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Chinati Foundation seeks Exhibition Assistants

The Chinati Foundation is hiring part-time Exhibition Assistants. Exhibition Assistants work in the museum’s exhibition spaces. They are available to visitors to answer questions and provide information and ensure the safety of the artwork.

Shifts are available Wednesday through Sunday, from 12:00pm-3:00pm, 3:00pm-5:00pm and 12:00pm-5:00pm, with additional hours available during museum events. Compensation is $13 per hour. Please email a cover letter and résumé to visitorservice@chinati.org.

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Need a ride? Give us a call!
Missing student 4-5
New librarians 6-7
‘The Christians’ 8
Tuition increase 9
Emergency plan 9
Lobo Days 10
Depression 12
Open Care 13
Runaway Death Star 14
Comic Con 15
Sports 16-18
The search for Zuzu: 10/12-10/30

By Andrea Bode
Reporter

A little more than a month after the Alpine High School shooting, our small town has been shaken by yet another tragedy.

Twenty-one-year-old Sul Ross student Zuzu Verk was reported missing Friday, Oct. 14. She was last seen by her boyfriend, Robert Fabian, in the early morning hours of Wednesday, Oct. 12. Friends and classmates became concerned when Verk did not attend class to complete a midterm on Wednesday, despite attending a study group the night before.

A search for Verk was organized by the Alpine Police Department on Sunday, Oct. 16. About 100 people, more than half of them SRSU faculty and students, gathered at the Alpine Fire Department. From there, volunteers were debriefed with as much information available, instructed on what kinds of objects to look for, and split into groups to search different areas of Alpine. The search led to the discovery of several items, including a cell phone, which may have belonged to the missing student.

The following week, the reward for Verk's safe return or information leading to her whereabouts increased exponentially, from $7,500 to $100,000 by the end of the week. Several law enforcement and search-and-rescue agencies were brought in to Alpine to help locate Verk, including the FBI, Border Patrol, and Equusearch. APD held a press conference Friday, Oct. 21, exactly a week after Verk was reported missing, to urge anyone with information on her whereabouts to come forward. Verk's father Glen, her mother Lori, and her older brother Miles begged her boyfriend to cooperate with the police in the investigation, saying, "Robert, if you love Zuzu as much as you say you do and have told me over and over, you will come down here and you will help the police bring my sister home."

Fabian, previously a person of interest, was officially declared a suspect Wednesday, Oct. 26, two weeks after Verk was last seen.

Several prayer vigils have been held in the Alpine community and on the Sul Ross campus, drawing large crowds.

Several campus organizations, including the Rotaract Club, Open Care Club, Student Support Services and the Student Government Association, held a bake sale with all proceeds benefiting the Verk family, APD and Texas Equusearch. The bake sale raised over $1,200 in less than four hours.

As of Sunday, Oct. 30, Verk is still missing.

Anyone with any information, no matter how small it may seem, is urged to contact the Alpine Police Department. The entire community of Sul Ross and Alpine is continuing to hold on to the hope that she will be found safe and return home soon.
$100,000.00 REWARD

UPDATED REWARD 10/21/2016

$100,000 reward for information leading to the whereabouts or safe return of missing SRSU student Zuzu Verk.

Zuzu has been missing since Wednesday October 12, 2016. Please call Alpine Police Department at 432-837-3486 with information.
New librarians are here to help

By Magaly De Leon
Reporter

Sul Ross State University has added several considerable projects—just this year—that make the university great. With the first phase of the Campus Access Project finished, a new lighted and turfed recreational field for all, and generous donations from alumni that led to the installation of new turf in Jackson Field.

We’ve also welcomed new faculty and staff members who help shape our university community. More in particular, Sul Ross has gained two new librarians at Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library.

Suyu Dong and Betsy Evans, Systems and Discovery Services Librarians, have joined the Sul Ross library staff and both are eager to provide students and the community the help that they need. Whether it’s exploring for a good read on campus or how to cite sources correctly for a paper, Dong and Evans are the people to go to.

Before coming to Alpine, Evans lived in Austin where she attended the University of Texas and then the University of North Texas, specifically library school.

“When I was an undergrad, I used to go too the library for fun. UT has a really big library on campus and I would fill up a thermos full of coffee and walk around the stacks some nights,” she said.

Dong was born in China and attended the University of Maryland, majoring in library science. Shortly after that she went on to receive her master’s in finance at London. Dong previously worked in Beijing for a security company before coming to Alpine.

“I always liked libraries,” she said. “As you can imagine, in China the information involvement is different compared to the United States and even the United Kingdom. Because of that, I really enjoyed the freedom in information that both countries had.”

