Rebuilding History
the Little Clinic that Could
a Tradition of Service
Student Body and Mind
Rebuilding History
Message from the President

Dear Friends:

The seasons bring their individual personalities to a college campus. Counter to the seasonal calendar, fall on a university campus is a time of beginnings as the academic year starts anew. As the fall progresses, students in the residence halls settle into comfortable routines and the enjoyment of campus life while athletics begins its transition from football and volleyball to basketball. The holiday season, which in San Angelo takes on a festive air with seasonal concerts by our music students and with millions of lights strung along the Concho River downtown, reminds students and faculty that the fall semester is drawing to a close.

As the season of rebirth on the calendar, spring is a time of continuation on campus as students resume their classes and continue their friendships and activities while athletics moves from basketball to softball and baseball. For seniors, the spring is a special time as they reach May and graduation. Certainly, the classroom experience is a major part of our students’ education, but another aspect of their education comes through the community service encouraged by the university.

Over the past decade the university has witnessed a greater awareness of and participation in community service activities by students, faculty and staff. High school students bring an expectation with them to college of the need to reach out to others. While my college generation of the ‘60s might have sought to “change the world,” successive decades have refocused attention on more local outcomes.

This issue of Angelo State University Magazine takes as its theme the topic of “service.” Our cover reflects one of the most exceptional and longstanding of these activities, the operation of the San Jacinto School Health Clinic by the Department of Nursing. This facility represents one of the last school-based clinics in the state and provides critical health care services to elementary students who lack insurance. As importantly, our nursing students gain valuable experience as they provide this vital community service.

Another noteworthy example of community service is part of the curriculum of our physical therapy program. To thank the community for its significant infusion of funding to start the Angelo State University Magazine

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Angelo State University Magazine

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Editor’s Note: Teaching, research and service make up the academic trinity that universities address in fulfilling their commitment to society. This issue of ASU Magazine looks at the various and other surprising ways in which students, faculty and even alumni serve their communities.

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For the past 15 years, the open door policy of the San Jacinto School Health Clinic has meant regular care for some of the community’s neediest children even as ASU’s Department of Nursing struggled to keep those doors open. New quarters have brought new life to the model clinic.

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On the cover: Things are looking up for 4-year-old Braden Mel Luna and the San Jacinto School Health Clinic operated by Angelo State University’s Department of Nursing in new quarters. (Photo by Danny Meyer)

Back cover: Roscoe rides high on the mechanical bull during Rambunctious Weekend, ASU’s expanded celebration welcoming students to campus prior to fall classes. (Photo by Danny Meyer)
Top Dollar for Defense

A $2.4 million Department of Defense grant, the largest ever awarded to Angelo State University, will provide the infrastructure for a new Center for Security Studies on campus.

The award, announced in late September by U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison’s office, is the first step in a model project to demonstrate how a university and a military installation, in this case Goodfellow Air Force Base, can work together on the nation’s intelligence training needs.

ASU’s Center for Security Studies will provide an administrative umbrella for a variety of programs which will augment educational needs at Goodfellow for security and intelligence training, research and policy analysis. The new center will integrate expertise at ASU and the Texas Tech University System (TTUS) with programs at Goodfellow, focusing on areas of concern to the U.S. Air Force.

“This is an innovative approach,” said ASU President Joseph C. Rallo, “to how Angelo State can support some of Goodfellow’s needs while creating new programs that will help the university’s enrollment growth.”

Initially, the Center for Security Studies will provide a Bachelor of Arts in International Cultural Fluency, focusing on the language, culture and traditions of the Middle East, Europe, Africa and China. The target audience for the new degree would be members of the Goodfellow AFB faculty who hold associate degrees. While the new program would be targeted to helping the military faculty complete their bachelor’s degrees, the new degree would also be available to ASU students, creating an innovative degree opportunity to enhance ASU’s recruitment and retention efforts. The new ASU center would also work to expand language training in Arabic, Mandarin and French.

The initial $2.4 million will be used to provide infrastructure support in the renovation of the Hardeman Administration Building, which will undergo a $12 million renovation project beginning this year to turn the building into a one-stop center for student services and international studies programs. When the building reopens in 2010 as the Hardeman Student Services Center, it will include instructional media and facilities which will be used by the Center for Security Studies.

While some details remain to be finalized on the expenditures, the ASU grant monies are set to provide $1.02 million for information technology equipment; $400,000 for advanced hall technology; $250,000 for a video smart conference room; $230,000 for language instructional labs; and $100,000 for communication/data support.

In addition to the grant for infrastructure, ASU is working with TTUS to secure an additional $2.5 million in ongoing programmatic support for the Center for Security Studies.
Watching

True individual privacy is likely a relic of the past and the fault lies with today’s technological conveniences, such as cell phones, surveillance cameras and even medical equipment.

That sobering assessment comes from Ohio University political science professor Dr. John Gilliom and Dr. Torin Monahan, an associate professor of both human and organizational development and medicine at Vanderbilt University. Both spoke at ASU in October during the 2008 Dr. E. James Holland University Symposium on American Values.

“This old, individualistic notion that we can be all alone in our private worlds is getting to be a little bit out of touch,” Gilliom said. “It’s getting a little bit irrelevant because of surveillance.”

Gilliom’s research, studying the effects new forms of surveillance are having on people, focuses on gender, class and ethnicity. Monahan’s research examines technology’s increasing control of society and the impact on privacy.

“Increasingly, there is nothing we can hide,” Monahan said. “The surveillance society is here to stay. There are all of these innovative technologies that have their accompanying risks. We need to critically assess surveillance systems and demand they serve the social good.”

Gilliom cited the ubiquitous cell phone as a surveillance tool. “Think of them as personal surveillance devices,” Gilliom said. “There is a GPS chip in it which can locate you to within five meters, or your position can be triangulated from cell phone towers.”

Monahan said some of the newest surveillance technology is more invasive than credit cards and video cameras, even tapping into your body.

“Surveillance also includes a host of technologies such as commercial body monitoring systems for health purposes and iris scans to gain access to restricted areas,” he said.

Somatic surveillance, where people’s bodies are hooked up to sensors that relay information into analyzable data bases, reduce people to data and could allow them to be controlled while ignoring the social and political context of such technology, Monahan said.

“Commercial body monitoring systems allow bodies to become data producers unto themselves and provide information services for those willing to pay,” he said.

Gilliom said that society must move beyond privacy as such technology continues to expand. “Privacy is not a very successful tool for people trying to limit surveillance in their lives,” Gilliom said. “If the choice is dying or living with surveillance, people will take surveillance.”

Everybody’s

The ‘Low’ Down on Business

Texas is doing better economically than much of the rest of the U.S. and the state’s future business prospects should be a source for optimism for today’s business students.

That was the message from W. Mark Low, founder and CEO of Juno Energy LLC and featured speaker for ASU’s 2008 Wells Fargo Distinguished Lecture- ship in Business.

A 30-year veteran of both the financial and production sides of the oil and gas industry, Low said that despite “phenomenal volatility” in the stock market, oil prices and the value of the U.S. dollar, he is not the only one who thinks Texas is the place to be right now.

“I saw an article in the Financial Times out of the United Kingdom,” Low said, “and they were looking at all the regions around the world that were likely best able to survive this economic recession. Texas was their No. 1 place.”

Reasons for that include the fact that Texas is a relatively inexpensive place to do business, has relatively low taxation and has a labor base that is educated and willing to work. Also, the state’s real estate costs did not go up as fast as much of the rest of the country, so do not have as far to come down.

“We still need to be cognizant of what is going on in the rest of the country and the world,” Low said. “But, we also have to really focus on what it is that we do well that makes Texas well-positioned to both survive this economic downturn and prosper and go forward.”

A 1978 ASU graduate, Low worked 24 years as an accountant at Arthur Andersen LLP in Dallas, overseeing its $500-million-a-year North American Oil and Gas Industry Practice. He has also been the chief financial officer for several energy companies and his Juno Energy LLC now averages a monthly income of about $2 million. He said the key to his success was his ASU education that he would stack up against any other school in the country.

“There was never an instance where I found that my educational training was lacking as compared to people from those other universities,” Low said. “Also, the people we (Arthur Andersen) hired from ASU had a very good track record. You ought to feel very good about the education that you get here.”

The Wells Fargo Distinguished Lecture- ship in Business is in its 14th year at ASU and is underwritten annually by the local Wells Fargo Bank.
Star Award Finalist
ASU's Office of Supplemental Instruction was named a finalist for the prestigious 2008 Texas Higher Education Star Award from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

Established in 2001, the Star Awards recognize exceptional contributions toward one or more of the goals outlined in the Texas higher education plan "Closing the Gaps by 2015."

Supplemental instruction is an academic assistance program that uses peer-led group study to help students succeed in traditionally difficult courses. ASU's Office of Supplemental Instruction (OSI) opened in 2005 and currently offers support in 13 courses. OSI is part of the Center for Academic Excellence. The office is staffed by at least one director, one assistant director, one graduate assistant, and 10 student assistants.

