

# Panhandle

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY

November 2016

[OPSU.edu](http://OPSU.edu)



Photo by Kelli Test





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VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 3

# CONTENTS



Head football coach Russell Gaskamp, Panhandle State student Daisy Recinos, and President Dr. Tim Faltyn are pictured here in front of a pillar with a logo plate donated in memory of James Cameron III. Recinos is wearing Cameron's football number on her jersey.

## Own a Little Piece of Panhandle with "Pillars of Pride" Campaign

Submitted by Panhandle State Sports Information

In conjunction with the "Path of Pride" Buy-A-Brick Campaign, Aggie Athletics is now offering naming opportunities on eleven newly bricked pillars that are spaced within the recently refurbished entry gate outside No Man's Land Stadium at Carl Wooten Field.

Each pillar currently has a 12 x 18-inch white logo plate which will be replaced with an engraved plaque bearing the purchaser's donor or business name. Pillars are available for \$3000 each with all proceeds going towards the cost of the fence and other impending upgrades to the Panhandle State athletics facilities.

Former Panhandle State Agribusiness student David Moore served as the General Contractor on the project. The Goodwell native was also a member of the Panhandle Rodeo team in the early 2000's and is proud to be a part of the school's future success saying, "I'm excited to see changes taking place at Panhandle. Being a native of this area, I want to see this place be successful and be able to take pride in its appearance." Moore also expressed gratitude for the opportunity to share his work, "It is a huge privilege to do a job that involved some of the first visual changes on campus. I appreciate (University President) Dr. Faltyn and (VPFA) Benny Dain for allowing me to do it!"

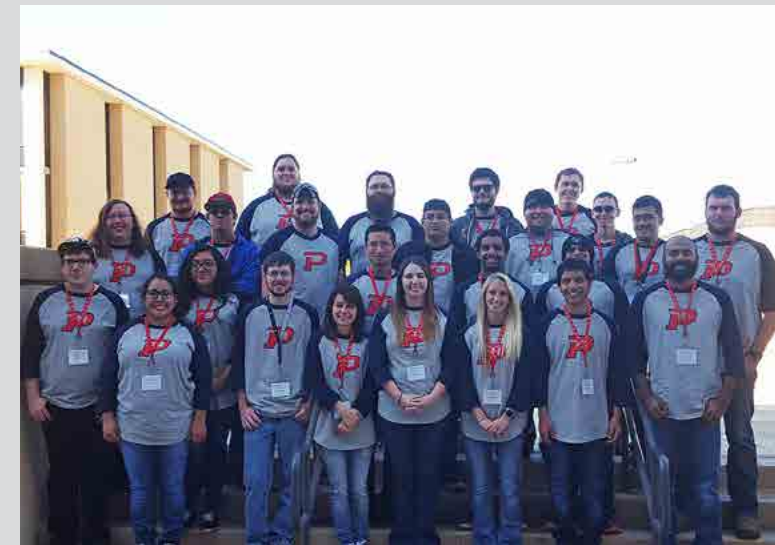
The pillars will add to the vision of Panhandle football's head coach Russell Gaskamp, who spearheaded the project with the support of University President Dr. Tim Faltyn. Faltyn communicates an overall goal stating, "We're trying to build a brand of excellence that reflects the values, expectation of success and quality that Coach Gaskamp instills in his players."

Both Gaskamp and Faltyn see this as an opportunity for people to invest in the rich history and honor of the program, giving supporters a chance to get in on the ground floor of the next amazing chapter of excellence that Aggie Athletics is putting together.

As part of a special recognition, Coach Gaskamp and the Aggie Football team dedicated the first pillar to fallen Panhandle State football player and teammate, James Cameron III at the Aggies' first home game this season. Cameron's mother and family were present to see where the plaque would be placed, at the main entry gate where current and future players can remember the Aggie running back as they enter the stadium on game days.

This project is just the beginning of a number of improvements set to take place within the Panhandle State athletics facilities. Faltyn adds that businesses, alumni groups, families and fans who support such projects "will not only have their names etched in stone (concrete) forever, but they will be involved from the very beginning, so that when we look back in a decade they will be recognized as the Giants upon whose shoulders we are standing."

