

OCTOBER 2020

Panhandle

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY

OPSU.edu



**FIRST AND ONLY HISPANIC
SERVING INSTITUTION
IN OKLAHOMA**



“History has been made this year at the Oklahoma Panhandle Research and Extension Center. Cameron Murley, OPSU and OSU Alumni and Director of OPREC, is a blessing to our university.”

— Dr. Tim Faltyn,
University President

/ CAMPUS /

99 HYBRIDS OF RESEARCH/TRIAL CORN

The Oklahoma Panhandle Research and Extension Center planted 99 different corn seed hybrids in April of 2020 for a hybrid performance research trial. The majority of the seed was donated for the research. The participating companies that entered their varieties were Stine Seed, Fontanelle, Hefty, Hoegemeyer, Midwest Genetics, Channel, Dekalb, and Dyna-Gro.

The crops were harvested in late September. Of all of the companies, Channel seeds hybrid 217-76 had the highest yield with 208 bushels per acre. All the hybrids were managed to evaluate their performance under limited irrigation pumping capacities. This research trial also provides data to measure water use efficiency of these hybrids at limited irrigation capacities.

University President, Dr. Tim Faltyn commented, “History has been made this year at the Oklahoma Panhandle Research and Extension Center. Cameron Murley, OPSU and OSU Alumni and Director of OPREC, is a blessing to our university. Thanks to Cameron Murley for his leadership and vision.”

Senior Station Superintendent, Cameron Murley, has been with OPREC for 12 years. He started out working as a student and then developed into a full-time position in 2014. Cameron manages the 660 acres that OPSU and OSU operate together as the OPREC and the 1200 acres of McCaull Research and demonstration farmland.

Cameron commented, “We do research with not only seed and chemical companies but also provide logistic support and implementation of field research and extension activities to various departments of Oklahoma State University. Additionally, we collaborate with other land grant institutions in the region.”

“The hybrid trials with these seed companies provide them with a non-biased environment to evaluate their latest product they are going to utilize in this region,” Cameron continued, “This research trial was not just a one on one comparison, it gives a broad look of how each hybrid performs in this area with limited irrigation.”

“What makes my position unique with Panhandle State is that I have ties to both Universities as I am a graduate from both. I also have the best interest at heart for both Universities.”

Director of the OSU Field and Research Service Unit, Dr. Chris Richards stated, “The partnership between OSU and OPSU at OPREC provides a synergy that increases research and demonstrations, such as the corn variety trial, that benefit OPSU students and regional agricultural producers.” 



CONTENTS

Panhandle Magazine — October 2020

- 6 — \$2.8 MILLION TITLE V GRANT, DEVELOPING HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS
- 10 — OPSU BAND AND CHOIR HOSTS FALL CONCERT
- 12 — NAIA GOLD AWARD
- 15 — MEN'S SOCCER HAS RECORD-SETTING SEASON OPENER



On the cover: Student - Panhandle State Students



OKLAHOMA
PANHANDLE STATE
UNIVERSITY

P.O. Box 430 Goodwell, OK 73939
Tel: 580-349-2611 / Toll Free: 1-800-664-OPSU
Fax: 580-349-2302

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Tim Faltyn — President
Dr. Julie Dinger — Provost
Dr. Ryan Blanton — Vice President of Operations
Dr. Brad Duren — Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs
Liz McMurphy — Assistant Vice President of Fiscal Affairs

