

Panhandle

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**Aggies Make
an Impact**

Panhandle State Announces Largest Freshman Class in University History

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

A wave of energy and excitement can be felt all across Oklahoma Panhandle State University as the preliminary enrollment numbers are in and the university welcomes the largest freshman class on record. Having started August 14, the fall 2017 semester is off and running.

The class of 2021 totals 468 students which tallies a 38% increase over last year's freshman class enrollment.

University President Dr. Tim Faltyn said, "I am proud of our team's efforts to bring in this class of freshmen, and proud to be part of this historic year. It is proof that their hard work is building a great future for Panhandle State."

Over 80 faculty and staff members joined together to welcome new students and greet returners on August 11 during move-in day.

"Our faculty and staff did a phenomenal job showing our new students and their families how much we care about them and what it means to be part of the Aggie

family," said Dr. Julie Dinger, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs.

Welcome Week saw a collection of student activities from the yearly favorite ice cream social to intramural disc golf at the brand new course on the walking trail.

The week capped off with the Aggie Pride Picnic. Students, faculty and staff members joined with community supporters to kick off a new school year. Emcee Ken Stonecipher led the celebration with an introduction of the 2017 National Champion Men's Rodeo Team. Smiles and laughter filled the tailgate zone as the crowd enjoyed a special word from Head Rodeo Coach Robert Etbauer and Asst. Coach Shelbie Weeder. Brief season previews from each sport's head coach followed. The event was complete with a delicious meal served by Great Western Dining and live music from the Jimmy Lee Jordan Band. The evening was capped off with a Fall Aggie Football Scrimmage under the lights at No Man's Land Stadium.

Director of High School and Community Relations Martin Nevarez credits the increase to a new recruitment approach and a willingness to try new things. "The Enrollment Management Team took a progressive mindset in developing a new communication system with future students. Hard work joined forces with a willingness to try new things to help us reach this milestone. Aggie pride runs deep among the team."

It's a great year to be an Aggie! **P**



Students are shown taking notes and studying together. Panhandle State saw a 38% increase in this year's freshman class, making it the largest freshman class in university history.



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Kim L. Peterson, Panhandle State Alumni and Mayor of Guymon, is currently serving his second term as President of the Board of Directors of the Mayor's Council of Oklahoma. The Mayor's Council represents approximately 700 Cities and towns throughout the state.

The Mayor's Council provides representation at the Legislature, Community Development educational programs, Municipal Day at the Capitol, If I were Mayor Essay contest for Eighth Grade students, mentoring programs for newly elected Mayors and Vice Mayors and many other programs and services.

Mayor Peterson has served on the Board of Directors since 2012. The Mayor's Council is part of the Oklahoma Municipal League who represent Cities and Towns in Oklahoma.

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Etbauer Family Named the 2017 Honored Family

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

The Panhandle State Association of Alumni and Friends is excited to announce the Etbauer Family as the 2017 Honored Family. The family will be honored at the 2017 Panhandle State homecoming celebration on October 28.

Nestled in the hills of South Dakota, Lyle and Bev Etbauer raised four children who would go on to write their own chapter in rodeo's history books. Robert, Billy, Wanda and Danny grew up helping their parents and grandparents on the family ranch.

The Etbauer name migrated south when Robert was recruited to be a part of the Panhandle State University Rodeo Team by Phil Martin to rodeo under "Doc" Lynn Gardner in 1981. He continued his education at Panhandle State until 1983. In the small Oklahoma town, Robert met Sue (Allsworth) Etbauer who became his wife. The newlywed couple was asked to move to Savannah, Mo. to work for Roy Durfey training roping horses, but two years later, Robert and Sue returned to the Panhandle in order for Robert to compete in collegiate rodeos one more year, alongside his youngest brother, Danny. The pair of Etbauer brothers contributed to Panhandle State's third place finish at the College National Finals Rodeo (CNFR) in 1986, which was the highest PSU had placed since its inception in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA).

Also riding for the red and blue at the CNFR in 1986 was Deke Latham. Deke and Robert decided to try their hand at the professional ranks, which they excelled. Deke qualified for the National Finals Rodeo (NFR) that same year while Robert landed in the dreaded 16th place position. The rodeo world received heart wrenching news just a few days after Deke returned from his first NFR appearance. The young cowboy was tragically killed in a car accident.

However, that wasn't the end of the Etbauer-Latham connection. Robert and Danny began traveling together in 1988 and the pair of brothers qualified for the NFR that year. The band of brothers continued to grow with Billy Etbauer and Craig Latham joining the rig the next year. The brothers made rodeo history by being the first set of three brothers to qualify for the NFR in the same event in the same year; an accomplishment they repeated eight more times.

Throughout Robert's career, he claimed the coveted gold buckle in 1990 and 1991. In 1995, Panhandle State inducted him into the Alumni Ambassador Hall of Fame. Robert went on to qualify for the NFR 12 times, 1988-1992 and 1994-2000, before retiring from his professional career in 2002 when his eldest son, Trell,

started competing at high school rodeos.

In 2011, Robert returned to Oklahoma Panhandle State University, this time as Assistant Rodeo Coach to long-time friend and hauling partner, Craig Latham. Robert assumed the head coaching position in 2015 when Craig stepped down due to medical reasons.

