

TIGER HAPPENINGS

"Where everybody is somebody."



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Ellis Holds Free Baseball Clinic for Local Kids

Around 140 boys and girls ages 4-16 learned about baseball basics, as well as some important life lessons, during the free sixth annual Wilbert Ellis Baseball Clinic held July 26 at Frazier Field in Ruston.

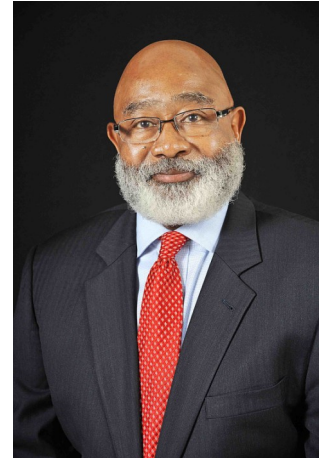
"The camp was a real success," said Wilbert Ellis, former head baseball coach at Grambling State University. "It's always a thrill because I always like to give back something to the community and the kids."

Not only did the kids learn how to play baseball through sessions on batting, defense and pitching with former Major League Baseball players as instructors, they also learned important life lessons through enrichment sessions. About 75 parents attended the enrichment sessions as well.

"The kids love baseball, and the kids learn a lot about life through baseball, like how to stay away from drugs, making good grades, making the right decisions, and having the will in life to change for the better," Ellis said. ([read more](#))



Deveron Cage, 3, blasts a hit during Saturday's Wilbert Ellis Baseball Clinic at Ruston's Fraser Field. Photo courtesy of Scott Boatright/Ruston Daily Leader.



Willie D. Larkin, Ph.D.
President

President's Corner

After accepting the position of ninth president of Grambling State University, I was shocked, and, at the same time, saddened to learn that alumni were giving less than one percent. Tragically, this fact was even more discouraging and disconcerting given that Grambling has such a rich, prestigious and honorable history. Since that number was so low, I suspected there must be an error in the reporting. To validate my suspicion, I went back and conducted a ([read more](#))

Red River State Fair Classic Tickets on Sale August 4!



The Grambling Tigers will face Texas Southern University on November 7 in Shreveport. Kickoff is scheduled for 2 p.m. at Independence Stadium. Tickets go on sale August 4 and can be purchased at the State Fair Office, the Independence Bowl Office, the Shreveport Federal Credit Union and www.ticketmaster.com.



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Atlanta Hawks Paul Millsap Donates \$50,000 to Grambling High School

Atlanta Hawks NBA All-Star forward Paul Millsap was honored at the Champions Tour Kickoff held July 20 at Grambling State University. The purpose of the tour is to spotlight hometown talent. Millsap is a native of Monroe, Louisiana, attended Grambling High School and played college basketball at Louisiana Tech.

While visiting his home state of Louisiana, Millsap made several charitable donations, including \$50,000 to his alma mater Grambling High School and \$30,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Northeast Louisiana. He was also granted the key to the city of Grambling.

"All too often our youth look to athletes or entertainers from afar, and yet we are fortunate and favored to have many who have excelled in their professions who are homegrown," State Representative Patrick Jefferson said.



Lt. Col. Gordon Ford (left), Atlanta Hawks Forward Paul Millsap (center), and Grambling President Willie Larkin (right).

GSU Alumnae to Publish Children's Book about Grambling's History



Kimberly Monroe

Kimberly Monroe wrote her first book entitled "Homecoming in Tiger Land" to give back to the university and shed light on the importance of reading as a child. "It's a work in progress, but I have stayed persistent and positive," Monroe said. "I've always wanted to write a book but I didn't know my first one would be for children."

The 2015 graduate of Grambling State University and the former editor-in-chief of The Gramblinite newspaper has always had a passion for writing and storytelling. She felt as an alumnae that creating the children's book was the most creative way she could give back to an institution that has taught her so much.

The purpose of the book is to expose and encourage children to learn more about college at a young age. ([read more](#))

Grambling State University Opens Electronic Suggestion Box

Do you have a good idea to help make Grambling State University even better? We want to hear it! Grambling has launched an electronic suggestion box to encourage students, faculty, staff, alumni and anyone interested in helping Grambling State University to send in their suggestions for the university. The suggestions will be reviewed by President Willie Larkin and top university leaders.

"We want to know what people are thinking and feeling about the university and sincerely welcome suggestions on how to improve GSU through the services we offer," President Larkin said. "The purpose of the box is to allow anyone to go online and make suggestions about how to improve GSU. Your suggestion matters!"



We Want Your Suggestions!!!



Complete the online suggestion form and be heard!

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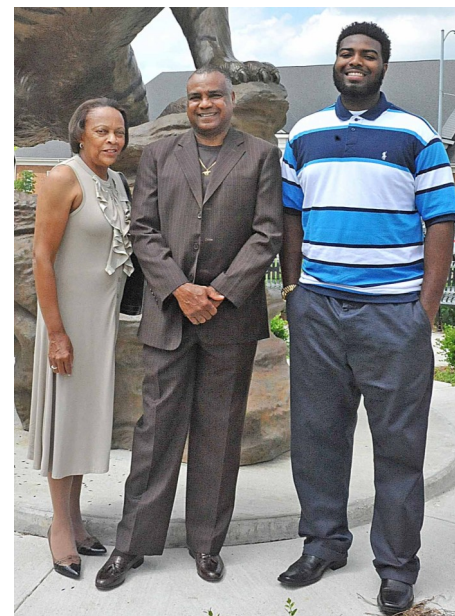
Grambling Alumni Begin Scholarship in Honor of Brother Killed During Vietnam War

Anyone who knew Perry Thompson would say he was a good man. The New Iberia native was a protective older brother who watched out for his little brother, served his country and dreamed of playing football for legendary Coach Eddie Robinson at Grambling State University.

Perry Thompson graduated from Jonas Henderson High School in 1967 and was set to attend Grambling in the fall, though he never got the chance to fulfill his dreams. Perry Thompson died in 1968, half a world away from Louisiana, while serving in the Vietnam War. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his bravery and sacrifice.

Perry's younger brother, Don Thompson, never forgot about his big brother's desire to attend Grambling, and now he is helping other New Iberia residents fulfill their dreams of attending Grambling.

Thompson and his wife, Berdell, set up a scholarship in honor of Perry. The Perry E. Thompson Non-Endowed Memorial Scholarship awards two \$2,500 scholarships to Grambling students from New Iberia who are incoming or second-semester freshmen in good academic standing with at least a 2.5 GPA and involved in extra-curricular activities. ([read more](#))



Berdell (left) and Don Thompson (middle) stand with Davante' Brown (right), a freshman majoring in sports management.

Grambling Student Named Co-chair of NAACP Youth and College Division



Chris Bethley

Chris Bethley, vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Grambling State University Youth & College Chapter, attended the 106 NAACP National Convention held July 11-15 in Philadelphia. Bethley is a senior majoring in sports management and was the sole representative of Grambling State University at the national convention.

During the convention, Bethley attended meetings, heard exhilarating speeches, had the privilege of hearing President Barack Obama speak, and accepted the challenge to continue to work with the NAACP. During the convention's elections for regional positions within the state of Louisiana. Bethley won the title of co-chair of the Region VI Youth & College Division.

Bethley's plea is that all students of GSU join the largest and the oldest civil rights organization in America. "By joining the NAACP Grambling State University Youth & College Chapter, students can say they helped pave the way for generations to come," he said.

Giving back is your best gift, [donations accepted here.](#)

Questions, additions or comments? Contact mediarelations@gram.edu or call 318-274-2866.