



# GSU ALUMNI NEWS

VOLUME I, ISSUE I

JUNE 2008

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President Judson Visits with Alums in Texas
- President's Scholarship Dinner-Theatre
- Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month
- Institutional Advancement Wins Awards at CASE Conference

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## Class of 1958 Celebrates 50th-Year Class Reunion



Dr. Horace A. Judson (center), Talea Mayo, 2008 Spring Top Graduate (Far Left), and the 50-Year Reunion Graduates

During the 2008 Spring Commencement, the Class of 1958 celebrated its 50th year class reunion. The class participated in events planned over a three-day period. The events were: A Get Acquainted Activity in the Favrot Student Union Building Atrium held that Friday, May 16, 2008 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. On Saturday, May 17, the activities began at 11:00 AM with a Luncheon in the Favrot Student Union — Black and Gold Room; Campus Tour, Class Meeting, Ice Cream Party and Commencement Rehearsal; and on Sunday, May 18, a Continental Breakfast at 8:45AM, Photo Session at 9:30 AM; at 10:00 AM the Graduation Ceremony.

Fiftieth year graduates participating in the activities were: Mary E. Pegues Anderson, Shreveport, LA; Verge Ausberry, New Iberia, LA; Gloria Conley Bailey, Los Angeles, CA; Freddie Banks, Alexandria, LA; Dorothy Wright Brown, Winnsboro, LA; Jimmy Cato, Oakland, CA; Sherman Cottingham, Macomb, MI; Sterling G. Dyer, Sr.; Haynesville, LA; Hazel Dudley, Shreveport, LA; Johnny "Fannie" Toombs Everfield, Monroe, LA; Leander Gray, III; Lafayette, LA; Beatrice Hall Griffin, Shreveport, LA; Rev. Henry Island, Grambling, LA; Donald Jones, Fort Washington, PA; Leon E. Larce, Sr., Lake Charles, LA; Dr. Prentiss Love, Monroe, LA; Eleanor Wayne Lowery, Los Angeles, CA; Sadie A. Ludley, Grambling, LA; Jean Hampton Kelly, Arcadia, LA; Edward Mason, Arcadia, LA; Lloyd J. Parker, Shreveport, LA; Dr. Leola Robertson, Baton Rouge, LA; Marion Harrang Roy, Gretna, LA; Robert M. Smith, Ruston, LA; Louis C. Thomas, Carson, CA; Louise C. Townsend, Arcadia, LA; and Annie Bell Dickerson January Williams, Austin, TX.

Pictures of activities associated with the 50th-Year Reunion: Registration, Class Meeting, Get Acquainted Activity, and Graduation





## UPCOMING EVENTS

—JUNE 6—  
ALUMNI  
RELATIONS  
VISIT  
TO  
JACKSON,  
MISSISSIPPI  
HOME OF  
DRS. RICHARD &  
EDITH RAYFORD

—JUNE 21—  
BIRMINGHAM  
CHAPTER'S  
ANNUAL  
BLACK & GOLD  
SCHOLARSHIP  
LUNCHEON  
11:00 AM  
HILTON  
BIRMINGHAM,  
ALABAMA

—AUGUST 22—  
TOM JOYNER  
FOUNDATION  
SCHOOL OF  
THE MONTH  
FUNDRAISING  
EVENT  
GRAMBLING  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
CAMPUS

—AUGUST 30—  
GSU  
VS.  
NEVADA  
RENO, NEVADA

## President Judson Visits with Alums in Texas



### Douglas L. Williams Alumni Chapter

The Douglas L. Williams Alumni Chapter and the Houston Alumni Chapter of the Grambling University National Alumni Association welcomed potential GSU students, President and Mrs. Judson, Coach Rod Broadway, GSU Admissions staff, along with members of the university's Advancement Office traveled to Houston— Bayou City Style— during the month of March. The topic of discussion was GSU's strategic plan to raise \$30 million dollars, which will be used to enrich and enhance Grambling State University. President Judson elaborated on the role that the alumni could play in helping to ensure that the plan is a success. An invitation was extended for membership into the Black & Gold Foundation.

