



# New library director plans for customer service improvement

By **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
Staff Writer

Mark Gottschalk did not hesitate to rush back to South Plains College when he heard the library director position was available.

Gottschalk worked at SPC's Library on the Levelland campus for four years after arriving in 2013. He left during the summer of 2017 to take a Library Director position at Lubbock Christian University. When the Library Director position opened up at SPC, Gottschalk jumped at the opportunity to return.

"The best part of the job," Gottschalk explained, "is being back at SPC and all the same old friends."

He said that they have a lot of work to do at the Library, but that it is all good work and they are going to get it done.

"I have an idea of what we do really well and what we need to do to always strive to get better," said Gottschalk, "and it's not necessarily

things that we do bad; You can always get better in certain areas."

One example he gave was becoming better at customer service, which is one of the reasons why Gottschalk said he will be working behind a desk like a regular Librarian. He went on explaining why he will be behind a desk every once in a while, saying, "to know what you guys as students need, and the best way to get that is to actually be working with you guys and for you guys. I think it's important."

Gottschalk said he plans to balance his work between the administrative work and being behind a desk, "so that I can see firsthand how maybe we could change something. If I'm getting the same question over and over again, then we need to figure out how to help you guys find that question or the answer to that."

Gottschalk also said they are looking at making some changes, but that it was a little too early to say what those changes will be.

"I would say that any changes we make will be about making the Library more accessible for students," he said. "Both so they can succeed academically and so it can kind of continue to grow as a social place on campus."

Gottschalk grew up mostly in the northern Untitled States.

"My family is from the state of Washington in the Pacific Northwest," he explained. "Besides that, I grew up outside of Boston, Massachusetts for six or seven years when I was young."

Gottschalk started moving south when he attended a couple of colleges. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Washington State University and a Master of Library and Information Science Degree from San Jose State

University. Gottschalk says that he changed his

he did not want to be a history grad student.

and they got me a job at the academic library," he said.

After a couple of years working in the Library, he decided to change his career. "When I finished my master's," Gottschalk said, "I moved to Charleston, South Carolina."

He figured he would just go live where he could get a job in libraries and gain a lot of experience. He also wanted to move to a place where he might not ever live.

"When it was time to get my next step in my career, I called up my old boss, who's the retired director here, Mr Jim Belcher," said Gottschalk.

He asked Belcher if there were any job openings in Texas, because he thought Texas was a great place



Mark Gottschalk has returned to South Plains College as the Director of Libraries. He previously worked for the library for four years, starting in 2013.  
MAKAYLA KNEISLEY/PLAINSMAN PRESS

major from history to library and information science when he realized

"I had a friend that was like, 'You'd be a good fit in the library,'

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# Former student selected as new Dean of Admissions and Records

By **AUTUMN BIPPERT**  
Editor-in-Chief

Recently taking on the new position of Dean of Admissions and Records, Kathryn Perez is no stranger to South Plains College.

Perez had been serving as associate dean of students, with responsibilities for housing, residence life and campus life.

Perez graduated from Levelland High School in 2002, and has lived in Levelland all of her life.

"I've never done that move away thing and come back home," Perez said. "I've just stuck here and have been happy here."

Perez attended South Plains College and received her Associate of Science degree in 2004. She then transferred to Texas Tech Uni-

versity and received a bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Studies. She later earned a master's degree in Student Development and Leadership from Angelo State University.

After attending Texas Tech, she worked for

"I did that for about a year and a half," Perez said. "And did the social work piece of it. Part of the Head Start program is not only the preschool part, but then there's some family support and different things that they try and meet for the kids that are in that program and the family."

After working for South Plains Community Action, she came to SPC in 2007 and worked in the College Relations Office, which is now Marketing and Recruitment, as a recruiter for the college for three and a half years.

"Then I transitioned into a new position that was created in that office," Perez explained,

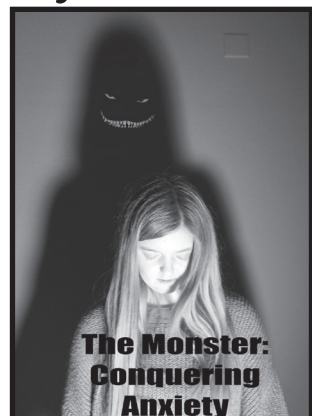
"and that was the coordinator for the Head Start program."  
**Continued on pg. 2**



Levelland native Kathryn Perez is continuing to advance her career at South Plains College with her new position as Dean of Admissions and Records.  
AUTUMN BIPPERT/PLAINSMAN PRESS

South Plains Community Action in Levelland for their Head Start program.

# People of all ages affected by General Anxiety Disorder



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

By **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
Staff Writer

You're trapped in a world of short breaths. Your mouth and throat are running dry. You swallow, hoping to suppress the feeling, only to become aware of the saliva going down your throat. Your chest muscles tighten with cramps as the fear creeps up your spine, surrounding your mind. Whispering, lying, manipulating and adhering to your thoughts until

you believe everything it's saying is true. You try to fix the feeling by hiding, running, or finding temporary relief with anything that will take away the attacks, the fear, the lies.

Anxiety is a growing problem among people of all ages.

Mostly seen in teenagers and young adults, it is also known to arise in children and mature adults. There are five main anxiety disorders: General Anxiety, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), Panic Disorder, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and Social Phobia (or Social Anxiety Disorder).

General Anxiety Disorder (GAD) is a disorder characterized by chronic anxiety, exaggerated worry and tension, even if there is nothing or little provoking it. People who display excessive anxiety worry about several things, or anticipate disaster, such as work, social events or interactions, personal health, everyday life, and more. Some of the symptoms of GAD include: feeling restless, wound-up, being on-edge, easily fatigued, having difficulty concentrating or mind going blank, being irri-

table, having muscle tension, difficulty controlling feelings, and having sleep problems.

GAD is diagnosed when a person finds it hard to control their worries for more than six months and has three or more of the symptoms. According to Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA), GAD affects 6.8 million adults, which is 3.1 percent of the U.S. population. Also, 75 percent of people experience their first anxiety episode by age 22.

David Rosenberg, professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at Wayne State University, wrote on The Conversation stating that research has shown that one in five college students are affected by anxiety.

It is said that GAD is seen mostly in women. Lynn Gregory, a counselor at South Plains College, said, "I suspect it's because the way men are socialized to be strong... and then women, it's fine to be vulnerable."

Vinnie Gomez, also a counselor at SPC, agreed, adding, "I think that's a big part. You know just how we

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<b>Cover to Cover</b>	Lubbock Coding Academy opens at Lubbock Center.	Alum finds passion while at SPC and achieves her dreams after graduation.	METALACHI: The world's first and only heavy metal mariachi band.	Lady Texans rank #1 nationally for the first time in college history.	Meet the 2018-2019 Men's and Women's Basketball Teams
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February 4, 2019

Plainsman Press

# Coding Academy opens at Lubbock Center

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

South Plains College's Coding Academy is opening at the Lubbock Center on Feb. 4.

The academy will consist of four courses: Introduction to Web 101; Introduction to Web Coding C#221; .NET 321 Programming; and Fullstack 421.

"South Plains College partnered with Lubbock Coding Academy to offer coding based on industry needs and demands," said Ben Alexander, executive director of the Lubbock Center. "In conjunction with LEDA and Texas Tech University, research was conducted. Based on the surveys, the needs of the industry was heard; the

Lubbock Coding Academy was birthed."

Students interested in the academy must be accepted and enrolled at South Plains College.

"Enrollment is simple," Alexander explained. "Students who are interested will go to our website and follow the instructions there. The first application is a screening application, followed by an application to SPC Continu-

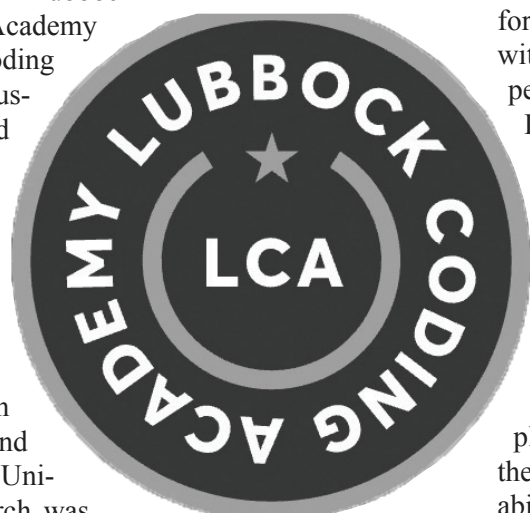
opened to help students navigate through."

Introduction to Web 101 will be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., and is an eight-week course. The course will focus on the fundamentals of front-end web development and introduces the fundamentals of computer programming via the JavaScript language. Web 101 is tailored for students starting with little or no experience in coding.

During this course, students will build functional and professional-quality websites, along with basic JavaScript apps and games.

Alexander explained that originally the Academy had availability for 15 students. That was expanded to 20 after the first 15 spots filled up quickly.

ing Education classes. The Lubbock Center is



## Professional truck driving school opens at Reese Center campus

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

South Plains College recently announced that it will open a professional truck driving school at the Reese Center campus.

New classes began on Jan. 28, and others will begin every two weeks. Class sizes will range from 12 to 18 students. Courses cost \$4,995, and classes will be held from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, according to Jay Warnick, director of continuing and workforce development at SPC.

"Currently, it's at the Reese Center, but the plan is to eventually

move it here to Levelland," Warnick said. "We want to be known as what is called a third-party test site, so that way we can do the DPS driven portion ourselves. But there is a certification you have to go through."

In order to enroll and be accepted into the program, there are certain requirements that students must have. Students must be at least 21 years of age, have a GED or high school diploma and a valid Class C Texas Drivers License. Students who are interested in enrolling can apply at the official SPC website.

The purpose of this course is to certify the

students at the end of the four weeks of classes. Students will be prepared for a written exam featuring the rules and regulations, coordinated by the Texas Department of Transportation. They will receive a range of hands-on driving skills practice and experience for a Class A license, according to Warnick.

Students also will be familiarized with safety procedures, vehicle and equipment inspections, safe driving techniques, map reading, and dispatch procedures by the end of the course.

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## Gottschalk returns as new Library Director

**Continued from pg. 1**

to live. Belcher told him that they might have an opening in a few months, "so that's kind of how I ended up out here in West Texas."

In his free time, Gottschalk helps out with the women's basketball team as a volunteer coach, working with the post players. He also

likes to read, travel into the mountains of New Mexico with his dog and girlfriend, and watch basketball. Gottschalk says that he does not have a favorite team currently, but he has been watching teams with good coaches to try to understand what they are doing. "I've been watching the Celtics, because I really like Brad Stevens," said Gottschalk, "and the Mil-

waukee Bucks, because their head coach, Mike Budenholzer, does some really interesting things."

Gottschalk said that working in a library was not his planned career, and he sort of stumbled into it. But he really enjoys it and is happy to be back at the SPC Library.

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Introduction to Web Coding C#221 is also an eight-week course. Students will study C# syntax, an object-oriented

mobile applications and desktop applications.

Fullstack 321 brings the back-end and front-end of programming to

companies looking for software development help, programming help, web development, and security programming

programming language. This include data types, control structures, functions and semantics of the language, class, class relationships and exception handling.

The .NET 321 Programming class is an eight-week course, that will cover the fundamentals of web developer, utilizing .NET framework, and SQL. .NET is a software framework developed by Microsoft that runs primarily on Microsoft Windows. It is used to build web applications,

together, teaching students to deploy full-stack applications using C#, .NET, SQL and the Angular framework. Angular framework is a JavaScript-based open-source front-end web application framework mainly maintained by Google and by a community of individuals and corporations to address many of the challenges encountered in developing single-page applications.

"Students become knowledgeable in coding and marketable to

management," Alexander said. "Students will be able to apply to companies that need help in web development, computer networking, software development and any IT-related industries. Additionally, students are also able to continue on with SPC to an Associate's Degree or Associate of Applied Science degree after they are employed in the industry."

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## Perez excited about new position

**Continued from pg. 1**

nator of new student programs. And that position dealt with all of the prospective student events, like Senior Sneak Preview and Texan Preview Day. And then it also organized New Student Orientation for the summers."

Perez later transitioned to associate dean of students in 2016, before starting her new position as dean of admissions and records at the end of the Fall 2018 semester. She replaced Andrea Rangel, who retired in December after 45 years at SPC.

"I'm the type of person that I can't stay in one place for very long," Perez explained. "I'm a learner, so I like to learn new things. This position was exciting for me because it let me kind of get back into the roots of where I started into higher ed. So with recruitment and new student programs, it wasn't fully

on the admissions side, but we had to work really closely with admissions. It was very much our responsibility to be that face out in high schools and different events in the communities to tell students how you start from here and get through registration."

Perez explained that while working in recruitment, she had to know the basic admissions processes, along with testing and meningitis requirements. She said she feels that this new position gets her back into that side of the college again.

"I'm still learning a lot," Perez said. "This position obviously oversees Admissions and Records, and so we deal with everything from the admissions process and the documentation that goes along with that, to keeping the records of courses and student schedules, to making sure that transcripts are correct and make sure that grades are correct at the end of each semester."

Perez said she's excited for this new position and is ready to figure out what needs to be done in their office to benefit the students.

"The staff here are fantastic," said Perez, "and they do a great job with students. But I think we have a lot of opportunity to continue to grow and make sure that we're moving in a direction that we're taking care of students."

