



Hockley County is home to many historical markers that highlight events leading up to its settlement. Read more on page 16!

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New Food Pantry helps students in need.

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Instructor of Cosmetology reflects on lifetime spent at SPC.

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Explore the Solar System in 'Destiny 2.'

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Men's and women's cross country teams secure third consecutive first-place finish.

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Hockley County's hidden history revealed.

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Calendar of Events

Oct. 3

Blue Plate Special performance in the Tom T. Hall at 12:15 p.m.

Oct. 5

Texans Helping Texas fund-raising event at 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 10

Pickin' on the Plains performance in the Tom T. Hall at 12:15 p.m.

Oct 12

Rodeo teams compete at Frank Phillips College.

Board of Regents meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Oct. 14

Lady Texans Basketball at Shalin Hoops Shootout in Frisco

50¢ lunch every Monday and Thursday at the BSM

Worship Service every Wednesday in the Sundown Room from 8 - 9 p.m.

Lubbock Center dishing out new culinary program

by NICOLE LOPEZ
Sports Editor

Rob Blair, dean of Technical Education.
"About two years ago,

"That's when they hired me and Natalie to come out and make it a reality."

in June to create the plans for the culinary program.
"The plans for culinary

cause of the facilities associated with the program
"The closest one that

The smell of success is

in the air as South Plains College plans to offer a new degree program starting next year.

Culinary Technology will be available in the Fall of 2018, with new facilities being built at the Lubbock Center campus.

According to Patrick Ramsey, executive chef, the program was first discussed five years ago by

Title V and some of other funding came through, which became more of a reality," explains Ramsey.

Natalie Osuna, Culinary Arts program developer, says she and Ramsey started working with SPC

have been developed and approved," says Osuna. "So we're just waiting to break ground on this facility and also the course outline. We should be meeting with the advisory committee in a few weeks to have the outline approved."

Osuna says the culinary program is going to be the only program in West Texas of its kind. SPC's program is unique be-

cause we feel that's a step above anywhere else."

Ramsey explains the labs and facilities associated with the culinary program are purpose-based designs, meaning they designed the kitchens and the classrooms to be very representative of real-world experiences.

"We're trying to give them the real-world experience," explains Ramsey, See "Culinary" on pg. 3



3-D Model of Culinary Technology Center courtesy of Patcrick Ramsey

Cleavinger named new dean of students

by AUTUMN BIPPERT
Editorial Assistant

South Plains College recently appointed Dr. Lynne Cleavinger as the replacement for the new dean of students.

Dr. Cleavinger has been serving as the Director of Health and Wellness at SPC, a position she will continue to hold until a replacement is found.

"I have a really, really solid Health and Wellness group," said Dr. Cleavinger. "The Associate Director of Health and Wellness is amazing, which is our nurse. And then I have great clinical staff, and all of the other staff at Health and Wellness do really, really well. I try to work a

little extra and take care of their needs whenever and try to give them whatever they need."

Dr. Cleavinger says that she took this new position to get closer to the student body and work with them more to improve the student body as much as possible.

"I think that, for me, it was an opportunity to be able to work with students in a different way and be involved in a different

way," said Dr. Cleavinger of what intrigued her about the dean position. "Use situations that can be seen as not good, in terms of discipline, to help students get on the right path, to be able to reach their potential and where they want to go."

"It's a different avenue for that, and that was in-

"Dr. DeMerritt had a lot of initiatives and things going," Dean Cleavinger explains. "I want to continue improving every student's life. That's the main thing we want to do. There's some policies and procedures that need to be worked on, that we're continuing to work on. So there are multiple irons in the fire right now"

"As a group with all of students services, we're really wanting to implement the Step Up program," Dean Cleavinger explains.

The Step Up program was developed by The University of Arizona C.A.T.S. Life Skills Program, along with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and national leading experts. The program teaches people about the determinants of pro-social behavior and makes them more aware of

why they sometimes don't help. As a result, they are more likely to help in the future.

"We want to be able to use this to help our students, help our students make good decisions, and protect our students as much as we can," Dr. Cleavinger said.

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Dr. Lynne Cleavinger will serve as both Dean of Students and Health and Wellness director until her former position is filled.
AUTUMN BIPPERT/PLAINSMAN PRESS

teresting to me exciting to me," she adds.

"I think there are so many things that Student Services can do, and this is just one other way for me to be a part of that in a lot of different areas."

With this new position, Dean Cleavinger says she wants to continue with the work that the Students Services office had been doing, and work with all of student services to improve as much as possible.

Landry seeks nomination for state representative

by MATT MOLINAR
Editor-in-Chief

Drew Landry has hit the campaign trail looking to make a change for the future.

In May, Landry, assistant professor of government at South Plains College, announced his candidacy for representative of the 83rd district of Texas, a position that has been occupied by Representative Dustin Burrows since 2014.

An Indiana native, Landry graduated with a bachelor's degree in social studies education from the University of Evansville. After graduating, he found himself teaching at an all-girls treatment facility from 2007 to

2008. He then went on to receive his master's degree in political science from the University of Rhode Island in 2011. In 2012, Landry found his place at SPC doing what he loves most.

With funding that comes mostly from donations and his own pocket, at the heart of his campaign lies Landry's passion for education. He says that as he began to pay attention to what was happening in the state, he decided that

education needed to be emphasized.

"Education has always been on the chopping block," Landry told the Plainsman Press. "That's not right. This is an area where we are



Drew Landry announced his candidacy for office in May.
BRANDI ORTIZ/
PLAINSMAN PRESS

going to mold minds to get a better job, make a better life, and let them become leaders of the next generation."

Landry says that, under current legislation, both students and teachers are getting an unfair deal. This is what sparked his interest in running for office.

"We need to invest in our students' skills and trades," Landry said. "We

See "Education" on pg. 2

October 2, 2017

Plainsman Press

Lubbock Center grand opening celebrates increased opportunity

by **MATT MOLINAR**
Editor-in-Chief

A ceremonial ribbon cutting was held at the new Lubbock Center, officially opening it for the semester.

On Sept. 26, a grand opening and dedication was held for the new facility at its location at 3907 Avenue Q, where they honored partnerships and contributors to the success of the Lubbock Center.

After an Introduction given by Kevin McConic, executive director of the Lubbock Center, Dr. Robin Satterwhite, president of South Plains College, gave acknowledgements and showed gratitude toward the Lubbock Center's Partners in Education. Contributors of the Partners in Education include the Helen Jones Foundation, the CH Foundation, and the Lubbock Economic Development Alliance.

"We are particularly grateful for those who helped fund this," Dr. Satterwhite said. "This is the perfect demonstration, I believe, of private industries and public organizations coming together

to meet the needs of our students, our community

enue Q, SPC's Lubbock enrollment number has

do for the good of the community. Opportunity

Lubbock, pointed out that the biggest challenge regarding economic development has been the preparation of the city's work force. He stated during the dedication that the location of the new center provides hope for certain members of the Lubbock community. "There are a lot of teenage men and women that live within a mile of this new center," Pope remarked with passion

great job. Many of them have no desire to go to Texas Tech University. They need two years of really good work-force training. This is critical to our community."

McConic says the five-year plan for the Lubbock Center is to continue growing Lubbock's work force.

"We want to make sure that the business need is met in our community," McConic told the Plainsman Press. "We want to grow what core classes we teach here. We also want to make sure to give opportunity to traditional and non-traditional students. Whatever we can do to build the work force in Lubbock."



Mike Box and Tim Collins cut the ceremonial ribbon, officially opening the Lubbock Center on Sept. 26.

TOVI OYERVIDEZ/PLAINSMAN PRESS

and our employers in the city of Lubbock."

Dr. Satterwhite also thanked Dr. Kelvin Sharp, former president of SPC, for his vision for the Lubbock Center and other contributions to the college.

South Plains College has a 45-year history with Lubbock education and work-force development. Beginning with a vocational nursing program in a small facility on Av-

increased from 550 students to 3,400 students. Through the years, SPC administration and staff have worked along with businesses to develop education in a growing community.

"That is what West Texans do," said Mike Box, chairman of the Board of Regents at SPC. "We work together to bring change and opportunity. This is a shining example of what we can

changes everything."

Dan Pope, mayor of

during the dedication. "They need a path to a

Education top priority for Landry

Continued from pg. 1

need to invest in our students' skills and trades," Landry said. "We also need to make sure that if you want to go to college, that you're college ready. What we're doing now is producing very good test takers through standardized testing. We have to end that and let teachers teach their subject and give students a quality education."

According to Landry, public schools in Texas are funded through property taxes. Approximately 60 percent of property taxes will go to education. He says the complicated process of funding schools needs to be simplified.

"Here's the reason schools need your property tax," he began to explain. "When the Legislature spends less and less on education, schools have to make up for that. Localities make up for that with your property taxes. You will end up paying more than you were previously. That affects those who rent, because rent goes up. Mortgage rates and appraisals go up."

Landry says after the election of President Donald Trump, the idea of running for representative had settled.

"It was brewing in my head," Landry said. "Then, in January, the Lubbock County democratic chair, Stewart Williams, called me and sug-

gested that I do this, and around spring break, I said I was going to do this full on."

Landry says the biggest complication he has faced in West Texas is running for office as a Democrat.

"It's not so much that people turn you down," Landry explained. "It's hard getting access to people. Trying to get on the media. I've had them tell me, 'Well, this is a conservative area. That's our market.'"

However, Landry says that once he begins speaking with Republicans on issues regarding education and property taxes, they become less interested in the fact that he is a democratic candidate.

According to Landry, the campaigning he has been able to do thus far involves town meetings, phone banking, and social gatherings where he sometimes is given the opportunity to speak about his campaign.

When Landry is on the SPC campus, he strictly focuses on his job as a professor. When he leaves campus is when he begins campaigning.

"I have every intention to teach the material in an academic and professional manner," Landry said. "I have no intention to campaign to anybody while I'm professor Landry. However, while I'm off campus, I will take that opportunity as it presents itself."

Landry says that while his opponent, Burrows,

was ranting to constituents about a failed bill he funded that would ban state-funded travel to California, he issued a response stating that there were bigger issues to worry about.

"We have a water situation that needed to be discussed 40 years ago," Landry said. "We have schools that don't have enough funding. Our roads are crumbling, and we're trying to figure out what to do with wind and solar energy, and you're concerned about banning state travel to California. You're wasting time to do a moral quest and personal vendetta on California."

According to Landry, he has learned during his campaign that farmers have growing concerns about water, along with other resources. He says that the benefits of solar and wind energy go beyond the environment.

"The benefits of clean energy are more resources for the country, and more money for the farmer," Landry explained. "Once you start talking about aspects of everyday life, people will start to understand why there are so many wind turbines out in Gale, and Snyder counties. They're bringing us resources. And that is what my campaign is about. Knowing the difference."

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Board of Regents discuss new administrators, culinary program

by **TYLER YORK**
Editor-in-Chief

A new dean and vice president, Lubbock Center construction progress, and details on the upcoming Culinary Arts program were among the topics discussed during the September meeting of the South Plains College Board of Regents.

Dr. Stan DeMerritt—who served, up until recently—as the Dean of Students, was introduced to the Board as the new vice president for student affairs. Prior to his arrival at SPC, he worked as the registrar at Wayland Baptist University before serving as assistant vice president of academic Affairs.

Dr. DeMerritt then announced that a new dean of students has been hired to fill his previous post. Dr. Lynne Cleavinger, who currently holds the position of director of student health and wellness at SPC, will assume the new position on Sept. 15.

This announcement means the search has begun for a new director

for student health and wellness, though Dr. Cleavinger will temporarily be holding both positions until a new director is hired.

"She really truly believes in the mission of the college and the way that I'm trying to move our department," Dr. Demeritt said of Dr. Cleavinger. "And that's by the Golden Rule. It's 'treat others the way we want to be treated,' not 'treat others the way we have been treated.'"

Dr. Ryan Gibbs, vice president of academic affairs, also presented to the Board a 3-D model flythrough of the new Culinary Arts facility, which will be housed in the new Lubbock Center campus. It is expected to be finished in 2018.

"This is a perfect environment to start teaching these students what it's going to be like in the real world when they get out in a professional kitchen," said Dr. Gibbs. "There's not another one that will rival what we have."

The state-of-the-art

space includes four hands-on baking labs and a meat cutting lab. Other features include smart projector walls that can be easily written on and washed, a storefront bistro where students can sell the food they make in their classes, and open walls and glass panels that allow students to see nearly all the way through the building.

"Our consultant who designed this for us, he calls it the 'theatre of food,'" said Dr. Gibbs about the open nature of the floor plan. "And cooking is an art form."

Dr. Robin Satterwhite, president of South Plains College, reported that the Lubbock Center ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of the campus is slated for Sept. 26, 2017, beginning at 10 a.m. The entire project, when completed, is expected to come in around \$200,000 under budget, out of a total of \$2.1 million donated for the project.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

New campus food pantries open for students, faculty

by **BRANDI ORTIZ**
News Editor

A new resource at South Plains College could help students and faculty in need of emergency groceries.

The Food Pantry, located inside Room 101 in the PE Complex on the Levelland campus and in Building 8 at the Reese Center campus, contains some food staples such as cereal, peanut butter, rice, pasta, and canned items, along with hygiene items and baby items.

“Most everything we have is to help students through emergency-type situations,” said Dee Dee Odorizzi, director of the Physical Education Complex. “[The pantry has] mostly convenience food, ‘heat-and-eat’, not always nutritious, but we always try to keep some canned meat, chicken, tuna, some peanut butter, things that have a little bit of protein to provide.”

Odorizzi said the main reason for opening the new pantry was to assist students, faculty and staff members who may struggle to feed themselves or

their families. According to Odorizzi, some students who stay on campus during the summer also have issues, since the dining

since the beginning of the summer.

