Dr. Bill Kibler, 12th president of Sul Ross State University, was welcomed by university and Alpine community members at investiture ceremonies April 16. Kibler invited the audience to hike with him up a proverbial West Texas mountain, and check out the amazing view. “The view I imagine,” he said, “is the future of this great institution.”

Kibler shared visions of excellence. “I can see a future for Sul Ross where the diversity of our campus is a resource,” he said.

Discipline, openness, empathy and justness were among the attributes Kibler admonished the university to cultivate. “We must address both the scholarly and the civic dimensions of campus life,” he said.

To that end, Kibler suggested that the school develop and implement an honor code. “I see a future where all recognize that a degree from Sul Ross represents more than the completing of an academic program, but represents graduates with the highest standards of integrity and personal responsibility- the keys to a successful life,” he said.

Carole Fox, Director of Audits and Analysis for the Texas State University System, was one of many people on hand to offer remarks. Fox explained that the investiture ceremony dates to the Middle Ages. It symbolizes passing the torch to the new president entrusting him to be a good leader.

Alpine Mayor Avinash Rangra, Student Government Association Presidents Kaitlyn Wood (SRSU campus) and Juan Morales (Rio Grande College campus) were among those to give greetings and bienvenidos to the President and his family.

Kibler’s son, Austin, provided personal insight about his father. He noted that our new president has plenty of patience from years of parenting in an extended family.

The choir premiered an original composition, You Can, by choral director Dr. Donald Callen Freed. The University Wind Ensemble, directed by Dr. Chris Dobbins, provided music from start to finish.

Kibler’s wife, Mrs. Pam Kibler sang a special solo, You Raise Me Up. At the end of her performance, Dr. Kibler was spotted blowing her a kiss.

A public reception was held following the ceremonies.
Editor’s Message

If you missed seeing our professors decked out in the finest of scholarly fashions at the investiture, you’ll have another chance very soon: Graduation is two weeks away!

Graduating seniors will be moving on to new territories. I wish them all the best of luck. I’ll need that luck, too, since I am one of them!

I wish all the students who will be continuing their education here next fall, the best of luck as well. There is a lot of promise in this group. From them, several new clubs sprang up just this year, including the Chess, Kinesiology and Rotaract clubs.

The new Men’s Soccer Club is strengthening intramural sports.

The Ultimate Players, although not new, is garnering support for a campus disc golf course. That would be a great activity to add to our little island town of Alpine.

The fabulous and new Ballet Folklórico Club, initiated by freshman Molly Ferguson, has grown to a troop of over ten dancers. Their performances have brightened up events on campus. They really have star power and I’m sure they’ll become famous!

All the students of our university have the power to bring positive attention to the school and region. Of course, we rely on our professors to help show us the way.

Whether it is through providing undergraduate research opportunities, introducing us to conferences and contests, or by offering attentive and personal advising sessions, we need our professors to do their best by us (in and out of the classroom). I wish them luck, too! They are leading by example.

One of those conference opportunities recently took the Skyline staff to San Antonio. The Skyline, The Brand and the Sage won numerous awards. Skyline staff came back fired up about representing campus life. It will be a great team next year.

Special thanks to David Holguin for doing a super job distributing the magazine while we were away.

Speaking of luck, this is a beautiful campus filled with smart people in an incredibly special region. It’s been a wild place to learn about geology (my major), and an honor to serve as Editor-in-Chief of the Skyline. I’m thankful for the lasting connections I’ve made here, and for all the unexpected life lessons.

Bon voyage, Lobos!

Shawna Graves
Editor-in-Chief

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On the cover

FRONT: And... splashdown! Freshman Chris Castillo plunges into the pool at Balmoerrea State Park during the SSS picnic there April 18. Photo by Susanna Mendez
BACK: After donating blood at the campus blood drive April 15, Shelby Stegent and Carissa Adair show off the T-shirts they received as donors. Photo by Stephanie Elmore

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Next Skyline: FALL 2015
What the frack about the Trans-Pecos pipeline?

By Shawna Graves  
Editor-in-Chief

There is no doubt that Mexico should have reliable power; both sides of the border agree. The argument is in how Mexico gets that power, and at what cost to Texans.

Trans-Pecos Pipeline Ltd., a consortium made of Energy Transfer (a Texas-based company) and Carso (a Mexican-owned company), would like to supply power through a pipeline that cuts through prime Big Bend country, including the Alpine and Sunny Glen areas.

The Big Bend region is host to state parks, a national park, scenic highways, the Texas Mountain Trail, historic ranches, wildlife management areas, the Borderlands Research Institute, the Rio Grande Research Center, Sul Ross State University and enclaves of “off the gridders”—precisely the kinds of folks who actively seek gas alternatives.

Former SRSU geology lecturer Bob Ward said, “The pipeline looks like it could have a big impact on the Trans Pecos lifestyle/landscape—a 500-man camp and all its trimmings.”

Those trimmings could range from increases in crime, litter, rent and traffic (think Midland-Odessa).

“I’m concerned that the new pipeline makes the search for Marfa Basin hydrocarbons more attractive, and ultimately results in the development of the Trans Pecos as we know it,” said Ward.