The Douglas L. Williams Chapter met at the LaQuinta Inn & Suites – Galleria where Grambling graduate Kenya Jones is the Cluster Director of Sales. The evening also included a delicious meal catered by Minnie's Cuisine, networking, photo opportunities along with the viewing of a display of the works of the Douglas L. Williams Alumni Chapter and DLW Scholarship & Charitable Foundation.

Students from the Houston area are encouraged to visit the chapter at [www.GSUHoustonAlumni.com](http://www.GSUHoustonAlumni.com) and the foundation at [www.Help2Educate.net](http://www.Help2Educate.net) for information concerning annual scholarship opportunities as well as other activities. The chapter is continuing to be "Committed to Bridging the Gap."

*Special thanks to Veronica Manning and Sue Fezell for their assistance in supplying information relative to this article.*



Photos from the Chapter meetings in Houston, Texas



## Student-Alum in the Spotlight

Talea Mayo recently received notification that she had earned a perfect score of 800 on the mathematics portion of the Graduate Record Examination. The GRE is the test that is required by most schools for acceptance into graduate programs.

During this same time, she received a communication from Harvard University informing her of the fact that she had been admitted to their School of Engineering and Applied Sciences' Ph. D. program.

Talea was born in Colorado Springs and attended high school in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. She was introduced to Grambling State University at a young age when her mother pointed out the Grambling State University Marching Band. She chose to attend Grambling State University as a result of its strength in academic programs, its location, and its full scholarship award.

She began her studies during the fall of 2004 as a criminal justice major. Talea's love for mathematics resulted in her enrolling in a Calculus III course during her first semester, even though this course was not required in her then major. Dr. Sharma, teacher for the class, quickly noticed this freshman in a class of juniors and seniors. She had a passion for mathematics and exceptional abilities. Dr. Sharma soon convinced Talea to

change her major to mathematics.

As a mathematics major, Talea continues to consistently distinguish herself. She currently has a 3.97 grade point average, maintaining this average while being a member of the Tiger Marching Band, a member of the Concert Band, and a member of the Minority Access for Research Careers (MARC) program.

Talea has participated in three summer internships. She made an effort to choose internships that would broaden her exposure to mathematics being applied to different areas of science. One of the internships allowed her to use mathematics to study genetic networks. Another internship had an atmospheric science research focus, and the third had a planetary science focus. These summer experiences assisted her in determining the graduate program she wants to pursue.



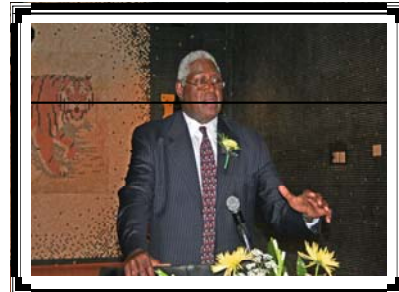
**Talea Mayo was also named the 2008 Spring Commencement Top Graduate with an overall GPA of 3.97. As a Mathematics major, she earned a perfect score on Mathematics component of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). She will pursue a Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics, and a Career in scientific research. Pamela and Frank Isom, and Tony Mayo are her parents.**



*Alumni Relations salutes Talea Mayo*

## Alums in the Spotlight

Willis Reed, former Grambling great basketball player and National Basketball Association Hall of Famer, was the speaker at the Annual Tiger Football Banquet held on March 13, 2008 in the Black and Gold Room of the Favrot Student Union. Mr. Reed stressed to the student-athletes the importance of earning a college degree.



*Willis Reed speaks to student-athletes at the Annual Tiger Football Banquet.*

## President's Scholarship Dinner-Theatre

The Grambling Black & Gold Foundation, Inc., sponsored the first Dr. Horace A. Judson Annual Dinner-Theatre Scholarship Gala. The President's Dinner-Theatre Scholarship Gala is designed to provide cultural enrichment for the campus and broaden community involvement while raising scholarship funds that will allow the University to continue to recruit the best and brightest students nationwide.