Interested parties can contact Coach Russell Gaskamp for more information on both the Buy-A-Brick and Piece of Panhandle Pillar campaigns: 580-349-1332 or by email at [rgaskamp@opsu.edu](mailto:rgaskamp@opsu.edu).



The Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) group members competed in the 31st Annual Region 3 Collegiate Conference co-hosted by Panhandle State in October at Amarillo College.

<b>AITP Aggies Make Their Mark</b> .....	4
<b>Panhandle State's Tailgates and Temple Grandin</b> .....	5
<b>Aggie Family News</b> .....	6-7
<b>Education</b> .....	8-9
<b>Athletics</b> .....	12-15

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Panhandle State Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) left their mark at the 31st Annual Region 3 Collegiate Conference in Amarillo, Texas.

Photo by Tony Garcia of Cody Perez Photography

## AITP Aggies Make Their Mark

By Alexandria Trujillo

Full break at Oklahoma Panhandle State University may have been a great time to relax with family and friends, but the Panhandle State Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) Club had one that is no less than exciting and eventful. On Oct. 20, 2016 the club members traveled to Amarillo College where Panhandle State co-hosted the 31st Annual Region 3 Collegiate Conference. The students expected great things from their teams, but little did they know that they would make a huge impression by being one of the top schools.

Over the course of three days, the Panhandle State AITP members competed in seven of the nine contests. Our very own students won first place in three of those contests, along with receiving a handful of honorable mentions.

Winning first place in Network Design were brothers Travis and Elias Pitterle. Elias also received another first place award with teammate Cole Tolbert in Database Design. In Office Solutions, teammates Cale Curry and Martin Jurado won first place as well. After the Cyber Security multiple choice test, Panhandle State's AITP received three honorable mentions for the scores attained by Grant Sparkman, Cesar Quinonez and Chance Hayden. In the PC Troubleshooting multiple choice test, Grant and Cesar also received honorable mentions for placing top 10 scores, as well as one for their performance in the Network Design contest.

Travis Pitterle explains the Network Design contest as “a real-world example of what a business might actually want you to complete. They wanted you to create a network for the many branches of their credit union. I was excited to put our [Elias and my] experience in class and at our internships to good use.”

Travis works as a Broadband Department Intern at PTCI, and Elias works as an IT Intern at Hitch. Cole Tolbert also reacts to receiving first place, saying, “I was glad to put my name alongside the AITP champions of years past.”

Elias Pitterle elaborated on their success, saying, “I think that what won it for us was the detail that we put into it. Travis had seen real networking diagrams that are used at PTCI, and we used some similar backup procedures.” This just goes to show how valuable those real-life experiences can be. This is one of the examples that joining AITP is a great way to get internships which open up doorways to career opportunities.

Panhandle State University's AITP members are excited to compete in Nationals this upcoming April. Faculty Sponsor Kim Tuttle mentions that “several companies such as USAA and State Farm sponsor these competitions and host a career fair where students can apply for internships or full-time positions after graduation.” She also states, “Region 3 consists of seven states. We were very successful competing against a variety of schools from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri.”

Students involved in Computer Information Systems are urged to join AITP for these very opportunities. For more information, contact Kim Tuttle at 580-349-1446 and by email at [Kimberly.tuttle@opsu.edu](mailto:Kimberly.tuttle@opsu.edu).

Congratulations to all of the AITP members for their gained experience through participation as well as their success in making the Aggie namesake shine in such a large region! Panhandle State is a mighty competitor!



Panhandle State graduate Chase Boyer enjoys a quick game with friends during the homecoming tailgate.

## Panhandle State's Tailgates

By Chance Helms

*This essay was selected from a group of essays submitted by Dr. Ondyak's Freshman English classes. Students were asked to describe one of their favorite aspects of Panhandle State for an audience that has never visited the campus. The essays feature a number of different aspects on campus including the amazing people, places, and events at the University.*

As students, fans, and alumni gather in the parking lot for a PSU tailgate, a sea of blue, red, and white forms. Those three colors represent school pride, as well as support for the Aggie football team which is about to take on its opponent. While fans walk around the parking lot, they find pop-up tents that contain eager football fans. The atmosphere is one of a small town where everyone talks to each other like friends. With all this activity, tailgating at PSU is certainly an exciting new event.