Throughout the past years, the university library has gone through changes that involve the participation of the university and community. For future goals Evans said, “I want some feedback from students and see what they want from the library. I definitely want to start hosting some activities in the evening for the people who live on campus and for those who want to use the library for more than just studying.”

The university library is a strong advocate for the online-library system and Dong said, “I do hope to promote automation about our inter-library system so that we will be capable of receiving more requests and serve more patrons. Since we are in such a remote place, we don’t have many patrons that physically come and visit us, so I want our online system to become more powerful in ways that it can help reach out to those who are not close and are in other cities or states. It is also important for us to allow equal access to our distance-learning students.”

This new staff change at the university library brings much excitement for what’s to come in the future. Suyu Dong and Betsy Evans are here to help students and share their love for the library. Don’t forget to send them any feedback and recommendation for what you want to see the library host.
Left: Suyu Dong
Right: Betsy Evans
Photos by Magaly De Leon
Sul Ross’ opening production held for KCACTF regional festival consideration

The Sul Ross theatre production of *The Christians*, directed by Marjie Scott, assistant professor of Theatre and Communication, has been entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACFT).

The aims of this national theatre education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre production. Each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACFT representative, and participating level productions are eligible for an invitation to the KCACFT regional festival.

On Oct. 22, *The Christians* was attended by two KCACFT respondents, Dean Nolen, assistant professor of Acting from Texas Tech University, and Ross Fleming, associate professor of Theatre from University of Texas, El Paso.

The response was extremely positive, and the Sul Ross’ production of *The Christians* is currently “held” for consideration for invitation to the Regional Festival, which is a great honor.

The cast of *The Christians* includes Jason Roman, Jonathan Fields, Gabrielle Rule, Alyssa Longoria, Cory Hill, Dona Roman, Diff Torres, Demontrel Childress, Chinasa Okorocha, Marcelino Velasquez, Malyssa Reed, Michael Amerson, Benjamin Stringer and Aracely Guerrero.

The cast and crew of the Sul Ross theatre department’s production of *The Christians* hope to travel to and perform at the KCACFT regional festival. Photo by Gunner Gardner.
Tuition rates could go up for fall 2017

By Gunner Gardner
Co-Editor

Sul Ross State University President Dr. Bill Kibler held public hearings Oct. 21 and Oct. 25 to discuss the proposed designated tuition increase.

The proposal is increase in designated tuition by $7 per credit hour will be used to help pay for faculty and staff pay raises as well as student financial aid. This means that the designated tuition rate for Sul Ross students would be go from $140 per semester credit hour to $147, resulting in a $126 total increase for students taking 15 hours in a long semester. The increase is estimated to be approximately 3.24 percent.

The generated revenue from the tuition increase would be roughly $289,000, assuming Sul Ross maintains its current enrollment rates. Of that total, 85 percent ($245,000) will be used for pay increases for faculty and staff, while the remaining 15 percent ($43,000) will be used for financial aid.

An important note to consider is that because this increase is below a certain percentage and because it deals with designated tuition, it will not be put up to a student vote.

The Texas State University Board of Regents will ultimately decide whether or not to implement the increase at their next meeting. If approved, the rate increase will go into effect with the fall 2017 semester.

What you need to know about Sul Ross’ emergency response plan

By Gunner Gardner
Co-Editor

In the wake of a terrifying sequence of events on Sept. 8, Sul Ross State University was placed on lockdown after an unidentified individual called in a bomb threat to the school. This followed an incident at Alpine High School that morning when a student shot one of her classmates and then turned the gun on herself.

As these events unfolded, Sul Ross students received various notification through the Lobo Lookout Emergency Alert System. But those who received no alert were left in the dark wondering what was going on. Fortunately, Sul Ross State has an emergency response plan to handle these kinds of situations.

“I didn’t even know that we had [an emergency response plan], to be honest,” said Christina Mendez, a Sul Ross senior. “I wish the plan was in the Student Handbook or something where it’s more available to the students.”

Currently, the emergency response plan is available under the University Department of Public Safety (UDPS) section of the Sul Ross website. However, professors and staff have received no official training to handle a bomb threat or active shooter situation.

“I’ve worked here for 22 years and this has never been an issue,” said Mark Saka, history professor, “and the only ‘training’ I’ve received was a conversation between me and Lieutenant [Kent] Dunegan on what to do in that kind of situation.”

Despite this, some students felt that the university handled the situation very well.

