



Regents approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding Lubbock City Hall

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

The Board of Regents at South Plains College approved a Memorandum of Understanding between the college, the City of Lubbock, and Lubbock Economic Development Alliance to explore the possibility of using Lubbock City Hall as a future campus during their April meeting.

“The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is for the consideration of conveyance and remodeling of the building that is currently being used for the Lubbock City Hall,” explained Dr. Robin Satterwhite, president of SPC.

The proposal includes the City Hall building, located at 1625 13th Street in Lubbock, and a smaller building on the corner lot. The City Hall building is 101,000 square feet, and in its current configura-

tion, 83,000 square feet of it is usable.

“The purpose of this MOU is to create a 12-month time period for all of the different entities to investigate the cost of what this might be and the extent of renovation that needs to occur,” explained

The MOU includes a commitment from the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance (LEDA) for \$5 million for the acquisition and renovation of the building. It also includes a commitment from the LEDA of \$500,000 per

where they’re going to need some future significant repairs,” reported Dr. Satterwhite, “and they are located on a location of the Reese campus that is also identified as needing significant future repairs. The college is going to have to make the strate-

grams that are currently located in buildings 4 and 5 at Reese Center, which are largely health occupation programs, would be shifted to the buildings that are in better condition on the other side of the campus, near the state-of-the-art Simula-

building will better service our students,” Dr. Satterwhite said of Lubbock City Hall. “It is closely located to Texas Tech University; it’s seven blocks away. It will probably support the co-enrollment students much more effectively than what we currently have.

“We’re expecting our co-enrollment students to grow,” he added. “That’s what our hope is, because of our increased relationship with Texas Tech University, and our Memorandum of Understanding with Texas Tech.”

Dr. Satterwhite told the Regents that there are distinct needs that are going to have to be addressed sooner or later on the Reese Center campus, and the MOU provides another option to look at.

Stephen John, vice president for institutional advancement, presented resolutions on behalf of the Board of Regents, commending Erik Vance, head track coach at SPC, Justin Hobbs, assistant coach, and the 2017-2018 Texan and Lady Texan Track and Field teams for their 2018 NJCAA Division I Men’s Indoor National Championship.

A resolution also was presented commending Steve Green, head men’s basketball coach at SPC, Assistant Coach Justin Brown and the 2017-2018 Texan Basketball team for their NJCAA National

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Lubbock City Hall will be explored as a possible future campus for South Plains College, following the recent approval of a Memorandum of Understanding involving the City of Lubbock and the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance.

PHOTO BY AUTUMN BIPPERT/PLAINSMAN PRESS

Student Government Association placing recycling bins on campus

by **RANDI JINES**
Opinion Editor

The Student Government Association at South Plains College recently has decided recycling bins needed to be placed around campus to improve recycling on campus.

The idea came to Jeremiah Patterson, SGA delegate, after his friends would give him all of their recyclable trash to take to the bins in the Science Building. He would collect plastic bottles and cans from his friends until he had enough to take.

Dr. Satterwhite. “And then for the potential for what type of financial support we can gain for the remodeling of this building.”

Patterson, a commercial music major, said that he came up with the idea to place more recycling bins around campus to make it more accessible for students and talked about his idea with other SGA members, who all agreed it was a good idea.

“I have been here at SPC for four years,” explained Patterson, a Killeen native. “For a while, we had recycling bins in the dorms. But people would mistake them for trash cans and stuff, so it wasn’t really

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year for funding for administrative, educational and infrastructure costs that are proposed with the Downtown Center.

“What we recognized is that the facilities at Reese, specifically buildings 4 and 5, are in a position

to make a strategic decision in investing our funds, our reserves, towards those renovations or identifying an alternative to that. And this MOU is also related to that alternative.”

If the Downtown Center came to fruition, pro-

tion Center in Building 1. Dr. Satterwhite explained that the goal would be to move the health occupations programs into those buildings and relocate the Arts and Sciences classes to the Downtown Center.

“We believe that this

Two alums honored as TRIO achievers

by **ADÁN RUBIO**
News Editor

National TRIO Day acknowledges the importance of TRIO programs and their impact on students.

For two South Plains College alums, this day marks their success as TRIO achievers.

National TRIO Day, which is designated as Feb. 28, is a day dedicated to celebrating and advo-

ed student service organizations with the intent to offer help and resources to disadvantaged students. TRIO programs, such as Upward Bound, Talent Search and Student Support Services, are offered at many schools and universities to ensure the success of low-income students, first-generation students and students with disabilities.

On March 29 in the Sundown Room on the SPC Levelland campus, the National TRIO Day Luncheon was held to promote local TRIO programs, including SPC Upward Bound, the SPC Success Through Academic Resources Center, Texas Tech University Upward Bound, Texas Tech Student Support Services and LEARN Inc. Educational Opportunity Center and Talent Search.



Emily Olvera, SPC Upward Bound honoree, works for South Plains Rural Health Services.
ADAN RUBIO/PLAINSMAN PRESS

During the luncheon, two SPC alums and former participants in TRIO programs, Lupe Hinojosa of the SPC STAR Center and Emily Olvera of SPC Upward Bound, were honored as TRIO achievers for their respective programs. These alums were honored for their work while in TRIO programs and their success after completing college.

National TRIO Day events, such as the luncheon, are necessary to inform people of TRIO programs and to honor high achievers.

Chris Riley, director of SPC Upward Bound, said that one important quality about the luncheon is being able to recognize the importance of TRIO.

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Lupe Hinojosa
Photo Courtesy of Lupe Hinojosa

ating TRIO programs, which are federally-

Cover to Cover

Student headed to Raw Artist Art Show in San Antonio.

Track team starts outdoor season off well.

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‘Rosanne’ reboot excites old and new fans.

Fire Academy teaches students hands-on skills to become a firefighter.

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‘Ready Player One’ disappoints book fans with plot changes.

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Upward Bound, STAR achievers credit TRIO for success

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“The main purpose is to honor our past TRIO

our achievers, but we’re just helping spread the word of what is TRIO.” Since TRIO programs

word about the programs and the success of its students. Honoring Olvera for her achievements during and after her time in SPC Upward Bound was one thing that Riley said shows the success of TRIO.

“She’s just a perfect example of what can happen when you utilize the resources given to you,” said Riley. “She was a student that benefitted greatly from the academic support that we provided. This truly is an example of what can happen when the student gets the right kind of support and encouragement.”

Olvera, a Levelland native, joined the Upward Bound program during the summer before ninth grade and was a member throughout her attendance at SPC. Wanting to major in nursing, Olvera applied for and got accepted in the Licensed Vocational Nursing program

at SPC, where her class received a 100-percent pass rate.

While a student at Levelland High School, Olvera said Upward Bound really helped her focus on her journey to college. She credits Upward Bound for providing her with the resources to become college ready.

“I always knew I want-

ed to go to SPC for the nursing program because they have a really good reputation,” said Olvera. “Without TRIO, I feel like I would have had trouble getting into SPC, just because I wouldn’t have known to apply for FAS-FA or all the scholarships. I was just so knowledgeable because of Upward Bound.”

Study skills and a newfound sense of confidence are both things that Olvera said she acquired during her time in SPC’s Upward Bound program. Being honored as the Upward Bound achiever for SPC was something she said

Services, Inc. in Levelland as a LVN supervisor.

Hinojosa, a Levelland native who also attended Levelland High School, began his journey in TRIO through Upward Bound at SPC. As a Business Administration major at SPC, Hinojosa took part in the STAR Center program.

After graduating from SPC, Hinojosa transferred to Texas Tech, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration in Management Information Systems and later received his master’s degree from West Texas A&M University.

The STAR Center pro-

“It was great to see everyone from SPC again,” said Hinojosa.

Hinojosa now works at University Medical Center Health System as a computer systems analyst.

Rita Prieto, director for the SPC STAR Center, said that TRIO events are important to spotlight the achievements of students, such as Hinojosa.

Prieto said that the selection of the TRIO achievers requires a lot of consideration, as every student in the program is special.

“Selecting one individual is a hard process,” said Prieto. “The thing about selecting Lupe is that he is the person that the whole staff thought about.”

Through National TRIO Day events and honoring students, Prieto said she hopes to inform the community about TRIO and the success of its members.

