

## Local residents voice concern about Lubbock expansion

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
 Photo Editor

The South Plains College Board of Regents recently played hosts for a public forum to discuss issues such as the college potentially adding another campus in Lubbock and a need to attract more students to the Levelland campus.

Approximately 100 members of the Levelland community met with the Board during an early-morning session held on March 28 in the Sundown Room of the Student Center Building on the Levelland campus.

During the March meeting of the Regents two week earlier, Joe D. Brooks, a Levelland resident, discussed issues about the college's

potential move to downtown Lubbock.

While Brooks spoke, he asked for transparency from the college's leadership, especially when it came to the decision-making process for another Lubbock campus.



Dr. Robin Satterwhite, president of South Plains College, addressed the audience during a public forum held on March 28 in the Sundown Room of the Student Center Building on the Levelland campus.

**KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS**

"Some things develop over time," Brooks said during the public forum.

"But if no one is going to show up at meetings or question people, whose fault is it? This is on all of our shoulders, and the Board even agreed that they need to be more transparent and let the people know what they are doing and why they are doing it."

At the conclusion of the March Regents meeting, Brooks asked the Board for growth on the Levelland campus in terms of more classes being offered, rather than expanding in Lubbock.

"I know there has been a lot of discussion about South Plains College over the past few weeks, and I want you to

know that we are listening," said Dr. Robin Satterwhite, addressing the audience at the morning forum. "First and foremost, the conclusion we came to is that we need to hit the pause button, and we need to hope and make sure there is understanding and an agreement on the direction of the college and that our Regents have some more time to discuss it."

Dr. Satterwhite later expressed that he felt very strongly about his opinions about SPC's presence in Lubbock and how he feels that the college can reach more students. However, the Board needs to come up with a strategy to reach those students.

During the public forum, Dr. Satterwhite discussed how renovating Lubbock City Hall and turning it into classrooms could help students and shift arts and sciences classes from two buildings on the Reese Center campus to downtown Lubbock. This could help

future students who are not able to drive to Levelland.

Dr. Satterwhite also articulated ways the Boards plans to expand the Levelland campus and how they are going to draw more students to the Levelland community.

"What I have discovered from this whole discussion is that everyone loves South Plains College," said Dr. Satterwhite. "That's probably the most prevalent message that I have heard throughout this entire discussion."

Brooks explained it

was time for all members of the community and the employees of South Plains College to come together and help the Levelland campus grow.

"I think it shows that we need to claim it if we're all going to be involved," said Brooks. "When you look across this room, there's not a better room of people anywhere, a better room of leadership and people who can make opportunities."

Brooks acknowledged that SPC needs a strong

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## Former residence life director takes position at SPC

by **REBEKAH HARVEY**  
 Feature Editor

Michael Hill, who was the previously the campus living coordinator at Texas State Technical College in Waco, Texas, was recently hired as the Associate Dean of Students.

Hill, who has a background in student and residence life, graduated

"I began working in higher education shortly after graduating from McMurry," he said. "I actually started my career at McMurry in 2002 as the assistant director of student activities."

After working at McMurry, Hill worked at the College of Wooster, located in Wooster, Ohio, where he also served as the assistant director of student activities.



Michael Hill recently was hired as the new associate dean of students at SPC.

**REBEKAH HARVEY/PLAINSMAN PRESS**

from Wylie High School in Abilene, Texas.

"I was born in Odesa," said Hill, "and moved to Abilene when I was 13."

After graduating from high school, Hill attended McMurry University in Abilene. During his time at McMurry, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre. After graduation, Hill began working at the university.

After serving at the College of Wooster, it was time for him to come back home.

"I returned to Texas in 2008," explained Hill, "and worked as the arts and activities director at Northwood University in Dallas."

Four years later, Hill took on the position of residence life director at

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## CampusShield app provides safety measures for students

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
 Photo Editor

CampusShield is an app that is being used by colleges across the nation with a goal of strengthening communities by connecting campus safety forces with those who are in need.

Personal safety and security on campus are big concerns for students, faculty and parents across the country.

South Plains College was looking for better

Button, which can immediately connect to campus safety forces, along with Safety Escort, which allows an individual to request a safety escort on all SPC campuses. There also is an anonymous tip button that allows photos and/or video to be submitted to law enforcement.

According to Chief Nickolis Castillo, director of Campus Police at SPC, it took roughly three years to work through service agree-

ments, contracts, and to get approval for the app to be introduced at SPC.

campus, and the perception of safety on the campus."

The college is required under state law to perform a safety audit every three years, and, according to Castillo, when it came to safety across all campuses, he wanted SPC to be a leader in this area.

Castillo hopes that students will be able to use the app as a way to rely more on themselves and their peers for safety, as well as to have access

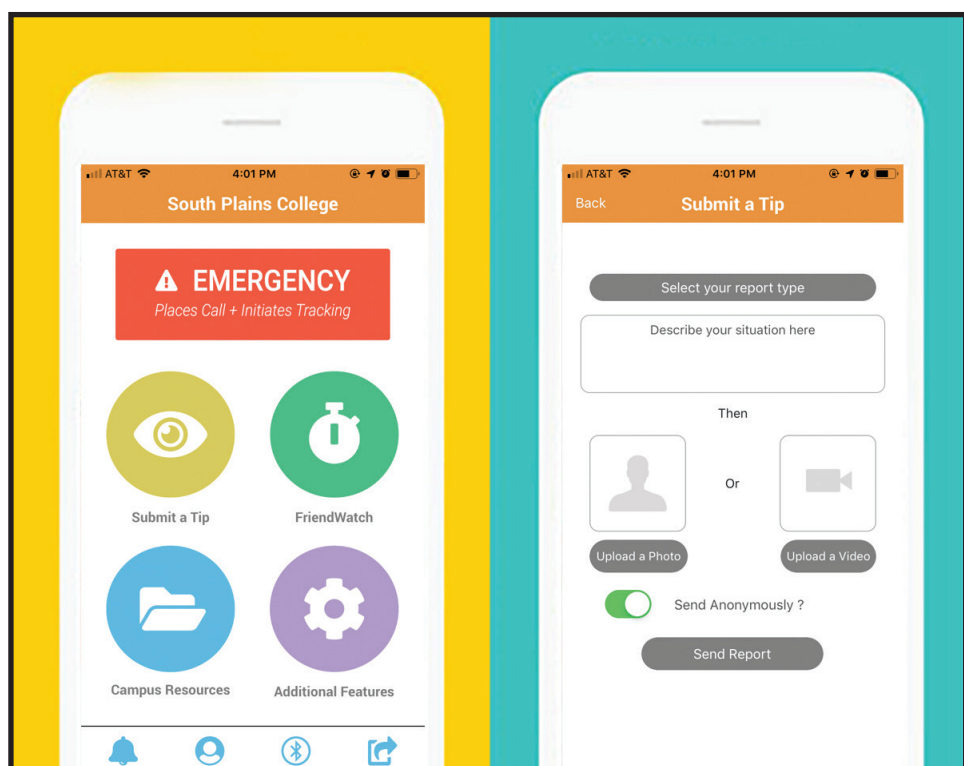
fencing. Once the user opens the app, they will notice an emergency button at the very top of their screen. This button is a Geofence to the user's current location on any campus. If the user is off campus and finds themselves in an emergency, they can still use the app. Pressing the emergency button will dial 911 and call the nearest police dispatch for them.

If a user encounters an emergency, they do not have to find specific phone numbers to call the right office. If the emergency button is pressed using the CampusShield app, it will give officers on duty at that campus their location.

"I encourage everyone to download the app," said Dr. Stan DeMerritt, vice president for student affairs at SPC. "In an emergency, only the authorized personnel at the scene will be able to see the information and will be able to communicate it to hospital personnel. Overall, this is a great solution for SPC. Hopefully, students will use the Submit a Trip and FriendWatch on a regular basis."

The FriendWatch feature allows for peer-to-peer monitoring. The police are not involved unless the user, or a third

**Continued on pg. 2**



ways to ensure the safety of students through integrated software and a single solution. The new smartphone app, which was launched March 18, features an Emergency

ments, contracts, and to get approval for the app to be introduced at SPC.

"To me, there are two important aspects of safety," said Castillo. "There is the actual safety of the

to officers on duty at a greater capacity whenever a student or faculty member needs help.

One of the most unique and important features of the app is called Geo-

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Baptist Student Ministry hosts Rez Week to celebrate the meaning of Easter.

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Sophomore Gabbie Green named NJCAA Region V player of the year, and All-American.

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Talent on display in student production of 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown.'

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Track teams capture seven event titles at David Noble Relays.

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Lubbock Lake Landmark preserves historical land, educates visitors.

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## Levelland residents attend public forum hosted by Regents

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relationship with Texas Tech University, but stated that, economically speaking, the best thing Levelland has is South Plains College.

He explained that it is not Lubbock's intention to compete with Levelland. However, some of Lubbock's leaders feel that they deserve a community college.

"We have agreed to sit down with all of you to listen and put groups together and really try to find ways to overcome some of these obstacles," he stated.

When the meeting was opened for questions and comments, Billy Mack Palmer, a Levelland resident, stated the importance that students have on local restaurants and how the loss of these students have greatly impacted the local economy.

"Students are leaving campus on Thursday, and coming back on Sunday,"

said Palmer. "There is also no night classes offered, and with them not here, it's hard to pick up any business."

He went on to say that when SPC went to a four-day schedule, it had a negative impact on local businesses.

Dr. Satterwhite responded by saying that there are some classes that are offered Monday-Wednesday-Friday, and there are students taking those courses.

Dr. Satterwhite also pointed out that students stopped signing up for night classes because more students are taking classes online. He explained that if SPC did not offer online courses, then they would lose more students who would decide to take their classes at another community college that offers what they want.

Dave Cleavinger, professor of agriculture at SPC, noted that the change in classes was driven by the students not

signing up for the three-day classes, adding that it was because of students who are supporting themselves with jobs or other reasons.

Pat Sykora with Smith South Plains mentioned the importance of the college's local automotive program, which has been duplicated at the Lubbock campus, and how more students are attending those courses rather than in Levelland.

Annette Sykora of Smith South Plains added that the automotive industry faces a shortage of 37,000 technicians almost every year, and she worries the local automotive program at SPC will deteriorate.

"This is a concern of ours," said Annette Sykora. "We need to make sure that if we do something on one campus, that it doesn't make this campus deteriorate."

Dr. Satterwhite responded to this by saying that the duplication will be revisited, and that they

should be careful not to duplicate programs with driving distance.

Eric Rejino, city manager of Levelland, noted that the college's future is a community-wide issue, and that the city is coming up with new opportunities for growth.

Richard Husen, an attorney in Levelland, said that times have changed, with more college students having to work to afford to go to college.

"There are some

things we can be proactive in," Husen said, "but, there are things we can only be reactive in. If we sit down and look at the records for SPC, I think we'll find that more and more students are supporting themselves. But this also ties back to the reason why we are at a three-to-four day class schedule."

The forum concluded with Mike Box, chairman of the Regents, saying, "I am proud to see how

many seats are filled this morning. If you look up here, there is not a person up here that you can't talk to. We need more participation from everyone in the community, from the school district, from the hospital, from the county, and the city. We're all in this together; this is our town."

khyde6274@students.southplainscollege.edu

## App features FriendWatch, Sumbit a Trip

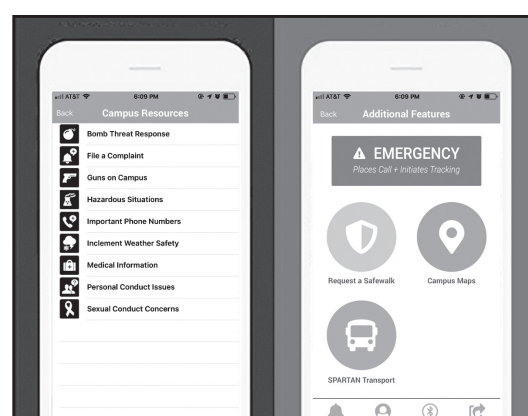
Continued from pg. 1

party, decides that they must call campus police to get them involved.

It allows for users to monitor each other. When they create their own profiles, they are able to select a group of friends who are part of their contacts in that profile. When they use FriendWatch

If the user does not enter their security pin number that was created within that time-frame, then it notifies their

the others are safe. It is all voluntary. Nothing is required, and it stops tracking once that pin is entered by the user.



The app comes with many other features for students and faculty, and more features may be added in the future. If any student or faculty member is just in need of service, do not hesitate to call

campus police, and use the CampusShield app for emergencies only.

khyde6274@students.southplainscollege.edu

Photo illustrations by **AUTUMN BIPPERT/ PLAINSMAN PRESS**

## Students garner 14 awards from Texas Intercollegiate Press Association

The Plainsman Press staff recently was recognized with 14 awards from the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

The awards were announced during the annual TIPA spring competition and convention, which was held March 14 – March 16 at the Omni Hotel in Corpus Christi. There were 267 participants representing 30 colleges and universities from across the state at the event. TIPA is the largest student press association in the nation.

The Plainsman Press placed second in the category of Overall Excellence and second for Overall Newspaper Design.

"Good use of graphics and several headlines drew judges to the story," judges of the Overall Excellence category commented. "Several of the individual features were laid out nicely."

Said judges of the Overall Design, "Liked the Spotlight page design the best. Good use of color ..."

