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Moments



/AROUND CAMPUS/

ALUMNI HONORED FAMILY: STEDJE FAMILY

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

An interesting story with roots in Norway spanning two continents, two countries, and three states, the Stedje Family is native to the Oslo Community located 15 miles southeast of Goodwell, Okla. This large Norwegian family has 28 members spanning four generations who attended Panhandle State University. Fifteen Bachelors Degrees were earned from Panhandle State from 1939 to 2014. The Stedjes who attended include six farmers/ranchers, nine teachers, counselors, bankers, a technician, a musician, and salesmen.

Jens Larson Stedje moved to America in 1869. After spending some time in Wisconsin and Iowa Jens Michael purchased land in 1916 in Hansford County, Texas. In 1922, the family made the move to the Oslo Community. The unexpected death of Jens Michael left his wife, Clara, alone to care for their five children and to manage their farm. Clara Stedje instilled in her children the importance of education, hard work, honesty, and love. The five children remained connected to the Oslo Lutheran Church and Community. Their descendants continue to be active in the area.

Marie, Clifford, and Anna Marie Stedje (wife of Gordon Stedje) are in the first generation of Panhandle State attendees, with Anna Marie graduating with a BA in Elementary Education and teaching in Gruver, Texas.

Clifford Stedje attended Panhandle A&M in 1939 & 1940 and became a machinist at Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kan. He served in the US Army Air Corp working on B-17 and C47 aircrafts. After WWII, he started farming and ranching with brothers James and Gordon in the Oslo community.

Mike, Judy, Dennis, Kathy, Lynn, Jan,

and Steve Stedje, Diane Stedje Battles, Marilyn Stedje Doege and Barbara Stedje Wise all attended between 1966-1975.

Mike graduated from Panhandle in 1969 with a BS in Business and Lynn graduated 1972 with a BS in Agronomy. Mike and Lynn formed Stedje Brothers and farmed and ranched for 46 years.

Mike's wife, Judy, graduated from Panhandle State with a BS in Psychology. She earned her master's degree and now works as a Licensed Professional Counselor in Guymon, Okla. Mike and Judy's grandson Heath Gammon (son of their daughter Tamra Stedje Gammon) attended classes at Panhandle State.

This large Norwegian family has 28 members spanning four generations who attended Panhandle State.

Lynn's wife, Jan, graduated from Panhandle with a BS in Speech and Home Economics.

Also in the second generation of Panhandle State graduates are Dennis and Kathy Stedje. Dennis graduated with a BA in History in 1971. He farmed in Oslo until his death in 2000. Dennis's wife Kathy graduated in 1978 with a BA in Elementary Education. She was a beloved teacher in Morse, Texas until her death in 1997. Their legacy at Panhandle State continues with the Kathy and Dennis Stedje Memorial Scholarship which is open to students participating in the Livestock Judging program. Their 2 children, Shelley Stedje Singleton and Scott Stedje, also attended Panhandle State.

Of the 16 third generation Stedjes

and spouses who remained in the Oslo/Gruver areas, 14 attended classes at Panhandle State and eight earned degrees between 1995-2004.

Mike's son Brent Stedje and his wife Julie Rouser Stedje graduated in 1995. Brent graduated with a BS in Animal Science. Julie attended Panhandle State and is an LVN in Spearman, Texas. Brent and his brother Tim farm/ranch as Stedje Livestock.

Lee Stedje is the son of Lynn and Jan. He graduated in 2000 with a BS in Agronomy and Industrial Technology. He was part of Stedje Livestock until 2012 when he began work with DCP and then Tri-County Electric as a technician in the service department. Lee's wife, Becky, graduated in 2000 with a BS in Animal Science/Education.

Krista Stedje Davis graduated in 2002 with a BS in Biology Education. Her husband, Buster Davis was on the rodeo team at Panhandle in 1978-1979. Buster is the Senior Vice President at Gruver State Bank. Jill Stedje Watson graduated in 1997 with a BS in Mathematics.

There are several Stedje family currently at Gruver ISD. Erica Salmans Stedje married to Scott Stedje graduated with a BA in Elementary Education and teaches fourth grade. Julie Latta Stedje, married to Tim Stedje, took classes at Panhandle State that allowed her to fulfill prerequisites to become the district's

speech-language pathologist. Jill Stedje Watson is the Calculus teacher and Krista Stedje Davis teaches Chemistry and Physics at Gruver High School.

The Stedje Family also has an artistic side. Sisters Brianne and Lauree Beth Stedje Marshall attended classes at Panhandle State. Lauree Beth graduated with a BA in Music and a minor in History. Lauree Beth and her husband live in Oklahoma City. After earning her master's degree, Brianne returned to Guymon as a counselor at Panhandle Counseling and Health.

Panhandle State has been an integral part in the education of the Stedje Family and has assisted them in becoming a successful family who contributes greatly to their community through their faith, values, service, and vocations. **P**

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On the cover: Fall 2018 Homecoming King Jorge Rosas and Miss Panhandle State/ Fall 2018 Homecoming Queen Hannah Johnson



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/CAMPUS/

HOMECOMING

Fall 2018







/ STAFF /

ROBBY JOHNSON

Born and raised in the Panhandle area, Robby Johnson originally came to Panhandle State on a football scholarship to pursue a degree in Health and Physical Education and now some 30 years later, he is back on campus, this time as the Assistant Director of the Physical Plant.

With 30 years of oilfield experience under his belt, the time and fit was right for Johnson to make the move to the position. “Honestly, when I first came to work here I hadn’t been here in 30 years. It was like stepping back in time. It has come a long way in the time I have been here. The grounds guys have done wonders. Everyone is working together to make everything better, and it still has a ways to go.”

Johnson is very well-respected across campus for two of the very things he is passionate about: that is treating people right and doing good work.

When asked about what he focuses on he commented, “Being good to people and making sure our work is good. If something isn’t right it upsets me to no end. I want to make sure everyone who we are doing this for is happy.”