PANHANDLE MAGAZINE

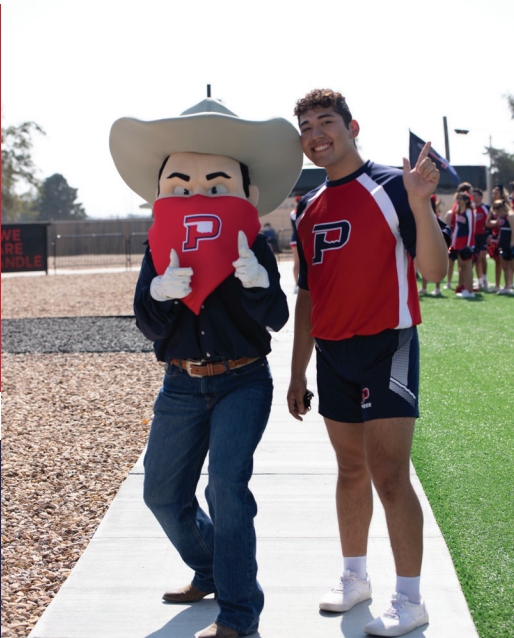
Natasha Eidson — Director of Campus Communications
Chyanna Black — Director of Alumni Relations
Dave Beyer — Sports Information Director

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Natasha Eidson — Chyanna Black — Amanda Tidwell — Brittany Smith — Laura Demures Moya — Myra Mccaskill — Camry Kane

/ CAMPUS /

EVENTS ON CAMPUS & IN THE COMMUNITY







OKLAHOMA PANHANDLE STATE UNIVERSITY
IS THE FIRST AND ONLY
**HISPANIC SERVING
INSTITUTION IN
OKLAHOMA**



“This grant is a game changer for our university. We are proud of our Hispanic students, they are leaders on our campus and are a big part of what makes OPSU the best in our region.”

— Dr. Tim Faltyn,
University President

/ CAMPUS /

OPSU AWARDED \$2.8 MILLION FOR TITLE V GRANT DEVELOPING HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS

Oklahoma Panhandle State University is proud to announce the University has received a \$2.8 million grant from the United States Department of Education through the Title V, Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions Program. This grant is designed to develop and expand curriculum proven to increase retention, as well as add academic programs to meet regional economic demands. This is the first and only Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions grant in Oklahoma.

The program also will allow the University to expand and enhance support services for Hispanic students by adding online services in Spanish and expanding support at the Hispanic Student Support Center to better meet needs. The grant program will also encourage more Hispanic students to live on campus to increase their connection with the campus and its services.

University President, Dr. Tim Faltyn stated, “This grant is a game changer for our university. We are proud of our Hispanic students, they are leaders on our campus and are a big part of what makes OPSU the best in our region. I am excited to have needed resources to better serve our students.”

Vice President of Operations Dr. Ryan Blanton, Provost Dr. Julie Dinger, and Hispanic Student Services Director Teri Mora are the ones that developed a plan to best utilize this opportunity.

Dinger commented, “Our Hispanic students are a major reason OPSU is a special place. With this opportunity, we will further our plans for the Hispanic Student Support Center and provide resources to serve our students.”

Teri Mora, Director of Hispanic Student Services stated, “At Panhandle State we have long been committed to serving our Hispanic community and for the past fifteen years it has been my personal mission for OPSU to be recognized as a Hispanic Serving Institution. I am proud of what we have accomplished and I look forward to seeing how the additional resources of this grant will be used to continue to transform the lives of our Hispanic community.”

OPSU is the first and only Hispanic Serving Institution in Oklahoma, serving a Student population that is 29% Hispanic. Oklahoma Panhandle State University will use this award to continue growing program to ensure students have all the tools needed to succeed.

Dean of the Academic Resource Center, Sarah Green, stated, “This grant provides resources for the University to improve on our strengths and better serve our students. It will be exciting to see our results of this program over the next five years.” **P**



/ CAMPUS /

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AT OPSU

Hispanic Heritage Month is traditionally celebrated from September 15 - October 15. This year's Hispanic Heritage Month at OPSU was celebrated differently from usual due to the pandemic. While student leaders opted for more virtual events, they still included many opportunities to celebrate and honor their Hispanic heritage.

Students led the traditional jalapeño eating contest, a virtual book club of The House on Mango Street, and focused on weekly social media posts about Hispanics who have influenced the culture in the U.S.