Katherine Perez, assistant dean of students, Dr. Lynn Cleavinger, director

are kicked out, told good luck to you and many of those students end up going to college because their room and board and

where else to go. So, I kinda have a calling to try and help those students. And through conversation with Katherine Perez, it

will fill out an intake form upon arrival.

“We are not here to provide people free groceries for an eternity,” said Odorizzi. “This is meant to be on emergency-type basis. If we see someone is coming to the pantry fairly regularly, then we might need to refer them to more permanent resources, get them on food stamps or try to help with employment or counseling. The need may go beyond the emergency pantry we have.”

The SPC Food Pantry is supplied through donations. To make a donation for the Levelland campus, contact Odorizzi or make a donation drop-off at the Dean of Students Office or PE Complex office, rooms 103 or 105. For the Reese Center, donations can go to Building 8 or call (806) 716-4615 or 716-4600.

“I want students to feel like they don’t have to be embarrassed to go ask for help,” Odorizzi said. “Any one of us are a paycheck away from needing help. If you are going hungry and you are living on nothing but Ramen noodles, you need to come see us. It does not have to be that way. We have plenty of donations, and we are more than happy to help. You can’t study or be successful in college if you are hungry.”



The Food Pantry, located on both the Levelland and Reese Center campus, is currently open to all students and faculty of SPC. **TOVI OYERVIDEZ/PLAINSMAN PRESS**

Culinary program essential to growing Lubbock community

Continued from pg. 1

“an education that will enable them to do better in the real world. We’re exposing them to the noise when cooking and all the good things that go around in the kitchen.”

According to Osuna, SPC and the surrounding areas of Lubbock are excited about the program. She also points out it is necessary and very much in demand because of all the restaurants in the region.

Ramsey says that as Lubbock hits the 250,000 mark in population, that’s a benchmark for hotels, restaurants and food chains.

“As Texas Tech starts to grow, and the community gets bigger and bigger, and with the chain restaurants, the culinary degrees are going to exist here,” explains Ramsey. “It’s going to grow exponentially.”

Ramsey explains the culinary program won’t be focusing on just cooking. Even though the program is focused on culinary, it’s also geared to give students a good career.

“They will be walking out with

a degree that no one can take away from them,” says Ramsey. “But also besides the cooking arts and stuff, we’ll be exposing them to all aspects, such as looking for jobs in the culinary arts program from management to grocery stores, bakeries and wedding cake designs.”

The culinary program will be taking students from an entry-level position and taking them through the culinary technology they need to receive their certificate. The degree plan will offer a basic certificate after two semesters are completed and an advanced certificate after four semesters.

“Of course, if a student wants to get their core courses accomplished as well, that

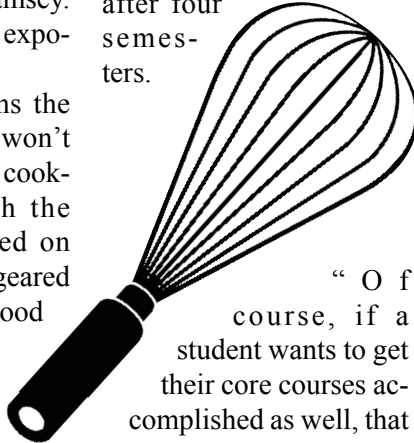
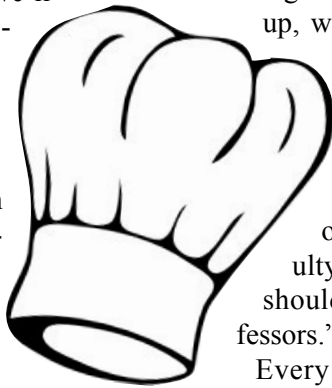
will result in an associate’s degree of applied science,” explains Osuna. “Patrick and I will be teaching. When we start up, we foresee hiring another person.

But as the program develops, our whole faculty for culinary should be six professors.”

Every fall, 48 students will be accepted into the program, with a student-to-professor ratio of 16-to-1.

“When these kids get out of here their second year, they’ll have a pretty good tool box to continue on in the culinary field and pursue a career job,” says Ramsey. “We also want to enlighten them in the other aspects that exist out there in the food industry. Nobody is going to be a chef when they come out of the courses. Nobody is a chef when they get out of any culinary school, despite what they think. They can choose to take their career at any path that they want.”

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tuition are paid for. They are not here because they are prepared to go to college. They are here because they don’t know

Center’s food pantry is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students do not need an ID to use the pantry but

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Decorated office gets 'reaction' from chemistry students

by ADÁN RUBIO
Staff Writer

Posters, banners, pennants, bumper stickers, and sports memorabilia are all items one may find at a sporting goods store or a gift shop.

But in the Science Building on the Level-land campus of South Plains College, the office of Timothy Werenko has these items everywhere. To some people, these collectibles may appear to be just a way to express his hobbies. For Werenko, they depict his life-long experiences and diverse interests.

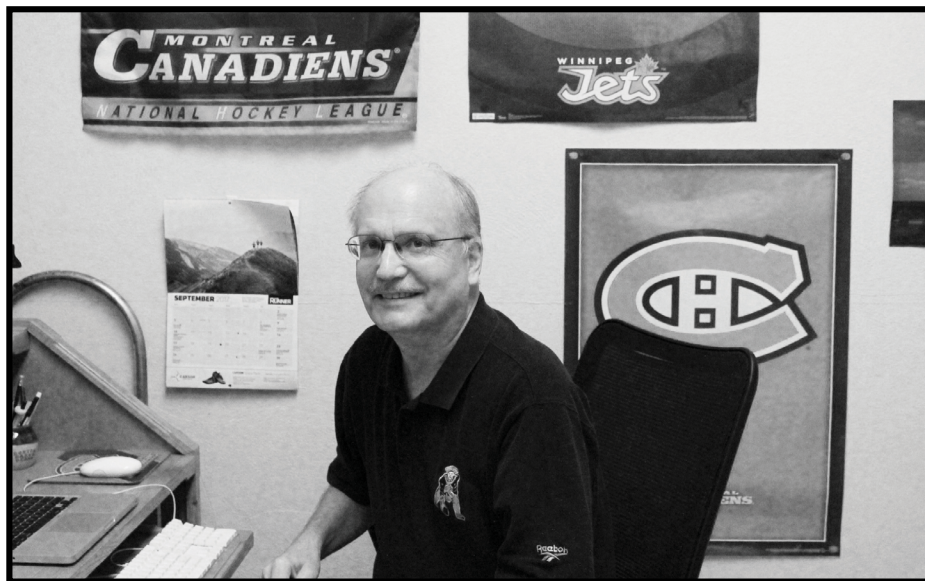
Werenko, professor of chemistry, graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Wesleyan University in Connecticut

expenses paid so he could get his graduate degree in chemistry and teach at the Air Force Academy. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1989, and he began teaching at the Air Force Academy in Colorado for four years. It was not until 1993 that Werenko accepted an offer to teach chemistry at SPC.

"I found that I enjoyed teaching chemistry," said Werenko. "SPC was the first place that gave me a solid offer."

Teaching is not the only thing Werenko enjoys. From taking a few glances around his office, it is very clear that he has many sentiments toward his past and has a variety of interests.

In just one corner of his room, there are banners that signify his alma



Professor Timothy Werenko sitting in his office.
AUTUMN BIPPERT/ PLAINSMAN PRESS

are from his travels, and they are representative of what he has been through and accomplished.

"When I was in the Air Force, I moved around a lot," said Werenko. "People start giving you things."

There are a lot of collectibles that represent Werenko's past, but there are even more that represent his hobbies. The office has its fair share of movie posters, books, and souvenirs from other cities and events, though the main theme that stands

out in the room is sports.

Sports teams, advertisements, and bumper stickers are only a few things in the office that Werenko listed that express his love

for sports. He has everything from pennants that are from his alma maters, to trinkets, such as miniature football helmets, stickers, and magnets, that represent his favorite teams. One thing that is for certain is that the room expresses a variety of interests.

"It's not just focused on one particular thing," said Werenko. "I'm not sure there is a theme."

Despite the number of collectibles that he obtained through past experiences, Werenko said he had no plan in accumulating these items.

Everything in the office is simply a reminder of the experiences he has gone through as a student of chemistry or as an Air Force captain. Werenko explained that his office environment is some-

thing that "developed with time," and it is nothing more than a depiction of himself.

"An office is a reflection of yourself in some way," said Werenko, "the pride you take in what you do, the pride you take in where you work."

Whatever the reason for this unique setting, Werenko spends a majority of his time in his office.

"A lot of times, an office is just where somebody does their work," said Werenko, "might as well be a nice environment to work in."

This need for a comfortable work environment is something he strives for himself and for his

students. He said that he hopes students can come and feel relaxed in his office while also taking an interest in the many collectibles.

He may be a chemistry professor, but chemistry is not the only point of conversation he presents in this unique office.

"You won't find another one like this on campus," said Werenko.

Whether it is the history behind each item or the sentimental value, a specific piece of Werenko can be found within everything in the room. He explained how this place where he works is more than just an office, but an extension of his personality. Usually an environment affects the person, but in this case Werenko said he affected the setting.



"I have a life outside of here, and I guess I brought some of that in here," said Werenko. "I hope when people come in they enjoy what they see."

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in 1980 and later joined the Air Force in 1981. During his time as an officer, the Air Force offered to send Werenko to graduate school with all

maters. There are even a few posters that portray Werenko's time at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. Werenko explained how these few mementos

Student shares experience of Harvey aftermath

by NICOLE LOPEZ
Sports Editor

Flooded streets and cars underwater were among the sights a South Plains College student saw after Hurricane Harvey hit Houston.

Victor Madrid joined the National Guard in February 2014. He says the reason why he joined was because his friend wanted him to.

"I did it because he was a really good friend, and I didn't want him to do it alone," says Madrid.

The Friday before Hurricane Harvey hit, the National Guard was asking for volunteers, so Madrid decided he wanted to do it. But, he ended up changing his mind because he didn't want to fall behind in school.

"I changed my mind because school was about to start," explains Madrid. "But that Monday, on the first day of school, they told me everyone was activated to go. So I had to tell my professors

that I would be going to Houston."

Madrid and his company flew out of Lubbock and landed at Camp Swift in Oklahoma. They qualified for weapons again before going to Houston.

"The flooding was pretty bad," explains Victor Madrid. "Before we went, we had to put a piece of tape on our vehicles which indicated if the water passed the tape you were at risk for flooding your vehicle, and it easily passed that. The flooding was able to reach the top of a RV."

Madrid explains the National Guard separated the companies into two. He went to Katy and Houston, while the other company went to patrol in Beaumont and Vidor.

"Our main thing was security and patrol," says Madrid. "They already had enough people doing aid and help. We went there to stop looters and show presence of power. We went there and



Victor Madrid recently came back from patrolling the city of Houston and surrounding area after Hurricane Harvey.
THALIA GONZALEZ/ PLAINSMAN PRESS

showed that even though we're [in Houston] helping, you still have to follow the rules."

According to Madrid, the parts of the city of Houston weren't

affected. However, the little towns surrounding Houston were affected because they were closer to the water.

"Beaumont didn't have any running water and electricity for two weeks," recalls Madrid. "There was also a chemical plant that was on the verge of exploding because of the flooding.

The hurricane knocked out the generators and the backup generators, and the chemicals needed to be a certain temperature. Since the generators weren't working, they couldn't keep it sustained."

Madrid spent two weeks in Houston. He says the National Guard decided to send the college students home, which is why he returned. However, the majority of the National Guard members stayed.

Madrid signed an eight-year contract with the National Guard, and he is currently serving his third year as a 68 Whiskey, which, in civilian terms, means he is a combat medic.

"I actually didn't want to be a medic," says Madrid. "I wanted to be infantry with my friend. They told me I couldn't be infantry because my ASVAB score was too high, and they didn't want to waste a high score on a basic infantryman. So, they started listing other jobs that were available, so I chose medic."

According to Madrid, to be a medic you have to be EMT certified. The

EMT course training is done in basic training, a six-month course compacted into six weeks.

"Being a medic has its ups and downs," says Madrid. "Basically, we just take care of the infantry guys. I remember plenty of nights where I had to stay up past 3 a.m. just helping guys. It just depends on the injury."

Born in Portales, New Mexico, Madrid moved to Amherst with his family in 2010 and graduated from Amherst High School in 2013. In the fall of 2013, he enrolled at SPC to start his basics.

Madrid says he hopes to graduate from SPC in December, with plans to attend Texas Tech University to pursue a bachelor's degree in psychology.

"It's just something about talking to people that I really like," explains Madrid. "My plan is to go into forensic or clinical psychology, depending on what career path I choose."

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Daily Lunch Specials

Museum of Texas Tech displays powerful Holocaust Liberation exhibit

by **RILEY GOLDEN**
Entertainment Editor

When American forces liberated concentration camps, they saw the worst that humanity could do to each other. Many of the Texas Liberators haven't talked about their experiences until now.

Texas soldiers took part in liberating five concentration camps in April 1945. In August, the Museum of Texas Tech University began featuring the Texas Liberators, a project that features Texas veterans' personal experiences of liberating concentration camps.

The exhibit will be on display through Dec. 3. There's also a companion smartphone application and book.

"It's a three-part program," said Daniel Tyler, the marketing & communications coordinator for the Museum of Texas Tech, "that the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission have been working on for a few years now. Their goal is to bring more Holocaust education to high schoolers across the state."

The Texas Holocaust

and Genocide Commission was founded in 2009 by Senate Bill 482. Since then, the THGC has devoted its resources and expertise to the education of students and teachers to better recognize the elements of bigotry and hatred.

"The app is a more interactive way for kids to engage with the education," said Tyler. "Then there's the exhibit part, which [The Museum of Texas Tech] has. And there's also a book ['The Texas Liberators: Veteran Narratives from World War II'] being published later this year. The book is more for everybody, and the app is more geared towards high school students."

