



# Students informed about freedom of speech on Constitution Day

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
 Photo Editor

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The event was hosted by Timothy Holland, government instructor. He is the one organized the event and served as the moderator for the discussion held Sept. 21 in the Sundown Room in the Student Center Building on the Levelland campus.

The panelists included Drew Landry, assistant professor of government, Dr. Sharon Bogener, professor of History, and Lubbock attorney Dane Norman.

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 KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS

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number of incidences that limited free speech," Dr. Bogener said.

Many occurrences that took place during that time involved any individuals who spoke out against slavery or those who participated in any form of strike or protest could end

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that "under the Sedition Act more than 2,000 people were arrested and more than 1,000 of those people were convicted, and again, this is a clear violation of their First Amendment right."

See "First" on pg. 2

## Agriculture careers spotlighted at symposium

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
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An Agriculture Career Symposium is being held at South Plains College for those who are interested in the field of agriculture.

The Agriculture Career Symposium will be held Oct. 15, from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., in the Texan Dome on the Levelland campus.

The symposium is designed not only for students at South Plains College, but also for students in high school. The goal is to try to expose people to the opportunities within the agriculture industry.

The Agriculture Career Symposium will feature Matt Rush, a nationally known speaker, who will give the keynote address. Rush has an agricultural background from New Mexico, and puts a lot of "farm boy" humor into his speeches.

According to Dave Cleavinger, professor of agriculture at SPC, more than 300 area high school students and 40 vendors are expected to participate in the event.

"Those 40 professional vendors are representa-

tives from all areas of the Texas Tech Collage of Agricultural Science and Natural Resources, CASNR," Cleavinger said. "Students will go down on the floor of the Dome and they are going to go to an area that might interest them."

The professional vendors who will be there are going to tell students what they do and show them their educational process that got them there.

Cleavinger said he is hoping the symposium will give students some career goals, and that it will also open up some new areas students never realized were available to pursue in the field of agriculture.

The goal is to expose students to many of the vast opportunities which are available in agriculture in order to recruit a new diverse generation of agriculturalists. Opportunities include the fields of economics, engineering, communications, education, food science, and agronomy.

"Very few people realize all the areas that agriculture encompasses," Cleavinger said. "From chemists to bankers, to wine making to landscape architecture... Ag com-

munications, animal science, veterinary. It's so much more than what the average person just considers to be agriculture. That's what this (Agriculture Career Symposium) is for."

Figuring out what direction to take for a career can be difficult, especially in the field of agriculture; according to Ron Presley, professor of agriculture at SPC.

"The South Plain College's Agriculture department's question to each of our students is 'where are you headed?'," said Presley. "What we're trying to do is welcome students into a very large, diverse, and vibrant industry. We are hoping that this symposium will achieve success in many of our goals. One: making young people think about where they're going. Two: Giving them a very diverse projection of the many places they can be headed. Three: enthuising them to be getting into the industry at some level, because they're going to make great company owners."

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## Worley selected as new dean of Arts and Sciences

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

Alan Worley recently was named as the new dean of arts and sciences at South Plains College.

Worley attended high school in Eunice, New Mexico. He later received his bachelor's degree from Eastern New Mexico University in mathematics and biology in 1996. He continued to graduate school at New Mexico State University, where he earned a master's degree in experimental statistics, with an emphasis in biostatistics.

"I did many activities," Worley said. "I was very involved. I was in honor fraternities and honor societies. I won awards, and graduated summa cum laude."

Worley has two daughters. One is a junior in high school, and the other is an eighth-grader. His wife began this year as a first grade teacher in Levelland.

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# First Amendment discussed during annual event

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Even while all of this was happening throughout the country, nobody had challenged these issues until 1919.

Certainly, the government has improved on protecting free speech, and “the First Amendment was created to protect us from an abusive government that would want to censor us,” Landry said.

According to Norman, the benefit to allowing free speech is essentially to keep away the danger of government censorship.

“Once the government can begin to censor what ideas and opinions we are allowed to express, at a certain point they would be able to control and shape our opinions,” Norman said.

The government made it to where citizens are allowed to express themselves freely without the fear of the government stopping them from practicing their First Amendment rights.

Landry also mentioned that former Supreme

Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who was a conservative, once wrote, “not all constitutional rights are unlimited,” meaning that there are limits to the rights of citizens.

When it comes to individuals using slander to ruin one’s reputation and/or career, that is when the government will step in with laws that have been placed to put restrictions on individuals abusing their freedom of speech.

This is known as malicious intent, meaning an intentional, wrongful act

against someone without a justified excuse and

they use defamation laws to balance the protection

there are some issues that can stay protected and

als can still form these opinions, even if it is not founded on any solid information, as long as there is still a distinction between the facts and opinions.

This has been a major issue noticed by a large number of young individuals who use social media. This concern has been currently affecting the younger community, and it has played a huge factor in formulating opinions about the government.

Although it is acceptable to make these opinions, according to Landry, it can be difficult to differentiate between opinion and fact, especially with how fast information spreads throughout social media.

“That’s why you should not rely on a single source as your information,” Dr. Bogener said. “To really be informed, you need to get your information from various sources and opinions.”



Panelists discuss and answer questions about the First Amendment during annual event on Sept. 21.

KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS

## Counselors encourage that students should StepUP! with campus events

by KAITLYN HYDE  
Photo Editor

Across the country, 1.5 million students have experienced hazing throughout their time in grade school.

That is one out of every five students who have struggled with bullying, and 47 percent of students who transfer into college have experienced some type of hazing. Many of these students may even continue to experience it if they get involved with certain clubs, teams, or other organizations.

StepUp! Is a national movement that colleges are involved in to encourage students to intervene and do something when they see someone hurting, in trouble, or needing help in any type of situation.

For the next month, StepUp! will be hosting events on campus to help teach students how to better understand when

and where is the right time to stand up for their peers while staying out of harm’s way.

Many students struggle with knowing if getting involved with certain issues may put themselves or others in danger. However, StepUp! encourages students to come together as one and stand up as a group.

On Sept. 21, StepUp! held their first meeting

first thoughts may be that someone else will step in before they do. Even if that happens, bystanders still have the option to help or walk away, according to Montgomery.

The issue with this is that if no one steps up for that person in need, the individual being hurt will not feel as supported as he or she could have been.

While it is important to encourage intervening and doing something to help someone else, it’s important to make sure you are safe and follow S.E.E (safe, effectively, early).

Events will be held on Oct. 2 and Oct. 16. Both will be held in the Game Room at the Student Center, starting at 7 p.m. There will also be another event held Nov. 6 held in the Game Room at 7 p.m.

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for the individual’s reputation with freedom of expression.

However, generally all opinions want to be protected, according to Norman. While being able to express one’s own opinion, the issue is when something is presented as a fact when it is false.

With defamation laws,

some that cannot, depending on the damage that it causes. If an individual is at fault, then they must show that what they declared to be true is a false claim.

An example that was used by Norman is the accumulating opinions such as if Ted Cruz is the Zodiac Killer. Individu-

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## Former math chair ready for new role

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a week later I started to work here.”

Through the years, Worley has been a part of several programs involving the Mathematics and Engineering Department.

“We’ve always had a community college aerospace program,” Worley said, “which allows students to go to different space centers around the country and participate in a workshop. Then that opens up doors for internships and co-ops and jobs.”

Worley explained that SPC also started participating in the University Innovation Fellows (UIF), which is a national movement to ensure that students gain attitudes, skills and knowledge required for them to compete in the economy of the future. Worley also helped begin a S.E.A.R.C.H. committee, where students cause change on campus and in the community.

“That’s how we got the Maker Space,” Worley

said, “through UIF. and S.E.A.R.C.H.”

The Maker Space, unlike the normal classroom environment, is designed for movement. The idea is for the Maker Space to be a community where students can create, innovate, collaborate, and study.

Worley also has participated in a zero gravity flight as a part of research for NASA.

“There were about four SPC faculty who joined NASA,” Worley explained. “And we got to do some experimentation on the zero gravity flight.”

Worley explained that he wants to impact the lives of students at SPC in whatever role he can.

“I’m still going to be a student-centered dean,” Worley said. “Just like I was a student-centered instructor. My job is to open doors and remove ceilings from our departments and allow them to shine and do great things.”

Worley said that he has many plans for his new position and the Mathematics and Engineering

Department, but none he can disclose yet.

He plans to continue to teach, in addition to performing his duties as a dean.