“Considering that most students were unaware of what to do, I think we handled the situation well with what information we had,” said Shelby Stegent, Sul Ross senior and resident advisor. “As an RA, safety is our top priority, so our main goal was just to make sure everyone was safe.”

For a copy of the emergency response plan, visit www.sulross.edu/udps to download the PDF under the “Crime Safety and Statistics” tab.

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Don’t forget to set your clocks back an hour before going to bed tonight and enjoy that extra hour of sleep on Sunday morning. Daylight Saving Time officially changes at 2 am, Sunday, Nov. 6, the only day of the year that observes 2 am twice. Think about it.
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**SKYLINE Vol. 94, NO. 5**
Depression doesn’t care who you are

By Vashti Armendariz
Reporter

The screeching of the alarm clock and the smell of freshly brewed coffee tell me it’s time to get up. I can’t. Every part of my body aches, I can’t seem to get enough air. I can’t. Not today.

I stumble towards my coffee pot and pour myself a cup of coffee. After four hours of sleep last night, I know I’ll need it. All I can think in the back of my mind is … I can’t.

At least the coffee is good. Finished with my coffee, I head for the shower to get ready to face the outside world. I fight the urge to stay within the comfort of my apartment as I head out the door.

As that first ray of sunshine hits my face I know what awaits me. I still have a genetics exam and a practical to study for. I have a lab report due, along with some homework. I need to read for my psychology class and somehow fit in five hours of work.

By this time, I have fallen three chapters behind in most of my classes. I don’t know why I can’t seem to get my thoughts in order.

Every step feels as though I leave a part of me scraped on the concrete. I wonder if others struggle with depression as I do … probably. No, it must be me; there is just something wrong with me.

Desperate for answers, I ask Google. Third website down, American Psychological Association … articles … fourth one down is titled “College Students Exhibiting More Severe Mental Illness, Study Finds.” As I read on, a glimmer of hope. I’m not the only one.

More and more students are coming forward and seeking help with their depression and anxiety. I am not alone, and neither are you!

Anxiety, depression and suicide have become major concerns for college students across the United States. According to National Alliance on Mental Illness statistics, one in every four people between the ages of 18 and 24 has a diagnosable mental illness.

Furthermore, 80 percent of college students report feeling overwhelmed. Of those, 45 percent—almost half!—report feelings of hopelessness. Even as college counseling centers are realizing a five-percent increase in the use of mental health services, 34 percent of the college student population still feels unheard.

One in every four people between the ages of 18 and 24 has a diagnosable mental illness.

Despite being so commonplace among college students, mental health issues continue to be severely stigmatized. If you are depressed, or suspect that you may be suffering from depression, make an appointment—it’s free!—to talk with one of the counselors at the Sul Ross Counseling Center. Both Mary Schwartzte and Rebecca Wren are licensed professional counselors who can help you work through your depression in a supportive environment.

All counseling sessions are held in strict confidence. To make an appointment, call 432-837-8203. The Counseling Center is located in Ferguson Hall, room 112.

NOTE: The Skyline hopes to publish an informative series discussing mental health issues, explaining what a mental disorder is, red flags to look for, and how to get help for yourself or a loved one. We want this series to start conversations and increase awareness among students regarding mental disorders, ultimately reaching out to those suffering in silence to let them know that they will not be judged and—most importantly—that they are not alone.

We welcome questions, comments and concerns, and will honor requests for anonymity. Send your questions and comments to skyline@sulross.edu and include “mental health” in the subject line.
Open Care: A club like no other

By Vashti Armendariz with Nadia De Luna

The new campus carry law seems to be brewing a pool of conflicting ideals, opinions, and thoughts across Texas universities.

When the new law was first announced, Sul Ross Dean of Arts and Sciences and Psychology professor Dr. James Downing was contacted by concerned students and faculty due to last year's forum on campus carry.

Downing had in mind the creation of a club or organization that would be able to somehow re-address these concerns while creating unity within the Sul Ross community. With this, he created the Open Care Club.

As he and the club president, Nadia De Luna, started to discuss mission statements and principles, it was feared that Open Care might be seen as an “anti-gun club,” which could instead widen the gap in the Sul Ross community.

The club aims to use principles of the person-centered approach (unconditional and positive regard, empathic understanding and genuineness) to start new dialogues between students and faculty.

With the help of Assistant Professor of Arts, Gaming and Communication Avram Dumitrescu, Downing has produced Open Care buttons that enable members to openly declare they are CHL free on the university campus.

The button is meant to show that the wearer views the university as a place where teaching, learning, research, creative activities and public service take precedence. Button wearers strive to create an environment of empathic understanding of others’ ideas, opinions and concerns.