As attendees approach the exhibit, they are

greeted by a display of antique furniture that reads: "The Texas Liberator, Witness to the Holocaust."

The south and west walls display a timeline that provides "an overview of the Holocaust and the context of World War II."

But as you pass the wall where the furniture is displayed, you're paralyzed for a moment.

"These freestanding panels are based on the actual personal experiences of some of the Liberators," said Tyler. "The Liberators are guys from Texas who were soldiers in World War II, and they were a part of the groups that went into Europe and liberated concentration camps."

Each panel has three sides that display either a recent photo of the veteran, or a photo of their time in the service, and each photo is accompanied by a name and quotes about that veteran's experience.

The first panel that catches your eye is of J.

Ted Hartman, and it reads as follows:

"We were moving along, gaining ground. All of a sudden, these people started showing up in strange-looking clothes, and we couldn't

in the road and getting in the way.

"They just kept – more and more intensely coming," it continues. "We'd find some of them lying in the ditches along the road. And then, over the

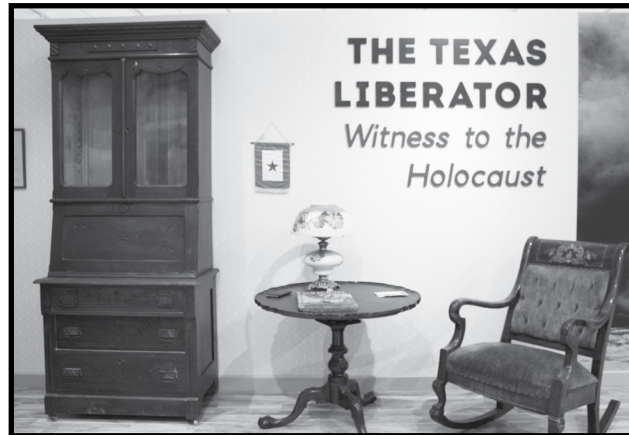
"I had never seen anything like that. I couldn't understand. Some of them had their buddies with them. One of them was taking care of his buddy over on the side of the road. He wouldn't leave his buddy who, I gathered, was dying. It was just all sorts of little scenes, many scenes along the way."

According to Tyler, the entire project has been based on the oral accounts of the veterans' experiences.

"It's a really personal take on the whole Holocaust story," said Tyler, "which is unique. A lot of them during this project, during their interviews, it's the first time they'd ever really talked about it."

Dr. Eliza Wong, a professor of history at the Texas Tech Honors College, collaborated with the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission and the Oral History Institute at Baylor to organize the Texas Liberators exhibit.

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Many of the Texas Liberators have not talked about their experiences until now.

MATT MOLINAR/PLAINSMAN PRESS

figure out what they were because we'd never seen anybody that had been in a concentration camp at that point. They started showing up in these stripes, broad stripes. No one had ever told us – I'm not sure anybody knew to tell us – about the concentration camps. We started seeing these people coming out from the trees, from the woods, and then getting

radio they told us that they had just found out that these prisoners had been released from a concentration camp... It was Buchenwald... They had been released to get in our way and to slow our path, slow us down. They did slow us down, but they would stop us and kiss the front of a tank, or they'd salute us. It was – I couldn't help but cry myself.

Cosmetology professor, family has seen college grow from start

by **NICOLE LOPEZ**
Sports Editor

[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.]

It is rare to get to see a college grow from the beginning.

But for Sarah Thompson, instructor in cosmetology, her and her family has been part of South Plains College from the start.

Thompson and her family have SPC running through their veins. Thompson's parents, James and Sycily Lattimore, built their first home on Linda Lane, the first street past the college to the south.

"SPC used to be just a pasture," recalls Thompson. "Whenever they built that home, College Avenue was just a dirt road."

Her mom was a faculty member at SPC for more than 30 years, and her dad provided most of the trees that are on the campus.

"My dad had a tree nursery, so I helped him plant a lot of the trees we have around the campus," recalls Thompson. "I spent every waking moment on the campus. When my mom first became a faculty member, we would have Christmas parties, and I knew

everyone. I called everyone by their first names. We were all a family"

Thompson has lived in Levelland all her life. She went through grade school up until she graduated from Levelland High School. She also married her high school sweetheart and has been in town ever since.

However, Thompson's initial profession was not cosmetology. She had

way through college, or be here to help with him."

Thompson graduated from high school when she was 17 years old and received her cosmetology license before graduating. She attended SPC in the fall of 1978 through 1982, taking night classes for her basics and business courses.

"After I had family and whenever I had my parents to take care of, I decided

to own two salons," says Thompson. "I had one shop called the Clipper. I worked my first year for a lady who was a wonderful mentor to me. After I worked for her for a year, another lady and I went into partnership, which was the Clipper. The first year that I worked at the Clipper, I was trained

in electrolysis, which is permanent hair removal. I sold the Clipper, and I had that one for 14 years."

Thompson needed a little more privacy for her clients, which is why she bought another shop named Shear Imagination. She has owned Shear Imagination for 37 years.

During the time Thompson owned the Clipper, she decided to

pursue her instructor's course in cosmetology. She finished her instructor's license in 2002. She was a part-time instructor in 2003, then got a full-time job at SPC in August of 2006.

Thompson says that she loves everything about her job. She says cosmetology is a wonderful profession, and it's a great way to raise her family and take care of loved ones.

"There is nothing better than someone coming in after they've had a bad day and you give them a new hairstyle, or a manicure, or a pedicure, or a facial," explains Thompson. "You can see all that

weight being lifted off of them. It's very rewarding. It's very one-on-one, so you build that relationship with those clients. I got clients that I've been seeing for 40 years."

Thompson and her family have dedicated most of their life to SPC. Her husband is also an alum, as are her two daughters. Her granddaughters are also alumni, with another granddaughter on the way who is sure to follow in the tradition of attending SPC.

"I have three siblings, and they all have gone to SPC and graduated," Thompson said. "My sister is still a faculty member, and she teaches

accounting. I have nearly seen SPC grow for 60 years. I feel my family and I bleed orange and blue."

Thompson also is a proud member of the SPC Foundation Board and the Scholarship Committee. She teaches yoga at the SPC PE complex on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She also loves being with family, swimming, animals and being outdoors.

"I would like to challenge all SPC alumni to donate to SPC and share the joy of education," says Thompson.

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Sarah Thompson's family has been at the college since it was founded.

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Successful readaption of “It” no laughing matter

by NICOLE LOPEZ
Sports Editor

Summer has taken a horrible turn for seven kids who find out not all clowns are friendly.

Stephen King’s readaption of “It,” based on his 1986 novel, has been the most talked about movie in 2017.

The film tells the story of seven children who are being terrorized by a shape shifter who is often portrayed as a terrifying clown named Pennywise, commonly known as “It” (Bill Skarsgard).

In the fall of 1988, Bill (Jaeden Lieberher) gives his little brother Georgie (Jackson Scott) a paper sailboat. Georgie sails the boat down the rainy streets of small town Derry. The sailboat falls down a storm drain, and that’s when Georgie meets Pennywise. Pennywise tries to convince Georgie to

come into the sewers with him, but he refuses. As Georgie tries to get his sailboat from the clown, Pennywise rips Georgie’s arm off and drags him into the sewer. The gruesome scene sets the tone for the movie.

The following summer, Bill and his friends, Richie (Finn Wolfhard), Eddie (Jack Grazer), and Stanley (Wyatt Oleff) try to run away from the town bully, Henry Bowers (Nicholas Hamilton), and his gang. Bill is still

his friends to go look for him in the sewer grounds called the Barrens.

Ben (Jeremy Taylor) is the new kid. He encounters Beverly (Sophia Lillis), and she warns him that Henry is looking for him. He escapes to the school

gang and asks them what happened.

years and hibernates in the sewers.

The kid dialogue in the movie was fantastic.

I love the banter between Grazer and Wolfhard’s character. Wolfhard was amazing at being the loudmouth and jokester of the group. He by far was my favorite of the group. Skarsgard portrayed a great evil being. His portraying of Pennywise was freaky and sinister, but also in-



library and learns about the unexplained tragedies in the town. While in the library, he is terrorized by It and flees from the library.

Henry and his gang eventually find Ben and cut his stomach with a blade. Ben escapes and runs into Bill and his friends in the Barrens. They help Ben by getting him to

Later, Bill and his friends befriend a home-school student named Mike (Chosen Jacobs) after they save him from Henry and his gang of bullies. They refer to themselves as “The Losers Club” and discuss the terrifying events that are occurring in their lives. Each member of the club has encountered gruesome events, such as seeing a headless boy, fountains of blood, and people burning alive in buildings, just to name a few.

The Losers Club comes to the conclusion that they’re being terrorized by the same being. Ben explains to the group that he discovered the mysteries of the missing children and strange events that occur every 27 years. They all assume that It feeds on the children every 27

After an encounter with It, some of the kids split from the gang because they’re afraid they’re going to get killed and fear for their lives. Later, Beverly gets kidnapped by It, and it’s up to The Losers Club to save her.

“It” was released on Sept. 8 and has gotten praise for the acting, as well as the frightening scenes.

The scenes of “It” were very gruesome, but it worked. The scenes were weirdly satisfying for me to watch! A kid being chased by a rotten figure or a painting coming to life was suspenseful and intrigued me to not take my eyes off the screen. The opening scene where It rips Georgie’s arm off was jaw-dropping for me.

viting. He had a balance between disturbing and a childish demeanor.

Many fans of the movie have a problem with the ending. The ending of the movie isn’t like the first adaption, and there is a reason for that. This movie is following King’s novel. This movie is based on the first chapter, and it intrigued me so much that I now want to read the novel. I’m not a diehard horror fan, but I will make an exception for King.

Overall, “It” was a suspenseful and successful readaption of a classic.

I give the movie an 8 out of 10.

8/10

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Nightmare becomes reality in “Mother!”

by ANNIE GOLDEN
Editorial Assistant

Having a bad dream can become a reality for some. That’s the premise of the new movie, “Mother!,” starring Jennifer Lawrence as Veronica. “Mother!” takes the audience on a wild roller coaster of emotions. Veronica devoted herself to a man who did not understand sacrifice, ended up with a baby who gets its neck broken by an angry mob and has a husband (Javier Bardem) who is getting flooded with fans

who crave his attention. Sex, lies, sickness, murder and a never-ending cycle of pain and mayhem are all part of this twisted film. In this mysterious drama from filmmaker Darren Aronofsky, Lawrence plays the pitied, hard-working housewife. Despite her unconditional love and

loyalty, her husband (Javier Bardem), a poet, fails to consider her perspective about everything. This leads to a strenuous timeline of violence and mental damage for the pregnant housewife. The oblivious, blonde woman awakens alone in bed, while the poet struggles to produce a single word in his study. The couple has plans to conclude their home renovations and projects before having a child together, which include Lawrence finishing the house and Bardem writing his poem and having it published. Little do viewers know, their minds are about to be blown. It almost seems

like one has consumed a strong hallucinogen before watching this insane movie, with the sickening betrayal and neglect Ve-

The first crime was committed, the first person had died. The movie got insane when the first of many murders happened,

swoon over him. There was an obsessed crowd that quickly, violently, became a mob. I was tired of getting hit with plot



twists at this point because the movie was all over the place. Overall, it was decent and was very good at evoking emotions out of me. It was well-written, but lacked in back-

ronica receives from her husband. In the beginning, the couple was dreaming of a family in their large, two-story home in the middle of nowhere. It was a calm, quiet setting in the middle of a field, with blue skies around the charming home. But calm was not the mood for the rest of the movie. I had been fooled by the serenity. It first took a dark turn when an older man, secretly a dying fan who wanted to meet the poet, came to stay at a bed and breakfast, but it was actually their home. I was confused by this part, because in the scene showing where the house was located, there were no cars, or a driveway. Then my heart starting beating faster, and I was sitting at the edge of my seat.

as it went from peaceful to absolute chaos. The movie writer was imaginative and invested in the film’s creativity aspect. Although the film had its sinful side, it created the feeling of attachment and romance during the softer scenes. But as the storyline went on, I kept feeling anxious and betrayed. Everything Veronica wished for and felt was dismissed. I was starting to build anger against her husband, and grew sad for the poor, pregnant wife. Little did I know, there was so much more to come. When finding out the woman was pregnant, the couple was renewed and doing better. In fact, the poet was inspired to finally write. He wrote his story, which made everyone, including publishers and fan-girls,

ground and specific details. Lawrence and Bardem were great actors as usual, but the plot made you despise Bardem in his roll as the husband. I don’t recommend this film to anyone with mental disorders or to people who have recently been involved in a tragedy, as it can throw you for a loop. If going to see this, be prepared for an intense, gory and well-deserved R rating. The film is exciting, twisted and mysterious, entailing more than you are prepared for. I recommend “Mother!” to any adult, at their own risk. I give this movie a 6 out of 10.

6/10

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Mario joins forces with Rabbids in new Switch game

by TYLER YORK
Editor-in-Chief

It's a weird pairing that looks ripped straight out of a fourth-grader's crayon drawing stuck to the fridge. But somehow "Mario + Rabbids Kingdom Battle" is now my favorite strategy game.

This game stars some of the most iconic video game characters in history, namely Mario, Luigi, Princess Peach, and Yoshi from their foundational series of Nintendo games that laid the path for an entire empire of gaming. But it also features the Rabbids, a group of goofy, deranged bunnies who originally appeared in

Ubisoft's lauded "Rayman" series before splitting off into their own games.

Yes, that means this game is a crossover of a spinoff, in a genre that neither of the individual IPs have ever attempted. But the culmination of the two is ultimately far greater than the sum of its parts.

