

Angelo State University

Magazine

Summer 2010 • Volume 3 • Number 2

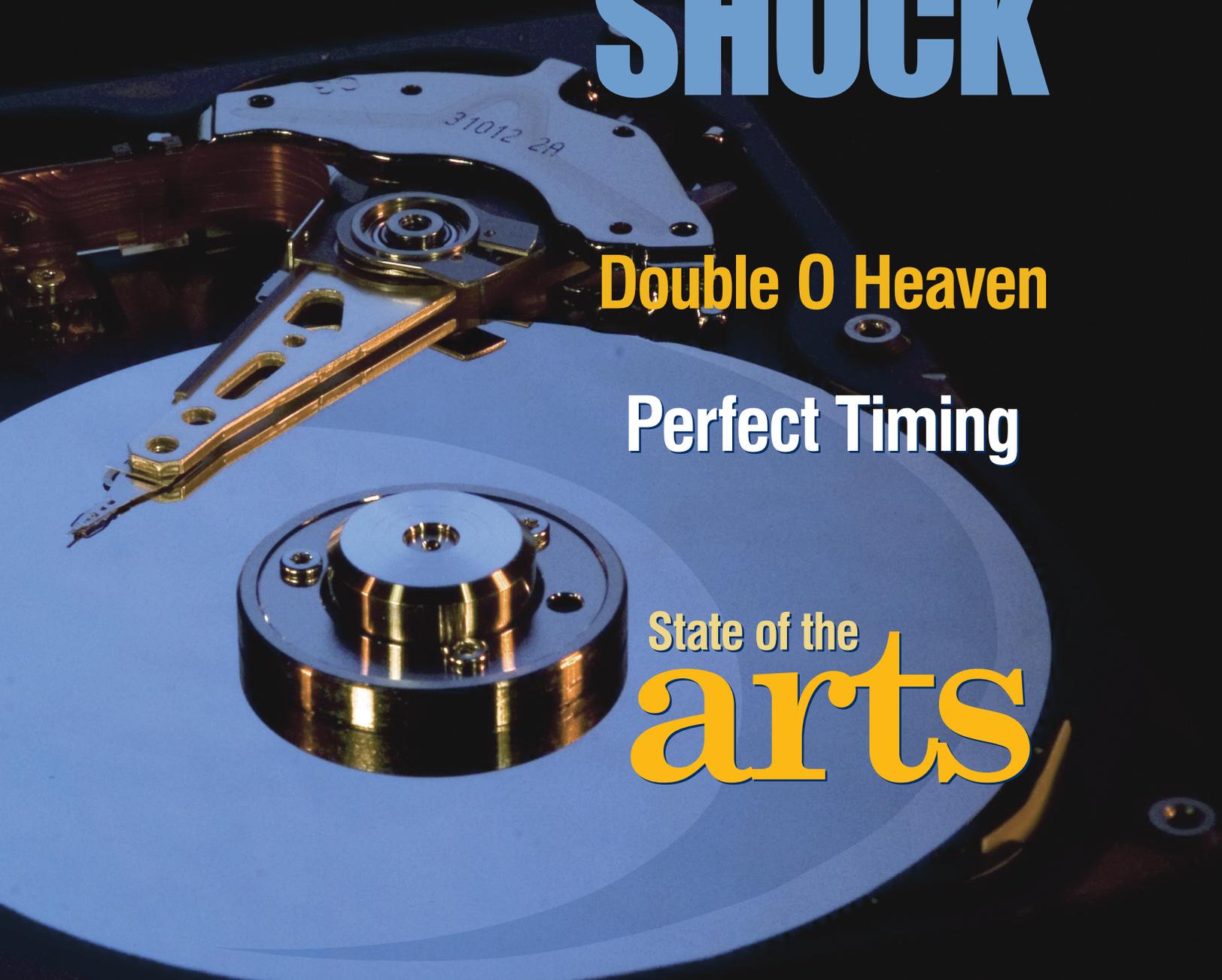
MEMBER, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

FUTURE SHOCK

Double O Heaven

Perfect Timing

State of the
arts



Message from the President

Dear Friends:

The coming months will be pivotal ones for Angelo State University as our student enrollment figures this summer and fall plus those next spring will determine the amount of funding we receive from the state in the next biennial budget cycle. We continue to have a healthy growth with ASU's highest spring enrollment ever as well as a record graduate enrollment for the second consecutive semester. But, we face an increasingly competitive recruiting environment for new students, even as the Texas Legislature is contemplating a 5 percent annual reduction in funding to higher education.

The key to enrollment success is to create and market the reasons why attending ASU is a great choice for a student. While our decision in our academic master plan to highlight three academic areas of distinction – teacher preparation, agriculture and nursing – will be featured in our marketing strategies, we have several other innovative initiatives under way.

First is the initiative to bring high school students to campus during the summer to take ASU classes. These students will earn college credit and will be counted by the state as part of our total enrollment for purposes of funding allocations. Ideally, many of these students will so enjoy their experience that they will enroll at ASU after high school. The first program scheduled for this summer is called “Summer Immersion Dual Enrollment in the Sciences (SIDES),” with an expected class size of more than 20 students.

Second is the creation of the Center for Security Studies under a major grant from the Department of Defense. ASU will create academic programs for Air Force personnel, as well as introduce a new major in “Cultural Competence” to recruit students to ASU. Courses will focus on the language and culture of critical world regions. The new major will enhance our academic offerings and create name recognition in areas where we seek to recruit new students. The annual grant of \$3 million will make an immediate and long-term impact on our academic programs.

Third, in February the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents approved the next step in a mixed-use development on the eastern border of the campus. Midway Companies Inc. of Houston received approval to begin to design a project which will incorporate graduate and married housing with retail shops, restaurants and other possible private projects. This new complex will serve as a new gateway to the campus and also will provide a venue for students, especially those from larger population centers that have similar recreational spaces. It will also generate significant annual revenues, which will support the goals stated in our university strategic plan.

Finally, the rules of the Texas Tech University System allocate 1 percent of new construction funds and ½ percent of major renovation projects for public art for the campus. We have a beautiful campus, but the addition of future pieces of art will only enhance the aesthetic appeal for visitors, including students and parents searching for a university to call home. A committee consisting of five community members, three faculty, three staff and one student is meeting regularly to develop an art master plan for the campus.

All in all, the next few months will be an exciting time. Your continued support for ASU, its students, faculty and staff is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Joseph C. Rallo
President



Joseph C. Rallo





Angelo State University Magazine

Summer 2010 Vol. 3, No. 2

Angelo State University

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Angelo State University Magazine

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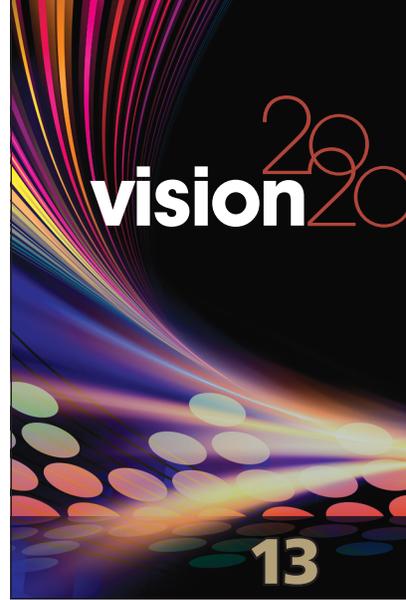
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On the cover: With so much of the university's present and future shaped by information technology, a computer hard drive is a fitting symbol for the campus of tomorrow. (Photo by Danny Meyer)

Back Cover: Under Roscoe's watchful eyes, graduate student Skylar Byrd of San Angelo, freshman Dakarai Pecikonis of Allen and senior Ashlea Haney of San Angelo check out the touchscreen monitor in the University Center. (Photo by Kimberley Parker)





Mark Sonntag

Seeing Stars

The universe is expanding for the ASU Planetarium as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Since it opened in 1985, the Planetarium has used its original equipment to help educate astronomy students and host public star shows. This year, it is getting all new equipment, a new mission and a new name as it becomes an integral component of the university's new Center for Security Studies (CSS).

"We will still have our astronomy teaching mission," said Dr. Mark Sonntag, Planetarium director. "But we are moving toward an Earth sciences-based view of the cosmos and particularly looking back at Earth."

To accomplish its new mission, the Planetarium is getting a complete makeover, including a new SciDome HD digital projection system powered by Starry Night software and a digital sound system with Dolby 5.1 surround sound. While the current system can only show the sky from a fixed point on the Earth's surface, the flexible new system will provide enhanced capabilities for viewing the universe and the Earth from any vantage point. The new system also has fewer moving parts.

"It is a single system that will replace all the current projection devices we have in there," Sonntag said. "We have a star projector, slide projectors, video projectors and special effects projectors, and that is how we do our multimedia programming. The new system is a single planetarium projector."

Photo by Danny Meyer



and more

by Tom Nurre

“Not only will it take you beyond the surface of the Earth and look at the universe from distant galaxies,” he added, “it will replace all the projectors we have. It can do it all and provide a much more robust view out to the visible edge of the universe.”

The incentive for the new mission is funding provided as part of a record \$2.4 million ASU grant from the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). The ASU grant along with \$1.66 million for a joint intelligence training facility at Goodfellow Air Force Base was part of the Fiscal Year 2009 Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations bill signed into law by then-President Bush in September of 2008.

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

The Planetarium’s role in the CSS will be that of a high-tech classroom as it is transformed into the ASU Digital Display Center.

“The idea is, once we know what the content is that they want to present, this full-dome projection system is capable of doing it,” Sonntag said. “It could be an image of Afghanistan or some other strategic area, or to show oil reserves in the Middle East. Any of those sorts of things could be

projected in the Planetarium as some part of a class they are teaching.”

Digital programming capabilities will further expand the Planetarium’s possibilities for security-themed classes and instruction. The software could also aid Goodfellow personnel in their study of seismic activity, orbital mechanics and celestial navigation.

Additionally, new ASU degree plans in cultural fluency, criminal justice/border security and geographic information science, all utilizing Planetarium programming, will enhance future student recruiting and retention efforts.

Visitors to the Vincent Nursing-Physical Science Building will also see new additions in the lobby area that fronts the Planetarium entrance. These will include OmniGlobe HD projection displays with touch screen controls and Google Earth displays on flat-screen TVs.

Even as the Planetarium assumes its new role in the CSS, it will continue to entertain the public as it has for the past 25 years. It remains one of the largest planetariums on a university campus in the U.S. and annually hosts about 40 public astronomy shows on a variety of subjects from planets and black holes to cowboy astronomy and the different cultural and religious rituals of the winter solstice holiday period. To date, more than 30,000 visitors have enjoyed the public shows, many of which coincide with the actual celestial events they portray.

“I often try to tag along with something that people may be seeing in the sky and wondering about, and I try to have a program about that topic,” Sonntag said.

The new projection and sound systems will also allow the Planetarium to begin offering the newer, higher quality shows incompatible with the current equipment. Five new shows are slated for purchase through the DOD grant funding, and the clarity and resolution of the new projection system could negate the need for re-painting the full-dome screen, which would save the university over \$33,000.

Current ASU students will also benefit from the renovations as they continue to meet in the Planetarium for astronomy classes.

With its new capabilities, the Planetarium will also become an even more popular destination for class trips from surrounding school districts, having already welcomed more than 100,000 West Texas K-12 students through its doors. It will also remain a major feature in ASU recruiting programs, including Discover ASU, Science Days and campus tours by the Office of Admissions, as it continues its role as one of the largest community outreach programs on campus.

“Outreach is a function of university life that most of our departments embrace,” Sonntag said. “The Planetarium is a really good way for the Physics Department to do that, and it has always been a part of our mission.” ■

Giving Them the Business

by Tom Nurre

Grace Felder moved to San Angelo in 2006 with the dream of starting her own business.

Luckily for her, she had contacts here who knew just what she needed to get going. Within a week of her arrival from California, a relative sent Felder to the ASU Small Business Development Center (SBDC), where she met with counselor Paul Howard and got “bitten by the bug.”

“I didn’t have a business plan, a schedule or a support group,” Felder said. “They made themselves available and it was free. It’s still hard for me, coming from California where you pay for everything, to see that it’s free.”

Utilizing the resources available through the SBDC, Felder planned her Internet-based business, Hands of Grace, which came online in January of 2009. She now sells high-end leather items, including ottomans, pillows, throws, wall art and other home décor, through her Web site, www.handsofgracecollection.com. An arrangement with a group of area ranchers gets Felder all the leather she needs, and her business continues to grow. But, that is not what provides her with the highest satisfaction in her venture.

“A lot of people measure success by money or influence,” Felder said, “but the growth and the knowledge that the SBDC has imparted to me has been phenomenal. I have grown and I have learned so much.”

Fueled by success stories like Felder’s, the SBDC in January celebrated its 20th year of being an integral part of the Concho Valley business community. During fiscal year 2009 alone, the SBDC assisted 489 businesses with more than 2,900 hours of counseling and conducted 76 seminars and workshops on topics pertinent to small businesses.

“We are here to provide technical business assistance for those wanting to start a business or those existing businesses that want to expand, improve their operations or survive,” said David Erickson, SBDC director. “We are also here to help the economic development climate of the cities we serve in our 10-county service area.”

One of about 1,000 such centers in the U.S., most housed at universities and junior colleges, Angelo State’s SBDC was the brainchild of Harlan Bruha, former ASU management professor and the center’s first director. The idea came to him in 1989 as a way to upgrade ASU’s Small Business Institute that featured upper-level students writing business plans for local entrepreneurs.

“We were doing probably 20 cases a year, 10 in each semester,” Bruha said, “and I was getting more requests for assistance than what we had students to fulfill them. About 400 universities had Small Business Institutes, and one year we had the best case in the national competition.”

So, Bruha contacted the Small Business Administration and the SBDC regional office in San Antonio about starting a center at ASU. They were agreeable, so he took his proposal to then ASU President Lloyd Vincent, who approved the venture, but only with the caveat that Bruha be the director.

“I didn’t really want to be the director because I really enjoyed teaching too much,” Bruha recalled. “He said I could be half-time SBDC director and a half-time faculty member. So, I taught two classes a semester instead of four, and ran the center. But, running the center was a full-time job, so he really got time-and-a-half out of me.”

With only Bruha, one counselor and a receptionist on staff, the SBDC was born in 1990 and relied heavily on ASU busi-



Photo by Danny Meyer

ness professors to provide needed expertise. If they were worried about how the center would be received in the local community, they needn’t have been.

“We were overwhelmed with interest from the small business community,” Bruha said. “We would do two or three seminars a month and we would each counsel three or four businesspeople or potential businesspeople every day.”

During his tenure as director, Bruha also oversaw the opening of the SBDC’s International Trade Office and played a pivotal role in the formation of the West Texas Training Center (WTTC). The idea for the WTTC came from then-State Rep. Rob Junell, a staunch supporter of the SBDC during his time on the House Appropriations Committee.

“He took a liking to what the SBDC was doing and provided ASU with additional monetary support so we could expand,”



Successful SBDC entrepreneur Grace Felder

Bruha said. “We were able to add two more counselors and a training director, and we also expanded our services out into the Concho Valley.”

Since then, the center has grown even more to its current staff of seven full-time employees and three student workers led by Erickson, who was hired by Bruha as a counselor in 1999. They provide counseling and advice to all types of current and prospective businesses, with a recent client list that includes restaurants, a health-care provider, a fabric shop, a Tejano dance club and a secondhand clothing store.

“We have a great staff of dedicated, self-directed professionals,” Erickson said. “The clients we see are all great people and we get to help them fulfill their hopes and dreams. We also get to help them pretty much for free, and that is a great feeling. We provide a great benefit and people really appreciate it.”

As an added service, the SBDC recently introduced the Small Business Management Certificate Program. For a \$20 fee, participants can register to attend eight required seminars, complete two online seminars and get counseling from one of the SBDC advisers. If they complete the requirements within a year, they get to “graduate.”

“We hand out graduation certificates that they can take to the bank or other lenders to show that they have some level of business knowledge,” Erickson said.

Follow-up services are also an important component of the center. After assisting Jo-Anna Alexander in getting her marketing/PR business, Alexander Resources Group, up and running, SBDC staffers also helped her gain Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) certification for state contract solicitation purposes.

“They not only helped me to design my business and grow my business, they also

helped me create credibility for my business,” Alexander said. “That, to me, was the icing on the cake. So, I can’t say enough good things about them.”

Providing such comprehensive services to entrepreneurs in San Angelo and 10 Concho Valley counties means the SBDC staff often work long and irregular hours. However, stories like Felder’s and Alexander’s make it all worthwhile.

“That is why we are here,” Erickson said. “That is why we get up in the morning. To hear their successes, it makes us feel good and keeps us going. It is very rewarding.”