Legislative Priorities
With the start of the 81st Regular Session of the Texas Legislature, Angelo State University will go through its first bimonthly appropriations process as a member of the Texas Tech University System.

"They are helping us with our teaching loads right now because we were short," Wilkinson said. "They both also fill things that we hope to expand in the future."

"One of the challenges we knew we would face is how to engage our distance team, even from a distance," Mayrand said.

"What makes this accomplishment that much more meaningful is that the Web site was judged by students in other Honors Programs," said Dr. Nick Flynn, director of the ASU Honors Program. "This means that we are reaching our primary intended audience and obviously doing a good job at it."

"This is an ambitious list," Rallo said, "but one reflecting our commitment to achieve excellence in teacher preparation across disciplines so that the institution will be accredited, not just the college or department."

"Achieving NCATE accreditation for the university," said Miaza, "means our graduates will meet a standard of excellence in teacher preparation that is recognized not just across the state but through our community and region to and in increasing our enrollment in line with Texas Tech University System goals."

NCATE Candidacy
ASU has been accepted as a formal candidate for accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) for the university's professional education offerings through the College of Education and other academic departments.

NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board will schedule an accreditation visit in the spring of 2010. Prior to the visit the College of Education will develop with other ASU departments an extensive report documenting how current ASU programs meet NCATE's six standards and multiple sub-standards.

Currently, ASU's education programs are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and by the State Board for Educator Certification/Texas Education Agency. NCATE, according to Dr. John J. Miaza, dean of the ASU College of Education, is the national accreditation for teacher education.

"NCATE accreditation means we will be aligning with a national set of standards for teacher preparation," said Miaza. "These standards are designed to achieve excellence in teacher preparation across disciplines so that the institution will be accredited, not just the college or department."

"Achieving NCATE accreditation for the university," said Miaza, "means our graduates will meet a standard of excellence in teacher preparation that is recognized not just across the state but through our community and region to and in increasing our enrollment in line with Texas Tech University System goals."

First Generation Scholarships
ASU's new Multicultural and Community Relations Center has awarded its inaugural First Generation Scholarships to four freshmen from San Angelo and Del Rio.

The scholarship program, which grants the largest individual scholarship amounts on campus, was established to provide additional opportunities for students whose parents did not attend college...
briefs

Robert Hummingbird and Siberia Sosa of San Angelo and Del Rio students Hector Flores and Sabrina Gonzales were each awarded $7,000 scholarships for the 2008-09 academic year. Joe Muñoz, ASU assistant to the president for multicultural and community relations, said, “The scholarships provide an additional financial incentive to help first generation students discover the value of a college education and set an example for others in their family and their community.”

Nursing Grant

The Department of Nursing has received a $3,784 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Bureau of Health Professions to continue the department’s Nursing Faculty Loan Program (NFLP). The NFLP awards low-interest loans to selected ASU graduate students to pay for tuition, fees, books and supplies as they work towards master’s degrees in nursing with a nurse educator focus. Another attractive aspect of the program is that once a student graduates and is hired by a school of nursing, 85 percent of the loan is forgiven over a four-year period as long as the recipient remains on the faculty. The ASU Nursing Department has been funded for the NFLP since 2003.

Blue & Gold Guarantee

Beginning in the fall of 2009, ASU will implement its Blue and Gold Guarantee, providing full tuition and mandatory fees for freshmen students coming from families with a combined adjusted gross income of $40,000 or less. The new program will serve Texas residents who are entering college as first-time freshmen and meet the program’s criteria, including completing all financial aid application requirements by April 1. In announcing the Blue and Gold Guarantee, ASU President Joseph C. Rallo said, “Historically, Angelo State has opened the doors to higher education for thousands of students through a strong package of financial aid and scholarships. The Blue and Gold Guarantee provides another option for prospective students whose financial circumstance might otherwise limit their ability to attend college.”

The Blue and Gold Guarantee would cover all required tuition and fees over eight long semesters, which is typically the fall and spring terms. Participants would be required to enroll in a minimum of 15 semester credit hours each semester. The program does not cover room, board, books or miscellaneous charges. Individuals seeking additional information should contact the ASU Financial Aid Office at (325) 942-2246.

PEOPLE WHO MAKE ASU GREAT

Lyn Wheeler

Lyn Wheeler, ASU’s director of financial aid, has been named to the Texas Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (TASFAA) Hall of Fame. A 20-year veteran in her field, Wheeler has worked in the ASU Financial Aid Office since 1992 and has been director since 2001. She is now one of only 20 members of the TASFAA Hall of Fame. Her selection was announced at the organization’s 2008 fall conference in Houston.

Criteria for induction include seniority, at least three years of TASFAA membership, commitment to assisting students with financial aid, integrity, and actions that have resulted in lasting improvements in the policies and procedures of financial aid administration. Wheeler is a former TASFAA president and was just elected to her second consecutive term as a delegate-at-large on the organization’s board of directors.

Norman Sunderman

Dr. Norman Sunderman, ASU professor of accounting, has been honored with a 2008 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award from the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA). Sunderman received his award in the small four-year college/university category during the TSCPA’s Fall Accounting Educators Conference.

The statewide TSCPA Outstanding Accounting Educator Awards honor Texans who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and have distinguished themselves through active service to the accounting profession. Criteria for judging include instructional innovation, student motivation, the pursuit of learning opportunities for students, involvement in student and professional accounting organizations, and research accomplishments and publications. A 22-year faculty member in the Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance, Sunderman received a “Rammy Award” as 2007-08 Professor of the Year in the ASU College of Business. He is a member of the Texas Society of CPAs, affiliated with the San Angelo chapter and is a 22-year member of the San Angelo Symphony.

Paul Swets,
R. Gary Pumphrey

Two Angelo State faculty members have been awarded prestigious National Science Foundation grants to conduct regional studies in collaboration with other universities. Dr. Paul Swets, head of the mathematics department, received a $1.16 million subaward as part of a total $6 million NSF grant to the members of the West Texas Middle School Mathematics Partnership that also includes Texas Tech University, Sul Ross State University, UT-Permian Basin, the Lubbock Independent School District and the University of Texas at Austin. The project will study the impact on the learning of mathematics. The project will also examine teaching methods in a variety of middle schools to determine the impact of cultural diversity and language on the learning of mathematics. The project will also examine the impact of the resource constraints faced by rural schools on teaching and learning. The study could result in a new national model for training future teachers. The project is expected to impact more than 150 teachers and 50,000 students over its five-year duration.

The geography study will investigate the impact on the Ogallala aquifer, which underlies portions of eight states, including Texas, of increased corn production. The study will also look at the natural source for ethanol. It requires significantly more water than other crops grown on the High Plains. Because Ogallala water is being mined faster than it can be replenished, the research will measure community attitudes toward both free market and regulatory approaches to allocating water resources in the affected areas of the Plains states.

Kenneth Stewart,
Casey Jones

Sociology professor Dr. Kenneth L. Stewart will chair and govern-ment professor Dr. Casey Jones will serve on the 15-member Complete Count Committee for Tom Green County and the City of San Angelo. Formed by San Angelo area civic and government leaders, the group’s goals include ensuring that all residents are counted in the 2010 census, increasing awareness of the count’s importance, identifying difficult-to-count areas and helping recruit personnel for Census Bureau operations. Stewart and Jones are directors of ASU’s Community Development Initiatives program, which is designed to aid in community development by developing ways to raise the local median household income and reduce poverty in the area.

Joseph C. Rallo

Angelo State President Joseph C. Rallo has been appointed to a three-year term on the Committee on International Education of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). The AACSU represents 430 public institutions of higher education in the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and seeks to promote appreciation and support for public higher education. The Committee on International Education of the AACSU addresses expanding opportunities for study abroad, to increase recruitment of international students and to foster good legislation, policy and public attitudes toward international education.

ASU Cheerleaders

Angelo State’s 2008-09 cheer leading squad qualified in November to compete in this spring’s Universal Cheerleaders Association College National in Orlando, Fla.

The 18-member squad qualified for the semifinals after entering a video of their skills, cheers and routines. Cheerleading coach Kim Kuhns said the one-minute cheer and 90-second music routine included squad tumbling, dance, basket tosses, pyramids and group stunts. The squad will compete against all-girl NCAA Division II squads in the semifinals for a chance to advance to the finals.

In Memoriam

Otto W. Tetzlaff

Otto W. Tetzlaff, 78, whose love of teaching and the German language influenced a generation of ASU students, died Nov. 4 in Austin. Tetzlaff served full-time on the ASU faculty from 1969-99 and then assisted the Modern Languages Department after his retirement. During his ASU tenure, including many years as head of modern languages, he received a prestigious Minnie Stevens Piper Professorship for outstanding teaching and a Fulbright Fellowship to Berlin. A native of Pomerania in eastern Germany, Tetzlaff immigrated to the United States in 1954. He held degrees from Northern Illinois University, University of Illinois Champagne/Urbana and the University of North Carolina.