Robert and Billy were inducted into the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2012. Even in their retirement, the band of brothers continued to make rodeo history, together. In 2013, Robert, Billy and Danny were all inducted into the Rodeo Hall of Fame at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

In addition to Trell, Robert and Sue are the proud parents of Chancy and Shade. Chancy, who graduated from Panhandle State in 2006 with a Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Business, now resides in Elsmere, Neb. with her husband, Clete Scheer, and six year-old daughter, Talon. Clete also graduated from Panhandle State in 2005. The couple ranches in the sandhills of Nebraska and compete at amateur rodeos as time allows.

Robert and Sue's oldest son, Trell, hangs his hat in Gruver, Texas with his wife, Kaylee Holt-Etbauer, and two-year old daughter, Rally. Trell graduated from Panhandle State in 2008 with a Bachelor's of Science in Industrial Technology. He was the 2005 NIRA National Co-Champion Steer Wrestler. As an integral part of the Panhandle Rodeo Team, he was chosen as Panhandle State's Male Athlete of the Year in both 2007 and 2008. Trell went on to win the PRCA All-Around Rookie of the Year title in 2008, as well as being the PRCA Linderman Award Winner. He continued his domination at both ends of the arena as he was named the Linderman Award recipient a total of four times, 2008-2010 and 2013. When Trell is not on the rodeo trail, he spends his time farming and ranching with his in-laws, Kevin and Ronda Holt, near Gruver.

Shade followed in his brother's footsteps and also graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Industrial Technology (*continued*)



Pictured top left: Billy Etbauer at NFR. Right: Robert Etbauer at the Reno, Nevada Pro Rodeo. Bottom left: Danny Etbauer competing at the NFR.



Etbauer brothers Danny, Robert, and Billy are pictured from left to right.

from Panhandle State in 2016. Staying true to the Etbauer legacy, Shade has accumulated numerous accolades at both ends of the arena including the NIRA Central Plains All-Around Cowboy in 2015 and 2016. He was also named the 2016 NIRA Reserve Champion Saddle Bronc Rider and is currently competing professionally. He also met his future wife, Amy Chamberlain, in Goodwell. The two plan to be wed on September 23.

Although Billy never attended Panhandle State, he has been an instrumental friend and supporter of the rodeo team as well as the annual Deke Latham Memorial Bronc Riding School, along with Robert, Danny and Craig Latham. The school began in honor of Craig's brother, Deke Latham. Tuition money from the school is responsible for the current college rodeo arena and facilities along with support and donations from members of the community. Each year, the school attracts 35-50 students from all over the United States and Canada, plus has had a student from Germany.

During Billy's professional career, he qualified for the NFR 21 times from 1989 to 2009. He was named the PRCA World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider in 1992, 1996, 1999, 2000 and 2004. He currently lives in Edmond, Okla. with his wife, Hollie, and their three children, Kord, Treg and Jacie. The family operates a horse breeding program and trains barrel horses.

Danny attended Panhandle State from 1985-1988. In addition to being a member of the history-making men's team in 1986 with his brother, Robert, Danny continued to be a major contributor to the Panhandle State program. He went on to qualify for the NFR 10 times from 1988-1997. In 1995, Danny was the Reserve World Champion Saddle Bronc Rider.

Several knee injuries plagued Danny throughout his bronc riding career, so Danny took the event from a different angle and learned how to be a pickup man. Just

like his bronc riding, Danny excelled in this venue and was chosen to pick up at the 2008 NFR. He still instructs the pickup man school that is held in conjunction with the bronc riding school. He is always on hand to help during the college roughstock practices and jackpots and continues to play a vital role in the University's rodeo program.

Danny married Kasey Nichols and the couple resides south of Goodwell. They train roping and barrel racing horses and operate a breeding program. Danny's daughter, Rossy, lives in California.

Many people don't realize the Etbauer brothers also have a sister, Wanda. She is married to Mark Sisson and lives in Moorcroft, Wyo. They have a daughter, Lisa, who works for a coal mine near Gillette, Wyo., and a son, Neal, who is married to Kristen and has two sons, NJ and Kade.

The foundation of the Etbauer Family, Lyle and Bev, have supported all the goals and dreams of their children and grandchildren. From hauling them to junior rodeos, ball games and wrestling matches as children to later driving hours to watch them compete, Lyle and Bev have been there every step of the way. They are also big supporters of the Panhandle State Rodeo Team. They make a trip to Goodwell every spring for the bronc riding school. In earlier years, Lyle would help move cattle and horses during the school. They continue to support Robert in his new role at the helm of the legendary rodeo program by making a trip to the CNFR each year. Not only has the Etbauer Family written their own chapter in rodeo's history books, they have helped numerous other cowboys and cowgirls to write their own.

University President Dr. Tim Faltyn said, "The contribution this entire family has made is legendary. We are blessed to be a part of anything that honors this great family." P

Aggie Family



Staff
Laura Duran

A self-described “Jane of all Trades”, Laura Duran is the Physical Plant Director at Panhandle State and she certainly gets the job done. Laura supervises the Maintenance, Custodial, and Grounds Crews as well as the Motor Pool. In addition, she monitors the school water wells and lagoon and works hand-in-hand with Johnson Controls, the University’s heating and air contractor.