Johnson takes care of maintenance work around campus and is quick to help however and whenever it is needed. Some of the big projects he has assisted with since he began in February of 2017 include the remodel of the University House, dorm rooms, staff conference room, and numerous office remodels as well the football field and gym upgrades.

“I’m proud of everything we have done from the football field to the work we have done to get the buildings up to par. It’s an exciting time. I’m excited for what this place can be.”

One of the things Johnson enjoys the most is the people he works with and he is quick to credit those who help him each day.

“When people read any of this on me, it’s not me, it’s my people that have done a good job. They try hard and are good people. This would not be possible without them.”

Vice President of Fiscal Affairs Benny Dain said, “Getting to know and work with Robby has been a great experience. He really does care. If it has to do with building or fixing, I call Robby. He is a great asset for the university.”

Johnson and his wife, Kelli, have three kids, ages one, four, and six. Kelli is an alumni of Panhandle State and she works as an environmentalist for Prestage Farms. The Johnsons raise performance horses and their free time is spent barrel racing, roping calves, and training horses. **P**

/ STUDENT /

HANNAH JOHNSON

The proud recent recipient of two dazzling crowns, Hannah Johnson is a junior History major from Texhoma, Okla. and the recently crowned Miss Panhandle State and the Fall Homecoming Queen.

A historically popular campus event, the Miss Panhandle State scholarship competition was resurrected this year after a nearly 10-year break. The event promotes real work skills necessary to survive life after college. The contestants were judged on the following criteria: Resume (25 percent) Interview (25 percent) On-stage Question (20 percent) Casual Wear (15 percent) and Evening Wear (15 percent). The Fall Homecoming Queen award was voted on by fellow Panhandle State students.

Hannah plans to use both of these platforms to promote research for Breast Cancer through the BRCA Foundation. She is also considering promoting charitable donations to St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Always a bright and shining face on campus, Hannah is extremely involved in a number of activities. She is the Captain of the Competitive Cheerleading team, President of the History Club, Communications Officer of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and a Resident Assistant (RA) at the Aggie Apartments.

Hannah knew Panhandle State would be a perfect fit to further her education, “It was a great place to continue my passion of cheer leading and history!”

As far as her favorite thing about Panhandle State she said, “The close knit community that provides support and wishes to see you succeed in all aspects of life! Also, the amazing amount of Christmas lights put out every year! I’m definitely a Christmas junkie!”

Dean of Arts and Education, Dr. Brad Duren said, “Hannah is one of my most dedicated students. She manages to find time for cheerleading, RA work, Student Senate, History Club, AND keeping on top of all her course work. She is a wonderful student who brings energy and effort to anything she does. She is a great ambassador both for the History degree and OPSU as a whole.”

Hannah’s future career plans include pursuing a doctorate in History, teaching at the collegiate level, and coaching cheerleading.

Her hobbies include coin collecting, knitting, crocheting, and reading. She enjoys spending time with her family and has three siblings. **P**



/ FACULTY /

CHARLA LEWIS

A woman of many hats, Charla Lewis is currently serving as Assistant Professor, Director of Instrumental Music, Department Chair of Music, and Director of Music Education at Panhandle State.

Originally from Hugoton, Kan., she graduated as salutatorian of her high school class and continued her education at Panhandle State earning a bachelor of Specialty in Vocal Music Education with an Instrumental Endorsement. Lewis went on to earn a master’s degree in Music Education from Emporia State University. Her first teaching job started with teaching 1-12th grade general music, band, and choir in Forgan, Okla. Lewis went on to teach at Goodwell Public Schools and in the school system at Liberal, Kan. before finding her way back to Panhandle State in 2012.

She currently teaches concert and athletic bands, music theory, and other music courses that teach students how to teach public school music students. The concert band performs two concerts a semester and the athletic band performs at most home football and basketball games. This year is an especially exciting one as it marks the first time in about 20 years for the band to march at home football games. She is also the music department chairperson which involves managing the department, creating class schedules each semester, creating programs for concerts, creating reports on assessments. In addition, Lewis serves as the Director of Scholarships/ Recruiting for the College of Arts and Education and is a member of the Teacher Education Council on campus.

“I want to continue to grow our music program. I want to increase the number of music majors and send out brand new music teachers into our eager community for our kids. I’d like to see the size of the band program double in the next two years and keep on growing so much that we’ll need to build a new auditorium and rehearsal room to hold us!” Lewis commented on her favorite thing about Panhandle State, “I love that we are a small university and care about each other. We want to see each other succeed and often help guide each other’s successes. I love getting to know my students and helping them express themselves through music. But most of all, I love teaching future educators—teaching them how to share their love of music with others.”

Charla has one daughter and two granddaughters. She is engaged to a wonderful man, Lance Ferry. She is a fan of anything having to do with Star Wars, Harry Potter, and Lord of the Rings. She loves to do carpentry, has almost every tool needed to remodel you can imagine. She wrote a biography about her life and times with her late husband and was in the final round for winning a contest with it. **P**

/ ALUMNI /

NATASHA EIDSON

It’s no secret that homecoming is of course, a favorite time for many red and blue Alumni to make a trip back to Goodwell to reminisce about their college days and meet up with old friends. For Panhandle State Alumni Natasha Eidson, Homecoming on September 22nd was all this and more as she officially accepted the reins to a position that is brand new to campus, Director of Alumni Relations.

Eidson commented, “I previously was working at Anchor D Bank and it was such a hard decision to leave the people there, but I knew that coming here I could directly help make a difference in something. While having a degree in business management, I love to plan things. The event side of this job is going to be my most favorite, being able to meet new people and interact with ones I already know and have a strong relationship within the community. I loved attending OPSU as a student and I think being back as staff will be that much more exciting for me.”