The current staff is also continuing to live the vision that Bruha had for the SBDC back in 1989.

“It has just been a very successful program, from the very beginning to today,” Bruha said, “and I think it will continue on into the future.” ■

Journey Out of Darkness

Best-selling author Mary Karr credits religion and therapy with pulling her from a haze of drugs and alcohol as well as from decades of depression sparked by a traumatic childhood.

While the keynote speaker at the 14th Annual ASU Writers Conference in Honor of Elmer Kelton could have succumbed to the dark forces that have claimed many talented artists, she battled through them to become an acclaimed writer.

Karr produced a *New York Times* best-selling book about her life, *The Liars' Club*, along with two sequels, *Cherry* and *Lit*. Besides the prose, Karr also has written a raft of poetry books, including *Sinners Welcome*, *Viper Rum*, *The Devil's Tour* and *Abacus*.

The native Texan now lives in New York and teaches English in the fall at Syracuse University.

"My first memoir, *The Liars' Club*, was about my turbulent childhood, and *Cherry* was about my drug-addled adolescence," Karr said in her keynote address. "*Lit* is about my trying to make peace with all of it."

"I think writing any book is cathartic," she added, "but a lot of the catharsis has to take place before you write the book."

Check out the speakers in ASU's other distinguished lecture series this spring by visiting the bonus features on the *ASU Magazine* Web site at

www.angelo.edu/ASUMagazine/



Photo by Danny Meyer

Karr was raped twice when she was young, first by a neighbor boy and later by a babysitter. She also had to deal with her parents' alcoholism, her mother's mercurial nature and her own alcoholism as an adult.

"It really didn't take that long to get over the rapes," she said, "but getting over my mother trying to stab me with a butcher knife, that was hard. I wanted to shake my mother until her teeth rattled, and then I just felt really sorry for her. It's the way we get over everything. We just outlive it. By the time I was 32, I was really at peace with it. Mother was the way she was."

Her father, an oil refinery employee, was also the way he was, but she got along with him, despite his alcoholism. In fact, the title of *The Liars' Club* was inspired by her father and his friends drinking beer and telling stories.

"By the time the book came out," she said, "mother had been in rehab, I was sober and we had had all these conversations. It's not like it was a big family secret."

Karr said she straightened out her life after coming to religion.

"I had no intention of becoming a Catholic," she said, "but I couldn't stop drinking. I could always stop before. Someone suggested I pray, but I thought religion was like the Easter bunny."

What turned her around was the faith she saw in people at church, and the church's tradition of charity.

"They were trying to get jobs for working-class people," Karr said. "They were trying to find housing for people."

While religion has brought spiritual comfort and prose has brought financial comfort, she is most comfortable writing poetry. Never did she expect to get rich writing, especially with autobiographical books.

"I had been writing poetry for 20 years," Karr said. "I couldn't imagine anybody being interested in anything I could write."

"Right before *Cherry* came out," she added, "the publishers offered me just under seven figures and I turned it down because I thought I was supposed to be writing poems. Even now, if they didn't pay me to write these books, I wouldn't do it. Prose is just too hard." ■

Enrollment Records

The spring semester was a great one for enrollment as ASU recorded its highest spring enrollment ever and reported a record graduate enrollment for the second consecutive semester.

ASU's spring enrollment of 5,895 was up 21 students from the previous record of 5,874 set in the spring of 1989. The 2010 spring total was up 416 students, a 7.59 percent increase over the spring 2009 total of 5,479.

Graduate enrollment for the spring was 535, breaking the previous record of 528 set just last September for the College of Graduate Studies. The fall 2009 figure of 528 marked the first time in ASU history that graduate enrollment surpassed 500 students.

"We are pleased," said ASU President Joseph C. Rallo, "that the growth trend from the fall, when we had our second highest enrollment ever, continued into the spring semester. Our focus the past two years has been on broadening our recruiting and increasing our retention because growth is the primary factor the Texas Legislature utilizes in increasing appropriations. With growth we stand to gain increased state funds. This will enable us to be mindful of affordability for students when we set tuition and fees for the next year."

International Reputation

Angelo State's Center for International Studies (CIS) received a 2010 Andrew Heiskell Award

for Innovation in International Education from the Institute of International Education (IIE) during a March ceremony.

The Heiskell Award is given annually to promote and honor the most outstanding initiatives being conducted in international higher education by IIE Network member universities and colleges.

ASU's CIS was honored in the Study Abroad category for providing innovative programs and services which make study abroad more accessible to a broader student population. CIS Director Dr. Sharynn Tomlin accepted the award at the annual IIE Best Practices Conference in New York City.

For winning a Heiskell Award, ASU's program has been designated a "Best Practice" for study abroad and will be profiled on the IIE Network Web site and in the *IIE Networker* magazine. Previous winners include Rice University, University of Pittsburgh and Tufts University.

Over the past 18 months, the CIS has significantly increased the number of study abroad opportunities for ASU students. As a result, the number of students enrolled in the programs has tripled. Recent additions to the CIS include a wider selection of summer and long-term programs, the ASU Passport Office, a new online application process and more aggressive promotion of available programs.

Business Accreditation

ASU's business programs have been awarded reaffirmation

of accreditation by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) Baccalaureate/Graduate Degree Board of Commissioners.

Accreditation certifies that the teaching and learning processes within the ASU College of Business meet the rigorous educational standards established by ACBSP. ASU will receive its Certificate of Reaffirmation of Accreditation at the ACBSP Annual Conference June 27 in Los Angeles.

Business Dean Dr. Corbett Gauden said, "The quality of our programs and our graduates is of highest priority in the College of Business. External validation of the quality we have built states to the world that we have achieved a high level of quality – something we can all be proud of. We are happy for the hard work of the reaccreditation team and the outcome. Now comes the serious business of even more quality improvement."

ASU Apps

All alumni and friends of the university can now get the latest ASU news, information and sports on their cell phones and other mobile devices through the new ASU Mobile suite of apps.

The apps include ASU athletics, campus activities, campus news, a campus map, ASU images and videos from Angelo State's YouTube channel. They are currently available for most cell phones and mobile devices, including iPhones and iPod Touches. Blackberry apps are coming soon.

For more information on the ASU Mobile suite of apps, go online to www.angelo.edu/mobile.

Art Patrons

Members of a Public Art Committee have been appointed by ASU President Joseph C. Rallo to oversee the selection and placement of art across campus.

The committee will implement a Texas Tech University System policy that requires 1 percent of the budget of all new construction and ½ percent of the budget of all renovation projects over \$500,000 be allocated to public art for the campus.

Community members are K. Dwain Hamblin, Matt Lewis, Barbara Rallo, Julie Raymond and Annie Williams, all of San Angelo. ASU representatives are Tom Bankston of Accounting, Economics and Finance; Peggy Nino of Art and Music; Connie Frazier of Residential Programs; Ruben Sandoval of Facilities Management; and Jessica Manning of Special Events Facilities/Services. The ASU student body will be represented by Will Schroeder of San Angelo. Donna Bowen of Robert Lee also will serve on the committee and represent ASU on the system's public art committee.

The TTUS policy was applied to proposed ASU facilities which went into the planning phase after ASU became a member of the system in September of 2007. The first projects affected by the proposal are the renova-

tion of the Porter Henderson Library, now under way, and the expansion of the Center for Human Performance for a student recreation facility. Approximately \$113,800 from those two construction projects will be available for the acquisition of public art.

Knickerbocker Plans

The university is exploring the mixed-use development of approximately 17 acres of ASU land bordering Knickerbocker Road in San Angelo.

ASU has entered into an agreement with Midway Companies Inc. for pre-development services to determine the feasibility of a public-private development on the site that has long been used for ASU's Homecoming bonfire.

The project will explore the design of the development and the types of commercial, entertainment, residential and governmental tenants which might be willing to locate at the site.

ASU President Joseph C. Rallo said, "We want to explore how this public-private partnership can enhance both the campus and the community through the mixed-use development of currently vacant university land. This will help ASU address the need for married and graduate student housing while at the same time opening up possibilities for new dining and entertainment venues adjacent to campus as well as for retail, office, medical and even governmental tenants."

The pre-development services will be provided by Midway at no cost to the university. If the economic feasibility is proven and the concept design is approved by the university and the Texas Tech University

System Board of Regents, Midway would then develop the site and lease out the facilities. Midway would pay the university a monthly fee for the use of the property.

"This approach," Rallo said, "will allow Angelo State to receive revenue for currently vacant land at no cost to the university. Additionally, development of the property would benefit not only the university, but also the community with a new commercial development."

Special Group

The national Society of Physics Students (SPS) has once again designated the Angelo State University SPS chapter an Outstanding Chapter, ranking it in the top 10 percent of society chapters nationwide for the 2008-09 academic year.

The ASU group has received this award for eight consecutive years and is currently one of only three "outstanding chapters" in Texas. The award is based on a chapter's physics research, community outreach activities, physics tutoring programs, the number of active members and involvement with national physics communities through internships and organizational meetings.

"The ASU SPS is a very active group on campus and provides a strong sense of community for physics students," said Dr. Toni Sauncy, the group's faculty adviser. "We are one of the most active chapters in the nation. It is my pleasure to be associated with these young people."

Math Perfection

For the 13th straight year, ASU students have maintained a 100 percent passing rate

on the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TExES) teacher certification test for secondary mathematics.

Ten ASU students took the TExES in February and their average score of 273.3 out of 300 was well above last year's state average score of 226.1. The perfect passing rate streak began in 1998 and since then, all 138 of the ASU students who have taken the exam after completing the mathematics program have passed.

"It makes me proud," said Dr. Paul Swets, head of ASU's Department of Mathematics. "It's a great reflection on our program, our faculty and the students we get in our department."

Additionally, ASU students also posted a 100 percent pass rate in February on the TExES teacher certification test for middle school mathematics. This marked ASU's seventh straight year with a perfect pass rate on the middle school exam, which has only been available for seven years.

Taking Stock

ASU's Livestock Show Teams recently concluded another successful season on the Texas stock show circuit, bringing home a host of ribbons and Grand Champion prizes for their Rambouillet sheep and Angus cattle.

The Rambouillet Show Team was particularly dominant as it showed its flock at the state's major stock shows in Fort Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo and Houston. The team showed the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion rams in Fort Worth, the Reserve Grand Champion ram in San Antonio, another Grand

Champion ram in San Angelo and the Reserve Champion ram in Houston.

The Angus Show Team only showed its heifers in Houston and came away with the Reserve Junior Champion female.

The Rambouillet Show Team is captained by senior Jerred Griffith and also includes seniors Lura Hayes and Casey Grounds, and freshmen Kara Hoegenauer, Glen Hudson and Ben Sides.

Angus Show Team members are graduate students Kayla Brooks and Sarah Lange, sophomores Halie Schaefer and Kasie Wagenfehr, and freshman Devin Absher.

Web Wins

ASU's re-designed Web sites earned regional and local awards this spring from District IV of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) and the American Advertising Federation of San Angelo (AAFSA).

At the CASE competition open to universities in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, the new home page received a Gold Award and the Residential Programs Web page earned a Bronze Award.

In the AAFSA competition, those two pages received Gold Addy Awards as did the Financial Aid Web page, which also received the Best of Show-Interactive Award.

Communications and Marketing staffers who contributed to the winning Web sites were Bree Walker, Danny Meyer, Jayna Phinney, Tom Nurre Jr. and Leonor Constancio. Jon Wilcox and Carey Taylor of Information Technology also contributed to the winning Web page designs. ■

Jeff Schonberg

Dr. Jeff Schonberg, an associate professor of English, has been named to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee.

Schonberg will join 22 other representatives from Texas institutions of higher education to address Texas Core Curriculum policy and offer ideas to improve undergraduate education in Texas in line with the goals of the Texas higher education plan, "Closing the Gaps by 2015."

The committee includes members from two independent universities, a health-related institution, 10 community colleges and 10 public universities. Schonberg's term will run through 2011.

Excellent Staff

Four employees in February received Staff Excellence Awards for their ASU job performance during the 2009 calendar year.

They were Aaron Carrillo, printer, Print Shop; Patricia Payne, construction project coordinator, Facilities Planning and Construction; Bradley Petty, director, University Recreation and Intramurals; and Bree Walker, graphic artist, Communications and Marketing.

The awards are given each spring semester to recognize outstanding job performance during the preceding calendar year. The awards recognize non-teaching employees whose job performance exceeds the customary standards or demonstrates outstanding skills or dedication while performing special projects. Each of the four recipients received a \$650 honorarium.

Honorees were selected by a committee of the ASU Staff Senate from 31 staff members nominated by their fellow employees.

An ASU employee since 2000, Carrillo was lauded for taking the lead in mastering and bringing online ASU's

new four-color printing press. Payne, who joined the ASU staff in 2005, was honored for her exemplary performance in meeting the multiple needs of her department.

A member of the ASU staff since 2000, Petty was praised for his leadership in managing the growth in student participation in ASU intramurals. Walker was commended for her re-design of several ASU Web sites, including the home page plus the admissions, financial aid and residential pages.

Ivana Milovanovic

Animal business major Ivana Milovanovic was one of only 22 college students nationwide invited to attend the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2010 Agricultural Outlook Forum in Arlington, Va., in February.

Milovanovic and the 21 other invitees were selected after submitting essays about "Agriculture as a Career" as part of the Agricultural Outlook Forum Student Diversity

Program. The essays and recommendations by their college deans were judged by the selection committee.

Winning entries came from students at Cornell, Texas A&M, Arkansas State, University of Florida, California State Polytechnic Institution and University of Maryland, among others.

The Student Diversity Program was launched in 2007 by the USDA's Office of the Chief Economist along with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture to help provide students with a distinctive insight into their agricultural studies.

Kent Hance

Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance received the 2009-10 Outstanding Texas Leader Award from the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute during ceremonies in January on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives.

This award honors individuals who have made contributions on a statewide level and have a proven record of leadership, exhibition of character and demonstration of high ethical standards.

Hance was nominated not only for his work as chancellor, but also for his previous service as a Texas Senator, U.S. Congressman and Texas Railroad Commissioner.

Joseph C. Rallo

ASU President Joseph C. Rallo has been elected to a two-year term on the board of trustees of the Southern



Staff Excellence Award recipients, from left, Bradley Petty, Bree Walker, Patricia Payne and Aaron Carrillo.

Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges, the accrediting agency for universities in 11 states, including Texas.

As a trustee, Rallo will be one of 77 board members elected to represent the 800 institutions that are members of the accrediting organization's Commission on Colleges. Angelo State is accredited by SACS.

Duties of trustees include setting commission policies, reviewing and determining the accreditation of institutions of higher education throughout the south, determining institutional dues and proposing changes of accreditation standards for a vote of the member institutions.

Rallo's term on the board will expire at the end of 2012.

AFROTC Cadets

Four cadets in Air Force ROTC Det. 847 have been awarded scholarships through the U.S. Air Force ROTC In-College Scholarship Program (ICSP) and the Air Force Association.

Sophomore Philip J. Poundstone of Abilene and freshmen Emily E. Chase of Houston and Brian A. Kelly of Dublin were awarded ICSP Commander's Leadership Scholarships. Each will receive annual tuition and fee payments up to \$18,000, \$900 yearly for books and a \$300-\$500 monthly stipend.

Additionally, cadet Cameron G. Simon of Stinnett has received a one-time \$1,000 scholarship from the Air Force Association for exhibiting outstanding leadership and dedication in the pursuit of academic excellence.

Communication Students

Fifteen undergraduate communication students presented papers in February at the "New Voices, New Perspectives Student Research Conference" at the University of North Texas.

The ASU entries made up almost half of the accepted papers submitted by college students from across the nation.

Papers were presented by Destiny Byrd, Anne Rose Cendak, Sadie Ann Edwards, Marissa Gabaldon, Emily Griffin, Janet Heismann, Darcie Helms, Derek Holbrook, Paden Johnson, Kristen Kidwell, Brence Minor, Leah Newman, Austin Osmanski, Nick Stamets and Racheal Ward. All presenters were from Dr. Lana Marlow's "Principles of Persuasion" class.

Eight more communication students gave papers in March at the 26th Annual All-University Conference on the Advancement of Women in Higher Education at Texas Tech University.

ASU presenters at the conference titled "Regarding Nature: Gender, Identity, and Ecologies of Change" were Anthony Bryson, Kassie Darby, Sadie Edwards, Jazmin Hernandez, Derek Holbrook, Natalie Martinez, Laura Riggs and Aaron Thomas.

Erin Whitford

First-year graduate student and English Department graduate assistant Erin Whitford gave a paper on "An Addition to the Legacy: Joyce Carol Oates as the Successor to Carson McCullers and Flannery O'Connor's Feminine Grotesque" at the Popu-

lar Culture Association and American Culture Association's Southern Literature and Popular Culture Conference in April in St. Louis.

