Dear Friends:

Without a doubt, fall is the most exciting time on a college campus, an occasion of new beginnings, new friends and new opportunities. That excitement all starts with a new class of wide-eyed freshmen, who stand on the threshold of their futures, ready for us to guide them to the opportunities that await. Too, we are joined each fall by more new faculty and staff than at any other time of the year. Let me welcome each of you, whether a new student or a new employee, to Angelo State University. I look forward to meeting and working with you in the coming months.

To you returning students, faculty and staff, I say welcome back. You are the reason ASU is building a growing national reputation. Heading into this new academic year, ASU has already received some national recognition. For the fifth straight year, Angelo State has been named to The Princeton Review’s list of “Best Colleges” nationally. That announcement came in August after The Chronicle of Higher Education in July named ASU a “Great College to Work For.” This is the second time ASU has made The Chronicle’s list. Congratulations to each of you for your role in making these recognitions possible, whether it is teaching, research, or administrative support or, most importantly, recruiting new freshmen and transfer students. Please keep up the good work.

Another joy of a new fall semester is the anticipation of upcoming seasons for all of our athletic teams. Please join with me in supporting them by attending their games and investing some of your time in their success. Our athletes spend a lot of time outside the classroom and lab representing us, so let’s get behind them and help them win more conference and even national championships.

As multiple conference titles demonstrated during the 2012-13 academic year, our students are highly successful on the athletic field, but no more so than in the classroom. Sean Motl of Wall is a perfect illustration of ASU’s academic accomplishments, earning recognition as a 2013 Truman Scholar and a $30,000 scholarship to fund his graduate education. He was one of only three students from Texas and 62 students nationally to receive the prestigious honor.

As we relish the excitement of a new academic year, let us rededicate ourselves to building upon our past successes and offering our students new academic and research opportunities. If we as faculty and staff do that, I am certain our students will continue to bring great upon our past successes and offering our students new academic and research opportunities.

Sincerely,
Brian J. May
President
The $35 million raised in Angelo State University’s first capital campaign as a part of the Texas Tech University System (TTUS) is impressive, but not nearly as impressive as the number 4,499.

That, after all, is the number of donors—individuals, families, businesses and foundations—who made it possible for ASU to exceed its original campaign goal of $25 million by some 40 percent and do so two months ahead of schedule.

ASU President Brian J. May said, “Making the original $25 million goal so quickly and then meeting the challenge goal of $35 million before the campaign ended speaks volumes about the generosity and vision of our alumni and friends. Their gifts will make a difference for generations of ASU students and in many unseen ways. Perhaps Foundation Chair Franke best summed up the campaign’s success with two words: ‘Go Rams.’”

The “Campaign for Angelo State University,” as it was called, was the first major capital campaign in the history of ASU. As staff members in ASU’s Office of Development determined a strategy for the campaign, they were in uncharted territory, uncertain how large a goal to set. They settled on $25 million as an attainable challenge.

With the generosity of so many, ASU reached that goal in December of 2011 and subsequently established a challenge goal of $30 million more. ASU’s alumni and friends, ultimately totaling 4,499, pitched in and helped meet that challenge in June, two months before the campaign’s scheduled end.

Jamie Akin, executive director of development and alumni relations, said, “This historic achievement for Angelo State University shows the loyalty of our alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the university.” Austin’s Wayne T. Franke, chairman of the ASU Foundation, said, “I am so proud of President May, the development staff, every member of the ASU Foundation Board, and the entire ASU family in having reached this tremendous milestone. We worked together as a team for the betterment of ASU and we are all so proud to do our part in helping grow ASU and the great Texas Tech System.”

Over the course of the campaign, donations ranged from a handful of dollars to seven-figure gifts. Cumulatively, the donations met multiple campus needs ranging from scholarships to buildings and from endowed chairs to programmatic support. Additionally, the campaign enhanced contributions to the ASU Alumni Association, the Athletic Foundation and the annual fund.

Endowed Chairs were established in the College of Business, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Health and Human Services.

New facilities resulting from the campaign include the Mayer-Rousselot Agriculture Education Training Center, scheduled for completion in early 2014; the 434-seat Community Federal Credit Union Field, targeted for use this fall; and the Norris Baseball Clubhouse, which opened in the fall of 2011.

The success of the campaign will ripple through the future of ASU in many visible and in many unseen ways.

The ambitious ASU goal was part of a larger $1 billion TTUS goal set for all system components collectively and announced in 2010 when the campaign’s public phase began. The system goal was achieved earlier this year in February.

“Angelo State’s fundraising efforts went above and beyond during our ambitious capital campaign,” said Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance. “Our supporters didn’t rest until meeting the challenge goal of $35 million, and we are truly grateful for the outstanding dedication of Angelo State alumni and friends.”

For Dr. Micheal Salisbury, who chairs ASU’s Agriculture Department, the new structure will provide much-needed space for a program that has experienced explosive growth. “It is great to know,” said Salisbury, “that our supporters have enough confidence in our program to support us through their generous donations that will allow us to build this critical facility for training quality ag science teachers. As a result of our supporters and the short-term success of our students, the program is growing much faster than ever expected. After two years, we have more majors than we were predicted to have at five years.”

Contributors

Namesake Donors
E.S. Mayer and Sons, Ltd.  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mayer and Sons  
Mr. and Mrs. Norm Rousselot

Project Donors
Kickapoo Springs Foundation  
Angelo State University President’s Circle  
Pevehouse Foundation  
USAA  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Stokes  
Adrian Plisnizak  
Mr. and Mrs. Elise Russell  
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Frost  
Mr. and Mrs. Joey Henderson  
Dr. and Mrs. Brian J. May  
Livestock Weekly  
Dr. Jason Penry  
H.E.B. Food Stores
Passing the Baton

Satcha Pretto’s marathon has come full circle. The starting gate was Angelo State University, where the Honduras native earned a bachelor’s degree in communication in 2001. She has since sprinted to the top ranks of the television industry as an Emmy Award-winning news anchor for the Univision Network, which led directly to her return to ASU in May as the spring commencement speaker.

In her commencement address, Pretto urged the graduates to tackle challenges with the conviction and discipline she first saw in her parents and learned anew when she took up running actual marathons four years ago. “It has to come from within yourself,” she said. “You have to know that if you want something big at the end, like a huge reward, you have to work for it.”

When she was a new graduate, Pretto began working toward her goals by landing her first broadcast job as an anchor and reporter for a television station in Midland-Odessa, thanks to the advice of ASU alumus Jose Goana, a producer at that station and current news director at another.

“I had already gotten an offer at a station in California, but as a producer assistant, I had never forget Jose’s words: ‘If you want to be on air, you should start and stay on air.’ If I had not known him through ASU, I probably would have never ended up in that job.”

From that start, Pretto has worked her way up through the television industry to her current position as the news anchor of Univision’s Miami-based “Despierta América” (“Wake Up America”), the top-rated live Spanish-language morning show on the world’s largest Spanish-language television network. Along the way, she has won an Emmy Award for live special events – programming for her coverage of the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade, as well as a Texas Associated Press Broadcasters Award, a Tribute to Hispanic Women Award from Vanidades magazine and an Emmy nomination for best investigative report. She was also featured in People en Español’s 2009 “Top 10 Best Dressed Celebrities” edition and 2010 “50 Most Beautiful” edition.

One of the major components of Pretto’s success is that she is fluent in both English and Spanish, thanks to the forethought of her parents. “My parents had this great vision for my brother and myself,” she said. “They knew that in order to be successful, we needed to be bilingual. They made a lot of sacrifices in order for us to go to bilingual schools. I actually took U.S. history and U.S. government in my school in Honduras, alongside Honduras history and Honduras government.”

An attractive brochure and even more impressive Carr Academic Scholarship brought Pretto to ASU, where she found small classes, attentive professors and a supportive community.

“Even the people at the Admissions Office where I worked, it was just a very positive environment,” Pretto said. “I know that everything that I learned here really helped me go out into the real world.”

In May, it was Pretto’s turn to help the newest group of ASU graduates head out into the real world, and she hopes her message about conviction, discipline and the importance of relationships will be like handing off a baton in a relay race. “I just hope someone who was listening,” she said, “will go out, make a success of their life and someday be asked to come back to speak at commencement, that what I had to say will make a difference.”
D-Day Documentarian

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) just cannot seem to get enough of Dr. Robert Ehlers. An ASU professor of security studies, Ehlers has taken part in a pair of BBC World War II documentaries, the most recent of which, “D-Day in 3-D,” explores the role of air intelligence in the D-Day landings, and aired in the U.S. on the Discovery Channel in May. Filming took place at RAF Medmenham in Buckinghamshire, England, and in Normandy, France, where Ehlers joined several other historians and surviving veterans of those WWII campaigns.

“It’s a great honor to work directly with the veterans,” Ehlers said, “and to tell an important story because, frankly, intelligence has been the ‘quiet service.’ It has generally been either not covered well or simply ignored altogether, including cases when it played a central role in the success of major military operations. The success of D-Day depended to a large extent on the effectiveness of intelligence.”

The BBC’s interest in Ehlers stems from his book, *Targeting the Third Reich: Air Intelligence and the Allied Bombing Campaigns*, which was published in 2010 and won the Best Air Power History Book Award from the U.S. Air Force Historical Foundation. He previously took part in the BBC documentary “Operation Crossbow” that aired in the U.S. as “3-D Spies of WWII” on PBS in January of 2012 and is now available on Netflix.

Ehlers’ second book, tentatively titled *Over the Middle Sea: The Air War in the Mediterranean Theater, 1939-1945*, is in the publication process and could generate additional future interest from documentarians.

The Last Days of Kim Jong-il

Well-Timed Tome

Sometimes, you just get lucky.

When Dr. Bruce Bechtol Jr. began working on his latest book about the political climate in North Korea, he had no idea it’s release in May would come at such an opportune time. Titled *The Last Days of Kim Jong-il: The North Korean Threat in a Changing Era*, it explores the foreign and domestic policies of North Korea following the death of former dictator Kim Jong-il and the ascension of his son, current ruler Kim Jong-un, at a time when the actions and the ascension of his son, current ruler Kim Jong-un, at a time when the actions and the ascension of his son, current ruler Kim Jong-un, at a time when the actions of the North Korean government dominate world headlines.

“I believe the timing of the book is fortuitous because of the many security issues involving North Korea that we are seeing in the news today,” said Bechtol, ASU associate professor of political science. “Its release will hopefully help those with an interest in Korea to have a greater understanding of the context and substance that surrounds the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.”

It has certainly drawn the media’s interest. Since the book’s release, Bechtol has been featured in an episode of the “BookTV” program that aired in the U.S. as “3-D Spies of WWII” on PBS in January of 2012 and is now available on Netflix.

Ehlers’ second book, tentatively titled *Over the Middle Sea: The Air War in the Mediterranean Theater, 1939-1945*, is in the publication process and could generate additional future interest from documentarians.

The Last Days of Kim Jong-il

ASU’s ROTC Commissioning Ceremony marked a major milestone for the cadets, the detachment and their commander.

The 12 graduating cadets received their commissions as second lieutenants in the U.S. Air Force while ROTC Detachment 847 celebrated the 40th anniversary of its first commissioning ceremony in May of 1973.