With plans of inter-club collaboration and fundraising, Open Care is more than a club—it is a movement in the making. Downing and De Luna want to broaden the concept of Open Care by discussing ideas other than campus carry.

Meetings for the Open Care Club are held every two weeks in Lawrence Hall 300; campus-wide emails indicate dates and times.

Open Care is open to all individuals and the club is seeking active members to join. Membership is fluid, and members are welcome any time that they are able.

For more information regarding the new Open Care Club, visit their Facebook page “Open Care Movement,” or contact Downing at jdowning@sulross.edu or De Luna at nbd14bj@sulross.edu.
Freewheeling Death Star escapes from yard, travels around Alpine

By Rainey Miller
Co-editor

A runaway Sul Ross homecoming float fixture baffled Alpine residents Oct. 15 as it meandered through town, prompting hilarious reactions. The giant inflatable ball, decorated in excruciating detail by Andrea Bode and Gunner Gardner, was a perfect replica of Star Wars’ Death Star; when the wind blew it out of the front yard and into the streets, the comments started rolling in.

Tongue-in-cheek questions including “Did it roll over from Marfa?” and “Perhaps the Rebel Alliance took out its propulsion device?” were posted on the Brewster County Exchange Facebook page, along with the prediction that “we are going to die.”

“It took 45 minutes with a mattress pump to inflate it, and another 24 hours to paint it,” Bode sighed, describing the process of handcrafting the float that didn’t give a damn.

Oddly enough, nobody tried to return the footloose Death Star to its owners. Some residents posed with it to take selfies, but then sent it on its way.

Maybe it looked too real.

“I like that a girl hugged it and then just set it free,” remarked Christopher Castillo. “I mean, that thing had been all over town, and her first idea was to hug it.”

The Alpine Police Department, quick on their feet, promptly destroyed the Death Star. Sources indicate that it was “probably really fun to shoot.”

One of the last comments on the Facebook post summed up the incident perfectly: “And I was starting to think Alpine was boring.”
Big Bend Comic Con is here again!

By Vashti Armendariz
Reporter

Last year the first Big Bend Comic Con hosted in the Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library was open to all the Sul Ross and Alpine community members. It featured guest speakers, local vendors, cartoonists and comic authors, and the event attracted more than several hundred attendees, according to April Aultman Becker, Dean of Library and Research Technologies. To all those who love the world of comic books, the Comic Con ended much too quickly.

Luckily, last year’s event was such a success that the Sul Ross library staff will be hosting yet another Big Bend Comic Con tomorrow from 1 to 5 pm. Events will include tabletop gaming, cosplay competition, trivia, crafts, Dance Dance Revolution, giveaways, workshops, vendors, freeze tag tournament and a panel board.

All Big Bend Comic Con events are free, so come out in your best costume and enjoy an afternoon of fun among comic enthusiasts.

This year the Alpine Public Library has joined forces with Sul Ross and will create a special, separate Comic Con for kids aged 12 and under. Events at the Alpine library will also be held from 1 to 5 pm.

“Based on the initial success and the desire to expand our audience, we welcome Alpine Public Library’s participation, especially for younger children,” Aultman Becker said.

For more information about the Big Bend Comic Con, contact Aultman Becker, 432-837-8121 or april.becker@sulross.edu.
Soccer eyes
ASC championship tourney

In only its second season of intercollegiate competition the Lady Lobo soccer team is heading to the post season.

Sul Ross is listed as the seventh seed heading into Tuesday’s quarterfinal round at second seeded Mary Hardin-Baylor. Kickoff is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 1.

Hardin-Simmons posted a 11-0 record in league play to win the regular season title and clinch the No. 1 seed in the 2016 American Southwest Conference Women’s Soccer Championship Tournament Nov. 1, 4 and 6.

The 2016 ASC Championship features an eight-team field with a quarterfinal round with the top four seeds—No. 1 Hardin-Simmons, No. 2 Mary Hardin-Baylor, No. 3 UT Tyler and No. 4 UT Dallas—hosting Nov. 1. The quarterfinal winners advance to the semifinals hosted by Hardin-Simmons Nov. 4. The Championship is scheduled for Nov. 6.

Coach Marquis Muse’s team finished the regular slate with a 6-8-1 overall mark, 4-6-1 against conference foes.

The 2016 ASC Women’s Championship Soccer Tournament is the 19th in league history. The winner of the ASC Championship Tournament is declared the conference champion and earns automatic qualification to the NCAA Division III Women’s Soccer Championship.