Her departmental adviser is Dr. John Wegner, associate professor of English.

Physics Students

Senior physics major Kunal Bhatnagar and senior applied physics major Steven Jackson won awards at the 2010 National Winter Meeting of the American Physical Society and the American Association of Physics Teachers in Washington, D.C.

Bhatnagar won a Society of Physics Students (SPS) Student Presentation Award for his research on "Growth and Characterization of Multilayer Structures." Jackson won an Undergraduate Research Oral Presentation Award for his research on "Spectroscopic Ellipsometry of Multilayered and Porous Materials."

Additionally, senior physics major Logan Hancock was elected the sole student representative on the national SPS Executive Committee. Hancock is president of ASU's chapter of SPS. Dr. Toni Sauncy is faculty adviser of ASU's SPS chapter.

Spring Volunteers

ASU's Center for Student Involvement (CSI) sent six students to New Orleans over spring break as part of HandsOn New Orleans to help rebuild still-devastated areas of the city ravaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Student participants were Kaci Childers, Claudia Garcia,

Desiree Garcia, Raoul Kabona, Chijioke Onyekwelu and Rog-er Quintana.

The students, selected through an application process by the CSI, worked on projects in New Orleans as part of the CSI's Project Spring Break program.

The trip was funded by the CSI and the Office of Student Life. Project Spring Break offers ASU students a service opportunity as a substitute to conventional spring break activities. Jennifer Johnson, ASU Greek life and community service coordinator, and Heather Valle, coordinator for student organizations, accompanied the ASU students.

Brad Roehrig

At a special ASU ceremony at the end of the fall semester, Capt. Brad Roehrig, assistant professor of aerospace studies, was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service during his recent tour in Iraq.

A 15-year officer in the U.S. Air Force, Roehrig completed his second tour in Iraq at Joint Base Balad in October. He distinguished himself by displaying initiative and service by providing critical communications support for three Special Operations Task Forces, eight Advanced Operating Bases and 46 Operational Detachments Alpha deployed across the Iraq Theater of Operations.

Roehrig is one year into his three-year stint as a member of the Angelo State ROTC and aerospace studies faculty. He is currently working on his Ph.D. in computer information systems/security through North Central College in Arizona. ■

FUTURE SHOCK

by Preston Lewis

vision²⁰20

Call it a roadmap to the future growth and prosperity of Angelo State University.

ASU's new academic and strategic master plan, named "Vision 2020," is the keystone document that will shape how the university allocates future resources and achieves its long-term goal of enrolling 10,000 students by the 2020 academic year.

www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/vision2020.html

vision 2020

— continued

“Vision 2020 is the result of over 12 months of dialogue about the fundamental direction of the university for the 21st century,” said Dr. James M. Limbaugh, ASU’s vice president for strategy, planning and policy (VPSPP) and the architect of the process that led to the plan.

Since academic programs are the principal products of the university, the academic component of the document identifies ASU’s “programs of distinction” as agriculture, educator preparation and nursing, then outlines steps or criteria that other programs must take or meet to be designated as distinctive.

“Agriculture, educator preparation and nursing were chosen for their programmatic success and growth potential, based on needs in the marketplace,” Limbaugh said. “Since enrollment growth is our major priority as assigned by the Texas Tech University System, we must focus first on those areas that have established programs and show potential for growth. Our three initial choices meet those criteria.”

As interim provost and vice president for academic and student affairs as well as VPSPP over the past year, Limbaugh directed the planning process from the vantage point of both ASU’s chief academic officer and the university’s chief planning officer.

“The Vision 2020 Plan for Academic Programs and Initiatives has five goals (see Table 1) that illustrate how ASU ‘operationalizes’ our mission statement,” Limbaugh said. “In other words, by working continuously toward these goals, we not only achieve our missions but also demonstrate how we did it.”

“Our academic plan,” said ASU President Joseph C. Rallo, “must be fully integrated with our strategic planning process to achieve our primary goals of enrollment growth with academic quality and rigor.”

Consequently, the academic plan falls under the larger strategic plan (see Table 2) that offers seven “statements of excellence” that will define ASU in the future.

According to Limbaugh, “The seven statements tell the general public that achieving these goals support our academic program and establish the university as an institution of higher education that fully understands its responsibility to its students and to the larger community.”

Limbaugh’s job now will be as a “traffic cop” to coordinate supporting plans, such as the facilities master plan and the enrollment management plan, to make certain all are moving in the same direction, rather than bottlenecking where the various plans intersect. As a result, Limbaugh’s next task is to fully integrate all institutional planning efforts with Texas Tech University System mandates, State of Texas directives and ASU’s budget review and allocation process. This coordination will ensure that ASU’s actions and initiatives are clearly connected and understood by the campus community.

“Managing growth is a priority for ASU through the life of the Vision 2020 strategic plan,” Limbaugh said. “Until we have sustained enrollment growth, we will keep re-allocating or re-prioritizing our budget. Growth resolves many of our fiscal needs because the Legislature rewards growth in its appropriations.”

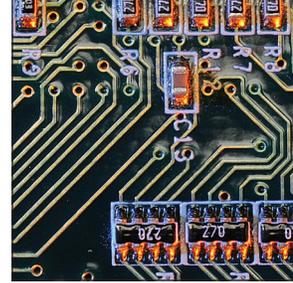
While ASU reported its largest spring enrollment, largest graduate enrollment and second-largest fall enrollment during the 2009-10 academic year, the university must maintain those growth trends over the long term. A promising start has been made by offering education, nursing and communication programs in Boerne this past spring while expanding offerings in Marble Falls and Fredericksburg as part of the Texas Tech University System’s Hill Country Initiative.

Additionally, Angelo State is broadening its menu of degrees with new programs and offerings in line with the academic master plan.

For instance, in February the Board of Regents of the Texas Tech University System approved four new master’s degrees and three new bachelor’s degrees, all in the distinctive departments. Three are Master of Education degrees, one with a major in special education, another with a major in coaching, sport, recreation and fitness administration and a third with a major in professional education. In nursing, approval was granted for a Master of Science in Nursing leading to certification as a family nurse practitioner as well as a generic baccalaureate degree in nursing, which is a traditional four-year program with two years of academics and two years of nursing courses. Agriculture earned authorization for Bachelor of Science degrees, one with a major in agricultural education and leadership and a second with a major in food animal science and marketing. Once approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the new majors will be offered in the fall.

“Ag education is a perfect example of where we can excel and fill a need,” said Dr. Gil Engdahl, head of ASU’s Agriculture Department. “There’s just a huge number of ag teacher jobs that are open. The sad thing is that a lot of school districts are filling them with those who just don’t have the background. They get temporary teaching certificates, but don’t have the needed background in ag mechanics, like welding, wood work and other skills you need in production agriculture, where our ag program has made its name.”

When Engdahl began teaching at Angelo State in 1976, about 85 percent of ag majors came to campus with practical skills learned while growing up on farms



www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/vision2020.html

or ranches. Today, about the same percentage comes to campus without rural backgrounds. Thus, ASU's 6,000-acre ranch and Management, Instruction and Research (MIR) Center provide a valuable laboratory with facilities that surpass those at many land-grant institutions nationally.

"These are kids that have never been able to handle cattle or other livestock," Engdahl said. "If you make the assumption they already know something, you are making an invalid assumption. Our program is more valuable as a range and wildlife program because the students actually go out and do things in the field and do labs as part of their classwork. Many larger programs, just because of sheer numbers, cannot do that."

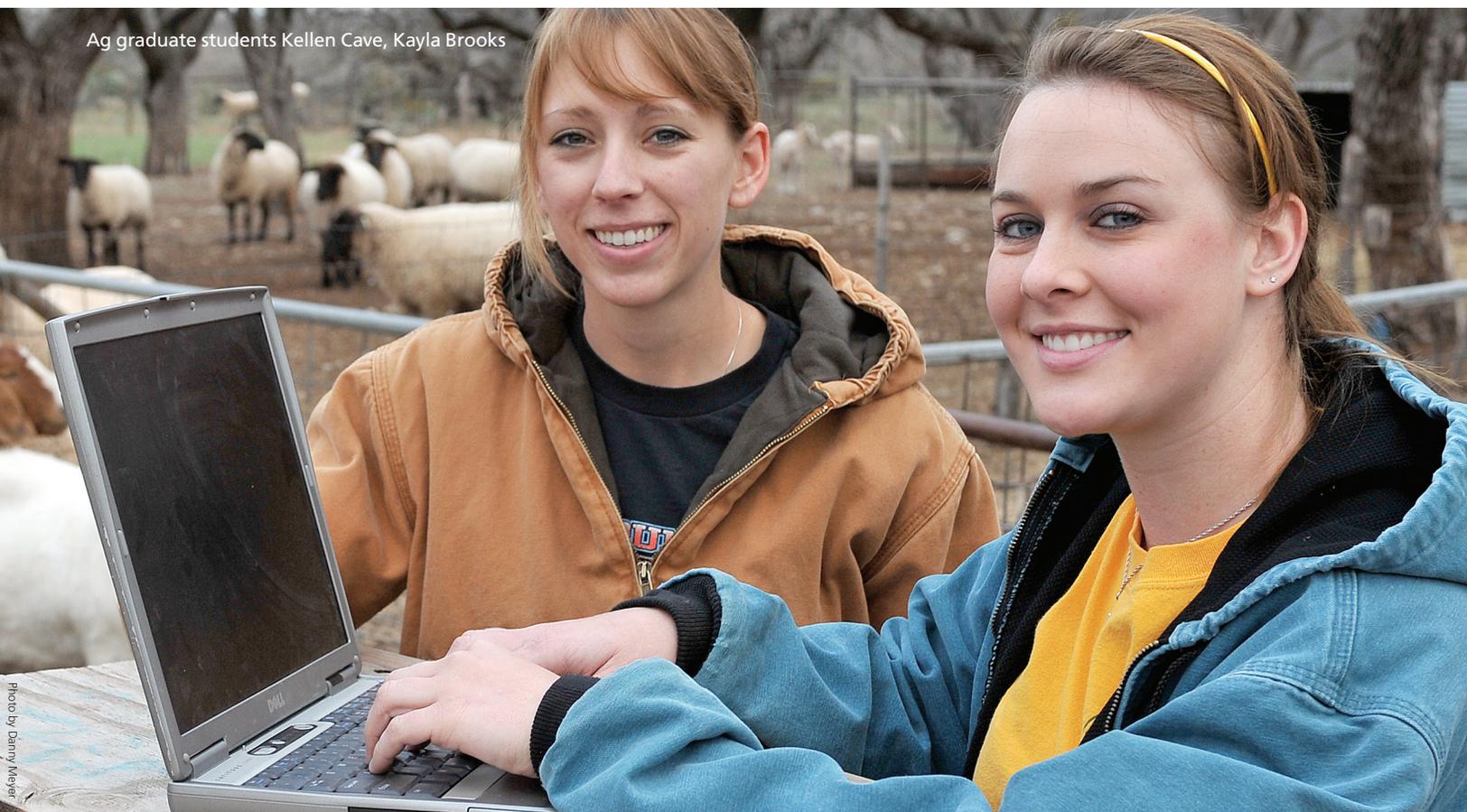
The combination animal science and marketing degree is another educational option that will offer new employment possibilities for ASU graduates. This new program builds upon the successful animal business degree, which has seen enrollment more than double over the last two years.

"This new combination degree will open a lot of doors for job opportunities for our graduates as well," Engdahl said. "We seem right now to be in a position to really grow and it's due to our history and track record of graduating students who are extremely well prepared in production agriculture."

Likewise, the new degree programs approved for the College of Education are targeted at specific educational needs statewide.



Ag graduate students Kellen Cave, Kayla Brooks





Teaching Technique



Nursing's Hi Fidelity Simulation Lab

The three new master's degrees will allow graduates of any accredited college anywhere to complete teacher certification requirements while pursuing a graduate degree.

"These three degrees," said ASU Education Dean Dr. John Miazga, "focus on teacher shortage areas in Texas by enabling anyone with a degree to pursue a teaching certificate. This serves a need that must be met if the state of Texas is to meet its long-range educational goals."

Additionally, the colleges' recent online programs for principals and educators who want to be principals are helping address the shortage of school principals in Texas.

"Statewide, we are known for the quality of our teacher preparation and the quality of our school counselor program," Miazga said. "These new master's programs and opportunities we are providing for principals will enhance our reputation."

That reputation is built upon the results in the classrooms where ASU graduates work.

"Our educator preparation programs are fully accredited by the State of Texas, but our graduates are our best indicators of our success," Miazga said. "ASU graduates who become teachers in the public school systems of Texas have a five-year teacher retention rate that averages 80 percent. That is above the state average of 71 percent."

While ASU's early childhood to sixth grade teacher preparation program, its social studies teacher preparation program and its special education program have all received

national recognition for excellence, Miazga is proudest of the teamwork on campus that makes such recognition possible.

"The quality and cooperation of the faculty and staff, both in the College of Education and across other disciplines on campus, are exceptional," Miazga said. "The designation of our teacher preparation as a program of distinction is a tribute to those combined efforts."

Just as the College of Education is addressing a shortage of teachers, the Nursing Department is tackling the dearth of nurses statewide and beyond through a series of educational programs that can provide upward mobility through the nursing ranks.

Over the last decade, ASU's nursing program has developed a reputation for innovation in nursing education, a proactive approach to program development and a demonstrated commitment to stair-step mobility that allows nurses at virtually any level – or location – of their career to advance another step.

Nursing Department Head Susan Wilkinson said, "We offer programs that allow students from diverse educational backgrounds to achieve their educational goals of becoming registered nurses (RNs). With the addition of the new generic B.S.N. program, we have four different programs that prepare students for the RN licensure exam."

On top of that, nursing students do not need to come to ASU to take their classes as many programs can be handled entirely online, except for clinical requirements. This

flexibility is particularly important in rural areas where nurses are in short supply already and have difficulty leaving their jobs to pursue their education.

"Our RN-to-B.S.N. completion program," said Dr. Wilkinson, "was the first fully integrated online program for RNs in Texas and now allows busy nurses to complete their upper-level core nursing courses in 12 months. Our M.S.N. program offers three different online track options. All of the nursing course instruction is provided via the Internet for the adult learner with course materials, syllabi, assignments, discussion groups, e-mail and exams online.

"Online class participation is asynchronous for the students' convenience," Wilkinson continued. "Faculty members work closely with students to identify preceptors and clinical agencies within the students' home communities, eliminating a lot of travel."

The reputation of ASU's Nursing Department was enhanced in 2008 when the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board awarded ASU a \$1.27 million, three-year grant to develop a program to reduce the costs and time commitments for licensed vocational nurses (LVNs) to transition to RNs.

"That grant," said Wilkinson, "helped us revolutionize the thinking and approaches to LVN-transition education."

So, the bottom line for ASU's initial programs of distinction is simply addressing a need by bringing new thinking to the problem.



Nursing Photo by Danny Meyer

The door is open for other programs to join that list, said Vice President Limbaugh.

“Higher education is extremely competitive,” he said. “As a result, the most successful institutions are those that recognize that specific combinations of faculty talent, facilities, location and student success create programs that can attract the best students interested in those fields. Attracting students to enroll in ASU’s programs of distinction – educator preparation, agriculture and nursing – will increase enrollment in other programs as well. Growing these programs of distinction as well as naming others in the future will contribute to institutional growth and continued viability.”

The criteria for additional programs of distinction are outlined in the new strategic plan and encompass eight considerations. Those touch points of distinction include the program’s structural excellence, faculty, distinctiveness, delivery method, student learning achievements, support for students, student/external opinions/satisfaction and economic viability.

“For higher education institutions to survive in the 21st century,” said Limbaugh, “they need an aggressive and comprehensive planning process, one that is woven into the fabric of the institution. This plan starts that process. With the criteria for our programs of distinction, we are opening doors for all academic departments to grow and develop academic reputations that will elevate them, the university and society in the future.” ■

vision2020

www.angelo.edu/services/strategy/vision2020.html

Table 1: Academic Goals

- One:** The university provides exemplary undergraduate and graduate curricula to meet market and economic demands and to continue the growth of the institution.
- Two:** The university engages with the community to complement students’ academic experiences.
- Three:** The university provides a comprehensive program to support and advance transition into college life, undergraduate student learning and individual academic success.
- Four:** Members of the faculty conduct research and coordinate a wide variety of sponsored projects.
- Five:** The university regularly evaluates all academic programs to assure continuous improvement.