Upon his retirement, the board of regents designated him a distinguished professor of German emeritus. His ASU colleagues remembered him during a campus memorial service Dec. 6.

Black Recital Hall

A recital hall in the Carr Education-Fine Arts Building has been renamed in honor of Elton L. Black, who taught voice for ASU for more than a half century. The Elton L. Black Recital Hall was christened Oct. 9 with a reception and a tribute recital by members of the music faculty. Black taught at ASU from 1954 until his death in 2005. The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents authorized the naming of the recital hall in his honor.
The Little Clinic that Could

For health care, Wall resident Jennifer Reynosa brings her five children to the San Jacinto School Health Clinic managed by Angelo State University’s Department of Nursing in northeast San Angelo.

Other children come from just down the street or from across town, all seeking the health care their families might not otherwise be able to afford. For them, San Jacinto School Health Clinic provides a community service that has been a figurative if not literal life saver.

“Every once in a while, like Reynosa, who 13 years ago brought her daughter Savannah in for her two-year-old immunizations.

“I always came back because that first visit was just awesome,” Reynosa said. “Some times, if I’m not on the ball, the kids’ Medicaid lapses. But, they have never refused my kids treatment. I also know that if something happens in the future and something happens to their Medicaid, the clinic will still see my kids.”

Reynosa’s other children, Gerson, age 7, Jarrett, 6, Angelina, 4, and Jack, 2, have also gotten well checks, immunizations and physicals at San Jacinto Clinic as well as treatment for minor illnesses. Jarrett also has received referrals to specialists for cardiology, asthma, and speech and hearing needs.

“They treat you like a person here instead of a number,” Reynosa said. “If I have questions or don’t understand something, they will take the time to explain it to me so I know how to care for the kids. If I have questions about medicine, they don’t act like ‘hurry up, we’ve got other things to do.’ They are just awesome here.”

Her 15-year-old daughter, Savannah, agreed. “Instead of just treating me, they also talk to me about school and other things I’m doing to make me more comfortable. They have formed a relationship with us that is more like family than a business relationship.”

Since 1994, more than 5,000 local and area students like Savannah have utilized the clinic’s various services. The clinic’s staff now sees an average of 800-900 kids a year whether they are covered by health insurance, Medicaid, Children’s Health Insurance Program of Texas (CHIP) or none of the above.

“Our policy,” said clinic nurse practitioner Sherrie Bradford, “is if you come here for health care, we will give it to you. We ask you to pay, but if you can’t, no questions, we will still treat you.”

In addition to the benefits it offers patients, the clinic also provides a prime educational venue for students in the ASU Nursing Department. While the clinic is staffed by a full-time RN, full-time operations assistant, part-time nurse practitioner and a work study nursing student, hundreds of other nursing students utilize the facility for important clinical training.

Marsha Baxter is working toward her bachelor’s degree in nursing and trains at the clinic by shadowing the regular staff and assisting with patient treatment as part of her community health and education unit.

“I’m getting to learn about all the hidden resources already available in our community for the underserved or underinsured,” Baxter said. “What I’m finding is there is a strong sense of community here. The people who use the clinic have a great access for health care, where they may not be able to get it in other areas.”

For all its successes, the clinic has struggled over the years just to stay open, so it was especially gratifying this past October when new and expanded quarters were dedicated for the clinic.

Located on the campus of San Jacinto Elementary School, but now known as the San Jacinto School Health Clinic and Family Wellness Center, the facility moved last fall from its original 600-square-foot building into a modern 3,400-square-foot structure. The larger space allowed clinic staff to start new health education and care programs while continuing to offer the immunizations, sick child care, wellness checks, school physicals and specialist referrals they have always provided.

“We will have programs that are accessible to families, that meet their needs,” said clinic program director Ferguson. “We know they will come because we have done some focus groups and exercise initiatives. Families show up because they know us and we have a relationship built with them. With more space, we are also going to be able to increase the number of our nursing students that can be involved.”

The new building includes several private exam rooms, an expanded reception and records area, separate offices and a large front waiting area that is bigger than the entire building that previously housed the clinic. No longer will patients be forced to sit in their vehicles or hang around outside on the school grounds while they wait for their turns to see a health professional.

The students in Baxter’s class performed a site assessment and provided tips on how to make the new facility friendlier for its young patients. They are also helping lay the groundwork for new programs like nutrition and fitness education, diabetic care and asthma care in the clinic’s Family Wellness Center.

“We are surveying the members of this community to find out what additional services they and the other people who use this clinic need,” Baxter said. “We want to expand the services here and make this more of a wellness center instead of just a clinic for immunizations and sick kids.”

Originally funded in 1994 by a three-year, $344,000 grant from the Texas Department of Health (TDH), the San Jacinto Clinic was actually part of a larger program that also opened a clinic at Reagan Elementary School and put a part-time nurse at Blackshear Elementary in 1996. The project was undertaken to supply much-needed nursing services for the San Angelo Independent School District (SAISD) and to expand educational opportunities for ASU nursing students.
“That was really our trigger-point because there was such a need,” Ferguson said. “Also, when we did our community health clinical rotation for students in our RN-to-BSN program, there were only four school nurses in the whole district. So, it was very difficult to get students that experience in a school nursing role.”

The project reached its previous high point in 1997 when it was awarded a three-year, $510,000 Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Nursing Special Projects Grant that took over for the expired TDH funding. That allowed for a full-time nurse at Blackshear and increased sick child services at Blackshear, Reagan and San Jacinto.

“The nurses were doing primary care and we had nurse practitioner care at each clinic every day for sick children,” Ferguson said. “The other elementary schools in town just had a nurse one day a week.”

But, things got a little rocky in 2000 when the DHHS grant ran out. The Blackshear and Reagan clinics were closed and it seemed that San Jacinto would soon share their fate. The DHHS grant ran out. The Blackshear and Reagan clinics were closed and it seemed that San Jacinto would soon share their fate.

Reagan clinics were closed and it seemed that San Jacinto would soon share their fate.

“The DHHS grant also funded three additional school nurse positions in the SAISD,” Ferguson said. “As a result of our work, their school nurse positions almost doubled and those positions have been sustained through the years.”

Today, the staff and supporters of the clinic are continually working to make sure the facility remains in place. The SAISD provided funding for the new building, covers the rent and continues to provide free utilities and custodial support. Meanwhile, Ferguson and other members of the ASU Nursing Department have secured funding from several private foundations to help pay for essential services and staffing.

“Today, the staff and supporters of the clinic are continually working to make sure the facility remains in place. The SAISD provided funding for the new building, covers the rent and continues to provide free utilities and custodial support. Meanwhile, Ferguson and other members of the ASU Nursing Department have secured funding from several private foundations to help pay for essential services and staffing.”

Of the clinic’s $175,000 annual operating cost, $46,500 comes from the state, $50-55,000 is generated by fees for clinic services and the rest comes from private sources. Grants from the Wolslager Foundation have been used to replace equipment, to pay for medication, lab tests and specialty care for uninsured patients, and to hire in 2004 a full-time RN that brought the clinic up to full staff.

Of the clinic’s $175,000 annual operating cost, $46,500 comes from the state, $50-55,000 is generated by fees for clinic services and the rest comes from private sources. Grants from the Wolslager Foundation have been used to replace equipment, to pay for medication, lab tests and specialty care for uninsured patients, and to hire in 2004 a full-time RN that brought the clinic up to full staff.

“The families in our community feel that this is a place that they are comfortable coming to for their medical needs and some of their social needs,” Rider said. “They know that we are not limited to just giving them medications or treating their health problems, that we want to really help them out. So, they feel like it is a real home for them and that is really a tribute to our staff and quality of care.”

Expansion of the clinic is just the latest example of the ASU Nursing Department’s continued efforts to help combat the drastic and ongoing shortage of nurses in Texas. “It provides our student nurses incredible experiences,” said ASU President Joseph C. Rallo. “But also, it is an example of our commitment to increasing our student nursing population through the creation of the new College of Nursing and Allied Health. We believe as the institution of choice for this part of the state, that we have a responsibility to provide persons who can engage in health care, and this is part of those activities.”

Not bad for a little school-based clinic that for awhile was living on borrowed time.

Dr. Leslie Mayrand, dean of the ASU College of Nursing and Allied Health, said that each time they decided it might be time to terminate the program, two things always stopped them.

“Is providing such a needed service,” Mayrand said. “It has also elevated the interest in school health. We have so many more school nurses now than when we started the project. It is such a beautiful model for our community.”