“The whole purpose of the program being here is to promote higher education,” said Prieto. “The philosophy of the program is the same philosophy that I have. It’s to help these students achieve their educational goals.”

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Chris Riley, SPC Upward Bound Director, works to inform people of TRIO Programs.

achievers,” said Riley. “Not only are we honoring

are funded by the federal government, Riley said it is important to spread the

SGA strives for greener campus through recycling

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successful. My friends still continued to collect their recyclable material, and I would take it to the Science Building. But I’m getting ready to graduate, so I thought why not make it easier for future students to recycle before I leave?”

There are now recycling bins in the Student Life Office, as well as in the Science Building. There are three different bins in the Science Building and two smaller ones in the Student Life Center. They are available for all students, faculty and staff.

The SGA and other organizations will take what is in the bins to the Recycling Center in Levelland and Lubbock.

“The Science Building has aluminum can recycling bins,” explained Patterson. “Unfortunately, the Levelland Recycle Center has stopped taking plastic bottles. But the Student Life Center has both cans and plastic bins, and we take the plastic to Lubbock to be recycled.”

The SGA is looking to make the Levelland campus greener and have started the process by placing bins around cam-

pus. Patterson noticed how successful the Science Building’s recycling program was, so the SGA decided to expand the program.

“The Science Building has had a successful recycling program, so the Student Government’s plans for recycling is to put a few more bins in a few more buildings,” said Patterson. “Student Life and a few other organizations will collect the material and take it to the Recycling Center for it to be recycled.”

The SGA is encouraging all students to recycle. They have set out to make it easier for students to recycle and hope to see success in recycling around the campus.

“I think people should get involved in recycling partially because why not?” Patterson said. “We use the materials once, and we can reuse them. So why not start now? If we recycle, we won’t have to dig up new things to use, because eventually you will get to the bottom of the barrel.”

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Rita Prieto, SPC STAR Center Director, hopes to help disadvantaged students achieve their goals.

All photos by ADÁN RUBIO/PLAINSMAN PRESS

excited her, as the program was influential for her education.

“Because of my study skills, I was able to succeed at SPC,” said Olvera. “TRIO programs do work. I’m thankful that SPC allows programs, like Upward Bound, to continue to help students like me.”

Olvera now works at South Plains Rural Health

program was something Hinojosa said was beneficial for his education during and after SPC.

“The STAR Center staff were there the entire journey, all the way to my graduate degree,” said Hinojosa.

Being honored at the TRIO Luncheon was something Hinojosa said was a great surprise.

College creates positive economic impact for South Plains region

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Championship, the third for the program in the 60-year history of SPC athletics.

In addition, a resolution was approved commending SPC alum Rear Admiral Ronny L. Jackson for distinguishing himself within his chosen profession.

Also discussed during the meeting held April 12 was an Analysis of the Economic Impact and Return on Investment of Education. Emsi, a leading provider of economic impact studies, collected information for fiscal year of 2015 to 2016.

John explained to the Regents what the report yielded, such as SPC produces significant returns for the area’s economy, students, business and taxpayers. According to the study, SPC and its students stimulate the local economy by \$399.2 million in added annual income, which is roughly 2.6 percent of the South Plains region’s total gross regional product.

It also states that students who leave SPC with an associate degree increase their lifetime earning potential by \$387,000 more than a student with just a high school diploma or GED. SPC provides

a benefit-to-cost ratio of 5.2, John said, meaning for every dollar invested in an SPC education, the student will receive a cumulative of \$5.20 in higher future earnings during the next 30 years.

“We wanted to learn how much SPC contributes to the area’s economy after 60 years of providing higher education opportunities,” said John.

As an important employer in the region, the college’s payroll and day-to-day operations add \$49.7 million in income to the region, equivalent of supporting 922 jobs. The spending impact of students who live outside

the region and relocated to attend SPC is estimated to be \$36.7 million in added income annually, the equivalent of supporting 604 jobs.

Every dollar invested in the college by state and local taxpayers produces a real-money annual return of 13 percent in the form of higher tax revenues and avoided social costs attributable to education, according to the report.

The full report has also been published on SPC’s website.

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Alum plans to teach abroad after accomplishing academic goals

[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 TINA GONZALEZ
Feature/ Online Editor

Nothing was like Amanda Anders thought it was going to be. But with the help of professors and self-motivation, she has accomplished her goals.

Anders came from a loving home, but things weren't always so easy financially. She says that she got herself through by working and going to school.

Having lived in Lubbock most of her life, Anders graduated from Lubbock High School in 2002. Then in the following fall, she started her college career at South Plains College.

Her first semester at SPC did not go as planned. She faced a life-changing situation that later made her a better student and person.

"I did not do well my first semester," explained

Anders. "I failed out. I got too wrapped up in things outside of school."

Anders then decided to take a four-year break from college.

"All I did in those four years was work at a call center in Lubbock," she said. "I eventually became a supervisor there. But then I realized I needed to go back to school in order to get a better job."

After having time to reflect on what she wanted, she saw she had a bigger purpose to fulfill and returned to SPC.

"The second time was better," Anders added. "I was actually serious about going to school."

Anders took a lot of journalism classes, which was where she had some of her most memorable times.

"My favorite class was with Charlie Ehrenfeld," she said. "He is the only professor that I have come back to visit over the years. Billy Alonzo from the TV program was also great."

SPC has always had a special place in Anders' life. At SPC, you learn a

lot, but they also make it fun, according to Anders.

"I have always loved South Plains," she said. "I loved the smaller classes and affordability."

She ended up graduating from SPC in 2008 with an Associate of Arts Degree, majoring in public relations. This was a big deal for her, since she was the first in her family to graduate from college.

Right after graduating from SPC, Anders enrolled at Texas Tech University. She graduated from TTU in 2012 with a

at Texas Tech and will graduate with a master's degree in instructional technology in December.

"I started thinking that teaching was what I wanted to do," said Anders.

Anders taught math for eighth-graders in Littlefield for four years. During her last two years of teaching, she applied to every job opening on the SPC website.

"I just wanted back at South Plains," said Anders. "I knew I wanted to work in higher education, but I didn't

said that she wanted to work where she could interact with the students and show them that they can reach their goal. However, Anders never got a call back for a job offer.

"Finally, I got offer a job in Lubbock for teaching," Anders recalled. "But two days after, I got a call from SPC for a job in the Business Office as the student refund coordinator."

Even though the job in Lubbock was going to pay about \$12,000 more a year, she still took the offer from SPC.

"I took the pay cut because I thought I would rather be happy with what I'm doing rather than making more money," said Anders. "It was the best decision."

Within six months of being in that position, she was promoted to serve as the business services technician.

"South Plains College has given me a sense of belonging and purpose, because I love what I do now," said Anders. "I

love being able to help the nontraditional students, because I came from a background like most students here."

Anders said that SPC prepared her for the new adventures she is about to embark on. During spring break, Anders traveled by herself to London, England, for eight days, and now she will be moving there.

"I am going to teach abroad," Anders said. "I feel like I have never left here, even though I love Lubbock and Levelland."

A company called Point to Point Education recruits teachers to teach in the United Kingdom because it is so short-staffed. Because Anders has a degree in math and science, she is able to pick wherever she wants to live.

"The public relations background from South Plains has helped me when I get in front of groups and talking to people," said Anders.

She has decided to sign a two-year contract to teach in London, but said she hopes to return to SPC after her adventure.

"Every decision I have made has been well worth it," said Anders.

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Amanda Anders prepares for her new adventure in London, England.
TINA GONZALEZ/ PLAINSMAN PRESS

Student finds path expressing himself through artwork

by MADDIE BENAVIDEZ
Editorial Assistant

With marks of a pencil and strokes of a brush, Christian Garcia fills a blank canvas with his colorful view of the world.

Christian Garcia, sophomore art major at South Plains College, uses his artwork as a form of expression and says he hopes others can find it relatable.

Garcia took his first art classes when he was in the sixth grade, but really immersed himself in the craft at home.

"I would say my art is about 70 percent self-taught," he said. "I spent most of my time making art at my house, or by watching YouTube videos."

After spending a semester at Texas Tech University, the Frenship High School graduate transferred to SPC.

"At Tech, I kind of felt like this little bitty fish in this big ol' sea of students that were better at their craft than me, and professors that didn't care about me," Garcia said.

