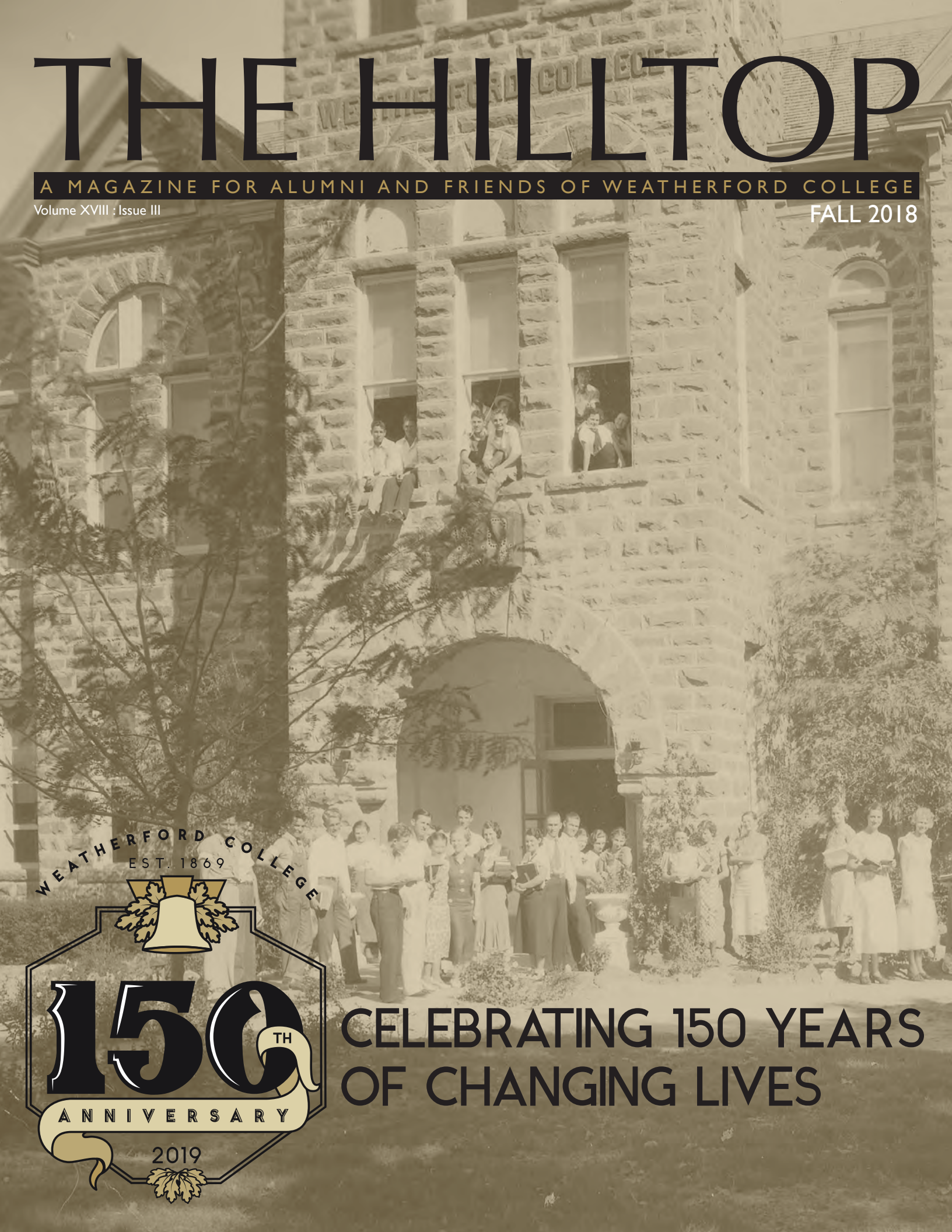


THE HILLTOP

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

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FALL 2018



WEATHERFORD COLLEGE
EST. 1869



CELEBRATING 150 YEARS
OF CHANGING LIVES

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The 2018-19 academic year is off to a great start with another official record enrollment of 6,407 students. Our parking lots, classrooms and student support facilities are at or near capacity at the Weatherford campus. WC Wise County is also growing. However, the real story is not record enrollment. The real story is that, through unprecedented collaboration between faculty and administration, 36 additional small sections were consolidated resulting in a cost savings of \$89,252. We collaboratively improved the overall financial position of the college and transitioned to a strategic growth model. This transition will

help us grow the Weatherford College system in an even more fiscally responsible manner.