For Magnan, who has since been reassigned to a post in Washington, D.C., the anniversary commissioning ceremony also featured an unforgettable spin on the tradition of the newly commissioned officers receiving their first salute.

More than 600 ASU cadets have now been commissioned since Detachment 847 was formed in 1971.
Dreaming Big

Sean Motl cannot get Africa out of his blood.

A Wall native and senior in the ASU Honors Program, Motl first experienced Africa during a 2012 summer internship in Rwanda. Ever since, he has wanted to return to work on improving health care for the impoverished populace.

That dream is a lot closer to reality, now that Motl has been named a 2013 Truman Scholar by the Harry S. Truman Foundation, one of only 62 nationwide and the first for ASU. The honor comes with a $30,000 scholarship to fund his graduate studies.

“I think that winning this honor shows that from ASU, really anything is possible,” Motl said. “The opportunities are here. You just have to choose to participate in them and really take full advantage of them and embrace what the opportunities are.”

The Truman Foundation’s goal is to identify future leaders who will become “change agents” in public service sectors.

To be considered for that honor, Motl spent months completing the application with the support of Dr. Shirley Eoff, Honors Program director.

“It was certainly a very long process,” Motl said, “but the application process itself helped me explore myself and what I wanted out of my future and my career.”

A psychology major and chemistry minor, Motl plans to enter a dual M.D./Ph.D. program toward becoming a medical anthropologist. His inspiration is Harvard University’s Dr. Paul Farmer, who co-founded the Partners in Health organization to help the poor in Haiti and Africa.

“My trip to Rwanda just kind of confirmed it all,” Motl said. “It was a brilliant experience and I met so many great people, making friends with Rwandans and people who live around the world. It was a very comforting feeling that I was finally in Africa, where I want to be.”

Voice of the Students

While many students are lucky to own any professional attire by the time they leave college, ASU graduate student Joshua Heimbecker will have a whole week’s worth of suits.

He needs them for all of the meetings and functions he attends as the new student regent for the Texas Tech University System (TTUS).

While Heimbecker is the only non-voting member of the 10-member Board of Regents, his voice will be a crucial component of board meetings and closed-door executive sessions.

“I’ve got to try to convey to them the views of the students and how things will affect students,” Heimbecker said.

Being chosen as the student regent was an exhaustive process. After making the final application round at ASU, Heimbecker’s materials were sent to the TTUS Chancellor’s Office. The chancellor then forwarded his recommendations to Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who made the final selection. Now, Heimbecker is ready to repay their trust.

“It is a little intimidating,” Heimbecker said. “All these people that I work with, these are the leaders of one of the strongest university systems in the nation. They’re all very successful and well-respected individuals. But even when I was just visiting the board meetings or there as vice president of SGA, they were very accommodating and friendly, and I know that I’ll be able to learn a tremendous amount from them and hopefully be a strong leader for the university.”

In addition to his duties as student regent, Heimbecker is pursuing a master’s degree in student development and leadership in higher education. He earned his ASU bachelor’s degree in biology this spring, and was active on campus in the Student Government Association (SGA), Tri-Beta biology honor society and Ram Powerlifting Club. He also studied abroad and completed an undergraduate research project.
Piecing Together a Picture

Julie Richey’s art is in the details.

For a week in May, the mosaic artist worked on the installation of her “San Angelo Heritage Mosaic,” which covers a low, 42-foot-long wall outside Angelo State University’s Porter Henderson Library.

Using thousands of pieces of tile, Richey recreated images that are icons of Angelo State, San Angelo and the Concho Valley, from a burning torch representing the university’s annual Homecoming bonfire to water lilies of the city’s International Waterlily Collection.

“It’s going to be fun for the students, the users of the university and the staff to pick out their favorite images,” Richey said. “I hope that people will discover new things each time they look at it because you can’t possibly take it all in, in one visit.”

Richey’s project is the result of a Texas Tech University System policy that directs one percent of the budget for major construction and renovation projects be allocated to fund public art on system campuses. The mosaic is the first ASU artwork to be completed under the policy.

A Minnesota native who lives in Irving, Richey researched ASU and the area to come up with the images for the 267-square-foot mosaic. Along the top are “postcards,” including a Rambouillet ram’s head representing the ASU mascot, Dominic. Three of the postcards, as well as images scattered on the east side of the wall, were inspired by a visit to the Indian rock art at the Campbell Ranch outside Paint Rock.

“I love archaeology and I love petroglyphs,” Richey said. “It’s a really fascinating historical site to go to.”

“People are constantly searching for images of local wildlife, native plants, historical images, buildings and elements that are specific to San Angelo or to the university,” she added. “There are some images I wanted to use, like the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, which is so architecturally significant, but it was not going to look good in this material. You just have to be conscious that not everything you can draw or photograph translates well into mosaic.”

In addition to working out the details of the images, Richey also had to consider the demands of the high-traffic location. She chose to create the mosaic using ecologically friendly Quarry Tile.

“It’s hard to cut because it’s very thick,” Richey said, “but you can scrub the graffiti off it and it won’t pop the glaze when it freezes outside. You don’t need to seal it and you don’t need to wax it or do anything to it, so it’s ideal for this kind of situation where kids are going to be sitting on it and maybe spilling their coffee on it.”

The thickness of the tile meant Richey and her team, Greg Cox of Arlington and Jon Snow of Grand Prairie, had to use a wet saw to cut the 12-by-12-inch squares into much smaller pieces, but it also allowed them to use the saw to create shapes not often seen in mosaic art.

“There’s a lot of specialty cutting to discover in the mosaic if you really take a good look at it,” Richey said. “From a mosaic artist’s point of view, if you came upon this, you’d say, ‘Look at how they did these yucca flowers. Look at the pattern they used to do that armadillo plating.’”

“I hope that mosaic artists look at it from their perspective, too,” she continued, “and see that it’s something unique.”
Distinguished Graduate Student honors by major and college were Wesley A. Braheur of San Angelo, biology, College of Arts and Sciences; Haley M. Pornay of San Angelo, integrat ed professional accountability, College of Business; Brent Dawson of Stavros, educational administration, College of Education; and Lindsey Neel of Midland, fam ily nurse practitioner, College of Health and Human Services.

Norman Sunderman

Dr. Norman Sunderman of the accounting faculty has been elected treasurer of the National Association of Small Business International Trade Educators (NASBITE), an organization of business trade professionals and educators. He will serve a two- year term and be responsible for transactions and examining the financial records and budgets prepared by staff.

A 26-year ASU faculty member, Sunderman has been a member of the NASBITE International Board of Governors since 2012.

Duncan Knox

Duncan Knox, an Ozone sophomore in the ASU Honors Program, has been selected to serve on the 2013-14 Pearson Student Advisory Board and present to the world’s largest educational program, has been named president-elect of the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) national organization. She will join the board at the 46th annual CRLA Conference in Boston in November. She will also serve as program chair for the 2014 CRLA Conference in Minneapolis. After serving one year as president-elect, she will serve one-year terms as president and past-president.

CRLA is an organization of student-oriented professionals active in the fields of reading, learning assistance, developmental education, tutoring, and mentoring at the college and adult level.
Phi Kappa Phi

ASU has been granted a charter for a new chapter of Phi Kappa Phi (PKP), the nation’s most selective collegiate honor society encompassing all academic disciplines. ASU President Brian J. May said, “The chartering of a Phi Kappa Phi chapter at Angelo State is yet another indication of both the university’s academic maturity and its growing reputation nationally. A Phi Kappa Phi chapter is awarded only to universities demonstrating high academic quality as verified by accreditation agencies, as demonstrated by academic performance and as recognized by academic peers.”

Phi Kappa Phi is considered one of the nation’s most prestigious honorary societies along with Phi Beta Kappa, which recognizes majors in the arts and sciences, and Sigma Xi, which honors majors in the sciences.

The ASU chapter of PKP will induct its first class of students during the fall semester. Officers for ASU’s new PKP chapter will be Dr. Karl Havlak, professor of mathematics, president; Dr. Blake Hightower, associate professor of curriculum and instruction, president-elect; Dr. Kirby Livengood, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, secretary; Dr. Adria Battaglia, assistant professor of communications, public relations officer.

Tri-Beta Tops

ASU’s Epilon Sigma chapter of the Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) biology honor society has been named the Outstanding Chapter in District 2, which encompasses all of Texas, for the 2012-13 academic year. The honor was announced this spring at the Tri-Beta South Central Regional Convention. The Outstanding Chapter Award is based on the number of student research papers submitted for presentation at the regional conference; number of members attending; chapter history results; paper and poster presentation results; and number of chapter offices serving official functions. Individually for ASU, Malori Hughes of Ransom Canyon won the John C. Johnson Award for her poster presentation and Sarah Ensel of San Angelo won the Frank G. Brooks Award for her oral presentation. The ASU chapter also won second place in the Chapter History Contest, and ASU’s Jazmin Humphreys was elected South Central Region parliamentarian for the 2013-14 academic year. The ASU chapter has 142 members.

Not only did the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board continue the 2011 accreditation of ASU’s professional education programs through the College of Education and other academic departments, it also identified no areas needing improvement.

One of Angelo State University’s premier programs is the Tri-Beta South Central Regional Convention. The Outstanding Chapter Award is based on the number of student research papers submitted for presentation at the regional conference; number of members attending; chapter history results; paper and poster presentation results; and number of chapter offices serving official functions. Individually for ASU, Malori Hughes of Ransom Canyon won the John C. Johnson Award for her poster presentation and Sarah Ensel of San Angelo won the Frank G. Brooks Award for her oral presentation. The ASU chapter also won second place in the Chapter History Contest, and ASU’s Jazmin Humphreys was elected South Central Region parliamentarian for the 2013-14 academic year. The ASU chapter has 142 members.

The organization reported, “Angelo State University offers a Master of Science in Criminal Justice that is complete online. It’s particularly suited for those already working in Criminal Justice who are seeking promotional opportunities. The college is known for its extensive collection of journals, books and documents related to criminal justice that are available for student research.”

TWC Grant

ASU has been awarded a grant of $110,810 from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) through its College Credit for Heroes (CCH) workforce development program. One of six new and four existing CCH partner schools that will split a total of $1.5 million in TWC funding, ASU is the only four-year university in the program. CCH is designed to recognize the knowledge and skills gained by military service members and to award college credit for military experience, enabling veterans to more easily re-enter the workforce.

ASU’s grant funding will be used to establish five new articulation agreements with select community colleges that will allow students to more easily transfer their academic credits to ASU programs in border security, cyber security, intelligence, and security studies and analysis. Passed the grant will also allow the ASU VETS Center to help veterans and service members transition to campus by providing additional academic, social and financial aid support.

Chem Group Honors

ASU’s student chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) was featured for its green chemistry outreach efforts in the April edition of The Nexus, the official newsletter of the national ACS Green Chemistry Institute.

Several Angelo State ACS members also attended the National Meeting and Exposition in New Orleans. In addition to making research presentations and poster presentations on chapter activities, they also accepted their Honorable Mention Student Chapter Award and Green Chemistry Student Chapter Award.