While that certainly sounds like a huge load and it is, Laura says, “My job is made easy because of my assistants and their staff.”

Laura oversees over 25 staff members divided among the departments she supervises.

Laura took the Director position this July after working over 11 years on campus. She started in the maintenance department before moving to custodial services and prior to her current post she served as the Administrative Assistant to the Physical Plant Director.

No one day is like another for Laura aside from the fact they all generally start between 5 or 5:30 a.m. with office work to allow freedom to go “wherever I need to go” throughout the rest of the day depending on what arises.

Born in Dimmitt, Texas, Laura was raised in Stratford, Texas and graduated from high school there before attending college at Panhandle State.

Her favorite part of her job is the people she gets to work with and the new changes around campus. She is directly involved with all renovation projects and new construction on campus.

“I like the fast pace the changes bring with them and I multi-task.”

“Ultimately, it’s for the kids and making the steps to provide for them. I strive to do my best for the students.”

Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Benny Dain is Laura’s supervisor. He commented, “Laura is one of those people you look forward to seeing. She is serious about the campus and her role in moving the campus forward and still maintains that infectious smile of hers (most of the time) working side by side helping those around her to push through whatever the day brings. She understands that it is about the students and her commitment and energy are a real asset to us all at OPSU. I consider myself lucky for being on the same team with Laura.”

Laura enjoys time with her family and has five grandkids. **P**



Student
Sarah Brady

Sarah Brady is a double major from Marcus, Iowa. Studying Agriculture Education and Elementary Education, Brady has plans to make an impact on young lives through a career in teaching.

Sarah was drawn to Panhandle State because it was an opportunity to be closer to her extended family and she hasn’t looked back since she arrived on campus. She is extremely active as a member of Student Oklahoma Education Association (SOEA), FFA, Alpha Zeta, and Student Senate and currently holds an office in each organization. Additionally, she serves as a Student Ambassador, campus photographer, and the chair of both the School Improvements Committee and Special Committee.

Sarah’s involvement has left a significant impact on campus during her time as a student. Her most recent contributions to campus revolve around special improvements. She chaired a group that was charged with finding a viable option for dorm renovations. The group had a mission to create a personal space students could call home while keeping the upgrades cost effective for the university. While those renovations are still in process, Sarah also helped secure the new Disc Golf course at the walking trail on campus, gathered funds for renovating the student dorm lounge, and redesigned the Holter Hall front plaza.

She said her favorite thing about school is “the sense of family and community. Every teacher is concerned for your well-being and care to know your background. They know your goals and are willing to do anything they can to help you succeed.”

She added, “I have been given endless opportunities during my time at Panhandle. I have been able to take on more responsibility and leadership. Working with a variety of people and skills has done wonders in helping me prepare for the future.”

She is married to her high school sweetheart Ben Brady. Sarah enjoys spending time with family and friends. She also likes taking pictures and has been a campus photographer for over four years.

An extremely positive and professional individual, her work ethic is to be commended as she balances her classes, work responsibilities, and extra activities with ease and she can always be seen with a smile on her face. It seems there is no challenge to big or too small for her, as she seeks to always do her very best. **P**



Faculty
Beverly Meyer

Dr. Beverly Meyer teaches Earth Sciences here at Panhandle State. She was born in a small town in southeastern Wisconsin. Her family moved to central Minnesota when she was four years old. She graduated from Little Falls Community High School and the following fall started her college career. She lived in Minnesota until 1992 when her family moved to Texas.

When Bev was young, she wanted to be a veterinarian. Her first bachelor's degree, from Bemidji State University, is a pre-vet-med major in Biology and minor in Chemistry. She didn't get to vet school, but instead chose to be a stay-at-home mom to her three daughters. When they were approaching their teens, and becoming more independent, she went back to school at St. Cloud State University and completed a double major in Secondary Education and Earth Science. Bev and her husband Bruce moved to Texas in 1992 so that he could pursue a master's degree in Range Management at Texas Tech University. She taught for a few years and then began classes at Texas Tech toward a master's degree in Museum Science. While working on her graduate classes she was employed by a renowned vertebrate paleontologist, Dr. Sankar Chatterjee, and as an instructor in the Geology department. She went immediately into the doctorate program in geology/paleontology at Tech. She had completed her coursework and research in invertebrate paleontology when the Earth Science position at Panhandle State opened. She started teaching here in January of 2001, and finished her Ph.D. in May 2002.

"I would have to say my favorite thing about teaching is the students. At the beginning of each semester, I look forward to meeting the young adults who will be my students and in some cases become friends. How they got here, in the Panhandle, is always a good story and their personal world view opens my eyes and mind to the world that we live in."

"My love of the earth sciences inspires me to teach. I tell my students at the beginning of each semester that when they get done with all of this, I hope they like their job as much as I enjoy doing what I do."

Dr. Meyer seems to enjoy the little things about the Panhandle the most and that is what makes the Panhandle her home. **P**



Alumni
Jack Strain

It is a true pleasure to introduce Commissioner Jack Strain, Panhandle Native and Oklahoma Panhandle State University Alumni. Jack was born and raised in Goodwell and graduated from Goodwell High School in 1973. The majority of Jack's family attended Panhandle State University and he said "there was no question where I would go in the fall."