Perez said that she wants to make sure that her office is providing information to students in a timely manner.

"I'm excited to get to kind of play with the new processes and things that we might get to change up," Perez said. "I'm very much an improvement person, so I like to see what we can do differently and then problem solve through that and create new ways of doing things."

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### PUBLICATION STATEMENT

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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



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# Experts give advice on suppressing anxiety

**Continued from pg. 1**

were raised; you deal with it.”

He went on to say that he tells students that anxiety does not exist.

“Because if you think about it, the more real it becomes,” Gomez explained.

Gregory labels this as “feeding the monster.” Crystal Gilster, the Director of Health and Wellness at SPC and a counselor, said there is a children’s book that discusses anxiety by using the analogy of a tomato plant. To grow a tomato plant, you plant one tiny seed. If you water it and give it sunshine, then it will grow into a plethora of tomatoes.

“It’s kind of like anxiety,” Gilster said. “You can have one little anxiety start it. But if you water it and you give it sunshine, your thinking, then that grows into this huge anxiety plant.”

Instead of giving in to all the negative thinking and the fight or flight reaction and worries that come with GAD, try positive self-talk, according to Gilster.

“You have to talk to yourself in order to help yourself recognize a truth that does not feel like a truth,” said Gilster.

Counselors agree that self-talk, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Metacognition, breathing exercises, and realizing unhelpful thinking can all help people with General Anxiety Disorder.

“The Cognitive Behavioral approach to dealing with a lot of things is kind of where I’m based.” Gregory, who is located at the Reese Center campus.

Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT) is a form of psychotherapy. This therapy can help boost happiness by changing

ple to challenge distorted cognitions, and change destructive pattern behaviors. CBT aims to identify harmful thoughts, and helps you realize if those thoughts are an accurate depiction of reality.

“You have got to get a handle on your body,” Gregory said, adding “by breathing and becoming aware of how you feel.”

She goes on to say that Metacognition is a good way to do that, because “it’s about thinking about thinking. Once you’ve achieved that, it’s almost like naming it, naming it so you can kind of go to battle with it.”

Rachael Montgomery, also a counselor at SPC,

triggers your anxiety and taking the steps to con-



quering it,” Gregory said. WebMD states that people with anxiety take

on your stomach. Breathe in through your nose and

breathe in and imagine the air you are breathing in is filled with a sense of peace. Try to feel it throughout your body. Breathe out and imagine that the air is taking your stress and tension with it. Repeat this for 10 to 20 minutes. There are many more techniques that a counselor can help you learn. You can also find more on the internet.

Montgomery explained that she shows

her clients a unhelpful thinking chart. This chart talks about 10 unhelpful thinking styles: All or nothing thinking, If I’m not perfect I have failed; Over-generalizing, seeing a pattern based upon a single event; mental filter, only paying attention to certain types of evidence; disqualifying the positive, discounting the good things that have happened; jumping to conclusions, imagin-

ing we know what others are thinking and predicting the future; magnification and minimization blowing things out of proportion; emotional reasoning, I feel embarrassed so I must be an idiot; Should & Musts, if we apply ‘shoulds’ to other people, the result is often frustration; Labeling, I’m a los-

er; and personalization, this is my fault.

Montgomery explained that these unhelpful thoughts can all be challenged through self-talk. So instead of thinking, ‘if I’m not perfect, I have failed,’ think ‘I’m not perfect; but I did my best.’

Gomez added, “one way to think of it is by asking yourself ‘would you talk to your best friend that way?’ Talk to yourself like you would to your best friend.”

General Anxiety Disorder can leave you feeling trapped, stressed, and unable to function fully. Gomez explained that it can stop you from going to work, to school, to social events, and more. In order to conquer General Anxiety, you need to manage your feelings by figuring out what your triggers are, “going to battle,” positively reinforcing your thoughts, pushing yourself a little outside your comfort zone, and keeping track of what is happening and your progress.

Going to a counselor can help with that. The counselors at SPC agree that they do not want to get inside the head of students, but instead, help give them tools in order to battle the anxiety monster. They can help sort out problems and suggest ways to help with them.

But most importantly, Gregory reminded that one of their jobs is to keep track of your progress so that all you have to do is think about conquering anxiety.

A big part of counseling is connecting with your counselor. If one does not seem to work, do not give up. Find another; they are there to help.

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agreed and said, “If you name it, then it’s not you. You are able to work on it and not judge yourself.”

More specifically, it is referring to a process which monitors and assesses one’s understanding and performance. Metacognition helps people to become aware of their strengths and weaknesses. It helps people to

short shallow breaths, which can make you feel more anxious. Some of the breathing techniques that are listed on WebMD are as simple as slowly breathing in for 7 to 10 seconds, holding your breath for 2 seconds, then slowly releasing your breath for another 7 to 10 seconds.

You can also Deep

peat this as many times as you need.

You can also Breathe Focus. Close your eyes,

## Journalism students receive awards from TCCJA

Current and former members of the Plainsman Press staff recently received seven awards from the Texas Community College Journalism Association.

The awards, for material published during the fall 2017 and spring 2018 semesters, were announced during the annual TCCJA fall conference held at Texas A&M Commerce.

Kendall Rainer, a sophomore general studies major from Georgetown, placed first in the

category of Sports News for his story on the men’s and women’s track and field teams sweeping the NJCAA Indoor Championships.

Rainer, the current associate /sports editor for the Plainsman Press, also received an Honorable Mention Award in the Sports News category for his story on the SPC

men’s basketball team winning the national championship.

Autumn Bippert, a sophomore photojournalism major from George-

town, placed third in the category for Critical Review for a review she wrote on the movie “Ready Player One.”

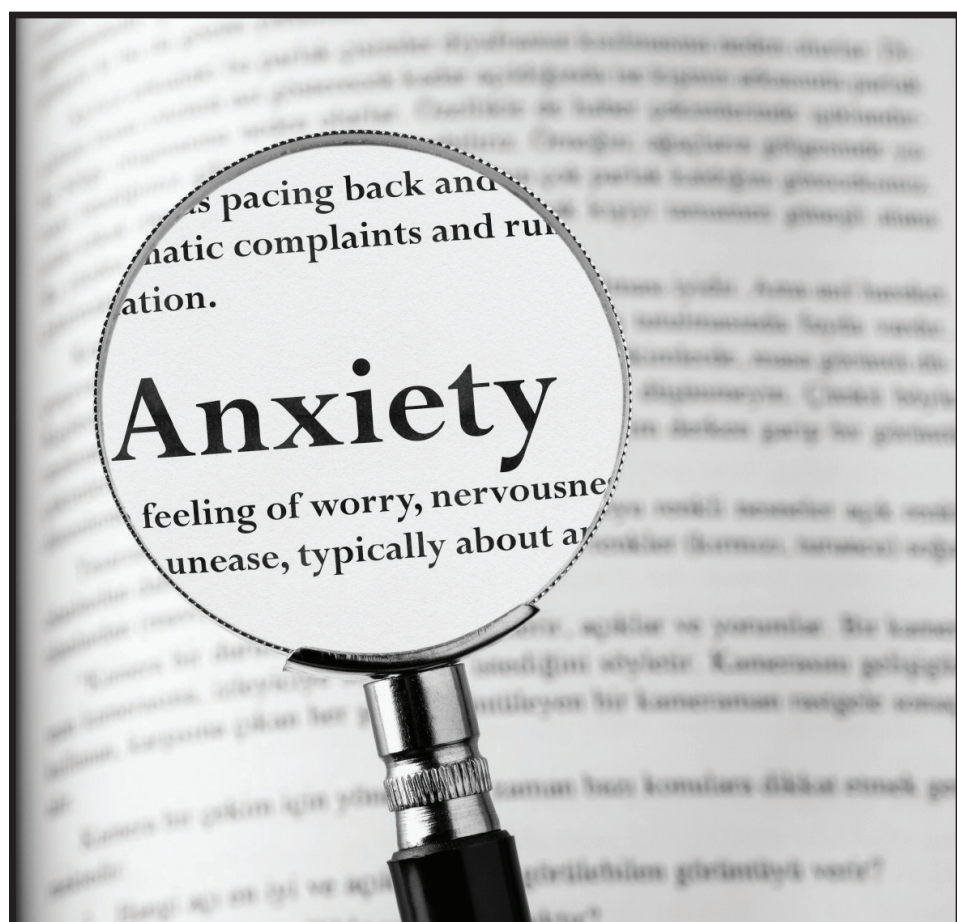
The current Editor-in-Chief of the Plainsman Press also received an Honorable Mention Award, along with former staff member Tina Gonzalez of Lubbock, in the category of In-Depth

or Investigative Reporting for a multi-part series on “Fake News.”

Also, Matt Molinar, a Levelland native now attending Texas Tech University, and Nicole Lopez, an Amherst native, placed first in the category of In-Depth or Investigative Reporting for a multi-part series “Climate Crisis.”

Molinar also placed second in the category of Sports Photo for a photo taken of a SPC rodeo team member practicing. Lopez placed third in the Feature Writing category for a story on a man who composes music for video games.

Members of the Plainsman Press staff have won 115 awards in the TCCJA competition since 2005.



dysfunctional emotions, behaviors, and thoughts. CBT focuses on solutions, encouraging peo-

recognize their limit, then figure out how to extend their ability.

“It’s figuring out what

Breathe. You start this by sitting or laying in a position that’s comfortable, then placing your hand

town, placed third in the category for Critical Review for a review she wrote on the movie “Ready Player One.”

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Autumn Bippert, current Editor-in-Chief of the Plainsman Press, and Kendall Rainer, Associate/Sports Editor. KAITLYN HYDE/PLAINSMAN PRESS



# Agriculture professor sows seeds of education

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

**R**on Presley strives to open the minds of his students with life lessons, stories and agriculture.

Presley is a professor of agriculture in the Science Department at South Plains College.

Born in 1957, the same year the college was founded, Presley did not think he was college material because he claims he did not do very well in high school in Abernathy.

In 1976, Presley attended SPC and became close with his professor, Jim Jenkins.

"He (Jim Jenkins) gave me a job out at the school farm..." Presley recalls, "and I realized after a time that they weren't determined to run me off or fail me."

At the time, SPC had only about 1,700 students. Presley says that the campus used to be "local," with mostly Hockley County residents attending.

He went on to attend Texas Tech University after his time as a student at SPC. He later got into agricultural banking. During the decade he was working as an agricultural banker, he realized that he wanted to be home for his family more often.

"I was on the road

be who they dream they can be, and I honestly still feel that on campus," Presley explained.

Presley has watched SPC throughout the past few decades and thinks that the college has grown but has not necessarily changed, because the mission of SPC has been the same.

"It's been fascinating," said Presley, "because, of course, the reality that students live in has changed tremendously."

The college has grown from 1,700 students in the '70's to more than 8,700 students this semester.

"As we've grown, not only have we had more programs, but we've also opened the student's experience up to more diversity amongst students," said Presley.

Presley encourages his students to meet and visit with other students of different cultures and nationalities.

"That is very much a big part of a person's education," exclaims Presley.

Presley said that he has high hopes for the future of SPC, and mentioned future plans of opening more buildings on campus.

"I see us becoming

Presley is part of the Farmer-to-Farmer program (or F2F).

The F2F program

cash flows and how to set up a yearly budget based on that," explained Presley.

said that he enjoyed the food immensely, and he also needed a translator. His translator, Mr. Moray, became a dear friend of his during the trip.

After the first few days in Conakry, the capitol of Guinea, Presley traveled to Kindia.

"So then, for the next week and a half, I met with this group of wonderful people and taught them agricultural finance," explains Presley.

Presley also explained that many teachers in Conakry were on strike, and because there was trouble in the streets, he did not get to stay in his originally planned hotel. Instead, he was allowed to stay in a more modern hotel.

Presley did get some time off for one day during his trip to explore. His group went into the jungle to a park to admire the beauty of nature.

"Tarzan would've lasted about four days," joked Presley.

Presley says that he

took this trip because one line on his bucket-list is to see more of the world.

"I came away realizing that education is the only thing that can save civilization," explained Presley, "and we need all be carrying our share of educating, educating, educating."

Presley says the entire trip has changed him a little differently than he had expected, because he realized that he was part of something very important.

"One of our old presidents from years ago, Dr. Marvin Baker, his favorite saying was, 'If you think education is expensive, try ignorance,'" said Presley.

Presley says that he is fulfilled with his career and being able to help students. The energy in the classroom that he emits is very rewarding and fills his students with confidence and determination.

"I get to be around people moving forward, with dreams and hopes," Presley said, "and that is a wonderful karma."



Professor Ron Presley shares his most important life experiences with his students.  
REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

"promotes sustainable economic growth, food security and agricultural development worldwide," according to the organization's website.

His past trips have included Nigeria and Senegal.

"I went to Nigeria and talked to colleges and university leadership all around Nigeria about recruiting agriculture majors" Presley said.

His latest visit was to Guinea, on the west coast of Africa, in 2018. Presley's job in Guinea was to train a group of farmers and co-op managers in agricultural finance education.

"I taught the balance sheet, the income statement, and statement of

Presley said he had a great time in Guinea, partially because it had been a French colony. He

## Student chasing dream career in media

by **MICHAEL MANGEL**  
Staff Writer

Fox Jeree Parks has a welcoming smile and is never afraid to give her opinion.