Many sounds float through the air, including up-beat, motivational music, the chant of “Go Aggies,” and laughter from fans participating in lawn games. A variety of different games cater to anyone's liking. PSU's Director of Student Activities, Rantz Trayler explains, “There will be games such as fowling (a combination between bowling and football) all the way to giant Jenga.” These lawn games create an enjoyable experience for fans young and old. The best part of these tailgates, though, is the mixture of aromas filling the air. The snap of grills lighting up in preparation for some down-home cooking lets everyone know that game time is quickly approaching.

Trayler says that these new tailgates are meant to inspire students, faculty, alumni, and community members to “get involved, have a good time, and cheer on our football team.” For potential and even current students, the tailgating festivities will inevitably become a great college memory. During tailgating season, the community comes together as one to share a new, common experience and build friendships that will last long past graduation, as well as motivate the football team to earn a win.



Oscar Williams Fieldhouse saw a full crowd as Panhandle State's Alpha Zeta group hosted Dr. Temple Grandin on November 10.

## Temple Grandin Visits Panhandle State

By Matt Sparks

On Thursday, November 10, renowned author, public speaker, and professor from the Department of Animal Sciences at Colorado State University Temple Grandin visited the small Oklahoma town of Goodwell. Inside Oscar Williams Fieldhouse on the campus of Panhandle State University, students and local citizens gathered to listen to Dr. Grandin's lecture on the benefits of reduced stress on livestock.

Temple Grandin is among the nation's foremost authorities on stockmanship in the livestock industry and explained with passion how increased stress on livestock can impact their weight-gain ability. Grandin put significant emphasis on the benefits of habituating animals to particular parts of their environment such as panels, cattle sticks, etc. Dr. Grandin states that by doing this, ranchers can reduce the stress on their animals, which can lead to increased weight gain.

Aside from her talents as an agriculturalist, Temple Grandin is also a noted author and autism spokesperson. Though she began her lecture with a short discussion on autism, she seemed much more excited to talk about the numerous advances in the livestock industry. This would indicate that Grandin will not let her autism define her. Grandin has overcome much to get where she is today. Her story has inspired her to write multiple books and has also spawned a Daytime Emmy Award winning TV movie *Temple Grandin*.

Though her lecture was primarily agriculture-based, her visit means so much more to a university far removed from the city lights that normally attract such high-profile celebrities. Her presence brought spectators from all over the panhandle of Oklahoma to the campus of a small, rural university in the midst of tremendous change. With the attention of minds like Temple Grandin, the future looks especially bright for Panhandle State University.





**Staff**  
Justine Gaskamp

## Making It Happen

Oklahoma Panhandle State University has many faculty and staff members that are vital to things running smoothly on campus. Of these is Justine Gaskamp who can be seen at all the sporting and athletic related events on campus. Her radiant smile and positive attitude is infectious to every athlete and student that she encounters.

Justine has been working as Sports Information Director (SID) for Panhandle State going on five years. She was named Heartland Conference Sports Information Director of the Year for the 2013-2014 school year. In the years since she began, Justine has brought the sports information department into modern times while at the same time providing an opportunity for students to work on campus in areas that they hope to go into as a career. Justine's patience and leadership can be seen in the new athletics website and updates to the Live Stats and Live Streaming at sporting events. She provides an opportunity for family and friends to watch and support their Aggie athletes, even if they are unable to attend home events in Goodwell, Okla.

Justine Gaskamp is from New Braunfels, Texas, and is the wife of Russell Gaskamp, head football coach of the Panhandle State football team. She began working as the Executive Assistant to the Campus Communication and Sports information Department before taking the full position in June 2013. She has an immense love for her dogs, enjoys playing golf, and baking meals for the athletics department staff and coaches. Her ability to multi-task can be seen through her game-day organizational skills as well as her eagerness to always get the job done right. Her creativity is apparent in her creation of the athletics schedule posters as well as after-coverage of sporting events. Her inclusion of social media over the years has put Panhandle State on the map and brought a new sense of excitement to the campus.

She has trained her student workers over the years all by herself and offers them a hands-on opportunity to sculpt skills such as responsibility, dependability, and a desire to perform.

There is no doubt that the athletics department would not be the same without this incredible woman. Her willingness to participate all over campus and love for the university is instantaneously contagious.