For how simple "Mario + Rabbids" looks visually, the narrative has a much more complicated premise. The opening cinematic illustrates a scene in which a robot AI named Beep-O and a young

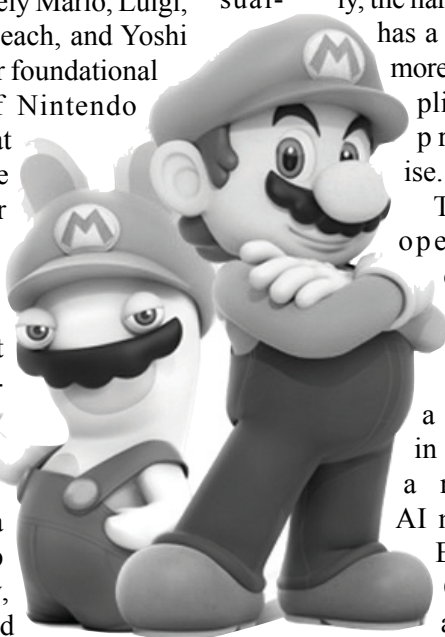
girl, who is an inventor and avid Nintendo fan, have created a headset called the SupaMerge. The headset works by combining two objects the user centers in its crosshairs. The only logical conclusion of this conceit follows, and suddenly

game before, the good news is that this is likely the best entry to the genre anyone could ever hope for. It's simplistic, compared to big AAA strategy genre staples such as "XCOM," but fans

weapon that can be customized out of battle using upgrade points. The turn-based combat is an exercise in balancing grid-ded movement and ranged attacking. One character sees the number of spaces

of the game is also worth mentioning, as I don't believe there is another strategy game on the market with visuals as vibrant and adorable as this one. Even just walking around the world and solving

the way-too-easy environmental puzzles is enjoyable when around every corner is a new way the Rabbids have corrupted the normally sleek and polished softness of



a group of Rabbids has been summoned into their reality.

One of the Rabbids using the SupaMerge then unleashes the game's chaotic backdrop by combining Rabbids with the girl's Mario decorations, and a world of nutty antics and topsy-turvy scenery is born.

For those who have never played a strategy

game of those more complex games will likely still feel very much at home.

The meat of the gameplay occurs when your team of half-Mario/half-Rabbit hybrids stumbles across miniature battle-ground setups when progressing through the linear world maps. These battle encounters pit your team against teams of enemy Rabbids, with each battle assuming a unique layout featuring a different arrangement of obstacles for taking cover.

Each player on your team wields a different

they can travel in a turn, and the player must make a judgement call about how far to move, and what to take cover behind.

A victory against an enemy team using intentionally planned actions, and seeing the last Rabbid blasted into an explosion of dissolving pixels, is one of the most satisfying game victories I've ever experienced. Weirdly enough, I can't help but feel that on a certain level it's making me a better, more deliberate problem solver every time I play.

The actual art design

the Mario universe.

The simplicity of the gameplay is reflected in the cartoon-like art style, which, combined with the familiar Mario character costars, could perhaps bring a whole new generation of players to the strategy genre in a fun, accessible way.

I give "Mario + Rabbids Kingdom Battle" a 9 out of 10.

9/10

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Hub City comic fanatics gather for convention

by DEZ MENDEZ
Editorial Assistant

Hub City Comic Con brings together local nerds from around the community who enjoy comics and cosplay.

The event was held Sept. 15- Sept. 17, at the Lubbock Civic Center. The annual event is for all ages to come and meet celebrity guests, shop their favorite fandoms, witness a cosplay contest and to see artists from around the region.

There were more than 100 vendors attending this year's Hub City Comic Con, which seems large yet is a decrease from last year's event. This event seemed very unorganized. I heard multiple cosplayers asking where the contest was being held and not getting the answer to the question.

I have attended Lubbock-Con, a competing convention, and that event was a much more pleasant event for the attendees. Hub City seemed like a small flea market, with many of the vendors selling toys that were old. This was called "collectibles," but to me it seemed more like junk. There were a few vendors who had legitimate Comic Con items, such as com-

ics, figurines, posters and drawings. The most enjoyable vendors seemed to be the local creators who tried to make up for what the event lacked. These are, ironically, the vendors that are also commonly found at Lubbock-Con.

Some guest celebrities included, Alyson Keperman Sullivan, who por-

But, for the most part, it was a shopping ordeal that felt like Black Friday madness. It was crowded.

While walking around, I did get to see some really cool cosplays. They put a lot of time and effort into their costumes. I met Glenda the Good Witch and the Wicked Witch, ran into a couple of Storm Troopers, and got stopped by a goblin. I even got to meet Jessica Rabbit.

The best part was running into Groot and Kylo Ren (it was a T-Rex, cosplaying as Kylo Ren.)

When I finally found out where the cosplay contest was, I checked it out to see how it

was going. Man, these cosplayers were awesome! That was by far the best part of the Con, next to getting to meet Kerrigan Mahan.

The cosplayers walked across the stage as they were announced, and the judges watched carefully. When they were done, the judges picked a first, second and third-place winner, along with the judge's favorite for each judge.

At the end of the day, I would rate Hub City Comic Con a 4 out of 10.

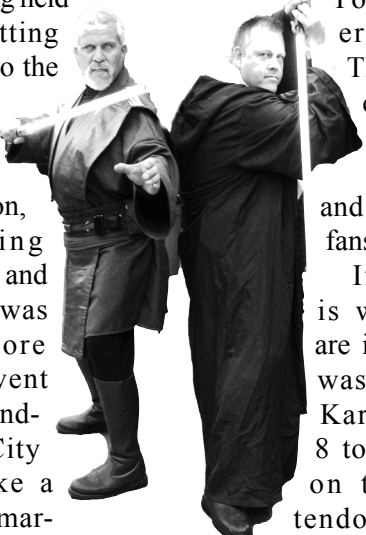
If you get a chance to visit a Comic Con, I suggest Lubbock-Con in February for a much greater all-around experience.

4/10

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SmartCosplay of Andrews masquerades as Batman and company at Hub City Comic Con on Sept. 17.
STACY JOHNSON/PLAINSMAN PRESS



trayed the Yellow Wild Force Ranger, Eric Vale, Linda Young from "Dragonball Z", Monica Rial, Christina Kelly and Kerrigan Mahan, who played Goldar in the original "Power Ranger" series. These special guests also did panels and talked to fans.

If gaming is what you are into, there was a Mario Kart Deluxe 8 tournament on the Nintendo Switch, or you could go check out the PS4 games. There were also card and board games going on. Stormcrow Games spent the entire event demoing tabletop games you could try before purchasing.

Creative Arts faculty release collaborative CD

by THALIA GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

The Creative Arts Department at South Plains College is bringing a new sound to the Levelland campus, releasing a faculty CD.

Dolf Guardiola, instructor in sound technology, is one of the faculty members who took part in the production of the CD, engineering three of the songs, along with mastering and recording it.

The idea of the CD is to showcase the talents of Creative Arts faculty. Each faculty member composes every song. Some wrote the music but didn't actually play on the song. Ed Marsh, professor of commercial music, wrote "El Moto," an instrumental piece that the faculty plays on. The Sound Technology Program, with instructor Chris Neal, engineered and composed a song that other instructors play on.

Guardiola says, according to Brent Wheeler, assistant professor of commercial music at SPC, a lot of professors at universities have to publish to continue to teach, and this is our version of staying pub-

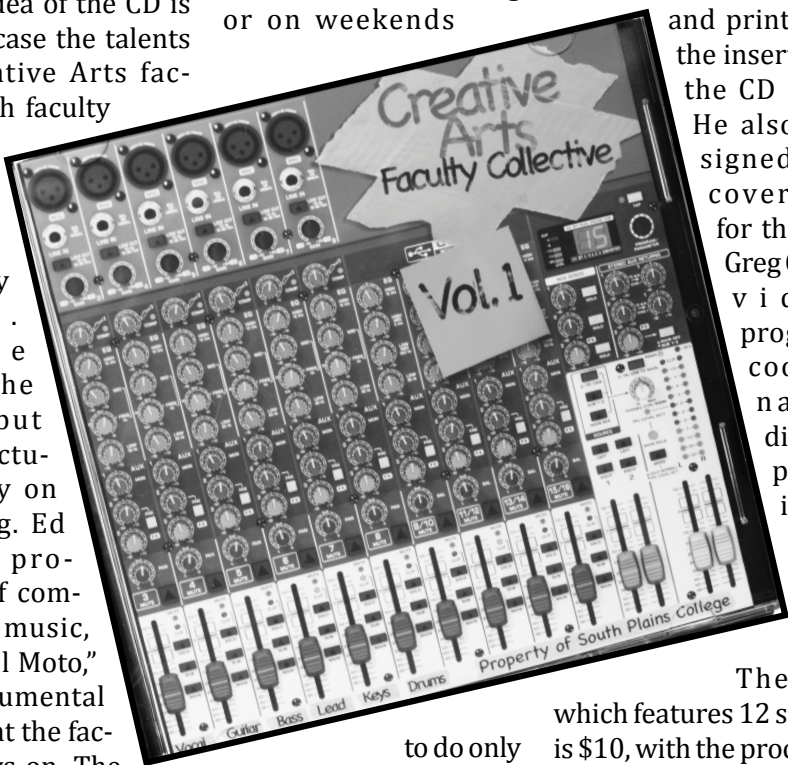
lished. Every other year, the Creative Arts faculty produce a collaboration CD to show everyone that this is what they can and highlight their skill level.

Guardiola says that creating a CD takes quite a bit of time and energy. The most difficult part about it all was the scheduling. During the week, it was pretty hard to rehearse each song or record because of classes, so the producers tried to manage schedules to work out either in the evening or on weekends

schedule and engineering. Brian Tate, instructor in commercial music, has also put in a lot of his rhythmic skills into this CD, while John Reed, bass instructor, played on several songs. Mark Wallney, one of the composers, had his own song that everyone plays on. Sonny Borba, Jay Lemon, Chris Hudgins, Greg Cook, and Emily Wheeler, were among other instructors involved. Paul Davidson, associate professor of design communications, also was the designer and printer of the inserts for the CD case. He also designed the cover art for the CD. Greg Cook, video program coordinator, did the printing of the CD.

The CD, which features 12 songs, is \$10, with the proceeds from each sale being donated to the competitive scholarships in the Creative Arts Department. The CD is on sale in the Creative Arts Building in the Levelland campus and also is being released in retail stores. It will be available on YouTube as well.

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‘Destiny 2’ impresses with improved solo experience

by **RILEY GOLDEN**
Entertainment Editor

As a Guardian, you must reclaim your Light and travel the Solar System to protect The Last City of Earth.

In “Destiny 2,” players take up the mantle

to go back to a checkpoint. When participating in an event or going on an adventure, you will enter “No Respawning Zones.” But, most of the time, while exploring planets, you’ll be able to respawn within three seconds of dying.

and containing a beautiful emerald atmosphere.

Titan, an ocean-moon of Saturn, has been colonized and there is a massive rig, similar to Texas oil rigs, that makes up the area that the Guardians can explore. There are abandoned boats and rigs

Taken are “taken,” or possessed, versions of some of the other enemies in the game. All of the different species of enemies have weak, easily killed members of their species, that can still overwhelm you, or strong, heavy-hitting enemies that eat bullets

completing each activity or killing enemies, player earns glimmer—the game’s currency – and at least one reward.

“The Crucible” has returned as the franchise’s PvP, or Player versus Player, and it feels much more balanced than the first game. When you’re a level 12 and you decide to hop in the Crucible, you won’t get destroyed by level 20s as badly as you would have in the first “Destiny.” One thing I really don’t like about the PvP matchmaking is that you just get thrown into a playlist of random game types, when I would just like to play Team Deathmatch. Team Deathmatch is a game type made popular by the “Call of Duty” franchise, in which the only objective is to kill the opposing team, versus having to play some variation of Capture the Flag or King of the Hill.

To survive all of the enemies on the adventures through the solar system, Guardians need to take advantage of their rewards. At the beginning of the game, the player starts with very low-level weapons and armor. As you progress through the campaign and level up, you start to unlock cooler and more powerful weapons and armor.

These rewards come in the form of Engrams, a polyhedron with 12 faces, which can be dropped by dead enemies or picked up as rewards for completing activities. The weapons range from side-arms and hand cannons to assault rifles and three-round-burst pulse rifles, as well as special weapons that range from shotguns and rocket launchers to swords. There are also many armor collections or sets, and they come in a variety of colors. You can also unlock shaders that can drastically change the looks of your helmet, cloak, gauntlets, leg armor, chest armor, weapons, ship, or Sparrow.

As a Guardian, your Sparrow – which is basically a hover bike – is your means of getting around. But there’s a catch that didn’t exist in the first “Destiny.” The player has to reach level 20 or finish the campaign to unlock a sparrow. This makes get-

ting around in the first 25 hours or so of the game kind of a chore, but it also gives you the ability to admire the landscapes and horizons of the planets and moons more.

As you climb the ranks from level 1 to level 20, you unlock things at a pretty fast rate. Sometimes it’s super cool, and sometimes it’s super disappointing. But, even though level 20 is technically the max rank for the game, once you get there, that’s when the game really opens up to the players.

The different vendors at The Farm and on the planets will reward you with “Legendary Engrams” for completing a lot of tasks for them. Although you can unlock the Engrams before reaching level 20, you can’t “decrypt” them, or use them, until you’ve reached level 20.

The Farm is the Guardians’, social hub, where you can meet up with other players and purchase weapons and armor with glimmer, as well as receive and decrypt “Legendary Engrams.”

On the trail to level 20, there’s a good chance you will complete part or all of the campaign, and you’ll realize that Bungie, the developer, really upped their game when it came to the “Destiny 2” campaign. There are more cinematic scenes and the narrative really steers the campaign. The first game also had a campaign, though it was shorter and less fleshed out. “Destiny 2” wouldn’t be what it is without its magnificent score, which invokes similar sounds to the “Halo” scores, which really inspires a sense of nostalgia.