Garcia explains SPC was a much better fit for him.

"When I came here, the classroom size is a bit more manageable," Garcia said. "The teachers seem to care, and it's a lot cheaper," he said.

According to Garcia, he was told by one of his instructors that he is one the best artists on campus.

"I wouldn't say my expertise comes from one really awesome teacher," he said. "I think it's more my thirst for knowledge."

Garcia credits his collection of teachers as having been a huge part of his success at SPC.

"I get a lot of good advice from the drawing professor, Chris Adams," he said. "I'm learning a lot from ceramics class, painting class, drawing

class." Branching out into other art mediums has helped to improve his own painting, according to Garcia.

"The metals teacher, Allison Black, has helped

me understand 3D things and expand my horizons," he said. "As a painting person, a 2D person, it's really hard to wrap my head around 3D, because it's not something I work with."

After receiving his associate's degree, Garcia hopes to transfer to the

University of North Texas or the University of Texas at San Antonio.

"After I get my undergrad, I want to live in San Francisco for a little bit, New York for a little bit, or maybe somewhere in Italy," Garcia said. "I have a very nomadic personality."

Garcia has been invited to participate in an art show in San Antonio at the Aztec Theatre on April 25.

"There's going to be a lot of people, artists, a fashion show, and jewelers," He said. "It'll be pretty cool."

The show is hosted by a non-profit company called Raw Artist.

"A scouter found me

on Instagram and really liked my work," Garcia said. "They set up with their show director for an interview. He thought I'd be a good fit for the show."

Garcia said he gains most of his attention from his social media profiles.

"The biggest jump in my following has been from Instagram," he said. "It's probably been the biggest thing. There are a couple of people following me that I have no idea what language their profile is in."

Garcia says he hopes his followers can relate to his artwork.

"I'm working on painting with a purpose," Garcia said. "I want someone to see it and gather their own personal meaning from it."

Trauma and personal pain are a few of the things Garcia gathers inspiration from.

"I think a lot of people

from any generation can understand and relate to feeling alone," he said. "Maybe your parents don't agree with you or support your dreams."

Garcia's artistic pseudonym is 'Toxic Sheep,' which has an underlying message for those who enjoy his art.

"I want to tell my audience not to be like the toxic sheep in their lives," Garcia said. "Don't be a follower. If you want to have this big bold dream, live it. If you want to be an artist, writer, or entertainer, go do it. Don't do a toxic sheep, and don't let anyone tell you that you can't do it."

You can see Garcia's artwork on Instagram and Twitter @toxic_sheep811 or on Facebook @toxic_sheep.

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Christian Garcia gets ready for the Raw Artist art show in San Antonio.
MADDIE BENAVIDEZ/ PLAINSMAN

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Plainsman Press

Professor encourages students to be better communicators

by MEGHAN ARNOLD
Editorial Assistant

Hilary Nixon pushes each of her students to be better communicators in their daily lives.

Nixon, instructor of speech on the Levelland campus of South Plains College, has taught at SPC for two years, one year part-time at Texas Tech University and one year full time.

Nixon says that she never really wanted to be a teacher, and hated public speaking. When she started graduate school, she was thrown into teaching and loved it. Her favorite part of teaching is watching the growth in students during the semester. She sees the improvements they make, even if they cannot recognize them.

Many students refer to Nixon as a really cool and fun professor. She is always helping her students out.

Nixon attended Midland College and Texas Tech University, majoring in Communications Studies with a minor in Economics.

She tells her students to start thinking about their future early and learn to be better communicators. She said that she believes this is a skill that will be useful in every career.

Speech is not the only thing she has taught, though.

"I became a gymnastics coach when I attended Midland High School and did that for a part-time job while in school," said Nixon. "I started doing gymnastics when I was 3 years old."

Nixon took a break from teaching gymnastics, but just could not stay away. In 2009, she decided to return to coaching in Lubbock.

Larry Nassar, a physician for USA



Hilary Nixon, a speech instructor, also has served as a gymnastics coach.
MEGHAN ARNOLD/PLAINSMAN PRESS

Gymnastics, recently assaulting more than 50 female gymnasts. For decades, he was said to have molested athletes

under the guidance of his medical treatments. This was one of the worst sexual abuse scandals in the history of sports. It angered parents of many of the young athletes.

"I feel as though this is very disturbing and disgusting," said Nixon. "Being a gymnastics coach, this was very shocking and difficult to hear about."

Nixon coached and taught many students who attended the Olympic training camps that Nassar was present at each year. So this scandal hit very close to home for Nixon.

"It made me wonder if any of my past students may have been hurt by this man," she said.

Although this did not happen, she still felt very sad for the girls who were involved in the situation. Nixon says that the gymnastics world is very stressful. It's the kind of environment

where everyone works hard to make it. So hearing about a doctor taking advantage of athletes was unimaginable for Nixon.

Nixon also has other activities she enjoys in her spare time.

"I enjoy traveling with my husband and love outdoor activities with family and friends during my free time," said Nixon.

Nixon and her husband have been to Mexico, Jamaica, Alaska, and almost every Western state.

When they are not able to travel, Nixon and her husband enjoy spending time with her family and friends outside, having a BBQ and playing outdoor games.

"I enjoy working for South Plains College," Nixon said, "and most importantly enjoy making a difference in my students' lives."

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Student working toward accomplishing goal of playing in NBA

by KENDALL RAINER
Photo/Sports Editor

Ever since he first started playing basketball, Deshawn Corprew knew he wanted to play in the NBA.

Since he was 6 years old, Corprew's goal in life has been to play basketball and have the opportunity to make money and provide for his family. He is on his way to achieving

that goal. The 6-foot-6 forward from Norfolk, Virginia, recently committed to play for Texas Tech University, after an outstanding season with the South Plains College men's basketball team.

"Being on the basketball team was good," Corprew said. "I met some new friends, and it was good to meet different teammates. I enjoyed the whole season."

Corprew played a key

role in the Texans winning the NJCAA National Championship with 21 points in the championship game on March 24 in Hutchinson, Kansas.

"Winning the championship was really unreal," Corprew said. "It was my first championship, and I'm glad I was able to be a part of it."

Corprew said he feels that competing in the national tournament has prepared him more thoroughly for competing at a higher level, even though he says that he was already capable of competing as a NCAA Division I athlete.

"I feel like it's made me a little wiser," explained Corprew.

His decision to commit to Texas Tech was influenced by their coaching staff and their plan they have for him to achieve his goal of playing in the NBA, according to Corprew.

"I've been close with one of the coaches on the staff," said Corprew.

Corprew says that he has learned a lot from Steve Green, SPC's head men's basketball coach, during his time with the team.



"I have learned from Coach Green that coaches are going to push you harder as you move higher," he explained.

The thing that inspires Corprew to play, and the thing that motivates him the most, are his two little sisters, Janine and Rose. Corprew enjoys listening to music and playing video games in his free time. He also likes taking photos and exercising.

Corprew says that he enjoys basketball in many different ways.

"My favorite part about basketball is being able to be a leader on and off the court," said Corprew.

He says that he would

like to play for the Toronto Raptors or the Chicago Bulls in the NBA, but doesn't see himself declaring for the NBA early.

"I am pursuing a career in the NBA," Corprew said, "but I do not see myself declaring for the NBA early and will play all three years of my eligibility."

One thing that someone might not expect about Corprew just by looking at him is that he is goofy and enjoys making friends, and that anyone can get to know him if they want to.

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Deshawn Corprew, SPC basketball player, has high hopes for his sports career.
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'Roseanne' reboot sparks excitement, nostalgia among fans

by ADÁN RUBIO
News Editor

The great American family is back, and they are more dysfunctional than ever.

"Roseanne" is an old comedic television series that aired in the late 1980s and ended with its ninth season during the late 1990s. The show centers around a middle-class family trying to get through the hardships of life.

The series, which focuses on the titular character's life as a wife and a mother, has a lot of great characters put in hilarious and dramatic situations. The show has gained a lot of praise during and after its run on television.

After countless demands from fans and many rumors across the media, the series has finally been rebooted.

The premiere for the "Roseanne" reboot, which takes places nearly two decades after the original

series, caused a lot of excitement among the "Roseanne" fanbase. The first few episodes of the reboot bring back a lot of the loved qualities of the original series, while introducing new characters and plot elements.