Table 2: Strategic Master Goals

- One:** The university recruits, retains and recognizes diverse, high-quality faculty and staff.
- Two:** The university provides and maintains facilities appropriate for the university’s academic and co-curricular programs.
- Three:** The university recruits, retains and graduates, in numbers consistent with increased goals for enrollment and retention, an academically qualified student body reflecting the diversity of the region, the state and the nation.
- Four:** The university develops and expands both undergraduate and graduate curricula and co-curricula to support students’ intellectual and personal growth, to address issues relevant to society and to meet the demands of State of Texas initiatives and the marketplace
- Five:** The university maintains a supportive, helpful environment for students, faculty, staff, community and alumni.
- Six:** The university develops and enhances external partnerships, collaborations and funding opportunities.
- Seven:** The university regularly assesses and evaluates all institutional functions and programs to assure continuous improvement and to maximize efficiencies.

ahead of the GAME



Virtual characters created by ASU students

A perfect example of Angelo State University's commitment to growth in both quality programs and student enrollment can be found in the Computer Science (CS) Department.

Over the past four years, freshman enrollment in the department has more than doubled, from 120 in 2005-06 to 243 for the 2009-10 academic year. A significant portion of that growth is being attributed to the department's computer game development program, which officially began in the spring of 2008 and in March was named one of 2010's "Top 50 Undergraduate Game Design Programs" in North America by the *Princeton Review*.

"Our game development courses are some of the most popular courses we have," said Dr. Tim Roden, Computer Science Department head. "Correspondence I get from prospective students indicates many are considering attending ASU to get into our program. The increased enthusiasm from students, faculty and the university administration is driving us forward to do even more."

The next step toward continued growth will be the addition of a new course next spring in handheld game development, which will target the emerging game software market for iPhones and other mobile devices.

"Smart phones, such as the iPhone, are increasingly becoming an important platform for gaming," Roden said. "We want ASU to be a leader in educating CS students in this important technology."

Gaming has developed into more than just fun and games, becoming a \$75 billion industry worldwide, according to 2009 figures.

Preparing students to enter the computer gaming industry is particularly important in Texas, which has the nation's third-highest number of game development companies behind only California and Washington. In the coming years, ASU will be graduating

students in high demand for jobs with starting salaries of about \$60,000 a year. On top of that, the jobs will be in Texas.

"A lot of kids don't want to move too far from home for their first job," Roden said. "So, having plenty of opportunities in Texas is a definite plus."

It is also a big plus that ASU's computer game development program made the *Princeton Review's* Top 50 list. That, coupled with the number of available computer gaming jobs in Texas, could start bringing even more students to ASU from throughout the region and the country.

"The *Princeton Review* listing will give ASU the national recognition it needs to enhance our recruitment," Roden said. "ASU is one of only three Texas public universities that made the list, and we think ASU is positioned to become a leader in educating the next generation of computer game developers."

Another recruiting tool at Roden's disposal is the Entertainment Computing Laboratory (ECL), which is outfitted with high-speed Dell computers and the latest in game development software. Roden had the lab outfitted in 2007 in preparation for introducing the new gaming program.

"It is really the focal point of a lot of our efforts in our curriculum," he said. "Without the lab, I don't think we would have had this dramatic increase in enrollment, and it would be hard to teach the classes without it. There is no lab like it on campus."

Under Roden's guiding hand, the CS Department identified a growing trend, figured out how to take advantage of it and started a new program to educate students who want to join it. That is how growth happens.

"My number-one priority is to grow our Computer Science Department," Roden said. "That is what I was hired for. Our game development program is our most effective tool for doing that." ■

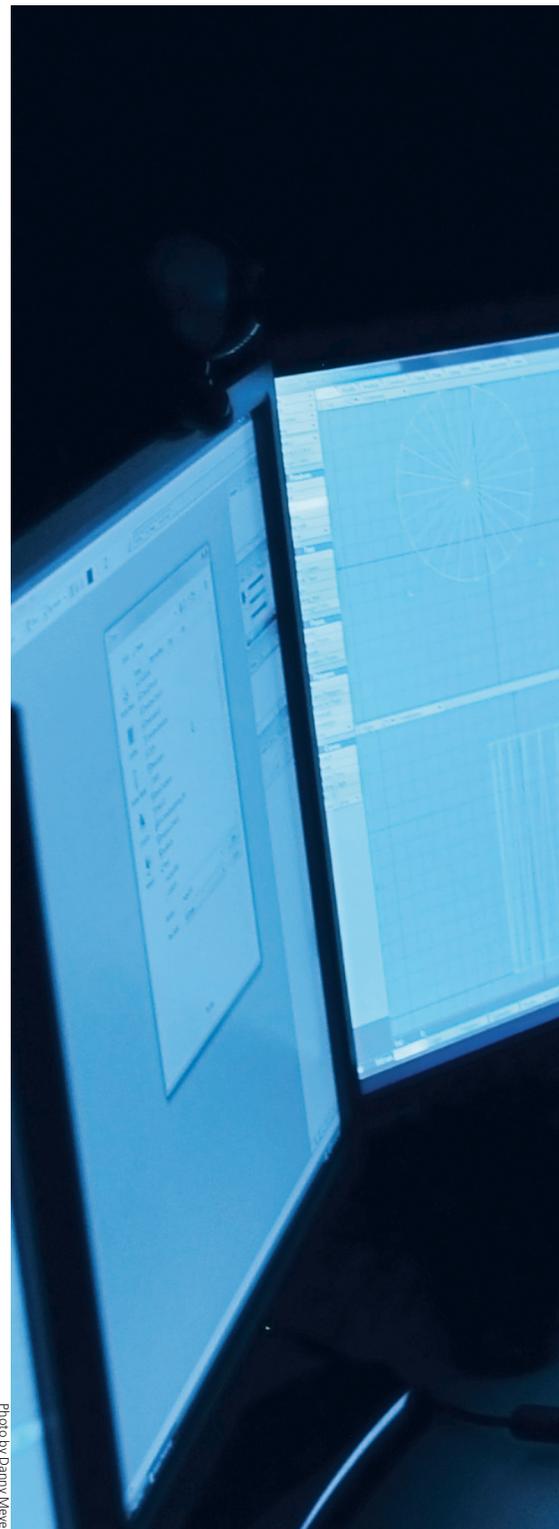
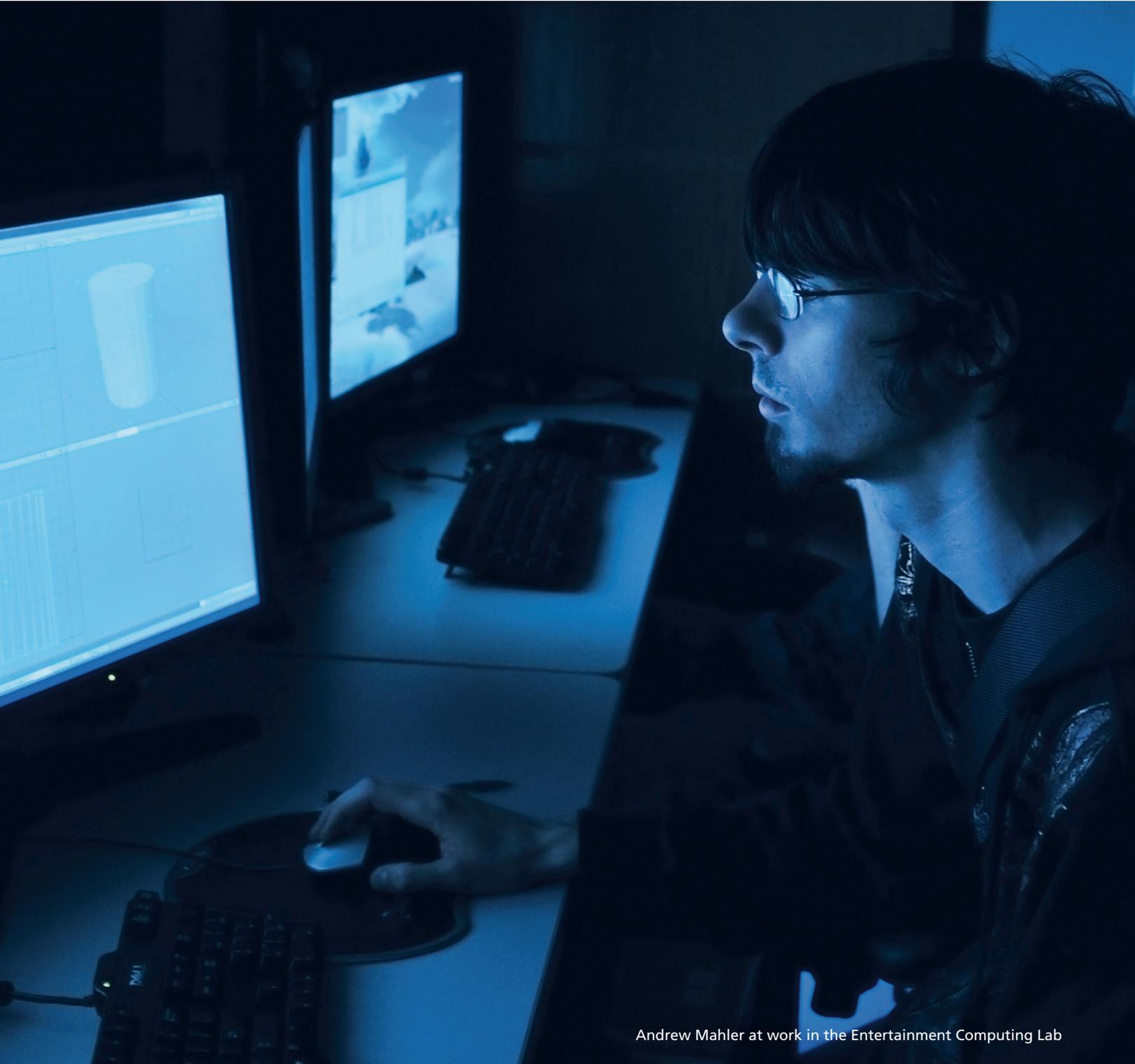


Photo by Danny Meyer



Andrew Mahler at work in the Entertainment Computing Lab

Double O Heaven

by Preston Lewis

Nationally, the 2000s started with Y2K worries that the nation's computers, including Angelo State's mainframe, would crash when their odometers changed to a new millennium, and the decade ended with fears the nation's economy would crash even farther.

For ASU the decade between Jan. 1, 2000, and Dec. 31, 2009, not only provided a spectacular crash of its own, but also proved to be one of the most momentous periods in university history, ranking with the 1920s when the institution was founded and with the 1960s when the college became a four-year university and took on its current name.

The problem with the 2000s is that it is a hard decade to name, unlike "the teens" or "the '50s" or even "the '90s." Besides the rather cumbersome name of "the 2000s" you are left with "the Double O's," "the Aught-Aughts" or even "the Double Zeros," none of which seem just right. This was no idle question, with media as varied as *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker* and *Slate.com* all posing it to readers. *Slate.com* may have defined it best by suggesting the decade be known as "the Uh-Ohs."

Whatever history comes to call the 10 years past, the decade for Angelo State was one that ranged between heaven and swell.

So, as ASU enters the first year of a new decade, it offers the perfect opportunity to reflect on the past 10 years and identify the top 10 events of the decade with no easy name. Selected events are ranked in order of significance or just plain fun. After all, what is the value of a university if everyone can't have a little fun? So, here goes.

1

Systemized



Who ever would have thought upon entering the 2000s that Angelo State would switch systems by the end of the decade? For that matter, who ever would have thought entering 2007 that ASU would divorce the Texas State University System for a long-term relationship with the Texas Tech University System (TTUS) by the end of that summer?

Well, some local residents, influential alumni and key legislators did. And, they pulled it off in whirlwind fashion. Legislation that was introduced as the first-ever bill by freshman State Rep. Drew Darby of San Angelo in March was approved by the Texas House, 137-4, on April 25, okayed unanimously by the Texas Senate on May 15 under the tutelage of State Sen. Robert Duncan of Lubbock, signed by Gov. Rick Perry on May 23 and went into effect Sept. 1 of 2007. Whew!

The voters of Texas even had a say that November when they approved by an overwhelming two-to-one majority an amendment that resolved any possible language conflicts in the state constitution because of the change in systems and ensured state funding for ASU as part of the Tech System.

Since then, the merger has lived up to the billing first described by Darby and Duncan as "a perfect wool-cotton blend."

2

Hail to the Chief



Between 1965 when the college became a state-supported institution and June of 2007, Angelo State had seen only three presidents. Going back to the institution's founding in 1928 as a community college, only eight men had served in that capacity.

So, a change in president was rare, occurring, on average, just once a decade since 1928 or once every 14 years as a four-year institution. When Dr. E. James Hindman announced his retirement effective in the summer of 2007, the university began a nationwide search.

Dr. Joseph C. Rallo came to the presidency in a manner unprecedented in Texas higher education history. Appointed president in March by the Texas State University System, he started in his ASU position on June 1, eight days after Gov. Perry signed legislation transferring ASU to the Texas Tech University System. As it turned out, he had 92 days tenure under the system that hired him before reporting to the Tech System. Today, he is the senior president among the three TTUS institutions.

His first organizational change and major hire was for a vice president for strategy, planning and policy, reflecting his goal of strengthening the university's strategic planning and allocation of resources while developing and promoting areas of academia.

3

Team Terrific



In the *third* year of its revival after a 20-year absence from the campus, the Rambelles softball team brought home the institution's *third* national championship. Consequently, ranking the 2004 NCAA D-II title in softball at No. 3 seems a natural fit.

Sure, other university accomplishments may have greater long-term impact, but nothing can bring more immediate exultation or lingering university pride than a national championship. After all, who remembers an academic accomplishment from 1957 when the men's basketball team won the National Junior College Basketball Championship or a university budget from 1978 when the football team won the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics title?

As a first-year Angelo State coach, Travis Scott guided the Rambelles to Lone Star Conference, South Central Regional and NCAA D-II championships while finishing the season with a 47-11 record.

In the national championship game, ASU topped Florida Southern, 7-3, for the D-II crown. In his first season at Angelo State, Scott had earned ASU's first national title from the NCAA. Since 2004, his teams have averaged 46 wins a season and made two more trips to the NCAA D-II national championships. They have won LSC Championships in 2003, 2004, 2008 and 2009 and South Division titles each of those years as well as in 2005.

Visit www.angelo.edu/ASUMagazine/ for Travis Scott's recollections of the 2004 national championship.

4

Building Boom



Former students, some from as recently as the mid-1990s, are usually amazed when they return to campus, particularly after a long absence from San Angelo, at how much ASU has changed. With \$88 million in construction expenditures, the 2000s mark the biggest construction period since the late '60s and early '70s after Angelo State became a state-supported institution.

The most important buildings from a public standpoint were the renovated Houston Harte University Center, the Junell Center/Stephens Arena and the LeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center, each of which hosts university as well as public and community functions.

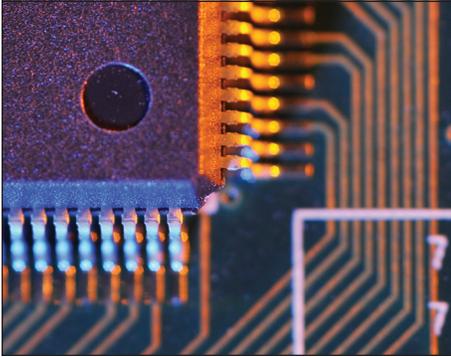
Texan Hall and Centennial Village became the first two residence halls built on campus since the Massie Halls in the early 1980s. Though they were largely replacement facilities for obsolete residence halls, they did provide 1,034 beds in facilities designed for the technological needs and living preferences of the millennial generation.

Academic expansion during the decade included Science III, the third-floor addition to the Porter Henderson Library, the expansion of the Carr Education-Fine Arts Building and the addition of the Food Safety and Product Development Lab to the Management, Instruction and Research Center. The Center for Human Performance also underwent renovation during the decade.

Tying all the construction together was the signage project that clearly delineated campus boundaries, identified all buildings and provided directional signs for both pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

5

Techno-topia



At the start of the decade, a 3.5-inch floppy disk stored the equivalent of 415 printed pages. By the end of the decade, an 8 gigabyte USB flash drive could manage the equivalent of 2,285,715 printed pages. That's the type of geometric progression Information Technology at ASU has had to keep up with in a digital world because the Web is so critical to today's educational process, both academically and administratively.

Since 2000, Information Technology staff members have managed an over 6,000 percent increase in bandwidth or channel capacity for Internet communication. They have moved from dial-up to direct-wired to wireless access. They have increased the ASU classrooms with multimedia capabilities from 20 percent to 85 percent and have built the electronic skeleton for greater delivery of online courses.

The major IT project of the decade was the \$6 million conversion of the university's multiple administrative software systems, mainly incompatible with each other, to a single integrated software system. The Portico Project converted six independent systems into a single system that handles all administrative functions, ranging from accounts payable to registration and from human resources to financial aid.

The successful ASU conversion was completed ahead of schedule and under budget, becoming one of the major accomplishments of the Hindman presidency and earning Angelo State's Information Technology team a national reputation in successful project planning and implementation.