The 21-year-old telecommunications major chose to attend South Plains College because it was close to home. She resides in Lubbock, Texas, so she wanted to attend a college that is affordable. Parks also said that SPC has a great program for her major.

Parks said, "I went into media because I love movies, particularly 'Lord Of The Rings.' That convinced me, and I love making movies."

She currently works for KJTV-34 in Lubbock, one of the local Fox affiliates, for the evening news.

"The best part of my job is being able to direct a live broadcast," said

Parks, "The worst part is working 40 hours a week, and most of the time that includes going in at 4 a.m."

Parks' heroes include



Fox Parks works on live broadcasts for KJTV-34, the local Fox affiliate.  
REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

any female director, along with actor Anthony Hopkins because he is creepy and progressive. She thinks he's just great. Parks hopes to one day

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live in New York City after visiting there last summer. She said it was just so cool and she loved every minute of it.

Parks has two brothers and two sisters. For fun, Parks watches movies and enjoys hanging out with her fiancé and cat, Leia.

Parks finds balancing life very tough, saying, "I find it extremely difficult being so grown up with so many responsibilities. Although it is very rewarding, I have a fiancé that supports me, and helps me deal with the balancing of work and school."

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“I came away realizing that education is the only thing that can save civilization”

so much," Presley explained.

He called his old professor, Jim Jenkins, and asked him for a job. Within a month, Jenkins called Presley to work for SPC, and since 1989, he has been a professor at the college.

"South Plains College wants to help students move forward and

more of an integral part of the high plains of Texas," said Presley. "And you know the old saying, 'If you're going forward, or you're going backwards, but you can't stay where you are and survive.'"

Presley occasionally travels abroad for the United States Agency for International Development (or U.S.A.I.D.).

riculture majors" Presley said.



Join us

South Plains College, Levelland Library

Friday, February 22, 2019

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# Alum finds career path while at SPC

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

by **REBEKAH HARVEY**  
Editorial Assistant

Before moving to New York City to become an actress and director, Anna Hogan got her start at South Plains College.

Hogan grew up in

facet I wanted to work in," Hogan said. "I appreciated the small class sizes, the one-on-one time with professors, and the community that the college had to offer. To me, the college size made it easier to focus on my work and feel supported while I was exploring options for my vocation."

While at SPC, Hogan took her time declaring a major and explored her options before finding her place in the theatre program. She said this was where she was able

it was an unforgettable experience."

After transferring from SPC, Hogan continued her education at West Texas A&M University, where she majored in Musical Theater.

"WTAMU got me ready with some heavy-hitter roles and some invaluable lessons on collaboration and perseverance," said Hogan.

After graduating from West Texas A&M, Hogan decided she would move to New York by the summer of 2015. Before

Connections Theatre Festivity.

"Here, in 2019, I'm in pre-production for "Friendly Fire" by John Patrick Bray, which I'll be directing at The Theatre at the 14th Street Y as a part of their season of War and Peace," Hogan said.

Hogan also is an intern to the administrative director of the League of Professional Theatre Women, an organization that strives to increase opportunities for women in theatre.

In her spare time, Hogan likes to read, sleep, and watch television.

"I have been known to binge-watch Netflix and HBO (just finished "Killing Eve," AMAZING)," said Hogan, "and I enjoy exploring the city for sweet shops and wine bars."

For other students who want to pursue a career in theatre, Hogan says to



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNA HOGAN

“Keep in mind that every experience, whether it’s negative or positive, can go in your toolbox as an actor.”

Lubbock, Texas. She attended Monterey High School before going to SPC.

Hogan says that she chose SPC because of its affordability and the opportunities it held for her.

"I knew I wanted to work in the arts, but I wasn't sure which

to explore who she was.

"The highlights of my time at SPC were definitely the performance opportunities," Hogan recalled, "and I was lucky enough to perform in a variety of different platforms. From choir, to singing for a big band, to performing roles in the musicals and plays-

the move, she travelled around the South, directing and performing.

Hogan has lived in New York since 2015. She serves as the Associate Artistic Director for the Rising Sun Performance Company. She and her co-director recently won an award for Outstanding Direction from Planet

keep your vision in mind and stick to it.

"Work hard, answer emails, show up when you're supposed to and stay to help even if you don't have to," Hogan said. "This industry is all about trust and reliability - even more so than talent. Create relationships and nurture them."

Hogan also offers some advice on rejection.

"Keep in mind that every experience,

whether it's negative or positive, can go in your toolbox as an actor," she explains, "Never allow yourself to get defeated by a "no". They're your bread and butter as an actor. Allow yourself to take rejection in stride and KEEP GOING."

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# Veteran helps military families with education benefits

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

Stephanie Perez strives to help student veterans and dependents to achieve their full potential.

Stephanie Perez is the new Veteran's Administration Advisor at South Plains College's Reese Center campus. She attended South Plains College, before going on to attend Texas Tech University, graduating in 2014 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science.

Perez was a cook (92G) in the United States Army between 2001-2009.

"I did four years of

active duty and four years in the National Guard," Perez said.

Perez said that she really enjoyed working in the dining facilities while stationed in Kitzingen, Germany. She also served two tours in Iraq.

Before she was hired as a VA advisor, she worked at Workforce Solutions of the South Plains as a WIOA case manager.

Perez says that she wanted to work closer



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHANIE PEREZ

with veterans and their dependents, so she applied

at SPC and was fortunate enough to get hired.

On a typical day, Perez says that she checks daily reports for any changes in veteran student enrollments.

"I also assist veterans and their dependents throughout the day by answering questions regarding the benefits

that they will qualify for," explained Perez. "I also gather the documents needed for the benefit that they are applying for."

Perez ensures that the veterans and their dependents are rewarded the education benefits that they have earned.

"The spring enrollment was very hectic," Perez said. "Being new to the job did bring some difficulties, but the VA advisor in Levelland, Vivian Sanchez, really helped me out a lot."

Perez is driven to do a good job of assisting veteran students and their dependents as best she can.

Surrounded by friendly and helpful coworkers, one of Perez' favorite parts of her job are the people she works around.

"The training I received was very good," said Perez, "and it got me prepared to do the job."

Her goals at SPC are to work hard and do her best as a VA advisor. She also hopes to go back to Texas Tech for a graduate degree in Public Administration.

"I look forward to working at South Plains College, assisting Veterans and their dependents," said Perez.

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## 'Aquaman' surprises audience with unexpected outcomes

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

Thousands of innocent families run in fear as they try to get away from a giant tidal wave caused by a tsunami that towers over them and causes catastrophic destruction to thousands of homes along the coast of Maine.

"Aquaman" is a DC film directed by James Wan and stars Jason Momoa as Arthur Curry, who discovers that he is the rightful heir to the underwater kingdom called Atlantis.

However, to obtain his right to the throne, Curry must fight his half-brother, Orm, also known as The Ocean Master, played by Patrick Wilson, because Orm also wants that kingdom under his rule and tries to bring a war to the surface world. To stop him, Aquaman goes after the all-powerful trident, alongside Mera, played by Amber Heard.

I have followed Wan's career as a director and have enjoyed many movies he has directed, such as "Saw," "Insidious," and "The Conjuring," among others. I was curious to see how he would bring Aquaman to the big screen, because this particular superhero doesn't necessarily have the same reputation as some of the more iconic characters in the DC universe.

Wan created a very self-aware film that's purposefully over the top and throws everything on the screen in a gigantic explosion of underwater

entertainment and pure enjoyment. I think it is a very entertaining movie, and I am surprised to say that.

The trailers that I had seen did not really impress me as much as I had hoped. I was concerned about the overuse of computer-generated imagery (CGI), but I have to give kudos to all the visual effects designers who have worked on the film because the work that is on display is very impressive.

The film is so colorful and beautiful, ranging from the colors of the ocean and the creatures within, to even the costume design. It is a very bright and vivid film. I'd also say that Momoa is perfect casting for this movie. I really cannot imagine anyone else as this character after

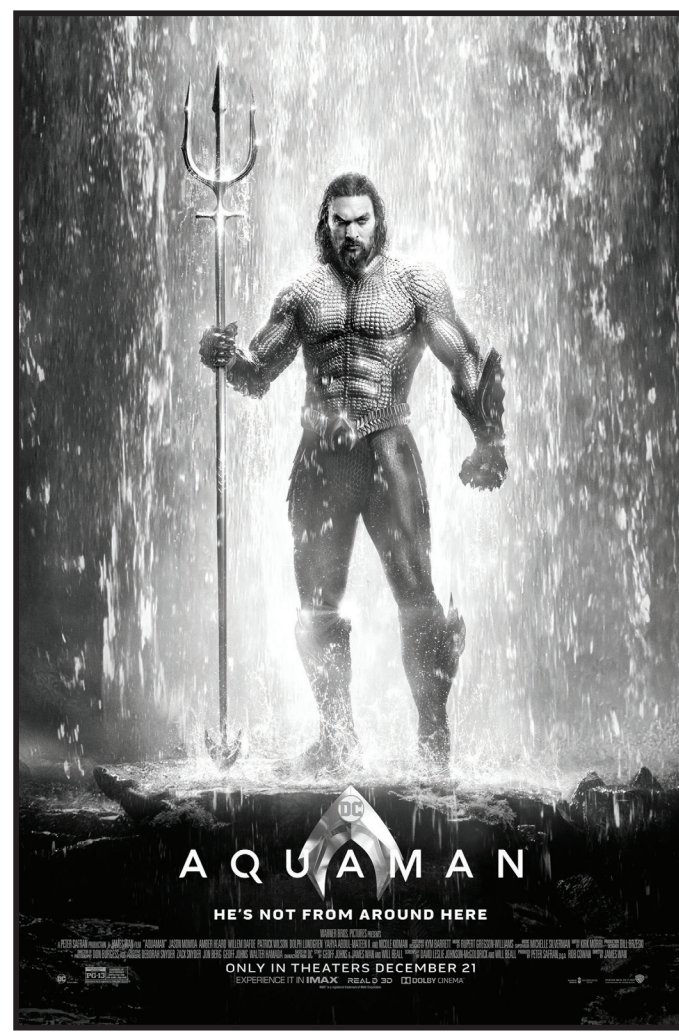
nor does he feel qualified to be the king of Atlantis. Throughout the film, Curry undergoes a trial of character to see if he's worthy of the trident while braving the undersea kingdom of the monstrous Trench to arrive at the Hidden Sea at the Earth's core. Here, he not only finds the tomb of the legendary Atlantean King, Atlan, but also Arthur's mother, Atlanna, played by Nicole Kidman, who was long believed to be dead.

Momoa is clearly relishing every minute he has on screen, and he brings so much physicality to the action scenes, which Wan has taken a unique approach to. From all of the hand-to-hand combat scenes to the underwater battles, it is very distinctive. All of the fight scenes are in wide shots. You can see everything that is going on. This is some of my favorite action that I have ever seen on film.

For a movie that I wasn't really anticipating all that much from, I found myself really enjoying how purposefully humorous this movie is. Wan also did a great job of helming all of the action scenes.

Some scenes felt rushed, so the narrative and pace of the movie suffered as a result. I don't mean to say that I felt parts were boring, but some scenes weren't structured as properly as they could have been.

For instance, there are so many emotional scenes



at the beginning that were intended to hook the viewers into the heartfelt part of the film. There was an attempt to get deep into the backstory of Aquaman when he was a child, but it felt incredibly rushed and then pushed off to the side. I think the first act of the movie started off a bit rough, but it starts to pick up the pace and get a lot more entertaining once the main mission starts.

However, I felt there were many lessons to be learned throughout the movie. Many of these lessons take place when looking at the relationship between Curry and Mera. Because the two come from completely different worlds, they both realize during the course of their journey that there is a way for their worlds to coexist.

Even though Curry thinks his mother is dead for a majority of the film, he harbors his resentment

toward Atlantis for killing his mother. He ultimately learns not to judge the entirety of Atlantis on the actions of one man. Mera learns that the surface world is a place that is worth preserving.

Many viewers could also argue that ultimately it is a romantic-action movie, but I wouldn't consider it to be romantic at all. Like in most action movies, it does not rely solely on saving 'the damsel in distress.' Rather, Mera saves Curry in a way. The two characters go on an adventure as equal partners, and I think the movie ends on that same note. Of course, there is an element of attraction here and there, but that is not the driving force that brings them together. It's their equal desire to save both of their worlds that unites them.

This is the fifth time Wilson has worked alongside Wan after the

two "Conjuring" and "Insidious" films. Although I think Wilson does a decent job of acting in "Aquaman," I think his character could have been more fleshed out.