“Once the first pipeline is in position, it wouldn’t hurt a thing to add a second twin pipe, right?” said Ward, who knows the oil business firsthand.

Skyline reporter Stephanie Elmore reported that area residents at the April 17 open house, hosted by Energy Transfer Partners (ETP), were split into small groups according to who owned land and who didn’t, and then shuffled around from representative to representative.

ETP reps gave the groups the run around. Elmore said, “The reps from ETP kept people separated as much as possible and avoided answering questions. Instead, all questions were referred to the fact sheet.”

Elmore said someone asked, “What if we don’t want it on our property?” The rep replied, “Well sir, we can always go higher up.”

In response to the proposed pipeline, locals created Not in Our Big Bend (www.facebook.com/Notinourbigbend), a sister campaign to the Big Bend Conservation Alliance (BBCA).

Not in Our Big Bend says the fight is not over. “It’s not a done deal,” they say online.

Many landowners do not want the pipeline going through their land, and have refused to sign the agreements with Trans-Pecos Pipeline Ltd. In addition, the company has dubious legal grounds in calling itself a gas utility and invoking eminent domain. Natural and cultural resource reviews have not been completed. Nor has a permit been granted for the company to cross the international boundary.

It’s important for residents to remain vigilant over this cause if they do not want to see their lifestyle in the Trans Pecos region change. BBCA and Not in our Big Bend provide a forum for community action.

Fact sheets from the April 17 open house claim that Trans-Pecos Pipeline Ltd is in consultation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Dept. of Energy, TX Parks and Wildlife, TX Historical Commission and “numerous state entities.”

We have those numbers, too, and can use them to make our concerns heard.

This region is not just “our” backyard, it belongs to all Texans.
Fine Arts faces the music this fall

By Shawna Graves
Editor-in-Chief

By the end of the school year, the Department of Fine Arts and Communication will have a good idea of who will replace three music program positions next fall.

Christopher Dobbins, director of band and brass studies; Heather Dobbins, woodwind studies; and Lana Potts, piano studies, are leaving the department for new opportunities and commitments, said department chair Gregory Schwab.

“We’re sad to lose three very talented professors, but it’s an opportunity to say ‘where do we want to expand?’” said Schwab.

Mr. and Mrs. Dobbins have been with the department since 2011. They are moving to Lexington, VA, where he has taken the position of Director of Instrumental Activities at Washington & Lee University.

“It’s been wonderful to be here and the decision to leave was very difficult,” said Mr. Dobbins.

In the three years they’ve been here, the Dobbinses have galvanized the music program. Under their tutelage, the Lobo Marching Band renewed their presence at school sports and the Woodwind Band excelled at campus concerts.

Mr. Dobbins has a lot of faith in the talented students of the SRSU music program.

“A great band and music experience is made from the work and drive that talented students put into it—the director is just there to steer that energy in the right direction. So long as students continue to be energetic, excited and motivated to excel, they will,” he said.

“I will definitely miss working with students at Sul Ross,” said Mrs. Dobbins. She is looking forward to the increase in musical opportunities near Virginia.

“I miss playing with orchestras, so I plan on taking auditions once we get settled,” she said.

Lecturer Potts, hired in 2010, has worked closely with the theatre program. Most recently, she was musical director for Sweeney Todd. She is also music director for this summer’s production of Annie Get Your Gun.

“My full-time faculty position doesn’t end until after the summer,” Potts said.

“The reason I resigned my position is because my husband and I need to spend more time in San Antonio,” she said.

In addition to her husband’s job commitments with the Dixon Water Foundation in Central Texas, Potts has work to do with Travis Park United Methodist Church.

“It involves social justice issues, which is kind of unusual for a church. I feel it’s important to do that work,” Potts said.

The Pottses will split their time between Central Texas and Far West Texas, she said, spending up to a third of their time here. She plans to continue her involvement with Sul Ross in an adjunct capacity, as opportunities permit.

“It will depend on availability, timing and what other music professors are interested in doing,” said Potts.

The door is open for her to be involved in future musicals.

“There’s great institutional knowledge that I don’t want to abandon,” said Potts.

The department is looking to hire three new directors; one each for band, piano studies and instrumental studies. More than 40 well-qualified applicants have applied for the postings, which have been whittled to the top two for each position, according to Schwab.

All of the top contenders have terminal degrees.

“They’re all wonderful candidates. We’re really thrilled,” Schwab said.

In addition to the available positions, the department advertised other areas that need covered. “This way we can find the best blend,” said Schwab.

Schwab attended a small university for his undergrad, and went through three different theatre directors in four years. He understands the hesitation some students may feel about the changes.

“All three directors were different and I learned different styles from each,” he said. The experience made him more flexible and introduced him to great mentors he would otherwise never have met.

Schwab sees this as an opportunity for students to improve their marketability by learning different styles and techniques, something that can be difficult for small programs with limited faculty to provide.

That said, Schwab does not want to run a revolving door program.

“We hope to get long-term professors,” he said.

The department is also adding another communications position.