“I feel as leader I would rather lead from the classroom rather than an office,” Worley said. “I’m a teacher first, and so my thinking will be as a teacher. So I plan to remain in the classroom to have the experience on what students and teachers face.”

Worley currently teaches two new corequisite courses, for Statistical Methods and Contemporary Math. Corequisite courses are for non TSI-compliant students, who can take a college-ready class along with a support class.

“I am currently developing these courses from scratch,” Worley explained. “And building these and teaching these new courses.”

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### PUBLICATION STATEMENT

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Plainsman Press encourages signed 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.



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# Adventure Park under construction in Lubbock

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
News Editor

With a goal of bringing more adventure to Lubbock, a local couple is

building their own theme park.

After the old abandoned Putt Putt Golf and Games caught fire in 2016, Kai and her husband Jim decided to buy the 20-acre

lot and transform it into their envisioned park.

Adventure Park will feature several indoor and outdoor attractions. Indoors, Adventure Park will have a game room,

which will hold more than 50 interactive video games, party and group booking space, an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a rock wall for all ages, and a spin zone (bumper cars).

Continuing the fun outside, there will be an additional rock wall, and two 18-hole miniature golf courses that have several trees and a stream that flows through. The park also will feature bumper bayou (boats), which have water guns attached to the front to squirt your opponent; Cypress Peak (ropes course), that will have more than 45 physical challenges and several levels/courses to choose from; a zip line; adventure towers, which is a playground that is designed for any age group; mountain bike trials that span 14 acres of land; and the classic go-cart track.

Evans explained that the Association for Challenge Course Technology, or the ACCT, comes in and checks every nut and bolt on all the structures, confirming that every structure which is being built is stable, safe, and secured.

Adventure Park will

also have a Ranger on duty. Her name is Ranger Kay. Ranger Kay is a German Shepard who will be living at Adventure

their families. I think that there are so many distractions and we're all so busy that it's hard to find those moments to connect and engage with your kids or your spouse."

So as not to disappoint anyone, Evans is not revealing the date when the park will be opened.

"We're not making any announcements about it because we're so weather dependent," she added. "Most of our attractions are outside, and so when we get rain, that does put delays. So, the



Adventure Park to open soon in Lubbock.  
MAKAYLA KNEISLEY/PLAINSMAN PRESS

## Cast announced for 'The Imaginary Invalid'

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

"The Imaginary Invalid" and "The Madrigal Dinner" are the featured events of the fall semester for the Theatre Program at South Plains College.

"There was a very good turnout for auditions," said Dr. Dan Nazworth, chairperson of the Fine Arts Department at SPC.

"The Imaginary Invalid" will be performed Nov. 1 – Nov. 3, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Nov. 4. Admission is \$5 for students.

"The Imaginary Invalid" is the last comedy written by the French playwright, Molière.

"Molière is in the public domain," Dr. Nazworth added, "so he's easy to perform. There are no requirements."

In "The Imaginary Invalid," hypochondriac Argon wants his daughter to marry a doctor so he can have cheaper medical bills. Argon's daughter is in love with somebody else, however, and she comes up with a scheme to thwart the marriage and save true love.

"The (Imaginary) Invalid is a fun comedy, and in some ways very relevant," Dr. Nazworth said.

Dr. Nazworth says he is planning on having the

actors dressed in period costumes for the play.

"Part of the thing about doing educational theatre is that the audience may not get it, but the students need to be familiar with different period styles," Dr. Nazworth explained.

"The Imaginary Invalid" will feature student actors: Troy Jewell, as Mr. Purgon; Grant McNeill, as Mr. Flaurant; Trevin Griffin, as Mr. Diaforius; Caden Leverton, as Thomas Diaforius; Joel Palma, as Berade; Justin Fraley, as Argon; Ryan Burk, as Cleante; Anahi Munoz, as Louison; Tracie Boyd, as Toinette; Maria Pekowski, as Angeliq; and Kelly Deuvall as Beline.

Fraley, a Radiologic Technology major, says he is looking forward to playing Argon, one of the lead roles in "The Imaginary Invalid."

"It's really fun playing a crazy person," Fraley said, "because there are no boundaries to what you can do. So I think that is just a fun thing, because you never know what is going to happen."

Pekowski, a Theatre major from Lubbock, has been performing theatre since she was in junior high.

"I just love the experience about getting to act in front of people and show emotion," said Pekowski.

"The Madrigal Dinner" is a medieval play

at Christmas, featuring a four-course meal with entertainment between each course.

"We really killed the fatted calf, it's a pretty fancy feast," Dr. Nazworth said. "It's an excuse to go get some good food and entertainment."

"The Madrigal Dinner" actors will also be in colorful, period clothing. The dinner and show will take place in the newly remodeled Sundown Room in the Student Center. The play will include King Arthur-esque legends and songs. "Madrigal Dinner" often involves a story of a marriage between a prince and princess.

The Madrigal Dinner choir will include: Joel Palma, Christina D. Johnson, Justin D. Fraley, Quinton R. Hammonds, Myrah B. Geter, Aaron L. Wilson, Katelynn R. Evans, Abelardo Palma, Jr., and Dalynn E. Beck.

There are a handful of canon characters included, such as a King, a Queen, and a Jester. But many "Madrigal Dinners" are adapted in unique and sometimes modern ways.

The Madrigal Dinner will be held on Nov. 20 and Dec. 1, with exact times to be determined. Tickets go on sale around Nov. 1.

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Park once it opens. She has been professionally trained to guard the park when the gates are locked.

"My husband grew up in entertainment," Kai Evans said. "His family has owned entertainment in Lubbock, so we've really had the desire to offer something like this. There's not a lot of attractions that are family-based. I'm really looking forward to seeing people connect and engage with

rains we had in August created some delays with some of our utilities to the attractions."

However, she reassured that the park was still on schedule and is going well.

"We will open as soon as we can," Kai Evans stated with a smile.

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## Fine Arts Showcase brings together music students

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
News Editor

The annual fall Fine Arts Showcase helps unify incoming music students.

The showcase will take place on Oct. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the atrium area in the Students Services Building on the Levelland campus.

For the third consecutive year, the Fine Arts Showcase will feature both the SPC concert choir and the SPC concert band, along with other small groups featuring members of the choir and band.

Each group will have their own piece of music that they will be playing for this performance. Dr.

Gary Hudson directs the SPC Concert Band. Dr. Debbie Gelber directs the SPC choir, while Dr. Sessa Wallace, Dr. Derin Cash, and Albutt Gardner serve as music instructors. Dr. Lisette Jimenez is the voice instructor.

"You'll see that the art faculty have their show up in our main gallery," Dr. Hudson said, "and if you look in the hallway, you will see a lot of the art from classes that have been going on."

Dr. Hudson stated that because there is a significant turnover year to year, the groups are usually rather new every year. With new students coming in from more than 20 dif-

ferent schools, they need to figure out how to work together, according to Dr. Hudson.

"Having each group make their own piece of music for this performance gives them the opportunity to work together on a small basis and figure each other out," explained Dr. Hudson. "Each section has to work as a team."

"This is an opportunity to unify together," he added, "and it helps the groups to gel a lot quicker. Plus, we are trying to give more opportunities for the students to perform."

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# Exemplary student involved on campus, encourages others

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

**D**uring the course of five semesters, Sophia Barnett has demonstrated what it truly means for students to step out of their comfort zone and be involved with activities attending at South Plains College.

Barnett had been

although she had just never felt the need to do so.

Barnett shares that her family owns an RV that they would pack up and take whenever they were ready to move to the next state. Her family moved across the country to roughly 10 different states, often moving every three months.

For fun, since they were already traveling,

University and told her about how great the campus is.

"I had decided to check it out once he had brought it up," recalls Barnett, "and when I got here I instantly fell in love with this college."

Barnett came to SPC in the fall semester of 2016 to major in computer science. She used to spend a lot of time looking for different programs on her computer, and eventually programing became an important aspect of her life.

Barnett hopes to graduate from SPC and transfer to West Texas A&M University. She plans on continuing her studies in computer science and go into cyber security.

Cyber security is protection for information systems, and Barnett said she

hopes that she can help prevent future attacks. She plans on using her computer science skills to help track down criminals who commit computer-related crimes.

"I just want a job that I am happy to go to every day," Barnett says. "I didn't even know that computer science made so much money. I'm doing it because it's something I love to do."

Barnett claims that she is also very open to other job opportunities, but says she hopes to find a profession in law enforcement or a security agency.