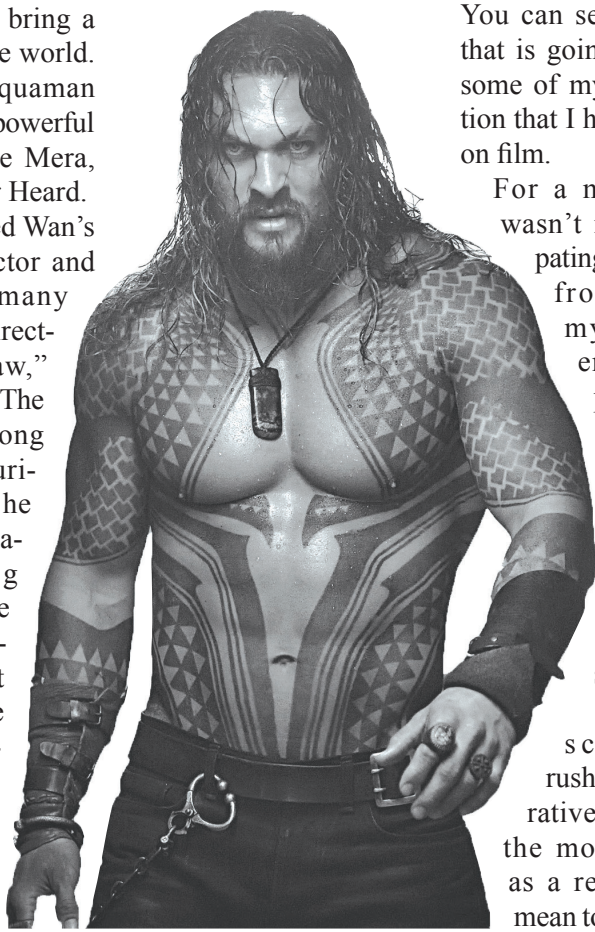
He seems like a cliché villain. However, the conclusion for both Aquaman and Orm did surprise me. But the character that Wilson played has the same motivation that has been seen a thousand times before in other action movies. As a physical presence, though, I thought Wilson was perfect for the part. I also liked how Aquaman wasn't perfect in this movie. He loses a lot of battles, specifically to Orm and Black Manta, who is played by Yahya Abdul-Manteen II.

Seeing him develop as a villain in this movie was interesting to watch, and Wan did a great job of setting up the events of how he became evil. Getting to see Black Manta's backstory and how he obtained his weapons with the help of Orm as an attempt to take down Curry was intriguing. Wan also did a great job of portraying the guilt that Aquaman feels for killing Black Manta's father at the beginning of the film. I feel these are some of the best moments in the movie.

"Aquaman" is a must-watch for DC superhero lovers, or those who want something fun and entertaining to watch. I give "Aquaman" a nine out of 10.

# 9/10

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having seeing him as Curry.

Momoa plays a simple character who originally doesn't want to be king,

## Heartwarming Transformers movie showcases Bumblebee's struggles

by **DANIELLE SALAZAR**  
Staff Writer

"Soldier B-127 go to Earth! And set up base for the Autobots" are words that spill out of Optimus Prime's mouth

over his home. A view of his home planet is in his the distance as he flew into Earth's atmosphere like a meteorite crashing.

"Bumblebee" is a 2018 film starring Hailee Steinfeld as Charlie and John Cena as Agent

1987, gives an insightful backstory of one of the most famous Transformers.

This film was released in theaters December 21, 2018, and is a perfect film for all ages.

This prequel is about the amazing Autobot soldier known as Bumblebee. But before becoming Bumblebee, he was "B-127". In this film, the audience is taken to the beginning, before the Autobots were on Earth. It shows how the Autobots were at war with the Decepticons on their planet Cybertron.

Bumblebee is a soldier sent on a mission to planet Earth. Bumblebee so happens to land on the Earth during the wonderful year of 1987. During a fight with a Decepticon, B-127 is smashed and knocked out so badly his memory short circuits and a striking event happens that leaves him mute. He also loses



his sense of purpose, as his systems are failing. B-127 shuts down, and he transforms into a Volkswagen Beetle.

While the 1980's was a very cultural decade, Charlie is a teenager who is going through a lot of it and so happens to be turning 18. She stumbles upon a mysterious Volkswagen Beetle that she is determined to get started. Little did she know that she is fixing B-127, an Autobot soldier. They soon befriend each other and help each other gain confidence in themselves. Charlie finds Bumblebee, and somehow they need each other to grow and find their

way in the world. Charlie and Bumblebee run into Agent Burns, who is skeptical of the extraterrestrial robots, especially the Decepticons, and wants to capture them. The Decepticons find their way to Earth and, of course, cause deception and chaos.

I really enjoyed the dynamics of this film, because I love how this movie has relatable situations. This movie really captures a great story about Bumblebee and his friendship with Charlie. The production of this movie was carefully put together and kept the film interesting. Charlie and Bumblebee are faced

with many obstacles in the film, which creates a bond of an amazing friendship that the audience is able to see and love. The family situations and dialogue in this movie are relatable and heartwarming as well.

This film was carefully plotted with everything a "Transformers" film would be and more. The creators of this movie did not disappoint! I give this film a 10 out of 10.

# 10/10

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as he fights off Decepticons.

B-127 fled planet Cybertron during the horrendous war that took

Burns. This is the first spinoff from the "Transformers" franchise. "Bumblebee," a science fiction action film set in



# 'Super Smash Bros: Ultimate' features new maps, story, action

by **REECE TURNER**  
Entertainment Editor

It's Friday night. You are slowly grinding your Global Smash Power into the 3 millions, then some filthy Chrom main shows up and completely ruins your winning streak with their lightning-fast reflexes. This is what playing "Super Smash Bros: Ultimate" online looks like for a casual player.

"Super Smash Bros: Ultimate" (SSBU or, Smash: Ultimate) is the latest title of a long-lasting Nintendo franchise, "Super Smash Bros." The game was released on Nintendo Switch on December 7, 2018.

The game holds true to the original concept: Fight as your favorite Nintendo characters. Every installment of the Super Smash Bros. games released through the years has introduced more characters to play as. Some of the characters are very recognizable. For example, in the original

lineup, there are Mario, Yoshi, Fox McCloud, and Kirby. There are also

Pokemon trainer as three separate characters). This adds depth to the game

their map. The "Original" map option plays the selected map as in-

Ultimate" introduces the longest "Story Mode" when compared to past

original lineup of eight characters are playable in any mode. To unlock the remaining 66 characters, it is as simple as "playing the game," because the game tracks how far your selected character travels in ANY mode.

After the required threshold of distance moved is met, you are introduced with a challenger. To unlock the challenger, you must defeat them in a one-on-one battle, or you could play through the story mode and find individual characters lurking around and defeat them there.

Before learning how the system for unlocking characters even works, I was still able to unlock all 76 of them in a SSBU-fueled weekend. I have zero issues with the gameplay, story, or new characters.

The only issue I have had is with online play. About half of the matches I play against other people are plagued with lag and make the match unplayable.

That said, I give "Super Smash Bros: Ultimate" a 9/10.

**9/10**

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more obscure characters, such as Captain Falcon and Ness.

for both casual and professional play. With more options to choose from,

tended. The "Battlefield" map option replaces the map with a standardized, tournament style, with three platforms hovering above one large platform. The Battlefield platforms are usually the same width, height, and distance away from each other. This way, you can play on a map such as "The Great Cave Offensive," which is normally a huge map with multiple levels and many hazards, as a simple battlefield with the same aesthetics as the original. Lastly, an "Omega" map style is the same as the "Battlefield" style, but without the three floating platforms.

I have more than 14 hours in the story mode, which is also known as "World of Light." I am fairly close to completion.

The Story Mode features power-ups called "Spirits" that the player has to unlock. There is more than one way to unlock spirits. But as far as I can tell, playing through the "story mode" is the best way to acquire the highest-ranked spirits. Some spirits give different abilities or boosts to certain stats, while others are fairly useless and can be broken down into a currency to buy better ones.

The Spirit mode is one of the best ways to unlock new characters as well. When you first purchase the game, only the

original concept: Fight as your favorite Nintendo characters. Every



stallment of the Super Smash Bros. games released through the years has introduced more characters to play as. Some of the characters are very recognizable. For example, in the original

What sets "SSBU" apart from the older games is the sheer number of characters to choose from. Nintendo graced their fans with 74 characters (technically 76, if you count

different play styles are rewarded, and sometimes punished as well.

A new feature was introduced in "Super Smash Bros: Ultimate" where the players can choose three different layouts for

"Super Smash Bros:

# 'Dry' captivates, alarms with cautionary tale of water deficiency

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

With the world running low on resources, the threat of running out of water came to fruition in California.

"Dry," Neal Shusterman's latest book, co-written with his son Jarrod Shusterman, explores what would happen if the United States ran out of water.

Like many of Shusterman's books, the story is told from the point of view of multiple characters. That is one

With FEMA's attention focused on a hurricane on the other side of the country, the abrupt decision by Arizona and Nevada to effectively cut off the flow of the Colorado River into Southern California is only a regional story.

"That's what the media's been calling the drought, ever since people got tired of hearing the word drought," Alyssa explains in the book. "Kind of like the way 'global warming' became 'climate change,' and 'war' became 'conflict.' But now they've got a new catchphrase. A new stage in our water

woes. They're calling this the 'Tap-Out.'"

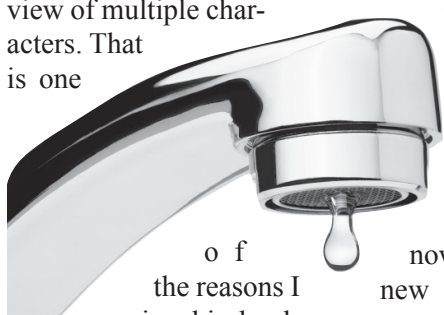
The arduous journey

the course of a few days, the devolution of society makes this gripping

into evacuation camps. But even there, there's not enough water for

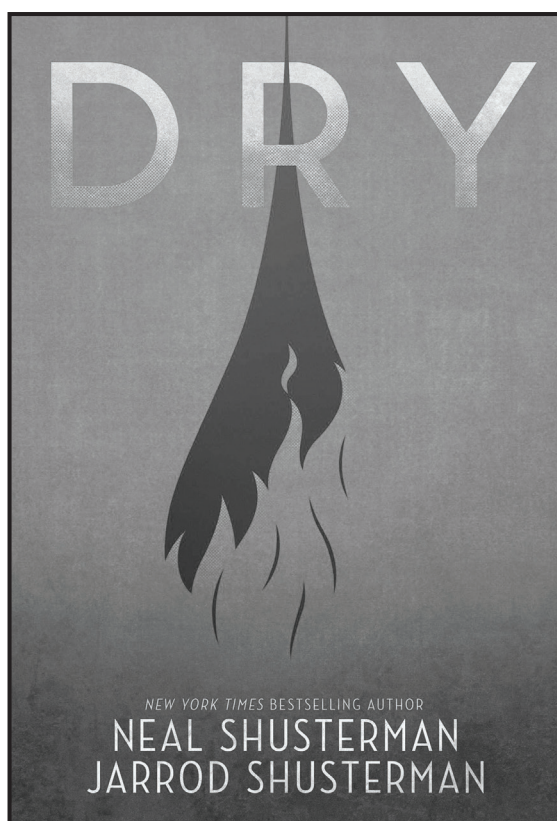
They are quickly forced to make life-or-death decisions for survival, though.

"Dry" is both captivating and alarming. I couldn't put it down the whole time I was reading it. The book shows what may be our society's near and terrifying future. It outlines the perils of rising temperatures. The Shustermans have written a story close enough to what could happen if the world really does begin



You're able to see what's going on from all sides of the story, not just one. "Dry" also includes snapshots of what's happening elsewhere in the story, which foreshadows characters that are seen later in the book.

"Dry" follows Alyssa Morrow, a teenage girl living in California during the extreme drought, nicknamed "the Tap-Out."



of the reasons I enjoy his book.

this book tells begins once Alyssa's parents don't return from seeking desalinated water. Alyssa and her younger brother Garrett begin their journey by searching for their parents, while defending themselves against the chaos that has broken out.

But they are not alone. Along the way, they are joined by their survivalist neighbor, Kelton; a lone wolf, Jacqui; and an opportunist, Henry.

Although their story only takes place during

story seem like a distant future, not something that could happen over night. Things get violent very quickly. Panic leads to riots and death.

Martial law is declared and people are herded

everyone. The more and more desperate people become, safety becomes even more inaccessible.

Alyssa and the others struggle to seek hydration and safety, while trying to wait out the Tap-Out.

to run out of water. I give "Dry" a 10 out of 10.

**10/10**

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February 4, 2019

Plainsman Press

# 'METALACHI' blends heavy metal, mariachi in unforgettable show

by **REECE TURNER**

Entertainment Editor

"METALACHI" is the world's first and only Heavy Metal Mariachi Band.

"METALACHI" plays their music with traditional Mariachi instruments, but to the tune of '80's hair metal bands, with covers from bands such as, Pantera, Metallica and Black Sabbath.

The band members of "METALACHI" originally featured five brothers. Before "METALACHI" was conceived, the brothers were traditional Mariachi players. Through the years, three of the five original band members left the

band to pursue other lifestyles.

Their current lineup includes: Vega De La Rockha, front-man and vocalist; El Cucuy, trum-

Halen, guitarist; Kiko Cane, guitarist; and Warren Moscow, manager.

El Cucuy, the trumpet player and music director for "METALACHI," said, "we're all family here, man"

The brothers had thought it would be fun to learn "Iron Man" by Black Sabbath with their instruments.

One day, while performing



Vega De La Rockha rocks the crowd with his impressive vocal skills. REECE TURNER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

Inspired by the crowd's energy, the original idea for "METALACHI" was soon born.