In the competition for previously published material, Adan Rubio, now a print journalism major at Texas Tech University, placed second in the category of Breaking News for a story the Lubbock

resident wrote about Senator Bernie Sanders making an appearance in Lubbock.

Kyle Ewing, now an electronic media and communications major at Texas Tech, placed second in the category of Sports Column for a story the Lubbock resident wrote about Justin Hobbs, assistant track and field coach at South Plains College, and his opportunity to compete for the television show "American Ninja Warrior."

Autumn Bippert, who currently serves as Editor-in-Chief of the Plainsman Press, received four awards. The sophomore photojournalism major from Georgetown placed third in the category of Ad Design and received an Honorable Mention award in the category of Photo Illustration.

Bippert placed second, along with Kaitlyn Hyde, a freshman photojournalism major from Pearland, in the category of Photo Story for their feature and photos for "Street Eats," showcasing a food trucks competition held in Lubbock.

Bippert also received an Honorable Mention Award, along with former staff member Tina Gonzalez of Lubbock, in

the category of In-Depth or Investigative Reporting for a multi-part series on "Fake News."

MaKayla Kneisley, a sophomore print journalism major from Abernathy, received three awards. She placed second in the category of Feature Story for her story on "Goat Yoga."

Kneisley also placed third in the category of Feature Photo for her photo of a woman practicing aerial hoop exercises and third in the category of Environmental Portrait for her photo of chef Patrick Ramsey at the Lubbock Center campus.

The Plainsman Press staff placed third in category of Headline Writing. Said judges, "Headlines are thorough and set the stories apart. Some days, that's the best you can hope for. Keep up the good work!"

The Plainsman Press staff also received an Honorable Mention award in the category of Overall Excellence for a Website and an Honorable Mention award in the category of Feature Page Design.

Plainsman Press staff members have won 184 awards in TIPA competitions since 2004.

in the CampusShield app, they can select the activity that they're planning to do and then select a time period when they're expecting to be completed with their activity.

After the user selects a time period, they are required to enter a pin number that they will have to put in a second time once their activity is supposed to be completed.

friend that was selected that they did not make it to their destination, or that they weren't able to complete that activity. Once their friend is notified, then they will be able to see each others location in order to see if something had happened to them.

This is a way that students can monitor each other and make sure that

## Rez Week encourages celebration of true meaning of Easter

by **VICTORIA DE SOUZA**  
Opinion Editor

In celebration of the Christian year, the student leadership team of Baptist Student Ministry has planned Rez week 2019 at South Plains College to share and have fun activities with fellow students.

Rez Week is a very important part of the BSM community, according to Matt Berry, director of the BSM. The events help give the BSM opportunities to share the story of Christ and present a new meaning of Easter.

"We want people to see the true meaning of Easter beyond the eggs and time off from school," said Berry.

Dedicating time to planning Rez Week since January, the students in-

volved in the event picked a variety of events that everyone can enjoy, whether they are religious or not.

"Most of all, we want to provide the opportunity for the campus to join us in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus," said Berry.

Starting on April 15 at 11:30 a.m., the 50 Cents Lunch will be provided by First Baptist Church of Whiteface. Later on the same day, a prayer walk around campus will be held, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Both events will be held at the BSM building across from the Levelland campus.

On April 16, there will be a free lunch on the lawn beside Building 2 at the Reese Center campus, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Easter eggs painting will be offered at 1 p.m. in the mall area of the Student

Center, beginning at 1 p.m., at the Levelland campus.

On April 17, pancakes and coffee will be offered at the Student Center, beginning at 8 a.m.. At 7 p.m., the weekly worship service will be held at the BSM building, followed by S'mores Night.

On April 18, a free lunch will be served on the Quad, with members of Park Drive Baptist Church cooking hamburgers. At 3 p.m. in the BSM building, a movie night will begin for students to enjoy and relax.

Look for the Easter Eggs hidden around campus for the event throughout the week. And if you find one, make sure to go to the BSM to claim your prize!

vdesouza2529@students.southplainscollege.edu

### PUBLICATION STATEMENT

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Plainsman Press encourages letters to the editor. Published letters are subject to editing. Letters should be brought to CM 130 or mailed to our address at the college.



### Editorial Staff

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### Staff Writers & Photographers

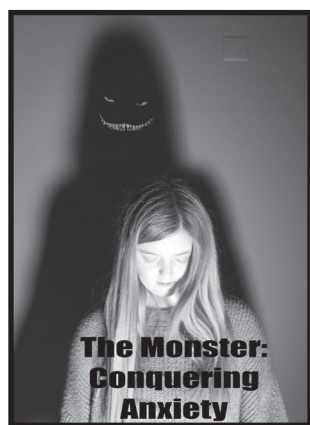
Danielle Salazar / Staff Writer  
Debra Montandon / Staff Writer  
Makayla Kneisley / Staff Writer  
Michael Mangel / Staff Writer

PHONE: (806) 894-9611 ext. 2435  
EMAIL: ppress@southplainscollege.edu

Plainsman Press  
South Plains College  
1401 S. College Ave.  
Levelland, TX 79336



# Psychotherapy proves affective treatment for social phobia



[Editor's note: This story is the fifth part of the multi-part series "The Monster, Conquering Anxiety" examining types of anxiety, their causes and ways to overcome anxiety that begins with Issue #7 and concludes in Issue #12.]

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
Staff Writer

"It is just easier to avoid social situations," you think to yourself. You avoid people and places because the apprehension churns in your stomach.

Palms become sweaty as the fear of not being understood sticks to your thoughts like pollen to a flower.

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA), Social Anxiety

Disorder, also called social phobia, is an intense fear of being judged, negatively evaluated, or rejected in a social situation.

Skinner, and a student might see dropping out of college as a better choice than having to take a speech class.

Those who suffer from social phobia can develop major depression and

still having breakthrough symptoms, then you could see your doctor."

The toughest part of this disorder may be with social phobia seek treatment, according to the ADAA, and more than a third of people say they have had symptoms

for 10 or more years before seeking help.

Morris said some ways to self-treat, if one is unable to get professional help, include practicing yoga and meditation.

"There is a lot of things out there, like apps that you can use," she added.

According to Psychology Today, one of the first steps in self-help is to realize that anxiety is natural. Anxiety is a natural response when perceiving something as dangerous.

The second thing to realize is that anxiety is not reality. Social anxiety comes from thoughts that exaggerate danger.

The third step one should take is relabeling. Instead of saying, "I'm getting anxious," say "I'm getting excited."

The fourth step is to breathe deep and slow from the abdomen. Once you alter breathing, shift your focus to the thing you are doing instead of focusing on the fact that your hands are shaking.

Be willing to experience discomfort and try to tolerate uncertainty. Challenge your anxious thoughts by doing the thing that is causing it. Most importantly, reward yourself, and start taking your life back one step at a time.

Despite the availability of treatments, fewer than 5 percent of people

ask for help, since asking for help is a social action.

"I believe that goes along with any mental health issues," Morris said. "There is a stigma, and people are embarrassed and afraid other people would not understand."

Morris added that with social phobia a person might be concerned that if they ask for help, then they are being foolish or insecure.

Asking for help goes along with the fear of people judging you and making an evaluation about you, so that person might just avoid all situations rather than asking for assistance, according to Dr. Skinner.

"If a student feels self-conscious, then going to the Counseling Center could be one more area when the student is afraid to talk to a new person and also fear that others might see them going into that office," said Dr. Skinner.

Underdeveloped social skills are another possible contributor to social anxiety.

Social phobia can be treated by psychotherapy, such as cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) which teaches different ways of thinking, behaving, and reacting to situations to help one feel less anxious.

Support groups may also be helpful to receive unbiased, honest feedback about how others see you.

Medication, such as Anti-anxiety medications, antidepressants, and Beta-blockers, can help as well.

Benzos, Ativan, and Xanax are sometimes prescribed as well, but can be addictive, according to Morris.

Dr. Skinner recommended that someone should first try CBT and then use medication if the CBT is

not working as expected.

"Seeing a therapist to learn coping skills would definitely be the starting place," said Morris. "Then, if that is not working and you are

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Other common physical manifestations for social phobia may include sweating, palpitations (where your heart feels like it is beating too hard or fast/skipping a beat), trembling, shaking sensations, chest pain,

nausea, faint chills, and fear of losing control/dying, according to Morris.

Morris said those symptoms can lead up to a panic attack if the

of the population will suffer from social anxiety disorder at some point in their lives," said Dr. Skinner, explaining that millions of people will at sometime have this

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on their college experience," said Hill. "Additionally, I'm looking forward to getting involved with both SPC and Levelland communities."

Hill says his primary goal while at SPC is to "provide a positive contribution to the student experience at SPC."

As associate dean of students, Hill is responsible for campus housing and student life. He works closely with all student housing staff, such as hall directors and resident assistants. Being associate dean of students also includes student discipline, such as dean referrals, and facility maintenance. Hill is also involved in the policies and processes for all campus housing.

"I'm looking forward to working with residence life and student activities to further cultivate a healthy campus culture," said Hill.

rkneisley1952@students.  
southplainscollege.edu

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Northwood University. After Northwood closed their residential campus in 2014, Hill moved to Waco and became the campus living coordinator at Texas State Technical College until March 2019, before coming to SPC.

When he visited the SPC campus, Hill was impressed by the staff and students.

"I was intrigued by the associate dean of students position at SPC," Hill said, "because it seemed to encompass both areas in which I have worked since 2002. After meeting with the dean of students, the vice president of student affairs, the president of SPC, various members of the faculty and staff, and several students, I knew that this campus would be a great place to work."

Hill said he looks forward to learning more about the students and culture at SPC. "I hope to have a positive impact

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# Regents discuss distinguished alumni, future campus growth during April meeting

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

The announcement of new Distinguished Alumni and the consideration of extending a memorandum of understanding were among topics discussed during the April meeting of the South Plains College Board of Regents.

Before the meeting began, Dr. Robin Satterwhite, president of SPC, introduced Steve Green, men's head basketball coach at SPC, and Cayla Petree, women's head basketball coach at SPC.

"We have two of the very best basketball coaches in the nation," said Dr. Satterwhite. "At the conclusion of our basketball season, we wanted to being them in and recognize the talents and successes we have among our head coaches."

After Coach Green and Coach Petree were recognized, the Board gave a standing ovation to show their appreciation and support for the coaches and their hard work after a successful season.

Dr. Satterwhite commenced the meeting by discussing the proposed employment list for 2019-2020. The list includes 377 employees who receive an annual contract with SPC.

Dr. Stan Demerritt, vice president for student affairs, introduced Shane Hill as the new associate dean of students.

"I have been working in the higher education since 2002," Hill told the Regents, "doing student activities, orientation, and housing, so this seemed like a natural fit for me."

Dr. Demerritt updated the Board on student affairs, specifically student life at SPC. Currently, the student government holds an office in Region One as president and is responsible for hosting three different regional meetings for the Student Government Association (SGA) while at the state conference. During these meetings, they will collaborate with other colleges to discuss ways to improve the local community, as well as the region.

Officers from SPC's SGA participated on the awards committee, resolution committee, and judiciary committee, and history committee at the state level as well.

"This is really impressive," said Dr. Demerritt, "to have a Student Government Association at this level within the state of Texas."

Miranda English, director of Student Life, has been elected for Region One to run as the Advisor Elect to the State Board for Student Government Association.

Ryan Gibbs, vice president for academic affairs, presented an update on SPC's Guided Pathways initiative.

Dr. Gibbs explained that SPC has been working during the past two years to develop defined and intentional degree pathways for students who want to start at SPC and then transfer to one of SPC's four-year university transfer partners, such as Texas Tech University, West Texas A&M University, Lubbock Christian University, and Wayland Baptist University.

Currently, Alan Worley,

dean of arts and sciences, is leading the division and is conjoined with an advising staff to build plans, or "degree maps," for the most popular transfer programs offered.

Some programs include psychology, business, engineering, computer science, government, political science, and sociology.

"This work is guided by the state of Texas' efforts to develop mandated field-of-study curriculum," Dr. Gibbs said, "which is guaranteed to be transferred and then applied at any four-year state institution in Texas."

Dr. Gibbs says he hopes this will reduce time to a degree, as well as eliminate wasted credit for students.

Stephen John, vice president for institutional advancement, presented the Distinguished Alumni for 2019 to the Board.

John explained that SPC has a committee that works closely with Stephanie Smith, alumni relations coordinator, and they are in charge of managing the selection process every year. A public reception commending the SPC alumni will be held on May 9.

Based upon the committee's deliberations and their scoring rubric, they identified four individuals to present to Dr. Satterwhite for consideration.

This year, there were 16 nominations, and the two recipients selected are Kathy Hutchinson and Brett Taylor.

"South Plains College takes pride in their accomplishments, achievements, and successes," said John.

"They have each made a significant contribution to their profession and community."

Dane Dewbre, associate dean of marketing and recruitment, presented two Paragon awards received from the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR).

"This year, I finished up my term as president of this organization," said Dewbre. "It was nice to get the recognition that my staff got to participate in, and I had the opportunity to hand them the awards."

SPC was awarded the Silver Paragon for the Electronic Catalog, Schedule, or Viewbook and the Gold Paragon for the Quick-Turn Video made to honor fallen 9/11 firefighters and first-responders.

Dr. Satterwhite presented SPC's master plan for growth of the college. He mentioned the public forum that took place in March and recognized the need to demonstrate to the community and employees that there is a plan for Levelland to improve.