Several activities and events have recently occurred or are currently ongoing this fall at Weatherford College. WC team member Debbie Lipok was recently honored with the 2018 Presidential Service Award for her exceptional attitude and service to the college. Former Coyote baseball player Ryan Brasier was recently called up from Triple-A to the major leagues to play for the Boston Red Sox. A campus beautification committee has been formed to further beautify our campuses prior to our sesquicentennial year. These are just a few examples of the many great things that are happening at WC.

Excitement continues to build around our 2019 sesquicentennial celebration. It is going to be a truly amazing year! Our 150th celebrations will begin in January with the sesquicentennial kick-off reception followed by many other events every month of 2019, including the Inaugural Weatherford College Piano Competition and Festival. This will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to celebrate the rich cultural history of Weatherford College.

I was recently in the Doss Student Center and admired a 1934 cardigan sweater that was framed and displayed on the wall. While admiring the old black and gold sweater, the idea came to me to put out a call for Weatherford College memorabilia. If you personally possess or know someone who would be willing to loan or donate WC memorabilia to the college during our sesquicentennial year, please contact Vice President Brent Baker. We have a unique cultural history that is going to be incredibly fun to share with the broader community.

Get ready...very bright days for Weatherford College lie just ahead!

Tod Allen Farmer

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1880s



WC CELEBRATES 150 YEARS OF CHANGING LIVES

SESQUICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT 2019

by Crystal Woerly

Weatherford College celebrates 150 years of changing lives in 2019.

To prepare for this monumental occasion, a committee of faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners has been meeting for the past year to plan celebratory events for the sesquicentennial. Katie Edwards, Director of Creative and Graphic Services, spearheads the committee.

“I have been looking forward to preparing for WC’s 150th anniversary celebration for the past 10 years, and it has been exciting and overwhelming in equal turn,” Edwards said. “It has been an amazing experience to work with members of the community,

alumni, faculty and staff across WC’s campuses to celebrate and mark this once-in-a-lifetime event.”

Marking this historic occasion, WC alumnus Jon Vandagriff has crafted the text for a pictorial history book telling the story of WC back to its inception in 1869. Edwards, along with other college staff, combed through countless photos to include in the book.

“The process of going through and digging all this stuff up was really fascinating,” Vandagriff said. “I knew a lot of the history, but there were ins and outs I didn’t know about. It impressed me that the college has

lasted this long. There were a lot of years in the beginning where they could have just folded up and gone away.”

Vandagriff was able to draw connections and clear up historical information related to the college by cross-referencing Parker County history he had gathered for previous local history books.

“I can’t [personally] go back quite as far as the beginning of the college,” he joked, “but I remember when this was just an old rocky hill. I think this book is important and will help people appreciate the college. It’s been a real exciting process.”

continues with WC 150th on page 5.

MEMORIES



DO YOU KNOW...

If you have any information about this photo, please send a note to Katie Edwards at 225 College Park Drive, Weatherford, TX, 76086, or an email to kedwards@wc.edu.

LAST ISSUE'S DO YOU KNOW...

The 1929 Weatherford College Glee Club.



FRIENDS WE'LL MISS

Donald Autry, 86, of Azle, passed away July 7.

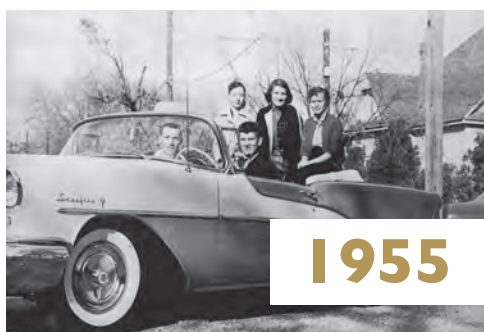
Morton "Marty" Gray III, 59, of River Oaks, passed away July 16.

Henry Howard, 86, of Georgetown, passed away July 18.

Garrett Hull, 40, of Fort Worth, passed away September 14. Class of 1997.

Burkie Thornton, 91, of Palo Pinto, passed away July 2. Class of 1944.

Carol Linehan Patak, 61, passed away July 29, 2017. Class of 1976.



Organizers are planning for the book to be unveiled at a 150th anniversary kickoff reception scheduled for 4 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, in Texas Hall of the Alkek Fine Arts Center. This celebration will signal the start of the year-long celebration along with campus tours, a historic photo show, great food and live music.

Edwards is also curating a historical photo show which will be on display in Texas Hall through March 18.

“These photos are a portal to WC’s past, to see how students lived, dressed, studied and played; it really emphasizes that we are all a part of the same shared history of WC,” she said. “I hope students, faculty and staff walk away knowing they are a part of something special, a community of peers, past and present, that have had similar struggles and joy. And I hope alumni and

community members enjoy reliving those moments with them.”