**Student**  
Karen Esquivel

## Senior Spotlight

At Oklahoma Panhandle State University, there is always an emphasis on cultivating and recognizing a successful senior class in preparation for its graduation. One of this year's outstanding seniors is Karen Esquivel who is often seen around campus working hard for organizations and getting involved in events.

Karen Esquivel was born in California, but she has spent most of her life in Guymon, Okla. where she moved in the third grade. She is, commendably, one of Panhandle State's first-generation students. She chose Panhandle so that she could remain close to home during such an exciting and intimidating experience.

She is involved in many things on campus as well as many events in Guymon. Karen was a volunteer worker during the Lymphing for Lori 5K Run last month, where she was a huge help with putting the event together and selling t-shirts for the benefit. She is an English major and the current Vice President of the English Club. She is also involved in Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) where she is the current treasurer and can be found at all of the events with a huge smile on her face.

Karen is not just a club member, she is also a part of the Student Senate. She is a senator representing the English department, and she is also on the Homecoming Committee where she played a big part in the sales of those eye-catching Homecoming 2016 t-shirts. On top of all that time and dedication, she also makes time to have a lead role in the Spanish version of Panhandle's upcoming play *Esperando la Carroza* (*Waiting for the Hearse*). She plays the character Elvira, a loud and dramatic woman.

After Karen graduates with her English degree, she plans to head back to Guymon High School. She states, "I want to make a change by educating the new generations of this country." She will surely make a huge impact.

Karen is one of the kindest, most outgoing, willing to help and funniest people out there. She always has a smile on her face as she goes about her day, greeting everyone and volunteering at every chance she gets. Her laugh is infectious, and we can't wait to see what kind of joy she spreads as she continues towards the next step of her journey.



**Faculty**  
Brent Shoulders

## Creating a Lifestyle

Art professor and creative artist Brent Shoulders of Sunray, Texas has been a part of the Panhandle family for many years. His story starts here.

Shoulders originally went to school for math and engineering, but he fell in love with geology and physical education. He graduated with three degrees from Panhandle in 2000: Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Natural Sciences with an emphasis in Geology and Humanities with an emphasis in Art. He went on from there to earn a Masters in Ceramics in 2007 and an MFA in painting in 2010, both from West Texas A&M.

In 2000, Shoulders started working at Panhandle State. He did labs for classes such as geology, earth science and physical geology, and he has taught many art classes. He mainly focuses on ceramics and sculpture, but he has taught "basically everything but photography and art history." This includes art appreciation, jewelry, print making and many more.

Brent Shoulders got involved in Art almost coincidentally. He explained, "I took an art appreciation class and had to produce something, so I sculpted cow skulls out of clay. The professor said I should take ceramics, so I did." He went on from there to become an extremely skilled artist who contributes tremendously to the education of his art students.

His favorite thing about Panhandle State is that it has a very family-like environment. He likes that it is a very friendly campus and a great place to work. He states, "The best thing about teaching here is the amount of academic freedom. You're allowed to be forward-thinking. It is an extremely laid back environment even though we are very hard-working and dedicated to seeing Panhandle grow and the Art Department grow."

He also mentions that he loves being able to introduce new information in his classes and allow the students to experiment and push boundaries. He elaborates on his philosophy in teaching by quoting Benjamin Franklin. "Tell me and I forget, teach me and I remember, involve me and I learn." Brent Shoulders explains this by saying, "anyone can be knowledgeable, but not everyone can understand. Wisdom is to know when, how, why to apply the information."



**Alumni**  
Seth Jones

## Alum: Seth Jones

Five and a half years ago, two professors in OPSU's School of Business and Technology begged seven students to attend the Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) Business Organization State Leadership Conference and Competition. One of those students was Seth Jones, a junior at that time, from Borger, Texas.

Jones agreed to participate and went on to become one of Panhandle State's most successful PBL members. At that first competition, Jones, like his six teammates, qualified for nationals; however, he was the only member to earn a place on the national stage. He placed eighth in Sports Management and Marketing. He competed in 2013 as well and was the first OPSU PBL member to place in the top three in the nation in his event, Contemporary Sports Issues.

Jones' success in PBL set the stage for the success he is experiencing today. Following his graduation in 2013, Seth decided to attend law school. While he was accepted into several programs, including Big XII schools, he chose to attend Washburn Law School in Topeka, Kansas, which offered a specialization in oil and gas law.