"METALACHI" has used different instruments through the years. They try to keep things as close as they can to traditional Mariachi while

still being able to play metal that sounds good. On previous albums,

one might have heard a regular violin. But now "Queen" Kyla Vera sports an electric violin that is hooked up to many sound pedals that produce a plethora of different sounds that a regular violin could not make.

"Not all songs lend themselves easily to our instrumentation," El Cucuy said.

"METALACHI" has toured

the country, with their largest fanbase in Texas, especially in the Corpus Christi area.

El Cucuy explained that Lubbock is the first place they ever performed in Texas, so it holds a very special place in the hearts of the band.

"METALACHI" performed in Lubbock on Dec. 2 at the Cactus Theatre. I had the honor of attending the show and interviewing El Cucuy and Vega De La Rockha during intermission. It was a glorious performance. The energy of the band was electric, and the fun I had will keep me talking about "METALACHI" for years to come.

METALACHI was raunchy, heavy, fun, and hilarious all in one package. The show was explicit and beautiful, with eye-catching stage props and bras hanging from microphone stands. "METALACHI" also blends quite a bit of stand-up comedy

into their show between songs.

The stage was Christmas-themed, and even their set list included "Feliz Navidad." The set list also included anything from traditional mariachi to hair metal, including "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen. I couldn't get enough and was excited to see an encore, which "METALACHI" so graciously performed. By the end of the night, almost the entire crowd was standing in front of the stage waving their hands.

"METALACHI" is currently touring the West Coast. To date, they have released three albums, "Uno" "Dos" and "Tres." All of their music can be found on iTunes and Spotify. They also recently released a music video of a "Bohemian Rhapsody" cover on Youtube.

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# 'Bird Box' intrigues audiences with suspense, mystery

by **VICTORIA DE SOUZA**

Editorial Assistant

With a bit of suspense, blindfolds, and a challenging trip down the river, "Bird Box" puts Netflix in the horror movies business.

"Bird Box" is based on a novel by Josh Malerman.

This movie has become an unstoppable success quickly.

Directed by Emmy winner Susanne Bier, "Bird Box" brings to the audience an apoca-

lyptic horror experience during the beginning of global terror-

contact made with the "things" lead people to a self-destructive behavior, such as suicide. The only certainty is if you see them, you will die.

The movie begins with the story of Malorie

Hayes, played by Sandra Bullock, who is blindly

journeying down to a dangerous river hoping to find a safe place for her children (boy, played by Julian Edwards, and girl, played by Vivien Lyra Blair). There are flashbacks throughout the movie that show how they got to the river.

Malorie is a young, talented artist who is having a tough time with feeling connected with her future role as a mother, in the middle of this chaos. During a visit to the doctor, Malorie and her sister, Jessica Hayes, played by Sarah Paulson, find themselves trying to escape uncontrolled violence in the city

and the numerous car accidents that occur after they leave the hospital.

After a violent accident, Malorie finds herself very disoriented in the middle of a crowd of people running. With the help of Tom, played by Trevant Rhodes, they are able to get to a house that

is among the few safer places to stay. Inside the house, Malorie and Tom meet with a group of

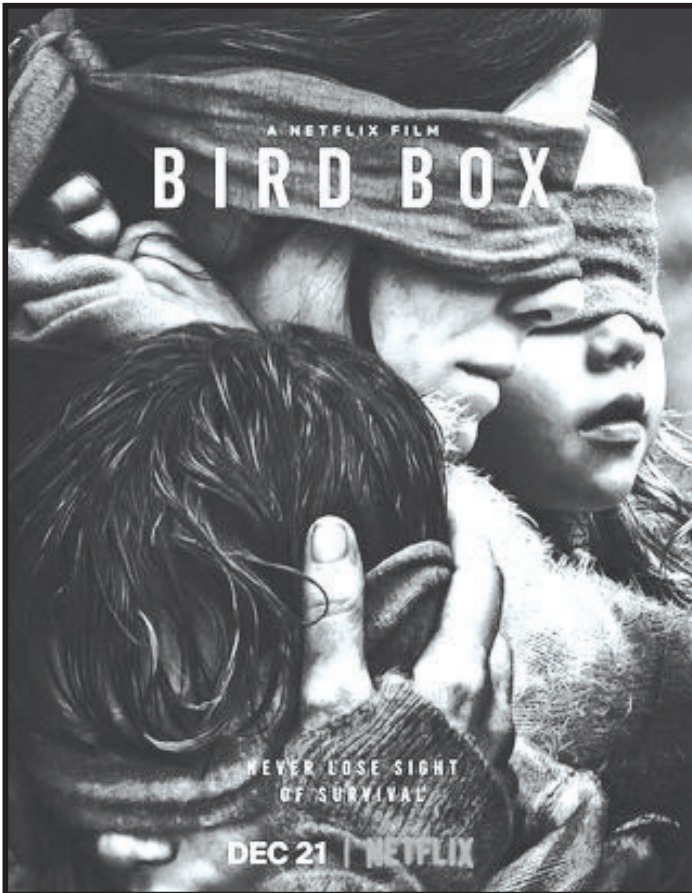
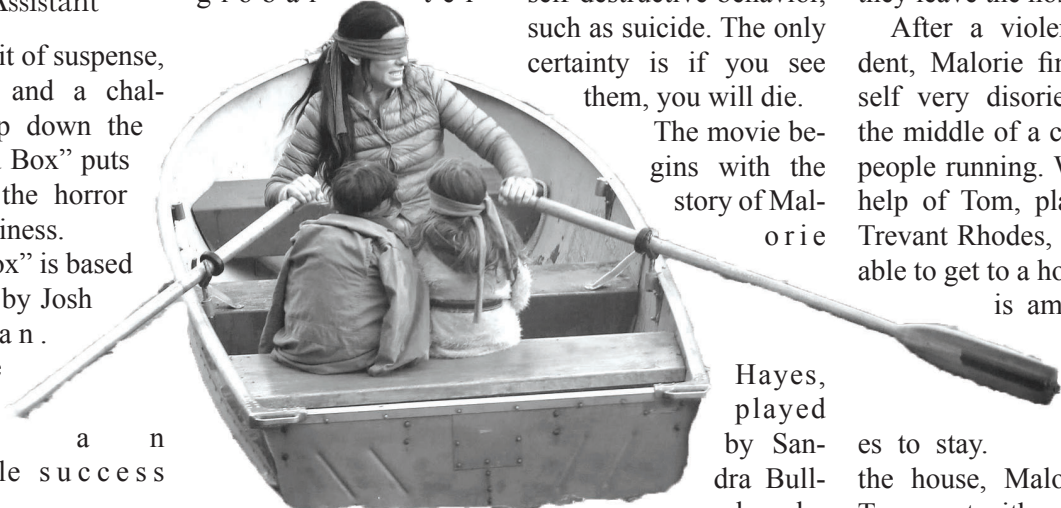
ing one of the senses to hurt people. In this case, they use sight. The idea of these monsters only being able to hurt you if you can see them makes the audience think of the similarities of the two movies.

Something that really got my attention in the movie is how you can see Malorie grow and change. The production of the movie was well done, as they have done a great job of developing this transition of the main

visualized in the movies, which became more interesting in the idea of how they become your worst fear, though they are not seen.

A couple things the movie makers could have done better was if they presented more jump scare moments. At the same time, it is still satisfying the audience with the suspense and chilling tension that is built up during the movie.

Overall, "Bird Box" is a pretty engaging movie



survivors who are trying to keep themselves alive. Following this moment, the focus then shifts to the hard life struggles that Malorie is going through that has pushed her to the edge and into a survival mode.

To some, "Bird Box" may seem similar to the movie "A Quiet Place," because the things are us-

character facing this conflict and overcoming her inability to love and connect.

The action and chills that are presented in the movie are introduced by the macabre way that people commit these suicides. Also, I especially was quite interested that the mysterious things (aka. Evil forces) are not

with a very direct presentation of the story and the development of the characters.

I give "Bird Box" 7 out of 10.

**7/10**

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# 'You' provides window into mind of stalker

by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

A clever bookstore manager relies on his savvy internet know-how to make the woman of his dreams fall in love with him.

To start off the new year, Netflix adds a glossy new drama and thoroughly addictive show, 'You' on the streaming service. Adopted from the psychological thriller novel 'You' by Caroline Kepnes, it is a classic story of boy meets girl, except the boy is actually a deranged stalker.

constantly wondering what is going to happen next.

Joe, the bookstore manager, becomes besotted with aspiring writer, Guinevere Beck, played by Elizabeth Lail, after crossing paths with her. One daunting aspect of the show is seeing how easily and how much he can find out about the object of his desire simply through social media. He doesn't stop there though, and soon he finds himself willing to do anything, including committing murder, to secure a future with Beck.

In the first episode,

episode unfolds, the viewer starts to see just how psychotic he really is.

'You' puts a unique spin on the stalker angle while also throwing light on the way someone conducts themselves on social media and just how exposed someone can be. It also pushes viewers in a morally ambiguous area of actually rooting for Joe and Beck to end up



though Joe is standing very close to her all the time. Kind of like when Clark Kent puts on glasses and no one recognizes him as Superman, Joe puts on a baseball cap and, suddenly, Beck can't see him in a restaurant, on campus, or even when he is standing outside her window.

Originally, I thought the show would be ordinarily far-fetched and a little boring. But with the way it is told, the show is executed perfectly, and viewers are never left bored at the end of an episode.

Joe makes it his mission to become Beck's lover by stalking her and attempting to show her that they can live the perfect life together. Throughout the series, viewers also know what he is thinking through narration as if actually inside his head. It is almost as if he wants viewers to know how sick and twisted his mind is. This is a feature in the show that I really enjoyed. Viewers get to gauge a true understanding of the character and the real reasons behind why he was doing what he was doing.

Many people I know, me included, find the mind of a serial killer to be interesting. They want to know their motives, and this show provides that

opportunity. Joe goes as far as posing as a potential business partner to kidnap Beck's so-called boyfriend, Benji, played by Lou Taylor Pucci.

Joe keeps Benji in the basement under the bookstore he works at, and viewers see that Joe has a decision to make. Because of the show's psychotic mentality, viewers are led to believe that Joe was not a killer and that he may have even let Benji out from the

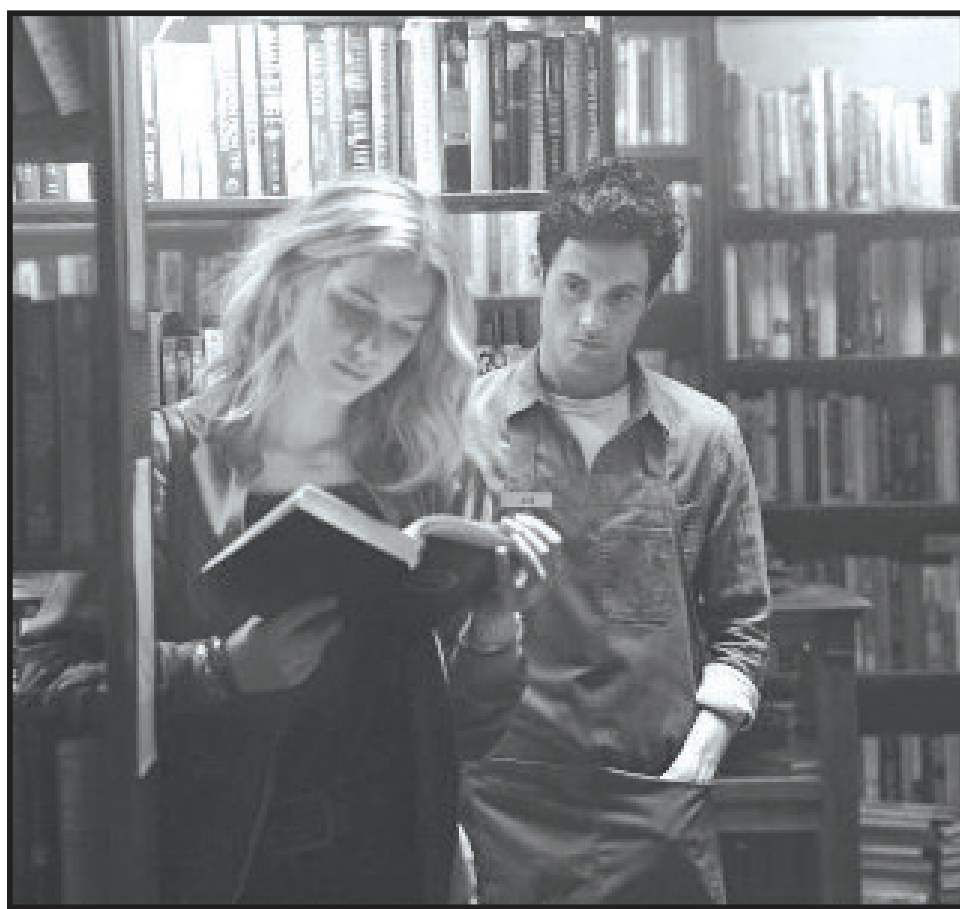
basement. Joe eventually realizes that he may have messed up, but ultimately he decides to murder Benji. That was a major turning point in the show. This is where my whole view of the show changed.

As Joe continues to move closer to Beck, her best friend, Peach Salinger, played by Shay Mitchell, is next on his kill list. From the start, Peach is wary of Joe. As time goes on, Peach tries to convince Beck to leave him. Obviously, Joe does not like that, and he tries to not only kill Peach once, but twice. I was never a fan of Peach to begin with, but in this show, viewers can really feel the weight of each death when they occur. Maybe that is because the show feels very real, and it wasn't an idea that was

results in her cheating on Joe with her therapist.