Other events scheduled for 2019 include on-campus birthday parties for current students, a family picnic for alumni and WC employees, Pioneer Week activities for the community and students, and departmental reunions for alumni.

“Our 150th year is the perfect time to reconnect with classmates,” said Brent Baker, WC vice president of institutional advancement. “We hope to help facilitate several reunions of affinity groups—sports teams, fine arts groups, student clubs, etc.—because many times that’s where the strongest connections are made.”

In order to help support WC’s year-long sesquicentennial celebration in 2019, the WC Foundation is offering donors the chance to engrave messages on bricks in the Roy and Jeanne Grogan Historic Plaza on

the Weatherford campus. The initial slate of bricks will be permanently positioned between the Old Main bell and the original campus archway.

More information on special events, the brick campaign and the WC history book can be found at www.WC150.com. While on the website, visit the memories tab to read and watch memories of alumni and share your memories of WC.

“The excitement surrounding the 2019 sesquicentennial celebration at Weatherford College continues to build,” said WC President Dr. Tod Allen Farmer. “Ideas for events to commemorate the first 150 years of Weatherford College history continue to be developed and refined. The broader WC community has really embraced the idea of the sesquicentennial year celebrations. It is going to be an amazing year!”

WEATHERFORD COLLEGE AROUND CAMPUS



1. Lori Gouge, WC Physical Sciences Department chair, led a group of adventurous students on a trip to Big Bend National Park this past summer. The class counted as both a physical education and geology credit.

2. The WC Collegiate Future Farmers of America chapter and Agriculture Club participated in the Texas Collegiate FFA Convention in Fort Worth in July and came away with several prestigious awards. Michael Hanson, a WC sophomore from Bellevue, won the Prepared Public Speaking Contest. Jess Brockman, a sophomore from Weatherford, was on the first place Quiz Bowl team where students answered questions on animal science, wildlife management, agronomy, horticulture, agricultural mechanics, agricultural economics and FFA history. Sophomore Elise Swanson, also from Weatherford, placed 3rd in job interview.

3. WC President Dr. Tod Allen Farmer gave a moving motivational speech during his President's Address to faculty and staff at the start

of the Fall 2018 semester centering on the concept that Weatherford College changes lives. "The faculty and staff of Weatherford College are the spark that ignites the flame of hope in our students," he said. "Hope for a better life. Hope for a better tomorrow. Hope to realize the American dream. Weatherford College changes lives."

4. Hundreds of students enjoyed the fall semester campus cookout on Sept. 18 at the Memorial Plaza. The event is a joint effort of the Office of Student Life, the campus police, cafeteria staff and CBRE.

5. Students actively participated in a faculty and staff panel discussion of the U.S. Constitution and social media on Sept. 18. The discussion included the limitations of the First Amendment on social media platforms, the use of Twitter by the President of the United States and the echo chamber many people create for themselves online.

6. Students were welcomed to the college the week of Aug. 27 with Welcome Week. Activities included a rock scavenger hunt, a bowling



5.



6a.



7.



6b.



8.



9.

night at Film Alley, a caricature artist, free food and T-shirts, and information booths from various campus clubs and organizations.

7. The Parker County Women's and Newcomers Club recently donated \$10,000 to the Weatherford College Foundation. Since 2000, the club has given more than \$80,000 to support scholarships at the college. Pictured are Bobbi Westendorf, Beth Batista, Donna Caudle and WC Foundation Executive Director Brent Baker.

8. The Communications and Fine Arts Department expanded their theatrical offerings this year by producing a play during the summer. "Rapunzel: The Bratty Little Princess," an interactive children's show, had a three-weekend run in the Alkek Fine Arts Center.

9. Patty Boyette (pictured, right) retired from WC this fall after 19 years of service in the Student Services Office. Joining Patty at her retirement party were WC retirees Joyce Benthall and Arthur Stockstill.

LIPOK RECOGNIZED WITH FIRST WC PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD



Debbie Lipok was presented with the first-ever Weatherford College Presidential Service Award by WC President Dr. Tod Allen Farmer in August.

Lipok is a custodian with CBRE, WC's facilities maintenance vendor.

During a highly motivational presidential address kick-starting the 2018-19 academic year, Farmer recapped his experiences from his first summer as president which included a listening tour across the college's campuses and departments.