He graduated alongside the class of 1977 with a Bachelor's of Science degree in accounting. Jack met his wife Gwen Weatherford Strain while attending college and they celebrated their marriage in May of 1977. Gwen still had a year of college left, so they spent their first year of marriage together in Married Student Housing on campus.

So much has changed since the late seventies and it's special to see how Panhandle State has grown over the last few decades. Jack has been involved with much of this change, and last spring, he was recognized for his involvement when he was awarded the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award. He shared with us that the award was in recognition of the work he did for the shooting facility located south of campus on the University Farm. Having been a life-long resident of Goodwell, "OPSU had always been a part of my life while growing up. As the County Commissioner here in District 3, my job allows me to give something back to the University in return for what I've received over the years. I believe this new shooting facility will be used by a great number of people in the area in addition to the benefits it will provide for the students of Panhandle State."

Commissioner Strain has also helped with the dirt work for the Noble Activity Center, the Science and Agriculture Building, built a few roads by the baseball and softball fields, built parking lots on campus, worked on roads at the University Farm, and demolished and hauled off old buildings on campus. He has actively been involved in the progress of the campus in any way he can. "As far as contributing to the changes on campus and the farm, it goes back to being able to give something back to the University."

Even after the dust has settled and the construction is complete, Jack and his wife Gwen often can be found on campus running the shot clock, game clock, and scoreboard for the Aggie Basketball Games. **P**



This past July, Oklahoma Panhandle State University senior Ami Torres Acuña competed in Nashville at the Hispanic College Quiz and won the competition!

Torres Wins National Hispanic College Quiz

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

This past July, Oklahoma Panhandle State University senior Ami Torres Acuña competed in Nashville at the Hispanic College Quiz, a show that is taped and broadcast during Hispanic Heritage Month on behalf of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU). On Monday evening, October 2, at a reception in her honor, it was revealed that Ami had won the competition taking home a scholarship worth \$4,500 sponsored by State Farm Insurance. Ami was also awarded with a trip to San Diego to attend the HACU National Conference where she will be honored during the annual banquet. The HACU conference takes place from October 27 – 30.

The reception on Monday evening was hosted by Ami's employers, Brown & Associates Insurance at Hunny's for all of her family and friends to get together for a "Premiere Viewing Party" of the taped shows. Ami had done an excellent job of keeping the final result a secret so it was a great surprise to those gathered there. The Hispanic College Quiz will be broadcast in our area on Sunday, October 8 on PTCI Channel 30 beginning at 2 p.m. with Ami's shows airing at 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. for anyone who would like to see her in action.

Teri Mora, Director of Hispanic Student Services at Panhandle State spoke on Monday about Ami's selection for the competition. She said, "In June we had the

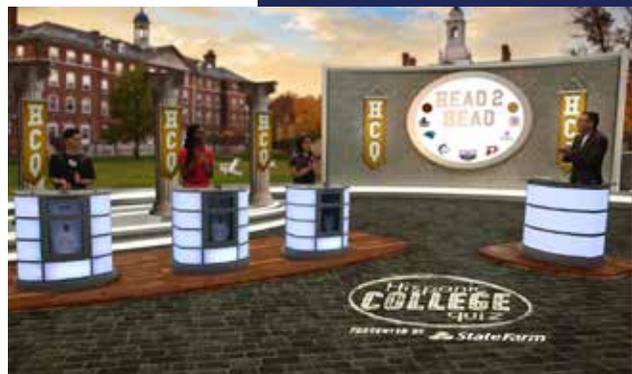
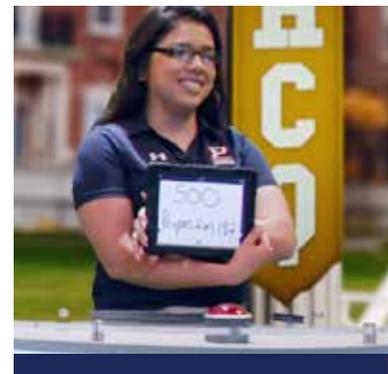
opportunity to apply for one of nine spots in the competition and I nominated Ami as I was confident that Ami could handle the competition. Once we were notified of our selection, we had a little less than a month to prepare for the quiz show, and Ami was also taking two college classes, working full time at Brown & Associates as an insurance agent, and had a trip to Pasadena for the National PBL conference and another one to Miami planned for that small window of time. Ami was confident that she could handle all of her commitments and her confidence paid off as she was calm and collected throughout the entire process. We are all so very proud of her!"

University President Dr. Tim Faltyn said, "We are so proud of her and her family because of what she has accomplished, as well as what they have overcome. Ami is a true American success story. She is an excellent example for all first generation college students."

This tournament-style competition showcases nine students selected from HACU-member institutions and is hosted by HACU and Central City Productions (CCP). The show highlights Hispanic history with questions from a variety of different categories such as sports; culture; music; food; and activists, authors, and educators. Each round features three students who compete for scholarships as they advance throughout the show.

Ami's win marks the second time in just three years that Panhandle State has won the championship at the quiz show.

Originally from Guymon, Ami is majoring in marketing with minors in finance and computer graphics. Additionally, she serves as the vice president for both HALO and the business club Phi Beta Lambda (PBL). **P**



Torres is the second Panhandle State student in three years to win the Quiz Show Championship.