6

Dr. Yes



Though ASU's physical therapy program was authorized in the previous decade, the department did not accept its first class until 2000. By the end of the decade, it would be the first academic program to offer a doctorate at Angelo State.

In between accepting its first students and being approved to offer a doctorate last year by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Physical Therapy Department received full accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education and began building the foundation for the doctorate in line with the American Physical Therapy Association's long-term goal to graduate by 2020 autonomous, self-directed physical therapists qualified to provide services without a doctor's referral.

The ASU program will graduate its last of nine Master of Physical Therapy classes this year, then miss a year of graduates before the first doctorate is conferred in 2012.

In the decade since accepting a class of primarily Texas students, the program now draws applicants from as far away as Wisconsin and Massachusetts. Applicants are attracted by the small classes and the economical tuition, even for out-of-state residents.

Last year the Physical Therapy Department joined the Nursing Department in the new College of Nursing and Allied Health, which is poised for growth to address shortages in health care professionals, particularly in West Texas and rural areas. With nursing's extensive online programs and PT's new doctorate, the college is on a new threshold for health professionals at Angelo State.

7

Head for the Hills



Of the numerous academic programs and initiatives begun in the 2000s, perhaps none carries the potential for growth as the Hill Country Initiative. As a new member of TTUS in 2007, ASU began to offer courses at system facilities in Fredericksburg and Marble Falls. By the end of 2009, Angelo State had begun enrolling students at a new facility in Boerne.

Provided at no cost to ASU by the Kendall County Economic Development Corp., the Boerne facility in 2010 became Angelo State's first remote campus, with the College of Graduate Studies offering education, nursing and communication programs less than 35 miles up Interstate 10 from San Antonio. Enrollment at the Boerne extension helped ASU record its highest spring enrollment and its highest graduate enrollment ever this year.

Additionally during the 2000s, the Graduate School evolved into the College of Graduate Studies and two new colleges were created. The College of Education became home for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Department of Kinesiology and Department of Teacher Education. The College of Nursing and Allied Health provided the administrative umbrella for the Department of Nursing and Department of Physical Therapy, which had been housed in the College of Sciences.

8

High Marks



Not since the 1991 *College Guide: America's Best Colleges* published by *U.S. News & World Report* had Angelo State gained as much national recognition as the university did in the final half of 2009. At the start of the '90s, *U.S. News* had identified Angelo State as one of the top 10 up-and-coming regional universities nationally and one of the top three in all the western United States.

In 2009 *The Princeton Review* named ASU one of "The Best 371 Colleges" nationally in its annual guide to universities. Unlike most rating services, *The Princeton Review* factors student opinion into its selections by surveying some 122,000 students nationally. Inclusion in the 2010 guide broadened the exposure of ASU to a national audience of prospective students. Though 10 institutions in Texas were named to the list, Angelo State joined the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University as the only state-supported colleges on the *Princeton Review* roster.

Additionally, Angelo State was identified by *G.I. Jobs* magazine as one of the nation's "2010 Military Friendly Schools" and by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of the "Great Colleges to Work For" in 2009.

The decade ended with Ellen Moreland of the mathematics faculty being named the "Texas Professor of the Year" by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Earlier in the decade, *Physics Today* had named ASU's Physics Department as one of the top 21 undergraduate physics programs in the nation, and *Information Weekly* had lauded the collaboration between ASU's Information Technology Office and the Computer Science Department in producing exceptional graduates for the workplace.

9

Play More Ball



Up until 2002, once the basketball season ended, ASU fans had a limited menu to sate their appetites for sports, generally a few university track meets and spring football. The addition of softball in 2002, baseball in 2005 and women's golf in 2009 helped fill that gap in university life with winning evenings and weekends at the ballparks.

Seldom have new D-II programs had such strong showings so early in their existence as did Rambelles softball and Rams baseball with each advancing to the national championship tournaments in just their third year of existence, the Rambelles winning the title.

And, ASU managed to develop some of the best NCAA D-II facilities in the nation during the decade with the opening in 2002 of the Junell Center/Stephens Arena and the Softball Complex. The Junell Center/Stephens Arena provided an exceptional venue for basketball and volleyball, making it a popular site for high school playoff games and concerts by various performers. The agreement with the San Angelo Colts organization to allow construction of a baseball stadium on campus in exchange for the right for any future Rams team to use it resulted in a top-notch facility at no construction cost to the university.

A major gift by Dr. Robert and Jean Ann LeGrand helped upgrade the Multipurpose Sports Complex, which now carries their name and sports a state-of-the-art electronic scoreboard for track meets. The facility hosted the NCAA D-II National Track and Field Championships in 2002 and again in 2009, when the Rambelles placed second for their highest finish ever on the national stage.

10

Building KA-BOOM!



On the grand scale of things, the demolition of University Hall may not have been that important. After all, several other campus buildings also were demolished during the 2000s due to economic obsolescence. However, if you were there for the implosion that last October Sunday morning of the decade, you would have agreed that no event of the last 10 years went off so spectacularly or so quickly.

During the 2000s, the campus lost the Rosemont Apartments, ultimately to be replaced on the west side of campus by Centennial Village, and the ASU Police Station, Mayer Hall and Runnels Hall in the center of campus. Their demise was, frankly, blasé.

Not so for University Hall. While the abatement of, preparation for and cleanup after the demolition of University Hall took more time than the destruction of Rosemont, Police Station, Runnels and Mayer combined, the moment of truth was over in just 18 seconds, when 140 pounds of dynamite collapsed the 10-story building into a three-story pile of concrete and steel rubble.

To those that saw University Hall fall, it was a memorable moment. Those who missed seeing it in person can still watch it on the ASU Web site or from a variety of angles on YouTube.

Even though the 2000s are gone and we won't be able to relive them, everyone will have a second chance to watch a high rise fall when Concho Hall comes down, possibly as soon as next year. ■

State of the Arts

by Roy Ivey



Brittany Hoffman



Bruce Gonzalez

Photos by Danny Meyer

Brittany Hoffman and Bruce Gonzalez learn and practice their skills from opposite sides of the ASU Art and Music Department, but they share similar passions for their artistry.

A senior flutist, Hoffman chose her instrument early and made it a major part of her life.

"I've loved seeing people play the flute since I was little," she said. "I love the sound and the emotion the flute can portray. When I got to college, Dr. (Jeff) Womack and Dr. (Constance) Kelley helped me build my playing skills. I started to fall in love with the instrument even more."

As a child in his bedroom, Gonzalez first picked up a paintbrush.

"I just never stopped drawing and painting on my bedroom walls," he said. "My parents encouraged me by providing the paint. They figured it was better than my being out doing whatever else."

They and their creative peers in art and music add the culture and spice to ASU campus life, with dozens of individual and group recitals and shows each academic year. Under the tutelage of professionally trained faculty, the students are able to build careers out of childhood dreams.

"I was self-taught up to my college years, which began at Tarrant County College in 2003," Gonzalez said. "Once I transferred to ASU in 2007, I started to really test myself and my abilities."

Gonzalez also had to learn to take constructive criticism, something he never encountered before he came to ASU.

"A piece of art to the artist is like his child, and you can ask any parent if having

someone else tell you how to raise or dress your child is irritating," he said. "I simply swallowed my pride and did what the professors suggested."

The senior heeded his professors and is now contemplating a bright future.

"I have such a wide array of opportunities that settling on one is pretty tough," Gonzalez said. "I'm considering finishing my degree here at ASU and maybe going to graduate school. I'm also thinking of joining the military to broaden my artistic and personal horizons."

Esmeralda Muro, like Gonzalez, has been attracted to art since her childhood, but failed to decide her career path until she took a ceramics class at ASU.

"I really enjoyed it," she said. "From then on, I was hooked. The potter's wheel was probably the hardest thing I had to learn. It takes so much of your time to really get the hang of and actually make something that is worth keeping."

Tara Trowbridge's journey to a musical career started when she sang in a church Christmas choir as a child.

"When you first start out, especially when you are younger," she said, "you've got easier music and a lot more help learning it. In college, it's your responsibility. You still have professors helping, but you have to be self-motivating."

Trowbridge plans to teach school choir for awhile before returning to college for a graduate degree and ultimately directing a college choir.

"Just getting to actually make music," she said, "starting from the beginning, learning the rhythms and notes, and mak-

ing something people can enjoy hearing is my favorite thing."

Adrian Alonso also hopes to advance to collegiate-level teaching after working as a band director in public schools. He became a saxophone specialist after first hoping to play the trumpet. He misspoke about his instrumental preference and ended up with a saxophone.

"That worked out for the best," Alonso said. "I won the concerto competition here at ASU, which gave me the opportunity to perform as a featured soloist with the Wind Ensemble and in the FAME (Friends of Art and Music Education) concert. That performance was electric and the ovation that I got from the audience was even more electric. I was on cloud nine."

Chrys Carter, a graphic arts student, discovered that creating art on a computer compares favorably to putting brush to canvas.

"I just use a different medium," she said. "I still do a lot of painting and drawing, too. Learning your way through computer programs is like learning your way through acrylics or oils."

In addition to her studies, Carter is the ASU chapter president of Kappa Pi, the international arts honor fraternity.

"Kappa Pi is a big draw for art students," she said. "We put on a show of our works, and we take trips to museums. Some of our works have been displayed in the Namaste Art Gallery in Fort Worth."

Most ASU art and music students' stories run parallel as they reach for the heights throughout their college years, and

— continued on page 43

Carousel of Life

Amid the organized chaos

of an ASU musical theater rehearsal of *Carousel*, Bill Reynolds stood out as an island of calmness.

After all, Reynolds had performed on Broadway and even been in the first revival of the Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein stage classic. When Dr. Bill Doll, director of ASU's University Theatre, decided last year to stage the musical, he thought Reynolds' experience would be an asset to the play and to his young thespians.

Reynolds, who played the Starkeeper and Dr. Seldin in ASU's spring production of *Carousel*, had seen it all before. His fresh-faced fellow cast members, on the other hand, were intently familiarizing themselves with their lines in the Arts at ASU production during a Friday night run-through.

By contrast, the 82-year-old veteran actor first witnessed the play up close as a member of the chorus in the 1953 revival at the New York City Center.

"The revival was directed by William Hammerstein, who was the son of Oscar Hammerstein," Reynolds said. "I had been a member of the chorus of the New York City Opera Company, and I was going to be an opera singer. I got my Actor's Equity Card and was listed as an understudy to the main tenor, a Mr. Snow, when I got on with *Carousel*."

The New York City production was only the first *Carousel* for Reynolds, who performed the musical again in 1984 in a dinner theater on Long Island, N.Y.

"I did Dr. Seldin, the very role that I'm doing now," he said. "Every time I do it, the lines come back to me."

The protagonist of the play, a carnival barker named Billy Bigelow, played by freshman Joe Zimmerman, dies and goes "up there," where he meets the Starkeeper. Billy is sent back to

Earth for one day, where he encounters the daughter he never knew. Then Billy meets Dr. Seldin, at the prom of Billy's daughter.

"He is a no-nonsense character who won't let Billy get away with his bluster," said Reynolds, "but he's very generous and warm."

Reynolds' connection with the performing arts has waxed and waned since his days as a college student at the University of Texas. He began in pre-med but switched to music before World War II intervened. After the war and service in the Navy, he returned to UT to finish his music degree, then took a master's in music education.

He snagged a role on Broadway, sang in another Broadway chorus, did some off-Broadway productions and even worked as an extra in several television soap operas. In between, he taught in public school as a choral director for 25 years in Levittown, N.Y.

After retiring from teaching, Reynolds sang in radio cigarette commercials, joined the NBC-TV Opera Company, sang in a quartet and performed in Broadway musical productions in Atlantic City, N.J. In addition, he appeared in several *Saturday Night Live* programs, usually as a politician on an investigating committee.

Looking for a place to retire, the native of Cotulla found his way back to Texas. While visiting a relative in San

Angelo, he and his wife, Janet, discovered their new home.

Although retired, Reynolds still performs when offered the opportunity. He stays busy singing at garden clubs, for Sunday school classes and senior citizen groups and performing the occasional play.

Last year when Dr. Doll was planning to produce *Carousel*, he approached Reynolds.

"It was really appealing to me to see if I could get him to join us," Doll said. "He said yes, so I was really excited about that and about what he could bring to the performance and to our students." ■



Bill Reynolds

Perfect Timing

by Tom Nurre



Audrey Sato

Photo by Danny Meyer

Sometimes, timing means everything.

For 2006 Angelo State graduate Audrey Sato, good timing has led to a string of firsts, including her becoming the first participant in the state's Joint Admissions Medical Program (JAMP) to be matched to a medical residency. Appropriately, an ASU JAMP graduate was first because the Angelo State program became a model for other universities statewide.

Sato graduated from high school in Amarillo the same year that the Texas Legislature established the JAMP. When her school counselor told her about Angelo State's Carr Scholarship Program and that ASU was a JAMP participant, she was hooked.

"She told me I would be in the first JAMP class if I went to ASU," Sato said. "ASU pre-medicine students also have a really high chance – I think it is greater than 50 percent – of getting into medical school. So, those were my deciding factors. They are great characteristics of Angelo State."

Aimed at academically strong but economically disadvantaged students, JAMP guarantees college and medical school scholarships for selected students who meet and maintain the financial and academic guidelines. Sato has flourished in the program, graduating from ASU in 2006 and from the Texas School of Osteopathic Medicine at the University of North Texas this year. In December, she became the first JAMP student in Texas to be matched with a medical residency, which she will begin in July at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, D.C.

"It is a great honor to be the first JAMP student to match," Sato said. "I was lucky to be able to join such a great program and to be able to reach my ultimate goal, for now. I've always wanted to be a doctor since I was very young. It's strange to think that I'm the first, but it's awesome!"

It is not strange, though, to a pair of Sato's former ASU professors, who expected her success. She made a distinct impression on associate biology professor Dr. Russell Wilke right from the start.

"She was not afraid to speak her mind," Wilke said. "Usually, freshmen are kind of timid and will sit back, not wanting to say anything stupid. But, Audrey was very

straightforward and outspoken, and she could also support her opinions. That was unusual for a freshman.”

Retired biology professor Dr. Alan Bloebaum, at that time Sato’s pre-med adviser, spoke fondly of one of his favorite students.

“Over the years,” Bloebaum said, “there were several students who, for one reason or another, I always felt closer to, and Audrey was one of them. Those students and I sort of just communicated or connected and ‘spoke the same language.’ I got to calling them my ‘adopted sons’ or ‘adopted daughters.’”

Though she did not know it, Sato also timed her arrival at ASU to correspond with Bloebaum winding down his teaching career. She was able to benefit from his expertise, while also getting to take advantage of his unloading many of the mementos stuffed into his crowded office.

“We would play games, and if you won, he would give you a prize,” Sato said. “We would all stack our prizes up by our microscopes so we could show what we had won. It was really fun for the students.”

Sato’s timing outside the classroom was also spot-on. She was in the first group of students who joined ASU’s new Honors Program and was president of Beta Beta Beta (Tri-Beta) biology honor society when it won the Lloyd Bertholf Award as the top chapter in the nation.

“I think the stars aligned and the cards laid out perfectly,” Sato said. “I was able to graduate from high school in a year that allowed me the chance to become part of JAMP and to go to ASU, which is a great school for pre-meds and has all these other great programs. I owe a lot to ASU.”

Additionally, Sato did her own independent research, attended Texas Academy of Science conferences and conducted her Carr research project with Dr. David Marsh on maggots and meat.

“It was kind of a social science thing,” Sato said. “I was trying to see if flies that were raised on a certain type of meat would prefer to lay their eggs on that same type of meat. But, they didn’t seem to prefer one surface over others. They just liked stinky stuff.”

That may seem like a bizarre research project, but not when you consider Sato’s

long-standing interest in pathology. Defined as the study of the nature of diseases, pathology also encompasses performing biopsies, managing blood products and, in some cases, performing autopsies.

“It goes back to my classes at ASU and being able to do pathogenic microbiology with Dr. (Crosby) Jones,” Sato said. “My anatomy, parasitology and histology classes were all very lab-oriented. So, I was able to spend a lot of time looking at microscope slides, and that to me is really fun.”

“Most medical students,” Wilke added, “whatever specialty they come in saying they are going to do, nine times out of 10 they don’t end up doing that. Audrey is one of the few who actually came in and said ‘this is what I’m going to do’ as a freshman, and now she is doing it. In the 11 years I’ve been doing this, she is the only one I can remember.”

But, it was not just her work ethic and resolve that made such an impression on Sato’s professors. It was her personality as well. Wilke remembers her as an independent free spirit with an original fashion sense, subtle sense of humor and eclectic taste in music that included Janis Joplin, Depeche Mode, ’80s heavy metal and even modern jazz.