“Green Chemistry” is a movement that encourages the design of processes that reduce the usage of hazardous or environmentally unfriendly substances, encouraging the idea of sustainability in the chemical industry and in research.

Honor Society Honored

ASU’s Mu Gamma chapter of the Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) international honor society for education has received a 2013 Achievement Chapter Excellence (ACE) Award from the KDP national organization for 2011-13 chapter activities. Established in 1995, the ACE Award is the highest honor a KDP chapter can earn. It recognizes KDP chapters that meet strict eligibility criteria and exhibit outstanding programming. This is the second ACE Award for ASU’s Mu Gamma chapter, which was also honored in 2009.

ASU’s grant funding will be used to establish five new articulation agreements with select community colleges that will allow students to more easily transfer their academic credits to ASU programs in border security, cyber security, intelligence, and security studies and analysis. Passed the grant will also allow the ASU VETS Center to help veterans and service members transition to campus by providing additional academic, social and financial aid support.
When the actors take the stage to perform an ASU theatre production, it is actually the final act in a process that began months or even years earlier.

That process starts with creating a season schedule for the University Theatre program, which produces ASU plays and musicals. Each season’s schedule of six shows serves as both practicum for theatre classes and entertainment for campus and public audiences.

“At ASU, the distinction between the production of theatre and the academic course work is virtually impossible to clarify,” said Dr. Bill Doll, professor of theatre and director of University Theatre. “Production is both an extension of the classroom, a lab and a student activity for non-majors.”

Doll and Mike Burnett, assistant professor of theatre and assistant director of University Theatre, serve both as instructors for the theatre classes and directors of most of the stage productions.

“College theatre is really great because it’s a laboratory where you want to fail at times,” Burnett said. “It’s a protected place to fail, in rehearsal or in design conversations, so that the students can grow and so that by the time opening comes, they’re not failing. In the real world, it’s not like that. You fail once in the real world, and it’s forever.”

Choosing shows for a season begins with a lot of questions.

“What are the design needs for the whole season?” Burnett said. “Are there student designers who will be challenged by these productions? What are the acting needs? Are there acting chops or skills that are going to grow because of these productions? What’s the balance, men to women? What are the logistical costs of these? As much as a lot of people would like us to do musical after musical, they’re really, really pricey.”

Doll and Burnett read hundreds of plays before deciding which ones to include in a particular season. Each season runs summer through spring and includes two summer dinner theatre productions, a fall show, a holiday dinner theatre, a musical and a final production in the spring.

“Generally, we’ve chosen the plays that we’re directing,” Doll said. “One of our main things coming in is variety. The students need to see and do a variety of styles and genres. Theatre has plot, character and theme. It has language, music—which can be interpreted in several ways: music in language, incidental music, actual music—and spectacle. It can all be simple or complex. You can have a simple plot with music and action and big spectacle.”

“I generally think one element leads or drives the others,” he added. “Sometimes, it’s complex characters; sometimes, it’s theme; sometimes, it’s the language. My preference, I generally focus on character. My main interest is in characters changing, events driving their lives, psychological studies.”

“For me,” Burnett said, “I want to pick the musical first because that’s where the majority of our resources are going to go. Then we say, ‘What can we package around this that makes for a good season for both the subscribers and the students?’”

University Theatre’s 2013-14 season opened with two dinner theatre productions, “What I Did Last Summer” in June, directed by Doll, and “The Fox on the Fairway” in August, directed by Burnett.

“Our dinner theatres, we really want them to be fun,” Doll said. “Three of our productions, the dinner theatres, they are not emotionally or intellectually challenging, but I think there are clear messages even if they’re a little bit lighter.”

“Learning something about ourselves and others, that’s what I think theatre is really about,” he continued. “Even though it’s lighter fare, there needs to be that message.”

In October, University Theatre will present “The Lion in Winter,” which will also be ASU’s entry for the state Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCATF), then, if selected, for the regional festival in Louisiana. The regional festival includes college productions from Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana.

“For KCATF, we do something challenging for a theatre audience, a real challenge for the students,” Doll said. “With ‘The Lion in Winter,’ it’s been a play that I’ve looked at for a long time. I knew we had students interested in doing lighting design and
The art of theatre actually has a lot in common with the construction industry. While they may seem worlds apart, both require plans drawn up with computer-aided design (CAD) software, as well as builders, painters and electricians to bring those plans to life. Matt Smith spent seven years in charge of those efforts as technical director for Angelo State University Theatre program until leaving in June to work on his Master of Fine Arts degree in 2004, and then returned as technical director and scenic and lighting designer for University Theatre in 2006.

“We always start with a ground plan,” Smith said. “I start sketching things out, using CAD.”

University Theatre’s annual season begins each year with two back-to-back summer dinner theatre productions, which are staged in the ASU Modular Theatre. Smith’s final ASU production was the dinner theatre “What I Did Last Summer” in June.

“The Modular Theatre is so flexible,” Smith said. “The stage was centered for the audience to dine. ‘Techies’ are like the bass players of the band,” said crew member Ryder Cornelison. “They are underappreciated, but you take them away and the band sounds bad.”

“Acted, designed, worked lights, sound, built sets,” he said. “In a program that small, you kind of have to do it all.”

At ASU, though, he is focusing on design. “I want to be Matt, basically,” Cornelison said. “In theatre, you get to build really cool stuff. We’re building docks that aren’t really going to be in the water. In a couple of weeks, we’ll be building houses.”

Another crew member, Ballinger native Magdalena Hogan, had a leading role in May’s “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress.” As the daughter of a high school drama teacher, Holland got into theatre early. Cornelison also did “just about everything” for his high school’s theatre program.

“As a director and a designer myself,” Burnett said, “I want to be artistically fed. I look for plays that I want to devote six weeks in rehearsal plus another six weeks in pre-production to. If I’m going to give up 12 weeks of my life, I want to make sure it’s for something that I really care about.”

Behind the Scenes

As the daughter of a high school drama teacher, Holland got into theatre early. Cornelison also did “just about everything” for his high school’s theatre program.

“Acted, designed, worked lights, sound, built sets,” he said. “In a program that small, you kind of have to do it all.”

At ASU, though, he is focusing on design. “I want to be Matt, basically,” Cornelison said. “In theatre, you get to build really cool stuff. We’re building docks that aren’t really going to be in the water. In a couple of weeks, we’ll be building houses.”

Another crew member, Ballinger native Magdalena Hogan, had a leading role in May’s “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress.” As the daughter of a high school drama teacher, Holland got into theatre early. Cornelison also did “just about everything” for his high school’s theatre program.

“As a director and a designer myself,” Burnett said, “I want to be artistically fed. I look for plays that I want to devote six weeks in rehearsal plus another six weeks in pre-production to. If I’m going to give up 12 weeks of my life, I want to make sure it’s for something that I really care about.”

“Techies are like the bass players of the band. They are underappreciated, but you take them away and the band sounds bad.”

– Ryder Cornelison

Magdalena Hogan

As the daughter of a high school drama teacher, Holland got into theatre early. Cornelison also did “just about everything” for his high school’s theatre program.

“Acted, designed, worked lights, sound, built sets,” he said. “In a program that small, you kind of have to do it all.”

At ASU, though, he is focusing on design. “I want to be Matt, basically,” Cornelison said. “In theatre, you get to build really cool stuff. We’re building docks that aren’t really going to be in the water. In a couple of weeks, we’ll be building houses.”

Another crew member, Ballinger native Magdalena Hogan, had a leading role in May’s “Five Women Wearing the Same Dress.” As the daughter of a high school drama teacher, Holland got into theatre early. Cornelison also did “just about everything” for his high school’s theatre program.

“As a director and a designer myself,” Burnett said, “I want to be artistically fed. I look for plays that I want to devote six weeks in rehearsal plus another six weeks in pre-production to. If I’m going to give up 12 weeks of my life, I want to make sure it’s for something that I really care about.”

“Techies are like the bass players of the band. They are underappreciated, but you take them away and the band sounds bad.”

– Ryder Cornelison
Cassandra Trautman said. “That’s our dream world.”

For ASU’s University Theatre productions, costumer Eldra Sanford uses the art of the sewing machine to tie together sets, scenes, actors and scripts with lines, shapes, colors, prints and styles. It all starts with research.

“Designers like to have a good four-to-six month lead, but we very rarely do,” Sanford said. “That’s our dream world.”

For this year’s summer dinner theatre production of “What I Did Last Summer,” Sanford searched the Internet for photos of the play’s original production, other period photos and magazine ads, anything that would help her identify the cut, style, color and prints of its 1940s setting.

“This play is about a very specific year and is specific to Lake Erie and to summertime,” Sanford said. “One of the issues is one of the characters actually takes off a costume on stage, and the undergarments are quite specific in 1945.”

She resolved that issue by finding a 1940s McCall’s sewing pattern for a boy’s undershirt and shorts, which she turned over to the show’s director, Dr. Bill Doll, along with photo ideas for other characters—such as girls eating hotdogs at a ball park and a farm woman in a long skirt.

“Costume includes looking at hair and makeup, jewelry and personal props,” said Doll, theatre professor and director of University Theatre. “It’s a bigger task than you might think. We are 50 percent visual in what we do, in the complexity of it.”

“For a short production time period, I was looking for a script that was not as complex as some. But, this production script still had almost five pages on costume notes for six characters.”

After researching styles, colors and even materials for a particular show, Sanford heads to her workshop on the second floor of the Carr Education-Fine Arts Building, which includes a vast closet for clothes that might be useful in future productions. Her hands are somewhat tied, however, until a production is cast.

“Depending on who is cast, I might have to build the costumes completely because I might not have slacks in stock with the pant leg width required for 1945, or whatever else is needed,” Sanford said.

Once the actors are chosen, she creates a measurement chart for each one that includes height, weight and other basics.

“Depending on the period we’re working on, we might have to add across the shoulders or the bust measurements,” Sanford said. “If we’re drafting a pattern, there are a whole lot more measurements for us to take. It takes 36 measurements just to draft a bodice.”

“I really have an aversion to copying, if I’m not using a vintage piece,” she continued. “If I’m designing a piece, I like to put myself mentally into that period and design a piece, not copy one.”

Cassandra Trautman, an ASU senior from Austin, shares Sanford’s love of designing. In addition to acting in “What I Did Last Summer,” she also worked on costumes for “The Lion in Winter” this fall.

“Costume design lets you make stuff that’s really yours,” she said. “‘Stretch your imagination,’ said Doll. ‘You’re a director and costume designer at the same time, working with the actors.’”

“ASU theatre is an experience like no other,” she said. “I would tell anyone to try ASU theatre. It’s a bigger task than you might think. We are 50 percent visual in what we do, in the complexity of it.”

For this year’s summer dinner theatre production of “What I Did Last Summer,” which is set in 1945, 14 ASU and area students auditioned for parts, and Doll tried them in 12 different combinations before deciding on the cast of two men and four women. Then at the first rehearsal, he asked them to write biographies of their characters, including their relationships to the other characters.

“Stretch your imagination,” said Doll. “Think of a world where there are no cell phones. Sixty years ago, more than half of us would play a musical instrument. There was no TV. People made much more entertainment for themselves, and children had much more freedom than they do today.”