“The administration has shown great commitment to the fine arts and that’s wonderful,” said Schwab. “We’re rebounding from leaner years.”

With several professors in the department nearing retirement age, Schwab is looking forward to bringing in younger faculty who are tenure-tracked and want to be here.

“When the time comes, we can hand the reins off, expand the program. And that’s very vibrant,” he said. "It bodes well.”

The music program is not going anywhere.

“We’ve had an influx of great students,” Schwab said.

As the hiring committee interviews the final candidates and the department anticipates exciting changes, he wants students to know: “You’ll not only survive—you’ll thrive!”

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo Tuesday

The fiesta starts at 6 pm on the mall in front of the University Center for the SRSU Spanish Club’s Cinco de Mayo celebration Tuesday, May 5.

Live music will be provided by Mariachi Tierra del Sol, and the Presidio High School and SRSU Ballet Folklórico will perform.

Special guest speaker for the event is Ramón Olivas, SRSU alumnus.

Not to be confused with Mexico’s Independence Day (Sept. 16), Cinco de Mayo commemorates the unlikely victory of the Mexican militia over the French army at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Under the leadership of General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin, the Mexicans, who were outnumbered two to one, defeated a much better-equipped army. Since that battle, no country in the Americas has been invaded by any other European military force.

Tuesday’s celebration is free to the public.
Maile Hoyt & Zakk Revelle
2015 Woman & Man of the Year
Revelle, Hoyt named Man, Woman of the Year

Zakk Revelle and Maile Hoyt were named the 2015 Sul Ross State University Man and Woman of the Year at the Honors Convocation, held April 20.

Sul Ross President Dr. Bill Kibler presented the award, the top honor a Sul Ross senior can receive.

After transferring to Sul Ross in Fall 2012, Revelle, a senior communication major, made the Dean’s List five times and was a three-year starter on the Lobo men’s basketball team, serving as team captain for two seasons.

He received the sportsmanship award three years for Sul Ross and the 2013-2014 ASC’s Fred Jacoby Sportsmanship Award. He served on the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) and the Sul Ross Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter, serving as the president of the organization.

Revelle has volunteered with Red Saw Ministries, summer basketball camps for children and last summer traveled to Israel with CRU to participate in basketball clinics and tournaments. He is youth pastor at First Baptist Church in Alpine.

Hoyt, a senior Kinesiology and Sports Science major, plans a career in education and coaching. While attending Sul Ross and excelling in her studies, she has been a leader in sports and in the classroom.

She was captain of the softball team and a four-year starter. She was a three-time Academic All-American athlete, and named an American Southwest Conference Distinguished Scholar for two years. She made the All-ASC Sportsmanship team twice.

Hoyt is SAAC President, and active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Baptist Student Ministries. Off campuse, she is active in the First Baptist Church in Alpine, serves as a mentor for youth, and volunteers at the Food Bank and Big Bend Special Olympics.

Students recognized at Honors Convocation

The following departmental awards were also given at the convocation:

**Animal Science**
- Equine Science Student – Krystal Goarin
- Agricultural Education Student – Hannah R. Hand
- Animal Health Management Student – Danielle M. Lucero
- Animal Production Student – Daniel Gamez
- Exotic Wildlife Student – Kimberly Arreaga
- Meat Science Student – Jacquelyn S. Ellis
- Reproductive Physiology Student – Celina C. Zuniga
- Animal Science Graduate Student – Lisa M. Drumhiller, Laura A. Garcia Martinez

**Behavioral and Social Sciences**
- Clifford B. Casey Book Award – Christian J. Schwante
- History Major, Phi Alpha Theta History Award – Karina B. Rodriguez
- Psychology Student of the Year – Megan Downing

**Biology, Geology and Physical Science**
- Undergraduate Biology Student Award – Kassandra Hernandez
- Graduate Biology Student Award – Corin M. Olivas
- Julius Dasch Outstanding Undergraduate Geology Student – Kaleigh N. Bruce
- Lance Forsythe Memorial Outstanding Graduate Student Award – Mitchell A. May
- Non-Traditional Geology Student – Rebecca D. Davis

**Business Administration**
- Business Administration Student – Victoria R. Neita, Sarai Urquidez
- Master of Business Administration Student – Marisela Baca, Ruoxi Wu
- Master of Business Administration Online Student – William O. Vanecek

**Computer Science and Mathematics**
- Freshman in Computer Science – Sonny D. Galindo
- Senior in Computer Science – Vincent R. Parras
- Freshman in Mathematics – Sergio A. Ramirez
- Senior in Mathematics – Marilyn M. Samaguey
- Gilley Mathematics Excellence Award – Benjamin Ortiz

**Criminal Justice**
- Freshman Criminal Justice Student – Jasmin Quinonez
- Sophomore Criminal Justice Student – Stephanie Ramirez

- Junior Criminal Justice Student – Noel J. Vidal
- Senior Criminal Justice Student – Ashley N. Tellez
- Graduate Criminal Justice Student – Charles R. Patnode

**Education**
- Education Excellence Award – Laura L. Lankford, April J. Cavness, Sharon M. Barrett, Chaley M. Romero, Kathleen Burnett
- Albert B. Tucker Reading Specialist Award – Rebecca R. Wood