Banquet Sees Great Support

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

It was a full house at Hunny's in Guymon, Okla. on Thursday night, September 28 for the first-ever Shooting Sports Banquet. The event saw a number of area supporters as well as Oklahoma Panhandle State University faculty, staff, students, and alumni join together to raise support and awareness for the shooting facility project.

University President Dr. Tim Faltyn addressed the attendees welcoming and thanking everyone for their backing. He also shared how the idea for the facility came about starting with a call at 4:30 a.m. one morning. It was clear the program was a perfect fit for the culture and tradition of the region and a great opportunity to build a stronger future for the University. The process started in August of 2016 with an application for a grant to plan, perform an environmental assessment and construct a shooting facility.

Dr. Faltyn welcomed special guest Lance Meek, Senior Information and Educational Specialist, of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and thanked him for his contributions to the project. President Faltyn also thanked John Groendyke and Bill Brewster for their support for the project.

Other special guests for the evening included Panhandle State Alumni Jessica Bond of The Outsiders TV and Mark and his wife Lacy Syzemore of Red Dirt Outfitters. Both Bond and the Syzemores are involved in the outdoor industry and support the mission of Panhandle State in the promotion of firearm safety and wildlife education.

Bond spoke to the crowd sharing her excitement regarding the opportunities the facility will offer at her alma mater. She added that "this University has supported me and given me the tools I needed to get to where I am at today and I am excited to invest in a university that invested so much in me."

The banquet included both a live auction and a raffle with items ranging from shotguns and rifles, to ammunition, artwork, and hunts guided by Red Dirt Outfitters among numerous other items. The high selling auction item was a Custom Osage Orange longbow and arrows handmade by Ben Test selling for \$775.

The money raised at the auction will be split evenly between scholarships for the students and equipment for the facility.

Panhandle State student Hannah Hammack is the current president of the Shooting Sports Club. Hammack said, "It was an honor to be a part of the first Panhandle State Shooting Sports Banquet. As an archer, shooting from the age of five, I love the enthusiasm and support of the community at such a special event. I am so excited for the new facility to be built and to have the ability to shoot



Pictured here Mike Gaitlin (right) auctions off a piece of artwork by Bryon Test. Top left: Jessica Bond speaks of her success with The Outsiders TV. Top Right: Custom Osage Orange Longbow by Ben Test.

at the collegiate level. As Panhandle Shooting Sports club president, I look forward to what this brings us in the future."

Designed to house wildlife and gun/archery related educational programs, the shooting sports facility will be open to the public. From summer youth camps to community hunter and firearms training as well as hunter safety programs, the site will play host to each event and more including 4-H, FFA, and corporate events.

The shooting sports facility is set for location on University property and it is being built with grants through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife and Conservation, and other wildlife and gun related organizations as well as private and in-kind donations. Facility plans include: trap, skeet, and five stand fields; 3-D archery range and sporting clay field; outdoor pistol ranges with covered shooting areas as well as outdoor rifle ranges including covered shooting areas; restrooms, parking, and a pavilion; and a wildlife education center.

Special thanks to Hunny's for the delicious barbecue meal, Mike and Becky Gaitlin of Gaitlin Auctions for running the live auction, and Mike Fuller for the live entertainment. The evening is expected to be an annual event. **P**



Panhandle State's Dean of Business & Technology Davin Winger shares a good book with local elementary students.

Panhandle Partners for the Future

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

Successful partnerships occur when each side of the agreement benefits and Oklahoma Panhandle State University and Goodwell Schools are working together as they both seek to prepare the leaders of tomorrow.

Most recently, the schools have collaborated to offer an afterschool program, Panhandle's Future. The mission of the Panhandle's Future is to provide exceptional afterschool care and learning experience for the children at Goodwell Public Schools. The program maintains a staff to child ratio of 1:10 where the staff are Panhandle State Elementary Education students supervised by a certified employee of Goodwell Public School.

Each day, the program begins with snack time at the Goodwell Cafeteria and ends with free play and physical activity at the Noble Center on the Panhandle State campus. The time in between is focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and Arts enrichment followed by homework and reading time at the Panhandle State McKee Library.

Ely Esquivel is an Elementary Education major at Panhandle State and a teacher in the afterschool program. Esquivel said, "Panhandle's Future has allowed me to experience what teaching in a classroom would truly be like. I make my own lesson plans, modify activities for every student and learn how to handle real life situations that happen in the classroom."

The two schools also benefit from shared faculty. Panhandle State Choir Director Dr. Dee Wilkins teaches music at Goodwell Schools and Rene Ramon, Director of Counseling and Testing at Panhandle State, serves as the Goodwell Schools Counselor as well. In addition, Carman

Shadden serves as a Special Education Coordinator at both schools.

The schools are also able to share facility use. The coop softball team of Goodwell and Texhoma Softball played early season home games on the Panhandle State Softball Field while the coop Cross Country Teams practiced at the Panhandle State Walking Trail.