Dr. King Godwin, the new chairperson of the Speech and Theatre Department, directed this year's musical production—"Bubbling Brown Sugar" by Lofton Mitchell. This production featured GSU's best among Theatre, Music, Dance and Arts Departments.

The musical production took place in the GSU Assembly Center. The audience was taken back in time to the roaring '20s as the cast presented "block-buster" performances on Friday, April 18 and Saturday, April 19. The production featured GSU's Theatre Department, Band Ensemble, Orchesis Dance Company, and an art auction by the Art Department.



Pictured Top: President Judson & Mrs. Judson with Grambling Black & Gold Foundation, Inc. Members and cast ; Center: Cast; Bottom: Dr. Judson with cast

## GSU SELECTED AS A TOM JOYNER FOUNDATION SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

The Tom Joyner Foundation selects a specific Historically Black College/University (HBCU) each month to focus on its fundraising efforts. Grambling State University has been selected as the School of the Month (SOTM) for August 2008.

All active Alumni chapters/clubs/groups are invited to participate in the Chapter Challenge. All chapters/clubs/groups that raise a minimum of \$5,000 or more will be included in the on-air chapter roll call announced on the Tom Joyner Morning Show during the last week of the SOTM awareness month.

The Tom Joyner Foundation (TJF) will sponsor "College Day" at GSU on August 21-22, 2008. During this time, the TJF will provide and all-expense paid trip for fifteen (15) high school students to visit the campus and meet with University officials.

The Tom Joyner Foundation is a certified, 501-c3 (not-for-profit organization), established for the purpose of helping students continue their education at HBCUs. The organization is managed by a team of dedicated individuals that are committed to furthering the vision of the Foundation. For more information on the Tom Joyner Foundation, go to web address: [www.blackamerica.web.com.site.aspx/foundation/donation](http://www.blackamerica.web.com.site.aspx/foundation/donation).

The fundraising efforts will begin August 1 through August 31, 2008. Your participation is encouraged, and we look forward to hearing your chapter's/club's/group's name called in August.



## Institutional Advancement Wins Awards at CASE Conference



ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE (L TO R) BRENDA WILLIAMS, DR. GAIL SHORTER-JUDSON, RALPH WILSON, VALENCIA CLEMONS, AND SIMONE JAMES

Several members of the University's Institutional Advancement Staff recently attended the Council for Advancement of Support of Education (CASE) District IV Conference held in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 5-9, 2008

CASE helps its members build stronger relationships with their alumni and donors, raise funds for campus projects, produce recruitment materials, market their institutions to prospective students, diversify the profession, and foster public support of education. CASE also offers a variety of advancement products and services, provides standards and an ethical framework for the profession, and works with other organizations to respond to public issues of concern, while promoting the importance of education worldwide.

The CASE Awards Pro-

gram recognizes outstanding work in institutional advancement within each district. Each institution gets a chance to showcase its Alumni Relations, Fundraising & Development, Marketing & Communications, and Advancement Services projects. Grambling State University won the following awards: Best Use of Volunteers: Major Gifts/Campaign — Gold Award; Outstanding Advancement Services Initiatives: Advancing GSU for Excellence — Gold Award Best Improved Alumni Program — Bronze Award; Multimedia Programs (CD ROM/Disk): Institutional Advancement, Information Technology, Marketing & Communications, "Here Comes the Sun" — Bronze Award; and Most Improved Program: Annual Giving Program — Pewter Award.