For more information, visit the SAHF website, sahf.org.
Students in ASU’s Physical Therapy (PT) Department can’t wait to start serving others. In fact, a service component has been built into the curriculum since the program accepted its first students in 2000. Public service as one way the program could pay back the community for raising more than $1 million to help ASU establish the Physical Therapy Department in the first place. As a result, PT students have done everything from securing a grant for fitness equipment installed along the walking trail at San Angelo’s Unidad Park to developing an exercise rehabilitation program for cardiac patients at Lillian M. Hudspeth Memorial Hospital in Sonora. Many of the department’s public service projects evolved from the PT administration and management course initiated by founding department head Kathy Cegles and continued by part-time instructor Dr. Rob Sarbach.

“Health awareness improvement is one of the greatest needs in many communities,” said Sarbach, also director of physical medicine at Shannon Medical Center. “A collaboration between health care providers and the community leads to greater general understanding of health as well as illness prevention.”

Student projects have included the development of exercise rooms and programs at the Baptist Memorial Retirement community, an animal assistance project that resulted in a new dog therapy program at the Shannon Medical Center Skilled Nursing Unit, and an indigent medical equipment project that spawned a resource Web site complete with contacts for free medical equipment like walkers and wheel chairs. Students also conducted a Smoke Free San Angelo project to increase public awareness of the negative effects of smoking, a multiple sclerosis pool project that resulted in formation of pool exercise classes for multiple sclerosis patients at the Community Health Club, and a health fair at the annual YMCA youth triathlon.

“These projects also benefit the PT students,” Sarbach said. “They get increased understanding and appreciation for the impact of community service, in general, and for services provided by health care professionals. They also improve the working knowledge of organizing, planning and executing a project in a timely manner, which can then be applied to future community projects and any other type of professional projects or assignments.”

Two projects that have become annual spring events are a Physical Therapy Symposium that provides a yearly education opportunity for local physical therapists and health care providers, and a Fun Run event that includes a health fair. About 100-150 people take advantage of those services every year. A couple of other projects taken on more recently by second-year PT students are part of the course work for their class on motor development and enhancement throughout the lifespan. During their spring pediatric unit, students visit the San Angelo Day Nursery and perform children’s assessments, consisting mainly of a battery of tests called Denver Development Screens that gauge child development.

“The screens involve things like checking their vital signs, like blood pressure and pulse rate,” Mason said. “They also look at their breathing ability, balance, conditioning and flexibility using the Physical Therapy Department’s research equipment.”

The screens are then followed up with assessments and tips for what the subjects should work on throughout the following year. Whenever possible, the students try to see the same subjects each year to follow their progress. Another project just started in 2008 is performing fall risk assessments for seniors at the annual Senior Spring Fling conducted by the Concho Valley Area Agency on Aging.

“The students have a wide range of patients,” Mason said. “Sometimes for a 20-year-old, 80 sounds like that person must be ancient.”

But, they get to see that there are a lot of dynamic 70- and 80-year-olds who are still very much engaged in life, are very physically active and have minimal or well-controlled health problems. They are still enjoying life and able to do lots of things.”

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A
ssisting fellow students to succeed in the classroom and, ultimately, in life provides the operating philosophy for graduate psychology students working in Angelo State University’s Psychological Assessment Center.

While they are serving other students and helping them cope with the challenges of college, the graduate students gain practical experience they can ultimately put to use in their careers.

The Psychological Assessment Center (PAC) operates each fall and spring by the Department of Psychology, Sociology and Social Work, pairs trained graduate students with other students who typically have academic problems, said Dr. Bill Montgomery, PAC director and professor of psychology at ASU.

Clinicians in the center come, for the most part, from the ASU counseling psychology program and must have completed Montgomery’s assessment course before they can accept clients.

Besides assuming duties in the center, the graduate students also sign up for Montgomery’s advanced psychological assessment course. For their efforts, they earn course credit, get real-world experience and learn the assessment side of counseling.

Student clients benefit from the evaluations and the recommended courses of action.

“Many of our referrals come from the ASU Counseling Center and the Office of Student Life,” said Montgomery, who is also a licensed psychologist. “We assess them to determine what might be contributing to their problems.

“They might have a specific learning disability, a condition that interferes with learning such as attention deficit hyperactiv-
History sells more than you may think. Take downtown San Angelo, for instance. As a commodity being packaged by the West Texas Collection and Angelo State University Honors Program students, history is helping both to promote the downtown and attract tourists and businesses to the city on the Concho.

“It’s fun to see people get turned on to history, especially students,” said Suzanne Campbell, who heads the historical archive at Angelo State University. “The best way to do it is through something that interests them, not just interests us, whether it’s a building or their family genealogy.”

Suzanne Campbell, Shirley Eoff

Historical buildings, however, provide the cornerstone for West Texas Collection (WTC) projects helping revive the early history of downtown San Angelo. With maps and documents from the WTC and with supervision from history professor Shirley Eoff, students from her Honors Program history class for the last four years have been researching the 19th and early 20th-century buildings along historic Concho Avenue and neighboring streets.

The resulting research papers are not only graded for credit but also turned over both to the building occupants, so they will appreciate the structures’ pasts, and to the directors of Downtown San Angelo Inc. for use in their redevelopment efforts.

Visitors to Concho Avenue today will find 100 red banners flying outside historical structures. The banners feature historical photos, most from the WTC, and list the buildings’ early names and functions. The banners have more than a cosmetic effect on downtown and the research papers offer more than just leisure reading. They have an economic impact.

“Historical tourism,” said Pamela Miller, vice president of Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce, “is very important to San Angelo. It helps establish and reinforce our identity, who we are and how history has made us this way. It tells the real stories about what happened here.”

San Angelo has a rich heritage and an appreciation of that history as demonstrated with the Fort Concho National Historic Landmark, Historic Orient-Santa Fe Depot, Old Town, Cactus Hotel, the downtown murals on local history and, as Miller describes them, “our many beautiful old buildings.”

“Heritage tourism is experiencing an area’s unique heritage and culture,” said Miller. “Many visitors comment about how well we use our historic buildings and try to preserve them for new uses. It is important to note that heritage tourism travelers spend more than their non-heritage tourism counterparts. They stay longer in an area to learn more and they come back more often.”

“Plus, I truly believe they are the strongest group for ‘word of mouth’ visits to San Angelo,” Miller continued. “They go home, tell the stories and what they learned, and then their friends and families follow.”

Dr. Eoff, by education an authority in British history, saw the downtown project as a great learning experience for her Honors students.

“My work in local and West Texas history began more as a community service initiative sponsored by the West Texas Collection,” Eoff said, “but it quickly developed into a means of enhancing the classroom experience for my Honors history students. Using West Texas Collection resources, I can provide first-hand training in methodology that reinforces classroom work and lets students become apprentice historians rather than just study historical topics. Most of the students really take pride in the work they have done, and it links them to the community in a unique and special way.”

Eoff agreed that the works serve not only an academic opportunity but also an economic benefit.

“The papers,” she said, “are reviewed by the West Texas Collection staff and then given to local historic preservation agencies for use in developing grant proposals, preservation plans and publicity materials for the city.”

The student work meshes nicely with the goals of the CVB and Downtown San Angelo Inc., a nonprofit organization committed to enhancing the downtown experience by developing a positive image of the area, creating a pedestrian friendly environment, increasing retail and tourist trade, filling empty buildings with best value and facilitating a healthy residential community downtown.

Del Vasquez, executive director of Downtown San Angelo Inc. (DSA), said, “The work is very important because I think we are establishing an identity for the downtown area but it overlaps the whole city. Bringing out the historical and cultural elements in that identity is helping us create a brand. A brand is critical because it says who we are and what we are trying to accomplish.”

For instance, DSA is working to capitalize on San Angelo’s four custom boot makers, each with a long downtown history, connecting the city’s frontier heritage with its future ability to attract tourists. These businesses provide an opportunity to develop a marketing brand that will appeal to a segment of the population.

“We now have four custom boot makers in the city, which is the most in Texas,” Vasquez said. “DSA Inc. is working with the boot makers and plans on advo- cating and getting the State Legislature to name us the ‘Custom Boot Maker Capital of Texas.’”

San Angelo’s CVB with the help of Barbara Hoss developed a historical walking tour of downtown and then printed a brochure for distribution to visitors.

“It has been a very popular brochure,” the CVB’s Miller said.

Campbell at the West Texas Collection said, “This work demonstrates that history is a community resource, meant to be used. The student research is a service to the community because we share the stories of the buildings that are still here. They have a neat history that we want to preserve. This has really been a fun project.”

As the historical archive, the West Texas Collection accepts records from throughout the region and serves as the repository for the Texas State Library and Archives commission for the 22-county region around the Concho Valley. For instance, courthouse records with archival value from Tom Green, Runnels, Nolan, Coke and Taylor counties are housed in the archive. Other collections hold a variety of photographs, official records, correspondence and other documents chronicling the growth and development of the region.

WTC staff work closely with the Region 15 Education Service Center, doing teacher workshops on using historical events to teach kids to tell stories, utilizing primary sources for research and developing community walking tours, among others.