During her time at SPC, Barnett has been involved with many different organizations, such as the Resident Hall Association. She also serves as an RA at Tubb Hall. She also gives tours as a Campus Ambassador, and during spring 2018 semester, she worked with Public Relations.

Barnett also holds a position as a scholar assistant for Charlotte Young in the computer science lab in the Math Building.

"For one, being involved has helped me

become more social, because I was introverted when I started here," Barnett says. "By meeting friendly people, it has

along and agree on things because there were so many of us."

Along with having the opportunity to participate

semester.

Barnett explains that the biggest thing that helped her become involved at SPC is to try to attend events and form connections that way.

"My best advice would be to just talk to people," Barnett says. "Not just people who have the same major as you, or the

**“My best advice would be to just talk to people. Not just people who have the same major as you, or the people you live with, but everyone. By meeting people with different backgrounds, it can be beneficial to having an open mind.”**

helped me be comfortable and step out of my shell."

Barnett also participated in the National Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) program with NASA during the summer

in activities, Barnett took a private tour of the space center. She also had the chance to listen to professionals who work and intern for NASA.

Due to Barnett's campus involvement,

people you live with, but everyone. By meeting people with different backgrounds, it can be beneficial to having an open mind."

Barnett has been encouraging her peers



homeschooled for most of her life while living in Midland, Texas. Six years before she came to SPC, Barnett began to move with her family and travel throughout the United States, due to her father's profession as a nurse.

Barnett says she enjoyed being homeschooled because she "didn't know any

Barnett says they would take short trips and have visited 28 other states.

"I like that there were so many opportunities to do different things that I could not do in one place, like surfing and skiing," Barnett said.

"Although, I did not like saying goodbye so many times, plus I have missed my family farm

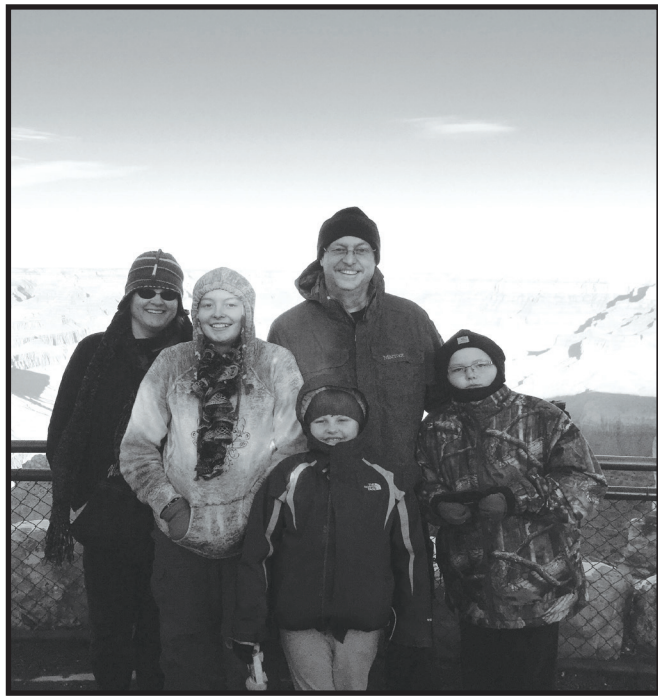


Photo courtesy of Sophia Barnett

different," and it would be easier than having to transfer from school to school. However, if she wanted to try a public school, she could have,

that that we would live on occasionally."

Barnett had originally heard about SPC through her older brother who attends Texas Tech



Sophia Barnett works as an RA to help residents in Tubb Hall.  
KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS

of 2017. She completed a five-week online course and then got accepted to go to the Johnson Space Center for four days in September of that year. Barnett worked with a team of other students to build and program a rover to compete against other teams.

"It got pretty rough at times, Barnett recalls, "because we had 10 members to a team and it was hard to all get

academic standing, and positive character, she was selected as the President's Student of the Year at the end of the spring semester of 2018.

Being involved with many different organizations has its benefits to help Barnett be more successful. She has received scholarships for being a Campus Ambassador. As an RA, she receives free housing and a meal plan for the

to attend campus events and continues to have a positive influence on those around her. She ensures individuals not to be afraid of what others will think, because at the end of the day, your true friends will stick around no matter what.

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# Survive freshman year with helpful advice

by GENEVA NATAL  
Feature Editor

Every year, incoming freshmen have difficulty adjusting to the changes in their life.

Lost and confused, they have to find help themselves or struggle alone until they learn the hard way. However, below are 13 quick tips to rectify the situation and hopefully teach new students about some of

said Reina Mosqueda, an early childhood education major at SPC. “But online you can do your work on your own time.”

**3.) Don’t Procrastinate**

“Stay on top of your work,” said Carolyn Sinkler, an education major at SPC. “If the due date is a week from now, do it anyway, instead of watching Netflix or going out, because it will start to pile up on you.”

also resume building.”

**5.) Make Friends**

“One of the most important things, because your friends make up your college experience,” said Jonathan Rangel, a radiology major at SPC. “They’re what make it worthwhile. These friends make me happy and make me laugh. I think I talk a lot and make my friends laugh in return.”

**6.) Get Involved**

“Join a club that sparks



Photos by KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS

the ins and outs of college life.

**1.) Go To Class**

“The biggest mistake

**4.) Know your resources**

“The biggest things we typically see is just

your personal interest,” said Tori Moody, a general studies major at SPC. “Just figure out what you’re passionate about, and if you don’t know what you like, then try a little bit of everything until you find one you do like. Talk to other people and tag along with them to see what the hype is about.”

**7.) Know Your Limits**

“I learned the hard way that I can’t handle everything I thought I could,” said Tiffany Smith, a pre-veterinary major. “College is a new level of stress that I

don’t know how to handle. Think about the late-night

crying because you have a stack of homework due, or the headache-inducing study sessions before you take six or more classes your first semester.”

**8.) Find a Source of Support**

“My mom was my main source of support through college,” says Tamara S. Raymond, a leadership and career coach, and the founder and CEO of Innovative Management Consulting. “It was comforting to know I had her support, even though she didn’t always understand my choices, particularly as they pertained to my choice of college major.”

**9.) Handle Your Financial Aid Early**

“I personally recommend going into a financial aid office, this one in particular. Students come in with their information, and we help them fill it out. I know from my own personal experience, because I didn’t know enough. Our basic steps to following the FAFSA, we made these forms to follow in this office,” said John Anchondo, a full-time employee in the Financial Aid Office at SPC. “Lots of times there are third-party people who go to high schools that don’t know as much about the process, and it’s nice to talk to someone who knows what they are talking about and can help get it done so you can have financial aid by the time school starts.”

**10.) Take Responsibility and Triple-Check**

“One trimester, I took extra classes, worked two jobs, and had a lot of extracurricular activities, including serving on a board that did a lot of work. I went to a dean

to get advice, and, after taking his guidance, I withdrew from one class to make my workload a bit more manageable. He stated that all I had to do was fill out a form and handed it to me to complete and sign. I trusted that he had my best interest at heart and knew what he was doing,” said Raymond. “He told me it was fine to sign the form, so I completed and submitted it only to find out later that having my WF approved earned me the equivalent of a failing grade in the class. This experience taught me to take responsibility

to miss out on family events.”

**12.) Dealing with Homesickness**

“Many students struggle with missing their hometown because they’re not used to meeting new people and getting out of their comfort zone,” says Jonathan Rangel, a freshman radiology major. “One of the best ways to deal with homesickness is to make new friends to get that “home” feeling and being surrounded by a new kind of family at college. Another way is to visit your hometown like once a month, or once a week, depending on where you



freshmen make is not going to class,” said Dr. Lynne Cleavinger, dean of students at South Plains College, “because class attendance is directly related to success. I know it took me a while to figure that one out too. Go to class.”

**2.) Online and Traditional Classes**

“I prefer physical classes, because it’s so much easier being one on one with the professor,”

the fear of the unknown, not knowing who to ask when things get rushed,” said Kristin Huber, an advisor on the Levelland campus at SPC. “There are wonderful resources, as well as our office. I think people believe that here in advising we just put students in classes. But we go over time management, stress management, note taking skills, degree path, and

for what I do, do my research, and not simply rely on someone else to know what is best for me—Even those who are well meaning can make mistakes.”

**11.) Time Management**

“Set up your class schedule that will work with your personal life and work life,” says Veronica Dominguez, a graphic arts major at SPC, “where everything isn’t hard on you. I learned from personal experience when I put all my classes right next to each other, and that messed with my work schedule and I had

live. Everyone is different, and everyone has their own way of dealing with homesickness.”

