

# TIGER HAPPENINGS

*"Where everybody is somebody."*



Volume 2, Issue 17, Oct. 1, 2015

## Grambling Celebrates 114 Years of Excellence



**Grambling State University leaders open Founder's Week with a ceremony at the bust of Grambling's founder, Charles P. Adams, on Sept. 28.**

In 1901, the Colored Industrial and Agricultural School emerged from the desire of African-American farmers in rural, northern Louisiana to educate their children and inspire them to pursue a better life. Now, 114 years later, Grambling celebrated the vision of its founder, Charles P. Adams, to help people pursue their dreams of obtaining a college education with a Founder's Day Convocation on Sept. 29.

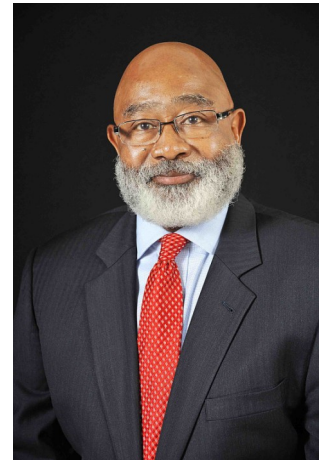
Founder's Day Convocation Speaker Eddie Martin followed his older sister to Grambling State University in 1981 to begin the "start of something special."

"I arrived at Grambling State University with a pocket full of dreams, a solid foundation of faith and with the idea that one day I am going to get a good job," Martin said. "During those four years, it took a lot of work and determination." ([read more](#))

## Grambling Remembers Doris Robinson

Family, friends and loved ones of Doris Robinson, the wife of legendary Coach Eddie Robinson, honored her at a Celebration of Life service at T.H. Harris Auditorium on Sept. 24. Mrs. Robinson, who passed away at the age of 96, was fondly remembered by her friends, family and loved ones as the First Lady of Football, the Matriarch of Grambling Athletics, and the First Lady of Fashion, as she was dubbed by longtime friend, Pauline Lee.

"Now most people talk about Doris as the first lady of football. She was also the first lady of fashion. If you wanted to keep up with the latest style or fashion, all you had to do was check what Doris was wearing." ([read more](#))



**Willie D. Larkin, Ph.D.**  
President

### President's Corner

Our venerable institution is alive, strong and doing well, and we will continue to grow stronger in the days to come. Ignore those who speak ill of Grambling State University. Ignore those who say ours is "just another HBCU" on its way to extinction. HBCUs and GSU are neither dead nor dying. We will not move over. We will not step aside. We will not give up. We will make progress. We will survive. We will thrive. Grambling State's best years are ahead. Higher education is central to individual and community success, and we must continue to see it as a central element for our young people and those seeking to get ahead. ([read more](#))



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## Grambling Professors Show the Importance of Giving Back to the Community

Three Grambling State University professors were honored for their service learning work during the 2014-2015 school year at the Lunch, Learn and Appreciate event on Sept. 24.

Mary Ghongkedze, an assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, Matt Sheptoski, an assistant professor of sociology, and Catherine Bonner, a lecturer of English, were selected from more than 80 projects to receive the Banner Recognition for Outstanding Service Learning Projects.

"They were chosen for having outstanding, good projects. We look at all the projects and see which ones have great impact. We have a lot of outstanding projects, so it is hard to narrow them down," said Rory Bedford, director of the Office of Service Learning.

After touring Richwood Correctional Center in Monroe last year, Grambling's Psychology and Sociology club members asked their adviser, Sheptoski, if they could organize a book drive to collect more reading materials for Richwood's small library. Sheptoski, along with club President Jack Chandler, delivered more than 225 books for the inmates at Richwood. ([read more](#))



**Shown from left to right are President Willie Larkin, Matt Sheptoski, an assistant professor of sociology, Beatrice McKinsey standing in for Catherine Bonner, a lecturer of English, Mary Ghongkedze, an assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, and Rory Bedford, director of Service Learning.**

## Purchase Tickets for the Red River State Fair Classic Today!

The Red River State Fair Classic is returning to Shreveport! Grambling fans will not want to miss the opportunity to see the return of this great college football rivalry as the Tigers battle Texas Southern University at 2 p.m. on Nov. 7. The game will be held at Shreveport's Independence Stadium during the final weekend of the State Fair.

Game-day activities include tailgating, a parade at noon from the Fairground Baseball Field to Independence Stadium, kickoff at 2 p.m. and the Battle of the Bands halftime performance. Tickets can be purchased at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or at Grambling Ticket Office, Independence Stadium, Shreveport Federal Credit Union, Barksdale Air Force Base or the State Fair of Louisiana. For more information, visit <http://reddriverstatefairclassic.com>.





# SHOW YOUR STRIPES

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## Carroll High School Athletic Complex Named After James “Shack” Harris



**James Harris**

Grambling State University alumnus James “Shack” Harris is returning to his high school alma mater, Carroll High School in Monroe, where the high school’s athletic complex will be named in his honor as part of the school’s Homecoming celebration on Oct. 2.

“It’s a great honor because that’s where I got my start. Carroll High School prepared me for college and the rest of my life. It’s really a great honor because so many others could have been chosen. I am excited to be back at Homecoming to watch the Bulldogs win!” Harris said.

Carroll High School Football Coach Jackie Hamilton had the idea to name the athletic complex after Harris. He cannot imagine a better role model for the students at Carroll High School than Harris, who has always taken an active role in the high school.

“He was one of those guys that always made the school proud of him,” said Hamilton. “He was a great quarterback here, then he went off to Grambling. I was younger, but I always looked up to him since he was such a class act.”

Harris played as a quarterback for legendary Coach Eddie Robinson at Grambling, where he set a new passing yardage record with 4,705 yards. Harris was drafted to the Buffalo Bills in 1969, where he became the first Black quarterback to start an entire season as a professional football player. During his 12-year career, he also played for the Los Angeles Rams and San Diego Chargers. Harris retired from his position as a senior personnel executive with the Detroit Lions in February. ([read more](#))

## Homecoming Golf Classic Renamed in Honor of Founder Fred Hearn, Jr.



The Grambling University National Alumni Association is holding the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Golf Classic Homecoming weekend. The classic will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 at Trails End Golf Course in Arcadia. All proceeds will provide scholarships for Grambling State University students.

The tournament has been renamed the Fred D. Hearn, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Golf Classic, in honor of the tournament’s founder, Fred Hearn, Jr., who passed away on March 2. Hearn was a 1965 graduate of Grambling who gave his time, money and expertise to create the golf tournament to raise money for student scholarships at Grambling. A short memorial and renaming ceremony will be held at 8:45 a.m.

**Fred Hearn, Jr.**

Hearn graduated from GSU in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Industrial Arts in 1965. He moved to Chicago and worked as an industrial arts teacher with Chicago Public Schools for 35 years. He also earned three master’s degrees in urban teacher education, psychology and education ([read more](#))

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

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