“Destiny 2” is developed by Bungie, the same company that developed the “Halo” series, and is rated “T for Teens.” It is a

First-Person Shooter, Action/Adventure, and Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game that was released on Sept. 6 on Xbox One and PlayStation 4. It will come to PC on Oct. 25.

“Destiny 2” takes Guardians on a beautiful, epic quest through the Solar System. It seems like Bungie really doubled-down on all of the aspects that made the first game great, and released an extremely fun and polished game. I give “Destiny 2” a 9 out of 10.

9/10

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Meet up with fellow Guardians to take on the Red Legion in “Destiny 2.”
Photo courtesy of VG24/7

of Guardian and choose from three different classes: Warlock, Titan, and Hunter.

According to the game’s description of the classes, the Warlocks “weaponize the mysteries of the universe to sustain themselves and devastate their foes,” and the Titans are “disciplined and proud, [they] are capable of both aggressive assaults and stalwart defenses.”

The Hunters, “agile and daring, [are] quick on their feet and quicker on the draw,” is the primary class I play with. The Hunter’s class armor is a hooded cloak, which is what attracts me to the class.

The three Guardian classes all have three different subclasses as well. The new subclass bestowed upon Hunters is called “Arcstrider.” When activated, the Hunter begins glowing blue and uses a staff to wreak havoc on the battlefield. The second subclass unlocked as a Hunter is the original subclass from the first game called “Gunslinger,” which makes the Hunter glow like fire and wield a hand canon that kills everything but the big guys in one hit. The third subclass available is called “Nightstalker,” though I have yet to unlock it.

The Red Legion are a group of Cabal – a large and stocky humanoid species – led by Dominus Ghaul. Ghaul is on a mission to rid the universe of Light, which is what The Traveler harnesses to provide the Guardians with their power.

At the beginning of the game, you lose your light and you must travel to the European Dead Zone, Earth, where a shard of the Traveler lies. This gives the Guardian access to their new subclass, which renews the ability to respawn near to where you died instead of having

In the “Destiny” franchise, the area of the planet that players have access to is completely open world. In “Destiny,” adventures took players to Old Russia, Earth, as well as colonized areas of the moon, Mars, and Venus. In “Destiny 2,” Guardians can go to the European Dead Zone, Earth, Nessus, a centaur planet (centaur planets are minor planets that have unstable orbits), Titan, a moon of Saturn, and Io, a moon of Jupiter.

The European Dead Zone sets the stage perfectly for the game’s locations, the first location that Guardians have access to. The first thing you see is beautiful cathedral in ruins, with buildings on both sides for as far as you can see. It isn’t dissimilar to the first game, but it’s still brand new.

Then there’s Nessus, a planetoid with an irregular orbit

a short distance away. Being able to look up and clearly see Saturn is breath-taking.

Finally, there’s Io, a moon of Jupiter. Io’s landscape is made up of open canyons that are bright shades of green and aqua. Because of this, it’s probably my favorite “rock” to explore in “Destiny 2.” All of the planets seem to have a day and night cycle, and on Io, Guardians can encounter the Taken, the Vex, the Fallen, and the Cabal, like on most of the other planets.

The Cabal are with the Red Legion, the Vex are robots with their own mysterious goals, and the Fallen are a humanoid race of pirates with four arms and two legs. There is also the Hive, a creepy humanoid species that lived in the catacombs underneath the Moon’s surface.

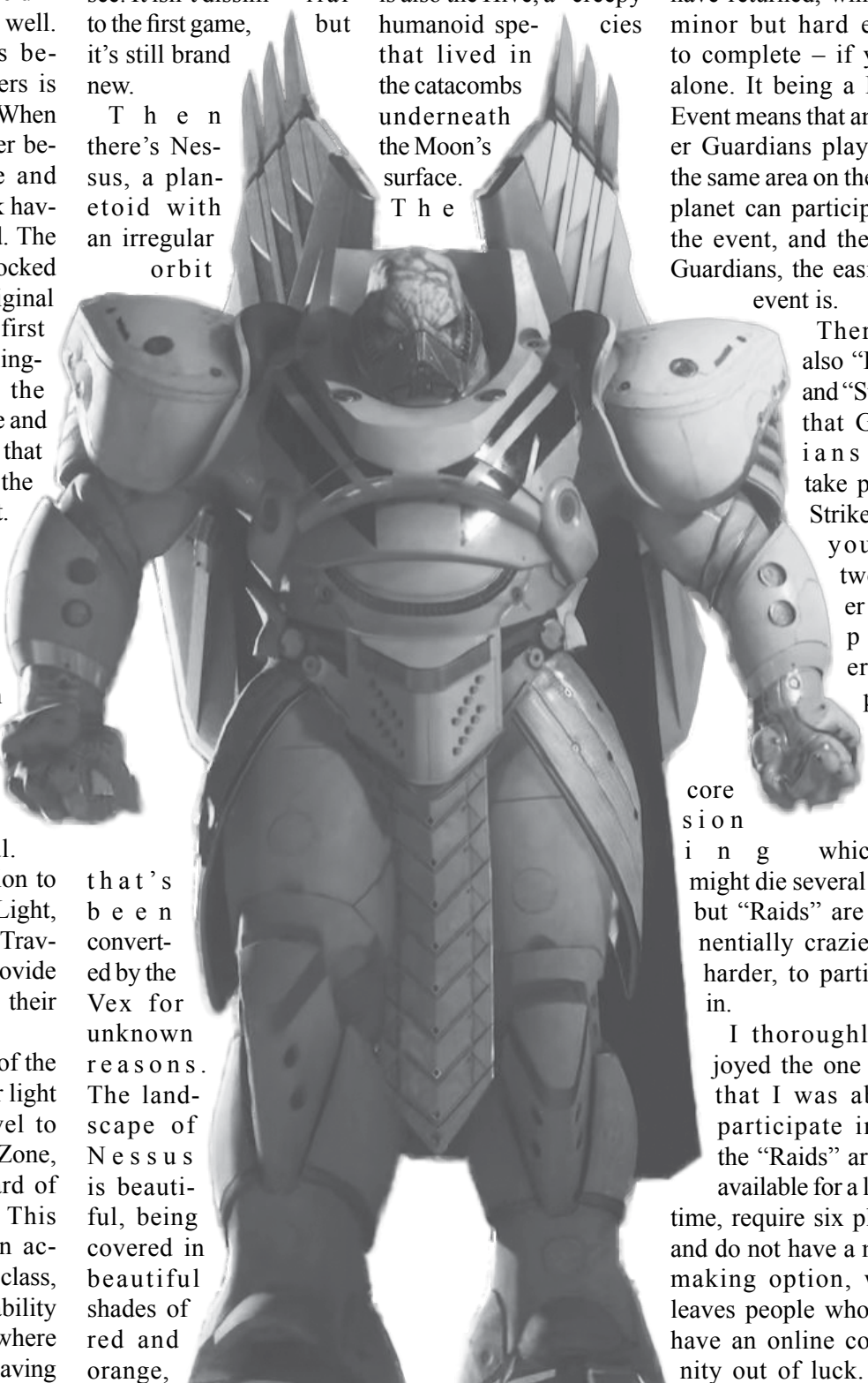
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for breakfast. Whether you’re just exploring or doing an activity, combat is almost always intense.

Compared to the first “Destiny,” “Destiny 2” seems to have a lot more activities and a deeper story. “Patrols” have returned, which are usually small objectives that you can get from beacons on whichever planet you’re on. There are “Adventures” that take Guardians on a quest with a minor subplot, but they’re fun and they provide a broader context for the game. And, the campaign seems to have much more structure than that of the first game. Public Events have returned, which are minor but hard events to complete – if you’re alone. It being a Public Event means that any other Guardians playing in the same area on the same planet can participate in the event, and the more Guardians, the easier the event is.

There are also “Raids” and “Strikes” that Guardians can take part in. Strikes take you and two other online players to a planet for a hard mission during which you might die several times, but “Raids” are exponentially crazier, and harder, to participate in.

I thoroughly enjoyed the one Strike that I was able to participate in, but the “Raids” are only available for a limited time, require six players, and do not have a matchmaking option, which leaves people who don’t have an online community out of luck. Upon



Comic Corner

DC Comics

Action Comics #987

Since the beginning of the DC Rebirth, Mr. Oz has been peppered throughout “Action Comics,” seemingly having a hand in everything Superman, or Clark Kent, has had to deal with.

In “The Oz Effect Part 1,” Mr. Oz triggers five terrible events all around at the same time, and Superman isn’t able to stop very much of it.

Mr. Oz uses this chance to reveal himself to Superman and tell him that humans don’t deserve him.

After all this time, Oz’s identity is revealed, and it’s a very unexpected person from Clark’s past. It’s not the least bit disappointing.



Teen Titans #12

Batman has been investigating something dark, which has left other heroes to watch over Gotham.

In “Gotham Resistance Pt.1,” Damian Wayne, Robin, is leading the Teen Titans to Challengers Mountain, where he believes his father, Batman, to be.

Robin enters the first ring of Challengers Mountain -- Riddler’s Labyrinth -- alone and finds himself in a bind, when none other than Green Arrow shows up to lend an arrow, after being asked by Batman to watch over Gotham and the Bat Family (Green Arrow 31).

The two heroes exit the labyrinth, meeting up with the Teen Titans, Harley Quinn and Killer Croc, and Nightwing.



Dark Nights: Metal #2

In “Dark Nights: Metal,” Batman learns that this thing called Barbatos has already begun “mantling” him, which means he’s been “treated” by four of five impossibly heavy metals in all of his climactic events during the past several years.

In “Dark Nights: Metal #2,” the Justice League is searching for Batman, who has decided to deal with the metals himself.

The Court of Owls appear and drip the final metal, Batmanium, on Batman, and he becomes a doorway to Dark Multiverse versions of himself that mirror different heroes and villains of the DC Universe.



Batman: The Red Death #1

“Batman: The Red Death” tells a story that should never be told, or even exist.

Because of this, the worlds are doomed to die. The Earth -52 Batman is so driven to stop his world from collapsing that he straps the Flash to the hood of the Batmobile and drives into the Speedforce, ripping Flash apart and turning Batman into Batman: The Red Death.

Batman: The Red Death punches Scarecrow in half and brutally kills a lot of Batman’s other villains as well.

After reading “Metal #2” and “The Red Death,” I have no doubt that DC is willing to go completely heavy metal in ‘Dark Nights: Metal.’”



Nightwing #29

“Gotham Resistance Pt. 2” picks up where “Teen Titans #12” left off. Our misfit band of heroes have entered the second ring of Challengers Mountain to encounter a seemingly upgraded Mr. Freeze, now calling himself “Freeze.”

The heroes stumble onto a Metal armory and armor up medeival style to fight and beat Freeze.

While thats going on, the Teen Titans are teaming up with the Suicide Squad, and “Gotham Resistance Pt. 3” will continue in “Suicide Squad #26.”



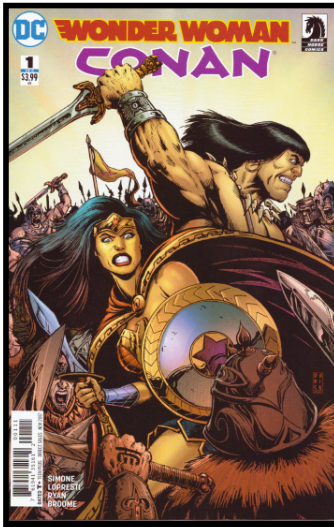
DC Comics/Dark Horse Comics

Wonder Woman/Conan #1

In “Wonder Woman/Conan #1,” Conan goes to a large city where Wonder Woman is being held captive and forced to fight in a coliseum-style arena.

Conan goes to rescue Wonder Woman and asks her if she has been called Yanna, the name of a girl Conan met as a young boy. For some not yet known reason, Wonder Woman has no memory.

“Wonder Woman/Conan #1” is a satisfactory collaboration for anyone looking for a Conan or Wonder Woman comic to dive into.



Compiled by RILEY GOLDEN

Comics of the week for the weeks of
Sept. 13 and Sept. 20

Mister Miracle #2

In “Mister Miracle #1,” Scott Free, Mister Miracle, a son of the Highfather of New Genesis, is recovering from an escape trick in which he tried to escape death. At the end of the first issue, Orion, son of Darkseid, recruits Scott.

In “Mister Miracle #2,” Big Barda, Scott’s wife, and Scott, are tasked by Orion with killing the woman who raised them, Granny Goodness.

Granny Goodness knocks out Barda and tells Scott there’s so much he needs to know before Barda kills her. “Mister Miracle” is a beautifully drawn comic that typically uses 9 panels per page.



Marvel Comics

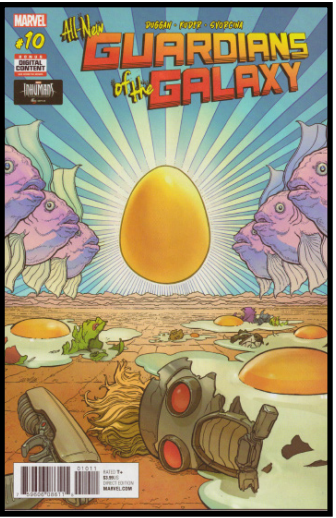
All-New Guardians of the Galaxy #10

In the first nine issues of “All-New Guardians of the Galaxy,” Star-Lord, Gamora, daughter of Thanos, Drax the Destroyer, Rocket Racoon and Groot have come together for one last score.

Gamora’s need for the Soul Stone causes the Guardians to double-cross two elders of the universe.

In “All-New Guardians of the Galaxy #9,” Groot, a Flora Colossus, hasn’t been growing because the Gardener has begun breeding Flora Colossi using a chip of Groot.