Another event was the virtual scavenger hunt across campus, followed by a virtual game night to introduce players to Hispanic themed games. The cultural fair was the final event led by the efforts of Cristofer Monje and Andres Muñoz, who spent time researching the twenty Spanish speaking countries in the world and then making a display of that information in the hallway of the Student Union.

President Faltyn commented, “I am so proud of what our students have done to share their cultures. As we move forward, we are dedicated to ensuring our faculty and staff reflect our student demographics as much as possible.” **P**



/STUDENT/

YESENIE CANO TO SERVE ON THE NEA ASPIRING EDUCATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A Panhandle State Junior, Yesenie Cano, has been selected to serve on the National Education Association for the Oklahoma Aspiring Educators Association.

The Advisory Committee of Student Members is responsible for actively promoting Aspiring Educator membership on college campuses and recommending strategies to increase Aspiring Educator membership and engagement while creating a seamless path from Aspiring Educator membership to active membership. The Committee is also responsible for assisting in the planning and delivery of the National Education Association Aspiring Educator Conference.

With over thirty applications submitted to the NEA Aspiring Educators Program, only nine students were appointed positions on the Advisory Committee on Aspiring Educators.

Cameo Kendrick, the Aspiring Educators Chair for the National Education Association, stated, “Yesenie Cano’s glowing essay, recommendation letter, and vision to serve the members of NEA Aspiring Educators have stood out. Her dedication in this process proves she is a valued leader in the NEA Aspiring Educators Program and will serve the members dutifully.”

Provost, Dr. Julie Dinger, commented, “Yesenie’s passion for STEM education is an inspiration to current and future education majors. We are so proud of her and her hard work, I’m looking forward to great things as she leads in the NEA Aspiring Educators Program.”

Cheng-Hsien Wu, advisor for the OAEA group at OPSU, commented, “Yesenie is an advocate of the education issues and is not shy to speak up for the educational inequity. She actively participates in OAEA events and conferences and is elected as the state officer for OAEA’s Legislative Representative. She earns her seat to serve as the NEA Aspiring Educator Advisory Committee, and I look forward to seeing her growth in the teaching arena!”

Director of Hispanic Student Services, Teri Mora, said, “I have had the privilege of working with Yesenie for several years, first as an Upward Bound student and then as a college student here at Panhandle. She is an outstanding natural leader. Last fall she was awarded a Leader in Training scholarship to attend the HACU (Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities) conference, and through her attendance at the USHLI (United States Hispanic Leadership Institute) last spring she became instrumental in HALO’s efforts to increase the census participation in our county. She is community-minded and will do amazing things as a member of the NEA Aspiring Educator Advisory Committee. We are all so proud of her achievements!” **P**

/STUDENT/

STACY JIMENEZ SELECTED FOR HACU LEADER IN TRAINING PROGRAM



The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, HACU, conference annually hosts a student track component that brings together over 500 undergraduate students from across the United States and Puerto Rico—known as the HACU ¡Adelante! Leadership Institute, the program is conducted for three days with workshops focused on leadership and professional development.

Vice President of OPSU HALO, Stacy Jimenez, has been selected as an undergraduate to participate in this program. The program incorporates several networking opportunities for students, employers, and graduate schools’ representatives to exchange ideas and strengthen their professional network.

¡Adelante! Leadership Institute Scholarships cover costs for conference participation. Scholarship recipients are required to attend all ¡Adelante! Leadership Institute activities. The workshop was to be held at Disney World in Florida, but due to COVID-19, the conference will be held virtually on October 25th-28th.

“I am excited and honored to attend this conference even though it will be held virtually,” Stacy continued. “By the end of the conference, I will become a better leader and take into action what I have been taught from the leadership workshops. This is a great opportunity for me to build on my leadership skills.” **P**



/ STAFF /

CAROL HILL

Originally from Sykeston, North Dakota, Carol Hill is the Purchasing Coordinator at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. Recently, she started her sixth year at OPSU.