“She knew what she wanted to do and she knew what she had to do,” Wilke said. “And yet, she had this nice, funny little quirky personality that was refreshing to see in a student like that. Some students are like ghosts who come in and pass through the halls without leaving much of an impression, but she definitely made her mark.”

“I also recall,” said Bloebaum, “that she was an extreme Harry Potter fan and even named her dog Sirius Black. Her favorite story about Sirius Black was the time he got hold of a bunch of donuts she had bought and hid them in a closet for his later eating pleasure.”

After graduating from ASU, Sato headed to the Texas School of Osteopathic Medicine. She also joined the U.S. Army to take advantage of its Health Professions Scholarship Program, which pays for any remaining tuition/fees and provides a monthly stipend.

“We are considered to be in the Individual Ready Reserves, and our job is to

go to school,” Sato said. “I did my officer training in August of 2008 and will owe the Army four more years after my residency.”

Being in the Army also helped Sato be the first JAMP student to match with a residency, since military members match several months before their civilian counterparts. She also stuck with the Army theme when applying for her residency at Walter Reed Hospital.

“When you think of the Army and military hospitals, a lot of people think of Walter Reed,” Sato said. “It’s a great place to train and they have really good residency programs. I think I will get a really good education there.”

So, Sato will head to Walter Reed this summer, due in large part to her participation in JAMP. She has repaid the program by not only excelling at every level, but also by acting as an advocate of the program to both government leaders and prospective “JAMPers.”

“I was able to go with one of my JAMP year-mates to tell them how we had been benefitting from the money that they had allotted for JAMP,” Sato said. “I’ve also been able to go speak to high school students about attending colleges that have the JAMP program.”

As for the future, Sato said her plans are pretty much up in the air right now, though she would like to stay in the Army as long as she can.

“Doing an Army career would be great,” Sato said, “just to have the opportunities to better myself, to better my education and to later on move into administration. But, one of my big dreams is to teach. I would like to go back and teach pathology to medical students, which is a big part of the education in medical school.”

Regardless of what she decides, Sato has the support of the folks who helped her along the way and were charmed by her in the process.

“Audrey was a most memorable person, advisee and student,” Bloebaum said. “I am unbelievably proud of her, one of my ‘adopted daughters.’ What an accomplishment to have been selected to the pathology residency at Walter Reed Hospital. I wish her the very best!” ■



Photo by Danny Meyer

Job Crunch SURVIVAL

by Jayna Phinney

In today's depressed job market, working professionals just as much as recent college graduates need to know the new rules for a successful job search because their economic futures could depend on it.

For better or worse, the Internet and social media have changed some of the parameters for a successful job search. What worked a decade or even five years ago can fall short in 2010. Today, an online presence may be just as important as your résumé. The newspaper classifieds, once the staple of the job search, have given way to Twitter alerts and a myriad of Web sites targeted to job seekers.

Just how competitive is it for current workers? Even in Texas, which has avoided the more serious problems that other states have faced, the statewide unemployment rate jumped from 6.4 percent at the beginning of 2009 to 8.3 percent in December, with seasonal adjustments, according to the Texas Workforce Commission. Many men and women who had jobs in 2009 are looking for work this year.

The outlook remains bleak for recent college grads as well. Employers surveyed for the National Association of Colleges and Employers' Job Outlook 2010 indicated that they expect to hire 7 percent fewer graduates during 2009-10 than they did in 2008-09.

However, don't toss up your hands in despair just yet. Career experts and people who have recently searched for a job can offer advice and strategies to help you be more competitive. No matter what line of work you are in or where you are in your career, you can take something away from their words.

Find Your Passion

If you lost your job recently, you may want to use the situation as an opportunity to reassess your career.

When you are first starting a career, you tend to focus on what other people want you to be, said Jenny Blake, who writes a blog for her Web site LifeAfterCollege.org and is a career development program manager at Google.

“You need to balance that with who you are and what you are passionate about,” she said.

One way to find work that you are passionate about is by job shadowing someone in your selected field, said Julie Ruthenbeck, director of ASU Career Development. You can learn a lot just by asking questions about the day-to-day tasks on the job.

Dr. Tom Badgett, professor of marketing and head of ASU’s Department of Management and Marketing, said a job shadowing experience taught him that he did not want to be a lawyer, and it saved him from going to law school to discover that.

“Knowing what you want to do is half the battle,” Badgett said. “You’ve got to dream the dream before it can come true.”

Work Without Pay

If you know what you want to do but are still struggling to find work, you have another option: work for free.

In his e-book *Recession-Proof Graduate*, Charlie Hoehn stresses the idea of free work. The concept entails approaching potential employers and offering to do a project for them without compensation.

Using this method, you can prove yourself to employers and possibly line yourself up for something more than the lowest job on the totem poll.

“I found work that, even if I never got paid, I would still continue doing because I enjoyed it,” Hoehn said via e-mail.

Offering to do work without pay in a competitive market also can be a great way to network, Badgett said. The experience will be your pay.

Network

Networking may sound like something that other people do, but now it is your turn.

“Most of the best jobs go to people with the best contacts,” Badgett said.

When it comes to calling upon your contacts, you should use everyone available to you, including your relatives or your friends’ relatives, said Adra Enos, an ASU career development assistant.

Enos recommends setting up informational interviews, just to help you make contacts. Do not wait for job postings.

Networking helped ASU graduate Adrienne Fortenberry land her job at MHMR of the Concho Valley. The sociology major now works as a case manager on a mobile crisis outreach team.

Her mother previously worked for a social services agency in San Angelo and had known several people at MHMR. Fortenberry’s mother asked her to set up an informational interview to meet face-to-face with some of the hiring personnel.

MHMR told Fortenberry that they weren’t hiring at that time, but they would let her know if any jobs opened up. It paid off. The agency hired her two months later.

Market Yourself

You know who you are better than anyone else, but when it comes to promoting yourself, a few strategies can go a long way.

Even if you don’t have job experience in your chosen field, you can word your résumé so that employers can distinguish transferable skills, Ruthenbeck said. And if you are not very tech-savvy, now is the time to develop some computer skills.

Many employers now ask for applicants to submit résumés and applications electronically. Enos advises that you follow the application requirements because you won’t win any points dropping it off in person. Further, leaving your application in someone else’s hands is a good way for it to get misplaced.

You can also take your computer skills one step further by creating an online presence through a blog or a Web site. In today’s job market, Hoehn said, employers will inevitably “Google” job candidates. By creating a Web presence, job candidates can bump down unfavorable photos or videos that may pop up in search results of their name.

“Blogging is your opportunity to have positive and professional results associated with your name in a Google search,” he said.



Adrienne Fortenberry

Hoehn recommends continuing the blog after landing a job because you never know what opportunities will develop.

“You’re actually putting your personal value on display by continuing your blog even after you get a job,” he said.

A Final Note

On the upside, the job slump won’t last forever. Baby boomers will begin retiring during the next 10 years, which will present opportunities of upward mobility for younger generations, Badgett said.

As difficult as it is, maintain your patience while being tenacious with your job search. Badgett said you can give yourself a boost by researching and acquiring the most in-demand job skills in your industry.

When you are pounding the pavement, keep in mind that you want to convey to employers that you are willing to take on new job responsibilities, Blake said.

“It’s kind of a badge of honor if you can make it through this,” Blake said of the job market downturn. “You will learn valuable job searching skills. And, it will only get better from here.” ■

Cultivating Roots

by Roy Ivey



Tim Gette

Tim Gette looked right at home standing amid the building blocks of Texas heritage.

The 1968 ASU graduate was showing visitors some of his favorite displays in the Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC), the 182,000-square-foot complex in the heart of San Antonio, just a stone's throw from the state's most revered historical shrine, the Alamo.

With a fully appointed chuck wagon behind him and a mounted Longhorn from John Wayne's herd looking on, the museum's executive director revealed the most gratifying part of his job.

"Seeing the response of the kids when they come through our exhibits is the best thing," Gette said.

He enjoys watching people of all ages get close to their roots and learn about the ethnic groups who shaped Texas. Those pioneers left threads of their lives woven into a tapestry of history now carefully preserved in the sprawling complex.

When he signed on with the museum in February of 2009, Gette accepted the challenge to protect those bits of bygone Texas, oversee their display and help educate the public on Texas' past.

After first visiting the ITC when it opened as part of the 1968 HemisFair, Gette reconnected with it through a challenge that he couldn't resist in the state he loves.

"The museum was virtually unchanged since the HemisFair," he said. "This is my opportunity to update the exhibits, and we are improving the programming here at the museum."

The Institute is part of the University of Texas at San Antonio, and Gette is charged with making the museum a top-notch facility as part of UTSA's overall plan to become a Tier 1 university.

"One of the changes we have made, which I feel is fairly significant," Gette said, "is in our dome show, which starts off with people saying 'I'm a Texan.' The people saying that used to be white men, but now they are men and women of all ethnic backgrounds speaking English, Spanish and German."

Photo by Danny Meyer

The museum hosted a traveling exhibit, "Race: Are We So Different?," through May 16, from the Science Museum of Minnesota. The exhibit focused not only on scientific and historic perspectives about race, but also on people's life experiences.

"The Institute of Texan Cultures was established to tell the stories of the many cultures that settled and established the state of Texas," Gette said. "This type of museum, dedicated to diverse cultures and people, had never been conceived before. Through the race exhibit, we continue the conversation on race and racism, which are still felt throughout the United States."

Another way Gette's museum advances Texas culture is by having people who lived Texas history record their experiences in live interviews.

"Oral history is something we do a lot of," he said. "We get people to come in or we go to them and record them. When those people are gone, their stories can't be told anymore."

Texans pride themselves on their heritage, but that pride isn't limited to his museum or the state, Gette said. He has traveled the world and heard it in the voices of Texans as they introduce themselves.

"If you go overseas and someone asks where you are from, if you are from anyplace else in the United States, you are going to say you're an American. If you are from Texas, you are going to say you are a Texan," he said.

Coming back to Texas and the largest storehouse of its ethnic heritage closed the circle on a career that started at ASU and led Gette around the world to some of its most exotic locations.

He began as a part-time reporter at the *San Angelo Standard-Times* in 1966 while attending ASU. After graduating in 1968, he taught school for a couple of years before returning for the second of four stops at the San Angelo newspaper.

"I had a dual major in journalism and history," Gette said. "I majored in journalism because, No. 1, I could get a job in jour-



nalism, and although I loved history, I didn't think I could get a job in it."

He has worked successfully in the history field, however, with positions at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, the Dallas Historical Society and the Sixth Floor Museum, which houses memorabilia from the Dallas assassination of John F. Kennedy. That museum is located in the former Texas Schoolbook Depository, where Lee Harvey Oswald fired the shot that killed President Kennedy in 1963.

"The Sixth Floor Museum wasn't intended to be a museum, but people kept coming," Gette said. "We had visitors taking taxis to the airport, stop in to look out the sixth-floor window and then go catch their planes."

Before his stint at the Sixth Floor Museum, Gette served as project director for a Soviet-era space exhibit in Fort Worth and oversaw the 80,000-square-foot Catherine the Great show at the Dallas Historical Society.

Besides his museum work, Gette's eclectic résumé includes stints as associate director of a creative arts theater and school; advertising and sales promotions manager with Bell Helicopter in Fort Worth and Tehran, Iran; and air intelligence specialist and wing historian in the U.S. Air Force.

While in the Air Force, Gette served in such diverse settings as Thailand, Blythville, Ark., and Omaha, Neb. Among his assignments was a tour as 97th Bombardment Wing historian at Blythville's Eaker Air Force Base.

More recently, he worked at the Dallas Museum of Natural History and the Virginia Museum of Natural History.

Although Gette wasn't born in Texas, he got here as quickly as he could.

"My dad was from Texas," he said. "He married my mother, who was from California, so I ended up being born there, but Texas was always home from the time I was a baby. I couldn't be born here, but I was raised a Texan."

As he was growing up, Gette also learned a valuable lesson the teacher in him still advocates: That which came before us can help guide us into the future.

"Go back to Darius and the great Persian kings to consider the fact there was once this great society that lies in ruins today," he said. "What caused societies to rise as great as they were and to crumble into just stones? History is something we can all learn from. That's a great mistake people make today. We don't look at what we did in the past before we take that next step." ■

from Under Center to Center Stage

by Dave Wester

Ned Cox has always lived his life in the spotlight.

A celebrated high school athlete at San Antonio's Roosevelt High School, the former Angelo State quarterback made the transition to the college game look easy. But, music was always his passion.

"It's so weird that people still remember me as a football player," said Cox, who now runs his own music studio back home in San Antonio. "I've never been one to bring up the past and talk about football, but others will and I indulge them."

People have talked about Cox, now 46, at Angelo State since he closed out his playing career as the Rams' all-time leading passer a quarter century ago.

A pass-first, run-second style quarterback for the Rams, Cox etched his name in the ASU record book on several occasions before finishing up in 1986. His 7,833 passing yards and 8,804 yards of total offense still stand as school records, though the former record could be in jeopardy this season when Josh Neiswander returns for his senior ASU season. Cox also ended his career as the all-time leader in total offense in the Lone Star Conference, but that record has since been broken. When he finished collegiate ball, no NCAA Division II player had ever taken as many snaps.

"I remember every game I played," Cox said. "We beat some Division I teams, but nothing compared to playing conference games. We really focused on those games, especially when we played Texas A&I," now known as Texas A&M-Kingsville.

He made his first appearance for ASU as a redshirt freshman, relieving junior starter Slade Sherrod, who suffered an injury in the second game of the 1983 season. The Rams lost the game to NCAA D-I foe Northwestern State, 30-22, but Cox started the following week. He led ASU to a 16-7 win over Cameron University and

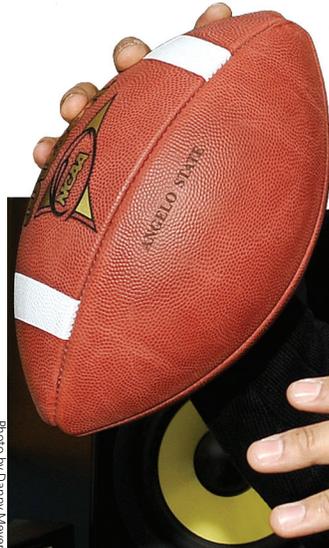


Photo by Danny Meyer

Ned Cox

went on to start 43 straight games at quarterback for ASU.

"I battled for the starting job that pre-season," Cox said, "but Slade was the backup the previous year and had the edge. When he got hurt, I was ready to step in and I never looked back. It was my job and I was going to keep it."

"Ned just had a knack for making plays," said Jerry Vandergriff, who coached the Rams from 1982-2004. "He was ready to play as a freshman and that was so unusual at that young age. You don't get a lot of four-year starters at quarterback. Just staying healthy for four years is an accomplishment."

Cox earned first-team All-LSC recognition in both his sophomore and junior seasons, going 8-3 and undefeated in the LSC in 1984, then 7-4 with a runner-up finish in league play in 1985. As a junior, Cox was a regional candidate for the prestigious Harlon Hill Trophy, the award given to the top football player in NCAA Division II.

"Ned's success came from his ability to keep a play alive," Vandergriff said. "He had the ability to run, but he had the pocket presence to feel any pressure and just make a play. He wasn't a real vocal player, but when he spoke, people listened."

When his career ended, Cox held 22 of the 25 ASU passing and total offense records. Included in those records was an amazing 475 yards in a game against Texas A&I in the final contest of his career. He also finished his eligibility with four LSC career records.

"I knew going into my last game that more records were on the line," Cox said. "But, that season didn't go the way we wanted it to go, so we just wanted to beat A&I. Looking back, breaking the single-game yardage record was nice, but I will never forget throwing five interceptions in the game."

The Rams fell to Texas A&I, 52-34, closing out a 6-5 season and Cox's career in 1986.

"My time at Angelo State will always be special to me," Cox said. "It was a great time in my life. To have the chance to play football and have the college experience was wonderful and I'll never forget it."

But with all of the success he found on the playing field, Cox could not wait to move from under center to center stage. When he was just 14, his parents bought him his first guitar. Music was where he found relaxation from the rigors of football and class.

"I played in bands in high school and continued while I was at ASU," Cox said. "I

started my current band when I left school and we've been together ever since. After I returned home, I got married, started a family and have a blessed life."

Cox's band, NDman (pronounced like 'in demand' without the last "d"), works out of San Antonio, but has made regional and national appearances over the past few years. Cox even made his way back to San Angelo as recently as last fall for a gig. He's primarily a bass player, but can hold his own on the guitar, drums and keyboard, something he does on a regular basis at his own recording studio, Probable Cause Studio, in north San Antonio.

"I spend my days as an insurance broker," Cox said. "But I love the music industry and am hoping soon to start my own record label."