"Some areas on campus I feel we need to look closely at is our residence halls," Dr. Satterwhite said. "But none of this is set in stone. Whenever we develop a master plan, these are just ideas and what we believe our needs are around campus, as well as what the growth of the campus might look like."

The Board looked at locations to build new residence halls to replace older housing on campus. They also discussed building a new Student Center for additional dining facilities and

to make activities for students as contemporary and up-to-date as possible.

"Right now, the most important is the expansion of our Science Building," Dr. Satterwhite said. "I cannot stress how excited I am and how important I think this Science Building is to our campus."

Dr. Satterwhite also mentioned possible renovations to the Aquatic Center, the visitor center, the Library, and possibly moving the Truck Driving School to the Levelland campus.

He also excitedly announced the completion of construction for the bleachers that will add 500 seats at the east end of the track.

Dr. Satterwhite presented the consideration of tuition and fees for the 2019-2020 school year to the Board.

During the past few years, the Board has been discussing the development of a tiered structure so an in-district student will come to SPC and live on campus while taking affordable classes.

Dr. Satterwhite said he does not recommend an increase in in-district tuition. However, there may be a tuition increase for out-of-district and for non-resident students for a variety of reasons.

"Our tax structure here supports our infrastructure, and that's where a large amount of our taxes go," said Dr. Satterwhite. "But if an in-district student decides to go to a different campus, I think there needs to be a noticeable change in charges."

Dr. Satterwhite presented the extension of the MOU that has been

in discussion. SPC, the city of Lubbock, and the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance (LEDA), have addressed various objectives relating to the expansion of SPC to downtown Lubbock.

He mentioned he feels very strongly about the importance for SPC to be repositioned in the Lubbock region in order to start developing the community to move forward and grow.

"I think the extension was good because it opened the lines of communication and provided the opportunity to start having some healthy conversations," Dr. Satterwhite said.

The vote for the extension has been planned to take place on June 14, but it may be considered for an earlier date.

Lastly, Dr. Satterwhite informed the Board of upcoming events on the Levelland campus, including: Student Awards Assembly on May 2 in the Texan Dome at 7 p.m.; Retirement Reception on May 3 in the Sundown Room at 1:30 p.m.; Board of Regents Meeting on May 9 in the Board of Regents Room at 4 p.m.; Employee Recognition Banquet on May 9 in the P.E. Complex at 6 p.m.; ADN Nurses Pinning on May 9 in the Texan Dome at 8 p.m.; and Commencement Ceremonies on May 10 in the Texan Dome at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

khhyde6274@students.southplainscollege.edu

# PHI THETA KAPPA HONOR SOCIETY

South Plains College recently hosted its spring 2019 Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony. The event was held on April 4 in the Sundown Room on the Levelland campus.



Alhely Villegas, Reyna Ramirez, Diego Gonzales and Sierra Tovar, all of Denver City; and Leigha Williams of Plains.



Rebekah Thompson of Smyer, Emily Sanchez of Sundown, Grady Edens, Austen Esch, Yesenia Marchan and Dellonie Salinas, all of Levelland.



Kayleigh McClellan, Megan Whitten, Mia Gonzales, Adam Vilchez, Gianna Millares-Rosiles, Ashlinn Peters, Shayla Benites and Alexandra Aleman, all of Lubbock.



Elizabeth Carter of Ruidoso, N.M.



Joshua Davis of Zephyr.



Heather Dobbs of Shallowater.



Karina Flores of Amherst.



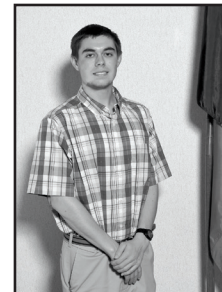
Brittany Fremont of Meadow.



Nicholas Lara of Carlsbad, N.M.



Tristin Vela of Lamesa.



Caleb Miller of Floydada.



Kaylee Presley of Whiteface.



Alexandra Prasedyoko of Jakarta, Indonesia.



Francis Nizigiyimana of Bujumbura-Burundi.



Paula Vallejo, left, and Erin Olmos, both of Slaton.



Justin Torrez of Sundown.



Ruth Valdez of Hale Center.



Georgia Taylor, left, and Annette Garcia, both of Lovington, N.M.



Emily Wilson of Lafayette, La.



## Freshman aspires for local entrepreneur legacy

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

Steven Cabrera plans on creating the next big thing for the Levelland community.

business at South Plains College. Humble and dedicated, the 21-year-old has worn many hats through the years and uses his experience to work hard toward building his legacy in the form

high school, I was leaning toward becoming a chiropractic practitioner," Cabrera said.

He was devoted to helping people. His mentor was the father of one of his friends, who helped him find his first choice in career paths. Cabrera found himself lacking the dedication to pursue a seven-year degree, however, and reassessed his options and goals.

"I was off to work in an oil field, and another awful job in Sundown," Cabrera explained. "The money was great, but it was just a means to an end."

Cabrera wanted to deliver a service that would bring some relief to people in pain. After he had saved some money from his oil field job, he started taking classes in Lubbock to become a massage therapist. Unfortunately, in the middle of the semester, the school's tuition had been increased drastically, forcing Cabrera to once again find another option.

"I moved to Levelland," said Cabrera. "I was finally out of my mother's house and got my own place with some buddies of mine. I had gone through a few more



world to me," Cabrera explains. "I want to give to the community, and I want my future business to stand out, and become a real legacy, a landmark even. Even after I am long gone, I care more for the business to be remembered."

Cabrera grew up with many siblings in an impoverished family who moved around fairly frequently.

"I had to take care of my younger siblings," said Cabrera. "My mother just wasn't really there. I remember having to bring these buckets to water stations to fill the sewage tank in our trailer. At the time, I thought it was just a chore. I had no idea how bad our situation really was."

Cabrera wants to make a name for himself and his future business.

"I really did start with nothing," said Cabrera. "Everything I have, I've acquired myself."

He builds a strict routine to stay motivated to try his hardest in class and at his job. Cabrera is confident in his abilities to build the business that he wants and that will make the impact he desires.

rtturner1440@students.southplainscollege.edu



Steven Cabrera works at La Bellas Pizza in Levelland.

**REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS**

Cabrera, a Lubbock native, is working toward an associate's degree in

of his own business in the Lubbock area.

"When I got out of

jobs for a few years, but I finally landed at La Bellas Pizza here in Levelland."

At La Bellas, Cabrera realized that he wanted to

every week, really got me to think," Cabrera said. "It inspired me."

The aspiring entrepreneur saw the impact of a small business on a

**“Money is not the most important thing in the world to me”**

make a real impact on the community.

"Seeing a small business thrive, and watching the regulars come in

smaller town, and decided that he would like to eventually build his own

"Money is not the most important thing in the

## Faith leads alum to pursue degree in human services

**[Editor's note: This story is part of an ongoing project in conjunction with the South Plains College Alumni Association. The project highlights former SPC students and their achievements.]**

by **REBEKAH HARVEY**  
Feature Editor

For Melinda Ledesma, Levelland has always been home.

She was born and raised in Levelland. She first attended St. Michael's Catholic School, before transferring to the Levelland school system.

After graduating from Levelland High School in 1988, Ledesma enrolled in college.

"A week after high school graduation, I immediately started college at Incarnate Word in San Antonio," Ledesma said. "I transferred to South Plains College after completing the 1988 fall semester at Incarnate Word."

Ledesma began college majoring in psychology, later focusing on child psychology.

She said her experience while at SPC was memorable.

"I participated in organizations, clubs, and events on campus," recalls Ledesma. "I was a member of the Spanish Club and Choral program. I was blessed to



Melinda Ledesma is the administrative assistant for the Vice President for Student Affairs.

**REBEKAH HARVEY/PLAINSMAN PRESS**

have a Spanish instructor who took me under her wing and helped me plan my degree in order to graduate with my Associate of Arts."

After Ledesma graduated from SPC, she transferred to Texas Tech Uni-

versity. She majored in child psychology there as well. During this time, she got married and started a family, which later caused her to put her studies on hold.

After taking a break to raise her children, Ledesma realized she wanted to work in education.

"I experienced a time in my life where I wanted to become an educator," explained Ledesma, "and had a difficult realization of how important it was to have my bachelor's degree."

Ledesma returned to SPC and gained all of the necessary credits needed to transfer to Wayland Baptist University.

She decided to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in human services, and she will graduate from WBU in May.

Ledesma, who serves as the administrative assistant for the Vice President for Student Affairs at SPC, has three daughters who have all attended SPC.

Ledesma is also heavily involved in her church, St. Michael's Catholic Church, and the Catholic Student Ministry on campus.

"CSM has been my passion for ministry on campus," said Ledesma. "It has been an amazing experience meeting extraordinary and faith-filled students on campus, who will eventually carry their passion with them when they transfer, carrying their faith wherever they go on their college career."

Ledesma says that even though she knew how important having a college education is, she didn't have the opportunity to go back to college. South Plains College makes the

process of going back to school better for students.

"There are many opportunities to pursue a degree or certificate program at South Plains College," said Ledesma. "South Plains College's efforts to help students succeed allows us as students to transfer to the university of our choice and continue a degree and graduate with the confidence we have earned a quality education."

Ledesma hopes her story will encourage others who may have had to put their education on hold like she did.

"As an employee of South Plains College," Ledesma said, "I am not only proud to graduate from SPC, but to also work for an institution that takes great pride in the success of our students."

rharvey0869@students.southplainscollege.edu

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April 15, 2019

## Green receives numerous honors after successful season at SPC

by **KENDALL RAINER**  
Associate Editor/  
Sports Editor

Gabbie Green has been playing basketball since she was a little girl. But she never thought that she would accomplish as much as she has during her first two years in college.

Green grew up in Bellville, Texas, where she started playing basketball at age 7. She continued to grow her passion of basketball through high school, where she also played volleyball and ran track. She continued her basketball career at South Plains College, where she majors in pre-physical therapy.

Green said she wasn't recruited highly coming out of high school but came to SPC because it felt like the best fit for her. She also said that Cayla Petree, head women's basketball coach at SPC, had gotten her former players to big schools in the past, so that was a desirable part of coming to and playing at SPC.

Green's career as a Lady Texan started with a disappointing season, as the team went 17-13 overall and failed to advance to postseason play. As one of only two returning sophomores, Green said she was driven by her faith to come back and play hard for the team, the program, and her mother.

"I would have to say I do the things I do because of my mom," said Green. "It's been us since day one."

Green says her favorite thing about basketball is becoming a family and the togetherness of basketball teams, no matter what team she has been on.

Despite the disappointing first season, things started to look up for Green and the team. An 11-1 record in the first

As a driving force for SPC, Green helped lead the Lady Texans to a No. 1-ranking earlier in the season and a 27-3 overall

championship, en route to the final four of the NJCAA National Tournament, which was held in Lubbock.

Green attributes the successful season to the leadership of her and fellow returning sophomore Chantel Govan, and sophomore transfer Keke Hunter, along with the coaching staff.

"This season showed me just how much you can accomplish by being a leader," said Green. "How much you can accomplish by just working hard and being a family; we're all a family."

Green was named the NJCAA Region V Player of the Year, the Most Valuable Player in the WJCAC, Women's Basketball Coaches Association First Team All-American, and NJCAA All-American for her hard work.

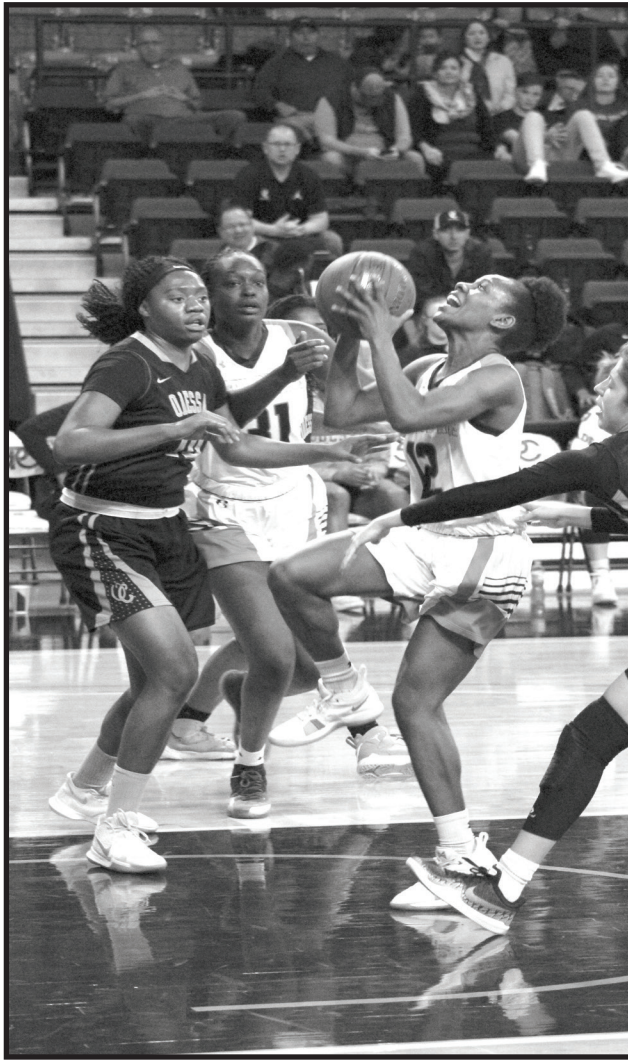
"I'm still surprised about it," Green said of her honors. "Because that wasn't the goal at the beginning. My main goal was for the team to succeed."