Perhaps the greatest service provided by the WTC is its willingness to accept family papers or community records that might otherwise be lost for posterity.

“We are able to provide a service to the community and individuals by taking in records from organizations and families,” Campbell said. “A lady was in the other day, saying she had no children and her sister had no children and they were the last from their family. They didn’t want that heritage lost and neither do we.”

Whether it is for a family or for a community, by preserving those records for future researchers, the West Texas Collection is making certain that our heritage is more than just footprints in the sand.
For more than a decade, Angelo State University animal scientists have been helping Texas and U.S. goat producers select for better genetics, and improving their flocks through ASU’s annual Meat Goat Performance Test.

The test, which has grown into a major ASU service for the livestock industry, measures comparative growth rate, efficiency of performance and so forth,” Salisbury said. “The performance test is a tool to identify superior genetics in the buck kids so somebody can use that not only to select the best animal if they are going to buy one, but also to select their own top-performing goats for their breeding purposes.”

Producers can also earn points toward having their sires ennobled by the American Boer Goat Association, if their buck kids do well at the test.

“For a sire, when he has offspring that perform well at a performance test or in the show ring, he accumulates points,” Salisbury said. “After a certain number of points are accumulated, he is considered ennobled, or one of the superior sires of the breed.”

The test has grown from a small Meat Goat Management test that started in 1959 to include performance tests on Damascus bucks in 1962 and on a Damascus cross in 1965. Later, a Damascus-Boer cross was tested, and in 1969 a Boer-Boer cross was added. The ASU test is currently the only Boer-Boer cross testing that is recognized by the American Boer Goat Association.

The test is conducted over a 15-week period in mid-May, for the 84-day test. The buck kids, which must have been born between January and March of that year, are subject to testing. The test begins with the 84-day test. The buck kids are weighed at birth and 105 days of age. They are also measured for scrotal circumference, which is an indicator of fertility.

“We also measure scrotal circumference, which is an indicator of fertility,” Engdahl said. “We evaluate not only the animals that are at the performance test, but also what kind of sires they become. It works out quite well.”

Each year, producers from throughout Texas and sometimes other states bring their goats to the ASU Management, Instruction and Research (MIR) Center, usually around mid-May, for the 84-day test. The buck kids, which must have been born between January and March of that year, are subject to a variety of examinations and assessments, the most economically important of which is rate of gain. “The faster an animal gains, the better it will perform at a performance test or in the show ring, he accumulates points,” Salisbury said. “After a certain number of points are accumulated, he is considered ennobled, or one of the superior sires of the breed.”

The test also helps producers determine which type of goats will perform best in different parts of Texas with varied climatic and grazing conditions. All the testing is done at a minimal cost to producers in an effort to raise the market value of their flocks.

“They design the test to allow producers to select the best animals for future breeding,” Engdahl said. “We wanted a way to really look at how they would impact the industry in terms of growth rate, efficiency of performance and so forth.”

As a service to the public, Jerry Perry and Dr. Casey Jones, ASU animal scientists, go to the Region 15 Education Service Center in San Angelo and travel to outlying areas to address teachers on law-related education issues. Jones said they have traveled as far as Del Rio to present their information to teachers.

“The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test has curtailed the time teachers have available for the program,” Perry said. “We ask teachers to try as best they can to pretend they are the New York ratifying convention and put themselves back in 1788 as delegates being asked ‘Would you vote to ratify the Constitution?’”

They also debated the Constitution for the Daughters of the American Revolution’s San Angelo chapter. Perry won that debate.

“Most people,” Perry said, “haven’t heard the arguments against ratification since the Constitution was ratified. In the eyes of the anti-Federalists, the government got too much power.”

Success of the Constitution’s ratification turned on the votes of Virginia and New York, which had the most power among the original 13 states. “They had to ratify the Constitution for it to work,” Perry said. “When New York’s ratifying convention started, the anti were in the majority. If the anti won, it would have been a big blow. Virginia voted first, and when they closely ratified it, the tide turned for the pro-Constitution side.”

Jerry Perry, left, as Patrick Henry and Casey Jones as Alexander Hamilton

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Perry and Jones have traveled as far as Del Rio to present their information to teachers. They also conduct games of “Constitutional Jeopardy,” where the classes choose representatives who respond to Jeopardy-style statements with the appropriate questions. During that session, the professors have a “timeout” when they go to the student audience with contest statements to keep them engaged in the proceedings.

Perry said they are always willing to perform for fifth graders, but the advent of
Science Days Are Here Again

Science Days may be directed at Concho Valley fourth-graders, but the annual programs are intended to serve the future. By demonstrating the wonders of the sciences for elementary kids, Angelo State University faculty and students are recruiting potential scientists for tomorrow.

Dr. Nick Flynn, associate professor of biochemistry and program director, said, “Hopefully, we can really get some of these kids interested in science. Science is what is going to get us out of some of the troubles that our country is in right now, such as pollution, the need for alternative energy sources and the like. Science outreach, in particular, is very important to the future of this country.”

Turning kids onto sciences requires a combination of shock and awe, like using chemicals to create small-scale explosions or utilizing a banana to drive a nail through wood. Sure, the tricks are scientific gimmicks, but the results are jaw-dropping. From its humble beginnings as a chemistry and physics magic show and random special group tours of specimens in the Biology Department, the ASU Science Days program has evolved into the largest science community outreach program on campus.

Since 2000 when Science Days expanded beyond the magic show and incorporated other disciplines into the format, more than 9,000 Concho Valley fourth-graders have been brought to campus for exposure to the wonders of all the major fields of science. “I got the idea that ‘it’s great we are showing them chemistry and a little bit of physics, but why don’t we go ahead and show them the whole range of science?’” Flynn said. “We show them geology, mammals, reptiles and plants. We even show them math, which is something new we added two years ago. They also get to do some hands-on activities.”

Of course, students still love the magic show. But, more important to the ASU professors and public school teachers involved is the opportunity to show students science in a fun and engaging setting instead of just in lectures. And, apparently, it is working. Becky Embry, a fourth-grade teacher at Bradford Elementary in San Angelo, has brought her class to Science Days the last two years.

“I was very impressed and the children really enjoyed themselves,” Embry said. “They came back all fired up about the things they had done. It was a really good hook to get them interested in science.”

Flynn and Embry also agree that the fourth grade is an optimal age for this type of science education. “Several studies have suggested,” Flynn said, “that if you go older than that, say seventh or eighth grade, some of the students have lost the interest in science and it’s too late. So, what we are hoping to do is kindle that interest in younger students and keep them interested.”

In elementary school,” Embry said, “students are still excited about science, especially doing labs and hands-on activities. So, fourth grade is the perfect time to hook them and keep them interested.”

Science Days programs are offered about four times each fall and spring semester. In addition to science faculty, about 12-15 ASU science majors work as helpers and the San Angelo Independent School District has allowed some of its advanced high school science students to participate. In that way, Science Days also acts as a recruiting tool for the ASU College of Sciences.

Another benefit is the program brings together several different departments in cooperation with the college dean, who annually provides funding for lunch for the student and faculty volunteers. “This is a decent chunk of their time that they could be doing other professional activities,” Flynn said, “We have chemistry and biochemistry, biology, physics and math that participate. They have always been willing to collaborate on this project and we really appreciate their involvement and time.”

But, at the end of the day, it’s all about the kids. “It is extremely important that we continue this type of activity for our children,” Embry said. “We appreciate ASU doing this because it is the kind of opportunity that we don’t get a lot for our kids. We encourage them to keep doing it.”

By incorporating the physics they have learned in the classroom into their public service projects, members of ASU’s Society of Physics Students (SPS) have found a couple of unique ways to help both the community and the budding scientists of tomorrow.

Each fall semester for the last six years, SPS has conducted its “Can Roll” food drive in mid-November to benefit the Concho Valley Regional Food Bank (CVRFB). The public is invited to join the ASU community in donating non-perishable food items and to participate in the Can Roll competition. Contestants roll the canned item of their choice down a ramp constructed by SPS members. The top long-distance rollers are awarded certificates and prizes. “We incorporate a science theme with it,” said Dr. Toni Sauncy, associated professor of physics and SPS faculty adviser. “We try to get participants to understand rotational motion and understand why certain cans will roll further than others. Also, we show them the importance of the diameter of the can, the mass of the can and how the contents of the can can have an effect on the rolling motion.”

Since the Can Roll began in 2003, it has averaged generating about 1,000 pounds of food each year for the CVRFB. Another benefit for the food bank is that the project brings in many large-sized cans, which experiments indicate are the distance champions. A more recent project started by SPS in 2005 is its Peer Pressure Team’s annual “West Texas Road Trip,” a week-long series of physics demonstrations performed in the spring at area public schools. The tour reaches about 1,000 students a year with the goals of getting younger students interested in science, showing them it can be entertaining, and letting them know they don’t have to fit any particular stereotype to be interested in or pursue a career in science. It’s also cool to blow stuff up. “It’s fun to see the looks on their faces when we blow up the grain elevator or when we blow up the nitrogen balloons,” said Logan Hancock, SPS president. “It’s neat to see because we are trying to get them interested and that is what is most important.”