Originally from Guymon, Okla., Eidson graduated from Hardesty High School and the small campus and class sizes of Panhandle State seemed to be just the fit she was looking for in continuing her education. She graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management.

One of her favorite things about Panhandle State is the growth and positive changes on campus she got to experience as a senior in college under the leadership of Dr. Faltyn.

Not only did she hit the ground running, she has big plans for the future. Eidson’s responsibilities will include engaging previous alumni and upcoming alumni as she plans events for alumni and friends to meet up. Additionally, she will plan fundraising efforts.

Panhandle State Association of Alumni & Friends President Diane Murphey said, “Natasha is a great fit to continue the growth and reconnection of alumni to Panhandle State. She is an energetic self-starter and shares the vision of engaging both alumni and students to help make Panhandle State all it can be. I am excited to support her in this endeavor.”

Recently married, some may recognize her as Natasha Colpetzer. She and her husband, Jason, have two dogs named Ranger and Duke. Eidson is a photographer and she “loves capturing life and love along the way.” Her family is incredibly supportive and her “anchor” and she aspires to be as successful as her role model and grandpa, George Davidson, Jr. was one day. **P**



/ EDUCATION /

MR. & MISS PANHANDLE STATE MAKES COMEBACK

Submitted by Melody Ethley, Panhandle State Collegian

On Tuesday, September 18th, the Centennial Theatre was packed to the max for the resurrection of the Mr. and Miss Panhandle State scholarship competition.

The event could not have been possible without the help of students, faculty and staff across campus. It was hosted by Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) and the Association of Information Technology (AITP) and sponsored by the Student Government Association. Overseeing the preparation, and supervision of the event were club advisors, Kim Tuttle (AITP) and Dr. Sara Hitch (PBL). Students who participated had the chance to win a \$2,000 scholarship and receive honorable recognition as the face of the campus.

The show was emceed by the Dean of the College of Business and Technology, Mr. Davin Winger. He began the competition with the introduction of the candidates, program staff, and judges. This year's panel of judges were strategically chosen from the community to ensure that there was no bias involved with the selection process. Candidates were judged based on casual wear, evening wear, and an on-stage question. Prior to the show, the

candidates also submitted resumes and completed a seven-minute interview with the judging panel.

Each candidate successfully exemplified their own individual personalities, and characteristics. Among the thirteen candidates, there were numerous attributes that set each one apart from the other. From a spectator's point of view, "it was an intriguing experience, and a good way to get to know more students on campus."

This scholarship competition promotes real world skills necessary to survive life after college and the contestants were judged on the following criteria: Resume (25 percent), Interview (25 percent), On-stage Question (20 percent), Casual Wear (15 percent), and Evening Wear (15 percent). The hands-on experience of having a formal interview and speaking into a microphone in front of an audience helps prepare the candidates to be successful in the pursuit of a career after graduation.

While PBL and AITP sponsored the inaugural event with both Mr. and Miss candidates, Kim Tuttle, CIS Instructor, will oversee the event to ensure

sustainability for future events.

Once the competition had concluded, and the intermission was complete, it was time to announce the winners of the competition. Mayor Kim Peterson, Mrs. Sherry Quimby, Mr. Jim Quimby, and Dr. Sara Jane Richter were an essential part of the selection process serving as the judging panel. Announced first were the competition's runner-ups. This recognition went to Sequoia Smith and Jorge Rosas for the title of Mr. Panhandle State, and to Alex Hamilton and Kaley Conner for Miss Panhandle State.

Mr. Panhandle State 2018 was awarded to Lukas Holub. Holub is a senior from the Czech Republic. He is majoring in Psychology. His goals in life are to live a happy life, which will contribute to making other people more satisfied and motivated as well. Some of Lukas' accomplishments include President's honor roll, Dean's honor roll, and Chi Alpha Sigma. His favorite thing about Panhandle State is that people on campus are super friendly and helpful.

Miss Panhandle State 2018 was awarded to Hannah Johnson. Johnson is a junior from Texhoma, Okla. She is majoring in History. Her future career plans include pursuing a doctorate in History, teaching at the collegiate level, and coaching cheerleading. Hannah is involved in the History Club as the current president, Cheerleading as a captain, and Student Senate. She also serves as a Residential Assistant. Her favorite thing about Panhandle State is that the close-knit community has allowed her to continue her passions of cheer and history and has also brought her a new perspective of life."

The winners received a \$2,000 scholarship and the opportunity to represent Panhandle State at numerous events throughout the next year.

Miss OPSU has been a historically popular event on campus; the last Miss OPSU was held in 2008 with Shayla Powers (Koehn) capturing the title. Additionally, the last Mr. OPSU was held in 1993 with Steve Martin, current CIS Dept. Chair capturing the title. The idea was presented to bring the contest back through a proposal introduced by 2018 Business graduate, Reagan Higgins. Higgins put the proposal together as part of her capstone class, Small Business Management.

Reagan Higgins reflects on her vision, "I came up with this idea almost two years ago and I never thought it would actually be put into action. This program shows that you can have an idea, and with the help and guidance of your instructors and administration see it implemented." **P**

"This program shows that you can have an idea and with the help and guidance of your instructors and administration, see it implemented." — Reagan Higgins, Alumni



John Karlin recently won the Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Practice Award from the Academy of Neonatal Nursing.

/ EDUCATION /

NURSING STUDENT RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

Current Oklahoma Panhandle State University Nursing student John Karlin recently won the Excellence in Neonatal Nursing Practice Award from the Academy of Neonatal Nursing, presented once a year to one RN at the National Neonatal Nurses, National Mother Baby Nurses & National Advance Practice Neonatal Nurses Conferences.

Karlin, a Registered Nurse at OU Children's NICU, is currently completing his last class before receiving his BSN from Panhandle State.

He was nominated for the award by one of his fellow bedside RNs and is the first recipient of this award in the Great Plains Region of the North American Continent including Canada. Karlin accepted the award at the 18th National Neonatal Nurses Conference and National Advanced Practice Neonatal Nurses Conference in New Orleans.