"Coach Petree sent the list to me and my mom in a group message," added

Green. "I said, 'Wow, little ole me, that's cool.'"

Green recalls when she

communication studies and sports broadcasting wherever she ends up.



month of play showed that the Lady Texans, and a much-improved Green, were a force to be reckoned with.

record in the regular season. The Lady Texans also won a share of the Western Junior College Athletic Conference



NJCAA Region V Player of the Year Gabbie Green shoots a floater against Frank Phillips College.

All Photos by **KENDALL RAINER/ PLAINSMAN PRESS**



was a freshman that after practices when coaches would blow up, she and her teammates would go into the locker room and look at each other like, "What just happened?"

Green said, "Moments like that I look back on."

Now that her playing time at SPC is over, Green is looking toward the next step in her journey. She has been recruited by Central Arkansas, Illinois State, Delaware State, Boise State, and the University of Massachusetts, but she is leaning toward signing a scholarship agreement with the University of Pittsburgh, with plans to major in

Green added, "I'm looking forward to just being a major impact on the next team."

After college, Green said she is looking to compete in women's basketball leagues overseas. However, if the opportunity to play in the WNBA presented itself, she would try it out.

In her spare time, Green enjoys listening to music, as well as singing and dancing with Govan. She also enjoys going to the mall and creating her own fun.

krainer1618@students.southplainscollege.edu

## Professor pens urban fantasy novel

by **REBEKAH HARVEY**  
Feature Editor

For Stephen Sanders, South Plains College has always been a part of his life.

Sanders, who was born in Lubbock, lived in Levelland until he graduated from SPC with his Associate of Arts degree in English in 1994. After SPC, Sanders attended West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, where he pursued a double major in English and speech.

"I was hired in the middle of my student teaching semester to take an English position at Nazareth, Texas," said Sanders. "After a year there, I moved to Levelland and taught at Levelland High in 1998."

While teaching at Levelland High School, Sanders began working on his master's degree in English and creative writing from Texas Tech University, where he graduated in 2008. Eight years later, Sanders

was hired as an English instructor at SPC.

While working at Levelland High School, Sanders got the idea

"Passe-Partout." The novel tells the stories of two characters, Amos and Cyprus, who live centuries apart. Cyprus

story. The novel was published this year and recently put on Amazon Kindle.

In 2007, Sanders married his wife Kristy, who is a physical education teacher at Capitol Elementary in Levelland. Sanders and his wife also have a son, Stellan, who was born in 2012.

For Sanders, deciding to attend SPC as a college student was an easy choice to make.

"I grew up about six blocks from the Levelland campus," said Sanders. "So I felt it was the next logical step for me after high school."

Sanders said he wasn't ready to attend a large university. He said he wouldn't have been as prepared for college if he hadn't attended SPC. "I was fortunate in my decision to attend here, because when I started in 1992, I was not ready for a large university," said Sanders. "I had to grow

up a bit more and learn how to be successful in the college setting."

Sanders says that his favorite thing about teaching at SPC is the people.

"I have great students who are motivated to learn and who want to do well," said Sanders. "Everyone here is always so kind, so generous, to their students

major at any American university," he explained. "So everyone has to take at least one Composition and Rhetoric course."

To Sanders, classes such as Composition and Rhetoric courses don't have to be an agonizing experience.

"I've found that if a teacher truly loves their subject and works to



to write his first novel. The novel, which is an urban fantasy, is titled

uses writing to bridge the gap between generations and understand Amos'

“English is the only subject that is truly integral to success in any major at any American university”

and to each other.”

Sanders also praises his department chair, Sharon Race.

"Everyone should be so lucky to have a Sharon Race as their chair," he said.

As a professor, Sanders said he likes the opportunities he has to truly "geek out" with students about English.

"English is the only subject that is truly integral to success in any

communicate that love to their classes," said Sanders, "students will look forward to attending the class and will work hard in that class."

This spring, Sanders is teaching Composition 2 and Creative Writing. Last fall, he taught Composition 1, along with the classes he currently teaches.

rharvey0869@students.southplainscollege.edu



## Students showcase talent in 'You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown'

by **DEBRA MONTANDON**  
Staff Writer

If you ever feel down and out, you aren't alone. Just watch Charlie Brown.

Students in the South Plains College Theater program presented "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," on March 28-March 31 in the Helen Devitt Jones Theater on the Level-land Campus.

The opening of the play has each character describing some of Charlie Brown's previous failures, before they sang "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown."

In the next skit, Charlie Brown points out his flaws that he sees in himself. Justin Fral-ey from Hobbs, New Mexico, did a remarkable job of portraying Charlie Brown. Even when he sings, you can hear as if Charlie Brown is doing the singing himself.

Throughout the play, you do feel bad for Charlie

Brown because bad things just happen to him a lot. He even asks at one point, "When do good things start?"

In another scene, Charlie Brown notices the little red head sitting

play was impressive, and they harmonized very well. They also were supported by a small orchestra of five musicians, under the direction of Dr. Debbie Gelber.

Each of the actors did a

perspective." She would like to be on Broadway one day and plans on a career in acting.

Christina Johnson played the role of Snoopy. A freshman at SPC, Johnson said that she loves acting because "you can create a new world," and she also hopes to make it a career.

Schroeder was

played by Brendyn Rodriguez, who is in his first semester at SPC. He was influenced to come to SPC by the theater program. Rodriguez, who was in One Act plays while in high school in Brownfield,

says he enjoys acting because you "get to be someone else." He added that he loves performing for an audience and making them think he is someone else. He does not plan a career in acting, but would like to teach drama.

Joel Palma played the role of Linus. A sophomore at SPC, Palma was a part of several plays in high school in Denver City. He said he likes to "escape from reality and concentrate on the character." He plans a career in acting.

"It was a great experience working with this cast," Palma added. "It was awkward at first, but we became a family in the end."

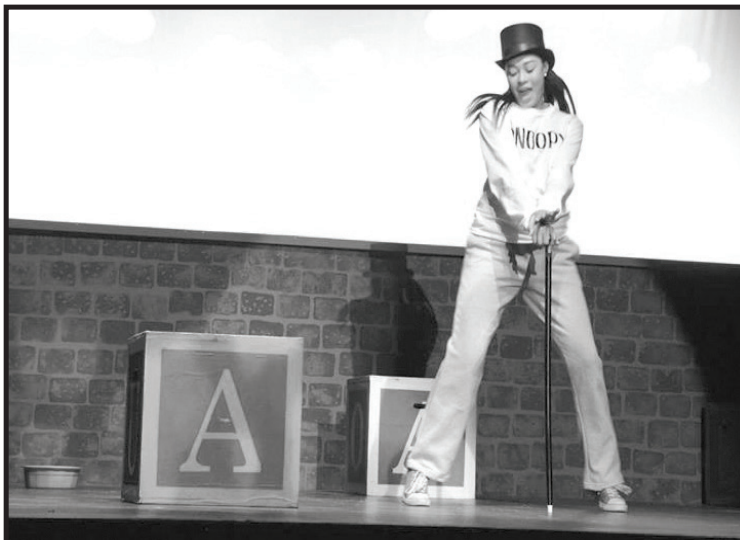
Tiffany Martinez, from Lubbock, played the role of Lucy.

Serving as the director for the play was Dr. Dan K. Nazworth, chairperson of the Fine Arts Department at SPC.

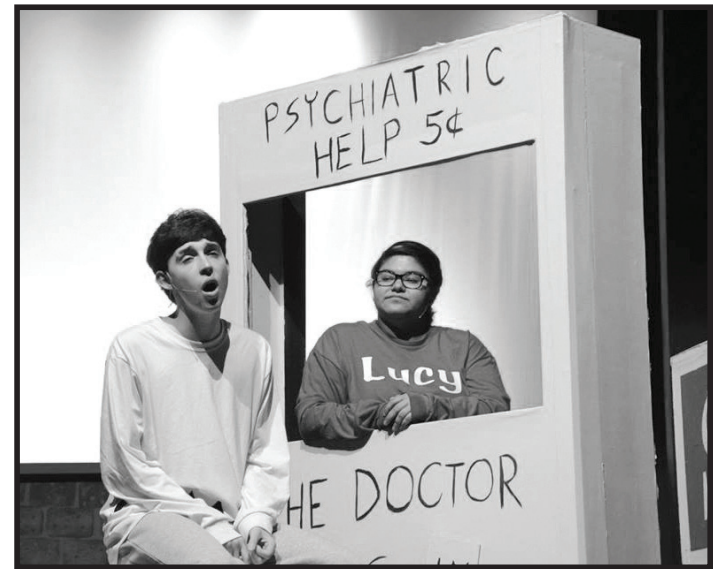
"Theater is a factory, not just an art form," said Dr. Nazworth.

The orchestra was directed by Dr. Debbie Gelber, who also played the keyboard. Sessa Wallace played the woodwinds, with Robert Meinecke on violin. Dustin Pedigo played the Bass, and Dr. Al Gardner played percussion.

I was pleasantly sur-



Christina Johnson as Snoopy  
Photos courtesy of Dr. Dan Nazworth

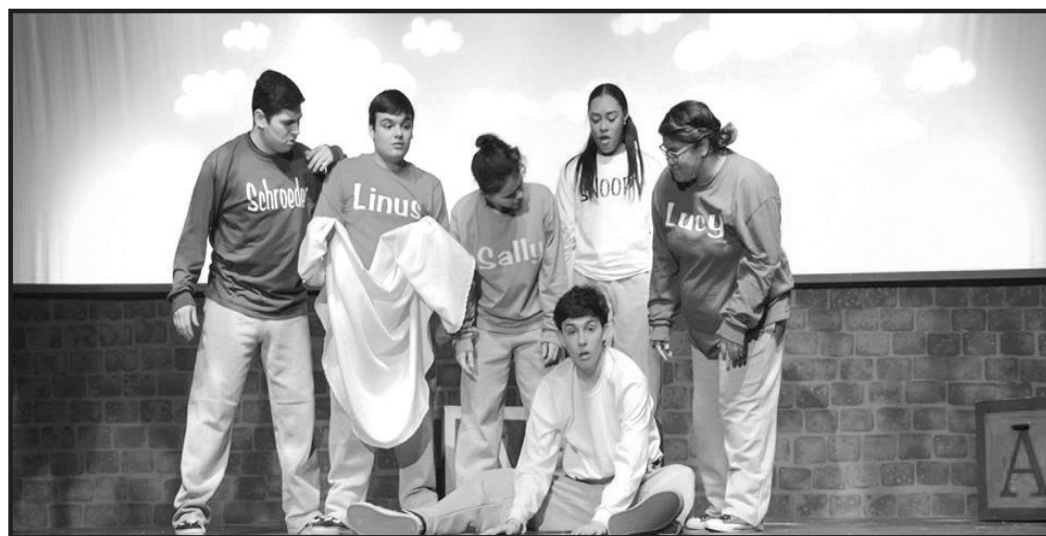


alone, but he doesn't have the guts to go and sit with her. He refers to himself as a coward.

"Lunch time is one of the worst times for me," said Charlie Brown.

The vocal talent in this

super job of portraying the characters. Dalynn Beck, from Vera, played the part of Sally. A sophomore at SPC, Beck said that she loves stepping into the shoes of a character and seeing things from their



## New 'Dumbo' movie revives Disney classic

by **DANIELLE SALAZAR**  
Staff Writer

The amazing Dumbo" are words that echo as the circus conductor introduces the newest act, a baby elephant standing on top of a ladder high above the crowd shaking nervously while looking down.

The crowd will soon discover how talented Dumbo really is.

animated movie, opens with the same classic circus train song as the original, which was a lovely touch to introduce the opening scene. As the music is playing while the train whistle is blowing, the audience is reeled into the setting of the movie.

The spin on the film is interesting, as it focuses on the circus business and the hardships that can come with it. The movie introduces a family

The film has an amazing list of actors, such as Colin Farrell, Michael Keaton and Eva Green. Danny DeVito plays the circus conductor, Medici, who manages the circus. He buys an elephant that is pregnant and will deliver him just in time to attract people for his circus. He is depending on it.

The family working with the elephant

falls in love with the baby elephant that is born with an interesting feature. The circus conductor stresses how important he needs the baby elephant to be perfect and be out on display as an attraction.

This film brings together a family who has suffered through hardships and are brought together by the amazing Dumbo, who was stripped away from his mother to perform with a special talent that will be discovered.

Dumbo's innocent character and personality

are captured throughout this movie.

