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cover photo by Vasthi Armendariz
SAPPING BATH TAPS FOR GAS CASH

DO THE BENEFITS OF THE TRANS-PECOS PIPELINE OUTWEIGH THE DESTRUCTION?
SHOULD WE STOP WHAT WE'RE DOING AND LOOK CONCERNED?
WHO LIKES NATURE, ANYWAY?

We’re dividing like the state itself, splitting in two for that aqua-green pipe.

Some rally for it. More jobs will be created, they say, by the tube intended to shuttle 1.4 billion cubic feet of liquid natural gas to Mexico every day beneath our legs. Stacked green in the sun, the color of money—maybe you’ve seen the stacks.

Like a jade field alien to the desert, piles of cylinders near Fort Stockton wait for assembly, the go-ahead for the day they can be buried four feet in the ground. And who can stop them?

The Trans-Pecos Pipeline is already underway despite widespread protest from citizens and private landowners. It will traverse 143 miles of the Lone Star State, starting at the Waha Hub near Coyanosa and ending west of Presidio at the Rio Grande River; from there, it will carry the liquid natural gas across the border in a section of pipe built under the river.

Opponents attest that it will take at least 500 million gallons of water to construct the pipeline, and that’s a conservative estimate—more likely is the staggering figure of 1.5 billion gallons, the equivalent of 21,428,571 bathtubs worth of water.

And we live in the desert.

Just let that soak in.

Arguments against the pipeline also factor in the light pollution, ecological damage, and invasion of privately-owned land (justified, of course, by the powers of eminent domain) that this project would cause by the time of its completion in April 2017. Others fear an explosion, bringing up the fact that medical facilities in the Big Bend Region are few and far between if the gas line happened to ignite. But...isn’t the construction already beginning? What can we do?

Watching “The Good, the Bad, and the Pipeline” would be a great way to start. This play, currently in the works by Sul Ross senior Matt Hardison (with help from transfer student Renee Sheldon) is a “satirical, historical comedy” slated for release in May. An incredible amount of research is going into this production, and you’ll learn a lot not only about the pipeline, but about Texas history, too.

On Thursday, March 24, a meeting took place right here on campus to talk about the pipeline. With about a dozen students in attendance, the informative discussion was the first of many student-led meetings to be held in the outdoor classroom, the ring of stone tables in front of the Warnock Science Building, every Thursday at 6 pm. The Big Bend Conservation Alliance also has meetings every Monday at 6 pm in the Alpine Public Library.

However, when it comes right down to it, there’s a lot of work to be done if we want to stop or even re-route the pipeline.

“We can raise awareness all we want out here, but the president is the only one who can actually veto the bill,” Sheldon points out.

If that’s the case, perhaps the best course of action would be to go to the source and contact the White House directly. The real problem, then, isn’t a lack of resources or not knowing where to start—it’s getting people to care.

But the water’s still flowing strong from the taps, and there’s plenty to go around. Why should we ever leave the bath?

To learn more about the pipeline project, check out these websites:
Bigbendconservationalliance.org (written by the folks trying to prevent the pipeline)
Transpecospipelinefacts.com (written by the company that’s building the pipeline)
NEW SOLAR GENERATOR POWERS STEM FIELD RESEARCH

BY MARINA ESCAMILLA REPORTER

Thanks to a new portable solar generator added to the Sul Ross State Adelante Tejas program, remote science field work and research has become much easier for students.

On most camping trips, the convenience or luxury of electricity is not available. This can be particularly frustrating if you are trying to conduct field research and need information immediately.

The new solar generator has not seen action for field study yet, but it was used to provide power for a demonstration on GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Day to power a drone.

During the “Demonstration of the Inspire Quad-Copter for 3D Photogrammetry and Aerial Photography in Field Science” on GIS Day, Dr. Kevin Urbanczyk controlled a quad-copter drone equipped with an HD video camera.

“The only way we could have [powered] this was using the solar generator,” said Jonas Ball, Data Tracking Specialist.

For the demonstration, a large flatscreen TV was set up in the campus mall area near the University Center, and the video from the drone was relayed straight to the TV.