“What’s the same?” he asked. “Parents want to raise children well. Children have respect for their parents, but want more freedom. There are similar age markers, such as getting a driver’s license. Start thinking about the environment, and start thinking about the character’s behavior.”

Cast members of ASU’s summer productions usually have less than a month between auditions and opening night, and not much longer for fall and spring shows. They rehearse three hours or more every weekday and often on Saturday afternoons. Most of them must also juggle learning their lines around classes, homework and jobs.

Senior biochemistry major Sawyer Hirt got involved in theatre at Wall High School and has carried it over to ASU, where he is a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the national honor society for theatre. He has had roles in two summer productions, “The Curious Savage” in 2012 and “What I Did Last Summer,” and enjoys putting in the extra time to be an actor.

“I was taking classes and working, and that wasn’t enough,” Hirt said. “I’m used to staying really busy. At small schools, it’s
what you did. I got into theatre from there, and I wanted to keep doing it.”

Other students have different motivations. Katie Graham, a May graduate of San Angelo Central High School who won a role in “What I Did Last Summer,” is inspired by her love of theatre.

“There’s just this certain magic when you step out on stage,” Graham said. “There’s nothing comparable.”

“The backstage experience,” she added, “what draws you in is this family camaraderie. You spend so much time with these people, even if just for one or two months.”

ASU junior Lura Cummins, a theatre major from Austin, took to the ASU stage for the first time in “What I Did Last Summer.” Her role was particularly challenging as she played a character at least 40 years her elder.

“Definitely, being old is hard,” Cummins said. “I’ve never been that in life, and being grumpy was hard. Evidently, I’m not that grumpy of a person.”

Regardless of why they are there, each of University Theatre’s student actors is committed to continuing the tradition of producing six great stage shows every year for campus and public audiences.

“I never really had any exposure to theatre growing up,” said Tyler Hastings, a sophomore from Mertzon. “Then, in my junior year in high school, I discovered the thrill of becoming someone else, of showing those feelings and emotions. You’re able to relish what you get from that. It’s very rewarding.”

“We’re all completely different,” said Cummins, “but we have the same sense of humor and there’s nothing that can shock anyone. I like being with like minds the most.”

After weeks of memorizing lines and attending late-night rehearsals, the student actors on opening night of “What I Did Last Summer” were prepared for almost anything except the white undershorts inadvertently left on stage after a crucial scene.

To the cast and crew, the boy’s underwear seemed to glow on stage, as out of place as an alien spaceship would have been had it landed there during the performance. The pressure of handling the brazen briefs would fall upon the next actor on stage, in this case Karis Elliott, the youngest performer in the coming-of-age play, as Bonny.

How she would handle the situation would create a mini-drama within the live performance for the cast and crew, though if handled correctly, the audience would never know it was not part of the play.
The drama of live theatre is that no performance is ever the same from one night to the next. Like handling an out-of-place object or performing without a script, a stage actor must adapt to the unexpected. Without a play set in 1945, someone said, “You’re looking good, Charlie,” and another, “Sorry, Charlie,” during the play.

“Everything is working toward one goal, to put on a fantastic production, wherever it is,” said Scott. “I feel as though you’re going to be very serious about theatre, you can’t pretend just one area. You have to be able to step up to a technical position every now and then.”

“Audiences watch the actors, they watch the performers,” he added. “The technical people know they don’t receive the accolades, but they don’t do it for the recognition. Their people know they don’t receive the accolades, but they don’t do it for the recognition. Their goal is to put on the best production possible.”

In addition to what happens on stage and off stage as if it had all been part of the play, audiences watch the actors, they watch the performers. Cameron O’Brian could have acted out as much as possible, though what’s inconspicuous when all eyes are focused on the stage! Such a resolution would have amounted to an admission of the mistake. Or, the actor could pretend the underwear was on stage.

Don’t we all have them off some time? O’Briant, a May graduate of Central High School, had to get them off stage.

His options were limited. He couldn’t send a crew member out to retrieve them. It would have to be an actor. Elliott, a Central senior, was scheduled to go on stage for the next scene. Cameron came up to me backstage and said, ‘Just flick them off.’ I thought, ‘no way.’ If I’m going to do it, then I’m going to go big,” Elliott said.

As 14-year-old Bonny, Elliott strode on stage, picked up the undergarments gingersly and gave them a look of disdain and disgust. Then with a great flourish, she tossed them off stage as if it had all been part of the play. The audience was none the wiser.

The audience was none the wiser. "We're training students in so many areas," Doll said. "We sell tickets, so we need box office staff, as well as actors, stage managers, assistant stage managers, master electricians, lighting designers, directors, master carpenters, wardrobe managers, riggers, promotions, properties. Different shows have different requirements. Everybody’s staying really busy.”

Like trying to figure out what to do with the scene-stealing underwear without creating an opening night distraction.

"Cameron O'Brian, as wardrobe manager for "I Did Last Summer," found himself facing a dilemma after Hirt, as Charlie, had stripped down to his underwear before running off stage then, in a comic moment, tossing his drawers back onto the stage. The. The shorts were supposed to have been picked up along with the rest of the clothes by the actor playing his mother but were overlooked in the previous scene. Now O'Brian, a May graduate of Central High School, had to get them off stage.

His options were limited. He couldn't send a crew member out to retrieve them. It would have to be an actor. Elliott, a Central senior, was scheduled to go on stage for the next scene. Cameron O'Brian could have acted out as much as possible, though what’s inconspicuous when all eyes are focused on the stage! Such a resolution would have amounted to an admission of the mistake. Or, the actor could pretend the underwear was on stage.

"Cameron came up to me backstage and said, ‘Just flick them off!’ I thought, ‘no way!’ If I’m going to do it, then I’m going to go big,” Elliott said.

As 14-year-old Bonny, Elliott strode on stage, picked up the undergarments gingersly and gave them a look of disdain and disgust. Then with a great flourish, she tossed them off stage as if it had all been part of the play. The audience was none the wiser.

Instead of a stage disaster, it was one of those magic moments found only in live theatre, a moment of improvisation, a moment of acting, the type of moments that occur in all ASU theatrical productions.
Benjamin Beaver is a real estate agent and former student at Angelo State University (ASU). His billboard humorously reads, “Your home sold in 7 hours... or longer,” indicating the local housing market’s speed in San Angelo, Texas. Beaver said, “If homes are priced reasonably and in the right location, seven hours is not outrageous.”

Most attribute the housing boom to historically low interest rates and increased interest in oil drilling in the Cline Shale, also known as the Lower Wolfcamp, covering a large area on the eastern shelf of the Permian Basin. Tom Green County is included in the shale, as are Coke, Fisher, Glasscock, Howard, Irion, Mitchell, Nolan, Reagan, Scurry, and Sterling counties.

The American Association of Petroleum Geologists’ Explorer Magazine reported last year that drillers estimate they can recover 3 billion barrels of oil from the region, and that the recent oil discovery is the largest of its kind in the Permian Basin in the past 50 years.

Dr. Jamal Husein, an ASU professor of economics, said new hydraulic fracturing technology is allowing oil and gas companies to reach areas they could not previously access and do it cheaper. “No one knows how long this will last,” Husein said, “but this is not short term. It’s not one or two or three years, it’s definitely more than that. These people know what they are doing in the oil and gas industry, and if it’s not for quite a few years, they will not do it. They have to buy machines, equipment and tools, and they have to rent and buy offices, so we are talking about serious money pouring into the area. Unless they are sure it’s going to last them for a while, they won’t do it. So demand for everything is going to go up.”

While many services and industries in San Angelo are likely seeing an influx of customers or can anticipate one in the near future, the increased demand is arguably most noticeable in the local housing market.
As sales increase, the average number of days a home stays on the market is decreasing. In 2011, homes averaged 140 days on the market. That number shrank to 116 days in 2012 and then dropped to just 92 days in 2013.

“We’re encouraging buyers to put in offers quickly because in a week it might not be there,” said San Angelo real estate agent and ASU graduate Nancy Vincent.

Typically, San Angelo has 600-800 homes on the market at a given time. Vincent said, but now it is down to just a third of that. “It’s great because there are a lot of buyers,” she said, “but it’s frustrating for Realtors because we know what our client wants, but we can’t find it available.”

Vincent also advises her sellers to find another home to move into before they list their home. Otherwise, they may not have a place to live if their home sells quickly. Some real estate agents are also using new techniques to sell houses even faster. Beaver uses social media websites, like Facebook, and hires professional photographers and videographers to better showcase his properties.

“Now more than ever, buyers are looking online before they ever get to town,” Beaver said. “Video helps a lot if people are buying site unseen.”

Along with the increased housing demand, San Angelo is also seeing a steady boost in its median home price. According to the Texas A&M Real Estate Center, the local median home price of $122,000 in 2011 jumped to $225,700 in 2012 and to $235,180 by May of this year.

Fortunately for buyers, appraisal rates that are largely based on comparable sales in an area may be preventing home prices from rising too sharply. ASU graduate Clayton Boling, a consumer loan officer at Crockett National Bank, said 85-90 percent of appraisals are coming back at asking price or just a little bit higher, with the other 10-15 percent coming in lower than asking price.

“When applying for a home loan,” Boling said, “no bank is going to loan more than the appraised value because that would automatically make you upside down on your loan, meaning you owe more than the property is worth. In the event that a buyer agrees to pay a sale price that is higher than the appraised value, the buyer would be responsible for coming up with the difference, again due to the fact that our bank will not finance more than the appraised value.”

Even so, Dierschke said he has seen a few recent instances when buyers have been willing to pay more than the appraised values. “It’s the supply-and-demand factor,” Dierschke said. “You have to have a place to live; you found one you like; you’ve tried to bid on three or four houses; you didn’t get them; you’re anxious; all these factors into it.

And so one comes up, you don’t want to lose it, and you’re willing to bid higher than the appraised price. Another factor in the housing boom is people buying homes they do not plan to live in themselves.

“A lot of the people who are purchasing houses right now,” Boling said, “are investors who are buying up properties and keeping them either as rental properties or turning them around. We are seeing investors who already live in San Angelo, as well as investors from other places.”

“We’re also seeing a lot of home equity loans,” he added, “so people can improve their properties, whether that is homestead or rental properties.”

Home builders are also getting in on the boom, and subsequently, the City of San Angelo Permits and Inspection Division has recorded a much higher volume of building permit requests. Typically, the city issues about 15 permits a month for new homes.

The first quarter is historically slower for us,” Jackson said, “but there was never a break this year. It quickly turned into a sellers’ market.”

Oil companies are also coming to the city looking for larger commercial tracts. “A commercial property with some land is popular,” Dierschke said, “because the oilfield industry requires a lot of equipment and they need places for their equipment. They’re looking for service-type buildings with some land for storage. That seems to be the biggest thing in demand.”

In addition to new construction and a hot real estate market, the San Angelo region must also prepare itself for other economic impacts of the oil boom. Service industries can expect to pay higher wages, and local schools can expect enrollment increases, Husein said.

“If we manage it, and if the city knows how to manage it, it’s a good thing,” Husein said. “The city will make more money because you have more property and more property taxes. These people move in and they start buying things at local businesses, so there’s more sales tax coming to the city, and the state for that matter. But, these people will also use the stuff in the city. They use the roads and the bridges, and most importantly, water.”