**13.) Have Fun**

“Don’t spend all day studying and all night working,” said Smith. “It’s important to take some days off and go partying, clubbing, have a movie night, or just relax with some friends. It’s college, so go out and be college students. Do something you enjoy and take advantage of the freedom.”

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# Alum serves community through career, volunteering

[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 DEBRA MONTANDON  
Staff Writer

When life doesn't go as you plan, it's not too late to plan again.

Sometimes people give up, but not Clifton Smith. Life obstacles were not seen as negative, just a new step in another direction.

Smith, known to friends and family as Dane, was born in Brownfield, Texas. He grew up and graduated from Loop High School in 1978. He graduated at the end of his junior year of high school and began college at Texas Tech University in the fall of 1978.

Smith attended South Plains College in 1999, graduating in 2002.

His initial major was pre-med. Smith says he finished high school early in order to get started on this career.

"I experienced a profound culture shock coming from a very small school with small classes and attending a large university with classes of up to 300 students," Smith recalls.

At the request of his father, he transferred to Lubbock Christian College the following semester. He later

transferred back to Texas Tech for the fall semester in 1979.

Smith then left college at the end of that semester for personal reasons, adding that the primary reason was because his dad needed help on the farm. He farmed from 1980 to 1997.

Smith said he had been interested in medicine since he was a small child. He became increasingly aware of the lack of medical aid in his rural community. Because of this, he began attending classes to help with the local Emergency Medical Services.

Smith became a member of the Seagraves-Loop EMS. He began this EMS career as an ECA and continued to take classes at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) until achieving his paramedic certification in the mid-1980s. Dane's older brother, Timmy, Dana Lambert, and Rick Purcell, all members of the Seagraves-Loop volunteer EMS service, were instrumental in circulating petitions, holding meetings and, in general, increasing awareness for the possibility of forming an emergency services district in that area. Seagraves-Loop EMS had been severely underfunded prior to this time. Forming an ESD would solve that problem. The Northeast Gaines County emergency

services District #1 was voted in and formed in 1991. This was the third such district to be formed

the urge and drive to know more about medicine, so he began taking college classes on Tuesdays and

"It's a fine school and a good place to learn," said Smith of SPC. He particularly had the highest regards for David Etheredge in Biology, Leanne Smith in Biology, Dr. Jesse Yeh in Chemistry and Dr. Jackie Wright, an Anatomy and Physiology instructor.

Smith says that he liked the small classes at SPC and the fact that he wasn't just a number.

When asked if he had any advice for current and future students who attend SPC, he said, "Don't think you can breeze through if you made A's in high school. Study, and you can make high A's. If you don't study, you will not pass."

He graduated in 2002 with an Associate of Science degree. Prior to his graduation, he was awarded the Psychology of Personality, Outstanding Student in Biology and Outstanding Student in A&P awards.

Smith first applied for PA school at TTUHSC during the summer of 2003. He was granted an interview but was not selected to be seated in the class.

In mid-December 2004, his wife, Pam, asked him if he had filled out the application to get into PA school. His response was, "I don't know if I am going to." She replied,

"Oh yes you are!" The rest is history.

Smith was given an interview, and this time he was seated in the upcoming class. He began PA school in the summer of 2004.

Upon graduating from PA School in September 2006, he was approached by Dr. George Manning, who was interested in starting up a clinic in Seagraves. Together they opened the Seagraves family clinic in January 2007. The clinic was in operation from January 2007 until August 2009. It was located on the ground floor of what is now known as the Simpson Inn.

Smith now has a full-time practice in Morton. He works at the Cochran Memorial clinic and hospital. He said that if any prospective PA students wish to shadow him, he would be more than glad to accommodate them.

In his spare time, Smith continues to serve others. He purchased a riding John Deere lawn mower and mows up to five yards a week for others, including many elderly ladies who do not have a husband. On one occasion, the man who mows for the hospital was not able to, and without anyone knowing, Smith mowed the hospital lawn until he could get back to his job.

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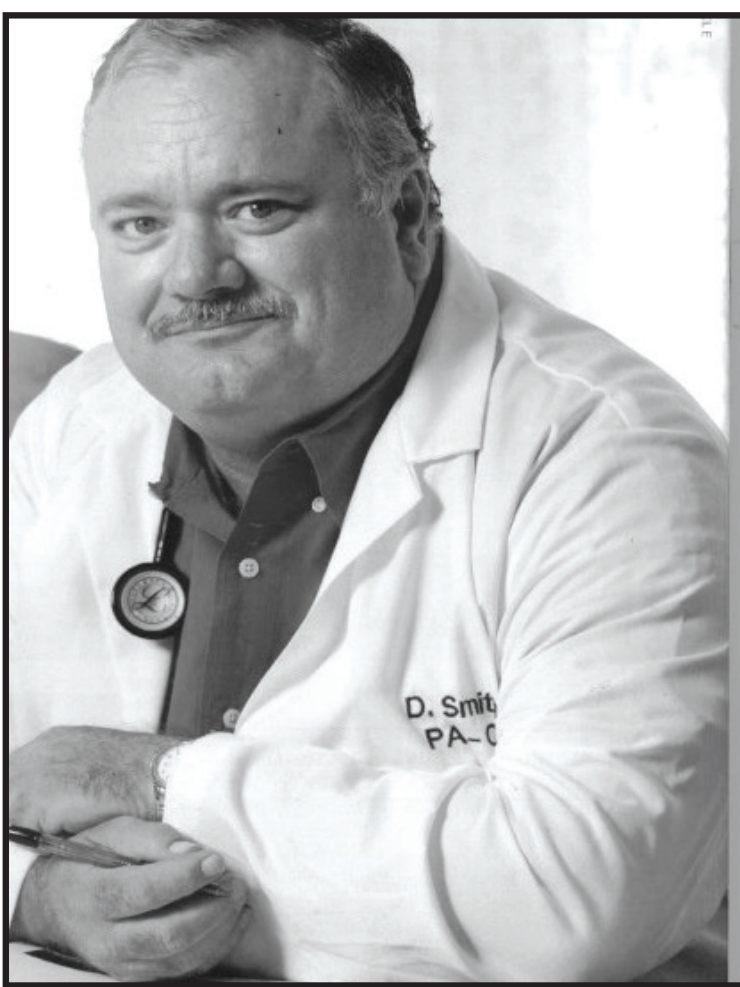


Photo courtesy of Clifton Smith

in the state of Texas.

Smith married Pam Chaney in 1983. They have now been married 35 years and have three children, Brandon (who also attended SPC), Sheldon and Kristen. They recently moved from Seagraves to Morton, Texas. They also have three grandchildren.

Smith had to quit farming on his own in 1997. He worked for his father from 1997-1998, before accepting a job as the assistant director of Seagraves-Loop EMS. Smith said that he still had

Thursdays at SPC. He said that he was only able to do this because his wife Pam could work as a paramedic in his place on the days he went to class. Smith took classes in order to work toward being accepted in a Physician Assistant program.

Smith says he has always wanted to be a doctor from the time he was a small child. Due to life circumstances, being a physician assistant would come in a close second. Smith got all of his prerequisites at South Plains College.

his graduation, he was awarded the Psychology of Personality, Outstanding Student in Biology and Outstanding Student in A&P awards.

Smith first applied for PA school at TTUHSC during the summer of 2003. He was granted an interview but was not selected to be seated in the class.

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# Professor helps students feel part of history

By REECE TURNER  
Entertainment Editor

Christina Bearden-White encourages her students to feel like they are part of history.

Bearden-White, an assistant professor of history at South Plains College, graduated from Johnston City High School in Southern Illinois.

She was a student at community colleges for a few years after high school, which had surprised her because she claims that she was not a very good student.

Bearden-White had still needed to choose a major, which was an issue only because, "I wanted to do everything," she said.

Bearden-White decided to drop out for a short time, until deciding on Psychology as her major. She needed the money to pay for college, so she joined the Air Force in time to take part in Operation Desert Storm in Iraq.

"I was a very shy person before I joined the military," she explains. "All of the confidence course stuff really helped. I became very confident in what I could do."

Bearden-White

says that she needed to challenge herself to go farther, so she took college classes in pursuit of her psychology degree while she was in military service.

"I didn't get a degree in psychology," she said.

After the military, she ended up working at a prison for six years, where she had realized

Bearden-White says that history is a performance.

"If you don't engage students on that level, you're not ever going to engage them," she explains, adding that people want to be entertained, and history itself is pretty entertaining.