Near the last few episodes, the show gets to be a little predictable until Beck looks into Joe's ex girlfriend, Candace, who is played by Ambyr Childers. Throughout the show, viewers get the impression that she died. But where she has gone or what actually happened to her remains a mystery until the last episode. Viewers are led to believe that Joe may have killed Candace. That is one thing Joe always did with his victims, use their social media for a bit to make it seem like they are alive.

To me, Joe does not seem like a killer who is extremely smart or really knows exactly what he is doing. But he did, or viewers are led to believe that he did.



This is a story we've all heard before. But this time fans of the show get to see it from the point of view of the stalker, Joe Goldberg, who is played by former 'Gossip Girl' star, Penn Badgley.

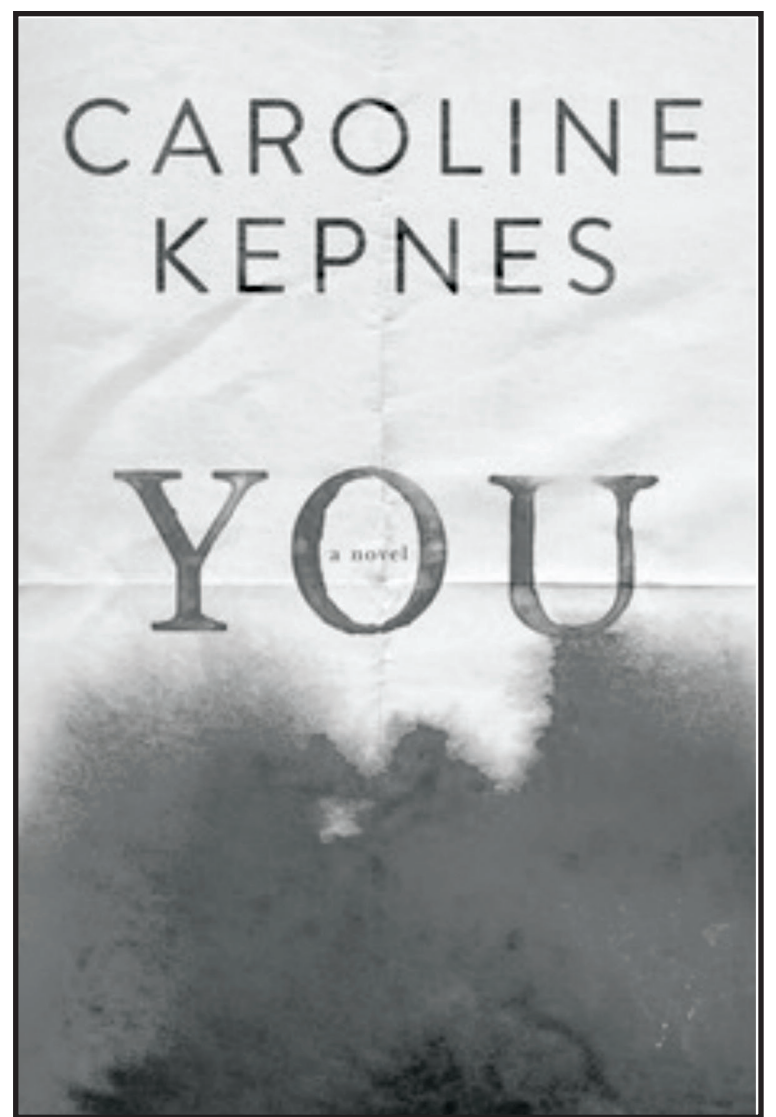
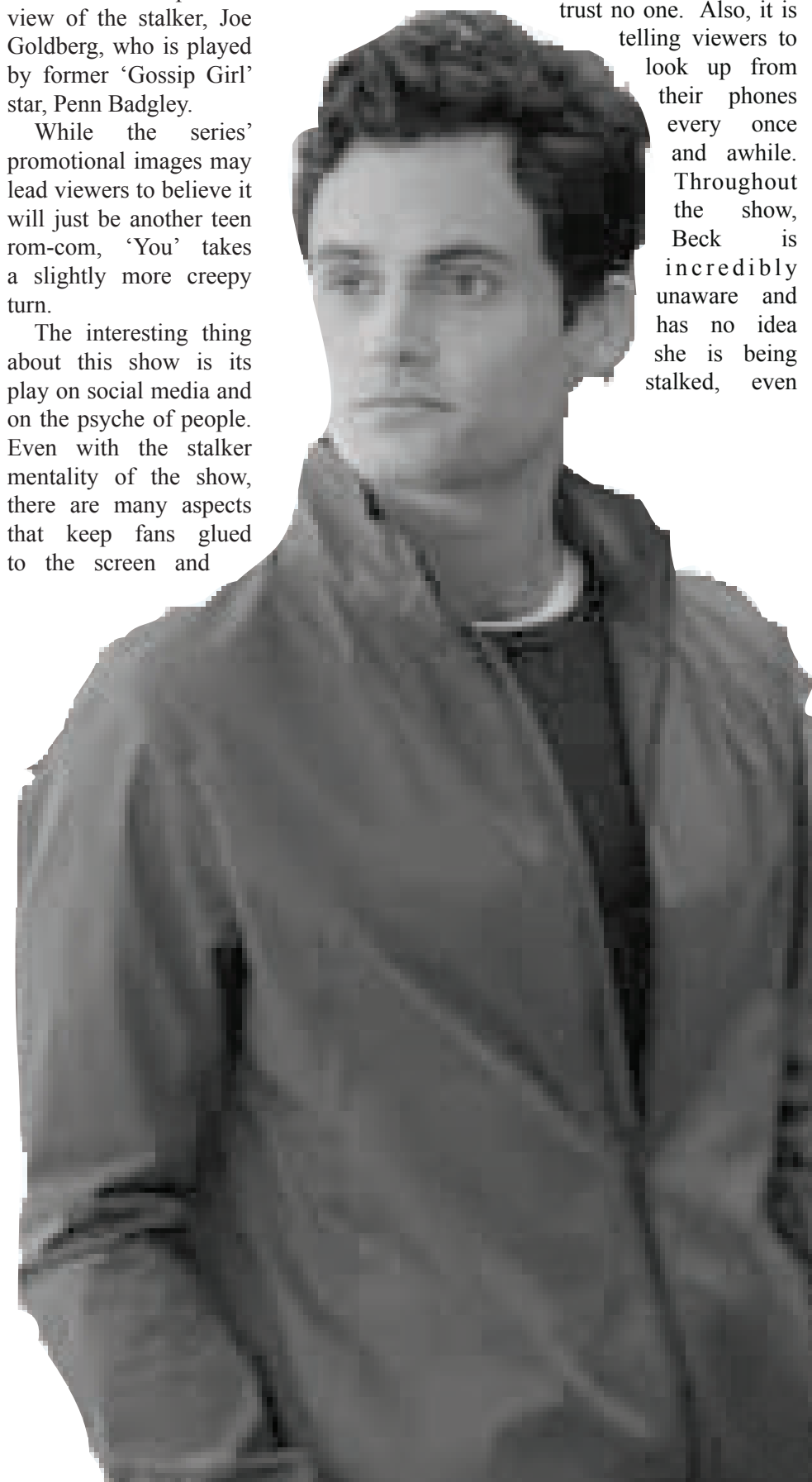
While the series' promotional images may lead viewers to believe it will just be another teen rom-com, 'You' takes a slightly more creepy turn.

The interesting thing about this show is its play on social media and on the psyche of people. Even with the stalker mentality of the show, there are many aspects that keep fans glued to the screen and

I thought Joe was just slightly weird for stalking Beck. However, as the

together, until you realize that Joe is actually crazy.

The more important message of the show is to trust no one. Also, it is telling viewers to look up from their phones every once and awhile. Throughout the show, Beck is incredibly unaware and has no idea she is being stalked, even



too dissimilar to what could potentially occur in everyday life.

With all of his competition and people who are skeptical of him out of the way, this helps Joe to have his chance to live happily ever after with Beck. However, that is not the case.

Their relationship takes a turn for the worse, and even though Joe was loving her unconditionally, Beck started to fall out of love with him. I'm glad they include this in the show and don't just make it a happy-ever-after story. Beck has been through a lot and has some underlying issues. It

I thought the show was fantastic. It took its viewers on a journey with a serial killer, but also provides insight into his mind. The series took me on a rollercoaster of different emotions. At one point, I almost feel bad for Joe when things aren't going his way. It was also very intriguing to see things from the monster's point of view so you know he's not so bad.

I would give 'You' a 10 out of 10.

**10/10**

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# Pelosi refuses to negotiate wall with shutdown weeks away



by **AUSTIN CARTER**  
Editorial Assistant

**H**undreds of thousands of government workers look forward to receiving backpay during a three-week reopening of the government following the longest shutdown in our nation's history.

President Donald Trump stated publicly that both Democrats and Republicans are mostly

ready to reopen the government permanently, leaving people across the country rallying behind the possibility of

Trump and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi reaching an agreement before the shutdown continues. President Trump's speeches about the temporary reopening of the government make it seem like a victory. But Pelosi's statements about his border wall are stubborn as ever, and many Republicans are bashing the president for caving in. Ironically, while many Republicans have recently attacked the president for reopening the government, top members of the party pressured him to reopen due to blame for the shutdown being placed on him in many polls.

Attempting to save face, President Trump has been focusing on the workers affected by the shutdown and the benefits of reopening.

Discussing the budget after reopening reflects what Democrats have been saying since the shutdown began. Trade agreements designed to squeeze money for the wall out of Mexico have yet to be ratified. Polling suggests that public support for the wall has declined since the 2016 election. With Democrats offering money for border security but not the wall, President Trump's promises may lose him the next election.

The government shutdown will resume on February 15 if an

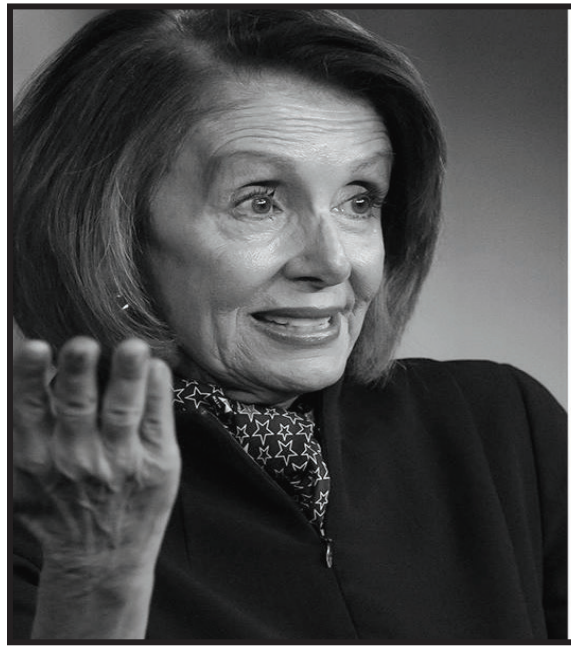
unpopular for President Trump, but with the promises and rhetoric surrounding his plan for the United States/Mexico border, he seems willing to do anything to get funding. President Trump has been hinting for weeks that if the Democrats were to stonewall him with no sign of progress, he could declare a national emergency, allowing him more than 100 special powers, including using military funding to build a defense structure. Polling indicates declaring a na-

tional emergency would be unpopular, but the law allows the president to declare a national emergency at his own discretion.

Democrats have vowed to fight Presi-

some Republicans fear. Pelosi has refused to discuss funding for the wall and rejected the president's offers, often before even hearing them. Pelosi offers a fraction of the almost \$6 billion for border security, not including a wall, and her refusal to allow it into the budget is estimated to have cost the government billions due to the shutdown.

President Trump's wall was a part of his political platform. From his perspective, his hands have been tied on the issue since he was elected. Pelosi should have caved on the issue at the beginning, given President Trump's rhetoric about the border and always insisting on a wall. Pelosi knowingly let the government hemorrhage money—our money, in a bid to erode the president's support.



But his efforts didn't stop #TrumpCaved from becoming the top trend on Twitter.

agreement cannot be made. What will happen after this point is unclear, but acting

ing using military funding to build a defense structure. Polling indicates declaring a na-

dent Trump in the courts if he takes this route to get the wall started. Republicans are split in their support, with many worrying a bad precedent could be set by the president bending the law in his favor.

I believe President Trump will use the National Emergencies Act to start construction, and afterward the government will either have to be reopened or blame will shift to the Democrats. Considering the illegal immigration and drug trafficking that the border facilitates, President Trump has statistics to support this power grab. If his wall proves effective, the unpopularity of how it was constructed may not cost President Trump the 2020 election as

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# Word on the Street

## What are your new year's resolutions?



"To graduate from college I think is one of the main goals for my 2019 resolutions. Graduate college, move out of Levelland, and find a good job. Moving to the Fort Worth, Austin area. I guess other than that, to stay healthy, and keep myself in good shape."

Andrew Moore  
Cyber Security  
Sophomore  
Abilene



"I am not the kind of person to make resolutions, but I guess for goals, to just to do better than I did last year as far as grades and personal loans and everything else."