“It’s always a tradeoff,” he continued, “and I don’t know if West Texas and San Angelo are really ready for this. If it’s becoming a bigger boom than we think it is, I don’t know if we’re ready for it.”

Ready or not, though, the oil boom has arrived and is already having a profound effect on the homes, businesses and residents of the region surrounding Angelo State University.
Historic Day Afoot

The date of May 4, 2013, has been indelibly etched in the history book of ASU track and field. On that day, the Rams and Rambelles both won team titles at the Lone Star Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships for the first time in program history.

“That was huge,” said head coach James Reid. “One, it had never been done at ASU before, and something I’ve always wanted to do is win a championship on both sides. I think the significance of it being the women’s fifth in a row, which had never been done before, and something I’ve always wanted to see our girls get after it.”

The Rams, meanwhile, needed some help as their 4x400-meter relay team stepped to the starring block for the final race of the meet. With 138 points, ASU trailed both West Texas A&M (144.5 points) and Abilene Christian (139). To win their first title in two decades, the Rams needed to beat ACU in the 4x400-meter relay and hope WTAMU finished no better than fifth.

“Coach Reid kept telling me to keep calm that whole time,” Williams said. “He said it could be a possibility that I would have to go back and forth. He told me when the time comes, he didn’t want me to stress over it, yet when the time came, I was a little bit freaked out.”

After three throws in the javelin preliminaries, Williams sat in ninth place with only the top eight to be named All-Americans. Then, she had to go check in at the shot put and warm up. Williams changed shoes from javelin to shot put, warmed up, and then changed shoes back to javelin for her final three throws of that competition. But after two throws, the senior had not improved her position.

“Coach Reid kept telling me, ‘You have to do something big,’” Williams said. “I'm a competitor and I knew if I got that far, I wasn’t going to go home in ninth place.”

Another change of shoes, and Williams was set for her three preliminary shot put throws. “The only thing going through my mind when I got to shot was that I had to hit the position right and make that transition,” Williams said.

By the time she arrived, the second flight of the competition had already finished and she was forced to take all three of her preliminary throws in succession. The second adrenaline-infused throw was her best in the preliminaries as she set a personal-best mark of 46'-2.75” (14.10m). It was also good enough to put her in seventh place despite fouling her final preliminary throw.

“I did feel confident that she would PR (personal record) in the shot put,” Reid said. “I didn’t imagine that scenario of having to take all three at once, but it was pretty exciting. As a coach, I was extremely excited for her.”

After her three throws in the shot put finals, Williams held on for eighth place and was finally able to accept her trophies on the awards stand.

“Defining Moment”

Kimberly Williams

It took just 30 minutes and a whirlwind of events for Kimberly Williams of Roby to define her Angelo State career at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships in May.

A fourth-place finish in the javelin and an eighth-place finish in the shot put gave the five-time Lone Star Conference champion something she had longed for her entire career — All-America honors.

“Honestly, it was surreal,” Williams said. “I wasn’t expecting even half of what I did. I was trying to finish in the top eight in the javelin and just make the finals in the shot put.”

The javelin and the shot put were scheduled just 40 minutes apart, but a conflict delayed the javelin by 10 minutes, leaving just 30 minutes between the starts of the two events.

“Coach Reid kept telling me to keep calm that whole time,” Williams said. “He said it could be a possibility that I would have to go back and forth. He told me when the time comes, he didn’t want me to stress over it, yet when the time came, I was a little bit freaked out.”

Another change of shoes, and Williams was set for her three preliminary shot put throws.
Lee Neumann had no idea what he was starting when he chose Billy Squier’s “The Stroke” as his walkup song.

For two straight seasons, his teammates and fans treated him like a rock star as overhead clapping filled stadiums every time he came to bat with “The Stroke” blaring from the loudspeakers.

“It was an awesome experience, seeing everyone up there with their hands high in the air clapping together,” Neumann said. “Even on the road when there was no music, they were all up there clapping. It gave me motivation and kept me relaxed. It showed that they all had confidence in me.”

Despite battling through an arm injury that required “Tommy John” surgery after the 2013 season, Neumann relished every inning. It was an awesome experience, seeing everyone up there with their hands high in the air clapping together,” Neumann said. “Even on the road when there was no music, they were all up there clapping. It gave me motivation and kept me relaxed. It showed that they all had confidence in me.”

Despite battling through an arm injury that required “Tommy John” surgery after the 2013 season, Neumann relished every inning. He became the first Ram to earn two Lone Star Conference Player of the Year honors and only the third to be tabbed a two-time All-American. An unheralded and unassuming player from Brenham, he was still surprised by the treatment he received from the ASU fans.

“It’s something I’ll never forget,” Neumann said. “You can’t ask them to do something like that for two years. I don’t even know how it started, but it’s the coolest thing that’s ever happened to me.”

Dedicated ASU baseball fan Mike Burnett, an assistant professor of theatre, was in the stands with his children for numerous games the past two seasons. No stranger to drama, he particularly enjoyed the intensified atmosphere created when Neumann walked to the plate and “The Stroke” started to play.

“Our favorite moments of the game included when the players’ walkup music would get the crowd pumped,” Burnett said. “Some of the choices the team had were fun, but whenever Billy Squier’s “The Stroke” would play for Lee Neumann, the whole crowd would get into clapping to the beat. There’s something about the beginning of that song that makes you wave your hands in the air.”

A transfer from Blinn College, Neumann collected 22 awards during his two years at ASU, highlighted by his LSC Player of the Year and All-America honors. He was also a two-time American Baseball Coaches’ Association/Rawlings South Central Region Player of the Year, and finished his Rams career with a .306 batting average, 152 hits, 34 doubles, 16 triples, 13 home runs and 92 RBIs. He also stole 39 bases and was regarded as one of the top defensive center fielders in the country.

“It’s really a testament to his work ethic,” said ASU head coach Kevin Brooks. “For him to come back his senior season and play at such a high level again this year was great. It’s not easy when there’s a lot being expected from you, and especially when you have to deal with an injury that ends most players’ seasons.”

Though hampered by the arm injury and saddled by lofty fan expectations, Neumann remained a run producer, a fan favorite and an example of what can be accomplished through hard work.

“I really just wanted to come here and contribute to the baseball team,” Neumann said. “I knew that I was going to work hard every day to be the best I could be, but I had no idea it would be as great as it was for me. I never thought about winning individual awards. All I ever wanted to do was play the game I love.”

Somewhere along the way, he also became a rock star.
Amazing Career

Her teammates’ cheers always accompanied ASU Rambelles softball player Kacie Easley whenever she strode to the plate.

Those chants of “Kacie Easley, you are amazing!” that actually began as a joke by former Rambelle Kristen Frye during Easley’s freshman season turned out to be pretty accurate throughout her four-year career.

“She was an intense, hard-working and talented player,” said ASU head coach Travis Scott. “When you add those combinations, it turns into a complete player. She is someone who hates to lose and is going to work hard to prevent losing from happening.”

A Temple native, Easley started 236 of the 238 games she played in for ASU. During that span, the Rambelles went 180-58, won the 2012 Lone Star Conference Championship and qualified for the NCAA postseason every year. By the time she was finished, Easley had more than lived up to the chants of “Kacie Easley, you are amazing!” that actually began as a joke by former Rambelle Kristen Frye during Easley whenever she strode to the plate.

Although blessed with abundant natural abilities, Easley still worked constantly to develop her skills.

“My mental game, without a doubt, is considered one of our top players to put on the uniform.”

She also had a flair for the dramatic. “Hitting the walk-off home run in the World Series her freshman year against Bloomsburg,” Scott said, “Anytime you can do that at the national tournament, it is pretty special.”

It was 2010, and the Rambelles were taking on No. 6 Bloomsburg University in a national tournament elimination game. With the score tied, 4-4, in the bottom of the eighth inning, Easley launched a drive over the fence for a dramatic 5-4 victory. It was one of is home runs she hit as a freshman.

“Early in the season, I was pretty nervous,” Easley said. “The upperclassmen made it a point to let us know that we are there for a reason, and it helped my confidence.”

Another dramatic home run during her senior season put an exclamation point on Easley’s tenure at ASU. With the Rambelles trailing, 3-2, in the seventh inning of a game against No. 1 West Texas A&M, Easley came to the plate with a runner on second base. She proceeded to drive the ball into the wind and over the left-field fence to seal a 4-3 victory.

“She wasn’t afraid to have the leadership abilities to push teammates, and she fell in line with some of the greats in our program,” Scott said. “She definitely will be considered one of our top players to put on the uniform.”

By the time her ASU career ended, Easley had more than lived up to the chants from the dugout.

“That just really wanted to be known as a competitor, someone who played with heart,” Easley said, “and that was my goal, to always compete. I hope I have given and shown that. I love the game and really think I left everything I could on the field.”

Amazing Career

Kacie Easley

The Angelo State softball team continued its winning ways in 2013 by posting a 37-8 overall record and advancing to the NCAA Division II South Central Regional for a seventh straight season.

After finishing third in the Lone Star Conference regular season standings, the Rambelles and head coach Travis Scott fought their way through the LSC Tournament and into the South Central Regional, where they lost in the final to St. Edward’s.

Junior utility player Morgan Spearman (Kennedale) earned All-America third team selection by the National Fastpitch Coaches’ Association and was also named to the All-LSC first team. Senior catcher Kacie Easley (Temple) also made the All-LSC first team as she put her name in the ASU record book by setting a new career home run record with 42. Easley, Spearman, senior outfielder Lauren Smith (Waxahachie) and junior pitcher Sandra Serna (Albuquerque, N.M.) picked up all-region honors, as well.

Six talented seniors finished out their ASU careers in 2013, including Easley, Smith, outfielder Britney Davis (Manor),infelder Holly Vanden Bosse (Murrieta, Calif.),outfielder Amanda Wilhelm (Round Rock) and first baseman April Breshears (Springtown).

Angelo State has averaged 43 wins per season since 2009.
Rambelles track and field program.

Overall, it is the 19th meet of the season for the Rambelles by carding a 78-77 – 155 for fifth place. It was Gray’s first All-America honor and the second for Rodgers. Theresa Sue (Fort Worth) placed seventh in the long jump to provide two points in the team race and also become an All-American.

The four All-Americans combined to score 38 points, the most in program history in an indoor championship. ASU’s eighth-place finish was also its highest ever at the indoor national meet, and the Rambelles’ best team performance since winning the 2010 NCAA Division II Indoor Championships.

Golfing Ace

Athletic director Sean Johnson has handed over the reins of ASU’s women’s golf program to Chandra Alexander, a professional golfer on the LPGA Symetra Tour, Canadian Tour and Sun Coast Tour.

“I am thrilled to be given this opportunity to coach such a talented group of women,” Alexander said. “This team has tremendous potential and I am excited to help them achieve their goals and become a nationally competitive team. Plenty of hard work has been invested into this program since it began, and I can’t wait to join and continue on the right path.”

Alexander played collegiate golf at the University of North Texas and was named the all-conference squad and was tabbed the team’s most improved player in 2011.

She played high school golf at San Angelo Central, Snyder and Southlake Carroll.

Her ASU roster will return five players from last year squad that finished in fourth place at the Lone Star Conference Championships.