"Not only did I listen to Debbie's positive attitude when she spoke, I also watched what her actions said," Farmer said. "At the Taste of Parker County event, Debbie was working feverishly to change the heavy trash bags in the heat. All the time she was doing the dirty work with a smile on her face and with a positive attitude. Later in the summer, on an extremely hot day, I saw Debbie washing all of the exterior windows of the Graber Athletic Center with great care.

"Debbie's valued work contributions are only surpassed by her exceptional attitude. Debbie, I want you to know that you've inspired me."

Lipok was overwhelmed with emotion when she was called on stage to receive the award.

"I was so proud of everyone listening to their stories," Lipok said. "Then my picture comes up and tears started streaming and I started shaking. It was very overwhelming. When the president called me up on stage I don't remember what happened."

But the best part of her day was after she left the college campus to visit her mother who recently suffered her third stroke.

"I showed her my award and she held me with her one arm [that has mobility]," Lipok said. "Mom said she was so proud she got to be there for that moment."

The theme running through all of the stories Farmer shared from his listening tour was "Weatherford College changes lives."

"The faculty and staff of Weatherford College are the spark that ignites the flame of hope in our students," he said. "Hope for a better life. Hope for a better tomorrow. Hope to realize the American dream. Weatherford College changes lives." 📧



CLASS NOTES

Dr. Richard and Pat Bowers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July. Richard retired in 2016 after 47 years of service to WC as a faculty member and as vice president emeritus.

Briana Brooks ('14) has been hired as head girls basketball coach at Wichita Falls High School. Brooks was a two-time NJCAA All-American as a WC Lady Coyote.

Chris Joslin was hired in May as the head football coach and athletic director for Coahoma ISD. Chris is a 1993 graduate of Jacksboro High School and earned his teaching certification from WC in 2004.

Josh Long is now a school resource officer with the Springtown Police Department in the Springtown ISD. Josh is a graduate of WC's Law Enforcement Academy.

Shannon McNiel ('96) has been appointed president and chief operating officer of Tom's Urban, a fast-growing restaurant chain based in Denver. Shannon studied criminal justice at WC in the mid-1990s.

Monica Olivas won the 2018 Elementary Teacher of the Year Award in the Ector County Independent School District. Monica teaches fourth grade math at Milam Magnet Elementary School in Odessa.

Tom and Jane Pritchard celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on June 2. Tom is a previous WC Alumnus of the Year Award recipient and a member of the WC Foundation Board of Directors.

At the 98th annual Weatherford Chamber of Commerce Banquet in October, former WC student **Donna Dickinson** won the Athena Award for community service and the advancement of women, **Mark Riebe** ('74) won the **James H. Doss** Award for leadership in philanthropy and former WC guitar instructor **Raymond George** was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year.

THANK YOU

to the following donors who gave recent gifts to the WC Foundation (as of September 24, 2018)

ADN Class of 2018
Larry Applewhite
Dr. Arleen Atkins
Lella F. Austin Estate
Brent and Elizabeth Baker
Baker's Ribs
Mildred Beard
Ben E. Keith
Karen Benson
Karla Bevel
Dr. Joe and Evelyn Birmingham
William Black III
Velda Sue Boardman
Donna Boone
Dr. Richard and Pat Bowers
Jeff and Jennifer Boyd
Dr. Velda Boyd
Paula Brashear
Elissa Braswell
Wanda Brian
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Myron and Kay Cole
Sam Coody
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Mike's Westside Rental
Cheryl Miller
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Lela and Butch Morris
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Michelle Owens
Parker County Hospital District
Parker County Women's and Newcomers Club
Paul and Courtney Paschall

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Dr. Mike and Avalon White
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WHS Class of 1967
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Jim Bob Williams
Sammie Gay and Robert Williams
Kathy Williams
Gail Wright
Mack and Gloria Young

SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING FOR WC'S 150TH AT WC150.COM



BRICKS

Go online to purchase a brick what will be in the heart of the Grogan Historic Plaza, which includes WC's iconic 1869 bell and the archway from "Old Main." Include your name or the name of a loved one in this permanent remembrance of our college history!

MEMORIES

Go online to read or watch alumni remembrances of their time at WC. Make sure you leave a memory too!

ROPES AND THE RED SOX



The WC Athletic Department enjoyed two significant highlights this summer—one in college rodeo's top event and the other in Major League Baseball.

In June, team ropers Kirby Blankenship and Lane Cooper took 10th place at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. The pair qualified for the prestigious event after winning the Southwest Region regular season championship. It was

the 14th consecutive season in which WC was represented in Casper.