He doesn't speak, but his actions speak for him. He opens up to the children who are part of the family working with the

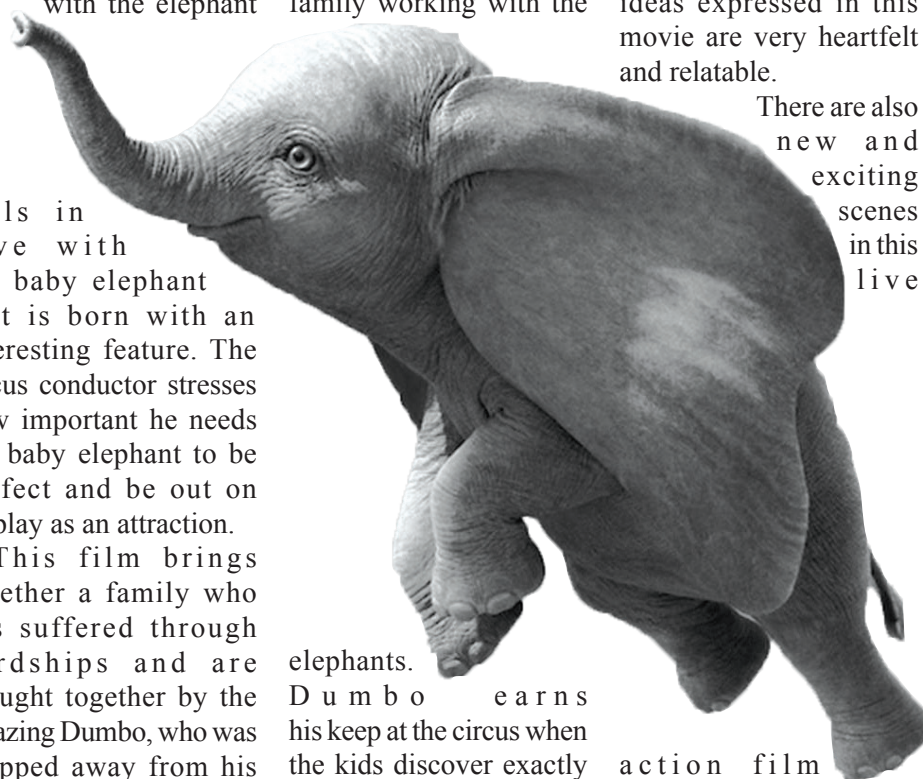
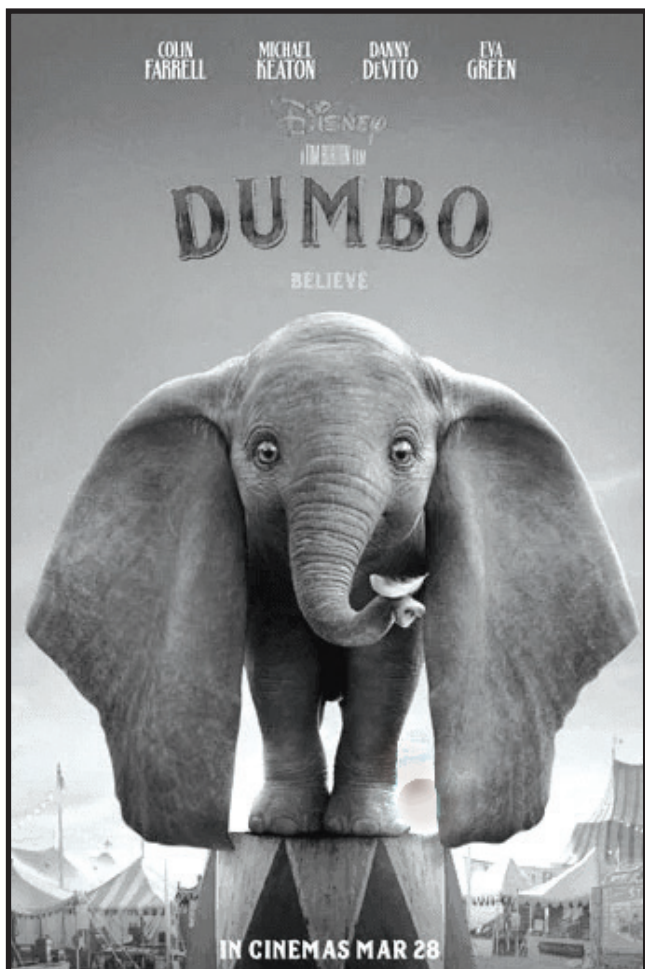
act for the circus will determine if the business will survive. The combination of characters and what they believe in is expressed in this film. The ideas expressed in this movie are very heartfelt and relatable.

There are also new and exciting scenes in this live

and it shows because this film focuses on embracing your differences and owning who you really are. No matter how different someone might look, people are brought together in this film. It shows all kinds of people being kind and supportive to one another.

"Dumbo" is a great movie to watch with your family, as it is a movie for all ages. I went to see "Dumbo" with my family. I enjoyed the live action remake of the original Disney movie.

This film had emotional scenes and eye-catching special effects. I rate this movie an 8 out of 10. This movie was really interesting to watch, and the story line was great.



elephants. Dumbo earns his keep at the circus when the kids discover exactly how unique the elephant really is.

The family is put in an extremely stressful situation when Dumbo's

action film that brings importance to topics relevant for this time. The characters bring out the family ideas in this movie,

**8/10**

"Dumbo," a film by Tim Burton, was released on March 29. The live action film, based on the original 1941 "Dumbo"

who is in charge of the elephant pen. The family has been through losses and depends on the circus as a way of living.

dsalazar4219@students.southplainscollege.edu



April 15, 2019

Plainsman Press

## Strange case of child abuse leads to murder in 'The Act'

by **VICTORIA DE SOUZA**  
Opinion Editor

When a mother's love becomes toxic and suffocating, a daughter makes a desperate decision to commit an "act of kindness" to escape.

"The Act" is the Hulu adaptation of the murder of Dee Dee Blanchard. The series, directed by Nick Antosca and Michelle Dean, is divided in eight intense episodes that are slowly being released on the platform every Wednesday. It shows how the murder takes place and the motivation of the two killers.

The series is based on life of Gypsy Rose Blanchard, played by Joey King, a young girl who supposedly suffers from every possible disorder, such as leukemia, asthma, muscular dystrophy, and several other chronic conditions. It is said that she had the mental capacity of a 7-year-

old due to brain damage. Dee Dee Blanchard, played by Patricia Ar-

years before the incident and during the investigations on June 14,

Dee was inspirational and hopeful to so many families. They even received a new house as a charitable act in the small town of Greene County in Missouri. But nobody would expect, that in reality, their lives was a gigantic Pandora's box of secrets.

The first episode begins with Lacey, played by Anna Sophia Robb, and her mom Mel, played by Chloë Sevigny, calling 911 to report that something is wrong with her neighbor after she sees a very strange post on Facebook.

Following through the timeline of after the Blanchards move to the new house, the series starts showing how Dee Dee and Gypsy live with doors closed and the process of Gypsy discovering her mother's lies.

In the second episode, the dead body of Dee Dee is introduced, and the disappearance of Gypsy is alarming. Also in the flashback presented in this episode is when a doctor doubts Gypsy's sickness, since she appears physically strong, expect for the bad self-maintenance of her teeth.

Dr. Lakshmi Chandra, played by Poorna Jagannathan, notices that something is off. Doing her own investigation, she feels that Gypsy is in danger, but

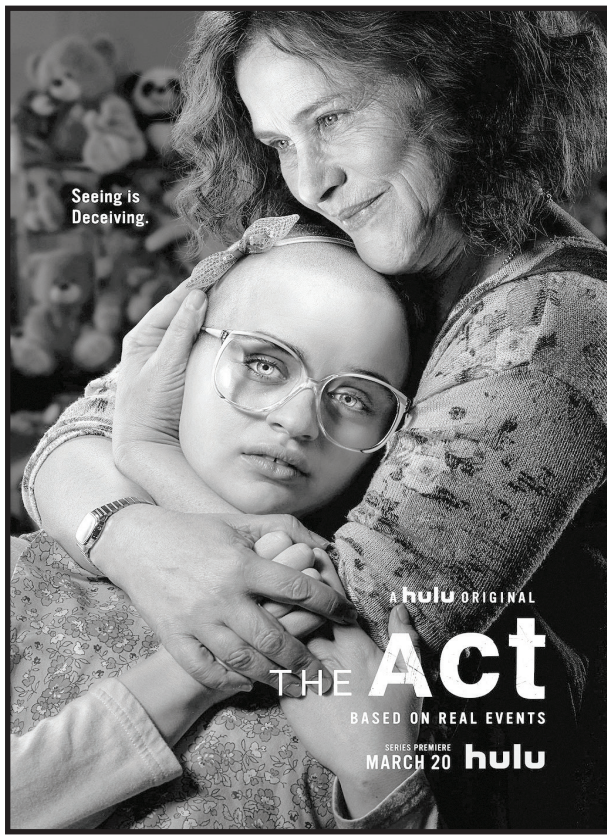
manipulative Dee Dee is convinced that everything is fine.

In later episodes, a friendship with her neighbor Lacey influences and introduces Gypsy to the teenager world. She spends most of her life locked in this little kid fantasy, and this friendship starts to reveal her wish to be the teen-

slow and painful.

The show does a very good job of showing this bipolar side of Dee Dee as she wants to always protect her daughter, along with the fighting and rebellion of Gypsy.

Directors Antosca and Dean really focus on Gypsy's emotions of being a teenager and a prisoner in a child life.



quette, is the devoted mother who is obsessed with her daughter's life and chronic conditions.

There are many flashbacks between seven

2015, when Dee Dee is found dead and her sickly daughter Gypsy is nowhere to be found.

From an outside view, the life of Gypsy and Dee



ager that she is and rebel against her mother.

One changing moment is when Gypsy meets Nick Godejohn, played by Calum Worthy, online, and this relationship takes them to a very dark version of themselves. This later will become a main key in the show.

It does not take long to realize that Dee Dee's stories do not seem quite accurate. Dee Dee has been abusing her daughter by drugging her, faking illness, and in other ways that are revealed later. All this was to receive sympathy and free money from neighbors and the government. For Gypsy, this process was

They want viewers to be uncomfortable and feel trapped.

Even though this murder case was very famous in the media and the ending is well known, the series still engages viewers very well to the point that you want to see more. What many may have heard about the case, is seen in a closer visualization and the intensity of the facts involved in the story.

I give "The Act" an 8.5 out of 10.

**8.5/10**

vdesouza2529@students.southplainscollege.edu



## Doppelgängers torment unsuspecting family in 'Us'

by **AUTUMN BIPPERT**  
Editor-in-Chief

There are a number of different ways to interpret the new horror movie, "Us." Every image seems to be a clue for what is about to happen.

At the start of the movie, titles inform the audience that there are thousands of miles of tunnels under the United States, stating that many "have no known purpose at all."

After the opening titles, "Us" begins with a flash to 1986 with young Adelaide Wilson, played by Madison Curry, and her parents wandering through the Santa Cruz boardwalk at night. She separates from them to walk out on the empty beach, watching thunderclouds roll in. She finds

an attraction just off the main pier, and walks into what looks like an abandoned hall of mirrors. While lost in the hall of mirrors, she discovers something terrifying, her doppelgänger.

The movie then shifts to present day, as the Wilson family is heading toward their vaca-

tion home. The little girl has now grown up to be a woman. Adelaide, now played by Lupita Nyong'o, is nervous about returning to that spot on the Santa Cruz beach.

Her husband, Gabe, played by Winston Duke, thinks she's overreacting about not wanting to go to the Santa Cruz beach

pelgänger had taken him. Once the family returns home for a quiet night, they are faced with trespassers in their driveway in the darkness, who turn out to be their doppelgänger family.

"Us," written and directed by Jordan Peele, is filled with hidden messages and foreshadowing

of what is going to happen to the Wilson family. These images and messages leave a lot for the audience to try to decipher and interpret. In the movie, the Jeremiah 11:11 Bible verse appears twice before pivotal moments. The verse says, "Therefore this

is what the Lord says: 'I will bring on them a disaster they cannot escape. Although they cry out to me, I will not listen to them,'" which alludes to the catastrophe that is to come.

I was slightly disappointed because I expected "Us" to be scarier, rather than a psychologi-

cal thriller. I was more nervous through the movie than I was scared, with a heart-racing, and adrenaline-pumping feeling.

Peele, who also wrote and directed the critically acclaimed "Get Out," not only knows how to tell his story, he assembled

an incredible cast to play two roles. The Wilsons are a picture of an all-American family, a family of four that looks to be middle class, with college-educated parents. Their doppelgängers may look like them and be tied to them in some way, but their lives are inverses of each other. Their ex-

istence has been one of limits and misery. For the actors, it's a chance to play two extremes, one of

intense normality and the other of wretched evil.

Not only was it casted extremely well, visually, the movie was great. "It Follows" cinematographer Mike Gioulakis creates unsettling images in mundane spaces, like how a strange family standing in a driveway isn't necessarily scary,

except when it's eerily dark outside, and they're backlit so that their faces go unseen.

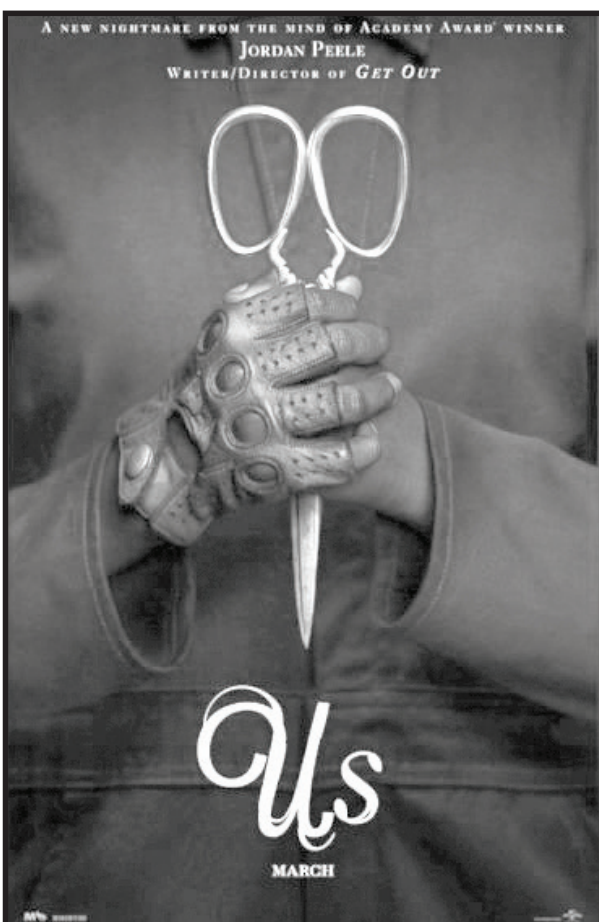
A suspenseful story, marvelous cast and a great crew make the movie enjoyable and thought provoking. I give "Us" a nine out of 10.