"My education from OPSU absolutely prepared me for law school. I was definitely intimidated at first as I had classmates from a lot of big-name schools, but we were all on equal footing going into the program," Jones said.

This past May, Jones successfully completed his third year of law school and capped his graduation by passing the bar this past summer. After graduation, he accepted a job with Kramer, Nordling, and Nordling, LLC, a firm specializing primarily in oil and gas law, in Hugoton, Kansas. He is quickly becoming established in his new role and is excited to be back in the southwest Kansas/Oklahoma Panhandle area. His future plans include marriage in April and continuing to grow his role in the firm.

Jones credits OPSU with giving him the foundation necessary for his current success. "I actually didn't originally plan to stay at OPSU. I was going to take a few [general education courses] and then transfer. However, I got to play golf at OPSU, and then my involvement in PBL made me want to stay, and I'm so glad I did as it truly did help me develop some necessary skills for law school. I'm very proud to be an OPSU alum."





Panhandle State students get the opportunity to be employed in the Meat Lab as well as take classes.

## Hands-On Learning

By Anyssa Barbosa

**B**uilt in 1983, the Estes E. Firestone Meats Laboratory was financed through a \$350,000 grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and a generous private donation for the purpose of instructing courses that cover retail meat cutting and animal and carcass evaluations. The hands-on environment allows students to learn correct USDA animal harvesting and processing procedures making it a truly realistic branch of the animal science industry that many students at Oklahoma Panhandle State University wish to pursue.

The laboratory was named after Panhandle State professor, Estes E. Firestone, who specialized in animal sciences. He graduated from Panhandle State when it was still Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical College. He returned to campus in 1942 and taught animal husbandry courses, helped coach livestock judging teams, and established the school's dairy herd. He retired in 1983, and the building's dedication occurred a year later on October 27, 1984, in conjunction with the 75th anniversary celebration of the University. In 2009, the laboratory experienced some renovations including new equipment, additional office space, and classroom space. These updates enhance the learning experiences of the agricultural students of Panhandle State that is still active to this day.

Animals are brought in by customers to be processed by student employees and by students enrolled in meats courses offered at the university. The lab experience is an integral part of the animal science education students receive. Those who are interested in working in the animal science industry have the ability to do the work firsthand. This laboratory is unique in state of Oklahoma because Panhandle State is one of the only three campuses that have a meats facility. Livestock are raised for the purpose of supplying a protein source, although large packaging plants provide a protein source on a larger scale, the lab at Panhandle State provides the same services to local producers who want to harvest their own livestock to use in their own households or to sell to local members of the community.

Daily Operations Manager, Anthony Ingo, takes pride in producing quality products for the customers of the lab. He states, "Not everyone is able to harvest and process animals humanely and correctly, and I take pride in that ability. The student employees that spend a couple of years here learn key processes, and working here gives them a tool for life that many students may not have leaving college". Customers include people from Oklahoma and surrounding states including Texas, Colorado, New Mexico and Kansas.

Some of the services and products available to the public currently include custom slaughtering of animals and a full range of beef and pork cuts of meat. Other items for sale include fresh products like hickory-smoked bacon and chorizo. All products are packaged in convenient sizes and vacuum-sealed which allows for a longer shelf-life of the product and less dripping when thawing.

The newest product available is called "Panhandle Prime". These are USDA prime ribeye steaks aged for 30 days. A loyalty card is received upon the purchase of Panhandle Prime steaks. Each time a customer spends \$20.00 on the purchase of Panhandle Prime steaks their card will be punched. After purchasing \$200 worth of Panhandle Primes, the customers will receive a free package of the Panhandle Prime ribeye steaks. There is another loyalty card for general products. After spending \$100 on these products, customers will receive \$5 off their next purchase.

The Meat Lab is now accepting debit cards, MasterCard, or Visa when making purchases. All product pricing can be found on the Firestone Meat Lab page at [www.opsu.edu](http://www.opsu.edu). Pre-ordering is not required; however, it saves customers time when requesting products prior to picking up at the lab.

Those wishing to purchase products or learn more about the Firestone Meats Lab may contact A.J. Ingo at 580-349-1518, on Facebook at OPSU Meat Lab, or via email at [meatlab@opsu.edu](mailto:meatlab@opsu.edu).



Students in HALO pause for a quick photo during the annual Noche de Gala.