Carol graduated in 2002 with a Bachelor of Business Administration with an emphasis in Business Management from Friends University with Honors of the Tower.

For Carol, OPSU is the best place she has ever worked. She stated, “My favorite thing about Panhandle State is the great people I get to work with.”

While being the Purchasing Coordinator, Carol has helped OPSU with the financial goals that each department sets for themselves. “I make sure that all requisitions comply with Oklahoma Purchasing Policies and that they are processed in a timely manner,” Carol continued, “I monitor the cash flow and make appropriate transfers when necessary.”

Associate Vice President of Fiscal Affairs, Liz McMurphy, stated, “Carol is attentive and makes sure that we adhere to policies and procedures. She is always willing to help.”

Carol was named Employee of the Semester for the Spring 2020 semester. She is always looking for ways to provide excellent service to the staff and faculty at OPSU and their vendors. Carol was raised on a farm in North Dakota with nine brothers and sisters, so she learned many life lessons. “You find that there are many jobs on a farm, and so you just find ways to help where it is needed.”

Vice President of Operations, Dr. Ryan Blanton commented, “Vice President of Operations, Dr. Ryan Blanton commented, “Carol was instrumental in getting the University ready to reopen after the start of the COVID-19 crisis. We are thankful for her hard work and dedication.”

Carol’s pride and joy are her two children, Dane and Catie, who are OPSU graduates. Carol recently became a Grandma to a sweet baby boy, Rollins. Carol enjoys listening to music during her free time and is very interested in politics. **P**



/ STUDENT /

CHRIS SCHRAER

Chris Schraer, a Frisco, Texas native, is a student-athlete that wants to set an example for the community at Panhandle State. He is pursuing a double major in Sociology and Psychology with a minor in History and is on track to graduate in Spring 2021.

Chris came for the baseball program but stayed for the people. During his time here, he has taken part in community service events. He has enjoyed reading and playing with the kids at the elementary school and the Special Game Day hosted on campus. Schraer stated, “It allows the community to see that Oklahoma Panhandle State athletes are far more than just athletes.”

Schraer, a Chi Alpha Simga inductee, has built many relationships throughout Panhandle State. Dr. Duren, Dr. Maille, Dr. Cole, Head Coach Joy, and former assistant Coach Schulz have impacted him during his time at Panhandle State. Chris said, “Each of them giving me a valuable perspective on how to look at the world. The world is not one dimensional or black and white, and it is these individuals that have made this abundantly clear, that we as active participants in our communities have the duty of improving all that we can.”

Chris grew up with his mom, Rebecca, and younger brother Kaleb. After graduation, he plans to attend law school, which he can use for a civil rights law career. He commented, “Just like Panhandle State, I wish to help and be supportive of all those around me. After I graduate, I want all those that come behind me to realize that although we wait for our college years for a large chunk of our lives, it comes and goes in the blink of an eye.” **P**



/ FACULTY /

PATRICK MAILLE

Born and raised in upstate New York, Dr. Patrick Maille has worked at Oklahoma Panhandle State University for 15 years. He is a Professor of History, Department Chair for Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the Faculty Athletics Representative.

Before OPSU, he worked as a Pharmacy Technician in Lubbock, Texas. After deciding to pursue a major in history, Dr. Maille set his sights on earning his Bachelor's and to continue to graduate school.

Dr. Maille earned a Bachelor of Arts in History, a Master of Arts in History, and a Doctorate of History all from Texas Tech University. He was the first to graduate college in his family.

Since working at Panhandle State, Dr. Maille has seen many students grow and succeed in their professional fields. He stated, "The success of the faculty and staff at OPSU is directly connected to the success of our graduates. It's amazing to look at our seniors and then think back about how they were as freshmen and see how much they have grown."

Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Brad Duren, commented, "Dr. Maille has been a dear friend and colleague since he arrived at OPSU in 2005. He is an excellent scholar, and students respect him for his ability to challenge and encourage them in their study of history. We are very fortunate to have him on our faculty, and I count it a blessing to know him and work with him."

Dr. Maille is a published author of a book that will appear on the shelves next Spring. It's called The Cards: The Evolution and Power of Tarot. He and his wife, Bonnie, have two children. **P**



/ ALUMNI /

DIEGO ARENAS

Born in El Paso, Texas, Diego Arenas has set out to make a difference as an Oklahoma Panhandle State University alum. He chose to attend Panhandle State for its reasonable cost, accompanied by the opportunity to play football.

Arenas pursued a degree in Math Education and graduated in 2018. During his time at Panhandle State, Diego played football and was also an active member of HALO.

Diego commented, "The family atmosphere, getting to bond with classmates, and the community through both football and organizations like HALO were my favorite parts of OPSU."

After graduating, Diego joined the Peace Corps, where he served in Tanzania. He served from July 2019 until March 2020. During the first three months of his mission, he trained in Korogwe in the Tanga region. He stayed with a family that helped him learn the language and culture at night while attending the Peace Corps training during the days.

Diego was then installed at Ufana Secondary School in Manyara in late September, where he taught math and physics to high school-aged students and built connections within the community. In March, Arenas was evacuated due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Arenas stated, "While in Tanzania, I met so many people and made many friends at the school that I taught and throughout the community. It was so beautiful to be welcomed into such a communal culture in which I was able to build amazing relationships and hear different points of view while also connecting through similarities and feeling like part of a family so far from home."

Since his return to the United States, Diego has continued to teach. Arenas is now a high school math teacher in Aurora, Colorado, at Hinkley High School. He continues to make a difference through education and building relationships all around him. **P**



/ CAMPUS /

OPSU BAND AND CHOIR HOSTS FALL CONCERT IN THE CENTENNIAL PARK

The evening of October 6th was not only beautiful because of the weather, but the sound of music carried around the OPSU campus as the OPSU Band and Choir hosted their Fall Concert at the Centennial Park. Charla Lewis and Dr. Kim Chai directed the concert.

University President, Dr. Tim Faltyn stated, "Centennial Park on our campus was transformed by the enchanting sound of music. SIMPLY AMAZING! Thank you, Charla Lewis and Dr. Kim Chai, for making beautiful music with our inspiringly talented students."

The theme for the Chamber Singers and Concert Choir was Onward and Upward. The Band's theme was a night at the movies with the following films: Star Wars/Raiders March, The Imperial March, May It Be from The Fellowship of the Ring, and The Magic of Harry Potter. **P**



/ CAMPUS /

HALO & BSOW CELEBRATE NATIONAL CUSTODIAN DAY

On October 2nd, Two student groups on campus recognized National Custodian Day. The Black Scholars of the World and Hispanic American Leadership Organization student groups came together to make the staff feel special and know they are appreciated for all they do. The entire OPSU campus sees all of their hard work daily.

Vice President of Operations, Dr. Ryan Blanton commented, "The fact that these students took the time to express their appreciation lets us know how much they care, and how important the work is



/ ALUMNI /

DR. RYAN BRYANT NAMED OPSU ALUMNI ON THE MOVE

Dr. Ryan Bryant, a Goodwell, Oklahoma native, graduated from Panhandle State in 2015. Bryant pursued a degree in Biology as well as minors in Chemistry and Agronomy. Ryan chose OPSU because of his interaction on campus, where he had built a connection.

Ryan commented, “My grandpa, Dr. David Bryant, was president of OPSU, and my brother Tyler and I grew up on the OPSU campus. After spending so much time attending events over the years and getting to know so many of the faculty and staff, continuing my education at OPSU was an easy choice.”

President Faltyn stated, “I think Dr. Bryant is an excellent choice for this recognition. He is an exceptional young man from a great family.”