## Alumni Office Participates in Gradfest

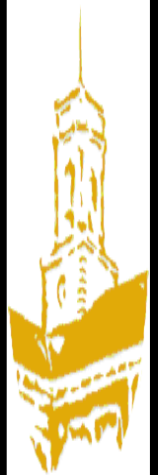
In March, The Alumni Relations Office participated in the Barnes and Noble Bookstore Gradfest. Gradfest allows Seniors the opportunity to order graduation regalia, take graduation pictures, order invitations, speak with representatives from the School of Graduate Studies and Research, Student Financial Aid, the Registrar's Office, Career Services, and Alumni Relations. Each student that visited the Alumni Relations booth was given an Alumni Bookmark and asked to register for a chance to win a Grambling State University T-shirt. (Pictured below— Kandice Wilson (right), the winner of the T-shirt; along with Mr. Ralph Wilson (left), Interim Director of Alumni Relations.)



## BEYOND THE STEEPLE

Remembering fallen Gramblinites this academic year...

- JOE DOUGLAS, FARMERVILLE, LA
- LAQUITA BRYANT, WINNFIELD, LA
- GLORIA MANUEL JOHNSON, NATCHITOCHEs, LA
- MYRA FREEDMAN, NATCHITOCHEs, LA;
- (CANE RIVER)
- MYLUS MONDAY, JR., LOS ANGELES, CA
- MATTHEW THOMAS, VILLE PLATTE, LA





## OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

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 GRAMBLING, LA 71245

*Reclaiming Our Legacy and Claiming Our Place*



### *Mission*

THE ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE ASSISTS GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY (GSU) IN PROMOTING GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALUMNI, STUDENTS, PARENTS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS OF GSU, WHILE STRENGTHENING THE TIES OF LOYALTY AND DEVOTION TO GSU IN FURTHERING THE INTEREST OF THE UNIVERSITY.

### *Contact Us*

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ALUMNI, CONTACT MRS. GLENDA JONES, MRS. VALENCIA CLEMONS OR MR. RALPH WILSON IN THE OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS, GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY.

[www.gram.edu/  
alumni/news.asp](http://www.gram.edu/alumni/news.asp)

*Let's Roar in Reno!*



### GSU TIGERS vs. NEVADA STATE WOLF PACK

SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 30, 2008

—OFFICIAL ALUMNI HOTEL—  
**THE PEPPERMILL**  
 2707 SOUTH VIRGINIA STREET  
 RENO, NV 89502  
 (800) 648-6992 OR  
 (775) 826-2121

#### **GSU ALUMNI ACTIVITIES:**

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2008  
 WORLD-FAMED TIGER MARCHING BAND  
 PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2008  
 ALUMNI BREAKFAST WITH  
 PRESIDENT HORACE A. JUDSON — \$22.50  
 CALL (318) 274-6265  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION

ROOM RATE: \$118 / \$218  
 ASK FOR  
 GRAMBLING BLACK & GOLD FOUNDATION BLOCK  
 (GROUP CODE: LGRBGF8)



## 2008 TIGER FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT/ EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
08-30-08	@ NEVADA	RENO, NEVADA	6:00 PM
09-06-08	VS. ALCORN STATE	GRAMBLING	6:00 PM
09-13-08	@ NORTHWESTERN STATE	NATCHITOCHE, LOUISIANA	6:00 PM
09-20-08	VS. JACKSON STATE	GRAMBLING	6:00PM
09-27-08	VS. LANGSTON	GRAMBLING	3:00 PM
10-04-08	VS. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M (SOUTHWEST AIRLINES STATE FAIR CLASSIC)	DALLAS, TEXAS	6:00PM
10-11-08	@ ALABAMA A&M	HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA	2:00 PM
10-18-08	VS. ALABAMA STATE (HOMECOMING)	GRAMBLING	2:00PM
11-01-08	@ MISSISSIPPI VALLEY	ITTA BENA, MISSISSIPPI	1:00 PM
11-08-08	VS. ARKANSAS-PB (DELTA CLASSIC 4 LITERACY)	LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS	4:00 PM
11-20-08	@ TEXAS SOUTHERN	HOUSTON, TEXAS	8:00 PM
11-29-08	VS. SOUTHERN (BAYOU CLASSIC XXXV)	NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	1:00 PM