“It is such a talented group,” Alexander said. “There is a lot of potential. I have played with all the girls and I see how much talent they have. I’m excited to work with them and, hopefully, take them to the next level.”

Up to Par

The Angelo State golf team wrapped up its 2012-13 season in April with a fourth-place finish at the Lone Star Conference Golf Championships at The Golf Club at Champions Circle in Fort Worth.

Senior Krista Czarnecki (El Paso) led the Rambelles by carding a 78-77 – 155 for fifth place while sophomore Ashley Barthoknow (Mansfield) took 17th with an 81-78 – 159.

For the season, the Rambelles competed in 10 tournaments, posting four top-five team finishes and six top-10 individual performances.

Junior Courtney Rutledge (Manahan) led ASU with a 78.2 stroke average per round and three top-10 finishes while Abby Bobo (Wichita Falls) posted a 79.5 stroke average and two top-20 finishes.

Junior Maury McCormick (San Angelo) competed in eight tournaments with two top-20 finishes. Barthoknow competed in nine tournaments with a stroke average of 83.1, and freshman Liz Chavarria played in five tournaments with an 87.2 stroke average.

Rutledge earned All-LSC honorable mention and also joined Bobo on the LSC All-Academic Team. Bobo and Czarnecki received Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America for their work on the course and in the classroom. Czarnecki was also honored as a distinguished graduate by Angelo State’s College of Business.

Volleyball

Coach: Chuck Waddington
(6th year, 118-52 at ASU)

Last Year: 29-6 (18-2, 1st in LSC)

Outlook: Angelo is defending Lone Star Conference champion for the first time in 20 seasons after finishing 2012 just one win shy of advancing to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Division II Tournament for the first time in program history. The ‘Belles have enjoyed a steady ascent, which has them nationally ranked and eyeing another championship run in 2013.

Top Returners: ASU returns All-American middle blocker Maddie Huth (The Colony) and versatile players Kaeden Valdez (Helotes) and Leah McWilliams (Fort Worth) for their senior seasons. Huth posted 387 kills and 107 blocks last season, boosting her career totals of 757 kills and 272 blocks. Valdez has recorded 848 kills and 1,130 digs in her three years at ASU.

Senior Theresa Seaver (Lampasas) was tabbed the 2012 All-LSC second team. Offensive, ASU returns seniors Maggie Schaffer (New Braunfels) and Katie Squires (Granbury) and junior Liz Chavarria (Kennedale), who was named to the 2012 All-LSC second team.

Top Newcomers: The ‘Belles welcome four new additions to the team in New Mexico State transfer Maggie Je Keffury (Arroyo, Calif.) and high school signers Zosy Hanhanah (Plufbergville), Courtney Bartuska (Centennial, Colo.) and Kiahn Harrion (Chandler, Ariz.). Keffury is a setter who will look to fill the void left by Alex Woody, who graduated as ASU’s all-time leader in assists.

Soccer

Coach: Travis McCorkle
(6th year, 50-39-10 at ASU)

Last Year: 11-7-2 (8-5-1, 3rd in LSC)

Outlook: A tough penalty kick loss in the semifinals of the 2012 Lone Star Conference Championships provides all the motivation for the Rambelles’ 2013 season. ASU has made the postseason three straight years, and it is primed to make an even deeper run this season with strong defense being the cornerstone to success.

Top Returners: Danielle Edwards (San Angelo) returns for the Rambelles after being named the LSC Goalkeeper of the Year last season. She recorded 79 saves and eight shutouts for the conference’s top defensive team. The Rambelles also return defensive experience with seniors Kara Edwards (Bastrop) and Chelsea Meaders (Kenedale), who was named to the 2012 All-LSC second team.

Offensively, ASU returns seniors Maggie Schaffer (New Braunfels) and Katie Squires (Granbury), along with sophomore Sierra Anderson (Wichita Falls). Schaffer entered her third and final year at ASU with 10 career goals. Squires and Anderson chipped in three and two goals last year, respectively.

Top Newcomers: The Rambelles welcome 12 new players. Eleven were signed from high school, and goalkeeper Shantel Wirkte transferred to ASU from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock with three years of eligibility remaining.

The Rambelles will look for immediate impacts from freshmen Danielle Lewis, Caitlin Baselli and Holly Hornea (all of San Angelo), plus Kathleen Keoughan (Fort Worth), Kimber Collins (Mansfield), Jenny Kowchych (Houston), Lauren Perry (Plano), Chloe Contreras (Fort Worth), Cynthia Andrews (Crowley), Kelli Regin (Fort Bend) and Haley Mendel (Bastrop).

Football

Coach: Will Wagner
(3rd year, 10-12 at ASU)

Last Year: 5-6 (4-4, 3rd in LSC)

Outlook: The Rams return 16 starters for the 2013 season. They will be joined by another talented recruiting class for Will Wagner’s third season as head coach.

The Rams’ 11-game schedule includes five home games and six road games, and four games against teams that made the NCAAI Division II playoffs last year. For the first time in more than four decades, the schedule does not include ASU’s former LSC arch-rival, Abilene Christian University, which has moved to Division I.

Top Returners: The Rams return eight starters on both sides of the ball, including several 2012 All-Lone Star Conference selections in junior running back Blake Smith (Buda), senior defensive tackle Joey Searcy III (Grand Prairie), senior offensive lineman Ian Cocker (Elles) and junior linebacker Rush Seaver (Lampasas).

The offensive line returns to anchor the offense while the defense will rely on seven upperclassmen.

Cowboys Stadium: The Rams will face Colorado State-Pueblo at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, as part of the 2013 Lone Star Football Festival.

The game will mark ASU’s second straight year to play in the festival and the first meeting between the Rams and Thunderwolves.
Alumni Homecoming Activities

The Angelo State University Alumni Association will host its annual Homecoming Dinner on Friday, Oct. 11, to honor distinguished graduates and supporters of ASU.

The 2013 honorees are Alvin New, distinguished alumnus; Chris Sloan, distinguished Carr alumnus; Gil Casey Eaton, distinguished ROTC alumnus; Tara Hart, honorary alumnus; Dr. Donald Shelby, our retired faculty member; Dr. Mack McCoulskey, golden ex; Dr. Alaric Williams, distinguished faculty achievement; and Leonor Constantino, outstanding staff.

Activities will begin with a reception at 6 p.m. in theLeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center, 1620 University Ave., followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are $60 per person or $100 per couple and are available by contacting the Alumni Association at 325-942-2122 or by visiting the website at www.angelostatealumni.com.

Honorees also will be featured in the 11 a.m. Saturday Homecoming Parade downtown. They will be guest at the association’s Homecoming Ram Jam from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and then be announced a halftime of ASU’s Homecoming football game against Eastern New Mexico in San Angelo.

October 11
11:30 a.m.  Golden Exes Luncheon, Houston Harte University Center
3:30 p.m.  Campus Tours, Houston Harte University Center
6:30 p.m.  Homecoming Dinner, LeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center
8 p.m.  Homecoming Pep Rally
9:30 p.m.  Bonfire, East of Foster Field

October 12
8 a.m.  Homecoming SK and 1 Mile Fun Run, Ram Run, LeGrand Center
11 a.m.  Homecoming Parade, Downtown San Angelo
1:30 p.m.  Campus Tours, Houston Harte University Center
2 p.m.  Volleyball Game vs. Tarleton State, Junell Center/Stephens Arena
3:30 p.m.  Ram Jam, LeGrand Center
6 p.m.  Football Game vs. Eastern New Mexico, San Angelo Stadium

Alumni Awards Criteria

Distinguished Alumnus
Awarded to an alumnus who has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Honorary Alumnus
Awarded to an individual who did not attend ASU, but has brought recognition to the university or has supported ASU or the ASU Alumni Association in a significant manner.

Distinguished Carr Scholar Alumnus
Awarded to an alumnus who attended ASU on a Carr Scholarship and has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Distinguished ROTC Alumnus
Awarded to an alumnus who attended ASU as part of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 847 and has received significant recognition through career and/or community service and leadership.

Golden Ex of the Year
Awarded to an individual who has been an alumnus for 50 years or longer and who has brought recognition to ASU and/or the ASU Alumni Association.

Outstanding Retiree
Awarded to a former ASU faculty or staff member who had a distinguished career at ASU.

Distinguished Faculty Achievement
Awarded to a current ASU faculty member who has had a profound effect on the lives and careers of ASU students (not required to be an alumnus).

Distinguished Staff Achievement
Awarded to a current ASU employee who as a staff member has demonstrated support and dedication for the development of ASU (not required to be an alumnus).

Alvin New believes in giving people the tools to succeed, much like ASU did for him. Armed with his ASU bachelor’s degree in business, New, Class of 1984, worked his way up from store clerk to president and CEO of Town & Country Food Stores. When Town & Country sold in 2007, he branched into other business interests and then ran a successful campaign to become mayor of San Angelo, a post he held from 2010 until this past summer. “As mayor, you learn a fair amount about how things work,” New said. “Some things you can’t move as fast as you wish and some things you can do more with than you thought. I’ve enjoyed the people, the staff and the interaction with the public.” For his proudest mayoral achievement, New points to the pipeline project to bring much-needed water from the Hickory Aquifer to San Angelo. “The pipeline is now inside the city limits,” New said, “and that’s something the city has been working on for 40-plus years that’s going to come to fruition because of citizens voting it through in a referendum that we brought to them, and the work that we’ve done to get it here. It is going to have significant impact on the community, and I’m glad we were part of that.” Recognizing that his ASU education was a major component in his successes, New and his wife, Patricia, Class of 1986 and 1990, have given generously to benefit ASU and its next generation of students. In 2009, they provided the university $195,000 to renovate classrooms in the business and education programs, and $250,000 for the Honors Program. Since then, thousands of students have utilized the business “Boardroom” and the Innovative Teaching Center, and more than 50 Honors Program students have received funding for prestigious summer internships and other academic enrichment programs. “We think that education is the biggest tool in your toolbox for changing where you were to where you want to be,” New said. “With that mindset, helping with scholarships and the enhancement monies for the Honors Program trips is something we are big believers in and we enjoy doing.” “We want students to have a really good experience at ASU,” he continued, “so we try to be available to speak to classes and to provide some money for institutional needs, like those rooms in the business and education buildings. ASU really set us up for success and we want to set up some other students for success. I hope one of the takeaways is that some of those kids decide they want to help someone else be successful – so it all flows together very naturally and easily for us.” For his business and political success and for his ongoing support of various university programs, the ASU Alumni Association has named New its 2013 Distinguished Alumnus. “I was given a good foundation at ASU, educated well and prepared to do OK moving forward,” New said. “When people see me being honored, I hope they will see me as their example of ‘I could do that,’ and that it would give them some inspiration that studying, getting the good grades, doing the work in their career, getting involved in the community and contributing to other people’s success is worth doing.” Since leaving public office, New continues to invest in the entrepreneurial development of individuals and start-up companies through his partnership in BNB Ventures. He also gets to dedicate more time to his daughters, Victoria and Elizabeth, who travel extensively to compete in equestrian events.
Education is not just a career, it’s a way of life for Angelo State alumnus Chris Sloan. A U.S. Air Force retiree, he has been pursuing higher education continuously since 1988 and earned multiple degrees and certifications at ASU. He is currently working toward a doctoral degree from Texas Tech University while also putting his already extensive education to good use as head of school at Ambleside School of San Angelo, a Christian private school.