"Part of it is to get students to feel like they

respond to her work. She once wrote a piece about German-American candy makers, including one of the founders who hailed from Belleville, Illinois. Eventually, his descendants changed the name of the company to "Jelly Belly." These German-Americans had made Candy Corn very popular.

Bearden-White once received an email from a school teacher in Germany who taught at Ramstein Air Force Base.

"He had no idea that I was former Air Force, and he told me how much his students got out of the article," she said. "That made me so happy that he used something of mine in a grade school, and took the time to write me about it."

Bearden-White had interviewed all around Texas, sending around 60 job applications to other colleges looking for work.

"That's not on the high end either," she says.

Finally, she had interviewed at South Plains College.

"The people here at SPC were the nicest I had met," recalls Bearden-White. "They went out of their way to make sure I was welcome here, even though there were other people to interview too. I

“People just had no understanding of their place in history”

that, "People just had no understanding of their place in history."

So she says that she decided to go back to school, and eventually work in a museum. Bearden-White had not considered teaching, and it wasn't something that she went back to graduate school to do.

"Once I go into graduate school, I found out I had other talents," she said.

Bearden-White was the first person in her family to go to college. One of the ways she helped pay for her tuition was getting a job as a teaching assistant. She found that she really enjoys working with students.

are a part of history," said Bearden-White, "so I work really hard to talk to my students as if they are part of the conversation."

Bearden-White says that her favorite part of her job is getting to know the students. She insists that her door is open for any student who may need to talk to her, whether it is about school, personal problems, grades, or sharing dog pictures.

"Getting to help students along the way is very rewarding," she says. "That one to one is the best part."

Bearden-White still researches, writes, and publishes in her field. One thing that makes her proud is when people



Christina Bearden-White, assistant professor of History, found her career in teaching after leaving the Air Force.

REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

remember coming home and telling my husband, "They were just too nice."

Bearden-White took the job at SPC, which was good for her husband as well since there were plenty of places to work. Dr. Roy Bearden-White was hired as an instructor in the English Department.

"The weird thing was that everyone really WAS that nice," Bearden-White explains. "Everyone was saying a lot about the SPC family, but they really do make you feel like you are

part of that family."

Bearden-White and her husband have since purchased a home, and they are determined to stay part of the SPC family.

"Even my son works here now," Bearden-White said. "It has felt like this has been our academic home since we first got here."

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## Young artist takes different approach for newest album

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

During the past decade, self-made rapper Russ Vitale has made a successful name for himself.

Russ was born in New Jersey and currently resides in the northern suburbs of Atlanta. He is one of four siblings in a Sicilian-American family.

His music career began at a young age while working alongside a small group of friends. He and his friends formed a musical collective known as DIEMON: Do It Every Day Music Or Nothing.

To many, it may seem that he is an overnight success. But Russ wants the world to acknowledge that he built himself up during an extended period of time.

Russ created his first album in December of 2011 and would later release 10 more during the course of a decade. He then made his one and only SoundCloud account in October of 2014, which is what made him into the up-and-coming artist.

By pro-

ducing a new song every week, Russ had amassed close to 5,000 followers on SoundCloud by August of 2015. The following year, he surpassed that with 200,000 loyal fol-

lowers. In 2017, not only did Russ have 368,000 followers, but also a record deal with Columbia Records and co-signs from celebrities ranging from Kylie Jenner to Rick Rubin.

In 2016, Russ released his hit song

put him on the map and became his first Hot 100 Hit at No. 83. In August of 2018, the rapper announced the title and release date for his new LP, "Zoo" which re-

leased Sept. 7. That same month, he released "The Flute Song," which got fans excited for the new music that was to come. Russ does an excellent job of staying connected to his fans and producing music that they want to hear. By changing up his style, his fans get a deeper look into his personal life. To him, it's not all about being famous and having an abundance of money. After listening to the new album completely, I noticed that throughout different songs, Russ raps heavily on the music industry and the threats he receives from his haters. I feel that the lyrics on his newest album stand out because they are fueled less by his arrogant attitude from past albums and more by his anger

toward the outpouring of hate he has received from other artists and their fans in the rap community.

Russ has received a lot of hatred through the years. However, throughout the album, he calls out rappers whose songs encourage drug abuse and their fans who have made a game out of harshly criticizing his music. During the second song on his album, "Outlaw," Russ raps about how he isn't affected by how others label him as an artist. He still plans to make his own music, and he continues to believe in himself more than anyone ever did.

In "Zoo," it's clear to me that the negative feedback he had been receiving throughout his career is having a major affect on him. There is a large shift in his music from themes of love and about being famous to his deep personal struggles. On one of the mid-album songs, "Parkstone Drive," Russ raps about his struggling relationship with his

father and how he is unable to support his own family while Russ continues to be a growing success.

It's impressive to see such a young artist produce self-made albums during such a long period of time. It's something that makes Russ stand out from many artists in the music industry.

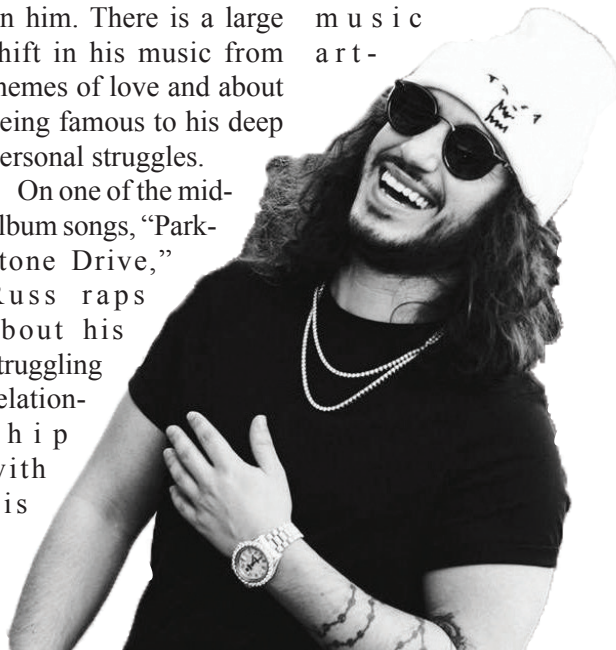
Russ explained in an interview that there was never a time when he thought his music was not good enough. He shares that at the beginning of his career he learned to not let doubt get in the way of his confidence.

Some would say that would make Russ an arrogant and cocky musician.

ist. But maybe that's what it takes to be successful in this line of work.

His music continues to stand out from other rappers. He became a success without the help of someone who had already made a name for themselves.

I think this album be-



came a personal project for Russ and gave him a sense of relief once he opened up to the public. I have always enjoyed listening to his music because of the fact that he could fit in with other rappers by speaking about drugs or other bad influences, yet, he chooses to stay true to himself and connect with his fans on a deep, personal level.

I give "Zoo" a nine out of 10 for the deeper connection Russ creates with his fans and how well he carries his messages throughout the album.

**9/10**

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## 'Tomb Raider' exceeds some expectations, falls short in other areas

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

"Shadow of the Tomb Raider" is the final piece of a three-game story arc rebooting the "Tomb Raider" franchise.

"Shadow of the Tomb Raider" is sporting some fine graphics and unique gameplay customization features not seen every day. But the main content follows a boring, predictable pattern, where you are railroaded from one conflict to the next. While some mechanics hint at a more open world aspect, the reality is that the game feels very restricting, especially within the first hours.

This is my first "Tomb Raider" game. The trailers, graphics, and hype on Reddit made me fairly excited to play. Unfortunately, the game's shortcomings have shaped my opinion pretty early in the game, and I'm not sure if I even want to finish the story.

One of the most annoying issues with gameplay is the time it takes to open menus. It's good to take quick glances at the map often. I might be being nit-picky, but I would prefer some emphasis on "quick"



glances instead of waiting four seconds or more.

The graphics in this game are top tier. The graphic designers did not only focus on how voluptuous they could make Lara Croft using current generation graphics, but they also

put a lot of time into the graphics of the world Ms. Croft explores.

"Tomb Raider" offers many places to explore, including three bustling city-hub areas, each with its own atmosphere. The detail put into each marketplace, road and alleyway, coupled with the way the non-player characters move and interact with Lara and each other, really make the places feel alive.