Originally from Baton Rouge, La., Karlin grew up in central Oklahoma City. When choosing Panhandle State Karlin said, "I compared all BSN programs in and around Oklahoma and chose OPSU due to the option of completing the program in as little time or up to five years. I have not been in a rush to complete BSN, and my main priority was to balance work, life, & school."

Karlin didn't plan on working in a rural setting, but says "a nice surprise I found with the OPSU BSN program is I've developed a deeper perspective of rural healthcare and the associated factors surrounding the infants who come in to my NICU from rural facilities; a knowledge base I will definitely be recommending to other inner-city RNs looking to finish their BSN."

For the future Karlin said, "I plan on taking (and passing) the IIA IAP exam, and completing an A.S. in General Business Management. Never think you are done learning. Even after you have achieved your main academic goal, be looking at what

else you can integrate into your life and broaden your background with, whether it's an academic certificate, professional certification, or supplementing Associates degree."

Karlin is a member of the American Legion and currently serves as Chair of the American Society for Quality Chapter 1408 OKC. In addition, he volunteers as a coach for children's self-defense and he enjoys setting up mail thieves with fake packages while doing homework.

Director of RN-to-BSN Program Pamela Sandvig said, "This is an exciting award for John and demonstrates his commitment to the nursing profession. John is dedicated and definitely adds to the conversation in our nursing classes. I can count on John to be enlightening and informative. His love for nursing and educating others is apparent from his work."

She continued, "It is also exciting to hear John recognize the importance of rural nursing. One of the hallmarks of our program is our 'Nursing in Rural America' course. The intent of this course is to raise awareness of the challenges faced by those living and working in rural settings. We hope to empower nurses working in rural areas while increasing empathy and understanding from those working in urban settings. I am proud of John and excited to see him graduate. He is a definite asset to our program. Congratulations John!" **P**



A map display at Academy Elementary proudly represents the many Panhandle State graduates who are now teaching there.

/ EDUCATION /

LOCAL SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS PROMOTE EXCELLENCE

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

Oklahoma Panhandle State University and Academy Elementary in Guymon, Okla. have a long standing relationship that continues to benefit both schools with one of the key partnerships relating to employment.

Academy Principal Melissa Watson commented, “At Academy, 18 out of my 30 certified staff attended OPSU.”

Panhandle State graduate and current Academy Elementary teacher Stephanie Babb said, “OPSU was nothing but a blessing to me and my dad. My dad was a single parent sending me to college in 1992. He could not afford to send me to a college too far from home. OPSU was affordable, was more than willing to work with my dad with payments, and was close to Guymon. The small classroom settings allowed for me to get to know the professors and for the professors to know me. I wasn’t just a face in the crowd. I am thankful for OPSU. If not for them, I would not have gotten my teaching degree.”

Watson added, “It is very hard to find teachers across the state of Oklahoma. The partnership with OPSU is great because OPSU produces trained teachers that often come from this area which makes them, hopefully, want to stay in this area. Those teachers that grew up here can relate with the students we currently have because

they were once students here as well.”

Also, Panhandle State students benefit from the numerous opportunities for observation hours.

Watson commented, “We are able to offer places for education majors to observe and learn about education. Every year, students in Teri Mora’s diversity class come to Academy to observe our ELL students. Even if these students are not education majors or choose a different career path, these observations enlighten them to what some students face when entering schools in America. I think it is terrific to expose OPSU students to what schools are currently experiencing because they will have a better understanding of the function of schools.”

Education Department Head Jerry Mihelic added, “Partnerships with our local schools are important for our community and our mission of excellence at Panhandle. Both our students and the local schools benefit when we work together. We are glad to provide quality teachers for our local public school students and to have quality experiences for our students provided by our local school personnel.” **P**

“We are glad to provide quality teachers for our local public school students and to have quality experiences for our students provided by our local school personnel.”

— Dr. Jerry Mihelic



The 67th Annual Bull Sale is scheduled for February 18, 2019.

/ EDUCATION /

67th ANNUAL BEEF BULL TEST UNDERWAY

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

The 81 beef bulls consigned to the 67th Annual Oklahoma Panhandle State University Beef Bull Performance Test were weighed on test Saturday, October 6, 2018. The bulls were delivered to the testing facility on September 15th and have had a 21-day warm-up period before being weighed on test.

The test started in 1952 as Panhandle State, in cooperation with area beef cattle producers, implemented Oklahoma's first beef bull performance testing program. The program was developed to assist the state's beef cattle producers in gathering performance information on their cattle for the purpose of beef cattle improvement. The performance test has run continuously since its organization in 1952 making it the longest continuously running beef bull performance test in the United States.

Breeds represented this year are Angus, Hereford, and Red Angus. Cooperators participating this year are B&M Angus of Edmond, Okla.; Johnny Canaday of Laverne, Okla.; Bob and Kevin Chaffin of Davis, Okla.; Carl Cook of Galveston, Texas; Eddie and Dustin Cook of Orlando, Okla.; Clarence Frey of Mulhall, Okla.; Mike Frey of Kingfisher, Okla.; Gerald Fish of Harrah, Okla.; William Gilmore of Canyon, Texas; Phil Light of Turpin, Okla.; Casey Murdock of Felt, Okla.; Panhandle State of Goodwell, Okla.; Al Rutledge of Stillwater, Okla.; Terry Sedlak of Kingfisher, Okla. and Larry Weinkauf of Ponca City, Okla.

Panhandle State students working on the test are Jack Hudgins of Stilwell, Okla. and John Barger of Pawnee, Okla.

The test runs for 112 days during which data will be collected on the bulls average daily gain and weight-per-day-of age. Each bull's adjusted 205-day weaning

weight will also be recorded. Other data collected on the bulls are their frame score, scrotal circumference, semen quality, fat thickness, rib-eye area and marbling score.