The premiere begins with Rosanne (Roseanne Barr) and her husband, Dan (John Goodman), living their lives in the same iconic house.

After Darlene (Sara Gilbert), Roseanne's daughter, loses her job, she and her kids, Harris (Emma Kenney) and Mark (Ames McNamara), move into Roseanne's house.

This story arc was very interesting, as it introduced Darlene's children and allowed for a lot of hilarious situations.

Being a fan of the previous series, I really enjoyed

seeing Darlene, who is now a mother, deal with her kids and Roseanne. Even though most of the characters have grown, they still have the same, memorable personalities that make them unique.

Seeing Roseanne execute her sarcastic remarks with new supporting characters was very entertaining to watch. The new actors who play

of the new actors, my favorite characters were still the ones who returned from the original series.

I really enjoyed the return of Jackie (Laurie Metcalf), Roseanne's sister, as she is my favorite character from the original series. I hope to see her in more episodes, as she did not get enough screen time in the premiere.

Seeing DJ (Michael Fishman) and Becky (Lecy Goranson), Roseanne's other kids who are now grown adults, acting alongside their co-stars again was very exciting. They are also not utilized in the premiere as much as the main characters.

This is one of my complaints with the premiere, as the supporting characters are the best part of a sitcom. Even though the

premiere only consisted of two episodes, I would have liked to learn more about what happened to Jackie, DJ and Becky during the years between the original series and the reboot. I can only hope that the other side characters appear more in future episodes.

Regardless, the interactions between the actors are hilarious. The cast still has the same fun, engaging chemistry that they had in the original series.

Whether it be the characters commenting on running gags from the original series, or the witty, cynical dialogue between the actors, any fan of "Roseanne" or sitcoms will have a fun time with this reboot.

Set in the 21st century, the "Roseanne" reboot tackles a lot of topics, which allows for more comedic and serious moments that anyone would be interested in seeing in a sitcom.

The reboot is reflective of many recent issues, such as the 2016 presidential election outcome

and homosexuality, that people of this generation can relate. It was interesting to see the series progress while retaining the same cynical humor and personality.

The introduction of current events acts as a beneficial plot element, rather than a social barrier that some television shows cannot get past.

The premiere for the "Roseanne" reboot does not have everything a fan wants. But it still holds up to its predecessor with witty humor and memorable characters.

Anyone can find something to relate to in this premiere, whether they have seen the original series or not. This premiere is a clear indicator that past television shows can still thrive years after ending.

I give the premiere for the "Roseanne" reboot a nine out of 10.

9/10

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'Far Cry 5' exceeds expectations with compelling visuals, gameplay

by KYLE EWING
Staff Writer

Seconds are ticking away. The score is 45 to 40 with just under two minutes remaining in the match.

"Watch out guys! There is a huge gorilla chasing me," exclaims my teammate. I turn around to see an oversized gorilla decimating my team, and I hear bullets from the enemy team buzz over my head. The last few seconds of the match are filled with a feverish effort trying to fend off the hellish assault from the punishing primate while maintaining the ongoing war between the two teams.

Ubisoft's "Far Cry 5" is a fast-paced venture into a little piece of quaint America, one that keeps you on edge as you try to save Hope County from a disillusioned cult.

The latest entry in the action-adventure "Far Cry" series takes a new approach to the game's storytelling. In past games, you were an established character that had relationships, to a degree, with the world around you. The new installment changes the player to a customizable avatar that is a fresh face to the town you hope to eventually liberate from the occupying cult and its leaders.

The game thrusts the player into a fictional warzone-like region set in a modern version of Montana, known as Hope County.

Hope County is chock full of dangerous outposts, hazardous terrain, irate cult members, and vicious predators, among others. Taking a few steps into the picturesque scenery can turn a simple stroll into a rancorous fight for your life with the

sheer number of treacherous obstacles laying in wait.

The gameplay stays true to the mechanics that "Far Cry" fans have come to know and enjoy. One noticeable and welcomed change to the gameplay is the exclusion of tower climbing to reveal a new region of the map. The new way of uncovering the map is also key to meeting new characters and unlocking missions to help aid your fight against the sadistic cult. Ubisoft's inclusion of "Guns for Hire" and "Fangs for Hire" from past "Far Cry" games also adds a fun and exciting mercenary mechanic to help the player liberate Hope County.

The story consists of systematically taking down the cult and its leader in no particular order. The cult is overseen by the charismatic Joseph Seed, with the map being broken down into three territories that are controlled by Seed's "family." Each one of these leaders is unique and has a function they perform for the cult. It is up to the player to choose which leader to tackle first and help liberate the surrounding lands from their malicious grip.

After taking down the leaders of the three regions, the player is tasked with chasing down the cult's frontrunner. The ending is up to the player, as you get to decide Seed's fate.

Outside of the single-player campaign, which is entirely playable with one other person in a CO-OP, there is the "Far Cry Arcade." The Arcade is a multiplayer mode that supports teams of up to six people, who can team up or compete against one another. The multiplayer section offers a slew of different modes

of gameplay. There are two main categories that are divided into "Single-player and CO-OP" or "Multiplayer."

The "Single-player and CO-OP" game modes are made up of smaller and more tactical matches, where the players are given tasks to perform and complete to earn a victory, such as liberating an outpost or bounty hunting.

The "multiplayer" game mode is the more standard game mode that one would expect in a traditional online game, offering standard single and team death matches.

One of the biggest aspects to the Arcade is that the maps are player created in-game using the "Arcade Map Editor." The map editor uses assets from a collection of previous Ubisoft games, including "Far Cry 4," "Assassin's Creed: Unity," and "Watch Dogs," just to name a few. With the listed assets and the deep map editor, where the player can craft the entire map from the ground up, there is a virtually endless number of maps to be crafted in the years to come.

"Far Cry 5" is a bold and welcomed game in the series. The game is a living and breathing world that is teaming with wildlife and active characters that are at the player's disposal. While some may be put off by the game's harsh take on one of America's last vast wildernesses and the people who live there, the game is more than worth the \$60 price tag.

I rate "Far Cry 5" eight out of 10.

8/10

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'Blockers' follows comedic quest of parents on prom night

by TINA GONZALEZ
Feature/Online Editor

Three parents go to extreme measures to protect their teenage daughters from making a life-changing decision.

"Blockers" is a comedy about a group of friends who make a sex pact to lose their virginity on the night of their senior prom.

The movie starts with a flash back to when the three girls were first starting school. Julie (Kathryn Newton), Kayla (Geraldine Viswanathan), and Sam (Gideon Aldon) all met in kindergarten and stayed friends all throughout their life. However, they weren't the only ones who made friends. Their parents, Lisa (Leslie Mann), Hunter (Ike Barinholtz), and Mitchell (John Cena), figured since their children were friends, that made them friends too.

Every parent-child relationship is different. Lisa, a single mother, and her daughter Julie are best friends. They share a close relationship, so Lisa feels that her daughter shares everything with her. But she soon finds out that Julie has been keeping a few things from her.

For Mitchell, he is the overprotective, emotional, sports-loving father to Kayla, who is sort of

a tomboy. Sam and her father are not as close as the others. Hunter became distant with his daughter after splitting with Sam's mother. But he still pursues a close relationship with his daughter. Each relationship is relatable to how some teens and parents feel toward each other.

At school one day, Julie lets her friends know that she plans on having sex for the first time with her boyfriend on prom night. Kayla gets so excited for that she decides to join in and decides to have sex too. However, Sam is shy about the idea at first because she is battling with herself about her sexuality.

After school, the girls and their dates get ready for the night of their lives. But before going to prom, they all gather at Julie's house, where her mom put together a pre-prom party. While the party is happening, Sam's dad shows up with a limo. Everyone is thrilled to see the limo, except for Sam, who is still upset with her father's disappearance in her life.

Eventually, the girls leave for prom. While they are on their way, Lisa finds that her daughter's computer is open to where

she can read and receive all her texts. The three parents try to figure out what their daughters are talking about. Since the girls are using emojis, they have to decode everything they are saying.

Soon they figure out that their daughters have made a sex pact. But nothing like that is going to happen on their watch. They join forces to track down their daughters and block them from doing anything with anyone.