Combat is awkward in the way the AI moves and reacts. Enemies with melee-only kits run at you in straight lines, making it very easy to just run the other direction and line up a head shot. The ranged enemies make all sorts of erratic movements, while pushing you one person at a time. Shooting guns

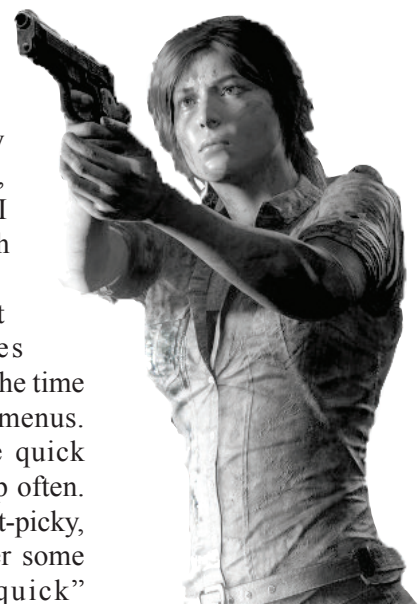
is not so bad. They handle fairly well, but the bow

amazing visuals and great level design, exploring almost any map feels rewarding, other than the plethora of collectibles scattered in every corner. The collectibles aren't necessarily a bad thing, as the crafting system is simple and rewarding. I just thought it was a bit irritating to have five or more things to pick up every 10 meters or so.

When reading about "Shadow of the

It's not like IGN really plays the games they rate most of the time, but a 9/10 rating still raises my eyebrow.

Mixed reviews and high ratings aside, I still enjoyed "Shadow of the Tomb Raider" enough to keep playing it. All in all, the game, in a nutshell, is run, climb, puzzle, shoot, repeat. It is not one of those games for which I am in class thinking, "I can't wait to go home and play 'Tomb Raider.'" But I'm still curious to see what other challenges the game still has to offer.



took some getting used to for a first-time player.

"Shadow of the Tomb Raider" does not focus on combat as much as it does on exploration. It is, by far, the best content the game has to offer. Combined with the

Tomb Raider" on Reddit, it's clear that this franchise has a strong following. The game receives a 9/10 rating from IGN. The health of a game can be roughly estimated by how much Reddit traffic it gets, which is very little.

I give "Shadow of the Tomb Raider" a 7/10.

**7/10**

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# Cute kitty key chain illegal in Texas



by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
News Editor

**M**any women carry a kitty key chain that is made to be used for self-defense.

What they may not know is that this key chain

is illegal under section 46.05 of the Texas Penal Code, which puts it in the same category as brass and metal knuckles.

There are two major consequences for carrying this black or pink \$5 key chain. One is jail time of one year, and the second is a costly fine up to \$4,000.

In "If Texans can carry guns for protection, they should be able to carry this key chain," written by The editorial board of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in July 10, 2018, it states that Texas allows guns and Bowie knives to legally be carried. It also asks why the simple kitty key chain is illegal. "The Fort Worth Star-Telegram" interviewed the president of the online company

Self-defense and Security Products, who stated that the kitty key chain is by far one of his best sellers and feels that by Texas



making it illegal "denies women the right to carry something simple and effective."

I, and other Texans, am very proud of our laws to

open and conceal carry guns and Bowie knives. It is also legal to carry swords and daggers. However, I do not understand

why Texas has made it illegal to carry the kitty key chain. I agree that by it being illegal, it denies women the ability to carry

ry a non-bulky, simple, effective product for self-defense. I feel the penalties for carrying this key chain are a little over the top, and the punishment

of jail time should only be if you intentionally used it to harm a human being in a non-self-defense situation. The fine also is too high and should be lowered.

This kitty key chain is very popular with women because it is small, easy to handle, cheap, and you do not have to take classes or get a license to use it. You just simply slip it on, putting two fingers through the eye holes, and throw a punch. Not to mention that it is a super cute accessory for our dull, jingling keychain. Even though someone could lose it, and then it could be found and used for unnecessary harm, that could happen with any weapon, or even with non-weapon

material such as a fork or a stainless-steel straw.

I know there are other self-defense items that are popular with women, such as mace. However, this kitty key chain gives women one more option to use if they need to protect themselves from an attacker.

So why is no one demanding to legalize this \$5 kitty key chain? Perhaps it is because very few people know about it being illegal. However, a better question is, why does Texas not make it better known to women that the key chain is illegal?

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# People neglecting others by putting cell phones first



by **DEBRA MONTANDON**  
Staff Writer

Each generation has their own idea of what is good parenting and what is not.

Our grandparents had an even more different ideas than our did parents. If you talk to your grandparents about how they feel about cell phones, they possibly might say, "Don't have one, don't want one." But teenagers these days do everything on their cell phones, such as their homework, their

communicating and their banking.

What about the children growing up with their parents on their phones for everything? Have you ever been in a restaurant and saw small children just staring at the adults? All the adults are looking and playing on their phones. These poor children are left to create their reality with space, or nothing at all.

Children are our future. If we do not nurture them, what will lie ahead? What

neglected? I have seen kids throwing fits and their parents act like it isn't happening. The people in the restaurant are left to wonder, "Why did they have kids anyway, if they do not want to participate in raising them?"

You might think this is a little much. I do not. I raised my children, who came first to me. I even was an active part in the lives of other kids whose parents left them alone way too much.

A close friend of mine

cell phones, have good and bad points. It is a blessing during a crisis, but it is a disaster when phones are more important than humans."

Another friend said, "Cell phones have value, but parents should monitor them. They should set ground rules for both themselves and their kids."

I am glad I chose my friends wisely. It is sad when you see parents more interested in their cell phones than their children. You see the look of sadness in the children's faces. They crave their parents' attention. I wish the parents could see what I see and feel what their child feels.

I also saw a daughter and her mother at a restaurant one day. The daughter was on her phone, with

together are families who are closer. Therefore, the world would be better.

I know that kids are resilient and overcome a lot worse. For example, out of necessity some kids grow up as 'latch key kids,' and they can still grow up to be an asset to society.

However, wouldn't it be better if more parents acted like their kids were important to them more than once in a while? Couldn't we change the world to be a better place with a little more tender loving care from more than a few people?

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will be the outcome of these children being ne-

said, "Electronics, which in my opinion includes

# Word on the Street

## What is your biggest fear?



"My greatest fear would be to drown, because I think it's the worst possible thing to happen to a person or animal, because you are basically choking on your own blood."

Austin Linker  
Nursing  
Freshman  
Idalou



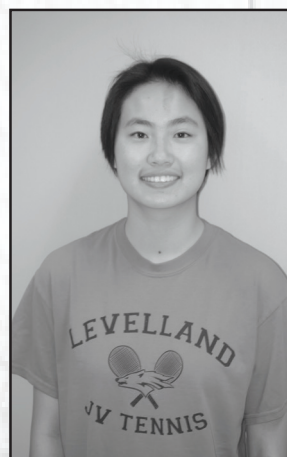
"Disappointing my dad. My sister never went to college, and that's the main reason why I'm here. So I feel like if I didn't graduate and do something with my life, I would disappoint my dad, and that's my greatest fear."

Meghan Duncan  
Nursing  
Freshman  
Idalou



"Losing my parents, in any situation. At this age, I don't know what I would do without them. Even thinking about it is very hard. They raised me, and without my dad being such a role model, teaching me how to be a man, and my mom teaching me her values, losing them is my greatest fear."

Jimmy Jimenez  
Radiology  
Sophomore  
Sundown



"My biggest fear is losing somebody I love. Because if I lose them, I would deeply grieve. I'm afraid I won't pick myself up and look forward to things. I don't like to live in fear and I don't want to feel disoriented, and feel like there is no hope."

Lily Xiao  
Business  
Sophomore  
Levelland



"My greatest fear is falling into a cage full of sharks, aggressive sharks... While I'm bleeding. That would be a hard death, not a quick one."

Justin Meyers  
Real Estate  
Sophomore  
Bridgeport



"My greatest fear would be being involved in a plane crash. I take a plane back to my country every year, and a lot of the times I'm worried the plane will crash."

Miguel Galiano  
Arts  
Sophomore  
Pamplona, Spain

Compiled by Reece Turner and Debra Montandon



## Texans place fifth in ENMU Rodeo

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

The South Plains College men's and women's rodeo teams started the 2018 season off by posting dominant results at the Eastern New Mexico University Rodeo.

The event was held Sept. 20 - Sept. 22 in Portales, New Mexico at the Lewis Cooper Rodeo Arena.

SPC placed fifth with a total of 260 points in the Rodeo. In Bareback Riding, freshman Cooper Bennett placed first with a score of 74. Bennett posted a 74 in the long round, contributing a total of 160 points for the Texans.