This portable generator is equipped with two solar panels that absorb power from the sun and allow the generator to function. The generator displays the wattage used and has several types of outlets to allow power through, like traditional wall outlets, USB connectors, and even a car lighter plug. This can help field researchers use any number of different devices. Ball believes this to be a “very smart investment for the school.” For school organizations and science field trips that require spending days, or even weeks, without access to electricity, the generator can make a big difference in the way students camp.

Adelante Tejas is a joint program with San Antonio College that makes it easier for students in STEM classes to transfer full credits to Sul Ross. The grant program is currently funded through September of this year and has supplied Sul Ross with high-tech equipment for an analytical lab.

SUL ROSS LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY TO BEGIN JULY 6

The 2016 Sul Ross State University Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) will begin its 18-week Basic Peace Officer program Wednesday, July 6. A new three-phase application process is now in effect.

Dr. Mark Rubin, Sul Ross assistant professor of Criminal Justice and LEA operations officer, explained that the first phase of the process requires the initial application, including a personal history statement, so the academy can conduct background checks.

Phase two, which is a conditional acceptance, requires a completed medical and drug testing evaluation (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) L2 form, requiring M.D. or D.O. certification) and psychological evaluation (L3 form, requiring psychologist or psychiatrist certification). Per TCOLE rules, applicants may only use the academy’s approved psychologist for the L-3 certification.

Phase two also requires applicants who wish to take courses through the academy for academic credit to be fully admitted to Sul Ross. Up to 21 semester credit hours of undergraduate coursework is offered within the LEA curriculum.

Phase three is full admission into the LEA. Rubin noted that on-campus housing is available, and the academy is fully funded through the Texas Veterans Administration for military veterans.

“Veterans may also be eligible for additional stipends through the VA, and Texas Workforce Commission grants are available. Cadets who are enrolled in academic classes are eligible for financial aid for the coursework,” Rubin said. “In short, there are a number of funding options available.”

LEA director Dr. Robert Hunter, who is also an associate professor of Criminal Justice and chair of the Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Department, said that the academy has enjoyed a high placement rate for graduating cadets.

“Since its founding in 1982, the Sul Ross Law Enforcement Academy has proven to be very successful in training cadets who have gone on to serve long and distinguished careers in law enforcement,” Hunter said.

Presently, 822 former Sul Ross LEA cadets are currently licensed by TCOLE. The total includes 144 commissioned by the Texas Department of Public Safety including five Texas Rangers, 39 game wardens, 21 elected constables, and four elected sheriffs.

For more information or an application, contact Arleene Pearson, 432-837-8016 or Dr. Rubin, mrubin@sulross.edu.
Spring Carnival
Student Organization Fundraiser

Sul Ross student organizations should contact Campus Activities to sign up for a booth.

Thursday, April 7th
4:30 - 6:30 pm
On The Mall
Prizes
Food
Games
Open to the Community

For more information, contact Campus Activities at 432-837-8191
GET A JOB!

SPRING CAREER FAIR HAPPENS WEDNESDAY

If you’re questioning your future after Sul Ross, consider taking in the Spring Career Fair next week.

The Spring Career Fair will be held Wednesday, April 6, 10 am-2 pm in the Espino Conference Center, Morgan University Center. The event is sponsored by Career Services and Testing.

Visitors are encouraged to bring resumes and will be able to investigate job markets, meet with recruiters, explore different business resources and apply for available positions. Appropriate business attire is recommended. A best-dressed professional contest will be held.

Businesses and organizations who will be represented at the Career Fair include: U.S. Border Patrol, University of Texas El Paso, Texas A&M Forest Service, FBI, Dallas Police Department, Starbucks, U.S. Army Recruiting, USDA-Texas Farm Service Agency, Big Bend National Park, Grand Companions Humane Society, Midland Police Department, Marathon ISD, Fort Stockton ISD, Star Pest Control and Goodwill Staffing Solutions.

For questions and more information, contact Jan Rueb, 432-837-8178 or jrueb@sulross.edu.
KSRU SEEKING PROGRAM SPONSORS

The campus radio station, KSRU, has extra time slots available for programs, and invites student clubs and organizations to put their own spin on a radio show by sponsoring one of the time slots.