This sends the Guardians on a quest for the Infinity Stones.



Peter Parker: The Spectacular Spider-Man #4

Spider-Man, or Peter Parker, has teamed up with the Human Torch (Jonny Storm), to help Peter’s maybe-kind-of-not-really sister, Teresa, who is on the run from a rogue S.H.I.E.L.D. outfit.

In “Peter Parker: The Spectacular Spider-Man #4,” Spidey is still trying to date a comedian and he, Teresa, and the Human Torch go up against Kingpin and the Tinkerer for some of the first great web-slinging action to grace the pages of “The Spectacular Spider-Man.”



Secret Empire: Omega #1

“Secret Empire: Omega #1” follows the aftermath of Marvel’s “Secret Empire” 2017 run when a sentient Cosmic Cube turned Captain America into an Agent of Hydra, who then ruled over America.

It turns out that this was a clone of Captain America. Then the real Cap comes back and imprisons the Hydra Cap.

In “Secret Empire: Omega,” Steve Rogers confronts the fraud in his cell to gain some kind of closure and set the Marvel Universe up for “Marvel Legacy #1.”



Venomverse #2

In “Venomverse #1,” Doctor Strange pulled the Venom, Eddie Brock, out of his world and into the Venomverse. At the end of #1, Spider-Man and his symbiote are consumed by a poison.

In “Venomverse #2,” the consumed Spider-Man tears Venom apart.

Captain America is consumed by a poison, which is when Hawkeye and Enchantress, who are also consumed, make an appearance.

It is revealed that a consumed Dr. Doom is leading these consumed heroes on the basis of what seems to be called the Gospel of the Spawning.



Venomverse #3

“Venomverse #3” picks up with a sweet sequence of panels of Deadpool turning into the consumed version of himself.

Doctor Strange brings Carnage -- a man bonded with a symbiote stronger than any of the Venoms’ -- into the Venomverse to assist the Venoms.

Ghost Rider gets consumed (just in time for Carnage to kill him), and consumed versions of Iron Fist and Green Goblin also make appearances.

The consumed versions of these characters look so sick, some of them being all white with black details, some of them being a mixture of white and their traditional colors, and some just retaining their traditional colors.



Back Talk:Confederate symbolism causes debate

Removing ties to Confederacy creates progress



by **ADÁN RUBIO**
Staff Writer

The removal of Confederate monuments and changing the names of streets and public institutions named after Confederate leaders has created a lot of controversy throughout the year.

Despite what people may think about the stability of the United States, our nation is still growing as a united front and has advanced through many accomplishments and tragedies. Changing or removing Confederate influences throughout society is important to encourage this kind of progress within the United States.

In this society, there are people who strongly believe in certain Confederate ideals or people who want to keep certain pieces of history in tact. But we should not have to maintain certain ideals of the past. The removal of Confederate names and monuments within many communities will allow people to dismiss a part of history that had a standing impact only a few centu-

ries ago. People can gain a sense of progression from keeping the significance of these Confederate values in the past.

One can argue that these Confederate influences are a major part of history that has led to this growing nation today, but historic events that took place a few centuries ago will always be remembered, despite the lack of Confederate impressions. The history of the Confederacy will never be forgotten, but it should not be something that defines the United States to this day.

The removal of these ties to the Confederacy can also have positive effects on different parts of society. Changing the names of schools that were influenced by Confederate leaders will show people, especially young students, that our nation pushes forward and does not dwell on the past centuries. It is not just adults who are considering the name changes for these schools.

In Dallas, Texas, students held a vote to change the name of John B. Hood Middle School to Piedmont Global Academy. The actions undertaken by these students show how the need for growth and change is necessary for new generations to realize that the future is what is important.

With the removal of Confederate monuments and names, people can now begin to honor those who have made a lasting impact throughout the past decade. It is time to

honor the new leaders of this century, without being restricted by past idols.

A popular argument that has surfaced throughout the media toward the removal of Confederate symbols is the idea that past impactful leaders, such as George Washington or Thomas Jefferson, shared some Confederate ideals and are still being honored through monuments and other glorifications. I will refute that by saying that the Confederacy began in the United States during a time of chaos and separation. Whether some leaders who share certain qualities with the Confederacy are still being honored today has nothing to do with their beliefs but their success in shaping this nation into a place of freedom.

The opportunities that come with replacing Confederate monuments or changing names of certain institutions are endless. People can praise the upcoming leaders of this century and shape a nation that still respects its history while being able to persevere through upcoming major issues.

Whatever your perspective is on this issue, the one thing that is certain is that we need to move on from concerns that are insignificant for this era. One way of achieving this is through removing or changing components of society that do not evoke a sense of progressiveness within our nation.

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Confederate statues essential to history



by **NICOLE LOPEZ**
Sports Editor

America has come a long way since the Civil War.

Confederate statues and public schools named after confederate leaders are symbols of learning from the past and not making the same mistakes in the future. But many people don't seem to understand that logic.

The confederate statues are part of America's long and interesting history. America has been through a lot and has evolved for the better. Why take down statues and change school names? It's part of our history! The Civil War, like it or not, is part of our history. The outcome of the war was great. The North abolished slavery. That is something we should be proud of.

I know the South was pro-slavery. But we have these statues and confederate leaders standing on America ground because it's part of our history. Tearing down these statues and creating protests is not going to change

the outcome of what happened. The outcome was something that changed America for the better. Slavery doesn't exist in the United States like it did in the 1850s, which is something we should all celebrate.

Yes, Robert E. Lee was one of the Confederate leaders. He owned slaves, but so did Abraham Lincoln and he was the President of the United States. Should we tear down Lincoln's statue as well? He owned slaves, but he actually led the abolition of slavery.

If we take away the Confederate memorials, "because historic figures

Mostly everyone is easily offended by anything. If you're offended by these historical statues, then you must have too much time on your hands.

They're historical statues, statues that represent who we used to be, versus what we stand for now. They remind people every day of how far we've come as a nation. The Civil War is taught in history books. The war was a bloodbath, it was messy, and it was ugly. But it was worth it. Slavery was abolished. We should be focusing on the bigger picture.

If we tear down these statues because people are

offended, then we should burn history books and be done with history all together. We should ban it being taught in schools and not learn from

our mistakes in the past. Isn't that what history is? Isn't that why we teach history? We teach history for others to learn from the past. We teach it so that way we don't make the same mistakes as before.

The Confederate statues shouldn't be taken down. If you're offended, then I don't know what to tell you. They're not harming anyone. They represent a historic event in America, an event which changed America for the best. That is something worth remembering.

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had slaves," then why not take down every single statue of a historical figure? We would be erasing American history, history that has made America what it is today.

Memorials to the Civil War honor the men who fought and die for a cause. If we choose to do away with any Confederate memorial, we open the door for every war memorial to be reevaluated according to which group it offends.

The people who are offended brings me to another point. These Confederate statues offend people. That's the problem with America today.

Word on the Street

How do you feel about the tension with North Korea?

"I definitely don't like it whatsoever, knowing that they still have those missiles in there, and they don't want to defuse them. And there was an article I read that he might end up sending them to us, even if we didn't do anything, because he apparently doesn't like Trump. It's kind of scary because you never know when he's going to send them."

Andrea Mares
Freshman
Commercial Music
Levelland

"It's been going on long enough that someone needs to step in and do something about it. But the consequences of it are kind of dire. I don't really know what they should do, but something should be done."

Justin King
Sophomore
Sound Technology
Fort Worth

"It's really interesting. It makes you stay vigilant of the news that we see. The tension is clearly overflowing, and you see it every day. There's examples of it showing up in the news. It's pretty clear everyone is panicking about it. I feel like we always have that sense of fear here, so it plays on all of those emotions. I'm mainly scared I guess."

Dave Underwood
Junior
Accounting
Lubbock

"I feel like it's getting down to the wire, and I feel like people should be more responsible about it. They should also take a stance. It's time for everyone to stop making a joke about it, take it seriously, realize that a lot of people are in danger, and that's not something to joke about."

Brenna Kiopatrach
Junior
Public Relations and Marketing
Corona, California

Compiled by Rebecca Ruiz and Randi Jines

Animal experimentation inhumane, unfair



by ANNIE GOLDEN
Editorial Assistant

Everybody claims to be a sweet animal-lover.

But, trust me, there are other sides to these people, an inhumane side we all choose to ignore.

There is always animal testing occurring, more than you realize.

According to Humane Society International, animals used in experiments and testing are abused. They are subjected to force feeding, forced inhalation, food and water deprivation, prolonged periods of physical restraint, the infliction of burns and other wounds to study the healing process, the infliction of pain to study its effects and remedies, and killing.

Although some may argue that ani-

mal testing has contributed to many life-saving cures and treatments, there are now alternative testing methods that exist that can replace the use of animals. These treatments are humane, such as In Vitro (in glass), studying cell cultures in a Petri dish, and Microdosing (the administering of doses too small to cause adverse reactions) on human subjects.

These people are volunteers for the testing and

evil people testing on animals have clipped animals' eyes open to test the irritation of products, sometimes for days at a time.

They are using species that may mislead researchers into ignoring potential cures and treatments. Some chemicals that are harmful to animals prove valuable when used by humans. Some medicines can be "shelved" (removed from places where the drugs

can be purchased).

The awful part about this is that some of these

drugs are irrelevant to the animals, but can be extremely promising for humans.

On the flip side, not all drugs that pass animal tests are safe. According to BBC news, the 1950s sleeping pill thalidomide, which caused 10,000 babies to be born with severe deformities, was tested on animals prior to its commercial release. So it makes no sense to use unwilling, forcibly controlled, animals. These animals are innocent and dying. Our fragile Earth has no room for abusing

and killing off animals to find irrelevant data and treatments.

Scientists estimate that 150-200 species of plants, insects, birds and mammals become extinct every 24 hours. This is because humanity is so focused on itself that it demolishes all

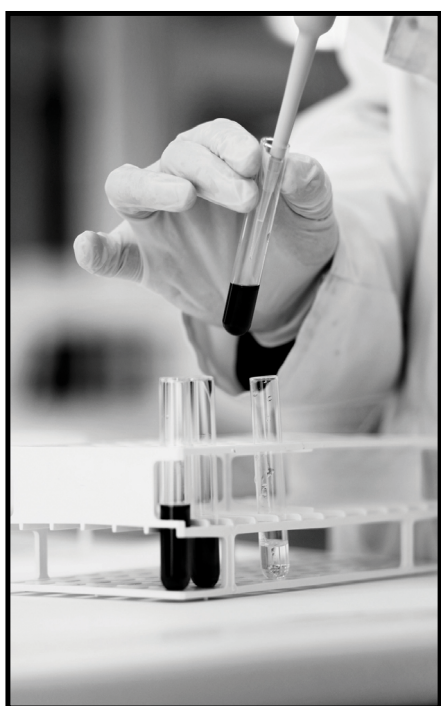
used in experiments annually. Maybe instead of using these creatures as subjects, scientists need to be studying subjects such as animal welfare, animal rights, and ethics.

One estimate of the number of mice and rats used in the United States alone in 2001 was 80

even required to give them medicine for pain or any kind of vet care. Lots of them end up dying after suffering for a very long time.

The animal abuse does not stop with mice or rats, though. Universities, medical schools, pharmaceutical

“Around 50-100 million vertebrate animals are used in experiments annually.”



surrounding life. This method of trying to improve humanity is destroying animals. And one way this happens is with animal testing.

Another word for animal testing is animal experimentation. Using poor animals to conduct science experiments is wrong and unnecessary. Around 50-100 million vertebrate animals are

million. These facts and statistics drive me up the walls, because mice and rats are really gentle, interesting animals. Sadly, according to the mice and rat-friendly source, American Anti-Vivisection Society, millions are killed in painful experiments every year in the United States. Many laboratories that use these animals aren't

companies, defense establishments and commercial facilities that provide animal-testing services to industries are using God's creatures for their own satisfaction. We can either deny it and keep denying it, or do something about it.

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Social workers underpaid, overextended



by TINA GONZALEZ
Editorial Assistant

Social Workers are there to protect children, document abusive cases and find the best resolution for each individual child.

Dealing with the horrible issues involving broken homes and abused children

can be hard on a social worker, but the job and every situation should always be taken seriously. Each child is important. Each child's situation should not be taken lightly.

The government created Child Protective Services for the purpose of bettering children's lives. But year after year, months upon months, kids slip through the cracks. Even though CPS does all it can to reach every kid, there is still more that

They either get addicted to drugs or alcohol. Maybe the reason for the kids spiraling out of control

is extremely important that the homes and the people the children are placed with are nurturing

career in the future. States need to increase pay and reduce caseloads.

Social workers need to

should be allowed to interview the child, no matter if the parent or guardian approves the interview,

because only the child can truly advocate the truth for themselves. The parent or guardian may be leaving out information to make the case look better. Maybe getting the information straight from the child will prevent kids staying in unstable and harmful homes.

Also, if the child being taken out

of the home has good relatives to go with, they should be placed there instead of in crowded foster

homes and office buildings.

I have seen firsthand that a child had to be taken

away from familiar faces to go with strangers because that is what the system calls for.

CPS and the system's policies must be updated in order for children to get the full care and attention needed. They are the future of the world. They need the attention.

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can be done.

In a perfect world, every child would grow up in a loving, stable, nurturing home. However, not every child has that opportunity. There are many situations where teens and kids don't make it out of foster care.

and falling into bad habits is because these kids don't have continuity and stability. It is valuable to the kids' lives that social workers do not get overworked, because then it affects the kids. They get lost in the cracks.

The state should make it so there is not such a load on a social worker. If the social workers are drowning in work, they just go through paper work and don't take the time to focus on the child. More likely than not, the kids usually do not return to the care of their biological parents. So it

and stable, so the foster child can grow to their full potential.