I give "Us" a nine out of 10.

**9/10**

abippert0518@students.southplainscollege.edu



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# 'Generation Zero' offers great concept, poor execution

by **REECE TURNER**

Entertainment Editor

Upon returning home from a short island vacation, you quickly realize that things are not the way they were. Without a soul in sight, and with every car, house, and street seemingly abandoned, the only thing to do is push forward.

"Generation Zero" is an open world, post-apocalyptic shooter where lethal machines have eradicated human life. The setting for the video game is an '80's Swedish countryside setting with a retro vibe and

synth-wave music and neon-colored floppy disks lying around, the attention to detail in "Generation Zero" is impressive. The game is

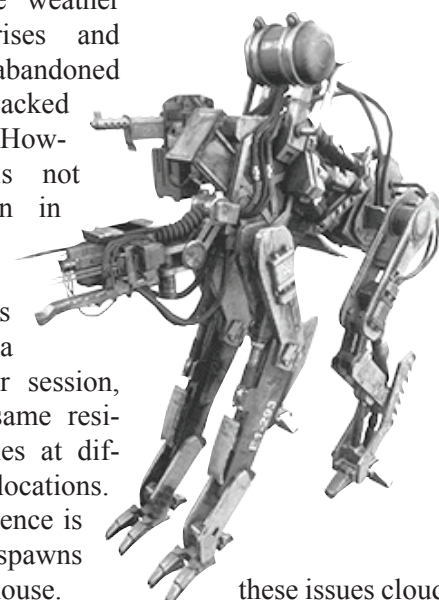
aid kits, boom boxes, fireworks and adrenaline shots, all of which are used to outsmart the machines or keep the player alive.

The menus are next to impossible to navigate quickly and take up the entire screen. The inventory should be more of an overlay that only takes up

The Swedish countryside is beautiful throughout all of the weather changes, sunrises and sunsets. The abandoned homes are packed with detail. However, there is not much variation in the homes you find throughout the game's world. In a short, two-hour session, I visited the same residence five times at different regional locations. The only difference is where the loot spawns (if any) in the house.

The machines in this game HURT. It is what they were made to do, after all. The combat design and tools provided encourage outsmarting and ambushing machines by using guerilla tactics. But the machines can detect

conceptually an excellent game. However,



these issues cloud any good experience that comes with it. The combat is clunky, while the setting is beautiful yet repetitive. The game is much more fun with a team of friends, but playing in multiplayer crashes the game more



shooter not without its issues and oversights, however. "Generation Zero" falls into the survival genre of video games, but without as much depth as games that require the

The idea of the game is very appealing, as the setting, the multiplayer options, and the combat against the machines all make for a top-tier game. Unfortunately, the game

half of the screen, with a special hotkey to pull it up quickly. One complaint I've seen online is the way missions are handled. The player receives all instructions through old letters, notes, and answering machine recordings, with very little detail or direction regarding where to go and what to do. I enjoy the vagueness of the missions, because it encourages the player to explore and think about what they need to do. Instead of having a point on the map, or an arrow pointing to the objective, the "go here, do this" missions turn into adventures instead of errands.

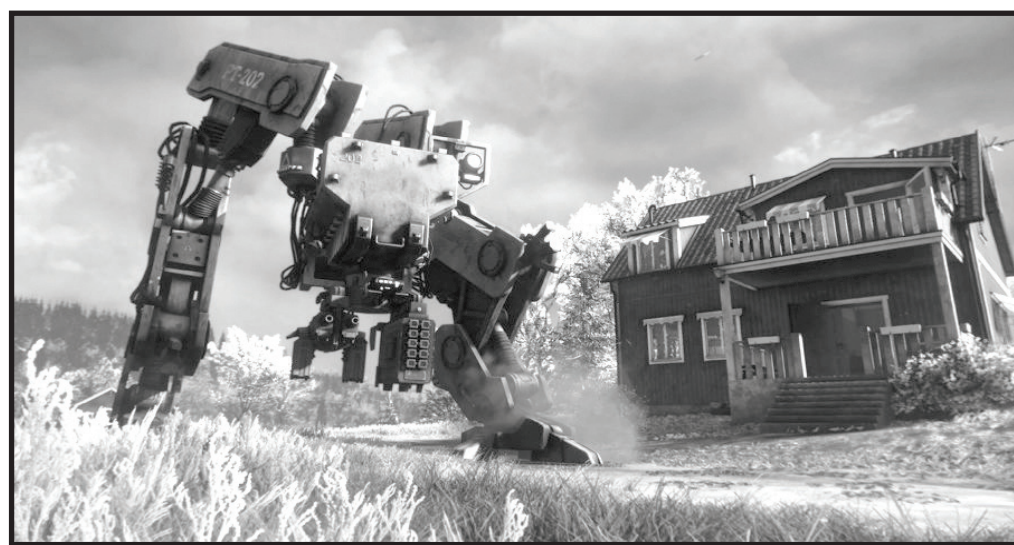
the player much sooner than the player can detect the machines, and set up a proper ambush or trap. This design ruins any actual depth and thought in initiating combat, forcing players to skirmish with the machines by throwing as many bullets and grenades at them as fast as they can.



"Generation Zero" is frequently. It needs some work. Until it receives the polishing and attention it deserves, I rate "Generation Zero" a four out of 10.

**4/10**

rtturner1440@students.southplainscollege.edu



small details that take the player back through time. Between the retro

player to stay hydrated and well fed. The survival tools used are first-

falls short in many areas. The first issue I noticed is clunky, outdated menus.

# 'Shazam!' shines comedic light on gloomy DC Universe

by **MICHAEL MANGEL**

Staff Writer

DC comics has needed comic relief for quite some time, and that's

reintroduces a fantastic character that rivals Superman in strength and ability, with humor that can only be matched by the Flash.

The movie takes place

is portrayed as a good-hearted, trouble-making kid.

The movie is slow building, and Billy gets his powers after helping his new foster brother escape being beaten up by two bullies. He escapes the two bullies on the subway. On the train, Billy is transported to meet Shazam, who has been on a multi-decade search for a champion to replace him.

powers from the seven deadly sins. Dr. Sivana spends the movie getting even with his family for not believing him when

yourself as Billy trying to figure out how his powers work.

I would highly recommend going to see this movie for the comedy alone. I think it adds some lightheartedness to a very dark, gritty universe, much the same way that the Guardians of the Galaxy add humor to the MCU. With references to Batman, Superman and Aquaman, "Shazam" has the potential to tie into the main universe. I give "Shazam" a seven out of 10. The DC

Universe is still just trying to play catch-up with Marvel's cinematic universes. This movie is one of the better ones that



exactly what "Shazam" brings, a lighthearted feel to the dark DC universe.

Shazam was originally named Captain Mar-

in modern time as Billy Batson is a foster child who has run away from more than 14 different sets of parents who took

After Billy accepts Shazam's powers, he is able to transform himself whenever needed by just saying "Shazam." Billy struggles to let people get close to him. His foster brother Freddy is the only one who knows who he is. Billy and Freddy end up having a falling out.



vel, but the rights to the name were lost in a lawsuit by Marvel Comics in the 1940's. With the legal battles behind, DC

him in. In the opening scene, we find Billy is tricking cops to get into the car to look for information on his mother. He

(Dr. Sivana) finds out Billy is part of a large foster family. Dr. Sivana is a failed champion of Shazam. He gets his



he was a kid that he was asked to be a champion of a wizard. After settling matters with his family, Dr. Sivana spends the rest of the film trying to take the powers of Shazam from Billy.

The movie was very entertaining once we got Billy established as Shazam. I found myself laughing out loud multiple times with some of the dialogue and how easy it would be to see

they have produced. The movie runs for 2 hours and 12 minutes. I highly recommend staying for the cut-seeen at the end of the movie.

**7/10**

mmangel3290@students.southplainscollege.edu

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## Traveling frequently promotes personal growth



by **DANIELLE SALAZAR**  
Staff Writer

**T**raveling is a great way to learn and gain new experiences throughout life.

I enjoy traveling very much. I have traveled so much growing up, and every time I travel or go somewhere new I learn something new.

I think every student should have a travel bucket list, whether it's a town only 50 miles away or in a different country. Traveling is an experience everyone should get to have. On of my first trips was to visit family who lived six hours away, and I still haven't forgotten that time. My first plane ride also is a memory that has stuck with me.

Traveling has taught me many lessons. I have learned how important it is to save up for trips, and how to budget while on my trips. I have met new people, seen new places, and have amazing memories from the places I have visited. I have been to so many places in the United States, and each trip has always been different. Every trip has a unique story with it.

Growing up traveling, I have learned



my way around Texas and how to go to where I want to go. I love traveling out of state on road trips, especially west.

California is fun to visit. I always make sure to visit the beaches.

I have traveled to many monumental places. I went to Washington, D.C, and the history there is so interesting. There are so many places to go and things to see. The White House, the Arlington National Cemetery and even George Washington's house are among

my favorites. On every trip I go on, I always make sure to get a souvenir and take tons of pictures.

Travel is also a great way to just get away and relax. Resorts are great for having a peaceful getaway. I favor resorts be-

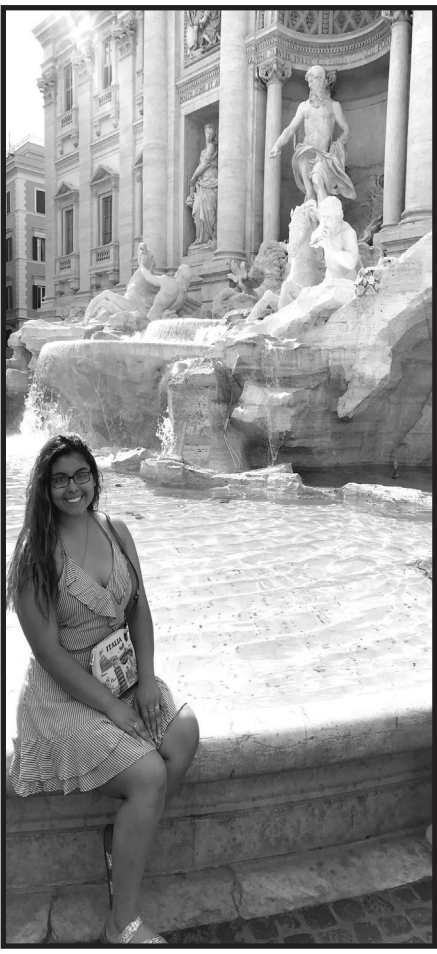
cause I had such great experience, and I like how everything you want is there. Great food, pools, and fun activities are available to do with your family. Last summer, I went to Italy, and it was so awesome. I wrote down a list and saved up money. I gave myself enough time to plan everything and get everything paid for.

I really encourage students to travel. It's so much fun going to places you've never been before. Visiting the Colosseum in Rome was so crazy. I couldn't believe I was actually there. Being in places you see on TV or in movies is so breathtaking to me.

I like accomplishing my traveling goals, and I hope you start a travel bucket list for yourself. Learning history and visiting Europe was a great experience, and I highly recommend students travel to wherever you desire.

Making memories and going to new places will even teach you things about yourself. You will learn how you are in new places, and whether you are good with directions or how well you do budgeting with your money.

[dsalazar4219@students.southplainscollege.edu](mailto:dsalazar4219@students.southplainscollege.edu)



## Word on the Street

If you could change a thing about SPC, what would it be?



"I think that they need to leave the Great Western Dining open longer for students who are not on meal plans, or who are in the Student Center late studying. I think they should be open the same times as the cafeteria, or at least until 6 p.m. or 7 p.m."

Sheyanna Rodriguez  
Nursing  
Sophomore  
Littlefield



"I would say that there should be access to copier machines for students in the Student Center. Because when the Library is closed, and the Tech Center is closed, there's times when I need things copied or printed but I can't because I don't have access to it."

Nicole Marquez  
Radiology  
Sophomore  
Artesia, NM



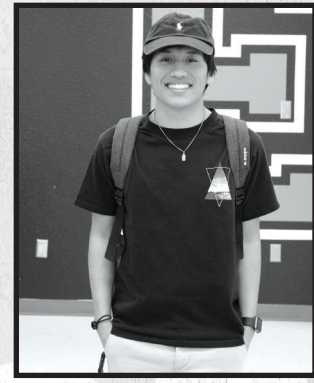
"Definitely the roads, because there are a lot of potholes, and the roads are not even at all. And as a result, it messes with my car tires."

Lizzulli Mendoza  
Nursing  
Sophomore  
Levelland



"I would change the hours of the Library. If they stayed open until 8 p.m. for the entire week, instead of a few days out of the week, that would be very helpful. Towards the end of the week, it's hard to get the resources I need for my classes because the Library closes early."