Ten SPS students accompany Sauncy on each trip, generally scheduled the week following the end of the spring semester. More students generally volunteer than are needed, despite the fact that they don’t receive any pay or extra credit for their efforts. “It’s not so bad because you are with your friends, with other physics majors,” Hancock said. “We’ll do a school in the morning, then travel to another town and do a school in the afternoon. So, we’ve got the whole evening to play.”

While they have fun, SPS members are also benefiting from the demonstrations because performing the different experiments helps reaffirm for them the physics properties they are studying in their classes. “I’ve seen pictures of upperclassmen doing this,” said Shivakumar Surendranath, a freshman physics/math major from San Angelo, “and I thought that I wanted to be one of those people in the pictures. Then, incoming future students can see those and think it’s cool. So, hopefully it can be an ongoing process.”

For its efforts, SPS has received Blake Lilly and Marsh White awards from the national SPS, plus grant funding for the West Texas Road Trip from the American Physical Society and the ASU President’s Circle. “It’s important for people in science careers to also be involved in community affairs,” Sauncy said. “It’s important to give back to the community.”
Helping Health and Hearth

When ASU students join the Tri-Beta Biology Honor Society, they had better be ready to get their hands dirty or even bleed for their cause.

Tri-Beta members have been volunteering with Rebuilding Together San Angelo, an annual housing improvement project that has also generated nearly 4,000 pints of blood a natural fit. “The students are doing some of the easier tasks which allows for socializing and having a good time while helping someone that needs it and appreciates us being there. It is a highly productive way to spend a Saturday at the end of the year that lets you take out your frustrations on the paint you are trying to scrape off the walls or the tiles you are trying to rip off the floors.”

In addition to the obvious benefits to the community and their own resumes, being willing to volunteer also allows biology students the opportunity to belong to one of the most rewarding experiences of their life. “I talked with a Big Brothers representative, Mays met Ty and Walter Thomas, two sons of San Angelo single mom Debbie Thomas. Walter, 11, is his official “little brother.” Mays has “adopted” Walter, 9, as a “little brother” as well. “We go to the movies, the skating rink or play basketball or video games,” Mays said. I always give Ty the choice of what he wants to do and we bring Walter along to keep him involved.”

Mays is not just a big brother to the boys, he is also a mentor. Besides involving them in activities, he answers their questions about school work and day-to-day life. “The boys are doing a lot better in school,” Mays said. “Ty doesn’t get in trouble anymore. He is more focused on his basketball and more likely to talk about what is both-ering them.”

“Ty and Walter have become more open since Trey has been their big brother,” Thomas said. “I talked with a Big Brothers representative, Trey asked me if the boys could see me play.” The impact that Mays has had on the two brothers has not gone unnoticed by their mother. Debbie Thomas said her sons are now less likely to act out their feelings and more likely to talk about what is bothering them. “Ty and Walter have become more open since Trey has been their big brother,” Thomas said. “I talked with a Big Brothers representative, Trey asked me if the boys could see me play.”

As Mays has become a part of Ty’s and Walter’s life, the Thomases have become a part of Mays’s life too. “The boys keep me motivated, even if I have a bad game,” Mays said. “I always give Ty the choice of what he wants to do and we bring Walter along to keep him involved.”

Mays and Thomas have become best friends, and the Thomases have become a part of Mays’s life too. “The boys keep me motivated, even if I have a bad game,” Mays said. “I always give Ty the choice of what he wants to do and we bring Walter along to keep him involved.”

“Trey and Ty text messaged each other the entire summer,” Thomas said. “Ty could not wait for Trey to get back on cam-pus. He loves Trey and he loves watching him play basketball.”

Debbie Thomas is grateful that Ty stayed with Mays because of the difference the ASU basketball player has made to her family. “Anyone that knows Trey can tell he has a good upbringing,” Thomas said. “I could not have picked a better role model for the boys than Trey. He is the type of young man I envisioned when I applied to the Big Brothers program.”

As for Mays, he knows who his two biggest fans are, both on and off the court. “The boys love Hershey,” Thomas said. “Trey asked me if the boys could have a pet. I used to have a Labrador and Hershey is the cutest dog. Trey has not only given the boys another friend, but an additional responsibility.”

Last summer when Mays returned to Houston, Ty was given the option of chang-ing big brothers, but he refused to hear it. Mays was as is his big brother.

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Golden Horn

Developed in 2007 as part of the CHAMPS/Life Skills Program at Angelo State, the Golden Horn Award is an annual competition between the ASU teams in the areas of academics, athletics and community service.

The ‘Belles basketball team claimed the inaugural award in 2007 while the ‘Belles soccer squad captured the award last year. The award is up for grabs again this spring as ASU’s 12 athletics programs battle for bragging rights. The winning team will be announced at the annual Holland’s Athletic Banquet on April 28.

The ASU Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) created the award in an effort to foster camaraderie between the athletic teams. The SAAC hoped to bolster support that each program would have for each other while also building a stronger relationship with the community.

Each year the ASU Athletics Department holds competitions between the programs to support local charities. This past fall, the Rams and Rambelles raised more than $1,000 to support the Make-A-Wish Foundation for Breast Cancer Research.

The Angelo State volleyball team set. In addition, the ‘Belles auctioned off their limited-edition pink jerseys worn during the contest.

Guiding UCO got involved as well when the Bronchos wore the same pink warm-up T-shirts as the ‘Belles prior to the contest. “Dig for the Cure was a big success at ASU,” Waddington said. “We auctioned off every jersey and were left with just a handful of T-shirts. With October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month, this is the least that we can do as a volleyball team to step up and get involved with such an important cause.”

their victory in the triple jump. In 2002, LaTasha Mosley gave the Rambelles a national champion at the Division I level. Today the program has spread to all NCAA divisions and to 627 member institutions and conference offices. Institutions and conferences must go through an application process to be part of the program and ASU was accepted in 2006.

M ore than 600 athletes will converge on San Angelo May 21-23 as Angelo State hosts the 2009 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field National Championships at the LeGrand Sports Complex.

This year will mark the fifth time that ASU has hosted the national event. Angelo State previously welcomed the championships in 1988, 1991, 1992 and 2002. Each time, the Rams finished no worse than sixth place in the San Angelo national championships while the Rambelles improved on their national finish on each occasion, placing 13th in the 2002 meet.

“We’re very excited about the opportunity to host the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field National Championships again,” said ASU Director of Athletics Kathleen Bratfield. “This event will benefit not only our student-athletes but also the community of San Angelo. The economic impact will be significant, while the chance to see outstanding performances in track and field will provide exciting entertainment options for the entire Concho Valley.”

In 1988, two Rams claimed national titles as Randy Simmons won the 400-meter hurdles and Mike Smerciak won the javelin. Three years later, two more Rams earned national championships on their home turf as Eric Cole won the discus and Patrik Hennings won the shot put. In 2002, LaTasha Mosley gave the Rambelles a national champion at home with her victory in the triple jump.

Competitors will begin arriving on campus on Monday, May 18, and the Championship Banquet is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, at the Junell Center/Stephens Arena. Action at the LeGrand Sports Complex will begin the next day with the preliminaries in the running events. For a complete schedule and more information, visit www.angelsports.com.

A three-day pass will be available for purchase for $20 through the ASU Ticket Office. Single-day general admission passes will also be available for $6 for both Thursday and Friday and $10 for Saturday. Student prices are $4 for Thursday and Friday and $8 for Saturday. Call 942-BLUE (2583) for tickets.

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have recognized the value of ASU athletics to the total university experience as well as to the San Angelo community. It is appropriate that we now recognize them by renaming the sports complex in their honor.”

Athletics Director Kathleen Brasfield said, “Bob and Jean Ann’s support of our programs and student-athletes extends beyond the financial commitment they have demonstrated. Their attendance at our competitions, their commitment to providing opportunities for young men and women, and their belief in the values taught by athletic participation are appreciated by coaches and student-athletes at Angelo State. The LeGrands truly make a difference for all of us and for Angelo State University.”

The recent athletics gifts are the latest in a series of major donations the LeGrands have made to the university over the last decade. These gifts include a $1 million endowment to provide academic scholarships to graduates of high schools in 77 different West Texas communities where residents had been patients of Dr. LeGrand. In 2002 the LeGrands also donated $500,000 to the ASU Alumni Association to conclude the fundraising campaign for the alumni center which today carries their names.

The Rambelles set a school record with nine shutouts and held opponents to one goal per game, tying a school record. Thanks to the strong defensive numbers, sophomore goalkeeper Melanie Peterson earned second-team All-LSC honors while three Rambelle defenders – seniors Marion Glutz and Amber Korb and freshman Megan Schaffer – were named honorable mention. Freshman forward Brandie DeBacker was also tabbed honorable mention after leading the Rambelles with seven goals and 18 points. Korb and junior forward Kristen Boister earned Academic All-LSC accolades.