Through the years, the testing station at Panhandle State has collected performance data on over 7050 head of beef bulls. Due in part to this program, the cooperating breeders have improved the performance of their cattle from an average daily gain of 2.59 pounds per day in 1952 to 4.59 per day in 2018. The top gaining individual bull in 1952 had a daily gain of 3.34 pounds and the top gaining individual bull in 2018 had a daily gain of 7.41 pounds.

The test ends January 26, 2019 and the top 70 bulls will sell in the 67th Annual OPSU Bull Test Sale on February 18, 2019. Those interested in following the performance of the bulls during the test can contact Gwen Martin at (580) 349-1500 or email gwen@opsu.edu. **P**





Sangster (left) has been teaching at Panhandle State for 15 years.

Serving in Helium Activity, Sangster's mother, Doris Schnell, worked as an illustrator in the Branch of Engineering Drafting, Division of Engineering in Amarillo, Texas. She joined the Helium Activity in 1957 as an Engineering Draftsman and received several promotions that led her to the title of Illustrator. Schnell designed the Commemorative Medal offered by the Amarillo Helium Centennial Committee for sale in 1968. The medallion was cast in fine silver and was not only offered for sale but also placed in the Helium Time Capsule.

About 4,000 items were placed in the Helium Time Columns in 1968 and sealed in an inert helium atmosphere to preserve them for future study. With items donated from 165 separate sources, contributors ranged from civic, social, and professional organizations to industry-wide groups and governmental agencies. Many individual contributions were made as well. Items ranged from common office supplies to movie projectors and include such things as family genealogy, history of a Texas Panhandle County, United States coins, and even a dehydrated apple pie! Columns of the four-column capsule were to be opened individually 25, 50, 100, and 1000 years from 1968 with the intention of the contents providing a base for measuring future progress.

At the recent 50th Anniversary, Sangster had the opportunity to make a display commemorating her mother's work with the Commemorative Medal she designed in 1968. The event was held at the Don Harrington Discovery Center in Amarillo.

It was a special evening for Sangster as she reflected on her mother's impact. "My mother's success as a woman in a man's world in the 1960's has been an inspiration for me."

Bryon Test, fellow Panhandle State Art Instructor, commented on Sangster's impact on the Art department. "When Yvonne first came to us, she was a student wanting to finish her degree. As she worked through her courses, I noticed that she was always helping the other students. Upon her graduation, we offered her a position. She has been part of our faculty since then and she is an amazing instructor as well as an incredible artist." **P**

/ EDUCATION /

SANGSTER BRINGS PASSION TO CLASSROOM

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

Currently in her 15th year of teaching at Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Instructor of Art Yvonne Sangster found her passion at a young age and it is a talent she pours into sharing with others.

Sangster talks of how she started, "The root of my desire to create in artistic form began in my cradle from one of the most gifted portrait artists I have ever known, my mother. She put a pencil in my hand the moment I was old enough to hold one and encouraged me to draw. She realized I had inherited her gift when I was only two years old and we were visiting my brother and sister's grade school where she volunteered annually for drawing demonstrations. While I was there I picked up a piece of chalk, drew a long series of circles on the black board then drew two long lines through them. I proudly turned around and announced to the class 'choo-choo train'."

Not only did Sangster's mother have a significant impact on her starting as an artist at such a young age, her mother plays a critical part in how Sangster chooses to manage her classroom and relate to her students today.

"Growing up, I was amazed at the technical work she meticulously rendered in mechanical engineering and design for the Bureau of Mines

Helium Activity, but it was her ability as an illustrator and a portrait artist that planted the desire to be an artist in my heart."

She continues, "My mom had to go back to work when I was three years old. When she came home in the evenings, I would sit on her lap and she taught me how to draw. That time was very special to me and made an impact on my life. That time with my mother is my inspiration for the one-on-one teaching I model in my classroom. I feel I haven't done my job each day if each student hasn't had individual time with me. It makes for a long day, but I wouldn't have it any other way."

Recently, Sangster got to be a part of Historic 50th Anniversary of the Helium Time Capsule, the celebration of an event that she attended as a junior high school student in 1968 to commemorate a special event for her mother.

"I feel I haven't done my job each day if each student hasn't had individual time with me. It makes for a long day, but I wouldn't have it any other way." – YVONNE SANGSTER



Panhandle Water Lab will close effective January 1.

/ EDUCATION /

WATER LAB ANNOUNCES CLOSURE

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

Oklahoma Panhandle State University recently held a meeting for customers of the University's Water Lab to announce that the lab will be closing effective January 1. Customers were informed that Panhandle State will continue to offer logistical support and back up testing through the end of the year, as well as maintain records for the next five years.

This follows a meeting held last year at which University President Dr. Tim Faltyn discussed the need to restructure staffing and increase lab test prices to reduce unsustainable operating losses at the lab.

"Last year we met with the lab's customers and showed them the financials and that we had a loss of \$250,000 in Fiscal Year 2017," said Faltyn. "That was less of a loss than any of the previous years the lab has been open, but a difficult loss after three years of state budget cuts."

During that meeting, Panhandle State informed customers of the plan to significantly increase lab test rates to increase revenue and restructure operations by not filling open positions to reduce costs, and that the University would reevaluate after a year.

At last week's meeting, customers were told that despite the previous year's efforts, the lab still operated at a \$108,000 loss.

"Deborah Ask, our Water Lab Director, has done a phenomenal job trying to make this work this past year," Faltyn said, "but at the end of the day, we cannot continue to sustain the Water Lab."

While the majority of customers will save money by using other labs in the region, Faltyn noted that what made the decision to close the lab so difficult is the local service the lab provided for area customers.

"I hate to see a service leave the Panhandle," added Faltyn, "but this is the reality of dwindling state support and what a 27% reduction in state appropriated funding has created for the only state university in the region."