Additional facility sharing occurs at the Panhandle State Farm. The University has space for the housing of Goodwell student's 4-H and FFA show animals including cattle, sheep, hogs, and goats. The animals are housed free of charge in a central location with a cover and electricity. The space allows room for working with and exercising the animals. The farm also has livestock available for the Goodwell students to use for Livestock Judging Practice. Dean of Agriculture Dr. Peter Camfield works directly with Goodwell's FFA Advisor David Layton in coordinating these efforts.

A proposal still in progress would offer high school students the opportunity to graduate from high school with a college degree. Starting their sophomore year of High School, students would begin college coursework while still having a complete high school experience. Upon graduation, students would attain an Associate of Science in General Studies with concentrations available in Education, STEM, and Business fields.

Goodwell School Superintendent Jerry Birdsong said, "I am very excited about cooperation between Panhandle State and Goodwell Schools. The shared resources benefit both institutions greatly. I am looking forward to more opportunities." **P**



Students enjoyed the opportunity to connect with Alumni Rogelio Reyna during a recent Monday Munch hosted by the Alumni Association.

Monday Munch

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

It's a great year to be an Aggie all across campus and the Panhandle State Association of Alumni and Friends has kicked the year off strong and the group has a number of new ideas to implement throughout the year.

In an effort to connect current students with Alumni, the Alumni Office is introducing Monday Munch! The program launched on Monday, August 28 by hosting Oklahoma Panhandle State University student government leaders and several Panhandle State alumni who are active in government and public service. The students and alumni connected at the alumni office, shared a meal, and lively conversation about government and public service at the university, state, county, city, and local levels.

Another Monday Munch played host to Alumni involved in the Agricultural Industry locally. Current Agricultural students got the opportunity to visit with area Ag professionals including farmers, ranchers, and bankers.

Most recently, the program saw a visit with professional makeup artist Rogelio Reyna! A select group of students majoring in areas of study from Liberal Arts to Business and Technology got the opportunity to sit down for lunch with Reyna.

Born and raised in Guymon, Reyna is no stranger to the area and couldn't be more proud of it.

"My career started here at Panhandle State and I am

proud of it. It gave me my roots and grounded me. I'm lucky to have graduated from here."

Reyna earned a Music Theatre degree with a minor in Spanish.

"Once I got here (Panhandle State) what I loved the most was you are somebody."

He continued, saying that his time as a student was some of the best, most fun four years of his life.

Give him a start it certainly did! Reyna currently lives in Miami and is a Brand Ambassador for Burberry and Global Director of Artistry, Education and Sales at CARGO Cosmetics. He worked for Bobbi Brown Cosmetics for 18 years. Reyna has done makeup for celebrities J Lo, Britney, and Rihanna just to name a few. He has also been on QVC, Today Show, and Oprah.

His next adventure is to start his own makeup line, something he is in the process of doing right now.

Not only did Reyna share about how he got his start and his current work, he had a number of words for the students as well encouraging them to make themselves stand out through hard work and dedication as he referenced the quote "There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."

"Go for your dreams and don't take no for an answer."

The luncheon series will continue as the Alumni Office hosts groups of selected students from each school and club throughout the year. For more information, contact the Alumni Office at 580.349.1390. 

Coach Bill Berry Receives AARP Oklahoma Indian Elders Honors

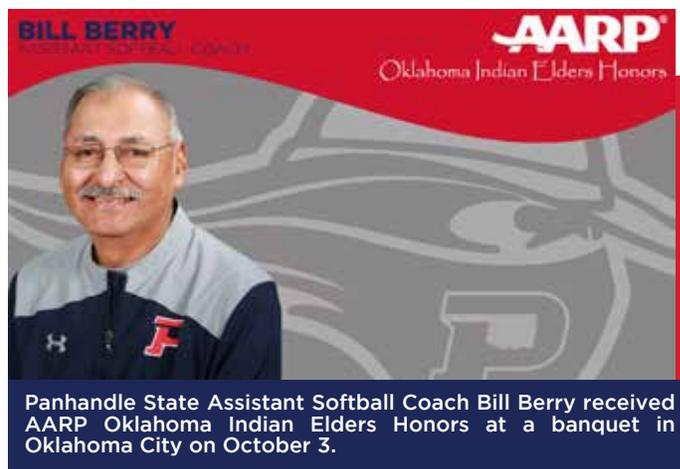
By Alyssa Fox

Panhandle State is pleased to announce the honoring of Assistant Softball Coach Bill Berry by the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elders. As an honoree, AARP Oklahoma recognizes Berry with this prestigious award as an outstanding Native American Elder making an inspirational and powerful difference in his community and Indian Country.

Prior to his coaching term at Panhandle State, Berry coached high school softball in the state of Oklahoma for eighteen seasons and twenty all state-selections. He has accrued 448 wins and reached the state softball tournament eight times and amassed a number of regional and district championships. Berry was also an assistant coach with the ASA 18U Gold Tulsa Eagles, reaching the national tournament five times and placing ninth overall out of sixty-four teams in 2003. He has also been an invited clinician for the University of Oklahoma, Baylor University, and the University of Monroe softball.

Berry has been granted a number of impressive Oklahoma High School Association awards from 2000 to 2012, including: American Legion Baseball Coach of the Year, All-State Fast Pitch Coach of the Year, All-State West Baseball Coach, All-State West Slow-Pitch Coach of the Year. Berry was also awarded the National Native American Softball Coach of the Year by the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2013. In 2016, Berry was inducted into the Oklahoma High School Fast Pitch Coaches Hall of Fame and was selected as the Native American All-State Games Fast Pitch South Coach.