Ashton Smith  
Nursing  
Junior  
Dimmitt



"I would add locks to the the triplets and boys dorms, because anybody can just walk in or out. And it makes some people who live there feel unsafe."

Luis Trejo  
Business  
Freshman  
Gruver



"I would add tutoring for the nursing programs at South Plains. We have to rely on our peers for help and study together. But I would like to have somebody that I can go to and sit down with to help me answer the questions that I have."

Sharon Johnson  
Nursing  
Sophomore  
Littlefield

Compiled by Victoria de Souza and Kaitlyn Hyde



# Green New Deal aiming to reduce carbon emissions entirely



by **AUSTIN CARTER**  
Editorial Assistant

A bill to reduce America's impact on global climate change is being developed by Democrats, much to the dismay of the many Republicans who claim it isn't feasible or even that it's radical.

The Green New Deal (GND) echoes a portion of Obama's stimulus package from roughly

much attention to climate change, some Democrats have talked about the Green New Deal in a radical way, suggesting changes that are beyond reasonable considering our country's dependency on fossil fuel.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, upcoming Democrat and state representative of New York, has repeatedly said on the record that the goal of the Green New Deal policy is to reach 100 percent emissions-free energy production, a noble goal with a caveat. Reaching zero carbon emissions just isn't achievable overnight. Ocasio-Cortez (AOC) pushes it as a goal, making Republicans nervous that a green energy initiative will prove a costly, radical undertaking in which

House Nancy Pelosi's committee to create the GND.

Despite Democrats praising the green initiative, AOC has been given most of the credit, since she has acted as the catalyst for it and fanned its flames through interviews and social media. AOC has released a preamble to the GND, boasting goals of creating jobs, focusing on renewable energy and charging companies for carbon emissions. Her intense support has led to her having to shelter the majority of the criticism for the concept, though. Her Socialist affiliation also has left a sour taste in the mouths of many Republicans.

Stimulus packages have proven necessary to protect the economy from excessive decline in the past, but the huge sums of money put into a select industry does constitute a redistribution of wealth. The GND is already being defamed as a socialist policy before it has taken any shape that

will actually pass a vote. While a stimulus package

hang-ups and wasting taxpayer money on

decades. This, paired with other countries contributing



could once again prove necessary in the future, most stimulus packages aren't so heavily focused on a single industry, but are more diversified. The opposition of the GND has been quick to cite the half a million dollars Obama's stimulus funneled into a failed solar energy company, Solyndra.

President Donald Trump has already mocked AOC publicly, referring to her indirectly as a "bartender," and vowed to oppose the GND in 2020. The plan may prove to be unreasonable, but writing it off so early also is troubling, considering the evidence stacked in favor of climate change. The GND poses the risk of making the nation's energy production far less efficient than countries with less moral

dying solutions such as Solyndra. But the concept of green energy shouldn't be written off.

mass amounts of carbon emissions to the problem, means a complete, instant switch to green energy might not be enough to prevent this.



10 years ago, which primarily focused on improving the economy and avoiding a depression. Tens of billions of dollars, however, created jobs and infrastructure to produce clean energy. While many Republicans don't afford

Democrats bite off more than they can chew.

Details about what the new policies will look like, and if they will affect other energy resources, are slim. But to much Republican delight, AOC is not on Speaker of the

excessive decline in the past, but the huge sums of money put into a select industry does constitute a redistribution of wealth. The GND is already being defamed as a socialist policy before it has taken any shape that



As a military, economic and political superpower, the United States can influence the world and should pursue green energy while encouraging others to do so. Environmental specialists have already predicted that climate change will become somewhat irreversible in less than two

The world is already behind the curve on the problem, and politicians will fight about solutions for years to come. But the reality is that it is too late to avoid serious repercussions, and green policies can't reasonably be enacted all at once, but gradually.

acararter2522@students.southplainscollege.edu

# Rushed marriages lead to higher divorce rate



by **DEBRA MONTANDON**  
Staff Writer

There are many important decisions one will make in life, and picking the right mate ranks at the top.

It seems that today so many kids are encouraged

encouraged me to not rush that. Enjoy just being a kid, they said.

When I was raising my sons, I taught them the same words of wisdom.

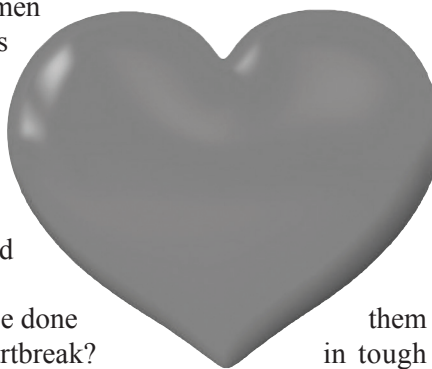
It breaks my heart when I see men and women around 30 years of age breaking up families with divorce. Getting a divorce not long after getting married is so hard on the children.

So, what can be done to avoid that heartbreak? There are several things that can be done to decrease the divorce rate.

Don't start dating so young. This starts the

called life. Don't look for a happy life in another person. Work at being wholly happy on your own.

When you start dating, date long enough to see



them in tough situations. When you rush into marriage or a committed relationship, you don't get to see them at their worst,

some red flags to watch out for.

One big red flag is if you fight all the time. You will make yourself sick. If you have kids, they will not be healthy either. An ugly divorce will most likely be in your future.

Another red flag is the feeling of being "ignored." He/she doesn't like to be friendly or cordial. This will set the marriage up for infidelity.

If he/she gives attention to the opposite sex in a "too friendly way," it will cause jealousy and lots of fights. Sometimes people are too needy. They need reinforcement of the relationship all the time. This will get "old" fast.

Marriage is about a partnership. If one side is always first, there will be resentment. When you are in public, does he/she hold your hand, or does he keep his distance? This is a big red

flag, because he/she could be ashamed to be seen in public with you.

Another big red flag is



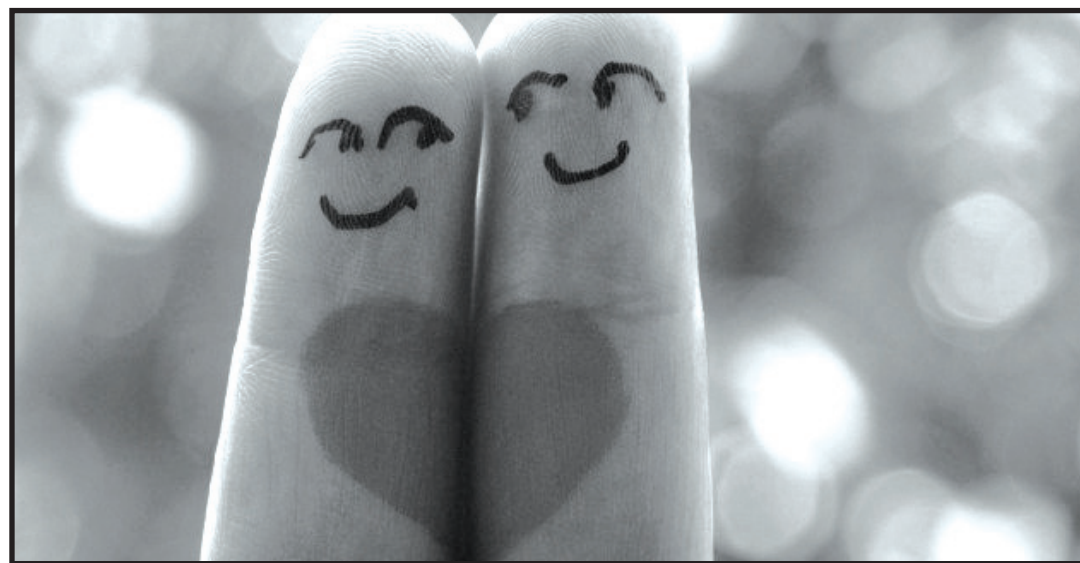
that you need to ask yourself often, and be open to the truth, is "Does his actions match his words?"

Don't pursue the male. He was created to do the pursuing. If he doesn't pursue you, he is not "into" you.

I promise you do not want to be with someone who

doesn't want when you are in public, do their eyes wonder to

you. If he lets you do all the work to stay in touch, he is



to start liking the opposite sex so young. You can hear any parents ask, "Is he your boyfriend? Or do you like him/her?" I was blessed that my parents

hormones racing worse than normal. You have plenty of time in your adult life to date. Use your childhood to take in this amazing journey

and that will bug you later. Life will be so much better when you are not sucking the life out of the other person. If you date the wrong one, there are

is always first, there will be resentment.

When you are in public, does he/she hold your hand, or does he keep his distance? This is a big red

the opposite sex, or is their attention on you?

Ask yourself these questions: Is he nice? Is he kind? Is she thoughtful? Is she patient? Does he think of himself first all the time? Listen and trust your heart.

Another question

letting you know how little he thinks of you, or how lazy he will be. It is a lonely life if you get him.

When he catches you, it will be so much better.

dmontandon3740@students.southplainscollege.edu



# Track teams continue to impress at halfway mark in outdoor season

by **KENDALL RAINER**

Associate Editor/  
Sports Editor

The South Plains College men's and women's track teams captured seven event titles in their last meet, which marked the halfway point of the outdoor season.

The David Noble Relays were held on April 6 at the LeGrand Stadium at 1st Community Credit Union Field in San Angelo.

Sophomore Bryson Deberry placed first in the men's high jump, clearing the bar at 7 feet, 1.5 inches. In the men's javelin throw, freshman Bryce Spencer hit a mark of 171 feet, 5 inches, placing sixth overall. Riley Finnegan placed sixth in the men's discus throw with a mark of 163 feet, 6 inches.

In the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase, sophomore Jesse Madrid placed first, clocking a time of 9:41.09. Andrew Bosquez placed first in the men's 5,000 meters with a time of 14:58.63, while Alex Kitum placed third in the event with a time of 15:18.95.

In the men's 400 hurdles, Moitalei Mpoke and Deion Lightfoot placed first and second, respectively. Mpoke crossed the line at 51.11, while Lightfoot posted a time of 53.67.

In the men's 4x100 meter relay, Brandon Letts, AJ Pemberton, Adrese Atkins, and Willari Watson placed first with a time of 40.01.

In the women's 5,000 meters, Gladys Jemaiyo placed first with a time of 17:25.78. Lynda Martinez placed first in the women's 1,500 meters, crossing the line at 5:11.50.

In the women's 100 meters, sophomore Ruth Usoro placed fifth after posting a time of 11.83. In the women's 400 meters, Geordan Blanchard placed second with a time of

58.09, while Alyssa Hernandez posted a time of 1:00.35 and placed fourth.

In the women's 800 meters, Itzel Garcia-Santos placed second, clocking a time of 2:14.97. Janiel Moore placed third in the women's 400 hurdles with a time of 1:04.37.

In the women's 4x100 meter relay, Usoro, Patrice Moody, Elon'a Jones, and Blanchard placed fourth, posting a time of 46.70.

The teams also competed against some top NCAA Division I athletes and some of the top teams in the country at the 92nd Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays held on March 27 - March 30 at Mike A. Meyers Stadium in Austin.

Lightfoot placed second in the men's 110-meter hurdles, crossing the line at 14.16. Denvaughn Whyms placed second in the qualifiers with a time of 14.05. However, he did not finish in the finals.

Bosquez placed third in the men's 1,500 meters section B, crossing the line at 4:01.25.

Deberry placed second in the men's high jump, clearing the bar a 7 feet, 0.25 inches.

Freshman Dorcus Ewoi finished ninth overall in the women's 1,500 meters with a time of 4:41.52. In the women's long jump, Usoro placed fourth with a mark of 19 feet, 10 inches.

Jemaiyo finished eighth in the women's 5,000 meters with a time of 17:71.51.



Photo courtesy of Jordan Irvine

krainer1618@students.southplainscollege.edu

# Trout underpaid as result of faulty statistic

by **MICHAEL MANGEL**

Staff Writer

The ink has yet to dry on Mike Trout's \$430 million contract extension with the Los Angeles Angels, and yet people are already saying he is underpaid.

It was surprising to see the Angels spend big money on Trout, especially after their last two big signings were flops.

Albert Pujols never lived up to the numbers he was projected to have. Josh Hamilton was just unable to stay sober to let his talents match his contract. Most recently Shohei Ohtani had surgery on his

The Angels have had bad luck with free agency and have not made the playoffs since 2014. They have not won a playoff series since 2009.

Trout, 27, is considered the best player in baseball, hands-down. His resume

analytics for Major League Baseball is wins above replacement (WAR). Trout's WAR percentage is 64.9, which puts him in some very infamous company that includes Ty Cobb, Mickey Mantle, Rogers Hornsby and

WAR is valued at \$9 million a game, on average. But that number goes up with division games and playoffs, making WAR value more than \$35 million for a division playoff game.

These numbers are not universal, because not all teams are valued the same.

So if Trout moved to another team in a big market, his value could easily double or triple. The truth of the matter is that his value cannot be truly measured. Until the Angels make a deep playoff run with this once-

in-a-generation talent, that won't be known.

The money spent on Trout does not leave a lot of room for the franchise to add more big-name players around him. Time will tell if it is worth it to pay all that money for one player, or if teams are better off building from their farm system.