**Fine Arts and Communication**
- New Art Student – Calandria B. Martinez
- Art Student – Aaron M. Bennack
- Freshman Theatre Student – David J. Martinez
- Freshman Music Student – Malyssa A. Reed
- Vocal Music Student – Marcelino Valazquez
- Instrumental Music Student – Victor J. Chang
- Communication Student – Natalie M. Pattillo

**Honors Program**
- Honors Program Graduates – Downing, Hoyt, Raleigh J. Darnell, Kelly J. Lara, Reba C. Smith

**Industrial Technology**
- Student in Administrative Systems and Technology – Guadalupe M. Harris

**Languages and Literature**
- Senior English Major – Jennifer L. Martinez

**Natural Resource Management**
- Underclassman Student in Natural Resource Management – Robyn L. Whitmire
- Upperclassman Student in Natural Resource Management – Felicia J. Rocha, Michael C. Stangl
- Conservation Biology Graduate Student – Skyler E. Stevens
- Graduate Student in Range and Wildlife Management-Range – Christopher D. Jackson
- Graduate Student in Range and Wildlife Management-Wildlife – Ryan S. Anthony
- Field Volunteer – Benjamin D. Benavidez
- Range & Wildlife Club Member – John Clayton Kiddo Campbell
- Conservation Biology Club Member – Christine N. Cosby

The Sul Ross Skyline, May 1, 2015
Today
Come hear the Journey Stories of our ancestors and their trek to America at the Morgan University Center through May 17.

Enjoy the Wood Sculptures Without Borders by Willis LeJeune at the CatchLight Art Gallery through May 25.

See the Clayworks 2015 gallery at Gallery On the Square through June 16.

Support the SRSU Roping Team at the Oren Jones Memorial Team Roping at the S. A. L. E Arena, 9-10am.

Do you have a hard time exercising alone? Join the Physical Exercise Group Activity from 11am-12pm in the LVCR.

Join the ANRS for their guest speaker Dr. Gallagher from 11am-12pm, RAS room 130.
Join the Railroad Blues as they welcome Radio La Chusma, 10pm.

Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

Tomorrow
Support local farmers and enjoy fresh produce from the Alpine Farmer’s Markets from 9am-12pm, Hotel Ritchey and Big Bend Thrift Store.

Oren Jones Memorial Team Roping at the S.A.L.E Arena, 8-10am.

Marcos Orozco and Ram Herrera will be performing in the Alpine Civic Center. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door.

Join the Railroad Blues as they welcome Southbound 35, 10pm.

Sunday, May 3
Oren Jones Memorial Team Roping at the S.A.L.E Arena, 8-10am.

Come to the Faculty Recital of Dr. Donald Cullen Freed 3-4:30pm, Studio Theatre.

Monday, May 4
Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

Hoola-Fit Hoop Dance Class, 5:30-6:30pm, Granada Theater with the Hooping Jam at 6:45pm.

SSS Meeting, 6-7pm, WSB 201.

FCA meeting in the LVCR, 6:30-8:30pm.

Baptist Student Ministry, 8pm, BSM building (902 E. Lockhart Ave. Alpine).

Range and Wildlife Club Meeting, 6-7pm, RAS 130.

Tuesday, May 5
CINCO DE MAYO Celebration, 6-8pm, UC front patio.

Alpine Community Band Rehearsal, 7pm, Sul Ross University Band Room. New members welcome.

Wednesday, May 6
LAST CLASS DAY

Geology Club Meeting, WSB room 301, 1-2pm.

SBDC Workshop - Starting a Small Business, 2:30-4:30pm, Centennial School Room 107.

Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

Thursday, May 7
CAMPUS DEAD DAY

Lobo Appreciation Awards and Reception, 3-4pm, Espino Center.

Hike with a Homeless Dog, 9am, Davis Mountain State Park.

Weight Watchers, UC room 210, 12pm.

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club meeting, 6:30-9:30pm, RAS room 130.
Join Sully Productions for Water Mania, 7-9pm at the Fountain on the Mall.

Support the SRSU Band and Choir in the Wind Ensemble/Choir Concert, 7:30-9pm, Marshall Auditorium.
Join the Railroad Blues as they welcome Texas Renegade, 10pm.

Friday, May 8
CAMPUS DEAD DAY DEADLINE FOR AUGUST GRADUATION

Packaging Pretty starts today. Today’s event from 3:30-6:30pm at the AISD Auditorium is Kym Rock’s Fight Like a Girl. There is a $20 per person fee with the exception of ladies in the CCL class and Alpine High School girls who are admitted for free.

Saturday, May 9
Packaging Pretty: Today’s event starts at 7am at the CCL at American Legion for breakfast/lunch and other events. The class is limited to 40 ladies, $125 fee, May 1 deadline.

Join the Railroad Blues as they welcome The Birddogs, 10pm.

Alpine Farmer’s Markets from 9am-12pm, Hotel Ritchey and Big Bend Thrift Store.

Sunday, May 10
Alpine Community Band Concert, 3-4pm, Marshall Auditorium.