Social workers don't

“CPS and the system's policies must be updated in order for children to get the full care and attention needed.”

seem to get paid the money deserved, along with other careers such as teaching. There is such a high demand for social workers that there are not enough people to cover the thousands of kids that need their attention and help. If the state made the job of a social worker less rigorous and tiresome, there would be more people open to pursuing a

be digging deeper into the kids' cases. The kids may be having good grades and not causing a ruckus

around their neighborhood, but behind closed doors, their life could be in danger. On the outside, the situation looks fine and a social worker may not take the time to dig deeper.

If someone makes a claim, whether it is false or not, CPS needs to investigate, no matter what, and not generalize the situation. I feel that CPS

Classic movies ruined by remakes



by DEZ MENDEZ
Feature Editor

Recently, I watched the new “IT” movie. Most of my friends know I hate clowns, but I suffered through to watch the movie.

Also, I’ve never seen the old movie or read the book yet.

As I waited for the movie to begin, I noticed a few of the previews were remakes of older classic movies, such as “Flatliners” and “Bladerunner.” I don’t understand why movie producers feel the need to mess with classic movies. They should just leave them alone!

For instance, “Flatliners,” a movie first released

in 1990, I remember seeing when I was around 10 years old. I didn’t understand much. I have watched the movie again since then, and it’s a good movie.

“Flatliners” is about a group of friends, including two who are medical students, who want to experience what awaits after death. To do this, they “flatline” themselves to experience death briefly. When they do this, they end up bringing back haunting memories that they must confront to stop from happening. “Flatliners” had some of Hollywood’s top actors in the cast, including, Julia Roberts, Keifer Sutherland and Kevin Bacon.

When I saw the new preview for the remake of this movie, I was confused. This new movie is almost like the previous

one, except they are all medical students. They have paranormal con-

In all honesty, it’s not just this movie that makes me upset about a remake.



It is a bunch of others, including “Jem and the Holograms.” I grew up with this cartoon, and the movie has nothing to do with it. None of the original songs are in this movie. I feel if you are going to remake something, at least keep the plot.

While watching “It,” I feel like it was more comical than scary. I know that some comic relief is good after an intense scene, but Pennywise popped out maybe once, and even then it didn’t scare me. My favorite part of scary movies is being startled, which this movie didn’t do for me.

I feel that if the movie producers are running out of ideas, they should try to find a different source to make

movies. There are several books out that they could use to make into movies, or even comics. I’ve noticed that when they do remake classic movies that they are trying to give it a more modern feel, which ends up ruining it.

New generations keep remaking classics, and I feel this ruins them. Call me old fashion, but I would much rather watch the original over the remake. There is something about the original that makes it much better. Whether it is scary or not, I feel like it has more feeling to the movie than when they remake it with modern technology.

Maybe it’s just me and my older generation, but I enjoy the classics more than I do the newer movies.

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College harder for ‘Dreamers’ after DACA ban



by REBECCA RUIZ
Editorial Assistant

Not long ago, the Trump administration decided to revoke all rights for immigrant teenagers or young adults to legally obtain their approved advance two-year period deferred action of deportation and to be eligible for a work permit.

The well-known DACA program, which stands for “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals,” was created after the Dream Act Bill that Barack Obama proposed when serving as president of the United States in November 2014. Protests have been going on in major cities of the United States, where more than 700,000 of these “dream-

ers” are being discriminated against and having the rights that they were promised revoked.

I can really relate to this subject, since I am also an immigrant, just like those being affected by the decision that President Donald Trump has made. I do not fall under the same category, though, since I came to the United States from Spain with a visa and I was eligible for permanent residence. I am working toward obtaining my citizenship, but I am also an immigrant with the same dreams as them.

I feel that I belong to this country. I am very proud to be from Spain, but I also feel very proud to be in the United States. This is home to me. I wish this country would really give the opportunity to all these people who really deserve the advantage of all the great opportunities the United States offers.

In Spain, the only way you could possibly get into college would be either if you are a straight A student, or if you have a lot of money and could afford it. Many scholarships are given there, but they are so difficult to obtain. I have spoken to

many Hispanics about the subject of attending college, and many have said that the only way for them to be able to go to college would be if they have money to afford it.

My mom brought me to United States to offer me a better future, a better education and to be accepted for who I am. Most of the immigrants who come here are labeled as “criminals.”

But most of us are hard-working people who can offer the most to society. Most of us wake up every day with the idea to accomplish our goals and fulfill our dreams.

I agree with our president that there is a need to protect our country from terrorism, since it has happened in the past. But I feel he’s against innocent people who just desire to be treated with respect and be successful in life.

The United States offers such amazing opportunities. I believe immigrants have so much to offer this country that should not be taken for granted.

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Religions not created for one race



by RANDI JINES
Editorial Assistant

Recently, a friend of mine who is white was told that she was “trying to be Mexican” because she practices Catholicism.

In no way is it offensive to be called Mexican, but the way the remark was said came off as racist and judgmental.

should be accepting instead of criticizing them. Actually, my church back home has a Spanish service so that people who don’t understand English very well can still learn the word of God.

I don’t know what point the girl who made that remark was trying to get across, but what I took from it was that my friend could not be Catholic because she is white. If that’s true, then only people from India and Asia can be Hindus, or Buddhists. Only people from Israel can be Jewish or Christian. And only Romans can be Catholic.

Most religions were not created to discriminate against others. I think people should be able to practice whatever religion

ter in the case of religion. And people should stop making pointless racist comments about other people being a certain religion. What someone practices should not concern anyone but the individual.

If people were forced to practice the religion that is associated with the region they are from, then everyone in America would be practicing the religion that Native Americans practiced.

Freedom of religion does not exist in America so that only white people can be Christian, only Indian and Asians can be Buddhists, and only Mexicans can be Catholic.

I do not see the problem with someone who wants to practice a certain religion, even if the domi-



What I do not understand about her remark is how someone who practices a certain religion can’t be anything other than the religion they practice. We live in America, where freedom of religion is allowed. No one religion is meant for one race.

I think it is perfectly fine for a white girl to practice Catholicism just as it is for a Mexican to be Baptist or Methodist. And I do not think they should receive comments that they are trying to be white if they chose to do so.

Personally, I am a Baptist Christian, and if someone of any race decided to become a Christian, we

they please and should not be criticized for it.

Religious discrimination wasn’t the only thing wrong with her remark. Since when is it offensive to be called Mexican? It’s 2017. Racism should not be an issue still, but we see and hear it every day by comments such as this.

I’m tired of people trying to tear someone down with a racist remark. Anyone should be able to practice what religion they want, especially in America. People should also stop associating religion with race and start to accept people of all different colors and backgrounds into their religions.

Race should not mat-

nant race is different from theirs.

No one should be criticized for what religion they chose to practice. It’s important that we all learn to live together in harmony and not let race, religion, or sexuality be a problem. We should learn to accept someone for who they are as a person and not the color of their skin.

We only have three months left of 2017. It’s time for people to stop making racist remarks.

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Cross Country teams posts impressive times in two meets

by **DOM PUENTE**
Staff Writer

Experience has been the key to success for South Plains College men's and women's cross country teams in the beginning of the season.

Dominating their opponents has become the type of culture for SPC, as both teams secured their third consecutive first-place finish Sept. 23 at the New Mexico Highlands Cross Country Jam in Las Vegas, N.M.

"Both of our teams ran exceptionally well at a great course," said Erik Vance, head track and field coach at SPC. "Our times were impressive, considering the difficulty of the course, and I feel that our men showed what they are made of, putting up good times."

Leading the men's team was sophomore Felix Kosegi, who posted his third top finish in the men's 8k race with a time of 24:36.

"Felix has continued to stay in his role, lead the team and win meets being aggressive in his running style and technique," added Coach Vance. "He was close to breaking

under 24 minutes with his time, and to even be close to that is an impressive thing in the men's 8k."

The Texans, ranked No. 4 in the most recent national rankings, had four runners place in the top five, while six finished in the top 10.

Freshman Andrew Bosquez placed second with a time of 25:10, while Filmon Beyene placed third with a time of 25:17.

Freshman Benjamin Rono placed fifth with a time of 26:00, while Jesse Madrid and Erick Arambula placed sixth and seventh, respectively, with times of 26:10 and 26:14.

Sitting at No. 10 nationally, the Lady Texans swept the top three spots, with all four runners finishing in the top 11. However, due to only racing four, the Lady Texans were unable to place in the final team results.

"Same story goes for our girls," Coach Vance said. "They ran very well on a tough course. We rested a girl or two in order to keep our runners healthy. I believe if we had our fifth runner we could have secured our

second first-place finish to start the season."

women's 5k with a time of 19:09. Placing second



Lady Texan Caitlyn Mercer finished 11th in the New Mexico Highlands Cross Country Jam in Portales, N.M., on Sept. 23.

DOM PUENTE/PLAINSMAN PRESS

Sophomore Leslie Romero earned her first collegiate victory in the

was sophomore Poro Gahekave with a time of 19:40, while Seselia Dala

placed third with a time of 19:47. Sophomore Caitlyn Mercer, a Lubbock product, finished 11th with a time of 25:52.

"I was very proud of Romero getting her first collegiate win after being able to make a good move and keep her lead," explained Coach Vance.

Both SPC teams dominated the previous meet at the Western Texas College Open on Sept. 16 in Snyder.

"Our guys ran well for it being a tough course with the different hills and it being wild country up there," said Coach Vance. "If you compared our returners' times from last year to this year, they significantly improved overall."

The Texans placed first in the men's team competition, with Kosegi leading the charge and placing first individually with a time of 26:24.

While sweeping the top four spots, the Texans placed six runners in the top 10, averaging a team time of 27:34.

Bosquez placed second

with a time of 27:25. Beyene placed third with a time of 27:34, while Rono placed fourth with a time of 27:48.

The Lady Texans continued their impressive performance by placing second as a team with an average time of 21:52.6 in the women's 5k.

"On the women's side of the race, I thought we competed well against a tough team in ENMU, which we see day in and day out," Coach Vance said. "I was really excited that our team competed hard with such a great group as them and taking it down to the wire and fall short in the tiebreaker."

Dala paced the Lady Texans, placing third with a time of 20:39. Romero placed fourth with a time of 20:49, and Gahekave placed fifth with a time of 21:05. Mercer finished 10th with a time of 22:53, and Agnes Abrocquah finished 13th with a time of 23:57.

The Texans and Lady Texans will host the South Plains College Open on Oct. 7 in Levelland.

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Personal issue becomes reality TV for NFL running back

by **DOM PUENTE**
Staff Writer

Eddie Lacy has continued to receive negative remarks for his weight issues that have become public throughout past seasons.

The former running back for the Green Bay Packers faced criticism for the weight gained the past three seasons. Although he did have two 1,000-yard rushing seasons for the Packers, many critics and fans pointed out that the down fall of his production has been his weight.

While Lacy made the point that he understands the argument that his past coaches and followers made, he reminds his followers in an ESPN article written by Kevin Van Valkenburg that he isn't ignoring the fact that the low production may be due to his weight.

But in the article, Lacy presents the point that he is only human. I related to this problem Lacy is facing because I understand the frustration of controlling weight issues.

The sports world creates the persona of being a finely-tuned performance machine, when all athletes are actually human and face different issues behind closed doors.

Isympathize with Lacy, because it can be hard controlling weight loss and gain. Tons of people and athletes deal with this type of situation, but the lime light is never cast upon those other athletes because they are over or under weight.

I understand that it is in any team's best interest to correct any problems in order to get better. But when a head coach



and organization such as Green Bay specifically say it is a player's weight and continues to address it in such a manner, that can be demoralizing for a person.

As a normal non-professional athlete, I would be embarrassed and over-whelmed with the thought of everyone who has social media can continuously make negative comments about my weight or a personal problem I am facing.

Lacy makes that point in the article, mentioning the countless notifications he has received being called "fat" or being body shamed. His weight has been made a focal point of game-day discussions when he steps onto the field on Sundays for his new team, the Seattle Seahawks.

After stepping away from the Packers last season, Lacy felt that things would look up after moving to Seattle. However, I am disappointed with the Seahawks organization for the way they are handling Lacy's weight problem.

They Seahawks had

come to an agreement with Lacy that allows Seattle periodical weigh-ins to keep his weight in check throughout the season. If it was acceptable, Lacy would receive a bonus. However, if he failed, Lacy would see less playing time until his weight was under control.

I can agree with this type of deal if it was kept within the organization. But instead of keeping it in the "house," the Seahawks and Lacy's agent openly post updates after he walks off the scale. Lacy says he had presumed that the weigh-ins would stay private, but the organization had other plans.

By having public weigh-ins, it only brings more negativity to an athlete who already is receiving endless amounts of criticism from everyone who has the ability to talk about it on a social networking level.

I see society perceiving professional athletes as having "god-like" abilities when it comes to training, performing, and achieving what we call greatness in the sports world. Yet we

don't notice the flaws of performing at these levels, such as injuries, long-term damage to bodies from

playing for years, and, at times, mental wear on athletes.

Sports enthusiasts, do not hear about athletes going through difficult times in their lives, whether it be physical or mental issues until they are past their prime or retired.

For Lacy, he is constantly facing demons night and day because his weight has been made the focal point of his career in the NFL. He achieved great things at Alabama in his college career, which should be an example when future teams are curious about what Lacy can bring to them.

Instead of finding more

reasonable solutions to handle Lacy and his weight issues, the Seahawks are publicizing his weigh-ins as if it is reality TV.

At the end of the day, Lacy is one man, one athlete, one human being, who has emotions, feelings, and personal problems he has to deal with each day. Continuing to talk about Lacy and his weight as a casual topic on Sunday mornings, or as a segment on "Sportscenter," or even as a simple negative post on social media, can take a toll on a person mentally, no matter the status of the individual.

