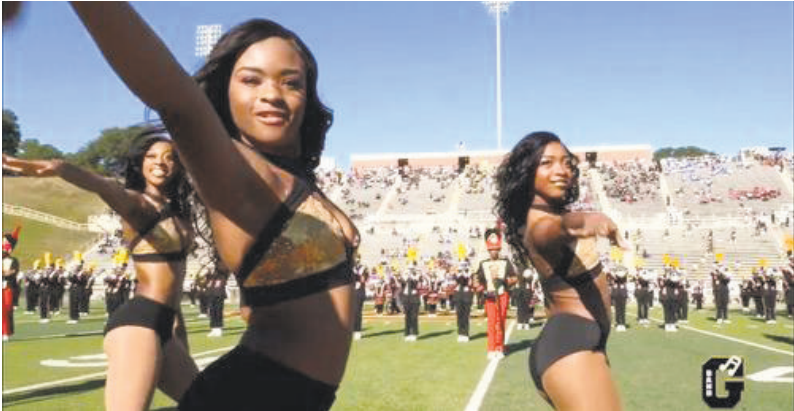


Photo provided by GSU Marching Band



Photo provided by GSU Marching Band

Alumni At Glo Party



Photo by E. Glenn Lewis

GSU Football Game



Photo by T. Valentino



Photo by Grambling Athletics

Alumni Beyond Breakfast Event



Photo by E. Glenn Lewis



Photo by E. Glenn Lewis



Photo by E. Glenn Lewis



Photo by E. Glenn Lewis

Grambling State to Name Foyer in Honor of ‘Academic Icon’ Dr. Lamore J. Carter

GSU Office of Strategic Communications

On Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, Grambling State University hosted a special ceremony to dedicate the foyer inside the Charles P. Adams Hall in honor of Dr. Lamore J. Carter, a decorated World War II veteran, esteemed scholar, and former vice president for academic affairs. Dr. Carter, who served the University for over 40 years, was instrumental in the development of key academic programs and advancing Grambling’s mission. He is also remembered for his leadership in the historic consent decree that secured critical funding and legal protections for the University.

The newly named foyer will serve as a lasting tribute to Dr. Lamore J. Carter’s legacy of academic excellence and leadership. His efforts in establishing key programs, including nursing, criminal justice, and computer science, earned him the title “The Academic Icon.” University leadership, faculty, students, and the community attended this dedication ceremony to honor Dr. Carter’s enduring contributions.



Dr. Lamore J. Carter

Grambling State Founder’s Week Coming To An End

(Grambling, LA) Grambling State University’s celebration of Founder’s week ends this Friday, November 1, 2024. Founded on November 1, 1901, as the Colored Industrial and Agricultural School, Grambling State University has evolved into a global institution. Initially established by the North Louisiana Colored Agriculture Relief Association, the school transformed into a state junior college and later became Grambling College in 1946, expanding its academic offerings. The institution earned accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in 1949 and adopted its current name in 1974 with the introduction of graduate programs. What started with three teachers and 125 students has grown into a global brand that has produced over 40,000 graduates and boasts a student body representing 44 states and 30 countries. As the nation’s only HBCU with a Digital Library building, Grambling State University continues to cultivate an environment that empowers students to become trailblazers, thought leaders, and innovators.

Sports

Homecoming Victory

Grambling State Triumphs Over UAPB 31-21

By Grambling State Athletics

GRAMBLING, La. | The Grambling State University football earned a hard-fought 31-21 victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff, sending the homecoming crowd of 17,135 satisfied on Saturday afternoon at Eddie G. Robinson Memorial Stadium.

The victory gave GSU (4-3 overall, 1-2 SWAC) its first conference win of the season. It was also head coach Micky Joseph's first SWAC win as a head coach. UAPB fell to 2-5 and 1-2 in the SWAC play.

The Tigers rolled up 310 yards on total offense with 175 coming through the air and 130 coming via the run game.

GSU starting quarterback Myles Crawley was an efficient 15-of-25 for 170 yards and one touchdown. His top receiving target was Javon Robinson who caught four passes for 28 yards, but it was tight end Marquis Harris who led the receiving corps in yards with one catch for 71 yards and a TD.

Backup QB Ashton Frye also saw action, completing 3-of-5 passes for five yards.

Three GSU running backs found the end zone on Saturday, with Ke'Travion Hargrove, Tre Bradford and Dedrick Talbert all finding pay dirt. Hargrove led the Tigers with 75 yards on 10 carries.

Andrew Jones and David Jones led the Grambling State defense. Andrew Jones registered a game-high 12 total tackles with 4.5 tackles for loss and 0.5 sacks. David Jones registered nine total stops, 0.5 TFLs and an interception.

Grambling State's first touchdown of the day was set up by a blocked punt by Marquis Harris, starting the scoring drive at the UAPB 21-yard line. Bradford gave the Tigers a 7-0 lead with 9:00 remaining in the quarter on a 7-yard run.

Arkansas-Pine-Bluff drove 75 yards on 13 plays on the ensuing, tying the game on a 2-yard TD reception by Isaac Jaxon with 4:34 on the clock.

GSU blacked its second punt of the game in the second quarter when Ken Pierre-Charles deflected a ball that rolled



Photo by T. Valentino

GSU Player Sprints Up Field Against UAPB.

out of bounds at the Tigers' 35-yard line. Reed Harradine pushed GSU's lead to 10-7 on a 48-yard field goal with 10:29 to go until halftime. That score would remain going into the break.