Monday, May 11
FINAL EXAMS (schedule on back cover)

Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

Hoola-Fit Hoop Dance Class, 5:30-6:30pm, Granada Theater with the Hooping Jam at 6:45pm.

Baptist Student Ministry, 8pm, BSM building (902 E. Lockhart Ave. Alpine).

Tuesday, May 12
FINAL EXAMS

Alpine Community Band Rehearsal, 7pm, Sul Ross University Band Room. New members welcome.

Wednesday, May 13
FINAL EXAMS

Music Program Juries, 9am-4:30pm, Studio Theatre.

Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

SBDC Workshop - IRS Basic Requirements, 2:30-4:30pm, Centennial School Room 107.

Family Story Time, Alpine Public Library, 4-4:45pm.

Thursday, May 14
FINAL EXAMS

Hike with a Homeless Dog, 9am, Davis Mountain State Park.

Weight Watchers, UC room 210, 12pm.

Friday, May 15
Tae Bo at the Alpine Public Library (1:30pm) and Crossroads Baptist Church (6:15).

Commencement Rehearsal for ALL GRADUATES, 2-4pm, Gallego Center.

“Ring Ceremony”, 4:30-7pm, Gallego Center room 129.

Saturday, May 16
RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSE AT NOON

Commencement, 10-11:30am, Gallego Center.

Alpine Farmer’s Markets from 9am-12pm, Hotel Ritchey and Big Bend Thrift Store.
Visiting chemistry prof teaches for the experience

By Malyssa Reed

Visiting Chemistry Professor Dr. David Leaver is from Riverina, Australia. He grew up there and received his undergraduate, graduate, and PhD degrees in organic chemistry from La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. “I did a pure chemistry major in Australia as an undergrad and said, ‘I’m going to be a chemist,’” Leaver said. “I wanted to do something that was relevant; I like application. I wanted to do something in drug development and the basis of that is organic chemistry. I wanted to potentially help improve someone’s life.”

He did research work with cholera symptoms and cancer.

Leaver came to Texas for a post-doctorate research opportunity at Texas Tech University in Lubbock. One of his research topics was looking at parasitic diseases, like Human African trypanosomiasis (or the sleeping sickness) and related parasites. Leaver said, “If I do end up hanging around next term it would be awesome to get into some of that research.”

He came to Alpine last fall and holds a visiting professor position. Leaver teaches chemistry and said, “I came to get the teaching experience. I really wanted the teaching experience and hopefully one day I will do research as well.”

Leaver enjoys running, hiking, walking, looking at wildlife and watching sports in his free time. He watches American football, baseball, and especially ice hockey.

Once when he was hiking Mount Emory in Big Bend National Park, he ran into a black bear.

“I was coming back down around twilight and came face to face with a black bear, and that was pretty crazy because I saw the signs for the mountain lions and the black bears and I took a photo of it thinking it was funny and then I came across one,” he said.

“I just backed away quietly, but every time I came back to that stretch, the bear would be there. This went on for about 20 minutes and I had to get around this bear so I yelled at it and I couldn’t believe that it just scampered away.”

Leaver’s advice to students and other people is: “Work hard. I think the famous saying is ‘it’s 99 percent pers-...
Sul Ross State University held its first annual Go Lobos Day celebration April 15 on the campus mall. The event kicked off at 5:30 pm and couldn’t have come at a more perfect time. It was the day before the investiture ceremony for the 12th president of SRSU, Dr. Bill Kibler.

The Go Lobos Day celebration was a huge success. A large number of students and faculty, along with the general public, came out to join in the celebration. A barbecue dinner was provided to everyone, along with ice cream for dessert at the President’s Ice Cream Social later in the evening.

Most importantly, everyone came out just to have a good time. The weather was perfect, with moments of sunshine, shade and cool breezes. Several guest speakers, including Alpine campus SGA president Kaitlyn Wood and Rio Grande College campus SGA president Juan Morales, warmly welcomed the president.

Music from the Alpine High School Band added to the festivities. There was a special performance by the newly established SRSU Ballet Folklórico who did exceptionally well, especially for only having practiced for a relatively short amount of time.

Overall, the Go Lobos Day was a wonderful celebration that is hoped to become a yearly tradition.
Megan Downing and Angel Rodriguez

Megan Downing is a second semester senior from Midland. She is a psychology major with big plans to go to graduate school and get her PhD. Downing has received a full-ride from Oklahoma State University for graduate school. After grad school she plans to move to a small town, or come back to Alpine, in order to teach.

Even though Downing is from Midland, she has lived throughout Texas. Her favorite town is Kerrville. “My grandparents are there; it’s where my family goes to meet when they do end up meeting. It’s quiet and peaceful there. When I think of home that’s what I think of.”

Downing came to Sul Ross and Alpine because “it’s really my kind of town. It’s a small town. There are trees and mountains, and it’s a really beautiful place.” She adds, “There’s a lot of art going on which is really nice.”

Downing is an art minor and some of her work has been featured in the art gallery on campus and galleries downtown. She said, “I had a sculpture piece in there. It was a dragon. He is in the Marfa exhibit now.”