The time slots are not for sale, according to Fabiola Muniz, Radio Club president and KSRU station manager.

“We are simply asking for donations in exchange for radio broadcast time,” she said.

“We will dedicate a slot for your club or organization and play music your club wishes,” Muniz said. “We will also announce any news, fund-raisers or whatever your club or organization wants to publicize.”

Any groups that are interested should contact the Radio Club at ksruradio@gmail.com.

Music donations are also being accepted.

BY BIANCA MORENO REPORTER

Netflix has been around for quite a while and has featured many classic movies, top-trending shows, and even new shows that we don’t quite know how we feel about. There may be some shows on Netflix that many people don’t know about, as well as new ones we haven’t seen or heard of.

For example, *Psych*. *Psych* is not about pranking people (not that much), but about the son of a cop who has a special ability, or so he says. *Psych* features Shawn Spencer and his best friend Gus as they go around the Santa Barbara area solving cases with the police department. Although they themselves are not cops, they have convinced the police department that Shawn is psychic. How do you fool an entire police force? Shawn uses his special gift he learned as a young boy from his cop father, who taught him to be observant. Whether walking into a restaurant or down the street, his father taught him to observe everything. Shawn is able to walk into a room and in the span of about two minutes, he can close his eyes and envision that room, detail by detail—down to the number of and description of each hat.

This show is an excellent example of how unobservant we are. There are so many things going on around us, you’ll wonder what you’ve bypassed.

Now, while *Psych* has been around a while, Netflix has released a new show that will surely catch your attention. A drama, *The Returned*, follows a group of families who lost their children in a horrible school bus accident. These parents are trying to cope; they’re attending their grief group; and they’re hoping for a better tomorrow. But once they start making progress, something strange occurs. One of the deceased children comes back, with no memory of what happened and no recollection of the accident. This unexplained phenomenon begins to happen to all other families, and no one is certain of what to do.

*The Returned* is a heart-touching tearjerker that will fill you with sympathy, suspense and wonder.
NIGHTMARES, SKETCHBOOKS & SOBBING
GAMING TECHNOLOGY CLUB ASKS STUDENTS TO TEST VIDEO GAMES

BY RAINEY MILLER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Three valiant animals—a cat in a ninja suit, a rabbit dressed as a soldier, and a bear outfitted with medieval armor—prepared to defend a sleeping child, fighting off bad dreams to ensure a good night’s rest. That was the final concept, anyway; the video game was still in its infancy, and consisted of nothing but moving squares on a flat plane.

That didn’t make it any less fun to play. “Project Bear Knight” is the Gaming Technology Club’s Senior Capstone Project. A group effort, this addictive tower defense style game was brought to life by Johnathon William Hand, David Wehmeyer, Jonathan Maldonado and Vincent Parras, and was open to the public for testing March 2 and 3. Three video games were tested during the course of the week, allowing people to review them and spot any glitches that could have been overlooked.

During one session, Akane (a heroine from “Project Synergy,” the brainchild of Parras, Elizabeth Kneeskern, Jesus Guerrero, Lance Goarin, Shawn Templin and Dakoata Tyson) jumped upward with her fist raised, and after a moment, it became apparent that gravity had flown out the window—she wasn’t coming back down. It was a minor bug in an otherwise beautiful system, a game aptly described by Parras as “a cross between ‘Super Mario’ and ‘Street Fighter,’” in which an artist gets trapped in her sketchbook. And now that it had been played, it could be perfected.

Clearly there was no lack of creativity from the game designers, no tired or overused plots; in Hand’s “Project Cry Baby,” for example, the goal was to think happy thoughts and not cry in front of your friends. The game ended with the phrase, “You successfully distracted yourself!” which felt rather relatable, embodying what may as well be the motto of college life.

All three projects were still in development at the time of testing, but they’re well on their way to becoming finished products. They should be released on Steam, an online video game marketplace for PCs, around May. In the meantime, try your best to avoid nightmares, sketchbooks and sobbing—they just might get the best of you.
As a senior at Sul Ross, Hannah Hand has been active on campus with Collegiate FFA along with the Alpine community in the Alpine Volunteer Fire Department. As a part of these two organizations, Hand feels as though she has given back to the community during her time here in Alpine.