Grambling State used a 12-play, 64-yard drive on its opening drive of the third quarter to push its lead to 17-7. Hargrove scored on a 15-yard scamper into the end zone.

After UAPB cut the lead to 17-14 with 3:39 to go in the third, GSU quickly responded when Crawley connected with Harris on a 71-yard touchdown pass,

stretching Grambling's lead to 24-14 with 2:01 left in the quarter.

The Golden Lions continued to stick around, however. Arkansas-Pine Bluff made it a 24-21 game with 14:05 remaining in the game on a 12-yard TD pass from Mekhi Hagins to Kristian Gammage.

The Grambling State defense came up with the biggest stop of the game with 1:46 left. With UAPB backed up at their own 9-yard line and facing fourth and 12, David Jones batted a pass away from Golden Lions receiver Aramoni Rhone.

One play later, Dedrick Talbert sprinted into the end zone for a 9-yard score and secure the homecoming victory for the Tigers.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff tallied 332 total yards of offense with 230 of those coming through the air. Hagins led the UAPB air attack completing 27-of-41 passes with two TDs and one interception. He also added a rushing touchdown to his stat line.

The Golden Lions ran for 102 yards with Za'Marion Webber gaining 93 yards on 15 attempts.

Grambling State Extends Contracts of Four Head Coaches

By Grambling State Athletics

GRAMBLING, La. | Grambling State University Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics Dr. Trayvean Scott announced contract extensions for head softball coach Nekeya Hall, head women's soccer coach Justin Wagar, head women's volleyball coach Paige Phillips and head baseball coach Davin Pierre, on Thursday afternoon.

Hall and Wagar received two-year contract extension that will run through Dec. 2027. Phillips also earned a two-year extension goes through June 2028.

Pierre picked up a three-year extension that's set to run through May 2028.

Each contract extension has been approved by the University of Louisiana System (ULS) Board of Supervisors.

"Grambling State University is thrilled to extend the contracts of coaches Nekeya Hall, Paige Phillips, Davin Pierre and Justin Wagar. Their commitment to excellence, leadership, and the wholistic development of our student-athletes have been exceptional," said Dr. Trayvean Scott, Vice President for Intercollegiate Athletics. "Each coach brings a unique strength to our athletic programs, and we are confident that



their continued contributions will elevate our teams to new heights."

Hall has ushered in a new era of success for the Grambling State softball program. She is third all-time in wins at GSU (102) and had the highest winning percentage in the history of the program (.434). In 2023, she led the Tigers to the SWAC Championship game, the first time GSU had advanced that far since 2001.

Wagar, who is currently in his sixth

season leading the GSU women's soccer program, has been one of the most dominant soccer coaches in Grambling State history. He's currently first in all-time wins at GSU, currently sporting a 67-47-13 record. Last season, he captured his first SWAC Tournament Championship and NCAA Tournament berth. He's led the Tigers to two SWAC regular season crowns and four SWAC title game appearances.

Since taking over the Grambling

State women's volleyball program in 2022, Phillips has kept the Lady Tiger in the top half of the SWAC. In just her first season, she led GSU to the No. 3 seed in the SWAC Tournament, the program's highest since 2009.

Head baseball coach Davin Pierre assumed the reins of the GSU baseball program in 2022 after spending 12 seasons as an assistant. In just his third season as head coach, Pierre led GSU to a SWAC Tournament championship and clinched the Tigers' first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 2010. Pierre has proven to be one of the elite coaches in the SWAC, sporting a 60-25 record in conference play. With an 81-85 overall record, he's third in winning percentage (.488) just behind Grambling Legends Wilbert Ellis (.594) and Ralph Waldo Emerson Jones (.703).

FOLLOW GRAMBLING STATE ATHLETICS

For complete coverage of Grambling State Athletics, please follow the Tigers on social media at @GSU_Tigers (Twitter), /GramblingStateTigers1901 (Facebook), @gramblingathletics (Instagram) or visit the official home of Grambling State Athletics at gsutigers.com.

Grambling State Triumphs Over Texas Southern 3-1

GRAMBLING, La. | The Grambling State University women's soccer team beat Texas Southern University 3-1 Sunday morning at the GSU Soccer Complex.

The scoring began in the 6th minute when Whitney Walker found the net for Grambling State, assisted by Olivia Kowall. Just minutes later, in the 10th minute, Victoria Pucci equalized for Texas Southern (6-8-2, 5-1-1), assisted by Isabella Dillow.

Grambling State regained control in the second half, with Ronya Halleen scoring in the 56th minute, assisted by Jayla Gage.

Gage herself made an impact later in the match, scoring her 13th goal of the season in the 71st minute, with an assist from Charlotte Cuthbertson.

The victory marked a strong performance for Grambling State, who now stand at 7-8-3 overall and 5-2-0 in the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC).

HOW IT HAPPENED

Grambling State started strong with Whitney Walker scoring in the 5th minute. Texas Southern equalized shortly after with a goal from Victoria Pucci. However, Grambling surged ahead, with Ronya Halleen and Jayla Gage adding goals in the second half, leading to the 3-1 victory.



GSU Women dominates on soccer field against Texas Southern.

Clean Out Your Closet For
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NOVEMBER 17-23

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