“I think when you’re in education,” Sloan said, “if you’re not going to school, it’s almost hypocritical when you’re telling kids how important education is, but you’ve stopped yours. I always like to be able to talk to the kids about my experiences in school so that they understand it’s important your whole life to be a learner.”

Sloan learned the value of continuing education while still in the Air Force, when his plan to parlay his computer maintenance training into a private sector job did not work out as he had hoped.

“It was not very successful at finding the job I thought I should have,” he said. “Everybody was getting out and getting these great jobs, but most of those guys had a two-year degree, minimum. I didn’t have anything. I had the experience, but I didn’t have the degree, and that was really what everyone was starting to look for in that field.”

So, Sloan attacked school with a vengeance, earning two associate degrees from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) and University of Maryland while stationed in Germany. After requesting and being granted a transfer to San Angelo’s Goodfellow Air Force Base in 1992, he enrolled at ASU, earned a Carr Academic Scholarship and completed a bachelor’s degree in math and science education in 1998.

“It was probably three months after I got here that I started at ASU,” Sloan said. “I was going part time, but I was usually taking two courses a semester and summer classes. I didn’t really take very many breaks at all in my college.”

Still in the Air Force, Sloan then earned two more CCAF associate degrees before retiring in 2003 and beginning a second career as a teacher in the San Angelo Independent School District. His own education continued at ASU as he earned a Carr Graduate Scholarship that he utilized to complete his master’s degree in curriculum and instruction in 2006, as well as master reading teacher and reading specialist certifications in 2008. In 2012, he was named head of school at Ambleside.

For his educational and career successes, Sloan has been named the ASU Alumni Association’s 2013 Distinguished Carr Alumnus.

“When I first came here, I was a sergeant and my pay was so low my wife and I qualified for the federal Women, Infants and Children food and nutrition service,” Sloan said. “We had two young daughters, so the Carr made a huge difference. I got it when I was part time and I got it when I was full time. It paid for tuition, books and then some. I know a lot of people get a Carr Scholarship,” he added, “and I know for a lot of people it makes a difference on whether they go to school or not. I definitely had the need, and it definitely made a difference so I was able to finish up my degrees.”

Sloan’s wife, Tina, and daughter, Aubrey, also are ASU graduates, and daughter, Jessica, is an alumna of Howard College.

Tara Hart’s name describes her perfectly because she approaches her job with her whole heart.

Since her arrival at ASU in 2011, the Nebraska native has fully embraced her role helping students learn about all aspects of campus life. As associate director of admissions, she plans recruiting events and helps admissions counselors reach out to prospective students and their families.

“The reason I decided to work here at ASU is because I felt it was a very close feeling to being at home, and I could see the potential of the university and how it truly served the West Texas area,” Hart said. “I am excited to assist students obtaining their college degree to learn as much about themselves and life outside the classroom. I want them to love ASU as much as I love my undergraduate institution.”

For Air Force Col. Casey Eaton, it was Angelo State’s ROTC program that launched him, the wild blue yonder.

ASU’s distinguished ROTC graduate in 1993, Eaton is currently the Air Force deputy director of programs and resources for the J8 Directorate, U.S. Northern Command, in Colorado Springs. He previously held command positions at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, and Altus AFB, Okla., and served as aide-de-camp to the secretary of the Air Force at the Pentagon. He is also a command pilot with more than 3,600 flying hours, and holds the Legion of Merit, the sixth-highest U.S. military decoration.

“I’ve been a mobility pilot most of my career,” Eaton said, “and have had the opportunity to support our nation’s interests in Iraq, Afghanistan, Europe, the Pacific, South and Central America and around the globe. Some of my proudest missions have been providing humanitarian support to Haiti after the earthquake, American Samoa after the tsunami and China after an earthquake. These are the types of missions that make an immediate and powerful impact on the folks you support.”

In recognition of his outstanding Air Force career, the ASU Alumni Association has named Eaton its 2013 Distinguished ROTC Alumnus. He credits much of his success to ROTC.

“The most important skills I took away were from the organization itself,” said Eaton, who was the cadet corps commander his senior year. “The discipline, the administrative skills of being actively involved in running the detachment and the real world leadership challenges I got to experience were priceless. At an early age, in a university environment, I was offered the opportunity to organize people toward the accomplishment of a mission. That was invaluable.”

Eaton and his wife, Lisa, have two young children, Hannah and Seth.
The profound impact Dr. Donald Shelby had on the ASU Agriculture Department can still be seen today.

His arrival at ASU in 1973 coincided with the Agriculture Department starting its four-year bachelor’s degree program in animal science. As a result, Shelby was able to help shape both the face and the course of the department until his retirement in 1999, exactly as he had hoped.

“When I came to San Angelo to interview and saw the beautiful campus, the MIR Center and the many opportunities the position offered me,” Shelby said, “I was happy to accept the position as professor of animal science and research scientist.”

As a professor, Shelby taught a wide variety of courses, from plant science and animal reproduction to environmental physiology and livestock management. His many contributions outside the classroom included developing the Angus cattle herd at ASU’s Management, Instruction and Research (MIR) Center, serving on the committee to develop buildings at the MIR Center and writing the proposal to add a master’s degree program in animal science.

He also co-founded the Block and Bridle Club student organization and founded the ASU chapter of the Delta Tau Alpha national honor society for agriculture majors.

For his tremendous and continued influence on the Agriculture Department, the ASU Alumni Association has named Shelby its 2013 Distinguished Retired Faculty.

“It is impossible for me to give a favorite memory because I have enjoyed so many good memories at ASU,” Shelby said. “I am extremely proud of the many students who received a bachelor’s or master’s degree in animal science. My family and I have been blessed by living and working in San Angelo.”

Now retired in West Lafayette, Ind., Shelby and his wife, Martha, have four grown children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.
“Some of my students had never even left Dallas,” Morales said, “and the farthest west many of them had been was Fort Worth. They know about ASU because I have Angelo State memorabilia plastered all over my office – and because of the great experience I had at ASU, I want them to get a little glimpse of that as well. That’s why our tours are not the general kind that most students go on. Our students get the ‘David Morales’ version of the tour.”

“When they arrive at ASU, they are pretty much blown away,” he continued. “It’s a quite a bit different culture, and the people on campus are really friendly. When they experience that kind of family atmosphere, it allows them to open themselves up for new experiences. So after that, they get charged up to consider attending ASU, and some of them don’t want to leave.”

Victor Jesus Garcia came on one of the tours and returned to enroll in ASU’s criminal justice program. He is scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.

“I wanted to get away from the big city life and start a new life for myself,” Garcia said. “I also really liked the criminal justice program at ASU and the campus.”

“I really enjoy my classes,” he added. “They are small enough that I really get to interact with my professors. I’m also involved in intramurals. I play soccer and softball, and I really like the sand volleyball as well. With my bachelor’s degree, I plan to go back to ASU periodically if Joe has a question for me.”

Eager to put the ASU alumni network to even further use, Morales branched out and began involving MVC students. Through his initial MVC post as advisor for the Rising Star Program, he started organizing spring ASU campus tours for students interested in transferring to a four-year college, and now continues the tours as advisor for MVC’s Male ACCESS Program. The first tour in 2010 had 16 students, and that number had increased to more than 40 by the spring of 2013.

“Whenever they arrive at ASU, they are pretty much blown away,” he continued. “It’s a quite a bit different culture, and the people on campus are really friendly. When they experience that kind of family atmosphere, it allows them to open themselves up for new experiences. So after that, they get charged up to consider attending ASU, and some of them don’t want to leave.”

Victor Jesus Garcia came on one of the tours and returned to enroll in ASU’s criminal justice program. He is scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.

“I wanted to get away from the big city life and start a new life for myself,” Garcia said. “I also really liked the criminal justice program at ASU and the campus.”

“I really enjoy my classes,” he added. “They are small enough that I really get to interact with my professors. I’m also involved in intramurals. I play soccer and softball, and I really like the sand volleyball as well. With my bachelor’s degree, I plan to go back to ASU periodically if Joe has a question for me.”

Eager to put the ASU alumni network to even further use, Morales branched out and began involving MVC students. Through his initial MVC post as advisor for the Rising Star Program, he started organizing spring ASU campus tours for students interested in transferring to a four-year college, and now continues the tours as advisor for MVC’s Male ACCESS Program. The first tour in 2010 had 16 students, and that number had increased to more than 40 by the spring of 2013.

“Some of my students had never even left Dallas,” Morales said, “and the farthest west many of them had been was Fort Worth. They know about ASU because I have Angelo State memorabilia plastered all over my office – and because of the great experience I had at ASU, I want them to get a little glimpse of that as well. That’s why our tours are not the general kind that most students go on. Our students get the ‘David Morales’ version of the tour.”

“When they arrive at ASU, they are pretty much blown away,” he continued. “It’s a quite a bit different culture, and the people on campus are really friendly. When they experience that kind of family atmosphere, it allows them to open themselves up for new experiences. So after that, they get charged up to consider attending ASU, and some of them don’t want to leave.”

Victor Jesus Garcia came on one of the tours and returned to enroll in ASU’s criminal justice program. He is scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.

“I wanted to get away from the big city life and start a new life for myself,” Garcia said. “I also really liked the criminal justice program at ASU and the campus.”

“I really enjoy my classes,” he added. “They are small enough that I really get to interact with my professors. I’m also involved in intramurals. I play soccer and softball, and I really like the sand volleyball as well. With my bachelor’s degree, I plan to go back to ASU periodically if Joe has a question for me.”

Eager to put the ASU alumni network to even further use, Morales branched out and began involving MVC students. Through his initial MVC post as advisor for the Rising Star Program, he started organizing spring ASU campus tours for students interested in transferring to a four-year college, and now continues the tours as advisor for MVC’s Male ACCESS Program. The first tour in 2010 had 16 students, and that number had increased to more than 40 by the spring of 2013.

“Some of my students had never even left Dallas,” Morales said, “and the farthest west many of them had been was Fort Worth. They know about ASU because I have Angelo State memorabilia plastered all over my office – and because of the great experience I had at ASU, I want them to get a little glimpse of that as well. That’s why our tours are not the general kind that most students go on. Our students get the ‘David Morales’ version of the tour.”

“When they arrive at ASU, they are pretty much blown away,” he continued. “It’s a quite a bit different culture, and the people on campus are really friendly. When they experience that kind of family atmosphere, it allows them to open themselves up for new experiences. So after that, they get charged up to consider attending ASU, and some of them don’t want to leave.”

Victor Jesus Garcia came on one of the tours and returned to enroll in ASU’s criminal justice program. He is scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.

“I wanted to get away from the big city life and start a new life for myself,” Garcia said. “I also really liked the criminal justice program at ASU and the campus.”

“I really enjoy my classes,” he added. “They are small enough that I really get to interact with my professors. I’m also involved in intramurals. I play soccer and softball, and I really like the sand volleyball as well. With my bachelor’s degree, I plan to go back to ASU periodically if Joe has a question for me.”