Hand is originally from Loop, Texas, and decided to come to Sul Ross because she heard that there was a good Animal Science program. Hand went to a high school where her graduating class had a total of 11 students, so she liked that Sul Ross had thesmall-school feel as well; it’s what she is used to.

“Also, they had just started up the new gaming technology degree and that is what my twin brother is interested in, so it worked out great for the both of us to come out here together,” she said.

Hand is an Animal Science Agricultural Education major. She chose this degree because she was very involved in her ag classes in high school and loved every minute of it.

“What better way to spend the rest of my life than doing something I have always loved?” Hand said.

Once she graduates, she plans to become an ag teacher and work on her master’s degree in Biology Conservation while she is teaching.

Hand’s favorite Sul Ross memory is when she was taking a small engines class. She was paired with her best friend for a project and they were the only ones to take their engine completely apart, tune it, put it all back together, and start it on the first try! They were quite proud of themselves.

“I think we thought we were natural mechanics after that day!” Hand said.

SULLY CAMPUS GETS NEW STATUE—
The Big Bend Area Law Enforcement Officers Association (BBALEOA) are sponsoring a memorial statue located in the Sul Ross mall. The BBALEOA has hosted a memorial ceremony to honor the area’s fallen officers at Sul Ross each year for the past seven years. The life-sized riderless horse statue will stand atop a five-foot-tall stone base. The names of approximately 200 fallen officers will be engraved on the stones. The statue will be located between the Museum of the Big Bend and the Francois Fine Arts building. The statue should be installed in time for the eighth annual memorial ceremony this May.

Artist rendering by Curtis Fort
‘THE MISER’ THROW A SERIES OF CURVE BALLS

BY MARINA ESCAMILLA

The Sul Ross Theatre Program performed Molière’s timeless classic, “The Miser,” directed by professor of theatre Gregory M. Schwab, Feb. 25-Mar. 6. An interactive performance was delivered by the theatre department. Molière provided a story that could be told in many forms; this performance graced us with faded denim, big hair and bad attitudes.

Fernando Powers, as Harpagon, delivered a strong performance for a stingy, dramatic old man in the 1980s Hamptons. Often losing his cool with the stress of his millions hidden on his property, he displays his insanity by openly having discussions with the audience. His two children, Clint and Élise, each in love, have a hard time settling him down long enough to tell him their news, and that’s when the story begins.

The story is a series of curve balls; you’re rooting for love and you’re hit with despair. Those who were lucky enough to catch the show understood the conflict that Clint (David Joshua Martinez) was going through. Clint is in love with a beautiful girl, and recites a grand speech to his sister, pulling the question from the audience and Élise herself (Elizabeth Watson). As luck would have it, we discover that Harpagon already believes that Mariane, the object of Clint’s affections, will be his own bride.

The twisted sequence of events continues into the second act where we’re introduced to the full cast and reach the resolution, but not before another surprise unites a long-lost family over Harpagon’s misfortune of being robbed. The messy series has a happy ending in favor of love.

This play was enjoyed by hundreds of audience members for both weekends. A performance that had the town talking about it at the local coffee shop, Molière not only gave us a timeless classic, but Sul Ross’ adaptation perfectly exemplified that.
MAHAFFEY, POWERS TOP CONTENDERS FOR NIRA SOUTHWEST HONORS

Sul Ross State’s Kody Mahaffey and Sam Powers remain among the leading point-getters in several categories of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association’s Southwest Region. Sul Ross ranks sixth in the men’s team standings.

Mahaffey is second in calf roping with 535 points and sixth in steer wrestling with 240, only 100 points from third place. His 775 total points place him second in all-around competition to Clarendon JC’s Wyatt Casper (885).

Powers continues to lead Southwest Region steer wrestlers with 465 points, a 55-point lead on the second-place competitor, Odessa College’s Jake Trujillo. Sul Ross freshman Kayne Partin stands 16th in steer wrestling with 100 points.