Volleyball ends season after losses on the road

By Stephen Christopher Castillo
Sports Reporter

The Lady Lobos volleyball team ended their 2016 season with six straight hard-fought losses, and finished the season at 3-25 and 2-12 in ASC competition.

Oct. 18, the Lady Lobos traveled to Brownwood to face Howard Payne. After the Yellow Jackets took the first two sets with a 25-10 win, Sul Ross answered back with a clutch set win of 25-23. This wouldn’t be enough, however, as the Yellow Jackets closed out the night with a final set win of 25-14, and T

The Lady Lobos loaded back up on the bus to go up against Hardin-Simmons University, where the home team swept Sul Ross 3-0.

The road trip continued Oct. 22 when the Lady Lobos visited McMurry University. The War Hawks trumped Sul Ross in a 3-0 set win.

Last weekend, the Lady Lobos traveled to Seguin for the Bulldog Classic hosted by Texas Lutheran University and lost their three matches.
Baseball hosts Odessa College, Pink and Purple Series

By Stephen Christopher Castillo
Sports Reporter

The Sul Ross State baseball team hosted Odessa College in a pre-season scrimmage matchup at Kokernot Field Oct. 22. The OC Wranglers came to Alpine to play some ball and topped the Lobos in both games, winning each by two runs.

“Odessa College had a very solid group,” said Matt Lynn, assistant coach. “I can see them going back to regional and also competing in the Junior College World Series this year.

“It was a great opportunity to play a fundamental and well-rounded team; it not only allowed both teams some competitive play that you can’t get in practice, but also allowed the coaches on both sides to see who and what players are really going to shine this upcoming season.

“We’re set to host the Red and White Series, which we have changed to the Pink and Purple Series this year: pink for breast cancer awareness and purple for domestic violence awareness,” Lynn said following the game with Odessa College.

“I personally can’t wait to see what players shine and the end result of the series. It’s going to be a competitive and fun set of games to watch.”

Coach Lynn was right. The series was very competitive and nail-biting up to the final pitch.

The purple team took game one in a dominant 6-3 win. Ryan Almager was the player to watch, hitting a deep left center two-run bomb in the top of the third.

Game two, however, went to the pink team who came out viciously after that loss to win a decisive game, 13-5. Every player on the pink team did their job to tie up the series at 1-1.

That left game three to decide the series, with both sides having an equal chance at the final win.

Game three was a pitching duel with both teams battling from start to finish. It came down to the bottom of the seventh with bases loaded and two outs. With the score 2-1 purple, the pink team’s Holden Simpson came up to bat. Simpson cranked a deep bomb into center field, as the purple’s Mike Munden sprinted to barely snag the pop fly, closing out the game and the series to give the purple team the win.

This battle was fierce between both teams. With so many shining stars on the field, we can’t wait to see what they can do when they all work together this spring.
After three-game streak, Lobos fall to UMHB

By Stephen Christopher Castillo
Sports Reporter

Lobo football hit the road Oct. 22 to attempt a win over the McMurry University War Hawks.

Sul Ross struck first as Jordan Batson scored off a 58-yard drive lead by quarterback James Davis. The field goal made it 7-0 Sul Ross.

Entering the third quarter Davis took matters into his own hands for a three-yard score. A successful two-point conversion made it 15-0 Lobos.

McMurry had a stroke of luck with a 12-yard connection and PAT to put the War Hawks on the board for seven points. With five minutes left, a War Hawk “pick six” followed by a five-yard run gave McMurry a 21-15 advantage.

Byron Jones snagged a 33-yard bomb from Davis for a TD to put the Lobos ahead by one. The Davis and Jones duo connected again, this time for a 57-yard touchdown. Adam Cruz missed the extra point—only his second missed field goal of the season—and the Lobos increased their lead 28-21.

With less than a minute left in the game, Batson scored again, this time on an eight-yard run, and the Lobos got a well-deserved win over the War Hawks, 35-21. The win upped the Lobos’ streak to three wins.

Nationally ranked University of Mary Hardin-Baylor came to Jackson Field Oct. 28 to square off against the Lobos.

The win streak ended as the Crusaders bested Sul Ross 59-10 final score.

The Lobos struggled with momentum as they got two field goals in the first quarter while UMHB tacked back-to-back touchdowns on the board. Each team bagged one more field goal, leaving the half time score 17-10.

The second half saw the Crusaders go on a 42-point parade to end the streak and give the Lobos their second conference loss.

The Lobos now have a 2-2 ASC record and are set to face off against the Howard Payne Yellow Jackets at Jackson Field tomorrow at 6 pm.
GO LOBOS!

IRMA & GEORGE CAMPBELL

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