## A Night of Celebration

By Anyssa Barbosa

**E**ach year, Oklahoma Panhandle State University's Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) hosts a night of celebration to culminate their events of Hispanic Heritage Month. This celebration, also known as *Noche de Gala*, gathers surrounding high school HALO organizations, as well as key figures in the community, for a night of dance, food and recognitions.

The evening began with introductions by the HALO officers and Panhandle State Vice-President for Fiscal Affairs Benny Dain welcoming everyone. The guests then helped themselves to an authentic Mexican dinner buffet catered by the university Sodexo staff. While enjoying their dinners, guests had the opportunity to witness an abundance of pictures of the events that HALO has taken part in over the past three years including the Hispanic College Quiz, community service events, the annual jalapeño eating contests, and taco sales that the club hosts each year.

Following the delicious cuisine, the *Alma Folklorica* group from Guymon High School performed dances from the northern states of Mexico including Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas and Baja California Norte. Their dances symbolize the culture and folkloric tales of Mexican history. This year, Panhandle State is also hosting a foreign exchange student from Argentina. Larisa Stalldecker is studying veterinary science at the

University of Villa Maria. She had a chance to speak and share her experiences while being in the United States. After Larisa's short speech, Jocelynn Avalos was recognized for receiving an internship in Washington, D.C. this summer through Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. Ely Esquivel was also recognized for her participation in the Hispanic College Quiz, an honor that Panhandle State has received for the second year in a row.

For the main speech of the evening, the guests welcomed Damian Saenz, an employee from PTCI who is currently working on his Master's Degree in Telecommunications specializing in Project Management. He spoke a bit about coming from a first generation home and the struggles that most college students face. His words and shared experiences touched every one of the guests and his occasional jokes kept the night warm-hearted. His speech culminated in Damian being awarded a Hispanic Legacy Award from the students of HALO. The rest of the evening consisted of various HALO members receiving awards based on their outstanding and ambitious achievements and participation in HALO thus far. Honored students included Melina Rivera, Jaasiel Villa, Ami Torres and Anyssa Barbosa.

At the end of the evening, Mrs. Teri Mora revealed that OPSU has finally reached 25% Hispanic enrollment and is now in the beginning stage of the process of applying to be a Hispanic Serving Institution. This, in turn, opens new doors for opportunities for Hispanics and other students to have greater experiences in college. The HALO of Panhandle State is a growing and excited group of students and their *Noche de Gala* was a beautiful and authentic night where guests truly could learn and have an appreciation for the Hispanic culture.



# HOMECOMING AND CHILI COOK-OFF 2016



**1st:**  
Family Ties  
(Terri Branson & Cassie Pavlicek)

**2nd:**  
Guymon Fire  
Department

**3rd:**  
PBL/AITP

**Best Presentation:**  
Scott & Ashley  
Gaines

**People's Choice:**  
Anchor D Bank





## National Finals Rodeo (NFR) in Las Vegas

By Kashly Schweer



**G**oodwell, Oklahoma isn't considered a destination location for most. But for several professional-caliber athletes, the small Oklahoma town is an integral stop on their way to the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) in Las Vegas.

"Going to Panhandle to learn to ride from some of the best bronc riders that have ridden has helped me to make the NFR," first-time NFR qualifier Allen Boore said. "I'm really excited to go to the NFR; it's what I've been working towards for years and making the Finals makes all the effort worth it."

Boore will be joined by four fellow Oklahoma Panhandle State University former students at this year's big dance. This year's NFR will be held December 1-10 inside the Thomas and Mack Center on the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

After qualifying for his first NFR in 2015, this year has undoubtedly been the best season of Orin Larsen's career. He claimed championship titles in the bareback

riding at San Antonio, Cheyenne, Tucson and Spanish Fork just to name a few. Throughout the course of this season, Larsen accumulated over \$138,000 in earnings to head into Vegas in the second-place position. He will battle Tim O'Connell, regular-season leader, for the gold buckle underneath the bright lights.

In true Panhandle fashion, three alumni will climb over the Wrangler bucking chutes to board the sport's best equine athletes in the saddle bronc riding. Clay Elliott, 2015 College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) saddle bronc riding champion, earned more than \$80,000 throughout the regular season to be situated in the middle of the pack for the NFR. He is followed closely by 2013 OPSU graduate, Boore. Boore represented OPSU multiple times in Casper, Wyo. at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR). He is making his first appearance in Vegas. Sliding into the last qualifying position is Jake Watson. The Canadian cowboy is also an NFR rookie, but is no stranger to big-stage events.