At the Odessa College Rodeo Feb. 25-27, Powers qualified for the short round in two events, calf roping and steer wrestling. He placed sixth in the long round of calf roping (10.8 seconds), and sixth in both short round and sixth in average. In steer wrestling, Powers was second in the long round (4.5), and fifth in the short round, then split fourth/fifth in average.

Mahaffey placed ninth in the calf roping long round (12.2 seconds), then had a time of 9.3 in the short round to split second/third. He finished third in average.

At the Ranger College Rodeo in Brownwood March 17-19, Mahaffey placed second in the calf roping long round, and despite breaking the barrier in the short round, finished sixth in average. In steer wrestling, he split 10/11 in the long round, won the short round in a time of 5.1 seconds and finished third in average.

Partin placed seventh in the steer wrestling long round, then his time of 5.6 placed him second in the short round and second in average.

Coach Jacob Gernentz’ men’s team has 1,350 points, with three rodeos remaining. Tarleton State University leads with 3,068.33, but just 720 points separate the second through sixth-place teams. Western Texas College (2,070); Weatherford College (1,620); West Texas A&M University (1,595); and New Mexico Junior College (1,410) are ranked second through fifth, respectively.

Remaining competition is at the Western Texas Rodeo in Snyder this weekend; at Howard College, Big Spring, April 7-9; and at Tarleton State, Stephenville, April 21-23.

“Kody has a very strong chance of qualifying for the National College finals in two events if he continues to have a strong presence,” said Gernentz. “If he wins the all-around, he will be able to compete in the finals in both events.

“If everyone continues to perform at the level of success they have been having in their events, we may just pull off a top-three finish, something that has not been done in a long time,” Gernentz added. “The entire team has been working very hard this year and it has been apparent by the results.”

The women’s team, with just four members, have accumulated 15 points, from Bailey Burch in breakaway roping.

“All team members have been working extremely hard this year, but things have just not gone their way, be it broken barriers or 11th–place finishes,” said Gernentz. “I am very proud of the dedication and effort they have put forth.”

For more information, contact Gernentz, 432-837-8240 or jgernentz@sulross.edu. Follow rodeo on Facebook at Sul Ross State University Rodeo Club.
Trappings weekend will begin at the Museum of the Big Bend with an opportunity for an exclusive view of the Trappings exhibition at the Thursday, April 14 preview party. Tickets are $50 and include a party at the Historic Holland Hotel.

On Friday, April 15, education demonstrations will be presented on the Sul Ross State University campus. Western art expert and author, Michael Duty, will present "Following the Money: Cost, Price and Value in the Art World," followed by "What Makes a Good Painting," presented by award winning western artist, Edgar Sotelo. Based on his presentation, Sotelo will provide a live painting demonstration. The demo will be available for purchase.

Friday evening, April 15, the museum will host the Trappings of Texas grand opening exhibit, sale and reception. This event has widely been held as one of the “Best Events in the Big Bend.” Buyers will have the opportunity to place their ballots in boxes next to their chosen works of art for a chance to purchase. Music, food, beer and wine will be served in true West Texas style. Tickets are $50 per person.

Saturday, April 16 events will begin at the chuck wagon breakfast and blacksmithing demonstration. Gary Dunshee, co-owner of Big Bend Saddlery, will host the breakfast at 8 a.m. at the Big Bend Saddlery shop on Highway 90 West in Alpine. During the breakfast, Wilson Capron and Buddy Knight will demonstrate "Blacksmithing in Our Western Culture." The renowned artists will demonstrate the art of the blacksmith by creating work from wrought iron or steel by forging the metal with hammer and anvil to the desired shape.

The Trappings of Texas Ranch Round-Up, hosted by the historic Meriwether Ranch, concludes opening weekend activities on Saturday evening. The legendary cuisine of the award-winning chuck wagon cook, Lonnie Rodriguez of the WR Ranch, will be served. The event will include cocktails, music and dinner. Tickets are $125 per person and all proceeds will benefit the Museum of the Big Bend.

The Museum of the Big Bend is located on the Sul Ross campus. Museum hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays, 1-5 pm. Admission and parking are free; donations are always welcome.