She enjoys reading and spending time with friends in her free time. Her favorite genre is mystery and mystery/history. She especially likes the Sherlock Holmes tales by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the Queens Thief books by Megan Wayland Turner.

Downing’s advice to students is: “Don’t be afraid to take your degree further if that’s what you want to do. There are a lot of options out there, but also don’t be afraid to not take it further. College is not for everybody and if you are ok with the bachelor’s then run with it.” She adds, “Don’t feel pressured, because if you feel pressured to go further you might not. It takes a certain kind of ambition and you have to have that confidence and want to go further.”

Angel Rodriguez is a second semester senior from Alpine. He was born and raised here but loves Corpus Christi. “I always went there when I was a kid. My grandparents live there so it was a vacation home for me,” he said.

Rodriguez is a double major in Computer Science and Mathematics. He wants to become a systems security officer.

“I would look for people who are invading other people’s privacy online and try to stop it,” he said, “A blind man named George Covington taught me how to use a Mac. He was the one who got me into computers and I have been studying computers since. One time someone tried to hack into one of his computers and I thought it was interesting how I could protect him and people from that kind of thing. From then on I’ve been studying for it.”

Rodriguez works on campus at the circulation desk at the library and takes care of the library’s technology. He is also president of the Math Club and secretary of Baptist Student Ministry.

He enjoys his free time by having fun. “I like to hang out with friends, play games, go out for a hike, and go on an adventure every now and again,” he said. “The greatest adventure so far has been when I went to Big Bend with my family. We hiked as many trails as we could in about a week,” he added.

Rodriguez plans to attend graduate school at Texas A&M Corpus Christi. He plans to get his PhD. “I will probably come back to a small town like this and set up a shop and get it going so I can help people,” he said.

Rodriguez has faced a big challenge in his life. He suffers from pectus excavatum, which is a disease where your chest caves inward andpresses against your organs. “I’ve had it all my life,” he said, “I had surgery when I was 14 and then it came back when I was 18. I’ve had to deal with it ever since. It’s one of the reasons I am going down to Corpus Christi.”

Despite this challenge he has not given up. His advice to students is: “Don’t give up so easily. Try and you will succeed.” He added a saying of his, “You can have mathematics without computer science, but you cannot have computer science without mathematics.”
Four students inducted into Sigma Tau Delta

By Kelly Lara
Reporter

Sincerity, truth and design was the theme of Sigma Tau Delta’s honors ceremony April 13.

Four students, Timilehin Alake, Joey Chavez, Luis Esquivel and Kelly Lara, were inducted into the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta. The students were selected for showing a high caliber of understanding in the field of literature and for meeting the high academic standards to be accepted into the society.

Dr. Rosemary Briseño and Sigma Tau Delta vice president Matthew Hall, as well as the professors of the literature department, celebrated the academic achievement of the newly inducted students. According to Hall, “Sigma Tau Delta promotes interest in literature and the English language on local campuses and their surrounding committees, fostering this discipline of English in all its aspects, including creative and critical writing.” “Without an understanding and appreciation of [sincerity, truth, and design], our society would crumble,” he said.

Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society, recognizes undergraduates, graduate students, scholars in academia, and professional writers that excel and have accomplished many feats in linguistics or literary fields.

The new inductees and present members of Sigma Tau Delta are lifelong members of the prestigious society.

For more information on Sigma Tau Delta, contact Briseño at rbriseno@sulross.edu.

Sul Ross student journalists win big at TIPA

By Kelly Lara
Reporter

Sul Ross State University Skyline newsmagazine, The Brand yearbook, and Sage literary magazine took home 41 awards at the annual Texas Intercollegiate Press Association (TIPA).

TIPA is a collegiate press association that works with all aspects of media journalism at Texas colleges and universities.

This year, 11 SRSU student members competed in on-site contests, as well as attended workshops dealing with writing, photography, trends, and related careers.

Competitions included editorial writing, news writing, headline writing, copy editing, sports photography, two-person photo essay, magazine and newspaper design, editorial cartoon, feature and news photography, feature writing, critical review, and PR release writing.

Sul Ross students competed against all Texas Universities in the on-site contests. In the previously published competition, the Skyline was grouped with Austin Community College, Texarkana College, University of Incarnate World, Our Lady of the Lake University, and North Texas Community College.

The Brand competed with yearbooks from Rice University, Kilgore College, Trinity University, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and Tarleton University.

The Sage was up against all Texas universities.

In total, Sul Ross State University won 41 awards; 21 for the Skyline, 14 for The Brand, and six for The Sage.

Graduate student Kaitlyn Wood earned 13 awards for her design work on the Skyline and The Brand. Senior Susanna Mendez received seven awards for her photography. Others who received awards were: Shawna Graves (3), Magaly De Leon, Stephanie Elmore, Leinora Alimboyoguen, Kendall Hallmark (4), William Workman, Timothy Willow, Bethany Gaylor, Judith Loya, Tres Wright, Whit Acosta, Sara Miles, and Brian La Lima.