Sophomore Britton Bedke placed fourth in Tie Down Roping, recording an 18.8 average after a run of 9.7 in the long round. Bedke finished with 110 points. Freshman Hayden Cloward qualified for the short round, after a time of 10.7 in the long round.

But Cloward was unable to score in the finals, finishing ninth overall.

Freshman Dawson Stewart placed fifth in Steer Wrestling. Stewart

Sophomore Cody Huwa and NMJC's Luke Skocdopole placed fourth in Team Roping with a 5.1 run in the finals, averaging 13.6 overall.

run in the long round and an 8.6 in the finals, finishing with an average of 15.5 and a total of 50 points. Sophomore Stefan Ramone and former SPC

ished eighth in the Goat Tying finals with 15 points. She posted an 8.2 in the long round and a 9.7 in the short round for an average of 17.9. Eagles

rodeo with an average of 46.53. She finished 10th overall.

Members of the SPC men's and women's rodeo teams, along with former SPC rodeo team members, also competed in the Rink Bownds Memorial Rodeo.

The event was held Sept. 14 - Sept. 15 at the Mallett Event Center in Levelland.

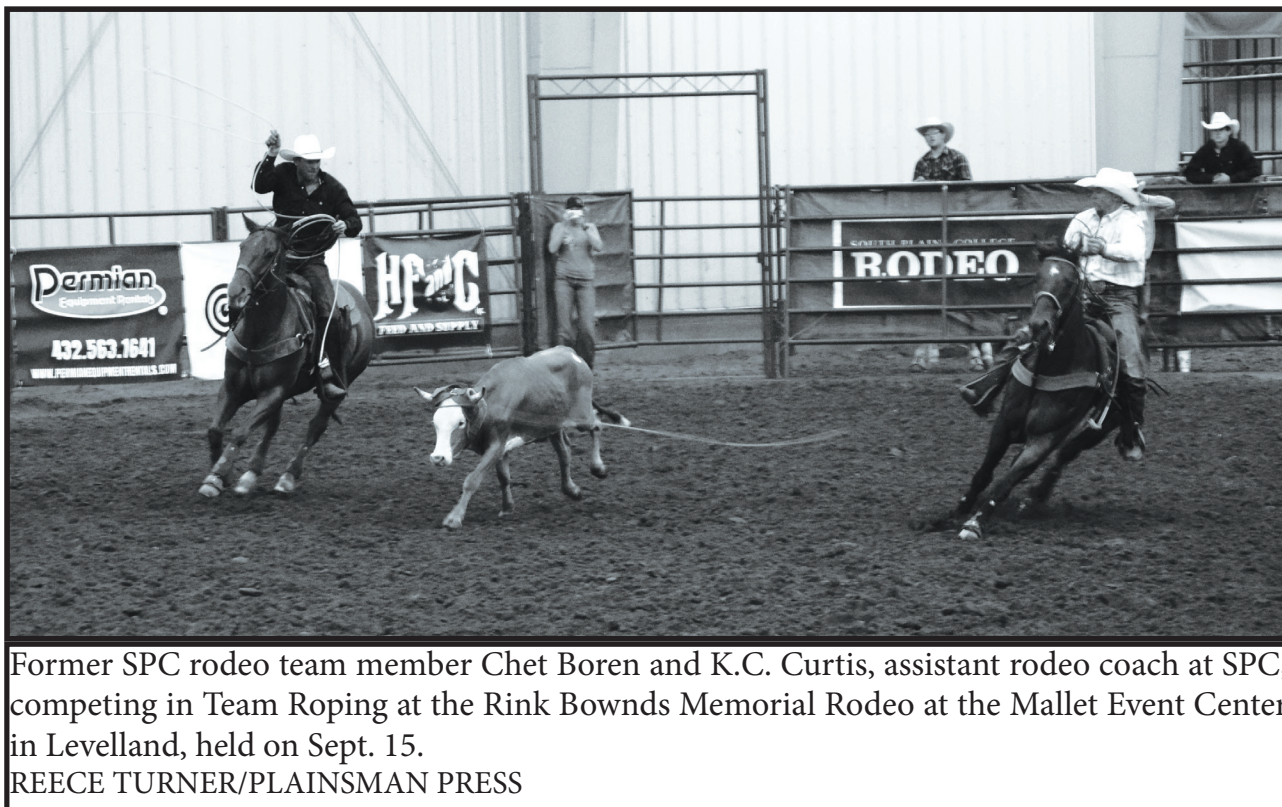
Bennett placed first in bareback riding with a score of 75. Ramone and Trenary paired up in the team roping event, placing fifth overall.

Chet Boren, a national finalist in steer wrestling when he was at SPC, placed second in that event. Boren also competed in team roping with K.C. Curtis, assistant Rodeo coach at SPC. The two placed second with a time of 4.710.

For the Lady Texans, Kody Criswell placed third in the barrel racing event with a time of 17.339. Criswell also competed in the breakaway roping event, placing sixth with a time of 2.54.

Former Lady Texan Jenna Dallyn and Lariat Lerner competed in the goat tying event. Dallyn finished first overall, while Lerner finished second.

The South Plains College men's and women's rodeo team competed at the Sul Ross State University Rodeo in Alpine on Sept. 27 - Sept. 29. Results were not available at press time.



Former SPC rodeo team member Chet Boren and K.C. Curtis, assistant rodeo coach at SPC, competing in Team Roping at the Rink Bownds Memorial Rodeo at the Mallett Event Center in Levelland, held on Sept. 15.  
REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

finished the rodeo with a total of 50 points. He had a time of 5.3 in the long round, and a 4.8 run in the finals, averaging 10.1.

Freshman Grady Quam paired up with Cisco's Paden Bray, and the duo placed fifth in Team Roping. They posted a 6.9

rodeo team member Jhett Trenary finished seventh with an average of 105.7.

also competed in the finals in Barrel Racing after a 17.97 run in the long

## Cross country teams record impressive times at TTU open

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

The South Plains College men's and women's Cross Country teams continued to perform well in their second meet of the season.

The Texas Tech Open was held on Sept. 14 at the Chaparral Ridge cross country course in Lubbock.

The Texans placed second overall with 49 points and an average team time of 27:07:96.

The meet was held at the Chaparral Ridge cross country course.

In the men's eight-kilometer race, freshman Japhet Toroitich placed third with a time of 26:30. Sophomore Filmon Beyene and sophomore Andrew Bosquez were the next two runners across the finish line, placing fourth and fifth, respectively. Beyene posted a time of 26:35:50, while Bosquez posted a time of 26:38:70. Sophomore Jessie Madrid finished 12th with a time of 27:20:40.

In the women's five-kilometer race, fresh-

man Gladys Jemaiyo placed first with a time of 17:56:50. Freshman Dorcus Ewoi placed fifth with a time of 18:30:50.

The Lady Texans placed fourth overall in the meet with an average team time of 19:40.

The Texans and Lady Texans returned to action on Sept. 28 at the New Mexico Junior College Invitational in Hobbs, New Mexico. Results were not available at press time.

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Chet Boren competing in steer wrestling at the Rink Bownds Memorial Rodeo.  
REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