To purchase tickets and for more information, contact maggie.rumbelow@sulross.edu or call 432-837-8143. Visit us on Facebook or online at www.museumofthebend.com.
Sanchez received a B.A. in Communication (2005) from Sul Ross and a M.A. in Journalism (2007) from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. Since 2009, she has also served as a retention specialist/advisor in the Lobo Den, a retention specialist in Student Support Services, coordinator of Recruiting, and administrator of the Access and Achievement Scholarship program.

“Sometimes students don’t know where to start in thinking about life after graduation, and McNair provides undergraduate students the opportunity to work one-on-one with faculty mentors and conduct research in their field of interest to greatly expand their knowledge base and experience level,” said Sanchez.

“I can’t wait to work with the returning McNair participants and those who are just now applying for this summer’s program. The McNair program is a journey of educational and personal growth that allows students to see there are great possibilities beyond graduation, some of which the students may never have imagined were possible.”

The Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program is designed to encourage first generation, low-income students and minority undergraduates to consider careers in college teaching as well as prepare for doctoral study. Students who participate in the program are provided with research opportunities and faculty mentors.

Named in honor of the astronaut who died in the 1986 space-shuttle explosion, the program was established at Sul Ross in November 2007. It is funded through the Department of Education’s TRIO programs. McNair students receive a stipend of $2,000 and three semester credit hours (during the first summer session) for completed research projects. In addition to the on-campus McNair-Tafoya Symposium, students are encouraged to present their findings at state and national conferences.

Since its Sul Ross inception, the program has netted high returns. Nearly 80 percent of all McNair Program graduates have gone on to graduate school. Nearly 90 percent of those enrolled in graduate school have either earned master’s degrees or are still enrolled.

Until a renovation of office space is completed in Briscoe Administration Building, Sanchez will maintain her office in Francois Fine Arts Building, Room 202.

For more information, contact Sanchez, 432-837-8019 or dvargas@sulross.edu.
TAVITAS RESIGNS AS WOMEN’S BASKETBALL COACH

Aaron Tavitas has announced he will be stepping down as head women's basketball coach at Sul Ross State University effective at the end of the spring 2016 semester.

Tavitas said he plans to spend more time with his wife and children who currently reside in El Paso.

He recently completed his second season as women’s head basketball coach. During his first season (2014-15) in Alpine, Tavitas led his squad to the most wins in four years.

The Lady Lobos earned two post-season honors, Desare Allen, American Southwest Conference Freshman of the Year and Ashley Ousley, an Honorable Mention All-Conference player in 2014-15.

Following Tavitas’s second season as head coach, Sul Ross earned its second straight Freshman of the Year Award with Tomball native Kenya Miles while Jonette Jackson was listed to the ASC All Freshman Team.

Tavitas, who earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Telecommunications from Texas Tech in 1998, coached both boys’ and girls’ basketball at his alma mater, St. Gerard High School in San Antonio before becoming Head Coach and Assistant Coordinator of Student Leadership at San Antonio College.

A native of San Antonio, Tavitas was a forward for St. Gerard as they won the Texas Catholic Interscholastic League championship in 1993. He also played football, and was a defensive back at Texas A&M-Kingsville for two seasons before an injury ended his playing career and he transferred to Texas Tech.

At SAC, he served as the head men’s basketball coach for three years. His 2008-09 team went 24-4 overall and 11-1 in conference play, and Tavitas was named Coach of the Year as his team won both the conference regular season and tournament championships. The next season, SAC was 23-4 overall and 11-2 in conference play, and his team finished as the conference runner-up. In two seasons, his teams earned seven All-Conference berths, and sent four players on to play at NCAA and NAIA universities.

Tavitas then served as a graduate assistant for the 2010-11 Sul Ross State University men’s basketball team under former head coach Greg Wright, earning a Master’s Degree in Physical Education. He and Wright became acquainted when the Lobos recruited several of his players.

He then moved on to Canutillo High School in El Paso, serving as an assistant boys’ basketball coach. Canutillo advanced to the area championship for only the second time in school history, while the junior varsity team went 63-15 in the last three seasons.