Joe Frost has become a regular at the NFR in the bull riding. He is in second place headed into the 10-day affair with \$116,494 accumulated. Although Frost is more than \$55,000 behind long-time competitor Sage Kimzey, the money available each round and in the average makes it possible for him to secure his first world title.

All Panhandle State rodeo team fans can watch the action live each night on CBS Sports Network.

## Celebrating Seniors



Pictured from left to right: Assistant Coach Matt Heffner, Rylee Abert, Abigail Reinick, Emily Goeken, Jessica Taylor, Coach Mike Stephens, and Bristen Graves. The five seniors were recognized prior to their final home game on Saturday, Nov. 5.



Fifteen seniors were recognized prior to the final LSC matchup held Nov. 12 against Texas A&M-Kingsville. From left: Beau Avila, Andrew Hernandez, JB Frontz, Shane Truelove, Rod Moore, Royce Asi, John Pitts, Neptune Joseph, Cortney Stinnett, Brandon Gipe, Allston Hadley, Guerrero Garcia, Dashawn Stephens, Nate Leota and Brandon Trotter.

## September Volunteers

Submitted by Panhandle State Sports Information

**T**he team participated in the Community Clean-Up at Fowler Park on Sept. 24, where they helped with painting facility walls, bathrooms and playground equipment. Eighteen baseball players and coaches each volunteered at least two hours of their time to the project that afternoon.

During the month of September, over 200 Main Street volunteers offered a combined total of 569 hours of time to various community projects. Thanks to the help of Aggie Baseball and everyone else who gave their time freely the Panhandle Area will continue to shine!



Panhandle State Baseball volunteered in a community-wide clean-up day in Guymon on Sept. 24.

## Panhandle Athletics Adopt the "Aggie Cup" Challenge



Submitted by Panhandle State Sports Information

**I**n conjunction with the NCAA Life Skills Program, members of the Panhandle State Athletic Administration have created the "Aggie Cup Challenge." The program offers an incentive for all student athletes to partake in personal development experiences throughout year, while engaging in friendly competition between the ten on campus NCAA sports.

Aggie Softball Head Coach Meghan Mulcahy was the chief architect of the project and used the NCAA's "Total Person Project" as the foundation on which to build the Aggie Cup Challenge. In keeping with the NCAA's framework, the Aggie Cup Challenge represents a "philosophical commitment to the well-being of the student-athlete" by promoting key life skill areas such as academic and athletic success, personal and career development, and community service.

Throughout the course of the academic year, student athletes will be provided various opportunities to earn points by attending university activities, volunteering to help with school events, providing community service and maintaining strong academic standards on both an individual and a team level. Aggie athletes may also

earn points by joining student organizations or taking self-improvement classes that may not be required by their major, such as nutrition or alcohol/drug awareness classes.

For the career development portion, athletes may earn points by creating professional resumes, cover letters for current job postings or completing a career assessment. Community Service points can be awarded for participating in school fundraisers, becoming involved in a mentoring program, volunteering to tutor fellow students and other such community service-based activities.

In all, the teams will compete to earn as many points as possible in five categories: Community Outreach, Professional Development, Personal Enhancement, Above and Beyond and Teams for Teams, which encourages athletes to support each other by encouraging and celebrating the efforts of every team by attending sporting events other than their own.

Following the belief that excellence is a result of a balanced life including academic achievement, athletic success and personal well-being, the goal of the Aggie Cup Challenge is to instill these core values into everyday interaction with and among Panhandle State's student-athletes. As Coach Mulcahy listed in the Aggie Cup Challenge guidelines, "The strength of our athletic department is the contribution of each individual team, yet the success of each individual team relies on capturing the spirit of our athletic department."

The competition will run through the end of April 2017, and the winning team will be recognized at the annual Aggie Athletics Banquet. An actual "Cup" or trophy will be awarded to the winning team and will be a rotating symbol that will move from team to team each year to add an extra element of fun to the friendly competition.