While doing so, they find themselves in unthinkable situations, such as being stranded after crashing, being in competition with other teens, and being locked in the same hotel room as their kids.

At the end, the parents have a heart-to-heart with their children that help calm the nerves of each parent.

Every part of "Blockers" is relatable for both parents and teens. There was never a dull moment. It kept you laughing. All the stars did great in their roles.

I give "Blockers" a nine out of 10.

9/10

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'Ready Player One' deviates from original story

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

Movies always seem to fall short of the books they are based on, disappointing the book fans.

The popular book, "Ready Player One," by Ernest Cline, was recently turned into a major motion picture. I have long awaited the arrival of the big-screen version of one of my favorite books.

The movie adaptation of "Ready Player One," directed by Steven Spielberg, is set in the year 2045, where the real world is very different. The only time Wade Watts, played by Tye Sheridan, feels himself is when he escapes to the OASIS, an immersive virtual universe where most of humanity spends their days. In the OASIS, you can go anywhere, do anything, be anyone; the only limits are your own imagination.

The OASIS was created by James Halliday, played by Mark Rylance. When Halliday died, he left the ownership of the OASIS, and his fortune, to whoever won a three-part contest made up of hunting for Easter eggs in the game. A company named Innovative Online Industries (IOI) is trying to find all of the keys before anyone else to take control of the OASIS. IOI is led by a man named

plot. But not much else is the same.

The OASIS in the movie is portrayed as just an escape. But in the book, it is so much more than that. The OASIS is where people live their lives. They go to work in this world. Children have school in the OASIS. This is where everyone has their money, and where they shop. It's like the first eight chapters of the book never happened.

Wade had a hard life and never really had money. So, in the book, it was a huge deal to his character when he was put on the leaderboard because he received a bunch of coins. He finally was able to buy stuff and better his life. But in the movie, he doesn't seem to care. He just goes out and spends it on random stuff.

One thing that not necessarily changed anything but just kind



of annoyed me was how the characters look. In the book, Wade Watts is unattractive, out of shape and has acne; he uses his

OASIS avatar to look like a better him. The movie

of the game, and plays it and beats it. He finds

the movie, there are no gates or mentions of them.

machine has an almost perfect high score. Wade



portrayed everyone as more game-like. It makes sense for a movie, but is just another thing they didn't stay true to from the book.

In the book, IOI is the world's largest Internet service provider. But in the movie, they are shown as a virtual reality equipment manufacturing corporation.

I-r0k, played by TJ Miller, is a peer of Parvizal and Aech's, who is Parvizal's best friend in the game, played by Lena Waithe in the movie. They often call I-r0k a "poser." After Parvizal and Aech find the first key, he tries to bribe them for the answer and tries to reveal their identities to IOI in a forum post that tips off Sorrento. In the movie, he's just a random mercenary hired by Sorrento.

Some of the major changes were to a large part of the story, the keys (Easter eggs). In the book, the Copper Key challenge is based off Tomb of Horrors from Dungeons and Dragons. After evading all types of monsters and traps, Wade has to defeat an undead lich king in an arcade game of Joust.

In the movie, there's an unbeatable racing game. The answer to how to win is found in Halliday's museum in a random memory where he hints that he'd like to "put the pedal to the metal" and go backward. Parvizal decides to go backward at the start of the race, which reveals a trap door that leads to the finish line.

The next key is no different when it comes to changes. Ache tells Parvizal that the challenge for the Jade Key is Zork. Parvizal travels to planet Frobozz, where there are 512 recreations

a whistle inside a box of Cap'n Crunch that he blows and he finds the Jade Key.

In the movie, the High Five, the five players on the leaderboard, travel to a recreation of Stanley Kubrick's seminal film "The Shining," where they have to dance with some zombies to get the Jade Key.

In the book, for the final key, the Crystal Key, Parvizal is given a clue and guesses that the key must be hidden in the Rush album "2112" in the song "The Temples of Syrinx." After a long string of events, Parvizal finds a 1974 Gibson Les Paul guitar wedged in a rock, sword-in-the-stone style, and walks it to a waterfall to place it on an altar. He is then granted the final key.

In the movie, the challenge involves an Atari 2600 game system and its entire library of games. Parvizal is the only player who realizes that Halliday would have hidden his Easter Egg inside the original Easter Egg, in Warren Robinett's game, "Adventure."

Additionally, in the book, the gates for the keys need to be found as well. That involves additional challenges. In

I understand that some people think that the original version of the finding of the keys is action-packed enough for a movie. It's disappointing that such a large portion of the story is completely changed.

Parvizal receives an

plays a perfect score and the machine gives him a quarter, which he keeps because he thinks it might be important.

There is a lot more that the movie left out, and a lot more that the movie changed. Honestly, two hours or so wasn't enough to tell the whole story.

These changes made the whole story different. There are some books that get changed minorly so that they fit the big screen better. But "Ready Player One" was altered beyond making it fit on the big screen. It was made into a different story. There was so much left out from the movie. "Ready Player One," as a book,

was incredible in so many ways, and the movie does not stack up.

Although I enjoyed watching "Ready Player One" play on the big screen, the reader in me was highly disappointed. I give "Ready Player One" a four out of 10.

4/10

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Sorrento, played by Ben Mendelsohn.

After years of no one being able to complete the first Easter egg task, Watts, known as Parvizal in the OASIS, finally is able to complete the first task and receives the first key, putting him at the top of the leaderboard and shaking the world of the OASIS.

The rest of the movie shows the adventures of Watts and his friends trying to find all of the keys before the IOI finds them. The only way to pull it off is to know more about Halliday than anyone else.

While I did enjoy the action-packed world of the OASIS, I was disappointed by the many creative liberties the movie took. The book and the movie shared a few similarities, which are characters and the same basic



extra life in the story, which saves him from losing everything. But the way he gets it is completely different. In the movie, Parvizal places a bet with the Halliday museum curator that there is only one available source of the name of Halliday's long lost love. He's right, and the curator hands him a quarter which he doesn't think much of but keeps. But in the book, Parvizal is inside Happytime Pizza, Halliday's childhood hangout. The Pac Man



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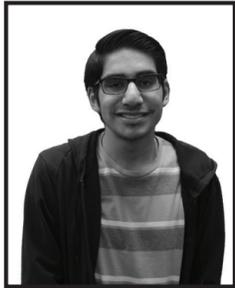


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Back Talk: Home schooling raises debate regarding social issues

Home schooling curriculum benefits education, social skills



by **ADÁN RUBIO**
News Editor

Poor social skills and a lack of quality relationships are a few characteristics that many people believe are common with students who are home schooled.

But home schooling does not have a negative affect on a student's growth.

The idea that home-schooling prevents the creation of necessary social skills is flawed, as students are just learning under a different curriculum, not being isolated from society. Having the luxury of being taught at home allows for many opportunities for students to exercise their social skills.

With the presence of advanced communication technology, it is easy for home-schooled kids to form new relationships and keep in contact with friends.

Many will argue that the introduction of new technology is making people less sociable in public situations. But with a more relaxed learning curriculum and more free time to utilize technology, students who are home schooled will receive the chance to explore their hobbies and go out to interact with people of similar interests.

If a parent is putting his or her time and effort in to

ensure that a child gets a quality education at home, they would want their kid to take part in some extracurricular activities and not waste their free time on the Internet.

Because of the parents' desire to give their child the same learning and growing opportunities as a student attending a public or private school, home-schooled kids will receive the same amount of social exposure. With more free time, home-schooled students can explore their hobbies and skills outside of the house.

Another benefit of home schooling is the constant attention a student will receive compared to being in a public or private school with classrooms sizes close to 20 to 30 people.

With a more relaxed curriculum and the close connection between a parent and the student, more time can be dedicated to improving the student's strengths and necessary life skills.

Most school subjects already require that students improve public speaking skills, team cooperation and critical thinking skills in order to get the most out of an education. Through a home-school education and a variety of extracurricular activities, students can still obtain these skills by learning core subjects and how to utilize what they have learned.

By participating in extracurriculars, such as sports teams or volunteer work, home-schooled stu-

dents will have the opportunities to work with other students of the same age. There are even groups that parents and students can utilize to interact with others using a home-school curriculum.

Students at home have the same opportunities as public and private school students to improve their skills and increase their exposure to new experiences.