“We appreciate the two years of service Aaron has given in getting the women’s basketball program back to a competitive level,” said Sul Ross director of athletics Bobby Mesker. “We will now begin a nationwide search to find the best candidate possible to continue the ladies’ progress.”
MEN’S BASEBALL WINS 2 OF 3 FROM MCMURRY AT KOKERNOT

The Lobos returned to Kokernot Field March 18-19 to win an American Southwest Conference series against McMurry University. Sul Ross won 25-10 and 7-5 before losing the nightcap of Saturday’s (March 19) doubleheader 13-11.

Coach Bobby Mesker’s team exploded for 30 hits in the Friday night slugfest. Chris York cracked two home runs while Johnny Campos and Wesley Moss also went deep. Phillip Russell and Trent Pearson joined York with four hits apiece.

The Lobos built leads of 6-0, 14-4 and 22-6 in cruising to victory. Ely Gallego raised his mound record to 4-2, working five and one-third innings for the victory.

Sul Ross used two hits each from Jonathan Bigley, York and Russell to edge the Warhawks in Saturday’s (March 19) first game, then lost an 11-4 lead when McMurry used an eight-run eighth to win the second contest.

In the first game, the Lobos used an error and a two-run squeeze bunt by Jace Jenkins for a 3-1 edge in the second. They rallied from a 5-3 deficit in the sixth on Bigley’s double and Connor Griffith’s single to tie the score. Campos’ two-run double later in the frame provided the eventual winning margin.

Coleman Ramsey took the loss in relief.

The following day, Sul Ross slammed 12 hits and Justin Vajgert pitched six solid innings to defeat Wisconsin-Superior 9-6. The winners used a three-run third and a four-run sixth to overcome deficits of 2-1 and 6-5.

Jonathan Bigley, Smith and Russell drove in runs in the fourth, while Gallego socked a three-run double and scored on Almager’s two-bagger in the sixth. Moss added an RBI hit in the third and David Gonzalez had a sacrifice fly in the fifth. Moss and Almager each contributed three hits in as many at-bats.

In the second game, Augsburg College overpowered the Lobos 20-2 to conclude tournament play.
SUL ROSS NINE WINS SERIES AT MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR

A 14-inning, 8-7 win Friday (March 25) gave the Lobos a 2-1 series win over the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor at Belton.

Sul Ross broke a 5-5 tie with three runs in the top of the 14th, then held off the Cru in the bottom of the frame.

The teams split a pair Thursday (March 24), with UMHB winning the opener 2-1 and the Lobos gaining a 7-3 triumph in the nightcap. Ely Gallego went the distance to raise his record to 5-2, while Phillip Russell had two hits. Gallego contributed an RBI double.

Coach Bobby Mesker’s team is 13-11, 6-3 in ASC play.

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After battling Howard Payne University March 11 and 12 at home, then Hardin-Simmons University March 17 and 18 in Abilene, the Sul Ross women’s softball team lost both three-game series.

The losses were not due to lack of trying, as the Lady Lobos got hits and made plays, but just fell short on the scoreboard.

The Sul Ross team couldn’t catch a break at Abilene’s Lobo Field March 24 and 25, losing all three to Belhaven University in a sweep: 0-8, 3-8, 3-12.

The ladies played a doubleheader Thursday, March 30, on their home turf, but scores weren’t available at presstime.

This weekend finds the Sul Ross team in Longview where they are playing a three-game series against LeTourneau University. Their next home games are April 8 and 9 when the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor comes to Alpine.
Sul Ross men’s tennis went up against Our Lady of the Lake University March 10 in Midland and ended the contest in an 8-1 loss.

The following day, also in Midland, the men took on the New Mexico Military Institute with the same outcome as the Lobos walked away licking their wounds, scoring only five points total in five games.

Also in Midland, the women’s tennis team tried their hand against North Central Texas College March 10, Texas Wesleyan University March 11, and New Mexico Military Institute March 12. Their outcome was the same as the men’s as the Lady Lobos lost all three contests.

BY STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER CASTILLO
SPORTS EDITOR

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Freshman Javier Garcia at Student Support Services’ car wash fundraiser last weekend. Photo by Susanna Mendez

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