The SRSU students learned new techniques and skills to hone their talents. Workshops centered on news media were given by professors and professionals. Some of the workshops the Sul Ross students attended included tips on writing better news stories, improving photography skills, and using social media effectively.
By Stephanie Elmore
Reporter
Sul Ross students joined community members at the Sul Ross State University track field to raise money for the American Cancer Society April 17.

At least three teams from Sul Ross participated in the event: Freshman Leadership Program, Sul Ross Spanish Club and “Team Boobies.”

Many SRSU students cheered on survivors on the survivor lap, walked the track for cancer research, placed and lit luminarias, and entertained with the inflatable obstacle courses.

No matter why one takes part in the Relay, one thing is clear: with every step they help the American Cancer Society save lives.
Fourteen Sul Ross State University students are working on undergraduate research projects as part of the 2015 McNair Program.
Thus far, students from the 2014 program have presented their research at 12 conferences and meetings in Texas, Georgia, Oklahoma, Alabama, New Mexico, Wisconsin, Washington, D.C. and British Columbia, Canada.
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.
"The creativity and energy expended by the Scholars, along with the ever-growing support of faculty mentors, continue to produce outstanding results,” said Mary Bennett, McNair Program director. “The research by Sul Ross’ McNair Program Scholars continues to attract the attention and interest of prominent graduate schools.”
2015 McNair Program students, their hometowns, projects and faculty mentors are:
* Cameron Goebel, “Use of Camera Traps to Determine Black Bear Distribution and Denning Behavior in Big Bend National Park,” Patricia Moody Harveson, Natural Resource Management, mentor.
* James Greene, “The Terlingua Creek,” Kevin Urbanczyk, Geology.
* Kelly Lara, (title to be determined), Amy Moreland, Political Science.
* Michelle Lawhorn, “Plant and Insect Diversities in Areas Impacted by the Biological Control of Saltcedar (Tamarix spp.) In West Texas,” Christopher Ritzi, Biology.
* Isabel Whitehead, “Experiences of Hispanic Students Enrolled in the College of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at Sul Ross State University,” Christopher Estepp, Animal Science.
For more information on the McNair Program, contact Bennett, 432-837-8478 or mbennett@sulross.edu.
Sul Ross State University’s track and field team had several members do well in the two-day Incarnate Word Track and Field Invitational at Benson Stadium April 10-11.

The Lobos’ very own Jermaine Stevens placed first in the long jump with a jump of 22 feet, six inches, while Joseph Cruz finished on top in the javelin with a toss of 159 feet, one inch.

Zach Robertson finished sixth in the shot put and Victoria Tate was third in the javelin.

The 4x100 meter relay team of Arselle Anderson, Karley Harris, Shaw and Leslie Gonzales finished fourth in 44.10 seconds. The 4x400 meter relay team of Anderson, Harris, Gonzales and Tate placed third in 3:42.66. Harris finished first in the 400 meters at 53.40 seconds and second in 200 meters in 25.36 seconds.

SRSU won both the 4x100 meter relay in 42.20 seconds and the 4x400 meter relay in 3:20.56. Jones was named Outstanding Male Freshman of the Year, making it the second year in a row that a Lobo has won the award. Lipscomb joined Parker, the members of winning relay teams, and Harris of the ladies team in being honored by the American Southwest Conference.

By Samantha Vela

The Sul Ross State University Rodeo Team is kicking up some dust in the 2014-15 season after competing in four rodeos this spring.

In the March 26-28 Western Texas College Rodeo in Snyder, Sul Ross team members qualified for the short round.

Sophomore Sam Powers split 2/3 in the long round of the calf roping with a time of 9.0. Sadly though he had tough luck in the short round and got a no time.

Powers also split 6/7 place in the long round of steer wrestling with a time of 6.3 and ended up winning third in the average as well as the short round with an average time of 11.5 on two head.

Sophomore Walker Kibbe also pre-vailed in the long round in steer wrestling, splitting 8/9, with a time of 7.0.

Junior Rachel Freeney qualified for the short round for barrel racing with a time of 14.08 splitting 9/10.

Jessica Smith and Dawson Adams placed 10th in team roping with a time of 10.8.

On April 11 at the Howard College Rodeo in Big Spring, junior Randi Robinson made a big statement by winning the long round in breakaway with a time of 2.5.

In goat tying, Jessica Smith placed 5th with a time of 10.2.

Wyatt Lindsey placed 8th in steer wrestling in the long round at 6.7.

SRSU Rodeo team members Wyatt Lindsey and Sam Powers showcased their talents at the Ranger College Rodeo in Brownwood, April 18.

Lindsey and Powers both made it through the long round with Lindsey placing 5th to qualify for the short round. Powers placed 3rd in the long round, 7th in the short round, and 5th in average.

In team roping, Lindsey and Howard College partner Levi Molesworth placed 10th in the long round, winning 5th in the short round and in the average.

Their last rodeo of the season was April 23-25 at the Tarleton State University Rodeo in Stephenville.

Those participating included Jessica Smith (goat tying), Randi Robinson (breakaway), Wyatt Lindsay (steer wrestling) and Sam Powers (steer wrestling). Lindsay and Powers finished in the top 15 ranking in the Southwest Region.
Tennis earns split against Howard Payne

The Lobo tennis teams battled the visiting Yellow Jackets in an ASC match at the SRSU tennis courts April 8. SRSU won the men’s match, 8-1, while HPU took the women’s match, 6-3.