After graduating from Panhandle State, Dr. Bryant went on to receive his Masters in Plant and Soil Sciences in 2016 and Ph. D. in Crop Science in 2020 from Oklahoma State University. During his Masters, he focused on soil fertility in corn, grain sorghum, and winter wheat. While working on his Ph. D. Bryant worked on genetic characterization and breeding efforts.

“My favorite thing about OPSU is the people. Nobody is a stranger on OPSU’s campus, and I don’t believe you’ll find better people anywhere else. I definitely wouldn’t be where I am today without all I learned in the classroom from Dr. Curtis Bensch and Dr. Justin Collins and the lifelong friendships I have with them and so many other people from all my years in Goodwell.”

Dr. Ryan Bryant is currently the Technical Services Manager of the TX/OK/KS/CO region for UPL. He is also recently engaged to fiancé, Jennifer, and they are planning their wedding for next year. **P**

/ CAMPUS /

PANHANDLE STATE RODEO JUSTIN HARRINGTON JACKPOT



The Justin Harrington Memorial Jackpots have become a tradition for the Panhandle State Rodeo Team. It started in 2013 to honor the loss of the rodeo team member, Justin Harrington. The jackpot started as a single day with the events of goat tying and breakaway.

Coaches Robert Etbauer and Shelbie Rose have continued to grow it to bring more opportunity to the contestants with the addition of events and added money. They have worked with ‘The American’ to make a few of these events American Qualifiers, which has drawn more contestants to attend.

This year was a weekend full of action, with Saturday hosting Steer Wrestling and Open Team Roping. Jarek VanPetten won the Steer Wrestling in the morning, and Wyatt Murray and Colton Reed finished the day out, winning Team Roping out of 43 teams. Sunday started with goat tying, which was won by our own aggie Beau Peterson. She continued her momentum to win the breakaway as well that had 72 entries. The day ended with the calf roping won by Trevor Hale, one of 38 calf ropers.

Justin Harrington Memorial Jackpot awarded the \$500 bonus and a buckle to the top combined money winners for both men’s and women’s events, as well as a \$250 bonus to the runner-ups.

This year our aggies came out on top with Quint Bell and Beau Peterson winning the bonus and buckles. The runner-ups were Panhandle State alum, Kaylee Gregg, and current aggie, Whitt Crozier. This year was the largest jackpot, with 184 total entries for the weekend. Both coaches stated, “We want to say thank you again to everyone who helped make this event possible. We couldn’t do it without you.” **P**



2019-20 NAIA

Champions of Character®
FIVE-STAR INSTITUTION



2019-2020

GOLD

CONGRATULATIONS AGGIES!



/ATHLETICS/

OPSU NAMED AN NAIA GOLD AWARD FIVE-STAR INSTITUTION

For the second-consecutive year, Oklahoma Panhandle State University has earned recognition as a Five-Star Institution from the NAIA for its intercollegiate athletics program – earning a Gold Award - it has been announced. Last year, Aggie Athletics earned a Bronze Award on the Five-Star Institution on the Champions of Character scorecard used to judge each NAIA school.

“We are so very proud to have earned recognition as a Five-Star Gold Medal Institution from the NAIA,” OPSU University President Dr. Tim Faltyn said. “This award let’s everyone know that we are a university that strives to do things the right way: in the classroom, in the community and on the fields of competition. We want to prepare our students for life and the core values of the NAIA provide a tremendous foundation to make that possible.”

The honor is based on the NAIA’s five core values: integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant leadership. The actual point total is 67-percent on training and development on campus and through community outreach. In 2019-20 alone, OPSU athletic programs racked up better than 2,300 hours of campus and community service activities. Some of the activities where Aggies served included: reading and recess time at local elementary schools, Clean-up Guymon, Pioneer Days, Special Games Day for special needs children and their families, volunteering for seniors at Dunaway Manor Heritage Community, Paul Farrell Art Auction, Belly Open Golf Tournament, as well as various other business and community events.