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Lady Texans kick off fall rodeo season with first place finish

by **DOM PUENTE**
Staff Writer

The South Plains College women's and men's rodeo teams kicked off the fall season with the Lady Texans getting their first team victory.

The Lady Texans placed first overall at the Eastern New Mexico University Rodeo, which was held Sept. 21-Sept. 23 in Portales, N.M., opening the season with a positive note.

While finishing 60 points ahead of second-place Tarleton State University, the Lady Texans put up a total of 255 points.

"Our women's team faired very well overall, bringing back the team win the help of Alex Odle and Jenna Dallyn," explained Kerry Doster, head rodeo coach at SPC. "Our overall performance in all the events left me pleased with the adversity we faced."

Sophomore Alex Odle advanced to the short round in barrel racing after putting up a time of 17.41 in the long round of the event. Odle finished with an average time of 35.21 and placed first in the short round with a time of 17.80, finishing

the rodeo with 175 points. Also, sophomore Jenna Dallyn landed herself a spot in the final round of the breakaway roping

with the ENMU women's overall title. Sophomore Zack Kirkpatrick represented the SPC men in the final round

are also some things that need to be fixed for our next rodeo."

Both the men's and women's rodeo teams

As for the Lady Texans, they will be looking to defend their Western Junior College Athletic Conference Championship. In

Gonzales finished her freshman season ranked 15th in the region in the breakaway roping event. Odle finished her freshman year ranked 11th in the final region barrel racing standings, and Dallyn completed her freshman year ranked eighth in the region in the goat tying event.

The Texans ended their season last year with a ninth-place finish in the Southwest Region, but have high hopes of being a force in the race for the conference title this season.

Sophomore Chet Boren placed first in the Southwest Region in the steer wrestling event and advanced to the College National Finals Rodeo last year, finishing 14th.

Texans Kade Sherwood and Stefan Ramone ended their first year in the team roping event with fifth place in the region and are looking to bring the regional crown back to SPC.



Alex Odle practices roping at the SPC Rodeo Arena on Sept. 20.
MATT MOLINAR/PLAINSMAN PRESS

of the tiedown roping event, putting up a time of 10.5 in the long round. Kirkpatrick finished his rodeo performance with an average time of 110.5 to place ninth overall.

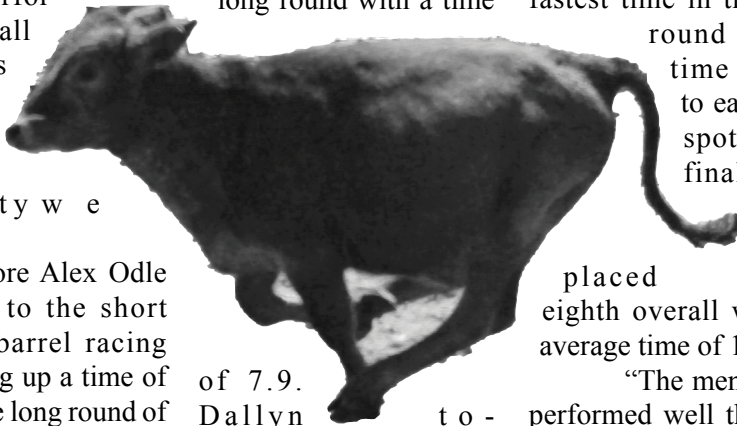
SPC's Cody Huwa paired with Weatherford College's Taylor Schmidt in the team roping event, finishing with the third fastest time in the long round with a time of 6.9 to earn their spot in the finals. The pair placed eighth overall with an average time of 106.9.

"The men's team performed well throughout the adversity and conditions early on," explained Coach Doster. "We have some things that went right for us, but there

event after a dominant performance in the first round with a time of 3.2 seconds. She fell short of breaking the barrier in the final round.

Dallyn placed sixth overall while scoring 25 points in the event. She also earned a final-round spot in the goat tying event after winning the long round with a time

of 7.9. Dallyn totaled 55 points after her final run in the short round with a time of 19.4, placing ninth overall and finishing the rodeo



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are looking to build off their success from last season after having been represented at the College National Finals Rodeo.

order to accomplish that, the Lady Texans will be looking toward returning sophomores Avery Gonzales, Odle and Dallyn.

Low concession prices surprise fans at new Atlanta Stadium

by **NICOLE LOPEZ**
Sports Editor

In a world where concessions at sports events are over-priced, there is one place that isn't like the rest.

Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta is the place to go if you want quality food and drinks for a surprisingly reasonable price. I know the Mercedes-Benz Stadium concession prices isn't something new, since it was talked about a little last year when the stadium was still being built. But, I don't think it's being talked about enough.

I didn't hear about the

prices are \$3, and the most "expensive" item on the menu is chicken tenders, which cost \$6. Even a 12-ounce can of Bud Light is only \$5! That is unheard of, compared to other concession prices at other stadiums.

I remember going to a Los Angeles Lakers game and the food and drinks were very pricey. My husband and I ate before the game, because we both knew the prices were going to be expensive. I've also seen the Padres play at Petco Park in San Diego, and concessions there were

pricey as well. One beer was around \$7, and a soda was around \$5. I think a hot dog was around \$6.

sion stand prices these days are outrageous.

Sports owners need to take notes from Arthur Blank, owner of the Atlanta Falcons, and Rich McKay, president of the Atlanta Falcons. Even though the Falcons may lose revenue on the reduced concession prices, the Falcons organization is expecting the revenue to increase from ticket and sponsorship sales. It's a good strategy.

McKay told the press in an article that his goal was to "change the concession experience and the way people perceive it" and to "create a core menu that allows a family or a group to go to a game and not have to eat beforehand because the food is so expensive."

McKay is right. People perceive concession stand prices as costly, and they're more than likely going to buy food somewhere else before the game. With concession prices alone, organizations are losing money because of the high prices.

If you lower the prices for concessions, more people are going to eat at the concession stand. If all organizations lowered the concession stand prices, they would easily make more money.

I know for sure if I'm ever in Atlanta, I would definitely be attending an event at the new stadium and I wouldn't hesitate to buy food or beverages from the concession stand either, (and more than likely a beer).

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low prices until I was watching "Sunday Night Football" when Green Bay was playing Atlanta. The commentators were discussing concession prices, and my parents and I couldn't believe it.

At the new Atlanta stadium, a regular soda is only \$2, with bottomless refills! Pizza slices, nachos, and waffle fries

It's surprising to think concession stands can actually not be over-priced. It's blowing my mind every time I think about it. A lot of people may not see this as a big deal, but it is! I'm one of those people who would like to eat at a sports event and not spend \$50 on myself while only purchasing three items. The conces-

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Plainsman Press

Hidden History . . .

Local historian sheds insight on Hockley County settlement

by MATT MOLINAR
Editor-in-Chief

Hockley County has been the site of many historic events that have left a mark on its thriving culture.

According to Dr. Sharon K. Bogener, professor of History and Government at South Plains College, the settlement of Levelland dates back to the 1800s, at a time when Native American civilization was compressed into small reservations.

As part of earning her PhD, Dr. Bogener meticulously studied the history of Levelland, where she was born, raised, attended high school, and currently resides. She agrees that she has studied Levelland her whole life.

An inventor by the name of Charles William Post founded the county with Oxsheer Ranch in 1906. He later surveyed the town of Post, named after him, in 1912. Two years after platting Hockley City, Post committed suicide after suffering an ongoing stomach illness.

a member of the first Board of Regents at the college, where he helped gain legislative approval in 1957.

"There are tons of stories that happened throughout the history of Hockley County," Dr. Bogener said. "They're all linked to the

At the Double Lakes, south of Lubbock. If you go by now, you can't see the lakes at all. And they're on private property."

At the Double Lakes, the soldiers and buffalo hunters met Parker and a group of other Native Americans, who had permission to leave the reservation.

According to Dr. Bogener, the Casas Amarillas, or Yellow Houses, are linked to many historical tales, including that of Quanah Parker, a Comanche Indian chief, and Nicolas Noland of the Tenth Cavalry, a United States Army Major during the Civil War.

"In 1877, there was a group of soldiers at Fort Concho. The soldiers were part of Troup A of the 10th Cavalry. The hunters and soldiers joined forces," she said. "They met up at the Double Lakes, south of Lubbock. If you go by now, you can't see the lakes at all. And they're on private property."

At the lakes, Parker deterred the soldiers to allow the Native Americans who raided the hunters to escape.

"They sent them to Cedar Lake, close to Seminole, while the Indians could go somewhere else," explained Dr. Bogener. "When they ended up

signs of the Native Americans at Rich Lake, Noland and his troops followed the signs northwest, into Hockley County, where they camped. The troops realized that they had not filled their canteens at the Double Lakes.

"They get out here, to become dehydrated. These men were suffering now from the lack of water," Dr. Bogener said. "The Indians are back in the sand dunes watching these guys with a pair of high-powered, government-issued binoculars, and I'm sure they thought it was hilarious. In the morning, they head to the northeast and stop because they have to make a decision."

The men decide to head to another salt lake called "Silver Lake," before moving on to the Casas Amarillas, where they thought a spring would run. However, Captain Noland disagreed with the soldiers. He suggested they head back to the where they knew there was water, the Double Lakes.

"So, he makes his men continue on down until they are in the middle of Hockley County, just south of where we are now," Dr. Bogener said. "Now this was 1877. It was July, and they were having temperatures of over 100 degrees every day during a drought. Other than the Double Lakes, there really wasn't water anywhere else."

According to Dr. Bogener, the soldiers, who were dressed in heavy, wool, navy blue uniforms died off one by one until four soldiers were dead. The men who survived did so by taking extreme measures.

"They lived primarily because every time the horse or one of the men urinated, they would

ed, they would chew on the blood clots of the horse to ingest whatever moisture they could."

The remaining troops made their final trek toward the Double Lakes, ending a week-long chase. Once they arrived at the salt lake, the soldiers consumed as much water as they could in morning, relief. However, due to the amount of salt in the lake, the men threw up much of what they consumed, but slowly regained hydration.

"The four soldiers that remained were court marshaled," Dr. Bogener added. "The person who should have been court marshaled was Captain Noland. It was his responsibility to tell his men that they may need extra canteens."

Many of the events that occurred throughout the history of Hockley County are marked with placards placed throughout the area. Many stand alone on barren land, while others remain on private property.

Dr. Bogener says that there are many historic events that took place in Hockley County. She says that stories like this show that "we have history in our backyard."

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Photos by TOVI OYER-VIDEZ/ PLAINSMAN PRESS



The town later became the county seat in 1921, and a year later was renamed "Levelland," an homage to the land's topography, according to Dr. Bogener.

Before the town's current courthouse was built, a temporary house with a jail was built a short distance away, northeast of where the current building stands.

"After that, it just grew," Dr. Bogener said. "The railroad came in 1925, and it was a huge deal. The railroad prompted the town to survive. It also grew primarily because of farming, up until about 1938, when oil was discovered in the Sundown area. South Plains College also greatly contributed to the growth of Levelland, 60 years ago."

According to Dr. Bogener, her father, Charlie Sanders, was

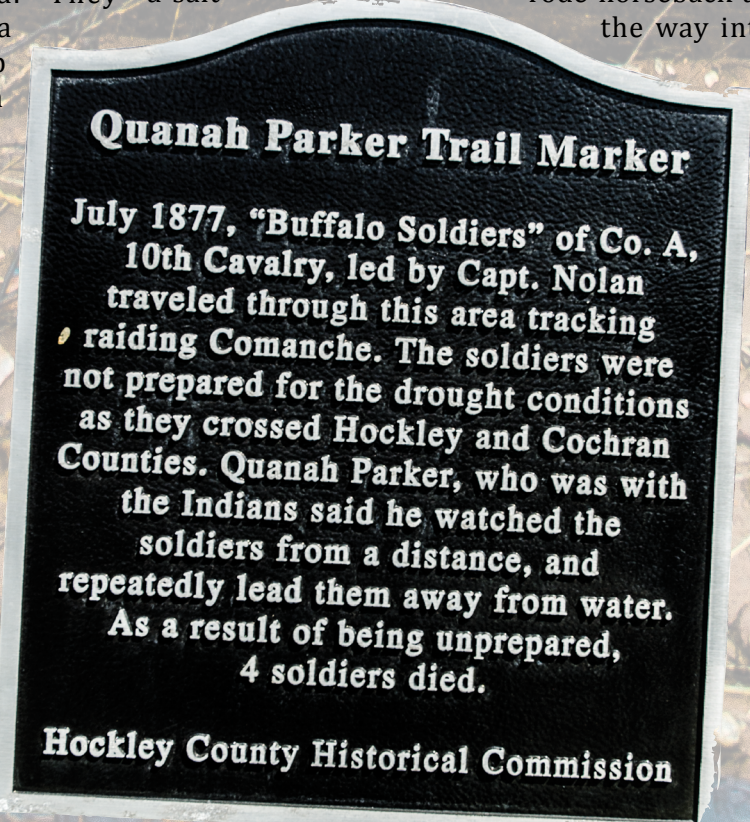
a group of Comanche Indians who left the reservations and raided down into Texas," Dr. Bogener said. "They raided into a buffalo camp called Rath City. They stole some horses and killed a man. Of course, the other buffalo hunters were not going to let the Indians get away with this."

According to Dr. Bogener, the buffalo hunters began to chase the Indians. As the chase went on, Parker, along with the other Native Americans, came across

lake called Rich Lake, in Terry County." At Rich Lake, the

and they're essentially out of water," Dr. Bogener said. "None the less, they went on. They rode horseback all the way into

Cochran County and into Roosevelt County, New Mexico."



lake called Rich Lake, in Terry County."

At Rich Lake, the

Cochran County and into Roosevelt County, New Mexico."

At Rich Lake, the