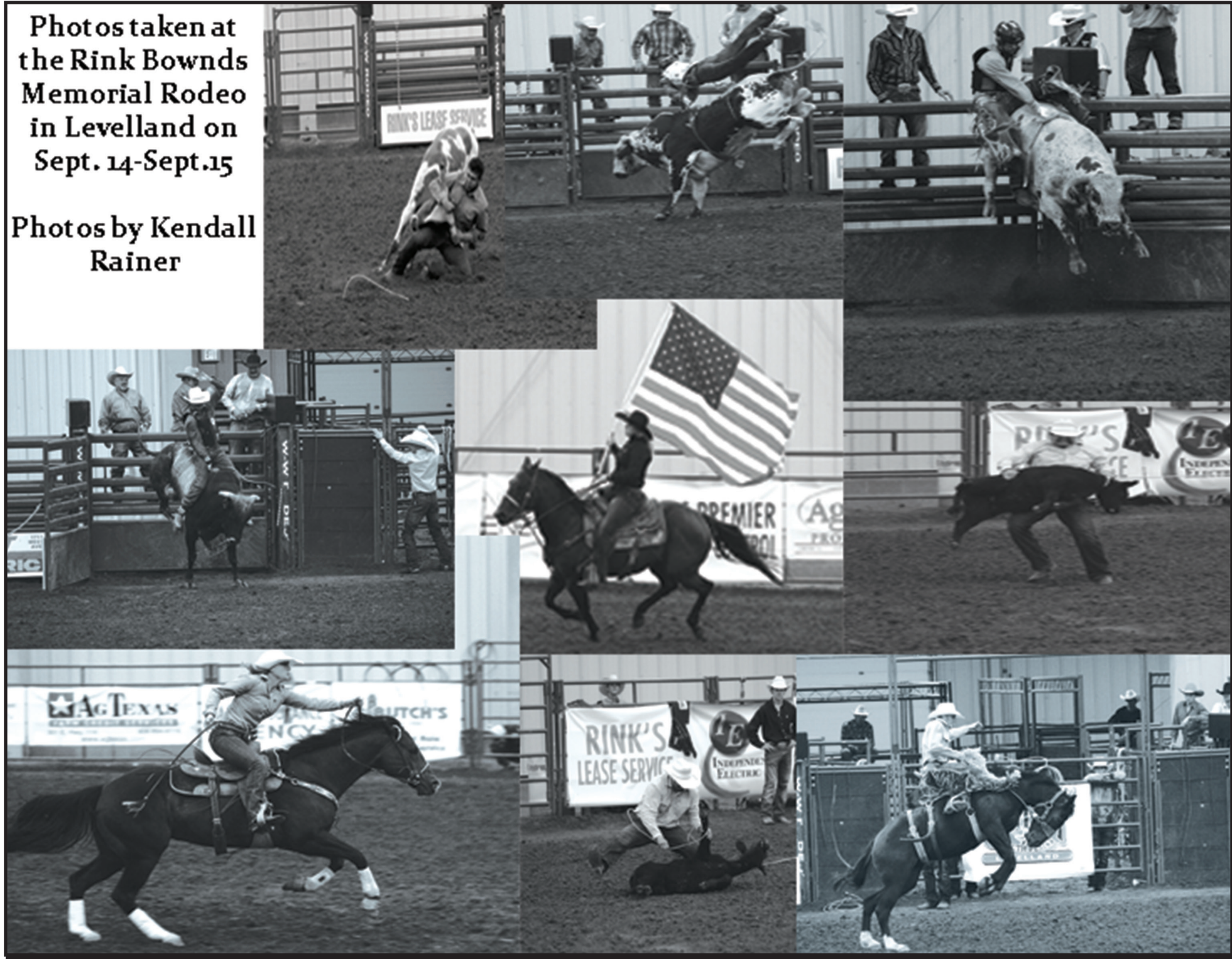
For the Lady Texans, freshman Elle Eagles finished

round. She ran a 28.56 in the finals, ending the

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**Photos taken at the Rink Bownds Memorial Rodeo in Levelland on Sept. 14-Sept. 15**

**Photos by Kendall Rainer**





# Locally Brewed...

## Lubbock coffee shops provide study atmosphere for students

by GENEVA NATAL  
Feature Editor

Coffee shops mean more to people than just the coffee. It's about a place to hang out, relax or study, and enjoy a warm beverage.

Fall is finally here, and along with it comes a

McAlpine. Try out their expresso if you are looking for an extra boost. Their cappuccino and americano do the trick to get through the late night study session.

The Sugar Browns famous latte is described as "a rich caramelized sugar" by McAlpine, who recommends this to new customers to try on their

Browns is known for serving great coffee, having the best kolaches in town, and be-

located at 3017 34th St. in Lubbock, serves many college students on their

latte and even seasonal homemade syrups that are definitely worth trying.

and the hard work they put in so that the brothers have the ability to do what

they want to do in the coffee industry.

Both owners

said they love the challenges that come with importing raw coffee beans and roasting them in house, the craftsmanship of an espresso or latte art, and bringing smiles to their customers. Each menu item is made with love, including the filtered coffee that varies depending on the beans that are used. The espressos and lattes are some of the most ordered and best to try out for a new customer. There is decaf and even sugar-free vanilla for customers, or you can add an extra shot in your espresso. Either way, add a waffle, which is a must try item, and you can even add toppings such as mocha, lechera, or caramel.

"We believe we are created to create," said Zach Montandon.

Gold Stripe even offers

ing an avid supporter of creativity."

"It's this sense of collaboration and community that I love about the coffee industry," he adds. Sugar Browns also hosts a special Pumpkin Painting event during the First Friday Art Trail.

The atmosphere at Sugar Browns is unique. Like other coffee shops, it has the fresh smell and the low lights for comfort. However, at Sugar Browns the seats are comfortable, the area is open, and there's a place for everyone. There are booths for couples, chairs and long tables for study groups, bar stools, and even a patio, which is a big hit with students, as a place to relax and read.

"Sugar

Browns is known for its warm and welcoming environment," according to McAlpine.

"We have a young customer base that loves to spend time hanging out on our patio, spending time with friends, or studying for their next time in our shop," McAlpine added. "We frequently receive compliments about the different Spotify playlists we have playing."

Sugar Browns is a must to visit while in Lubbock. The staff cares about the customer and the coffee they make for each person. Each person who walks through the door is instantly engaged, and the extra effort is apparent.

"The most significant difference is our heart," says McAlpine. "You can see it in our logo, the 'Heart and Spro'. We engage with customers in a more personal way, and we try to get to know them and make them feel as part of the Sugar Browns family."

Yellow House Coffee,

homemade furniture. The seating is recycled, meaning it's made out of pipes and refurbished material which is very intriguing to new customers. The low lighting allows customers to relax as they buy a cup of coffee.

"It's a meeting place for college students, a good place to regroup after a long week," says manager Collin Elas.

Yellow House caters to student clientele very well by offering community tables for studying and free Wifi for customers.

"For newer people, I would say try a latte or one of our house-made flavors," Elas says.

Traditional coffees such as the latte, cappuccino, and cold brew are only a few drinks recommended for new customers. There are other non-

"We also buy directly from Oakland coffee," said Elas. "Through direct trade and meticulously roasting, we follow quality control which we have developed over time. In the coffee industry, we use direct trade, which means we have direct relationships with farmers."

Students are a big part of their clientele, because of what makes Yellow House Coffee memorable.

"It's our culture," Elas explained. "Our product is constant. That makes us stick out here."

Golden Stripe coffee shop has unique qualities that make their coffee one of a kind. The owners are graduates of South Plains College. Zach and Zane Montandon own the coffee shop located at 2610 Salem Ave., Suite 5, in Cactus Alley in Lubbock.



drop in temperature and an increase in the need for coffee. Many college students regularly go to coffee shops, many of which change their food or drink menus to celebrate the season. Sugar Browns, Yellow House, and Golden Stripe are among the local coffee shops in Lubbock giving people a taste of fall.

Sugar Browns Coffee, located at 1947 19th St. in Lubbock, caters to local college students. Sugar Browns has many offerings to celebrate the fall season, besides the infamous pumpkin spice latte, including pumpkin spice chocolate chip muffins and maple pecan scones.

On any given day, Sugar Browns has "a collection of different selection varieties and brew methods, such as the French Press, Chemex, or the Stagg XF," according to the manager Taylor

first visit. However, they do have other lattes. If the sugar brown isn't for you, try a delicious mocha or plain vanilla latte. Sugar Browns even has a non-coffee menu which includes chia tea, london frog, and a fan favorite this time of year, hot chocolate.

These drinks are made with what McAlpine calls, "private label roast from award-winning, national-

ly recognized, Texas-based roasters," which allows the freshest coffee to be served. Sugar



coffee items, including cookies, scones, bagels, and muffins. On Saturdays, Yellow House offers a full hot breakfast menu. There is even a variety of different drinks for non-coffee drinkers such as hot chocolate, mineral water, hot apple cider, lemonade, and italian cream sodas. All are offered year round, though the menu changes throughout the year.

Yellow House also offers a seasonal menu which includes both drinks and pastries available upon request. At this time of year, the seasonal menu includes the infamous Pumpkin Spice

The brothers, who grew up loving coffee, started with a mobile espresso and expanded to what became Gold Stripe Coffee. Both Zach and Zane yearned to make their coffee exceptional, so before they opened their store, they did taste testing and made sure the quality of their coffee was the closest to perfection.

"We get coffee from countries like Brazil, Guatemala, and Mexico, which come in as green coffee beans, unroasted seeds of coffee fruit," said Zach Montandon.

They credit the farmers who are growing the crops

classes on the second Saturday of the month. This month is latte art to teach others to create.

With a welcoming, modern, and friendly vibe, Golden Stripe is open to anyone who walks in and wants a cup of coffee.

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Photos by GENEVA NATAL, DEBRA MONTANDON AND KAITLYN HYDE/  
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