## Aggie Hall of Fame Banquet Set for February

Submitted by Panhandle State Sports Information

Panhandle State's growing group of Aggie Hall of Fame will gain four new members this year as Manny Acosta, Frank Beede, Larry Welch and Cathy Donald Whitney were all selected as inductees for the Class of 2016.

The induction ceremony and banquet have been scheduled for Friday, Feb. 3 at 7 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom on the campus of Panhandle State. Tickets are available for purchase with dinner included in the cost.

The Aggie Hall of Fame Banquet is always an event to remember as former athletes and alumni gather for

a fun night of celebration and story-telling. A delicious dinner starts the evening off right, and then the festivities begin as each inductee is introduced by a former coach, teammate, friend or family member. The inductees provide the rest of the entertainment as they regale guests with fond memories and fun anecdotes about their treasured times as Aggies. By the end of the night, the room brims with Panhandle Pride.

Fans can get a sneak peek into our 2016 inductees as separate spotlight features will be released in the week's leading up to the event. Those wishing to attend are encouraged to make reservations in advance, as seating is limited and space fills up fast. For ticket and reservation information, Coach Jerry Olson can be contacted by phone at 580-206-0184 or by email at [jolson@opsu.edu](mailto:jolson@opsu.edu).

## October Panhandle State Aggie Athletes of the Week Winners



Hannah Hammack



Darryn Cain



Kendra Butler



Wesley Cole



Cody Ballard

WEEK	NAME	SPORT	ACHIEVEMENT
6: OCT 3-9	Hannah Hammack	Equestrian	-Earned second place at NCTC show in the Intermediate Division.
	Darryn Cain	Football	-Took two interceptions against No. 6 TAMU-Commerce and was a leading tackler with four solos and one pass BU.
7: OCT 10-16	Kendra Butler	Volleyball	-Totaled 29 kills on the week including a season-high of 15 against Jarvis Christian for an Aggie win.
	Wesley Cole/Cody Ballard	Men's Rodeo	-Helped Aggie men's team claim the title at Southeastern; Cole took first in Bareback and Ballard took the Bull Riding title.
8: OCT 17-23	Randi Buchanan	Women's Rodeo	-Earned Top 10 finishes at OSU in barrel racing, goat tying and team roping.
	Shane Truelove	Football	-Broke school record with 610 yards passing against UTPB for first LSC win.
9: OCT 24-30	Kayla Hook	Equestrian	-Finished 4th in the Intermediate 2 Division at WTAMU Western Show.
	Jake Finlay	Men's Rodeo	-Claimed the Saddle Bronc Champion title at NWOSU.



Randi Buchanan



Shane Truelove



Kayla Hook



Jake Finlay



## AGGIE BASKETBALL 2016-2017 HOME SCHEDULES

NOV 15	BARCLAY COLLEGE	7 PM
NOV 18	SAINT GREGORY'S	5:30 PM
NOV 26	BETHEL COLLEGE	7 PM
DEC 03	ECCLESIA COLLEGE	7 PM
DEC 07	MANHATTAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE	8 PM
DEC 11	ROCKHURST	1 PM
DEC 11	SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE	3 PM
DEC 15	OTTAWA	7:30 PM
DEC 17	OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN *	1 PM
DEC 17	OKLAHOMA CHRISTIAN *	3 PM
DEC 19	ST. EDWARD'S *	5:30 PM
DEC 19	ST. EDWARD'S *	7:30 PM
JAN 12	LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN *	5:30 PM
JAN 12	LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN *	7:30 PM
JAN 14	CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE	1 PM
JAN 14	DALLAS BAPTIST *	3 PM
FEB 02	ARKANSAS-FORT SMITH *	5:30 PM
FEB 02	ARKANSAS-FORT SMITH *	7:30 PM
FEB 04	ROGERS STATE *	1 PM
FEB 04	ROGERS STATE *	3 PM
FEB 11	NEWMAN *	1 PM
FEB 11	NEWMAN *	3 PM
FEB 23	TEXAS A&M-INTERNATIONAL *	5:30 PM
FEB 23	TEXAS A&M-INTERNATIONAL *	7:30 PM
FEB 25	ST. MARY'S *	1 PM
FEB 25	ST. MARY'S *	3 PM

WOMEN'S GAMES IN RED / MEN'S GAMES IN BLUE  
HEARTLAND CONFERENCE GAMES DENOTED BY \*





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