Other areas of consideration for the Five-Star Institution are academic focus, character recognition, character promotion and conduct in competition. Baseball player Nico Rodriguez was the SAC’s nominee to the NAIA for the Dr. Leroy Walker Student-Athlete of Character award. Likewise, eight OPSU teams – softball, baseball, men’s golf, women’s cross country, women’s basketball, women’s golf, men’s soccer and volleyball – were all SAC and NAIA Scholar-Team honorees. Individually, OPSU student-athletes claimed 136 academic-based honors, as well.

The Aggie Baseball team was awarded the Team of Character Award from the Sooner Athletic Conference. Panhandle State’s women’s soccer program – in its inaugural season – received the Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Award from the United Soccer Coaches in 2019-20.

“I congratulate each and every member of our staff,” Interim Director of Athletics Victor Esparza added. “To earn an award like this takes a true team effort. We will push hard to improve even more and work to make being a Five-Star Institution an annual goal for Aggie Athletics.”

The Sooner Athletic Conference, of which OPSU is a member, was also recognized as a Five-Star Conference. **P**



/ATHLETICS/

SHOOTING SPORTS TEAM OPENS 2020-2021 INAUGURAL SEASON

The Oklahoma Panhandle State University Shooting Sports Team – under Head Coach Jordan Freeman – opened its 2020-21 slate of competitions on September 18th. The team started their first competition at the Midland University-Ice Out.

“I am really excited about this upcoming shoot. It’s our season opener as well as the first competition that we will compete in as a brand new program,” Freeman said prior to departing for the event. “I am so proud of how hard my athletes have worked in practice to prepare for this shoot, even stepping out of their comfort zones to shoot in disciplines they have never competed in before. We are ready to show up and represent the Aggies!”

Aggie Head Coach Jordan Freeman saw many good things from her team in the inaugural competition of the season. “Overall, the team competed very well, Freeman said. “We had several shoot their personal best. This was the first time for many of my athletes to shoot these domains in a competitive event.” Among the highlights were two outstanding personal milestones from the freshman duo of Tristen Roll (Holyoke, Colo.) and Tyrun Rose (Goodwell, Okla.). On Saturday, Roll rocked it with his first-ever straight 25 in skeet.

Then, on Sunday, it was Rose registering his first-ever 50 straight in trap. Rose finished the day with a score of 98/100.

The team then went on to compete at the Concordia University-Nebraska Bulldogs where overall the team placed 7th. Tristen Roll led the Aggies. Roll amassed a score of 237 for the two-day event. He had a total of 153 in sporting clays. Wyatt Hammack was OPSU’s number two finisher with an aggregate 193. Teammate Kendal Henson was close behind as the team’s third placer with a 177. Jebidah Stubbs finished at 159. **P**



/ ATHLETICS /

AGGIE MEN'S SOCCER ERUPTS IN RECORD-SETTING SEASON OPENER

The Oklahoma Panhandle State University men's soccer team gave its home fans quite an offensive show in the 2020-21 season-opening match, posting a 17-1 non-conference win over Ecclesia College. The Aggies (1-0) set numerous school single-match records versus the Royals (0-2) at Anchor D Stadium.

"It was great to get the season started," OPSU Head Coach Brandon Misuraca said. "I'm really looking forward to working with mostly the same group again over the next few months."

The 17 goals was also an Aggie team record for most goals in a single game. The differential of 16 goals was also a new team record. **P**



/ ATHLETICS /

VOLLEYBALL TEAM WINS HOME OPENER

The Oklahoma Panhandle State Volleyball team provided an exciting victory for its boisterous fans – as well as the first at OPSU for Head Coach Julie Allen – in a 3-1 decision over Arizona Christian University.

Coach Allen commented, "We had great highlights from Ana (Pimenta) to Kennede (Jones) to Ashley (Sanchez) doing a wonderful job. Not only did we out-dig their team, but we had a lot of kills coming out from proprietary players. Our assists were phenomenal, as well as our blocks. It was a really good night."