Korb was also honored at the conclusion of the season as she picked up first team Academic All-America honors from ESPN The Magazine. She became the 24th all-time ASU student-athlete to be recognized by the program and the first selection for the school on the first team since 2001, when former women’s soccer player Dorothy May earned first team honors.

“Although we have some rebuilding to do, we expect our returners and new players to achieve our goals of a 20-win season and a berth into the conference tournament. I believe that we are headed in the right direction and I am very excited about what the future holds for ASU volleyball,” McCorkle said.

After three consecutive losing seasons, first-year head coach Chuck Waddington installed a winning attitude that brought the Angelo State volleyball team a 20-win season and its first postseason appearance in four years.

The one constant theme for the 2008 season was winning when it counted the most. While the longest winning streak the ‘Belles had was five in a row, they never sustained a losing streak of more than two and that only happened twice. The volleyball team also learned how to put an opponent away, compiling a 17-3 record when winning the first set and winning 11 of those matches with three-set sweeps.

Time after time, ASU won a crucial match after losing in the previous outing on the way to a 20-14 record, 8-5 in Lone Star Conference action, and a tie for fifth in the LSC standings. The 20 wins was more than the previous three seasons combined and the eight LSC wins provided a four-match improvement from 2007.

“I am very pleased with the progress that we made since I arrived here in January,” Waddington said. “I am quite proud of the commitment these young ladies made to achieve our goals of a 20-win season and a berth into the conference tournament. I believe that we are headed in the right direction and I am very excited about what the future holds for ASU volleyball.”

The ‘Belles earned a No. 6 seed in the LSC Championship tournament and squared off against No. 3 seed Abilene Christian. The ‘Belles fell to the Wildcats, 3-0, in the opening match of the tournament, ending the 2008 campaign.

With a successful season came LSC postseason accolades for three ‘Belles. On the court, senior Tess Brindock and juniors Kimber Duncan and Alaina Sivells were named to the All-LSC second team. All three also were honored for their performance in the classroom with Duncan being named to the LSC All-Academic Team while Brindock and Sivells were named to the LSC Commissioner’s Honor Roll.

“Soccer Strong at Home”

Despite the best start in school history, an injury-plagued Angelo State women’s soccer team failed to make a postseason appearance for the first time in six seasons.

The 2008 Rambelles posted their fifth-ever 10-win season, but it would not be enough as they went winless in their final five games, dropping to seventh place in the Lone Star Conference and missing out on the playoffs by one spot.

“We had a very positive start to the season,” said first-year head coach Travis McCorkle. “Thirteen of our 26 players were newcomers, including 12 freshmen, and we were still able to finish the year with 10 wins. That is a testament to the work and leadership of our team.”

ASU opened the season with four wins in its first six games, including a stunning 2-1 victory over defending regional champion Incarnate Word in the Rambelles’ home opener. The squad would continue to dominate opponents at home by following the win over UIW with six consecutive home shutouts and finishing the season with a 6-2-1 home record.

The recent athletics gifts are the latest in a series of major donations the LeGrands have made to the university over the last decade. These gifts include a $1 million endowment to provide academic scholarships to graduates of high schools in 77 different West Texas communities where residents had been patients of Dr. LeGrand. In 2002 the LeGrands also donated $500,000 to the ASU Alumni Association to conclude the fundraising campaign for the alumni center which today carries their names.

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Rebuilding History

by Roy Ivey

With a long family history tied to Fort Chadbourne, Garland Richards has spent a decade preserving the 1850s frontier fort for future generations to enjoy, just as he did as a child.

The sixth-generation West Texan has lived on the Chadbourne Ranch, site of the fort’s ruins just 11 miles north of Bronte, most of his life, except the four years he spent at Angelo State University playing football and majoring in physical education with a minor in agriculture.

“I took all of the agriculture classes they offered,” Richards said, “because I wanted to go back to the ranch.”

Given what the future held for him, Richards, ironically, neither excelled in nor particularly enjoyed history during his college days.

“I took the required courses,” he said, “I was never good at memorizing dates, and it wasn’t that important to me. You have to be a certain age to appreciate history.”

Richards’ interest in the history of Fort Chadbourne was roundabout way.

“I collected buffalo rifles,” he said, “and that overlapped into the military history, which overlapped with Fort Chadbourne, which overlapped with the ranching history.”

The lifelong Coke County resident said he originally planned to split his time and resources between Fort Chadbourne and cattle ranching but found that taking care of Fort Chadbourne was a full-time job, so he quit ranching and went to work.

“Fort Chadbourne was a full-time job, except the four years he spent at Angelo State University playing football and majoring in physical education with a minor in agriculture.”

“The buildings were literally falling down,” Richards said. “We rounded the corner one morning after a rain and saw that a portion of one of the walls had just collapsed. I said, ‘that’s the last set of rocks that’s going to fall off of Fort Chadbourne.’

Richards saw his quest as a service to future generations. Together the couple hired a historical architect, researched the fort’s history, learned how to write their own grant applications and went to work.

“We started it just like I’ve always started everything all my life, by jumping in the whirlpool and swimming back out,” Richards said. “Lana and I have devoted 10 years of our lives to the preservation, stabilization and research of a pretty significant military outpost. When we started, we didn’t really know how important Fort Chadbourne was.”

Nor could he have been expected to know. After all, the buildings had been used for decades to support the family’s ranching operations.

Because the fort sat on private property, it is even more important today historically because the site’s archeological heritage remained largely intact, immune to trespassers and artifact hunters with metal detectors.

U.S. Army infantry troops occupied the fort from 1852-61 and the Butterfield Overland Mail Company ran through the area from 1858-61. During the Civil War, Confederate troops occupied the fort until 1865 when U.S. troops took control.

When the fort was abandoned in 1868 because of a severe drought and the lack of accessible water, the troops moved to the Concho River and established Fort Concho around which San Angelo grew up.

The forts supported the westward migration of Americans, spurred primarily by the 1849 gold rush in California. What the pioneers found in West Texas was a wild, untamed land that could not keep up with the technological advances from the Civil War. That precipitated their downfall.

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Richards’ connection to the fort traces back to his great-great-great grandfather, Thomas L. Odom, who settled in the area in 1873. The land upon which Fort Chadbourne is located was owned by Texas historical figure Samuel Maverick, who had died in 1870.

In 1876, Odom purchased the ranch from Maverick’s widow, Mary, and son, Albert. The ranch passed through the generations to Richards’ father, Conda Richards, who operated it until he turned it over to his children. Conda asked Garland and his brother, Brian, and sister, Sally, to divide the ranch prior to his death.

Garland said, “I specifically wanted the Fort Chadbourne area. Lana and I decided there was a way to get Fort Chadbourne taken care of.”

The Richards look after Fort Chadbourne, including the hundreds of thousands of artifacts that have been found on the property, including shell casings, cannons, medical instruments, wedding rings, buckles, buttons, jewelry and coins, including a dollar gold piece that was a week’s wages for a soldier.

The artifacts’ deterioration is limited because the ranch’s sandy loam soil doesn’t hold water, which would compromise the artifacts.

“They don’t need a lot of preservation,” Richards said. “Leather does need to be painted with a shellac and alcohol mixture to stabilize it.”

When artifacts are discovered, their location is cataloged and they are put into the inventory. Richards has guns he collected over the years and also has paperwork from the ranching family reaching back to Odom.

The Richards plan to display examples of their artifacts in a visitor’s center.

“Fort Chadbourne was a full-time job, except the four years he spent at Angelo State University playing football and majoring in physical education with a minor in agriculture.”

“I won’t be a true museum. Richards said, “We may have a rotating display that deals with the different eras.”

“The Richards have come a long way from the beginning of their historical journey.

“Quite frankly,” Richards said, “we’ve done a pretty good job with the time we’ve accomplished. We’ve accomplished a lot of things I realistically did not expect to accomplish in 10 years.”

Suzanne Campbell, Fort Concho Foundation board member and head of the West Texas Collection at ASU, said one of the things she enjoys most about the Richards couple is the “can do” spirit they exhibit.

“When told that the walls of a building would have to be torn down and rebuilt, Garland came up with a way to preserve the integrity of the building and straighten the walls at the same time,” Campbell said. “All of the architects who deal with historic preservation said it couldn’t be done.”

“I’m a West Texas rancher,” Richards said. “We don’t tear things down. We patch – continued on page 38
Aston Showcase

On Feb. 16, the eve of the Texas Tech University System (TTUS) Day in Austin, the ASU Alumni Association will host a reception for Texas legislators and government officials at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in the capital.

Association representatives that Monday will join State Sen. Robert Duncan, State Rep. Drew Darby, Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance, ASU President Joseph C. Rallo and special ASU supporters and alumni in sharing West Texas hospitality with ASU’s friends from across the state.