WAR is not a perfect

statistic and can be manipulated by changing the criteria. But it's clear to say that Trout may be underpaid when he's \$70 million shy of being paid half a billion dollars to play a game.

mmangel3290@students.southplainscollege.edu



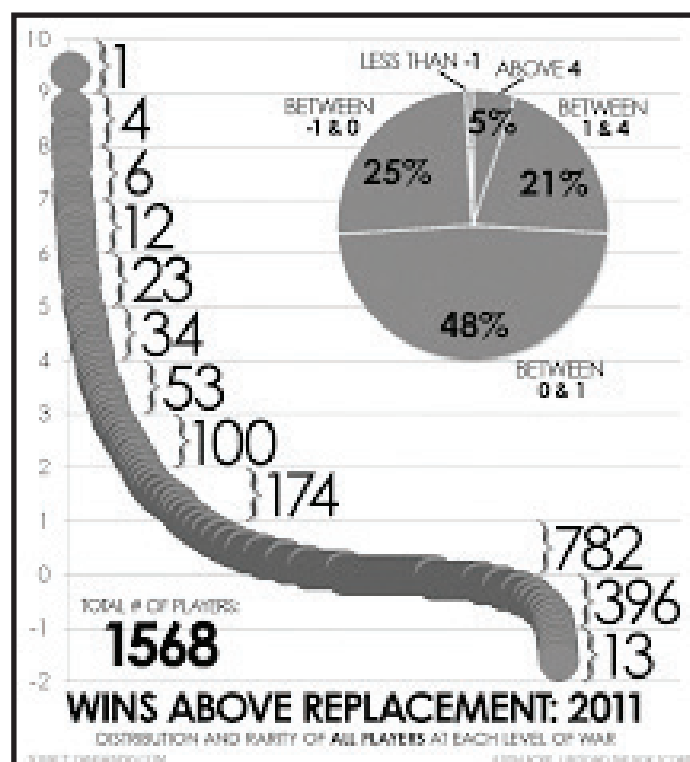
includes two American League MVPs, seven All-Star appearances and six Silver Slugger awards.

Baseball, like most major sports, has fallen victim to the analytics and what they show. That's

Jimmie Foxx. Babe Ruth is 13<sup>th</sup> on the list, with a WAR percentage of 45.4, according to FanGraphs,

a website for statistics for Major League Baseball and Minor League baseball, with statistical analysis, graphs, and projections.

Those are some of the all-time great players in Major League Baseball history. The game has changed and evolved, so let's compare Trout to some modern players. In his first season in 2013, Trout played more than 150 games. His war was 54.1. In second was Josh Donaldson with 35.7. Trout averages 9.0 WAR a season, meaning he alone is worth nine victories a season. Two other players have only done this once, Bryce Harper in 2015 and Mookie Betts in 2018. They both were MVP seasons.



arm midway through his rookie year.

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# Miller captures all-around title at Western Texans College Rodeo

by **KENDALL RAINER**  
Sports Editor

The South Plains College women's rodeo team placed first in the team standings, while the men placed third at the Western Texas College Rodeo.

The event was held April 4 - April 6 in Snyder.

The Lady Texans improved to third in the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association standings in the Southwest Region with 1,704 points, trailing Tarleton State University (2,356) and Weatherford College (1,742).

Freshman Kaytlyn Miller won the women's all-around title with 380 points. She is currently

ranked first in the Southwest Region in the women's standings. In goat tying, Miller placed

up with a 6.8 in the finals. She averaged 13.9 and added 170 points. Miller also placed third

accumulating a combined 210 points in those two events.

The Texans are also

with 2,535 points. The Southwest Region is led by Tarleton State with 3,105 points, and Clarendon College is second with 2,835 points.

In team roping, Grady Quam and Cisco's Paden Bray placed second overall, running a 6.3 in the long round, and finishing with a 5.8 in the finals. They finished with an average of 12.1 and earned 115 points for the Texans. Stefan Ramone paired with Tarleton State's Jhett Trenary and tied for second place, running a 5.9 in the long round and a 6.2 in the finals.

They averaged 12.1 and collected 135 points.

Kyler Bell placed fifth alongside Eastern New Mexico's Stran Thompson with an average of 15.4, while Logan Kenline took on the bull with Cisco's Cheeto Valliant to finish sixth with an average of 29.0.

In tiedown roping, Ramone placed fifth with a time of 8.1 in the long round and a 12.6 in the finals, adding 80 points. Kenline placed fifth in steer wrestling after a 5.6 run in the long round and a 14.7 in the finals, tacking on 35 points. Dawson Stewart placed eighth with a 19.0 average and added 50 points.

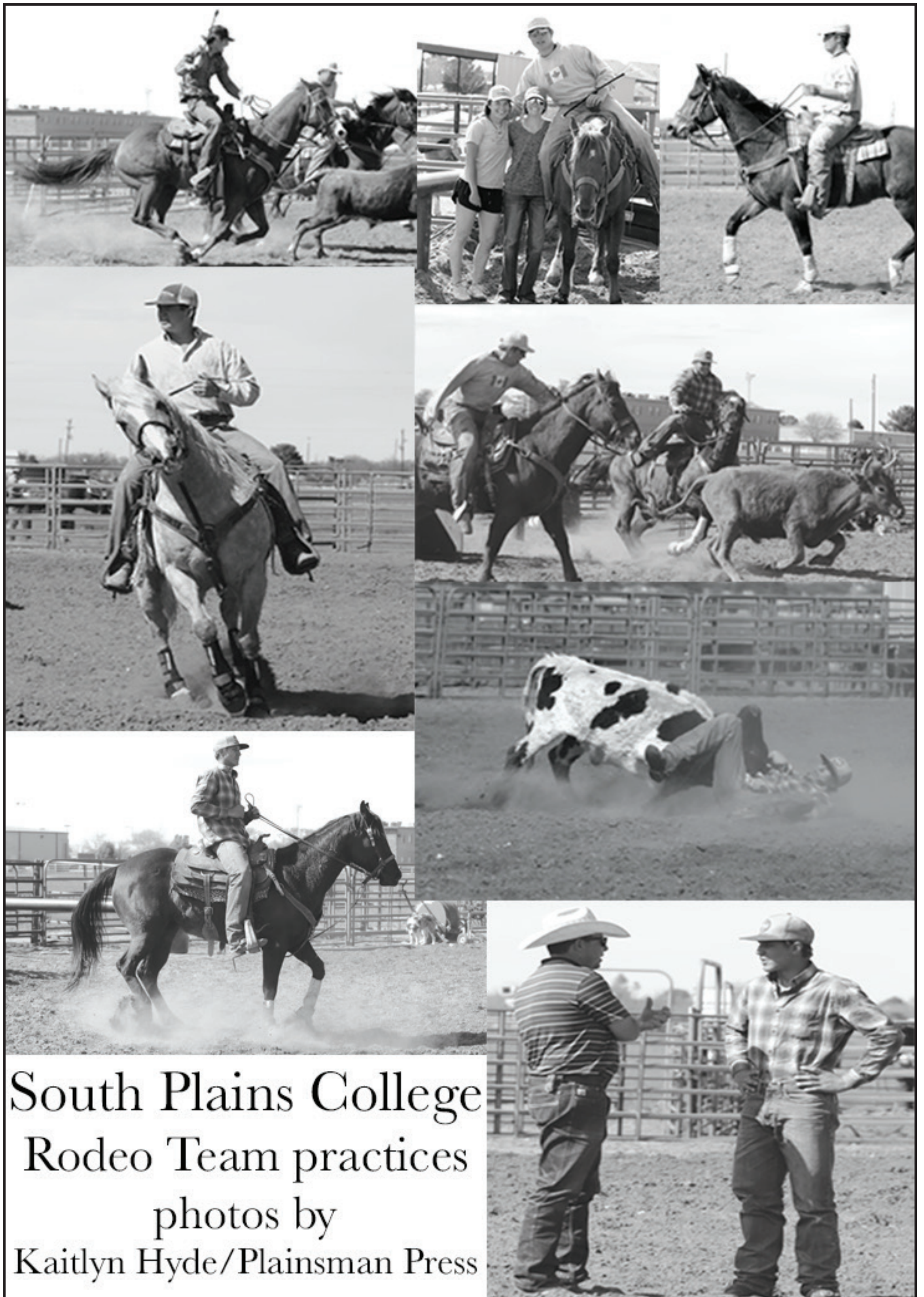


first with a time of 7.1 in the long round, following

in barrel racing and sixth in breakaway roping,

ranked third in the NIRA Southwest Region

krainer1618@students.southplainscollege.edu



South Plains College Rodeo Team practices photos by Kaitlyn Hyde/Plainsman Press



# Flora, Fauna, Fossils...

## Researchers work toward preserving natural history at Lubbock Lake Landmark

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
Staff Writer

Lubbock Lake Landmark not only preserves the natural heritage of the land but also provides leadership through stewardship by volunteering, research, and education.

Scott Trevey, historic maintenance supervisor at Lubbock Lake Landmark, works on preserving the prairie and trying to keep the land the way it would have been years ago.

Trevey explained that Texas Tech University took over maintaining

of people out here every year, pulling or doing some type of manual control...," he said. "All we can do today is simply try to manage it."

He also mentioned that they would really like to know more about controlling brush, "particularly honey mesquite."

Wild fires was a natural way to keep brush, such as honey mesquite, down, Trevey explained.

He said that the month of May is one of his favorite months at Lubbock Lake Landmark because of all the new blooms which are appearing.

"Some years, with rainfall and the timing of those

identifies native trees, grasses, and flowers in the landscape and tells you about them," she said.

It also is a resource for classroom instruction and research projects, along with informal learning, for area students and residents.



"There are classes from Tech (and other schools) who will come out here and do research projects," mentioned Bigness.

The archeology that is on Lubbock Lake Landmark was discovered accidentally in 1936.

"People from the museum at Tech have been involved on and off since then," Bigness said. "This summer, when we open up and start excavating, that will be 83

years since archeology was discovered."

Bigness stated that people have been coming to that particular spot for at least 12,000 years because there was always water there. The availability of water attracted the animals, which in turn attracted the people, be-

cause they were big game hunters and followed the herds. The water also helped process the meat, which played a part in humans living there.

"We think this was a large hunting ground, basically," Bigness said. "They would come here, live here periodically at various seasons of the year."

Lubbock Lake Landmark also offers several educational classes open to both children and adults.

"We do classes during spring break and the first seven weeks of summer in June and July," said Bigness, "and then we do other programs during the year."

Bigness mentioned one program offered once a quarter called Sensory Saturday. It is aimed at children who learn differently. They also have a program for 3 and 4 year olds called Growing Up Wild.

Lubbock Lake Land-

mark also holds night hikes, called Landmark After Dark Night Hike,

that we know lived here at this place during the ice age," said Bigness, adding

every month on the fourth Saturday between March and September. The hike starts 30 minutes before sunset, which means the time of the event changes from month to month.

"The wildlife is a lot more active at that time..." Bigness said. "By the time you get back, it's dark. So there's great star gazing."

They also offer Digital Literacy for older adults to help them learn how to use smart phones, social media, and photography.

Lubbock Lake Landmark also has indoor exhibits which they change yearly. In the last room, they have an Ice Age exhibit which has been up since before Christmas, and is expected to remain in place through October of 2020.

Part of the reason they are leaving the Ice Age exhibit up longer is because it goes with their four life-size animal sculptures

outside. "They are all animals

that the sculptures were made using measurements of bones that have been excavated on the site.

Lubbock Lake Landmark also has a lot of volunteer opportunities during the summer, such as helping in the lab where they catalog archeological material, helping to clean, weigh and identify material, and more.

"A lot of our excavation work is done by volunteers," Bigness said, adding that it is a well known archeological site that attracts researchers from all over the world to dig there.

Some volunteers help with the night hike, while others like helping with the programs. "If someone wants to volunteer out here, it just kind of depends on what we need and also what the person is interested in," said Bigness.

Lubbock Lake Landmark preserves the wildlife and provides four-and-a-half miles of dif-



all 335 acres and that Dr. Eileen Johnson, director of Lubbock Lake Landmark, had a goal to get the land back to what they felt it looked like before European settlers came to the area.

Dr. Johnson wanted to achieve that goal without affecting or damaging the cultural resources, Trevey said.

"The strategic master plan, I was estimating five-to-seven years," Trevey said, talking about how long they wanted to take to restore the land.

Trevey says that the prairie is not an exact representation of what the land was because of some non-native invasive species.

"To totally eradicate that, it would take an army

rainfall events, we have more of an abundance of a certain plant," said Trevey.

Deborah Bigness, manager of site operations for Lubbock Lake Landmark, said that preserving the prairie encourages wildlife, such as mule deer, raccoons, coyotes, and rabbits, to come and provides them with a home and protection.

"There are not a lot of places around here where you can see what it would have looked like," Bigness said. "The entire great plains of America would have looked something like this in its natural state."

Bigness explained that Lubbock Lake Landmark is very educational.

"We have a trail that



mark also holds night hikes, called Landmark After Dark Night Hike,

that we know lived here at this place during the ice age," said Bigness, adding

ferent trails for bikers, hikers, and leashed pets, with several outlook spots for visitors to enjoy.

Lubbock Lake Landmark is free of charge, and their hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except for Sundays, which are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is located at 2401 Landmark Drive, off of Loop 289.



mkneisley1952@students.southplainscollege.edu

All photos by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY / PLAINSMAN PRESS**