As a team, the Aggies out-hit the Firestorm by a .132 to .057 attack average. OPSU more than doubled up on ACU in team blocks, 21-10. **P**



/ ATHLETICS /

CROSS COUNTRY RUNS IN BUFFALO STAMPEDE

Oklahoma Panhandle State University Cross Country stepped off into the 2020-21 season by running at the West Texas A&M University Buffalo Stampede on October 9th in Canyon, Texas.

University President, Dr. Tim Faltyn stated, "I went to the first cross country meet to support our students. It wasn't what I expected, but it was good to see our students doing something they love, at least like, and most importantly having fun. So much stress and tension in this world today, it helped me to remember that giving young people opportunities is the reason we try our best as educators. We came so close earlier this year to not having any activities or classes on campus. It has not been an ideal fall semester, but I am proud of the fact that we are trying to give our students as many opportunities to learn, grow, and experience as possible. Thank you, Coach Miata!"

The Aggie ladies placed ninth. The OPSU men did not have the requisite five runners finish to earn a team score. Of the four Aggie men to complete the 8K course at The Range, Draven Hidalgo topped the OPSU men at 35:15.37 minutes and was 42nd.

On the women's side, Veronica Ray was 52nd on the 6K run. Ray crossed the line in a clocking of 24:37.01. Teammate Vanessa Gonzales was 56th, overall, in a time of 25:12.90 minutes. **P**

/ ATHLETICS /

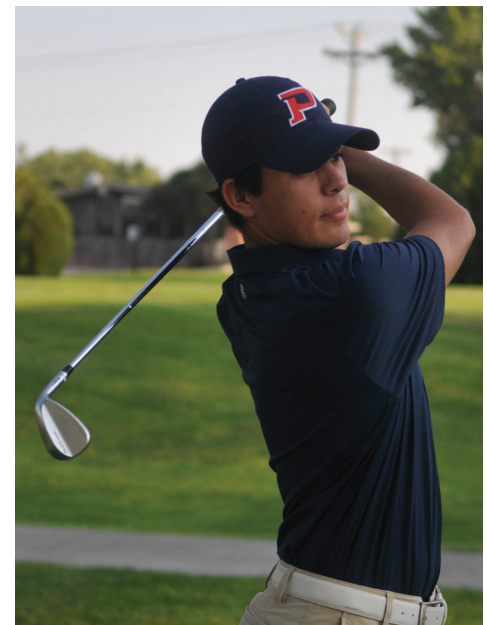
AGGIE GOLF TEAMS COMPETE AT DORNICK HILLS CLASSIC

Both the women's and men's golf teams from Oklahoma Panhandle State University participated in the Dornick Hills Classic, hosted by Southwestern Christian University. The Aggie women placed fifth and the men eighth in the two-day event at the Dornick Hills Country Club. The Panhandle State women were led by Kaitlyn Berry, who earned a top-10 finish by tying for eighth place. Berry had three-consecutive rounds in the 80's – 83-84-82 – for an aggregate score of 249.

OPSU's Cheyenne Gutierrez finished 32nd overall (98-107-94=299) and teammate Mattie Grumbles as right behind in 33rd place (104-97-100=301). Jacey Steel rounded out the Aggie quartet with a 38th place (103-108-103=314).

On the men's side, OPSU men's golf newcomer Mario Romero led the squad for the third time in as many outings by the Aggies. Romero tied for 20th place with a 54-hole total of 238 (79-80-79).

Panhandle senior Karsten Harrison tied for 36th (82-86-87). Teammates Brady McGregor (92-82-98=272) and Quentin Fankhouser (94-93-102=289) were 43rd and 44th, respectively. **P**



SAVE THE DATE



HOMECOMING

NOVEMBER 14 2020

ANCHOR D STADIUM