With different life milestones, such as getting a job or learning how to drive, people are never without new learning experiences that enable personal development.

Learning how to drive is an experience that requires teens, home-schooled or not, to practice social skills with students and instructors during a driver education course. Whether a home-schooled student takes the course or learns from a parent, a lot of work is still needed to develop additional critical thinking skills necessary to deal with different situations on the road.

If a home-schooled student wants a job, a lot of time needs to be dedicated to building interviewing skills and learning how to write a proper resume.

No one, home-schooled or not, is ever without new learning and social experiences. Learning at home does not hinder or isolate the student.

With focus and effort, a home-schooling curriculum can benefit a student's growth similar to a regular public education.

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Home schooling hinders student growth, lifestyle



by **MEGHAN ARNOLD**
Editorial Assistant

Many parents decide to home-school because they believe it gives them more control over their children.

But they fail to see the negative outcomes that occur from the isolation home schooling truly causes.

Being isolated from private or public schools for a long period of time causes children to become unsocialized and socially awkward. Children who are home-schooled are typically always at home a large percentage of the time. That means they are not meeting new

people or creating friendships with other kids their age. They will find themselves having issues with holding conversations, and difficulties with their confidence when in large groups of people. Since they are not used to being around people, this could also take away their sense of right and wrong. So they may act rudely or thoughtlessly because they have not been taught how to correctly socialize.

Taking great care of others may not be something they learned in their home.

Home schooling can also result in laziness. Many kids who have been home-schooled find themselves sitting around the house doing nothing. They are so used to being at home all the time that they don't know of anything else to do.

Going out and playing sports is something a lot of home-schooled kids miss out on. Since they lack friends, going to the mall or movies often doesn't happen unless it's with their family. So they just stay home and do nothing.

The parents who home-school their kid may lack the knowledge to teach their children properly. They may be strong in one or two subjects, but every-

get certified in one or two subjects. So a child being taught five to six subjects by one parent who didn't major in education isn't receiving a proper education.

Kids who are home-schooled also miss out on a lot of memorable activities. Since they get taught at home, many of them don't get to attend a prom with the kids they typically grew up around. A prom is a very special moment that every teenager should be able to experience at least once. They also miss out in participating in a large graduation, where everyone you went to school with cheers for you as you walk across the stage.

If they attend college, it will be a huge shock for them. They are going to be



one has their weaknesses. That means the child isn't getting taught that subject correctly. Since the parent is weak in that subject, they would be unable to tutor their child if they don't understand.

Children should be educated to the best of their ability. Teachers in a school system have to attend years of college in order to earn certification to teach students properly. Usually they only

outcasts and have to adjust to their new surroundings, surroundings that most kids are typically already used to.

Parents believe they have more control over their kids when they home-school them. In reality, they are just hurting their kids by making them miss out on life!

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Word on the Street

How do you feel about Facebook selling your information?



"No. Personal information is personal information for a reason. I wouldn't say it's personal information and turn around and market it."

Christopher Lary
Sophomore
Design Communication
Brownfield



"It depends on context. Yeah, I support it. It is up to personal responsibility to know what you post and don't post. People have to know to read their terms of service. At the end of the day, you have to be accountable for it."

Hector Canales
Sophomore
Astro Physics
Levelland



"No, because you don't want to expose your personal information. There could be side effects. It could be bad. They could misuse your information for the wrong purposes. It's better to have something that's appropriate for everyone to see it."

Prachi Sharma
Freshman
Nursing
Levelland



"I'm aware that whatever I put online is there for people to see, despite your privacy settings. I realize it's available for anyone that really wants to get it, so I don't really have a problem with it."

Mitch Wilt
Sophomore
Engineering
Lubbock



"Not necessarily, because of the privacy of the information. It should not be given out without my consent."

Marcus Gamboa
Sophomore
Design Communication
Lubbock

Compiled by: Jordan Patterson and Kyle Ewing

Heady Art deserves recognition, respect in creative community



by **KYLE EWING**
Staff Writer

Our modern world is bursting with countless forms of art.

It can come in an almost infinite number of mediums. There is art that predates our modern society by thousands of years, as well as new and exciting forms that are being made today.

else one could find in a museum. Yet beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Therefore, many forms of art are sometimes viewed as anything but art itself.

Manufactured glass first appeared around 3500 B.C. in the area known as Mesopotamia, as a replacement for naturally occurring obsidian. In the millennia since its first man-made production, glass has become one of the world's most iconic forms of art.

The world is full of different forms of glass-inspired art, ranging from the stoic stained glass of cathedrals, to exquisite jewelry that line the cases of the world's museums,

upper echelon of the sometimes-debatable form of glass work that is also known to the world as contemporary pipe making.

The term Heady Art refers to the immensely unique works of the low-melting borosilicate glass that are created to stand out and be as visually captivating as possible. Every piece is crafted to stand out and be a one-of-a-kind work of art.

Even with the countless hours of labor that the artists pour into honing their craftsmanship, the work they create is sometimes viewed either as not a valid form of art, or, even in some cases, as a crime.

I am here to say that Heady Art is not a crime. An artist should not be chastised for creating art, even if it promotes an alternative lifestyle.

The amount of work and ingenuity that goes into making a piece of glass worthy of the exclusive moniker is fairly enthralling.



Tru Chalk's creative design of the "Meditator" made out of blown glass.

All photos courtesy of Tru Chalk

The glass can be shaped into a nearly infinite number of shapes and sizes. The end result can be one of endless forms, ranging from a simple tube to some of the more complex works, such as Tru Chalk's "Meditator." The endless amount of possibilities that glass artists can achieve is only limited by their own imagination.

Art is subjective to the person viewing it. While one may not see the value in a form of art, there is a growing number of glass collectors around the world. These collectors help keep the market alive and well. It is not unusual for a well-known artist's work to reach sky-high prices. There are pieces of work that have sold for tens of thousands of dollars. Again, art is subjective, and beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

While some people will scoff at the idea of Heady Art being a legitimate art form, the industry will keep on glowing bright due to the already strong and growing communities that support their artists.

You can see more of Tru Chalk's work on Instagram by searching for TruChalkGlass.

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Many people think of art in its classical sense, such as music, paintings, sculptures, or anything

all the way to the relatively new medium of glass art known as "Heady Art."

Heady Art is the

and shaped on a torch that is firing away at 1500 to 2500 degrees, mere inches away from the artist's face.

The artist shapes the piece by sections. Each section can be a variety of colors, and they can be mixed and matched to achieve the desired look the artist is aiming for.

Cell phone company expands into roadside assistance



by **JORDAN PATTERSON**
Staff Writer

Life can be very hectic at times, and having car issues can make it worse.

Having roadside assistance can help that, but it can be expensive. I like knowing that I have roadside assistance without breaking my wallet. But having the Hum with Verizon has saved me from getting stuck and saving money.

There are several different roadside assistance services that are offered, such as On Star, AAA and other companies that partner with the dealerships. But the difference between the Hum and the other companies is that the Hum is with Verizon. It has a piece that goes into the

reader of the car and Bluetooth speaker that comes with it. The Hum comes with customer service.

When using this, the consumer has many options for free. If a vehicle receives an error message and the consumer does not know, they can use the customer service

on the Bluetooth speaker that tells them exactly what it is. On my car, I have had an error message about my "check engine" light coming on. The customer service agents were very helpful about finding a place that could fix it without breaking my bank account. Another bonus with this feature is if something goes out on the vehicle, such as a headlight or a hole in the tire, customer service can be accountable to help get it fixed. Customer service will tell them the place that is the cheapest and reliable place to take it.

A bonus feature with the Hum is that it gives local and travel discounts. It suggests different food places around town that offer a certain percentage off, or a free appetizer or desserts. I personally like this one, because I have used it for several food places around Lubbock such as Sonic and Carino's. It also can help someone get discounts for hotels anywhere. It gives a decent discount than the

while other companies may charge more.

Having a car can be a good and bad thing. The good thing is that it gets you to the places that you need to be, but the bad thing is every-thing adds up when you own one, such as having roadside assistance.