He still finds time, however, to stay active as he plays basketball with some old friends twice a week. Once his son, Ned IV, was old enough to join his father, Cox would bring his son to the gym with him. It was obvious that athleticism ran in the family as the younger Cox, now 19, earned a basketball scholarship at NCAA D-I Evansville University. He made eight starts this past season as a true freshman for the Purple Aces and his father was quick to give him advice, benefitting from his own experience as a freshman starter.

"I tried to help him out and be there for him as much as I could," Cox said. "He's very humble and a great kid. We were so proud when he had a chance to play college basketball."

Cox and his wife, Pamela, also have two daughters, Tiffany, 28, and Cydni, 13. His oldest daughter is married to former Texas State University quarterback Barrick Nealy, currently with the Calgary Stampeders of the Canadian Football League.

Cox's record for career passing yards at ASU may be surpassed this fall after 24 years in the record book. Current Rams quarterback Neiswander enters his senior season with a chance to break Cox's most prestigious record. Neiswander needs 2,605 yards in his final campaign to take over the top spot for most career yards passing, but Cox won't be sad.

"Records are made to be broken," Cox said. "I wish the best of luck to Josh and the rest of the Rams this season." ■

Wool Meets Cotton

Home both to a major bowl game for seven decades and to one of the top interstate rivalries in college football since 1932, the Cotton Bowl on Sept. 11 will welcome the Angelo State Rams.

Angelo State will play Texas A&M-Commerce at 5 p.m. that Saturday in the historic venue as part of the third annual Harvey Martin Classic, an event started in 2008 by A&M-Commerce to honor one of the best football players in school and Lone Star Conference history.

"We are excited with the partnership with Texas A&M-Commerce for the Harvey Martin Classic in the Cotton Bowl, and for all the activities surrounding that event," said ASU Director of Athletics Kathleen Brasfield. "This is a great opportunity for former Rams and 'Belles in the area to get together and enjoy LSC football."

This will be the Rams' first appearance in the Cotton Bowl and their first game in the Metroplex since 1984.

"Almost a fourth of our players are from high schools within an hour of the Cotton Bowl," said ASU head football coach Dale Carr. "This will be a great chance for their high school coaches, families and friends to see them play."

"ASU athletics, band, ROTC, development office and alumni association are planning together to make it an eventful and memorable weekend," said Brasfield. "We hope our alums in the Dallas area will mark their calendars and that others will begin their travel plans for the Rams and Lions fun."

Details regarding ASU's Dallas road trip and Cotton Bowl appearance, including pre-game festivities, will be available at www.angelosports.com.

ASU's Cotton Bowl game is one of 10 contests set for the fall. The Rams open their 47th year of football Sept. 4, when they host Eastern New Mexico, one of five home games for ASU this fall. ■

2010 ASU Football Schedule

Sept. 4	Eastern New Mexico**	San Angelo Stadium	6 p.m.
Sept. 11	vs. Texas A&M-Commerce**	Dallas (Cotton Bowl)	5 p.m.
Sept. 25	West Texas A&M (Family Day)*	San Angelo Stadium	6 p.m.
Oct. 2	at Tarleton State*	Stephenville	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	Texas A&M-Kingsville*	San Angelo Stadium	6 p.m.
Oct. 16	at Midwestern State*	Wichita Falls	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	Incarnate Word (Homecoming)*	San Angelo Stadium	6 p.m.
Oct. 30	at Abilene Christian*	Abilene	2 p.m.
Nov. 6	at Southeastern Oklahoma**	Durant, Okla.	2 p.m.
Nov. 13	Central Oklahoma**	San Angelo Stadium	2 p.m.

* LSC South Division game

** LSC crossover game

Rams Build on Success

Angelo State head football coach Dale Carr signed 30 high school players during national signing day as the Rams benefited from their winning season last fall.

“We have likely over-signed this spring, but that’s a good thing,” said Carr, who will begin his sixth season at the helm of the Rams this fall. “We’ve got quite a balanced group of young men, nearly splitting the freshmen equally on both sides of the ball.”

Among the 30 freshmen signees, 15 newcomers will report this fall on defense, 12 on offense and three as “athletes” recruited for

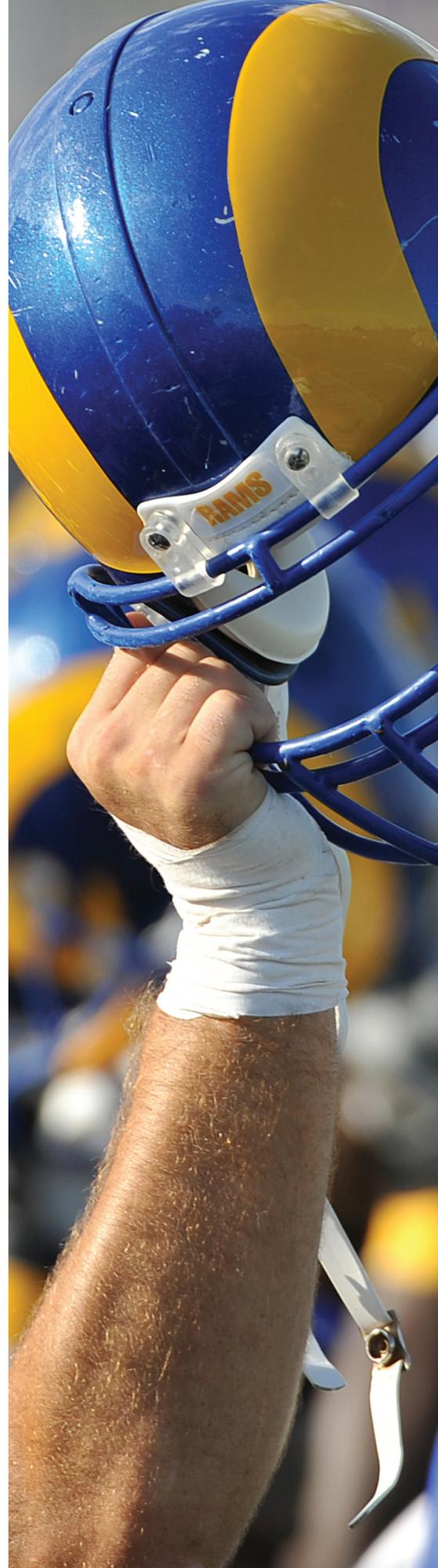
multiple positions. The Rams picked up six defensive backs, five linebackers and four defensive linemen on defense. On offense, ASU added six linemen, three wide receivers, two running backs and a tight end.

“Signing day was an exciting day for the Rams,” said Carr. “We felt that our recruiting efforts really paid off this spring and that our program is continuing to head in the right direction.”

The Rams, who finished 6-5 in 2009, open the 2010 season Sept. 4 against Eastern New Mexico in San Angelo Stadium. ■

2010 Angelo State High School Signees

Dakota Abernathy	6-2	210	DB	Weatherford (Weatherford)
Colton Barnes	6-0	290	OL	Bryan (Bryan)
Ryan Clapsaddle	5-11	170	DB	The Woodlands (The Woodlands)
Quinton Crow	5-11	225	LB	Austin (Lake Travis)
B.J. Davis	6-6	200	ATH	Sudan (Sudan)
Colt Drennan	6-5	215	DL	Boerne (Champion)
Ben Garcia	5-9	165	WR	McAllen (Memorial)
Mackenzie Hirt	5-10	175	ATH	Brady (Brady)
Colby Houston	6-2	335	OL	Red Oak (Red Oak)
Eric Hunsaker	6-0	220	LB	Schertz (Clemens)
James Hurd	6-2	195	WR	Boerne (Champion)
Paul Ives	6-2	275	OL	Garland (North Garland)
Steven Jackson	6-3	295	OL	The Colony (The Colony)
Alex James	6-0	185	DB	Deer Park (Deer Park)
Anthony Jenkins	6-3	200	TE	Killeen (Killeen)
Anthony Landry	6-3	295	OL	Houston (Bellaire)
Paul Mason	5-8	155	DB	Wichita Falls (Rider)
Dominique McCoy	5-11	195	ATH	Houston (South Houston)
Joshua Mullins	6-2	250	DL	Austin (Crockett)
Austin Otto	6-1	220	RB	Denton (Guyer)
Trevor Owens	6-0	200	LB	Monahans (Monahans)
Stuart Redding	5-11	220	LB	Keller (Central)
Jarred Ross	5-8	150	DB	Corinth (Lake Dallas)
Daniel Scott	6-3	240	DL	Decatur (Bridgeport)
Rush Seaver	6-1	210	LB	Lampasas (Lampasas)
Blake Smith	6-0	225	RB	Burleson (Burleson)
Lawrence Syon	6-0	160	DB	Houston (Bellaire)
Xavier Traylor	5-10	170	WR	Glenn Heights (DeSoto)
Jerrell Walters	6-2	285	OL	Spring (Spring)
Preston Wimberly	6-2	250	DL	Richardson (Berkner)





LaMarshall Corbett

Home Sweet Home

Just one game shy of a perfect home record this past season, the basketball Rams let their road woes keep them at home come NCAA Tournament time.

While the Rams made a third straight trip to the postseason Lone Star Conference Tournament, a 66-58 loss to Northeastern State in the opening round killed any chance of making the NCAA D-II national tournament as they did in 2009.

“This was a season that came down to five or six possessions,” said ASU head men’s basketball coach Fred Rike, who closed out his fourth year with the Rams. “If you look at some of our losses, there are a few possessions that, if they fall in our favor, we extend our season.”

ASU ended the season at 17-11, including an 11-1 home record.

“Honestly, I think this team was better than last year’s squad,” said Rike. “We were better in every statistical category. With one week to go in the regular season, we were still in the hunt for a division championship and one key road win would have likely secured us a trip to the NCAA Division II Tournament.”

The Rams’ 11-1 home record included a perfect 6-0 mark in LSC South Division play. Winning the program’s first division title in nearly a decade, though, came down to a road game at nationally ranked and defending conference champion Midwestern State in February.

Though ASU had pulled off an 84-76 upset of the Mustangs in January, handing them one of their two regular-season losses, the Rams could only force Midwestern State

– continued on page 43



Camille Perkins

Photos by Danny Meyer

'Belles Embrace Change

The Angelo State women’s basketball program is experiencing a spell of growing pains.

“Last year we changed our defense and this year we made significant changes to our offense,” said ASU head women’s basketball coach Sally Walling Brooks, who wrapped up her 10th year with the 'Belles in March.

“We have also evaluated our recruiting philosophy and we spent a lot of time in the preseason developing a team concept in everything we do,” she said. “I was not satisfied with just making the regional tournament year after year. My goal has always been to win a national championship, and I strongly believe that the changes we are making will get us there.”

With a young roster that included just three seniors, Brooks nearly led the 'Belles to a 10th straight appearance in the Lone Star Conference Tournament. ASU missed the playoffs by just one game, finishing fifth in the LSC’s South Division and ending the season with a 12-14 overall record.

“We have made a lot of positive changes for the program and I am proud of that, even though they didn’t produce wins this year,”

Brooks said. “Even though these changes did not produce a winning season this year, I strongly feel that we will see the positive results next year. Losing is never fun, easy or, quite frankly, acceptable, but I know we are doing the right things to get where we want to go.”

A bright spot for the 'Belles this spring was once again the play of junior guard Camille Perkins, who was honored as a first-team All-LSC South selection for the third straight season after scoring nearly 16 points per game. Perkins will enter her senior season ranked eighth all-time for the 'Belles with 1,299 career points and with her sights set on the program’s career scoring record.

“Camille has been the best player on our team for three years, and next year we will expect her to be the best player in the conference,” Brooks said.

Sophomore center Paige Weishuhn was named honorable mention All-LSC South and freshman guard Leah LeMaire was tabbed the league’s Freshman of the Year. This marked the second time in three seasons that a 'Belle has earned this honor. Perkins claimed the award in 2008. ■

Hall of Honor

2010 INDUCTEES

A Difference Maker

In the fall of 1978, Angelo State University stood at the pinnacle of the small college football world, thanks to Jim Hess and his Rams' national championship season.

As Rams' mentor from 1974-81, Hess finished his eight ASU years with a 65-23-3 overall record, six winning seasons and three straight trips to the NAIA playoffs. No doubt, he produced a résumé worthy of the first Rams football coach to be inducted into the Angelo State Athletic Hall of Honor.

"I've been very fortunate in my career to live a lot of the history of Angelo State," said long-time ASU football coach Jerry Vandergriff. "And, I've been fortunate to be around a lot of great coaches. Without a doubt, Jim is the best football coach I've ever known."

The memorable 1978 season was the crowning moment of Hess' 22-year head coaching career, as the Rams rolled through the regular season 11-0 and dominated their three playoff games, outscoring their opponents, 101-17.

"At that time, the NAIA was just as good as NCAA Division II," said Hess. "During the 1978 season, we were ranked number one in the Dunkel poll, which ranked all non-Division I colleges in the country. Not only did we win the national championship, we were the best small college football team in America that year."

While at ASU, Hess mentored eight All-Americans and 42 first team all-conference selections. The Rams had no fewer than two first team All-LSC picks each season under

Hess, including a school-record nine such honorees in 1978.

During the height of his tenure, Hess guided the Rams to a 19-game winning streak when they were almost unbeatable at home. His teams dominated at San Angelo Stadium, going 37-7-1 at the venue and claiming a program-record 23 straight home victories from 1977-81.

"I've been around a lot of good assistant coaches in my career," said Hess, "but none to the likes of what I was around at ASU. You're only as good as the people around you. This is a great honor, but it represents so many people that were around when I was at ASU."

Vandergriff said, "All his life, starting from being a player to the end of his career, Jim Hess was a difference maker. Every stop he made, including ASU, he was the difference."

A Success Story

Tim Howard left Angelo State with more points than any other Ram on the basketball court. He returned in 2005 to finish his degree and again this past January as the first men's basketball player selected for ASU's Athletic Hall of Honor.

From 1985-89, Howard scored a school-record 1,844 points and led the Rams to back-to-back Lone Star Conference championships, plus a pair of NCAA Division II regional berths. His work at ASU, however, remained unfinished until more than 15 years later when he earned his bachelor's degree in kinesiology.

Thanks to that degree and his commitment to getting it, Howard became the girls' basketball coach at Grape Creek High School, joining a long list of ASU graduates in the coaching profession.

"There are people at ASU who will have no idea how much respect I have for them," said Howard upon his induction. "I was encouraged to keep my nose to the grindstone and to 'get it done.' ASU gave me the opportunity to play the game I love, get a degree and have a place to call home."

After a freshman season hampered by injuries, Howard became a full-time starter for the Rams as a sophomore and a roundball phenomenon his third year on the team. As a junior, the Fort Worth native scored a Rams-record 728 points and led ASU to its first of two straight league titles and NCAA D-II appearances. Though an ankle injury limited his scoring as a senior, he still ended his career with better than 400 points more than any other Ram in the 45 years of the program.

"Tim set this place on fire," said Ed Messbarger, who coached the Rams from 1978-98. "As the leader of the best group of athletes that I have ever coached, he will be in our record book for many years to come."

In addition to his scoring title, Howard also holds ASU's career record for field goals made (690) and ranks second all-time in free throws made (586) and rebounds (629).

"This is a team award," said Howard of his induction. "No man can accomplish individual success in college basketball without great teammates."



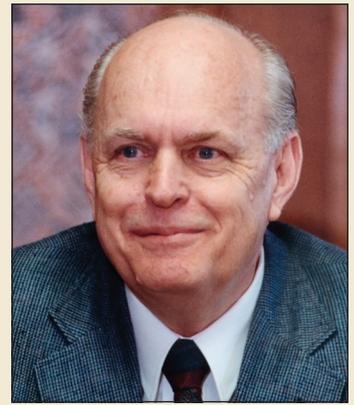
JIM HESS



TIM HOWARD



TRACY MORTON HASTINGS



LLOYD VINCENT

An 'Ever' Player

Tracy Morton Hastings was destined to play basketball at Angelo State University.

She was born on a morning when her father, Charles M. "Chuck" Morton, and the Rams basketball team had a game. Her mother, Shirley Morton, had captained the San Angelo College spirit squad. Tracy Morton grew up in an apartment complex at the current location of ASU's Center for Human Performance, a venue in which she would play every home game of her collegiate career.

With so strong a Rams and Rambelles lineage, it is only fitting that she would become the first women's basketball player inducted into the Angelo State Athletic Hall of Honor.

"I was probably born on center court," said Morton Hastings. "Basketball is a team sport, and there wouldn't be anything that I would have accomplished without my teammates. ASU has provided me with a great foundation, and I am truly honored to be inducted."

Named a starter by first-year 'Belle head coach Peggy Till during her very first collegiate practice, Morton Hastings went on to start every game from 1985-89, leading the 'Belles to four straight trips to the Lone Star Conference Tournament. A relentless rebounder, Morton Hastings became just the second 'Belle to record more than 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds. To this day, she ranks fifth all-time at ASU in scoring and second in rebounding.