Berry holds remarkable status as an Oklahoma softball coach, reflective of his years of significant achievements, service and commitment, and Panhandle State is proud to have him as part of the Aggies coaching staff. His induction ceremony took place at the Ninth-Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors banquet on October 3. The medallion presentation ceremony was held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. **P**



Panhandle State Assistant Softball Coach Bill Berry received AARP Oklahoma Indian Elders Honors at a banquet in Oklahoma City on October 3.



2017 PTCTI Aggie Hall of Fame Honorees Announced

By Alyssa Fox

The 2017 PTCTI Aggie Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet is nearing, and this year the Aggies will induct David Flowers, Jerry Linton, Bob Wakefield and Georgia Walton into the Class of 2017.

The event will take place Saturday, Oct. 28, beginning at 6 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom on the Oklahoma Panhandle State University campus. A social hour/reception is scheduled for 5 p.m. in the newly renovated University House, and a pre-game recognition of the inductees will take place prior to the Aggies vs. Langston Rivalry Football Game that afternoon at 1 p.m.

Great Western Dining is set to provide the plated dinner for the evening, with the introduction of honorees and induction ceremony following. Each year, the esteemed recipients recount their special years as Aggies and entertain guests with personal stories and anecdotes as the feeling of permeable Panhandle Pride expands throughout all.

An in-depth Spotlight Story on each Hall of Fame inductee will be released in the weeks preceding the ceremony, and can be found on the Aggie Athletics website at opsuaggies.com. **P**





Aggies to Host Inaugural “Oklahoma A&M Showdown”

Released by Panhandle State Sports Information

Rivalries are part of the rich tradition of college football, and what make being an avid fan so much fun. For over fifty years, the Panhandle State Aggies have shared the field of competition with another proud Oklahoma opponent, Langston University.

Both teams represent schools of the Oklahoma A&M System and each has celebrated this long-standing, gridiron matchup in their own manners throughout the years. With the collected efforts of Panhandle State President Dr. Tim Faltyn and Langston President Dr. Kent Smith, Jr., this year’s contest between the Langston Lions and Panhandle State Aggies will further embed the rivalry into the history and time-honored traditions of both programs.

Dr. Faltyn spoke on the far-reaching impact of events such as this stating, “Both Panhandle and Langston have legendary records of success in connecting students with their dreams both on and off the field. The motivation and energy that comes from a rivalry game adds to the college experience for all of our students, alums and community supporters.”

The Aggies will host the inaugural “Oklahoma A&M Showdown” against Langston University on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 1 p.m. Panhandle State will also celebrate their 2017 Homecoming that day with a full lineup of exciting events taking place both before and after the game.

The new rivalry tradition will be introduced to Panhandle State students and fans at a Homecoming Pep Rally on Friday, Oct. 27 with the unveiling of a commemorative victory bell. The bell serves as a traveling trophy presented to the winning team after each meeting from this year forward, adding the extra incentive of “bragging rights”. The victors receive the honor of ringing the bell after each game, whether on home turf or visiting ground.

Dating back to 1960, Langston leads in the series 25-22. The last time the two teams met was in 2015 when then Aggies broke an eight-year losing stretch to Langston, and claimed a 40-35 victory in Goodwell. The coaches of both programs are eager to see how their teams respond from year to year noting that, a little rivalry goes a long way to add that extra boost of motivation.

Faltyn concluded by saying, “I’m proud of both of our athletic staffs for working together to start a rivalry that emphasizes competition, class and respect.”

Special rivalry game t-shirts have been designed and will be on sale the day of the game. The Aggies kick off against Langston at Carl Wooten Field inside No Man’s Land Stadium at 1 p.m., and everyone will want to stick around for the presentation of the victory bell after the game. Fans and alumni unable to attend will be able to access live stats and live streaming video from PTCI online at opsuaggies.com. **P**



Panhandle State Athletics paired-up with the Tyrone Softball Team to make a sizable contribution to Hurricane Harvey relief.

Aggies Aid in the Efforts for Hurricane Harvey

By Alyssa Fox

As severe flooding, power outages and immeasurable structural damage savaged the South Texas region during Hurricane Harvey, Panhandle State University stepped up to join the disaster relief efforts.

Initiated by the Aggie Cheer team and backed by the golf team and entire campus community, Panhandle State took part in a food drive and collection during the weeks following the epic natural disaster.

Through the efforts of Aggie Athletics, donations were collected in both Goodwell and Guymon, as well as during the Aggies' season-opener home football game on August 31. News of the effort spread throughout Texas County and an area softball team from Tyrone High School offered to join in the cause.

Together, the Tyrone and Panhandle State campuses and communities were able to make a sizable canned food, non-perishables, bottled water and supplies donation as well as a contribution of over \$750 to the disaster relief fund for Hurricane Harvey.

The donations were delivered on Sept. 11 to a central Texas food bank where they were distributed to shelters housing hurricane victims. Monetary donations were sent to the American Red Cross.