Then, in July, a former Coyote made it back to the big leagues. The Boston Red Sox called up relief pitcher Ryan Brasier from Triple-A to play for one of the best teams in the majors. At press time, Brasier had an impressive 1.74 ERA with 28 strikeouts and only 6 walks for Boston. Brasier was drafted into professional baseball after playing for the Coyotes in 2007.

Pictured top: Kirby Blankenship, Kelly Valdez, Lane Cooper and Coach Johnny Emmons represented WC in Casper, Wyoming at the College National Finals this summer. Pictured left: A Red Sox jersey awaited former Coyote Ryan Brasier when he was called up to the major leagues in July.

WC FOUNDATION AWARDS HARTNETT AWARD TO DR. MIKE WHITE

The Weatherford College Foundation has awarded Dr. Mike White with its most prestigious honor, the Carlos Hartnett Award. Named for WC's first development officer, the award goes to an individual that encourages others to give from their abundance to benefit the college and its students.

White served as the foundation's president from 2006 to 2014. He led the foundation through a restructuring process whereby community volunteers now lead the organization rather than college administrators. His leadership paid off, with over \$1,000,000 in scholarships awarded

during his years as president as well as the successful completion of a \$2.4 million capital campaign.

"Dr. Mike White is a fantastic leader and was a wonderful president for the Weatherford College Foundation," said Bob Glenn, current foundation president. "He guided us to a new era of the foundation, and we're happy to honor him with this award."

Past recipients of the Carlos Hartnett Award include Jack Borden, Dr. Jim Boyd, Jean Bryan, Marjorie Kimbrough Dome, Dorothy Doss, Jerry Durant, Roy Eaton, Roy Grogan, I.B. Hand, Eddie Kidd, Mark Littleton and Joe Tison.



2018-2019 COYOTE BASKETBALL

HOME SCHEDULE

#22 GRACE DANIELS

#12 KE'LYN ADAMS

11.3.18 HOUSTON CC // 2 & 4 P.M.
 11.6.18 PARIS // W - 5:30 P.M.
 11.7.18 PAUL QUINN & LOYALTY PREP // 5 & 7 P.M.
 11.10.18 HOWARD // 2 & 4 P.M.
 11.15.18 PAUL QUINN & TRIBULATION PREP // 5 P.M.

11.26.18 TX WESLEYAN JV // M - 5 P.M.
 11.27.18 ETBU JV // M - 7 P.M.
 11.28.18 TRIBULATION PREP // M - 7 P.M.
 12.1.18 DALLAS DIESEL // W - 2 P.M.
 12.4.18 TX WESLEYAN JV // M - 3:30 P.M.

12.4.18 AUSTRALIA // W - 5:30 P.M.
 12.6.18 MOUNTAIN VIEW // 3 & 5 P.M.
 12.7.18 DALLAS DIESEL // W - 8 P.M.
 12.8.18 RICHLAND // NOON & 2 P.M.
 12.12.18 LOYALTY PREP // M - 7 P.M.

CONFERENCE PLAY



1.7.19
 SW CHRISTIAN
 COLLEGE
 W/5:30 P.M.
 M/7:30 P.M.



1.12.19
 TEMPLE
 COLLEGE
 W/2 P.M.
 M/4 P.M.



1.16.19
 CISCO
 COLLEGE
 W/6 P.M.



1.21.19
 RANGER
 COLLEGE
 W/5:30 P.M.
 M/7:30 P.M.



1.26.19
 HILL
 COLLEGE
 W/2 P.M.
 M/4 P.M.



2.16.19
 GRAYSON
 COLLEGE
 W/2 P.M.
 M/4 P.M.



2.20.19
 COLLIN
 COLLEGE
 W/5:30 P.M.
 M/7:30 P.M.



2.27.19
 MCLENNAN COMM.
 COLLEGE
 W/5:30 P.M.
 M/7:30 P.M.



WCATHLETICS.COM // WC.EDU // WC150.COM

#WCCOYOTEPRIDE



WEATHERFORD COLLEGE
FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

FALL FINE ARTS
EVENTS

music

TEXANA DUO

Classical Guitar & Flute Concert | October 26 at 7:30 p.m.

FALL JAZZ BAND CONCERT

November 2 at 7:30 p.m.

TIGHT HARMONIES & LOOSE GROOVES

Choir Concert | November 6 at 7:30 p.m.

STRINGS & SONGS

Harpist & Vocal Concert | November 9 at 7:30 p.m.

SELECTIONS FROM HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

By the Parker County Community Choir | December 10 at 7:30 p.m.

drama

"HAMLET" BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

November 15, 16, 17 at 7:30 p.m.

November 18 at 2 p.m.

art

STUDENT ART RECEPTION

November 12 at 6 p.m.