For customer assistance at the Water Lab, please contact Deborah Ask at dask@opsu.edu. **P**



Dr. Jennifer Justice is coordinating NaNoWriMo at Panhandle State.

Looking for an excuse to finally write that novel? Why wait?

NANOWRIMO
National Novel Writing Month

October Workshops

- Worldbuilding 101: Oct. 8th @ 7 pm, Oct. 10th @ 12:30 pm
- Thinking About the Plot: Oct. 15th @ 7 pm, Oct. 17th @ 12:30pm
- Dialogue: Oct. 22nd @ 7 pm, Oct. 24th @ 12:20 pm
- Description: Oct. 29th @ 7 pm, Oct. 31st @ 12:30 pm

NANOWRIMO.ORG | Contact: Dr. Jennifer Justice
jennifer.justice@opsu.edu

Panhandle State is set for National Novel Writing Month.

/ EDUCATION /

“NaNoWriMo” ENTERS THE PANHANDLE

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

The buzz around the five-state area has National Novel Writing Month, or “NaNoWriMo”, kick started with introductory meetings on October 1st and 3rd as the beginning preparation of the annual event in November. Oklahoma Panhandle State University will be participating in the month-long challenge, where students, staff, faculty, and community members are encouraged to join and write a novel, series of short stories, fiction piece, or whatever you may be interested in.

Grant Faulkner, the executive director of NaNoWriMo, explains, “NaNoWriMo is more than just a writing challenge. NaNoWriMo is an opportunity to step out of your everyday life, open your mind to infinite possibilities, and create new worlds with people from around the globe. It’s a joyous leap into unexplored worlds, a laboratory of the imagination, a chance to free yourself from the obstacles that prevent you from telling your story. Our stories help us understand ourselves and others, so we need our stories more than ever in this age to bridge connections and heal divides.”

NaNoWriMo is a world-wide creative writing challenge in which participants spend the month of November writing a 50,000-word novel. For anyone who has considered writing a novel, anyone who has been putting off writing a series of short stories, or anyone who claims they don’t have enough time to write, this challenge is for you! An anticipated 400,000 individuals from around the world will be signing up next month to support and keep accountable the others taking on NaNoWriMo.

Along with the support from the NaNoWriMo organization itself, Panhandle State will be hosting workshops throughout October and “write ins” throughout November to keep the participants on track. There will also be a Facebook group to encourage accountability with word counts and a sense of community within

the NaNoWriMo culture.

An initial informational meeting discussed NaNoWriMo at Panhandle State and topics for future workshops were chosen. In order to prepare for the marathon of writing a 50,000-word novel in November, Professor of English Dr. Jennifer Justice will be hosting workshops throughout October covering various topics related to novel writing. Participants are encouraged to attend any or all workshops.

On the official start date of November 1st, Panhandle State will be hosting a welcome party in McKee Library from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in order to kick off NaNoWriMo. Once the month is in full swing, “write ins” will be offered in the library as a supportive time to join other participants while they jot down their thoughts. Those will be happening on November 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., as well as every Monday through Thursday from noon until 2 p.m. Wrapping up November and celebrating the participants’ accomplishments will be a party on November 30th from 2 p.m. until 4:30 in the afternoon. All of the events will take place at McKee Library.

The event coordinator Dr. Jennifer Justice commented, “it’s really easy to say “one day I will...” or “if I had the time I would...” when it comes to a project you want to work on for yourself. NaNo Month is about giving yourself that push, about turning “one day” into “now.” The idea of writing 50,000 words in a month is intimidating, but the point of NaNo Month is to get yourself moving and to finally get around to that writing project you keep putting off. Remember, you’ll never get to 50,000 words if you don’t even start.” **P**



The Panhandle State Equestrian Team is off to a great start for the season.

/ATHLETICS/

EQUESTRIAN TEAM BRINGS HOME TWO WINS IN GAINSVILLE

Submitted by Cody Godfrey, Panhandle State Collegian

The Oklahoma Panhandle State University Equestrian team traveled to North Central Texas College in Gainsville on September 29-30 for the first western show of the season.

Junior MaKayla Hoffman, riding in the Intermediate-2 Class, placed third on Saturday and fourth on Sunday; while Senior Hannah Hammack, riding in the Advanced Class, placed fourth Saturday and sixth on Sunday. First year rider on the team and freshman Jacee Barr, riding in the Intermediate-2 Class, placed sixth and third on Saturday and Sunday respectively. Mackenzie Leach, a sophomore at OPSU, placed fourth on Saturday and fifth on Sunday in the Beginner Class. Meanwhile, Cassie Alcorn, riding in the Intermediate-1 Class, placed first on Saturday, along with Ms. Sarah Atha, who came in first in the Beginner Class. Junior Reilly Shore placed sixth on both days. All in all, a good showing for the equestrian team, which is now preparing for a hunt seat show in Purcell, Okla. on Oct. 13-14 and the next western show in El Reno, Okla. on Oct. 20-21.

The team is led by Head Coach, Lisa Drumhiller, originally from Hanover, Pa. Drumhiller joined the team when she was in college so she could ride and start showing again. She ended up becoming the coach for the team later on because she wanted to give more college students the experience of IHSA (Intercollegiate Horse Show Association) and share her love for the organization that made her a better rider, better at caring for horses, and a better person in general. Lisa started coaching the team in January 2017 and says that joining the Panhandle State family is one of the best decisions she has made. She is also a full-time high school special education teacher in Texas.

She is assisted by Faculty Advisor Dr. Sandol Johnson. Lisa is responsible for driving a van full of college students for hours on end and countless other behind-the-scenes jobs.

Coach Lisa Drumhiller offered comments on the first show stating, "We have a very young team to start off the year. We lost almost half of our team due to graduating seniors, but have now grown in size with numerous freshmen and transfer students, most of whom have never done IHSA equestrian team before. I am very proud of how these ladies placed this past weekend and look forward to SNU in a couple weeks." **P**



/ATHLETICS/

AGGIE BASKETBALL SET FOR STRONG SEASONS

Released by Panhandle State Sports Information

Excitement is building for the 2018-2019 Aggie Basketball seasons.