The reception, aimed at generating good will for ASU and Texas Tech during the 2009 legislative session, will showcase the best of Angelo State’s programs and students and will feature a mouth-watering sample of West Texas cuisine, including ASU raised Angus beef and lamb.

To learn more about event details or to register to attend, visit the ASU Alumni Association Web site at www.asuexes.com.

TTU System Day

The Angelo State University Alumni Association and Texas Tech Alumni Association are co-hosting Texas Tech System Day in Austin on Feb. 17 to thank legislators for their past support and to back issues before the current legislature, such as funding for ASU’s new College of Nursing and Allied Health.

Sandee V. Harrison, executive director for the ASU Alumni Association, said the event will demonstrate a very strong system presence to legislators and key staff members in the Texas Capitol. She said the association is inviting alumni and other friends of ASU to participate in visiting legislative offices and supporting adequate funding for higher education, especially for the Texas Tech University System.

To find out how to get involved as an association volunteer, contact Harrison at (325) 942-2122 or sande.harrison@angelo.edu.

Association Honorees

The ASU Alumni Association honored a dozen individuals at the Wells Fargo Dinner during ASU’s 2008 Homecoming Celebration. Honorees were, from left, front row, Jerry Vandergriff, Dr. C. Warren Parker Jr., Dr. Susan Keith, Dr. Mary Ellen Hartje, Carol Payne “Pinto” Nokes and Dr. Tom Bankston; back row, Col. Ernie Felts, State Sen. Robert Duncan, Texas Tech Chancellor Kent Hance, State Rep. Drew Darby, Dr. Gil Engdahl and Dr. Michael Patryak.

New Alumni Association Staff

ASU Alumni Association President

Kyle Box has announced the appointment of Mary Larson as office manager for association operations and Darcy Maloney as events coordinator.

Box said, “As the ASU Alumni Association has transitioned to an independently managed and operated association, association staffing has also moved under the management of the association. In the past, the association provided funding to ASU for designated staff positions and these employees fell under the supervision of ASU. Through the support of President Rallo and the university, the association has absorbed these positions and the employees will report directly to the ASU Alumni Association Executive Director Sande Harrison.”

Larson, a 2004 graduate of ASU, joined the ASU Alumni Association staff in the fall, succeeding Rosana Armendariz. She previously worked as assistant general manager for the San Angelo Colts Baseball Club. Larson, who also has prior experience coordinating weddings and special events, will oversee the operations of the LeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center.

“Mary’s success in sales and relationship building,” said Box, “identifies her as the ideal candidate to oversee the staff and daily operations as well as to support the executive director. Her event experience will also make this staff change seamless to both the public and event clients who rent the LeGrand Center throughout the year.”

Maloney, a 1986 ASU graduate with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, Maloney completed ASU’s Air Force ROTC program and was commissioned as a second lieutenant upon her graduation. Beginning in 2001, Lt. Col. Maloney served for three years as an instructor with the ASU ROTC program, assisting the association with ROTC alumni recruiting and communications.

Following the contract with the ROTC program, she continued her association with the university as a business consultant with the ASU Small Business Development Center. After years of active military service, Maloney has transitioned to the reserves where she continues to serve. She is married to Dale Werner, and they have one son, Oliver Werner, ASU class of 2021.

Association Executive Director Sande V. Harrison acknowledged the contributions of two former staff members – Rosana Armendariz and Lydia Martinez – to the association. Said Harrison, “Rosana Armendariz and Lydia Martinez to the association. Said Harrison, “Rosana Armendariz and Lydia Martinez to the association. Said Harrison, “Rosana Armendariz joined our staff in 2003 and has been an integral part of our growth as an association. She will continue to work at the university. Lydia Martinez is returning to ASU as a full-time graduate student and intern. The association will miss both of these ladies tremendously and wishes them great success with their new ventures.”

Box added, “As an independently operated support organization for the university, we will be able to enhance what the association has done in the past and contribute even more to the future of Angelo State. We are very grateful to our ASU Alumni members who have supported the growth of our staff and positioned the association to better serve alumni and the university.”

Letter of Thanks

Dear Association Members:

I am writing to say “Thank You” to the Alumni Association for your generous donation to the Concho River Classic, the fundraiser held by the RAMS (Recruiting Ag Majors) Club. We hosted the three largest goat shows held thus far on the Junior Meat Goat Show Circuit and raised $2,260 for the club. This money will go a long way toward supporting our recruiting efforts in terms of student travel and expenses.

The show was a great experience for the recruiters as well as for the young exhibitors. The show would not have been nearly as successful without the support and donation from the Alumni Association, and we are very thankful.

Corey Owens

Instructor/Research Associate

ASU Department of Agriculture
One faces the future with one’s past.

A FOUNDATION OF TRUST

ACCOUNTABILITY

Checks and balances exist to ensure the integrity of Foundation financial and investment procedures.

Board of Trustees: The board of trustees consists of ASU alumni, each with extensive business experience. These individuals determine investment and fund-raising policies and approve the annual budget.

External Audits: An external auditor will annually audit the Foundation. Financial statements will be published in an annual report and will be available to the public on request.

Partnership with the University: Trustees will maintain an open line of communication with the ASU Administration to ensure that the Foundation focuses on ASU needs and priorities.

THE GIFT PROCESS

The Foundation values every gift and will handle each one professionally and efficiently. Depending on the gift size and type, gifts are processed through some or all of the following steps:

- We provide gift agreements for all gifts and pledges of $25,000 or more. Agreements outline the purpose, form, schedule and administration of gifts. For smaller gifts, donors may document their preferences with pledge cards, letters or notes on their checks.
- Non-cash gifts (securities or real estate) require special processing. The Foundation converts these gifts to cash.
- Every gift goes into an endowed or non-endowed operational account as specified by the donor. The Foundation disburses funds from accounts as defined by donor preferences.
- We mail a receipt for every gift. Receipts provide donors with proof of their contribution.
- Gifts are disbursed as designated by the donor or Foundation Board of Trustees if undesignated.

FOUNDATION FUNDS

Funds and gifts to the ASU Alumni Association Foundation will be utilized to support the ASU Alumni Association, to sponsor projects and scholarships and to grow the endowment.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kyle Box, 1981
Verizon System Analyst, San Angelo, Texas

Brad Fly, 2000
CPA/Principal, Armstrong Backus & Co, San Angelo, Texas

Kelby Hagar, 1991
CEO, Digital Witness, Copper, Texas

Mickey Long, 1976
President, Westex Well Services, Midland, Texas

Brian J. May, Ph.D., 1982
ASU Professor of Animal Science, San Angelo, Texas

Lloyd Norris, 1973
ASU Alumni Association President (Retired), San Angelo, Texas

Jay Young, 1985
CEO, King Private Equity Group, Dallas, Texas

Ex-Officio: Sande Harrison, 1973
ASU Alumni Association Executive Director, San Angelo, Texas

HORIZON CAMPAIGN DONOR LEVELS

Gifts may be received over a specified time period. Memorial gifts are accepted and corporate matching gifts are included in the donor’s gift total.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE

$200,000 and above
Recognition on Special LeGrand Center Gallery Hallway Plaque & Personalized Ram Horns Sculpture

REGENTS CIRCLE

$100,000 - $199,999
Recognition on LeGrand Center Vestibule Plaque & Personalized Ram Horns Sculpture

CHAMPIONS CIRCLE

$50,000 - $99,999
LeGrand Center Front Portico Engraved Granite Bench & Garland Weeks Ram Sculpture

PILLARS CIRCLE

$20,000 - $49,999
LeGrand Center Courtyard Engraved Granite Bench & Garland Weeks Ram Sculpture

PATRONS

$10,000 - $19,999
LeGrand Center Chase Courtyard Bronze Plaque

SUSTAINERS

$1,000 - $9,999
LeGrand Center Gallery Hallway Granite Tile

ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION

In addition to special recognition associated with the giving level, donors who wish to be recognized will be listed in the ASU Magazine, the Association Newsletter and the Association Web site, and will receive invitations to special events. Thank you for considering a tax-deductible gift to the ASU Alumni Association Foundation!

For additional information or to donate please contact
Sande Vincent Harrison
(325) 942-2122
sande.harrison@angelo.edu

“Your gift is critical to the success of the Foundation’s campaign. You make it possible for us to continue doing what we do best – making sure students receive more than a great education.”
— Kent Hance, Chancellor, Texas Tech University System
them up. I told an architect we could push those walls back in place, solidify them and put a foundation under them. He said, "Show me."

Richards did just that. He and his crew straightened the walls, braced them and dug the old mortar out of the old walls. Then they began reconstruction in the fall.

"Fountain House" Officers’ Quarters

The foundation received $1 million with help from an anonymous group received an award from Preservation Texas, an Austin-based historic advocacy organization. When funds were made available, they poured a concrete foundation and began reconstruction in the fall. Then they began reconstruction in the fall.

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