Hurricane Harvey relief is an issue that hit close to home, as many Panhandle State students, athletes and staff members have families and friends who reside in the flood-affected areas of Texas.

Panhandle State would like to extend a great many thanks to Tyrone High School and to all who gave their time and effort to aid in the disaster relief. Together, the Aggie family has made a difference and we continue to offer our thoughts and prayers to those affected by all of the recent catastrophic events across the nation. **P**

Proud Panhandle Pairings

Community outreach continues to build among all areas of Aggie Athletics as teams reach out to include local groups, businesses and alumni in family-friendly events and game-day activities. **P**



Left: Aggie Football Families Potluck. Right: Baseball Special Game



Aggie Baseball hosted an Alumni Homerun Derby and Dinner.



Local Police and Fire departments took part in the Guns N' Hoses event prior to an Aggies Football game. Apollo Med Flight delivered the game ball for the special First Responders Appreciation Day.

September-October Athletes of the Week



McKenna Clement

Week: AUG 28-SEPT 3
Name: McKenna Clement
Sport: Volleyball
Achievement: Combined for 77 digs at the Aggie Challenge Tournament and totaled three aces over the four-game stint.



Dominick Bell

Week: AUG 28-SEPT 3
Name: Dominick Bell
Sport: Football
Achievement: Named CSFL Player of the Week with 10 tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks against McMurry.



Kaylee Smith

Week: SEPT 11-17
Name: Kaylee Smith
Sport: Women's Rodeo
Achievement: Helped the women secure a win at Colby by taking the title in goat tying.



Nick West

Week: SEPT 11-17
Name: Nick West
Sport: Football
Achievement: Had a breakout week with four catches for 103 yards and two touchdowns against Bacone College.



Barbara Forman

Week: SEPT 18-24
Name: Barbara Forman
Sport: Volleyball
Achievement: Totaled 5.5 points on five kills and one block assist against Wayland Baptist.



Kameron Lyons

Week: SEPT 18-24
Name: Kameron Lyons
Sport: Football
Achievement: Scored a defensive touchdown on a forced fumble recovery against Lyon College; also blocked a punt.



Kendra Butler

Week: SEPT 25-OCT 1
Name: Kendra Butler
Sport: Volleyball
Achievement: Set two career-high marks, scoring 24 points on 18 kills and six service aces over Southwestern Christian.

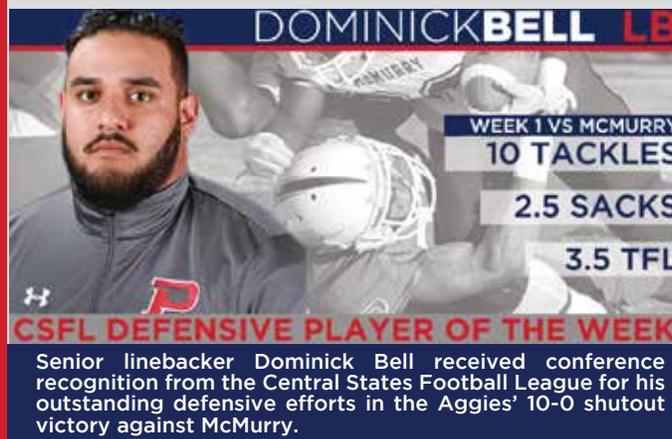


Will Martin

Week: SEPT 25-OCT 1
Name: Will Martin
Sport: Men's Rodeo
Achievement: Won the Men's All-Around title at SEOSU and claimed the bareback riding title as well.

*NOTE: A complete listing of the Aggie Athlete of the Week recipients and their accomplishments is available at opsuaggies.com

Athletics



Senior linebacker Dominick Bell received conference recognition from the Central States Football League for his outstanding defensive efforts in the Aggies' 10-0 shutout victory against McMurry.



Softball Earns Academic Accolades

Submitted by Panhandle State Sports Information

The Panhandle State Softball team earned NFCA academic honors for their combined classroom efforts during the 2016-2017 academic year.

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association released the list of Easton Division II All-Academic recipients on Oct. 10, with 85 NCAA Division-II schools named. The Aggies were among four Heartland Conference teams to receive recognition including St. Mary's, Oklahoma Christian and Newman.

In order to qualify, teams must maintain a minimum team grade point average of 3.5. Panhandle State Softball ranked 77th with a cumulative team GPA of 3.217. The highest-ranked team GPA this year was posted by Upper Iowa University, a fellow NCAA D-II school; UI topped the charts with a 3.813 team GPA.

In addition to the team recognition, seven individual Panhandle State softball players also received NFCA All-America Scholar Athlete awards for their academic achievement. Julia Ibarra, Brooklyne Bolton, Anyssa Barbosa, Salina Galindo, Madison Heathington, Darcie Wilson and Hadleigh Summers each earned the scholastic titles for their outstanding efforts in the classroom.

Head Coach Meghan Mulcahy is proud of the hard work her team puts into their classes stating, "It's great to see their dedication in the classroom has paid off." Congratulations to Coach Mulcahy and the entire Aggie Softball program for putting the "student" in student-athlete. P



CHILI COOK-OFF

Located in
the tailgate
zone

Saturday,
November 11

Judging
starts at
11 A.M.

Winners announced at halftime
of the football game



For complete rules and entry forms call 580.349.1362