"Rebounding was Tracy's mission on the court," said Till, who led the 'Belles from 1985-90. "In a game where scoring is

noticed most, our best player understood the value of a rebound."

For the past 16 seasons, Morton Hastings has taken the lessons she learned at ASU and shared her knowledge with the girls' basketball players at San Antonio's James Madison High School. She has amassed more than 340 career victories with the Mavericks, collecting three district titles and numerous coach-of-the-year honors.

"Her teammates loved her and, more importantly, they had great respect for her," said Till. "There are good, great and 'ever' players. You have to be good to be a collegiate athlete. Some prove to be great, but rare is the athlete that is considered one of the best ever. Tracy is an 'ever.'"

The Right Thing to Do

Dr. Lloyd Vincent served 27 years as president of Angelo State University, but his imprint on athletics will last for decades to come.

Upon his arrival in 1967, ASU was a fledgling four-year institution, just two years removed from the transition from a junior college. A decorated collegiate track athlete in his own right at Rice University, Vincent not only transformed Angelo State into one of the top regional institutions, but also built the foundation for a successful athletic program.

"Dad loved athletics," said his son, Drexel, upon the elder Vincent's posthumous enshrinement into the Angelo State Athletic Hall of Honor. "He was truly proud of not only the academic achievements of ASU students, but also their athletic achievements.

He understood what it took for an athlete to compete, to win and to also go to school."

Vincent made it a point that things were to be done "right" at ASU. With that philosophy, he kept Angelo State ahead of the curve in intercollegiate athletics, fostering integrity on and off the field and advocating equity in athletics. When women's sports were added in 1975, he ensured that all student-athletes were treated equally and that women's sports would grow.

"He had a mantra in his early years at ASU and it was a simple one," said Michael Ryan, former vice president and interim ASU president after Vincent's death in 1994. "He would say 'We're not going to do anything unless we can do it well.' He never believed that giving women a chance to participate in intercollegiate athletics and meeting Title IX requirements were drastic steps. They were just the right thing to do."

Vincent's legacy can be seen today in Rams and Rambelles teams that have expanded to 12 intercollegiate sports and annually compete on the national stage.

"If you seek a monument to Dr. Vincent," said Ryan, "just look around the ASU campus and all that we have available for students here. We stand in awe of all that he did and the foundation he left for all of us."

"He was a pioneer and a friend to women's athletics," said Kathleen Brasfield, ASU director of athletics. "He was a man who championed equality in sports for everyone. Putting him in our Hall of Honor is the right thing to do." ■

Elite



Trinidad Aguirre

Photo Courtesy of Verizon

Success in life can be achieved from even the humblest of beginnings.

Trinidad Aguirre, a 1985 ASU graduate, is a perfect example. The son of migrant workers, Aguirre has fashioned a tremendously successful career with Verizon and is now the telecom giant's south/west area president. In 2009, he was named one of the "100 Most Influential Hispanics in America" and one of the "25 Corporate Elite Hispanics" by *Hispanic Business* magazine.

"When I think of my humble beginnings and my parents having to quit school to support five boys, I knock on wood every day understanding that I am truly blessed," Aguirre said. "I did not imagine that one day I would be mentioned in the same breath as the great leaders of our country. I believe that returning to ASU to finish my degree gave me the belief that everything was possible."

Success, however, did not happen for Aguirre overnight. Drafted out of high school by the military, he chose the U.S. Navy so he could learn electronics. It took 10 years for him to return to San Angelo and use his G.I. Bill benefits to study computer science at ASU.

And, things did not get any easier then. Aguirre was the epitome of a non-traditional student. He was older than most of his classmates, was already working full time at Verizon (GTE at the time), and had already started a family. Luckily for him and his family, Aguirre thrived in the face of adversity.

"Those challenges provided me with the foundation needed to juggle many varied responsibilities while realizing the importance of each," Aguirre said. "Additionally, the support and room for growth given to me by my professors and employer served as the model by which I manage my staff to this day. I mentor many employees and share the importance of setting goals and living your dream."

"I can remember," he added, "many times my family and friends telling me to quit school or to tell the professor that I would complete an assignment the next day, so I could stay at a family function. I learned the meaning of sacrifice and being able to stand up as a man when you have to make tough decisions. Today, some of those nay-sayers tell me they wish they had listened to me instead of enjoying the party. The reward is great."

When he graduated from ASU with his computer science degree, Aguirre had already moved up from his starting position as central office technician at GTE to central office supervisor. The ensuing 23 years have seen him add a master's degree from the University of Dallas, advance through seven more promotions and move to the company's then-headquarters in Irving.

"Each position that I have held has presented me with an opportunity to grow and develop my talents," Aguirre said. "In many cases, I was able to discover capabilities within me that I didn't realize I had. For example, I have been blessed with an intuitive ability to recognize an individual's strengths. This has helped me to place folks in positions that bring out the best of their talents. When they shine, I shine."

Hispanic Business magazine editors think Aguirre shines enough to put him on their Top 100 list that also includes several members of President Obama's cabinet, a Supreme Court justice, an astronaut, a vice president of Walt Disney and baseball star Albert Pujols.

The other great success in Aguirre's life is his family. He and his wife, Marie, have four grown children, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. In what spare time he has, Aguirre enjoys photography, golfing and working on his ranch in Christoval. ■



Photo by Danny Meyer

Matt, Hodge and Kim Hunter

Home Again

You might say Kim Hamilton Hunter's college career began in kindergarten when she would accompany her parents from Devine to visit her older brother, Jeff Hamilton, who started attending Angelo State University in 1979.

"As a little girl," said Hunter, "everything about ASU was impressive. I would go back home after a weekend of visiting ASU and teach my friends the cheers I had learned while watching the ASU cheerleaders."

When it became time to make her college choice, Hunter followed her dream and her brother and older sister, Stacy Hamilton, to Angelo State. She went on to become ASU head cheerleader and recipient of a bachelor's degree in communication in 1999.

Now Hunter has returned to ASU, again to cheer and communicate, this time for the ASU Alumni Association, which welcomed her as the new executive director in January.

In announcing the appointment for an executive director to succeed Sande V. Harrison, Association President Brad L. Fly

said Hunter was selected from a pool of 40 applicants and four finalists.

"We are delighted to bring Kim Hunter on board to help shape the future of the Angelo State University Alumni Association," Fly said. "She has the people, management and programming skills to lead the association into the future and to enhance our support of ASU."

The appointment renews Hunter's longtime relationship with ASU.

"It is such an honor to come back to San Angelo and work for an organization that supports the university that I have loved since childhood," Hunter said. "I am excited to be able to represent my fellow alumni and I want them to know I am working hard for them to make the association the best it can be."

"I feel as alumni, we are an important group to keep the past alive and share those wonderful memories with the current and prospective students. We also must be a strong group that not only focuses on the past, but also on the present and the future of Angelo State University," she said.

Hunter and her husband, Matthew, who received his B.B.A. in 1999 from ASU, have lived for the past 10 years in Midland, where he is self-employed in sales of pipe and casing to the oil and gas industry. He is relocating his office to San Angelo, though he will keep his sales yard in Midland. The Hunters have a 21-month-old son, Hodge.

Hunter was involved in pharmaceutical sales for most of the decade since she left ASU. She worked as senior sales representative for Merck and Co. in the Vaccine Division over the past three years and for Eli Lilly and Co. in the Diabetes Care Division for the previous four years. Prior to that, she worked two years as a pharmaceutical sales representative for Organon Pharmaceuticals Inc. in the Specialty Division and for a year as a publishers representative for Pearson Education/Prentice Hall Publishing College Division.

"I have always enjoyed meeting other alumni and visiting with them about the university," Hunter said. "I also enjoy visiting with prospective students and sharing my thoughts and experiences. That is why this job is truly a dream job for me."

She wants prospective students to experience college as she did with the same endearing and enduring results that she dreamed about as a child.

"I fell in love with Angelo State University even more as a student," Hunter said. "I had many wonderful professors who encouraged me and made me feel like I was at home. I was a cheerleader for ASU, but I also felt like the professors were my cheerleaders. Even after graduating, if I ever needed a letter of reference or just advice, I could call some of my former professors and they would be willing to help out."

Now Hunter is returning the favor by helping ASU through the alumni association. ■



Looking Ahead

As she begins her tenure

as executive director of the Angelo State University Alumni Association, Kim Hunter offers some plans for former students.

Settling into her new job and responsibilities, Hunter said, "I have a great staff that is helping me with new ideas. We look forward to seeing some new faces and members in the alumni association."

She shared some thoughts on her vision for the future:

Networking: "The alumni association should be an organization which promotes networking among its members, whether it is for business purposes or job hunting."

Alumni Chapters: "We will encourage alumni chapters outside of San Angelo to organize and connect with alumni in their area, whether they are in larger cities or smaller communities. The alumni chapters could then be the contact between the university and potential recruits."

Family Orientation: "The association should have more events that are family friendly so parents of young children can get involved."

Children Participation: "I would like to start a kids club so alumni can sign their children or grandchildren up to be a part of the alumni association and get children interested in ASU at a young age."

Women's Programs: "I am in the planning stages and getting positive feedback on having a ladies luncheon where we raise money for scholarships."

Teamwork: "We are always looking for volunteers for our events and encourage anyone who is interested to come out and get involved." ■



Photo by Darryl Meyer

Sign of the Times

Those passing by the LeGrand Alumni and Visitors Center these days know what's going on thanks to an electronic sign donated by the alumni center's namesakes, Dr. Robert and Jean Ann LeGrand.

The 6x12-foot digital sign was installed on the southwest corner of center property where University Avenue intersects Jackson Street at the four-way stop. The LED sign is controlled wirelessly from the association offices inside the LeGrand Center, allowing staff to promote association activities and other functions to the public when renting the facilities.

"Once again by their generosity," said association Executive Director Kim Hunter, "the LeGrands have demonstrated their commitment to the ASU Alumni Association and their love of Angelo State University. We are delighted that the new sign will increase the visibility of the alumni association and its activities."

Hunter said the sign helped promote the association's first spring Ram Jam, which alumni sponsored April 9 before a Rams baseball doubleheader. The sign even helped announce the rain cancellation of the Ram Jam scheduled April 17 before a Rambelle softball twin bill.

"In the past," Hunter said, "we had to make our own signs, banners and posters and they were always at the mercy of the wind and the weather. Now, with the graphics capabilities, we are limited only by our imagination."

In addition to the LeGrand gift of \$50,900 to purchase the sign, Will Charlesworth of All About Signs and Graphics donated the company's services for the installation. The sign is mounted on an Austin stone pedestal, matching the bases of the major signage around the ASU campus and blending with the exterior of the alumni center. ■

CLASSnotes

Each issue of the *Angelo State University Magazine* will highlight selected alumni and then invite you to visit the Angelo State University Alumni Association Web site for the latest on your former classmates. To learn more about Angelo State alumni, visit asuexes.com. Better yet, see what your friends are up to and then update the site with news about you, your family and your accomplishments.

1972

Dave Edmiston has been named to the Board of Directors of the Texas Farm Bureau.

The third-generation rancher operates a cow/calf, wildlife and hay farm near Brady. Edmiston has served as both president and vice president of McCulloch County Farm Bureau and has served on various county and state Farm Bureau committees, including animal health, wildlife, resolutions and state affairs.

He and his wife, Peggy Scott Edmiston, have two grown daughters, Michelle and Celeste, and a grandson.

1981

Dr. Albert Reyes, who was featured in the spring issue of *Angelo State University Magazine*, has been elected the sixth president in the 131-year history of Buckner International.

As president of Buckner, Reyes will manage the organization's nearly \$100-million annual budget, while overseeing the daily operations of more than 1,300 employees worldwide through Buckner Children and Family Services' domestic and international ministries and Buckner Retirement Services' seven senior living communities in Texas.

A native of Corpus Christi, Reyes earned his Bachelor of Business Admin-

istration from ASU and both his Master of Divinity and his Doctor of Ministry from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He completed his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Andrews University in 2009.

1985

Rhonda R. (Gibson) Dane of Austin has taught special education students in the Austin area for more than 25 years. In addition to her bachelor's degree, she also earned a master's degree in special education in 1985 from ASU. In her spare time, she is involved in the welfare of animals and gardening.

1991

Alissa (Hambricht) Carter, gifted and talented teacher and assistant principal for La Mesa Elementary in Plainview, has been named the Outstanding Teacher of the Gifted in Region 17 by the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented.

The award honors one teacher from each region in Texas for outstanding service, contribution and commitment to gifted education.

Carter has been an educator for 19 years. In addition to her bachelor's degree from ASU, she holds a Master of Education from Wayland Baptist University.

She and her husband, Kevin, have a son, Blaine.

In Memoriam

Janna Elizabeth Boling, 27, registration assistant in the Registrar's Office, died Feb. 1. She was the daughter of Jaxine Boling, office coordinator in the Department of Art and Music.

Col. Ernest Eugene Felts, 56, Class of 1976, died Nov. 30. From 2002-04 Felts served as head of ASU's Aerospace Studies Department and commander of the university's Air Force ROTC Detachment 847. In 2008 he was named a Distinguished ROTC Alumnus by the ASU Alumni Association. A memorial scholarship in his name has been established through the ASU Foundation. Information on contributing to the endowment is available through the ASU Office of Development, ASU Station #11023, San Angelo, TX 76909, or development@angelo.edu.

Brandon Jones Clark, 36, Class of 1998, died Nov. 25 after a three-year battle with cancer. Clark had been head tennis coach and a teacher at Lake View High School since 2001. The Texas Tennis Coaches Association had earlier honored Clark with the first Brandon Clark Courage Award, which will be presented each year in his honor to a coach demonstrating Clark's courage. ■

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they cap their undergraduate programs with mandatory demonstrations of the skills they have developed.

“We usually have four to six seniors giving recitals a year,” said Dr. David Scott, head of the Art and Music Department. “One of the things they have to do before they student teach is to give at least a half-hour public performance of either a vocal or instrumental recital.”

“In April, our art seniors have a show with the best works from their portfolios,” he said. “They are graded on how their pieces look in the student gallery and how they present their work to their fellow students.”

The Art and Music Department also presents between 35 and 50 public concerts and recitals per semester.

“Every one of them, except for the FAME Concert and Plate Auction in March, is open to the public at no charge,” Scott said. “The only reason we charge admission to the FAME concert is because it is our scholarship fundraiser.”

ASU art and music students benefit from the FAME event with proceeds funding about 20 scholarships a year worth at least \$500 each.

The ASU Choir and the 40 top-performing musicians who comprise the Wind Ensemble also go off campus to perform

and show other students the possibilities of a music education.

“Those are the groups that go to area high schools,” Scott said. “Our students enjoy showing off for high school kids, particularly band kids, because they have an appreciation for the work that goes into music. Our students know they were like those kids three or four years ago, and know how much they’ve advanced.”

Becoming an accomplished musician is not all fun and games, but Hoffman thinks it is worth the work.

“The hardest thing about learning music is all the juries and tests you have to pass to keep going in the major,” she said. “They are really stressful and it takes lots of practice, late-night group studying and support from friends, family and professors. When it’s all over and you realize you passed, it’s the greatest feeling in the world.”

Following the cultural path has become a lifelong passion for Hoffman, who plans to stay with it.

“I hope to always teach music to someone,” she said. “When I retire from public school, I hope to still give lessons in my home. I really love seeing the spark in children’s eyes when they have learned something new or finally understand something that they didn’t before. I don’t even consider it work. It’s a bonus that I will get paid to do what I love.” ■

Home Sweet Home – continued from page 35

to overtime in Wichita Falls, before falling, 105-100. ASU rebounded three days later with a 90-81 home win over Tarleton State to close the regular season and earn a No. 3 seed in the LSC Tournament.

“We’ve made the Junell Center a tough place to come in and win,” said Rike. “We need to find a way to win close road games early in the year. Every game matters when a postseason berth is on the line. The saying is ‘if it’s not broke, don’t fix it’. Well, I don’t think we’re broken. We just need to take care of business early in the season so we are not in a must-win situation when we get to February.”

Junior guard LaMarshall Corbett had one of the best seasons in Rams history, averaging 23.4 points per game and becoming the first ASU player to earn LSC South Player of

the Year honors in 16 years. His total of 656 points ranks as the third-highest season in Rams history, and he set the program record for made free throws with 203. At season’s end, he was named to the Daktronics All-America second team, the only LSC player named an All-American and one of only two juniors nationally to make the squad.

“LaMarshall is one of the best players in the country and will likely be a preseason All-American for us next season,” said Rike. “He is as good as any player that I have ever coached, and we’re looking forward to him leading us back to the postseason next year.”

Senior guard Stavon Williams joined Corbett as an All-LSC South first team pick while senior forward Johnny Barnes was a second team selection for the Rams. ■

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