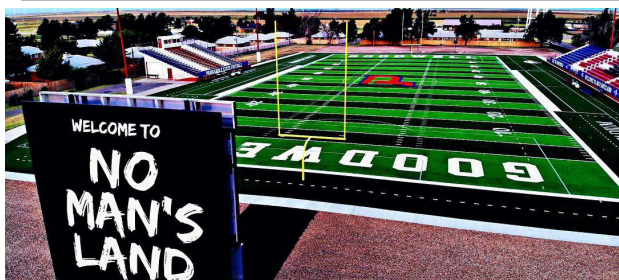
For the women, recruiting efforts have yielded a promising batch of newcomers, but a handful of star returners will look to lead the team into the season. Returning starters, senior Monti Regier and junior Addison Munsch, hold high expectations for the Aggies. Munsch was the team's leading scorer last year and Regier ranked fourth in the country in 3-points made per game in 2017-18. Returning seniors Hannah Faulks and Taylor Acosta will round out the trio of seniors looking to leave their imprint on the program in their closing year. Sophomore Naomi Rodriguez and junior Shambri Kelso both came off the bench last season and progressed to see significant playing time.

On the men's side, in his first year as

head coach, Aaron Coombs doles high praises on his team for their willingness to buy in to the program and the staff and their motivation for this new chapter of Panhandle basketball. Junior forward Jaedon Whitfield returns this year after a stellar 2017-18 season in which was named to All-Conference Honorable Mention and earned three number-one SAC rankings in Rebounds/Game, Total Rebounds and Double Doubles. Sophomore guard DK Sumo is another star returner for the Aggies that the coaching staff has been impressed with. Coombs commented, "All our incoming guys are really talented and have been getting well with returners. We are still working on finding our identity, but we are really excited to figure out exactly who we are as a team." **P**



"We will keep taking steps forward and put our program on the map." — Victor Esparza



/ATHLETICS/

BUILDING A FIELD OF EXCELLENCE

Released by Panhandle State Sports Information

Since the football program's birth in 1919, when wide-eyed players took to the marred, rock-ridden field to play the first game at what was known then as Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical College, the history of Aggie Football has immensely evolved through the years.

For the initial games held in 1934, the first wooden goal posts were erected on the beginnings of a field that would take years to see progress come to fruition. In 1946, an 18-man roster labored through a season of strenuous play on the scraggly grass patch and endured forfeitures by teams who refused to show up and play on the infamous terrain. The following year, the field received its first turf cover and bleachers would finally be fashioned by the Des Moines Steel Company of Dallas, Texas to accommodate 1,000 of the first Aggie fans. Before he was a Panhandle-facility brand name, Carl Wooten accepted the role of the Head Men's Football Coach of PAMC's football team, leading them to a 3-3-1 record and helping to raise money to purchase the team's first official uniforms, helmets, pads and shoes.

Now, with the 2018 season underway, the Aggies are playing on their brand new, modernized turf field inside Anchor D Stadium at Carl Wooten Field. The team sports novel Under Armour-branded uniforms and wear helmets brightly branded with the chrome-red bandit logo, as the new state of the art Daktronics video score board highlights plays and displays graphics to enliven the crowd. **P**



Aggie Volleyball Hosts Girl Scouts



Baseball hosts Special Game Day

/ ATHLETICS /

VOLLEYBALL SEES GOOD TIMES WITH GIRL SCOUTS GAME

Released by Panhandle State Sports Information

The Panhandle State Volleyball team saw a Sooner Athletic Conference matchup against the Oklahoma City University Stars, but the team and the fans were also treated to a special event taking place on the court after the game.

Head Volleyball Coach Signe Coombs was pleased to be able to offer the Girl Scouts a place on the court, saying, "This weekend was a great opportunity to have the Girl Scouts from Goodwell, Guymon and Boise City out to support us at our Saturday match and host them for a volleyball clinic." The six scout troops, ranging from Daisies to Brownies, were brought out onto the court for a special between-sets commemoration, group pictures with the team and coaching staff, and were gifted a framed, team-signed photo.

After the game, the scouts were able to have some one-on-one time with the Lady Aggies and participate in a youth-oriented informative clinic, while also leaving room for fun, games and frolicking on the court. "Our student-athletes and staff thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the Girl Scouts, getting to know them and teaching them volleyball skills," expressed Coombs, "There was a lot of excitement and eagerness to learn which cultivated a fun, high energy environment."

The Aggie Athletics department is always excited to have an opportunity to unite athletes with members of the community through special game days and create lasting connections through events with our athletics programs. Coombs continued, "One of the Girl Scout troop leaders, Moylene Davis, has been instrumental in building a strong relationship with our program. We are grateful for the continued support and the opportunity to give back to an organization that serves our local and regional communities." **P**

/ ATHLETICS /

AGGIES BASEBALL HELPS HOST 2018 SPECIAL GAME DAY

Released by Panhandle State Sports Information

Oklahoma Panhandle State University and Aggie Baseball were proud to pair up with Main Street Guymon again for the second annual Special Game Day. Hosted at the Noble Center in Goodwell due to inclement weather, an exciting game day was held for special needs children and their families to enjoy a day of fun and fellowship on Sunday, Oct. 14.

Special needs children of all ages were welcome to come play in a fun baseball game day, assisted by players of the Aggie Baseball team. Head Coach Jason LaRocque and Assistant Coach Keith Schulz were honored to be a part of this wonderful event. Panhandle State campus students and staff, and surrounding community members were encouraged to fill the stands and take part in this spirited game.

Athletic Director Meghan Mulcahy was excited to be able to be a part of this wonderful experience for the second year. "I am happy our University and our baseball program can take part in coming together for such an amazing day. We are thrilled to be able to extend our facilities, administration, players and other campus groups in support of this event."