With the Hum, it can save you from getting stranded, because it has Bluetooth off of your cell phone. It also can detect where you are within 5 feet. If someone was to run out of gas in the vehicle, the Hum can notify roadside assistance to deliver gas to the person stuck. When I first got my car, I got a nail in my tire three days after I got it. I was stranded at

they put my spare tire on quickly without a charge. The Hum also will make it cheaper to deliver the gas, charging \$5 per mile. If it is within a 30-mile radius, they will not charge the

I use this feature all the time, because I live in an apartment complex and it is a good feeling knowing that my car is right where I parked it. I also enjoy it when I go into a different

exceeds the limit, the parents will get a notification about it.

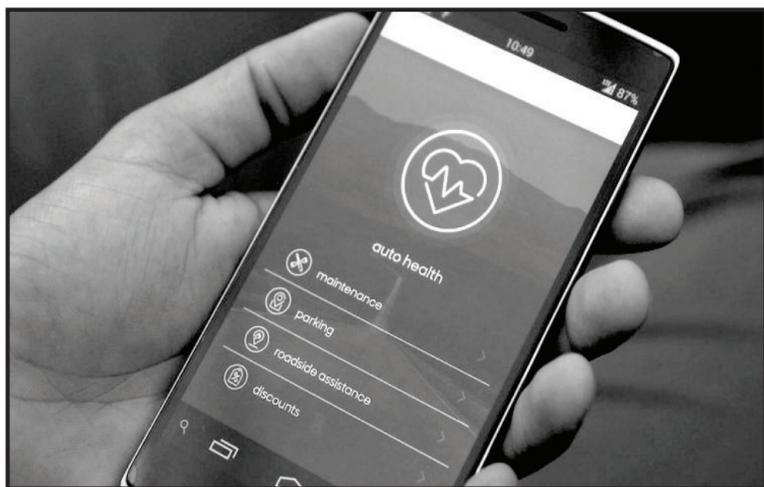
Another feature that could be used to see how good a driver is doing is called a safety score. It

tracks if someone exceeds the speed limit, takes sharp corners, breaks hard or accelerates rapidly. It counts how many of those happen and puts it in a

percentage. It also gives the route that was driven and where the events happened. My safety score is terrible because I speed everywhere I go. I also use this at work because we all compare each other's scores and declare who stinks at driving that week. This feature could be used to help with insurance to save money, if a company wants to track the locations and the driving of its employees.

As a college student, I recommend using the Hum because it is affordable. It has saved me in several situations where I could have spent hundreds of dollars but did not have to.

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person. With the other companies, they would still charge for it being within 30-mile radius and double the price.

Another cool feature about the Hum is if someone was involved in an accident, emergency personnel will be notified. The signal will be within 5 feet, versus it being pinged off of the cell phone towers and being a broad location.

The Hum can also allow people to track the vehicle as well. Using the app, it can let someone put the notifications on the app.

part of town that I feel is sketchy and I'm not sure if I should park there. I also will be using it when I go to concerts or sporting events because of how many cars and people will be around.

If someone were to steal the car, Hum would get notifications and pinpoint where it was going. If a parent put it on their child's car, they can add a boundary alert that will put a radius around the car on the map. If the child travels outside the radius, it will send a notification using the app and they can track them.

This also goes for speeding as well. If parents want to make sure that their child is not speeding or driving excessively, they can set a speed that they would like them to stay at. If the child

hum
by verizon

normal hotel websites at a great price. The Hum comes at a price of about \$10 dollars per month,

my house trying to get to work on time. I had someone come to my house within 45 minutes, and

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Plainsman Press

Track teams add 64 national qualifiers in first three meets

by **KENDALL RAINER**
Photo/Sports Editor

The South Plains College men's and women's track teams started the outdoor season with strong showings in their first three meets.

The teams have combined for a total of 64 national-qualifying marks for the season so far, following the David Noble Relays on April 7.

The Texans and Lady Texans earned six event titles and added to their list of national qualifiers during the David Noble Relays at LeGrand Stadium in San Angelo.

In the men's 100-meter finals, Andre Edwards set a personal best with a time of 10.13, good enough for second place. Brandon Letts also set a personal best in the event with a sixth-place finish and a time of 10.52. Both sprinters earned national-qualifying marks.

In the men's 200-meter finals, Junior Charles placed fourth with a personal-best time of 21.16, earning a national-qualifying mark with his run. Jordan Atkinson also earned a national-qualifying mark, placing sixth overall with a time of 21.61.

The Texans had three runners in the men's 800-meter finals, as freshman Andrew Bosquez placed third with a time of 1:59.56, while Ulises Cardoza and Leo Michel finished ninth and 10th, respectively.

Texans perform well at Ranger College rodeo

By **KYLE EWING**
Staff Writer

The South Plains College Rodeo teams have been busy wrangling and racking up points during the past few weeks in a run of rough roundups.

The Texans and Lady Texans teams traveled to Sweetwater to compete in the Ranger College Rodeo on March 22 - March 24.

They competed in a variety of events, such as tiedown roping, goat tying, team roping, steer wrestling, and barrel racing.

The Texans finished in sixth place with a total of 185 points, leaving them in sixth place in the Southwest Regional standings.

The Lady Texans finished in eighth place with a total of 25 points. They still remain atop the Southwest Regional standing, with only three rodeos remaining this season.

Sophomore Chet Boren placed first in tiedown roping, posting a long-round time of 9.8, followed by a short run of 8.9, and finishing with an overall average of 18.7. Boren found himself in second place in the region in the all-around standings. If Boren can hold onto his second-place ranking, he will be competing in the

Cardoza finished with a time of 2:10.26, and Michel finished with a time of 2:11.30.

In the men's 110-meter hurdles, William Watson earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 13.93, placing second overall. Mason Weh placed fourth in the event with a time of 14.01, also earning a national-qualifying mark. In the men's 400-meter hurdles, sophomore Myles Scott placed fifth with a time of 55.41.

Freshman Filmon Beyene placed third in the men's 5000 meters with a time of 15:25.13. In the men's 3000 steeplechase, sophomore Felix Kosgei placed first overall and earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 9:37.25. Benjamin Ronoh placed third with a time of 10:18.77, while Jesse Madrid placed fifth with a time of 10:33.22.

In the men's 4x100 relay, Letts, Edwards, Keion Sutton and Willari Watson earned a national-qualifying mark, placing first with a time of 40.21, a season best for the team. In the men's 4x400 relay, Watson, Scott, Gonzales and Jonathan Witt placed second with a time of 3:11.93. Both relay teams earned national-qualifying marks with their runs.

Sophomore James Willingham placed second in the men's high jump, clearing the bar at 6 feet, 10.75 inches. In the men's long jump, D'Juan Martin placed fourth with

a mark of 23 feet, 9.5 inches, while Danylo Molchanov set a mark of 23 feet, 7.5 inches, placing fifth and earning a national-qualifying mark. Molchanov also earned a national-qualifying mark in the men's triple jump, with a leap of 50 feet, 10.25 inches, and placed first overall.

For the Lady Texans, sophomore Omotayo Abolaji placed first in the women's 100-meter dash, earning a national-qualifying mark with a time of 11.66. In the women's 200 meters, freshman Ruth Usoro earned a national-qualifying mark, placing second with a time of 24.10, while sophomores Agnes Abrocquah and Ashley Hughes placed fourth and fifth, respectively. Abrocquah earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 24.35, while Hughes also earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 24.47.

In the women's 400-meter hurdles, Janiel Moore placed second with a time of 1:02.14, earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the women's 1500 meters, sophomore Seselia Dala earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 4:52.18, placing second overall.

In the women's 4x100 relay, Abolaji, Abrocquah, Usoro and Patrice Moody placed fifth with a time of 46.08, earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the women's high jump, freshman Jelena Rowe cleared the bar at 5 feet, 11.25 inches, earning a national-qualifying mark. Sophomore Cha'Kaylin Gilbert placed fourth in the women's long jump, earning a national-qualifying mark with a jump of 18 feet, 10 inches. In the women's discus, Jannia Price placed ninth with a mark of 147 feet, 5 inches. Price also placed ninth in the women's javelin with a mark of 107 feet, 3 inches.

The SPC men's and women's track and field teams competed in the 91st annual Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays on March 28 - March 31 at the Mike A. Meyers Stadium in Austin.

The Texans and the Lady Texans competed in all four days of the competition, adding many qualifying marks to the list. Despite the stiff competition from NCAA Division I athletes, SPC athletes competed at the best, including a strong

performance by Fabian Edoki, who placed fourth in the men's long jump with a mark of 26 feet.