DeVaughn Coleman  
General Studies  
Sophomore  
Abilene



"Just making it to class on time is really the main thing. It's been hard already. I don't really have too many New Year's resolutions. Just really making it to class on time."

Matthew Perez  
Welding  
Freshman  
Plainview



"Just to get through college. It's really all I want. Before the end of this year, I'm hoping to be married. I need to start drinking less. That's what I'm trying to do."

Nathan Newell  
Computer Science  
Freshman  
Lubbock



"One of my main goals is to get back into working out, lose some weight and just get more into my classes so I could get higher grades, bring up my GPA and just going head on in school."

Ricardo Torres  
Engineering  
Freshman  
Muleshoe



"I would say my resolution would be to do more things with my friends and be out there more. And probably to just get good grades and pass like always. I know I'm going to work out with one of my friends, which is a first. Who knows how that is going to go. Probably just hang out and stuff, nothing too big or anything."

Tracie Boyd  
Theatre  
Sophomore  
Dumas

Compiled by Reece Turner and Rebekah Harvey



# Accents should not cause discrimination



by **VICTORIA DE SOUZA**  
Editorial Assistant

I have noticed how much people can discriminate against

someone because of a way of speaking.

Sometimes it can be because of a lack of contact with other cultures and different people. But one thing is certain, everyone will notice if you are not from the United States by the way you speak, and they will make sure to tell you that.

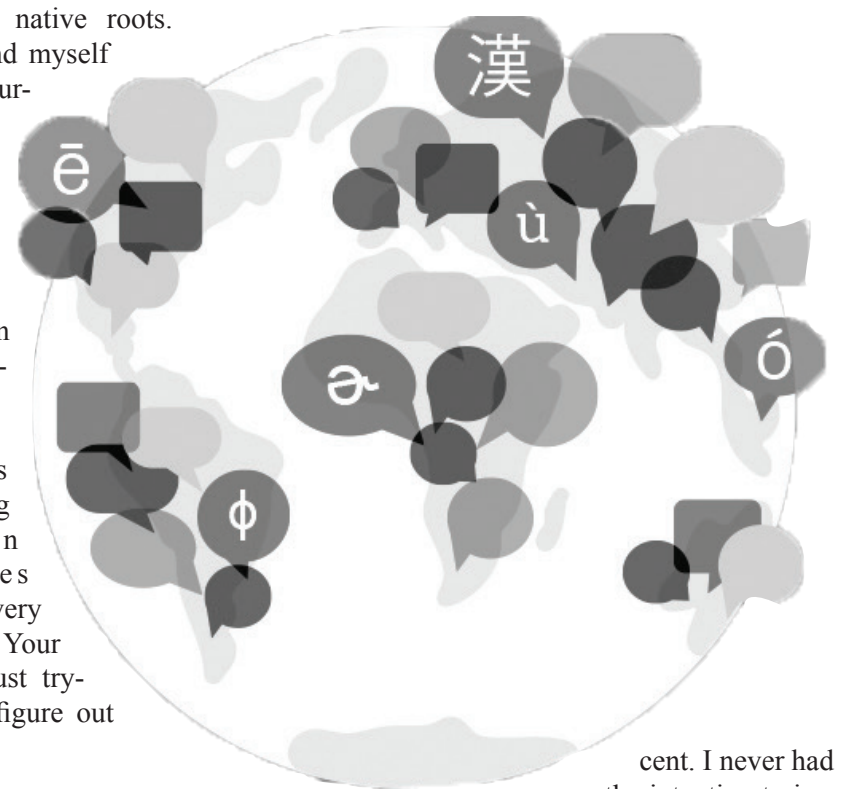
My experience with different accents started in 2013, when I left Brazil to live in Costa Rica. At first, I did not really know it if I had an ac-

cent or not. But when I started to speak more Spanish than Portuguese, people around me started to comment about the way that I speak. The same thing happened when my contact with the English language increased. I come from the northern part of Brazil, where the most visible mix of Portuguese and the Tupi-Guarani language can be found.

I love my accent, and I am proud to be Brazilian. I have pride when talking

about my native roots. But I found myself a bit surprised that someone can notice that I am not American in less than five minutes.

Sometimes navigating between languages can be very tricky. Your brain is just trying to figure out



## Different Viewpoints Do Not Affect Compatability



by **KAITLYN HYDE**  
Photo Editor

The idea of entering into a new relationship can be exciting. But after awhile, situations may occur that aren't so fun to handle.

Being in a new relationship is already confusing enough without having issues with compatibility. A few friends and I worry

boring. The differences between two people are important. Most of us who are looking to be in a relationship want someone who will make up for our own failings, enhance our strengths and enrich our lives. So the saying may be true, that opposites attract, even though some differences may drive you crazy.

No matter who you are with, you will run into some conflict. That is simply part of being in a relationship. Common struggles that come up are conflicts about families, finances and even different friend groups. This can disrupt a relationship, which sometimes ends with more serious consequences.

Thoughtful conversa-

tion simple or more complex, people need to understand that it is not the differences that are the problem, but instead how they are handled.

Talk things over. If you are having a disagreement, it is important to talk it out. Listen to what each other has to say. That means really listen - instead of just waiting for your turn to speak. When it does come to your turn to explain your position, speak calmly and honestly. It may be that, after talking things through, you realize you aren't quite as different as you may have thought.

Another key aspect is to find common ground, or at least try to see where someone is coming from. It can help to better under-

stand how to keep the languages in the correct situation. Many situations can result in a mispronunciation of words.

One interesting fact is that every time that you meet someone, they always comment about how the way you speak is different. I know it sounds silly, but in those situations I cannot avoid feeling very self conscious about the way that

I speak. It feels that they have to mention your accent and how you do not speak 100-percent English. But mispronunciation is part of the process of learning.

Many people would say that it is beautiful to have a foreign accent. But honestly, for a long time, I was ashamed of my accent. I would try pretty hard to hide the fact that I am Latina, just because I did not like to have to handle all those questions and comments that people make.

But let's be honest, it is pretty hard when you come from a different place with a different language. I have traveled a lot and had many different cultural experiences. No matter where I go, or which language I speak, it is going to be hard to hide a thick Latino ac-

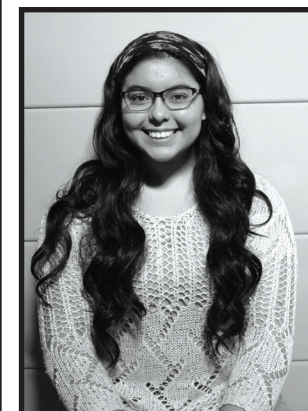
cent. I never had the intention to impress anybody. But trying to speak similarly to an American accent was just an attempt to feel more like you belong to a place.

When I look back, I feel sad. My accent is the little bit that I have with me from my home. In the process of living away from my country, I noticed how much the presentation of my culture in me as a person has been disappearing lately, from the way I dress to my way of speaking.

An accent is the representation of who you are. Sometimes it is better to be different, and my way of speaking does not define what I am capable of.

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## Morning workouts can provide major benefits



by **DANIELLE SALAZAR**  
Staff Writer

Getting your workout done first thing in the morning can benefit your lifestyle in so many ways.

Working out is very beneficial for your health and working out in the morning is even better! Working out can enhance not only your health physically, it can better your health mentally as well.

Working out in the morning starts your day off burning calories. Starting off the day energized after a workout will give you energy to get things done for a productive day. Getting that morning workout out of the way is a great routine to have for many reasons.

Any form of physical activity is good for the body. Your health will definitely benefit from a morning workout. Some major benefits are lower blood pressure, burning more fat, and being more active during the day. Get-

ting that morning workout is really important for losing weight. Working out in the morning burns stored fat instead of burning carbohydrates consumed that day. Targeting the stored fat with your morning workout will give your body better health results than an evening workout.

Exercising in the morning kickstarts your metabolism. Any form of physical activity is a great way to start a healthy lifestyle. Whether your exercise choice is weight lifting, yoga, running or dancing, any form of physical activity in the morning will benefit your health. Many people workout to stay fit and healthy. By completing a morning workout, you might even get results more quickly

workout. Exercising first thing in the morning prevents missing a very important workout. Evening workouts may not give you the results a morning workout would.

Anyone wanting to start living a healthier lifestyle should look into starting a morning workout routine. The results are amazing. Your health will improve; you will even feel better. Having that boost of energy from a morning workout will give you motivation to be more productive and, surprisingly, you will get more things done.

For college students, I highly recommend starting a morning workout routine. It may even improve your grades. Working out in the morning gets your blood pumping, suppling blood to your brain. Having your morning workout completed will allow you to focus on what you need to accomplish for that day.

A morning workout will increase blood flow for the body, especially for the brain, causing endorphins to pump. This increase in focus is very beneficial for college students.

Overall, there are so many benefits from working out in the morning. You simply can't go wrong with starting off your day with a morning workout.

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that being in a relationship with someone with different values or ideas - on, say, religion, politics, or morals - means you may run into some problems farther down the line.

That raises the question of whether incompatible relationships can work. While it is true that having opposite opinions on big subjects can create friction, it's by no means a sign that it cannot be worked out as a couple.

One problem is that people often think of compatibility as similarity. But too much sameness in a relationship can be

tions are more meaningful than just an exchange of ideas. Conversations about issues that matter can help strengthen a relationship to gain understanding and insight into the beliefs of others.

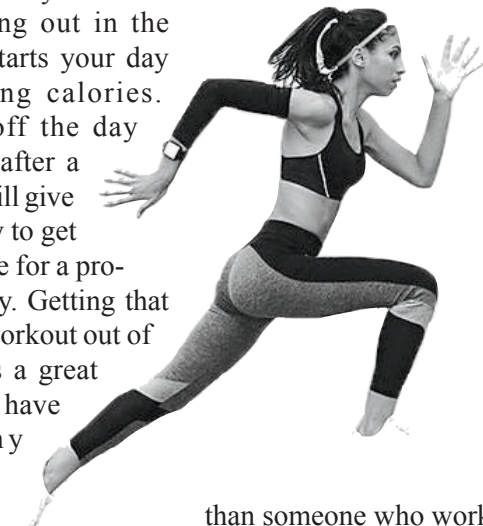
As far as successful relationships go, everyone still has to deal with conflicts that emerge as a result of these differences. It can be helpful to lay out a few basic guidelines that help manage disagreements and move forward.

Recognizing the conflict is a major part of every relationship. Whether the difference is some-

stand your partner's opinion by trying to understand their reasons behind it. Even if your ideas are different, it's likely that you both agree on key things.

Also, know your boundaries. That being said, remember that some things simply can't be changed. Some differences may be deal breakers, but many are simply part of the package of someone who is not the same as you. That may be the parts that are enriching your life and the relationship

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# Texans look toward bouncing back after losses

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

The South Plains College men's basketball team is looking for another playoff run as their successful season continues.

SPC suffered a hard-fought loss against Odessa College in overtime on Jan. 28 at Texan Dome. The 65-64 loss moved the previously No. 1-ranked Texans to No. 5 in the NJCAA Division I national rankings.

With less than a minute left in regulation play, SPC trailed Odessa by six points. A crucial three-pointer from Koray Gilbert brought the Texans to within three, 56-53, with only 32 seconds left on the game clock. Following a foul by Jonah Antonio, Odessa widened the gap to 58-53 after two free throws by Adrean Johnson with only 24 seconds left.

Deon Barrett hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key with just 13 seconds left in the second half, bringing SPC to within two points at 58-56. Christian Wilson fouled Johnson, who failed to connect on the free throw, allowing the Texans one last chance to take the lead.

Gaige Prim floated a hook shot into the net in the last second of the game, tying the score at 58-58 and sending the game into overtime.

SPC opened the extra period with a 4-0 run, capped by a three-pointer from Antonio, to give the Texans a 62-58 lead. Odessa answered and tied

fell short of the basket as time expired, giving the Texans their second loss of the season in Western Junior College Athletic Conference play.

Prim led all scorers with 24 points on 10-for-21 shooting from the floor, to go along with 13 rebounds. Dajour Joseph added 12 points off of the bench on 4-for-7 shooting from the floor.

Barrett and Antonio had nine points each, Barrett hit three of his seven points from the floor and was 3-for-6 from the three-point line, while Antonio was 3-for-8 from the floor and went 3-for-8 from the three-point line.

The Texans shot 41.4 percent from the floor, while out-rebounding Odessa 37-22.

SPC suffered their first loss in WJCAC play on Jan. 24, dropping a 74-72 decision, against Clarendon College in Clarendon. The Texans moved to 17-2 overall and 6-1 in WJCAC action.

Prim led all scorers with 21 points on 9-for-13 shooting from the field. He also pulled down nine rebounds. Orlina added 14 points, hitting six of his nine shots from the floor.

Antonio put up eight points and grabbed eight rebounds, while Trey Wade scored six points. Wilson grabbed nine points off of the bench.

The Texans shot 39.3 percent from the floor and 23.1 percent from the three-point line.

SPC secured an 89-66 victory against Western Texas College,

the field and 3-for-6 shooting from the three-point line.

Charles Jennings grabbed 11 points off of the bench on 5-for-8 shooting from the floor, while Wilson added six points on 2-for-5 shooting from the floor.

The Texans shot 60 percent from the field, while holding WTC to just 45 percent. They

held NMMI to just 37.1 percent shooting from the field. They also out-rebounded the Broncos 35-31.