Aggie Baseball Head Coach Jason LaRocque echoed Mulcahy's comments, saying, "I am so excited to continue to host this event and I am honored we are able to use our platform to connect with the community. The support from our administration coinciding with the support of those from Goodwell, Guymon and the surrounding areas makes this a wonderful atmosphere." LaRocque continued, "I am proud to have such an engaging administration and a compassionate community. Our staff and program wants to be an influential icon for our great region and we are privileged to have the opportunity to connect and be a part of the lives of those we can reach out to." **P**



Beau Peterson
Women's Rodeo



Peterson has clinched goat tying titles at all of the college rodeos she has attended so far including Colby, Kan.; Durant, Okla., and Stillwater, Okla. She has earned the All-Around title at two of the three rodeos.

/ATHLETICS/

PETERSON BRINGS THE HEAT TO START COLLEGE CAREER

Released by Panhandle State Campus Communications

"I like when the hard work pays off and success happens," says Beau Peterson. The Oklahoma Panhandle State University freshman rodeo standout from Council Grove, Kan., has certainly shown she isn't afraid to work hard and it is definitely paying off. Peterson has collected goat tying titles in each of the first three rodeos of the fall season. So far she has competed in and won the all-around title at two of those same rodeos to which Peterson humbly commented "It's a nice way to start my college career."

Assistant Rodeo Coach Shelbie Weeder said, "Beau is a coach's dream. She has a great attitude and is ready and willing to put in work both inside the classroom and at the arena. She hit the ground running here at college and hasn't looked back. I'm very proud of the success she has already seen this fall season and I know she will be a great leader for our team moving forward as we have our sights set on a national title for the women's team."

Aside from goat tying, Peterson also competes in breakaway roping and barrel racing. Knowing Panhandle State had a successful rodeo team combined with a great scholarship opportunity

and the small university atmosphere are the things that brought her to Goodwell. As for her favorite thing, Peterson says, "just the feel" and adds "It's a family feeling. It's inviting."

Raised on a ranch in the Flint Hills of Kansas, Peterson started riding at a young age and grew up around rodeo, with both parents, Matt and Dustin, and an older sister, Michaela, all having competed as well. She credits a great deal of her success to her family.

"My dad has taught me a lot in both roping and the mental aspect of rodeo. Several people have helped me along the way with my goat tying especially my mom, my sister, and a family friend."

After just a short conversation with her, it is easy to see she is very passionate about her horses and they are a big part of her rodeo career as well. Hustler, Zanny, and Faith are her current go-to's and she loves the time she gets to spend with them.

Peterson commented on her goals coming into college saying, "Every rodeo, I have my goal to make it back in all three events and win the all-around. I also want to make the college finals in at least two events. I want the women's team to win the region and take a good

team to nationals."

She is certainly no stranger to success. With accomplishments too numerous to list, Peterson looks back to the close of her high school career mentioning a win at the Best of the Best Goat Tying in Gallup, NM this past June. Additionally, she won the breakaway roping, goat tying, and poles to earn the All-Around title in the Kansas High School Rodeo Association this past spring. She finished fourth in the goat tying and sixth in the breakaway roping at the National High School Rodeo and she finished third in the breakaway at the International Finals Youth Rodeo (IFYR) in Shawnee this past summer.

Peterson comments on finding the success she has, "It takes lots of hard work, dedication, and looking up to others better than you and trying to reach their level. I'm really passionate about it too, so it makes it easy to work at."

Outside of time spent in the rodeo arena, Peterson enjoys playing basketball and spending time with her family.

She is currently a Nursing major and she would like to pursue a career as a nurse anesthetist in the future. Other future goals include making it to the American and the National Finals Rodeo (NFR). Peterson would also like to continue training young horses. **P**

/ATHLETICS/

GLOVER EARNS SECOND SAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK HONOR



Panhandle State's **Shayna Glover**, a freshman from Goodwell, Okla., became SAC runner of the week for the second time this season following a third-place finish in the New Mexico Highlands Cross Country Jam in Las Vegas, N.M. She surpassed her season best with a time of 19 minutes, 42 seconds, pacing Panhandle State to a second-place finish.

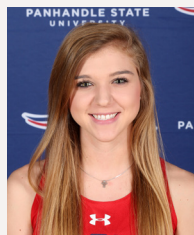
/ATHLETICS/

VILLERREAL EARNS SAC SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Eduardo Villarreal, a freshman punter-kicker from Lubbock, Texas, booted in the winning 20-yard field goal as time expired to bring Panhandle State a 38-35 victory over OUAZ on September 15th at Spirit Field in Surprise, Ariz. Villarreal converted five point-after kicks and averaged 30.2 yards on five punts. His longest punt went for 36 yards.

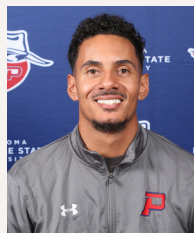
AGGIE ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



SHAYNA GLOVER
WEEKS 1 & 2: Cross Country



LISIMBA YOUNG
WEEK 1: Football



NICK WEST
WEEK 2: Football



BEAU PETERSON
WEEKS 3 & 5: Rodeo



EDUARDO VILLARREAL
WEEK 3: Football



QUIARA POINTDEXTER
WEEK 4: Volleyball



JAVIER MEDINA
WEEK 4: Football



JADE TATON
WEEK 5: Rodeo



KENDRA BUTLER
WEEK 6: Volleyball



SERGI TELLER
WEEK 6: Football

A complete listing of Athlete of the Week recipients can be found at opsuaggies.com

SAVE THE DATE



CHILI COOK-OFF

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD

CHILI JUDGING AT 11AM

FOOTBALL GAME VS. TEXAS COLLEGE AT 2PM



TAILGATE ZONE, ANCHOR D ARENA, PANHANDLE STATE CAMPUS