Eager to put the ASU alumni network to even further use, Morales branched out and began involving MVC students. Through his initial MVC post as advisor for the Rising Star Program, he started organizing spring ASU campus tours for students interested in transferring to a four-year college, and now continues the tours as advisor for MVC’s Male ACCESS Program. The first tour in 2010 had 16 students, and that number had increased to more than 40 by the spring of 2013.

“Some of my students had never even left Dallas,” Morales said, “and the farthest west many of them had been was Fort Worth. They know about ASU because I have Angelo State memorabilia plastered all over my office – and because of the great experience I had at ASU, I want them to get a little glimpse of that as well. That’s why our tours are not the general kind that most students go on. Our students get the ‘David Morales’ version of the tour.”

“When they arrive at ASU, they are pretty much blown away,” he continued. “It’s a quite a bit different culture, and the people on campus are really friendly. When they experience that kind of family atmosphere, it allows them to open themselves up for new experiences. So after that, they get charged up to consider attending ASU, and some of them don’t want to leave.”

Victor Jesus Garcia came on one of the tours and returned to enroll in ASU’s criminal justice program. He is scheduled to graduate in May of 2014.

“I wanted to get away from the big city life and start a new life for myself,” Garcia said. “I also really liked the criminal justice program at ASU and the campus.”

“I really enjoy my classes,” he added. “They are small enough that I really get to interact with my professors. I’m also involved in intramurals. I play soccer and softball, and I really like the sand volleyball as well. With my bachelor’s degree, I plan to go back to ASU periodically if Joe has a question for me.”

Eager to put the ASU alumni network to even further use, Morales branched out and began involving MVC students. Through his initial MVC post as advisor for the Rising Star Program, he started organizing spring ASU campus tours for students interested in transferring to a four-year college, and now continues the tours as advisor for MVC’s Male ACCESS Program. The first tour in 2010 had 16 students, and that number had increased to more than 40 by the spring of 2013.
Cody Bridges has been named the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service agriculture and veterinary sciences agent for Schleswig County.

Bridges earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science with a minor in range and wildlife management at ASU after receiving an associate degree in golf course and landscape technology from Western Texas College.

His previous work experience includes golf course management, feed store sales/warehouse maintenance and retail western wear sales. He has also volunteered with multiple live stock shows, including the San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo and the stock shows in Clovis and Cline counties.

2005
Julio Martinez, eighth-grade basketball coach at Glenn Middle School in San Angelo, has been named a Middle School Coach of the Year by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches, one of seven coaches statewide so honored.

Martinez, along with Patrick Nava, oversaw Glenn’s three beef-ways, basketball teams and the more than 36 basketball players that made up the squads.

2006
Dana Rhoades has been named Teacher of the Year at Sweetwater Intermediate School (SIS) for the 2012-13 school year. She is the fourth and fifth grade special education Air Force Contract Support Division in the Contracting Directorate in the Washington district.

The San Antonio native attended Converse Judson High School before enrolling at ASU and joining the campus AFROTC. He graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Business Administration and a commission as a second lieutenant. He subsequently earned a Master of Business Administration from Wright State University.

2010
Liz Marie Rascon has been appointed executive director of Amarillo Wesley Community Center Inc., where she had previously served as administrative assistant and fund development director.

A Vega native, she received a Bachelor of Science in interdisciplinary studies from ASU before completing a Master of Education in student development and leadership in 2012.

Amarillo Wesley Community Center serves the Texas Panhandle with a variety of social services, ranging from early childhood education to senior citizen support.

Former Ramirene track and field star Chrysal Ruiz won the heptathlon for Mexico at the Central American and Caribbean Athletics Senior Championships in July in Morelia, Mexico.

Ruiz, a seven-time ASU All-American, won the heptathlon with a score of 5,467 points. She was the top scorer in the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, 200-meters, long jump and 800-meters while also setting a personal best in the 200-meters with a time of 24.69.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in Spanish and then went on to complete her master’s degree in curriculum and instruction in 2012 at ASU.

1997
Dr. H.T. (Heliodoro Torres) Sanchez has been named superintendent of the Tucson (Ariz.) Unified School District after a national search that attracted more than 65 applicants.

Sanchez had previously worked in Odessa, where he had served the Ector County Independent School District as interim superintendent, deputy superintendent and assistant superintendent since 2010.

His administrative experience in Texas education included working as an elementary, middle and high school principal. He also served as an executive director in instructional support services and director of bilingual/ESL services.

After earning his bachelor’s degree from ASU, he received a Master of Education from Sul Ross and a Doctorate of Education from Texas A&M University-Commerce.

2004
Capt. Chase Eiserman has been selected as one of Air Force District of Washington’s “Capital Airmen” for 2013.

The designation showcases Air Force individuals who exemplify the Air Force’s core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all they do.

Eiserman currently serves as the deputy chief of the Headquarters Air Force Contract Support Division in the Contracting Directorate in the Washington district.

1991
Cody Carroll has been hired as superintendent for the Krum Independent School District in Denton County. He joined the school district as assistant superintendent in 2012.

He started his education career in 1992 as a junior high school football coach in Slaton and later served as a high school defensive coordinator, head football coach and high school principal. He served five years as superintendent with the Meadow ISD before assuming the Krum position.

At ASU Carroll earned a bachelor’s degree in math with a minor in biology. He later received a master’s degree in education from Lubbock Christian University and a superintendent certification from Texas Tech University.
alumni association century club

as of June 20, 2013

**DIAMOND**

Doran and Reena Hoff, Mission Ranch Mark and Debbie Loom, Dublin
Louis and Amy Ponzi, San Angelo
Jim and Terri Wofford, Stuttgart
James T. and Carol Trudell, Jr., League City

**PLATINUM**

Ray and Terry Baker, Paradise
Jeff and Deborah Breton, Fluvanna
Danny and Dalila Dunn, Dallas
Randy and Debbie Davis, Dallas
Deborah and Patricia Frey, San Angelo
Dave and Terri Herrington, Berne
Randy and Donna Hassan, Brandon Via
Paul and Brenda Stark, Lubbock

**GOLDEN**

Shawn and Marsha Arvedon, Houston
Gary Bailey, Henderson, Ky.
Kyle and Pam Back, San Angelo
Larry Clark, Rockwall
Deborah and Sherry Doolin, Pearland
C. F. Shead, San Angelo
David and Jeff Hoveland, San Angelo
Liz. Gom, Roanoke, and Mary Flowers, Sun City, Fla.
Robert and Jane Leidner, San Antonio
Allan and Melva Milks Jr., San Angelo
Richard, Sam, and Amy Fonseca, San Angelo
Jim and Jeanne Ranfill, Saginaw
Mimi and Noel Koenig, San Angelo
Mike and Violet Gunter, San Angelo
Jim, W. K., and Jean Breen, Midland
Niko and Ruth Weisner, Montrose

**SILVER**

John Norman, 50
James Waterbury, 50
Jim and Marion Ratcliff, 50
Allen and Mesha Millsap Jr., 50
Larry Clark, 50
PLATINUM

J. Milton and Terri Swift, San Angelo
Mark and Debbie Loom, San Angelo
Dana and Carol Powell, San Antonio
Jeffery and Tonya Rainey, San Angelo
Kerry and Carol Flukers, San Antonio
Juan Ramirez, Pantego C. Fl. Rio Hondo, Tex.
Albert and Beatrice Reyes, Dallas
Gary and Wendy Todd, San Antonio
Dr. Michael and Tara Salikowski, San Angelo
David and Cassandra Sanamian, Houston
Norm Schuler, Canyon Lake
Eric and Carrie Stronacker, Midland
Robert and Barbara Stilson, Brownwood
Kimberly, 50

**ACCESS ASU**

Lulu L. and Evedal Barnett, San Angelo
Carlton and Elizabeth Edwards, San Angelo
Mark and Deleine Jones, San Angelo
Judy and Jim Jones, San Angelo
Zachary Jones, San Angelo
Dr. Roy and Sarah Logan, San Angelo
Perry and Jeanne Jones, Lubbock
Kathy Kelly, 50
Dr. Leifly and Betty Kinsing, San Angelo
Lawrence and Leslie Laurent, San Angelo
Valerie Lopes, Uvalde
Richard Lowenstein, Marfa, Ga.
Dr. David and Judy Lloyd Jr., San Angelo
Joane Lee, Sachse Park, N.M.
Larry and Judy Leuty, Saginaw
Jackie MacNeil, San Angelo
Richard and Mary Vaughn, San Angelo
Larry and Judy Watson, San Angelo
Dr. Tom and Lila Weber, Jacksonville, Fla.
Kerry and Jamie Rainey, Lubbock
Faron and Barbi Pfeiffer, San Angelo
Paul and Melissa Perner, San Angelo
Norm Schaule, San Angelo
Erin and John Zaremba, San Angelo
Mike Vallandingham, San Angelo

**CENTURY CLUB**

Cesil and Eunice Amerson, San Angelo
Dr. and Sharon Alexander, San Angelo
Cesil and Eunice Amerson, San Antonio
Cesil and Eunice Amerson, San Antonio
Amy and Andy Askew, San Antonio
William Archer, San Angelo
Mark Archer, San Angelo
Bill Alvis, San Angelo
Ronald and Mavis Bell, San Angelo
Eugene Berger, San Angelo
Dr. Jay Dobriner, Surprise, Ariz.
Mert and Rebecca Branden, Mesa
Eugene Bruchewski, Vidor
Sarah Burnett, Lubbock
Cynthia Byrd, San Angelo
Larry Quarterman, San Angelo
Larry and Judy Bland, San Angelo
Eugene Bruchewski, Midland
Steve and Linda Simmons, San Angelo
Zachary and Mukiele McKechnie, San Angelo
Mack McCaskill, San Angelo
Dana and Eloise McDonald, San Angelo
T. Duan and Lisa Mikkelson, San Angelo
Duo and Guoqin Wu, Shanghai
Scott and Cynthia Wickert, Brooklyn
Michael and Becky Smith, Loveland
Dr. Wilkite Whitworth, Sterling, Ariz.
Anna L. Williams, M.D.
Heidi and Jacqueline Wilmot, Franklin, Ky.
Evelyn Williams, San Angelo
Andrew Wieland, San Angelo
Nature and Elizabeth Ward, San Angelo
Eric Zeller, Denver

**SMALL BUSINESS CLUB**

Frances Flower Shop, San Angelo
John Belt Attorney at Law, Van
cLegend Jewelers, San Angelo

**BLUE BUSINESS CLUB**

Reflections Hair Salon and Day Spa, San Angelo

**GOLD BUSINESS CLUB**

Cubical Software Systems Inc., San Angelo
Wells Fargo Bank, San Angelo

James and Brewse Parry, San Angelo
Susan and Christian Parities, Grapevine
Paul and Mary Pemberton, Dallas
Fred and Shurt Pettit, San Antonio
Francis and Mike Phillips, San Angelo
David Dunlap, San Antonio

**GOLD BUSINESS CLUB**

Reflections Hair Salon and Day Spa, San Angelo

**GOLD BUSINESS CLUB**

Cubical Software Systems Inc., San Angelo
Wells Fargo Bank, San Angelo