On the first day of the Texas Relays, Asani Hylton placed sixth in both the men's long jump and high jump in the

added to their list of national qualifiers, and set several personal bests.

Letts, Sutton, Edwards, and Willari Watson earned a national-qualifying mark in the men's 4x100 meter relays, with a time of 41.24 and placed fifth overall.

In the men's long jump, freshman Holland Martin placed first overall, setting a personal best with a jump of 25 feet, 4.5 inches. Martin also placed ninth in the men's triple jump with a jump of 49 feet, 8.5 inches.

William Watson placed fifth in heat five in the men's 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.25, earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the women's 100 meters, Abolaji earned a

national-qualifying mark, placing sixth overall with a time of 11.90 in heat four. The women's 4x400 meter relay team of Abrocquah, Hughes, Moore and Natassha McDonald clocked a time of 3:04.49, placing sixth overall and earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the men's 4x400-meter relay, the Texans finished ninth as Charles, Jordan Atkinson, Ian Gonzales, and Hood earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 3:10.64.

On the last day, the Texans wrapped up with strong finishes all around.

The Texans finished with a fifth-place finish in the finals of the men's 4x400-meter relay, as Charles, Atkinson, Gonzales and Hood clocked a time of 3:08.23.

The Lady Texans ended the meet with a sixth-place finish in the women's 4x400, as Hughes, Moore, Abrocquah and McDonald posted a time of 3:42.29.

The teams started the outdoor season at the Wes Kittley Invitational at Abilene Christian University on March 26.

The Texans started the event strong, as Edoki set a record for the country this year in the men's long jump with a leap of 26 feet, 7 inches on his third attempt. He placed first overall, earning a national-qualifying mark.

Molchanov hit a mark of 23 feet, 2.5 inches in the long jump, placing in the top 10. Molchanov grabbed first place in the men's triple-jump with a mark of 50 feet, 5.25 inches.

Freshman Markim Felix placed first overall in the men's javelin, also setting a school record with a throw of 239 feet, 7 inches. Hylton placed third in the event with a mark of 182 feet, 4 inches. Johnson placed seventh

with a mark of 136 feet, 11 inches.

The Texans had three national qualifiers in the men's 400 meters. Charles placed second with a time of 46.98, Hood placed third with a time of 47.33, and Atkinson finished fifth with a time of 47.61.

In the men's 1500 meters, Bosquez placed second with a time of 4:01.40, earning a national-qualifying mark. Beyene placed sixth in the men's 5000 meters with a time of 15:40.12.

Weh placed second in the men's 100-meter hurdles with a time of 13.91, while Watson placed third with a time of 14.12, earning national-qualifying marks. In the men's 400-meter hurdles, Scott placed fifth overall with a time of 54.26 and earned a national-qualifying mark.

In the men's 3000 steeplechase, Kosgei placed first with a time of 9:45.46, earning a national-qualifying mark. Jesse Madrid placed fourth with a time of 10:20.73, and Benjamin Ronoh placed fifth with a time of 10:26.85.

The men's 4x400 relay team of Scott, Holmes, Watson and Dekaryea Freeman placed fifth with a time of 3:15.14, earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the men's high jump, freshman Bryson Deberry placed second with a jump of 6 feet, 6.75 inches.

For the Lady Texans, Abolaji finished second in the women's 100-meter dash with a time of 11.80, earning a national-qualifying mark. In the women's 200 meters, McDonald placed third with a time of 24.23 and earned a national-qualifying mark. Abolaji placed fourth with a time of 24.42.

Hughes placed third in the women's 400 meters with a time of 56.61. Dala finished fifth in the women's 800 meters with a time of 4:55.83.

In the women's 100-meter hurdles, Moody earned a national-qualifying mark by placing fourth with a time of 14.51. In the women's 400-meter hurdles, Moore placed fourth and earned a national-qualifying mark with a time of 1:03.67.

In the women's 3000 steeplechase, Romero placed first with a time of 11:51.90, earning a national-qualifying mark.

In the 4x400-meter relay, Abrocquah, Hughes, Moore and Moody placed first with a time of 3:48.19.

Rowe placed second in the women's high jump, clearing the bar at 5 feet, 10.75 inches and earning a national-qualifying mark. In the women's long jump, Usoro placed first with a mark of 39 feet, 1.25 inches, earning a national-qualifying mark. Price hit a mark of 138 feet, 6 inches in the women's discus, earning a national-qualifying mark.

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Jonathan Witt practicing pole vault recently at the SPC Track.
KENDALL RAINER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

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Red Hot ... Fire Academy offers education, hands-on training

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

From teaching the basics of saving lives to putting out fires, the South Plains College Fire Academy provides everything needed to become a certified firefighter.

The SPC Fire Academy program started after Lubbock Fire and Rescue stopped holding their own academy around 2001 and started requiring firefighter certification for new job applicants.

"We work very closely with LFR, and they are a big part of our advisory committee for fire technology," said Matthew Hixon, coordi-

also have to submit TSI scores and documentation of any medical training or prior military service they may have.

In June, everyone who has submitted a completed application also takes a timed physical fitness evaluation. Scores from



"There's a tremendous number of hours and subjects that they go through," explained Haily, who served as a fireman in Lubbock for 30 years.

The Fire Academy is a 25 credit-hour program for two semesters, with more than 672 contact hours.

"We're learning to become firefighters," said James Clerk, a fire academy student from Whitney.

"We have good instructors that teach us how to fight fire, save victims, and everything we need

Fire Protection (TCFP) basic structural firefighter examination. Once stu-

Students enrolled in the Fire Academy also learn about forcible entry. They

that will be their Class B flammable pit fire to put out."



nator and instructor in fire technology for SPC and firefighter for the Lub-

top 25 are selected for the class.

Steve Haily, a retired

to know for when we get on a department."

Students gain the

how to put on their PPE, their personal protective equipment," Haily said.

From there, students move on to becoming familiar with their self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

"We do numerous exercises with them putting that air pack on and going through a lot of drills in our smoke house," said Haily. "They're in a disorienting atmosphere, and they have to find their way out. And they have to find another firefighter

and get them out. We do a tremendous amount of drills on that."

learn how to cut holes in roofs and force entry into doors. They learn about ventilation as well, which teaches them how to read the smoke to determine where or how they need to ventilate, and what kind of ventilation they need to use.

"They do salvage and overhaul," explained Haily. "Which is what we get into on every fire scene once the fire is kind of over. Overhaul is when we go in and make sure we've got all the fire out and it's not going to start back. Salvage is going in and seeing what we can save from a house or a car or whatever it may be."

During the second semester, they start a haz-

There's currently 22 students enrolled in the program for this year.

"We've got 22 that we're hoping to graduate in May," Haily said.

The instructors for the academy are either retired firefighters or work for the Lubbock Fire Department. There are 15 instructors who teach in their off time from being on duty and work for SPC part time.

"Most of my friends are firefighters, and they just kept talking about how great of a job it was and everything," said Levi Sherrill, a fire academy student from Lubbock. "So they kind of just lead me on this path. I think it's something I really enjoy doing, learning how to fight fires and save people. Just learning how to be a part of a family."

The extra costs incurred during the academy for both equipment and consumables such as propane for the live fires are covered by the students' lab fees. Tuition for the entire year, with lab fees, is about \$5,000.

"For me, personally, I enjoy seeing the students progress from having no knowledge



back Fire Department. "We have to be sure we're providing the department with students who have the correct job skills to be successful in the career field."

The Fire Academy is held at the Lubbock Fire Department Training and Administration Complex on Monday through Friday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hixon explained that the requirements for the academy include filling out a fire academy application and getting a medical physical. Applicants

Fire Chief from Lubbock, serves as an instructor for the academy.

knowledge and hands-on skills needed to pass the Texas Commission on

and get them out. We do a tremendous amount of drills on that."



of the fire service to the point where we are putting them in gear and taking them in to put out actual fires in LFR's training building," Hixson said. "I also love getting emails or texts from students, sometimes years after graduation, to tell me that they got a job with a fire department. It's very rewarding."

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Photos by AUTUMN BIPPERT AND KENDALL RAINER/ PLAINSMAN PRESS