SPC came away with a 68-62 victory against Howard College on Jan. 7 at Texan Dome, securing their fourth consecutive conference win and improving to 14-1 overall and 3-0 in WJCAC play.

Orlina led the scoring

Antonio and Wade put up six and four points respectively. Gilbert and Charles Jennings added eight points off of the bench.

SPC shot 45.8 percent from the field while holding the Hawks to just 32.3 percent shooting from the field. The Texans also out-rebounded the Hawks 38-27.

The Texans suffered

(75-75) at the end of regulation play.

The Artichokes prevailed in overtime, out-scoring SPC 13-11 and putting a stop to the Texans' 13-game winning streak. SPC moved to 13-1 on the season.

Prim led the scoring for the Texans with 24 points on 10-for-17 shooting from the field to go along with 17 rebounds. Trey Wade netted 23 points on 10-of-18 shooting from the field to go along with six rebounds. Antonio grabbed 15 points, while Orlina put up 12 points.

SPC shot 47.8 percent from the field and grabbed a total of 41 rebounds.

The Texans posted a 72-64 victory against Seward County Community College on Dec. 29 in Mesa, Arizona.

Prim led all scorers with 23 points on 10-for-16 shooting, grabbing 10 rebounds and adding four assists. Orlina added 15 points and 11 rebounds on 5-of-11 shooting. Barrett chipped in 15 points on 4-for-11 shooting, while Trey Wade put up 13 points to go along with 10 rebounds and five assists.

SPC returned to action on Jan. 31 against Midland College. Results were not available at press time.

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Trey Wade putting in a lay up against Howard College on Jan. 28 at Texan Dome

All photos by KENDALL RAINER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

also out-rebounded the Westerners 42-22.

SPC improved to 16-1 overall and 5-0 in the WJCAC after a 77-50 victory against New Mexico Junior College (13-5, 2-2) on Jan. 14 at Texan Dome.

Antonio led all scorers with 21 points, tossing in six of his 14 points from the field and going 6-for-10 from the three-point line. Prim finished with 18 points, shooting 7-for-8 from the field and grabbing four rebounds.

Trey Wade put up 11 points for the Texans, hitting four of his seven shots from the floor. He also picked up nine rebounds. Orlina added 10 points on 4-for-9 shooting from the field.

SPC dismantled New Mexico Military Institute 84-61 on Jan. 10 in Roswell, New Mexico. The Texans improved to 15-1 overall and 4-0 in conference play.

Barrett led the scoring for the Texans with 19 points on 6-of-8 shooting from the field and 5-for-7 shooting from the three-point line. Prim recorded a double-double with 14 points and 15 rebounds.

Trey Wade recorded a double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Wade hit four of his eight shots from the field and went 4-for-6 from the three-point line. Antonio added eight points, while Gilbert added six points off of the bench.

The Texans shot 51 percent from the field and

for the Texans with 19 points on 50 percent shooting from the floor. He also grabbed five rebounds on the defensive end. Prim recorded a double-double with 16 points on 6-for-10 shooting to go along with 11 rebounds.

their first loss of the season on Dec. 31, falling to Scottsdale Community College 88-86 in Scottsdale, Arizona.

SPC was down by two (38-40) beginning the second half. However, the Texans managed to rally and tie the game

## College athletes transferring for chance at NFL career, not education



by **MICHAEL MANGEL**  
Staff Writer

Hope springs eternal, and with the start of the spring semester, we see a lot of familiar faces.

For many college athletes, though, they will be in new places hoping for a better fall semester. College football has come to an end, and there is a new national champion. In a game that featured two young quarterbacks, many are left wondering if this game signaled the changing of the guard to the next powerhouse. I'm left wondering how the new transfers rule is going to affect college football.

Last year, Alabama and Clemson met in the quarterfinals of the playoffs with two very experienced quarterbacks, both of which have transferred. One was a grad transfer from Alabama and has transferred in the traditional sense, as he has graduated with a bachelor's degree and is seeking a graduate school. The other, from Clemson, is transferring under the

new rules that if a student athlete plays less than four games, it does not count against the four years of eligibility.

The Alabama player came in a very crucial time in the Southeastern Conference championship. He saved Alabama's season by coming off the bench late in the fourth quarter to beat Georgia and put Alabama back in the college football playoffs. The other quarterback, the transfer from Clemson, left the university immediately after not being named the starter. The starting quarterback for Clemson was injured in a close game and they could've used him. But he was nowhere to be found because he left the program.

It didn't cost Clemson anything because the Tigers went on to win in overtime. But the question I pose is was either one of these players correct, or were they both wrong?

With 97 players in the transfer portal, we have to question whether players are running away from a challenge, or are they doing what's best for them and their potential NFL career? The transfer portal is what the NCAA uses to let all colleges know that an athlete is leaving the school.

College athletes receive a free education, in exchange for their athletic talents. A very small percentage goes on to play in the NFL.

This means a majority of student athletes need to focus on being a student and what's best for their education. Many students seem to be transferring to give themselves a better chance of being in the NFL. But what does this say about society?

Is it smart for Athletes to transfer when they should stay and fight for the position and except a challenge? The majority of athletes stay and fight for their position. Even if the student athlete loses their starting position, they're still getting a free education, something that many people undervalue these days. The reason I say this is what are these athletes going to do when they get to their job and they're not professional athletes and face adversity? They won't be able to transfer then or pay bills and continue with their day-to-day life.

While the transfers have made college football a relevant news topic more so now than ever, I do believe it is hurting society and student athletes. Once again, I believe the colleges are out to make money more than to help these athletes be better in life. While I don't believe every student athlete should be prevented from transferring, I do think we need to examine more of why college athletes are

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the game at 62 following a 3-pointer from Anthony Johnson with 2:20 to go. Prim knocked down a pair of free throws that put the Texans up by two at 64-62 with 1:58 to go.

Odessa's Adrean Johnson put up a layup and drew a foul, hitting the one-and-one to put the Wranglers up 65-64 with under 20 seconds left. A last-ditch effort by Prim

improving their record to 17-1 overall and 6-0 in conference play, on Jan. 17 in Snyder.

Prim and Trey Wade each scored 23 points in the contest. Prim hit 11 of his 14 shots from the field, while Wade hit nine of his 13 shots from the field and was 2-for-4 from the three-point line. Antonio added 11 points on 4-for-9 shooting from



## Lady Texans earn No. 1 ranking in NJCAA poll

by **MAKAYLA KNEISLEY**  
Staff Writer

The South Plains College women's basketball team has climbed to the top of the NJCAA Division I rankings, clinching the top spot for the first time in program history.

The Lady Texans had won 19 consecutive games prior to their Jan. 31 game at Midland College, sporting with a dazzling 22-1 record overall and a 7-0 record

in Western Junior College Athletic Conference play.

The Lady Texans pushed their way past Odessa College with a 73-64 victory on Jan. 28 at Texan Dome.

Sophomore Gabbie Green sparked the offensive attack with 22 points, making six of her 11 field goals and two three-pointers.

Freshman Sarah Shematsi was not far behind

Green with 20 points. Shematsi went 7-for-17 from the field and was 6-for-11 from the three-point line.

Sophomore Keke Hunter chipped in 17 points, hitting four of her eight shots from the field

chipped in 11 points off the bench, on 4-of-10 shooting and 3-of-9 shooting from behind the three-point arch.

Hunter also scored 11 points on 3-of-7 shooting and making five of her six shots from the charity stripe. Hunter led the Lady Texans in rebounding, grabbing 11. Sophomore Chantel Govan contributed 11 points as well, making all four of the shots from the field, going a 3-for-3 from the three-point line.

SPC crushed Western Texas College, 101-45, on Jan. 17 at the Coliseum in Snyder, Texas.

Freshman Ruth Koang paced the Lady Texans with 21 points off the bench, making seven of her 10 shots from the field and seven of her nine free-throw shots.

She also led the team in rebounds with 12.

Morris also came off the bench to pour in a career-high 20 points, hitting her nine six shots from the field in 27 minutes. She also made six of nine three-point shots and two of her four free-throw shots.

Green added 17 points, hitting six of her 11 shots from the field and all four of her free throw shots.

Green also had five assists, four steals, and two rebounds.

In a showdown between two nationally-ranked teams, the then-fifth-ranked Lady Texans topped then-third-ranked New Mexico Junior College, 66-51, on Jan. 14 at Texan Dome.

Shematsi led SPC with

rebounds and had three assists.

Freshman Caroline Germond followed Green with 13 points, making 5-of-7 shots from the field and three of her four three-point shots. Germond also grabbed five rebounds and had three assists.

SPC resumed WJCAC action with a 72-49 vic-

and two assists. Green had a team-high 22 points, going 10-for-11 from the field.

Romola Dominguez and Morris came off the bench to score in double figures, with Dominguez dropping in 11 points, making four of her seven shots from the field, including three 3-pointers.



Sophomore Gabbie Green driving toward the basket against Odessa College on Jan. 28 at Texan Dome.

All photos by KENDALL RAINER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

20 points, hitting seven of her 12 shots from the field, including six 3-pointers. She also had eight rebounds and three assists.

Green was close behind with 16 points, making six of her 15 shots from the field and four of her six shots from the free-throw line. Green also got four

tory against Howard College on Jan. 7 at Texan Dome.

Germond and Green led the Lady Texans in scoring. Germond tossed in 10 points, hitting four of her six shots from the field, and went 2-for-3 from the three-point line. She also had five steals

She also led the team with five rebounds. Morris contributed 12 points, hitting four of her eight shots from the field, including four 3-pointers.

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## Track teams open indoor season with noteworthy performances at Red Raider Open

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

The South Plains College men's and women's track and field teams kicked off the 2019 indoor season with

in attendance and NCAA Division I athletes.

The meet was held on Jan. 18 at the Sports Performance Center on the campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

In the men's 600-yard run, freshman Moitalel Mpoke placed fifth after

qualifying mark.

In the men's 60-meter dash, former SPC athlete Keion Sutton placed fifth for Texas Tech with a time of 6.75. SPC sophomore Willari Watson was on his heels, placing sixth with a time of 6.76.

In the men's 60-meter hurdles, freshman Devaughn Whymns placed sixth, posting a time of 8.09 and earning a national qualifying mark. Freshman Deion Lightfoot finished seventh with a time of 8.15, also earning a national qualifying mark.

In the men's 3,000-meter run, sophomore Andrew Bosquez placed second, posting a time of 8:38.95, and earning a national qualifying mark. Freshman Alex Kitum also hit a national qualifying mark with a time of 8:59.30, good enough for seventh place.

Sophomore Asani Hylton placed fourth and



South Plains College track and field athletes competing at the Red Raider Open on Jan. 18 at the Sports Performance Center on the campus of Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

All photos by KENDALL RAINER/PLAINSMAN PRESS

posted a national qualifying mark in the men's high jump, clearing the bar at 6 feet, 11 inches. Sophomore Bryson Deberry finished seventh after clearing 6 feet, 7 inches.

In the men's long jump, sophomore Holland Martin placed fifth with a jump of 23 feet, 10 inches, good enough for a national qualifying mark. D'Juan Martin finished eighth, also earning a national qualifying mark, with a jump of 22 feet, 8.5 inches.

Markim Felix earned a national qualifying mark in the men's shot put with

a throw of 51 feet. 5.5 inches, good enough for eighth place.

In the women's long jump, sophomore Ruth Usoro placed sixth with a jump of 19 feet, 10.75 inches, also earning a national qualifying mark.

In the women's 3,000-meter run, freshman Lydia Martinez placed sixth, while freshman Angela Rodriguez placed seventh. Martinez posted a time of 11:28.66, and Rodriguez finished with a time of 11:32.57.

Freshmen Gladys Jemaiyo and Dorcus Ewoi placed sixth and eighth, respectively, in the wom-

men's mile run. Jemaiyo earned a national qualifying mark with a time of 5:16.07, while Ewoi earned a national qualifying mark with a time of 5:20.51.

In the women's 600-yard finals, Janiel Moore earned a national qualifying mark with a time of 1:28.36, finishing 13th.

The teams returned to action on Feb. 1 at the Texas A&M Invitational in College Station. Results were not available at press time.

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multiple top-10 finishes among the 24 colleges

posting a time of 1:11.22, good enough for a national

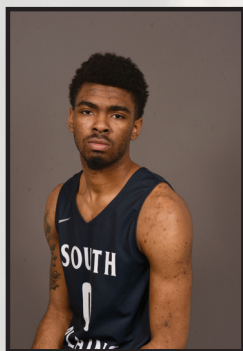


# Meet the Texans

## Texans



Deon Barrett



Koray Gilbert



Gaige Prim



Chris Efretuei



Jamar Ergas



Chris Orlina



Trevin Wade



Dajour Joseph



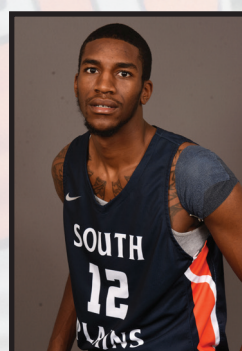
Charles Jennings



Christian Wilson



Trey Wade



Justin Motley



Jonah Antonio

## Lady Texans



Romola Dominguez



Caroline Germond



Ruth Koang



Oceane Robin



Nyah Morris



Chantel Govan



Channel Noah



Keke Hunter



Gabbie Green



Sarah Shematsi



Reilly Dunn