For the men’s team, Todd Barajas and Michael Torres lost to Edgar Torres and Drew Lambert at number one doubles, 8-5. Ramon Castro and Juan Samaguey beat Mitchell Sostarich and Marshal McIntosh at number two, 8-4, while Nate Boatwright and Ronnie Martinez downed Lane Tyson and Aaron Callaway at number three, 8-1.

In the singles, Barajas beat Torres at number one, 7-5, 7-5; Alex Alspach defeated Lambert at number two, 6-4, 6-2; and Castro beat McIntosh at number three, 7-5, 6-2. Samaguey downed Tyson at four, 6-0, 6-2; Martinez dismantled Sostarich at number five, 6-1, -6-1; and Gunner Gardner defeated Tyler Goodwin at number six, 6-1, 6-3.

For the ladies, Alex Gallardo and Hanna Schulz defeated Alex Marlin and Chesney Goza at number one doubles, 8-5. Hannah Rogers and Payring Vang were downed by Tiffany Bullock and Cathryn Rasbury at number two, 8-3, and Shanee Obbink and Briana Wilde lost to Devin Mendelson and Breanna Hunt at number three, 8-0.

In the singles, Gallardo defeated Marlin at number one singles, 6-1, 6-1; Schulz beat Goza at number two, 6-1, 7-5; and Vang lost to Bullock at number three, 6-0, 6-0.

The Lady Lobos are now 1-11 and 0-2 in the ASC, while the men are 2-8 and 1-1 in the ASC. The men for HPU are 0-0 and 0-3 in the ASC, while the women are 3-11 and 1-2 in the ASC. SRSU will be visiting Texas Lutheran as they return to action next weekend.

Tennis competes at Mary Hardin-Baylor

The Lobo tennis teams did well as they traveled to Belton April 15 to face the Crusaders in an American Southwest Conference match at the Yvonne Li Tennis Center.

SRSU fell short in the women’s match, 8-1, as well as the men’s match, 9-0.

For the women, Alexa Gallardo and Hanna Schulz defeated Angelie Juanae and Haley Hicks at number one doubles, 9-8. Lindsey Griffin and Stephanie Portillo-Cruz fell short to Pala Nunez and Hannah Warren, 8-0.

In the singles, Warren defeated Gallardo at number one singles, 6-2, 2-6; Juaneza beat Schulz at number two, 6-3,6-3; and Elizabeth Ostroff took out Griffin at number three, 6-0, 6-0.

On the men’s side, Todd Barajas and Juan Samaguey fell short to Scott Wilding and Jacob Stamps at number one doubles, 8-2. Ramon Castro and Ronnie Martinez lost to Brendan Thompson and Mark Johnson at number two, 8-4, and Nate Boatwright and Alex Alspach lost to John Martin and Tevin Ogo at number three, 6-1, 6-0.

Barajas fell to Wilding at number one singles, 6-1, 6-2, and Alspach was defeated by Stamps at number two, 6-0, 6-0. Castro lost to Johnson at number three, 6-0, 6-0, while Samaguey went down to Thompson at number four, 6-2, 6-3. Martinez lost to Martin at number five, 6-2, 6-2, and Gunner Gardner lost to Ogo at number six, 6-1, 6-0.

The Lobo women are now 1-12 and 0-3 in the American Southwest Conference, while the men are 2-9 and 1-2 in the ASC. The Lobos hosted University of the Southwest April 17, but results of that match were not available at press-time.

New men’s basketball coach named

Clif Carroll has been named head men’s basketball coach at Sul Ross State University.

Carroll, 33, who spent the last two seasons in the same capacity at McMurry University, replaces Greg Wright, who resigned earlier this year after nine seasons with the Lobos. Carroll will also serve as a lecturer in Physical Education.

Prior to his stint at McMurry, Carroll was an assistant for Pat Knight at Lamar University from 2011-2013. Earlier, he was an assistant coach at Collin County Community College, Plano (2008-2011), when the Cougars won 77 games over a three-year span. During two years as an assistant at South Plains College, Levelland, the Texans posted a 56-12 mark. South Plains won the National Junior College Athletics Association national championship in 2008, finishing 30-5.

“Clif brings extensive experience at the junior college, Division I and Division II levels, and has been a part of several highly successful programs,” said interim athletics director Bobby Mesker. “His familiarity with Texas collegiate basketball and the West Texas region make him an excellent fit for the Lobo athletic program.”

“I plan to build a program based on toughness, character and winning games,” Carroll said. “More importantly, we will have student-athletes and an overall program that the university, the community and the region can really be proud of.”

Carroll said he will be inviting prospective student-athletes to campus beginning this weekend. “I’m getting straight to work. I’m a Sul Ross Lobo and I’m getting on it right now.”

Carroll received a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise and Sports Sciences from Texas Tech in 2006. He will complete a Master’s degree in Health and Human Performance from Sul Ross in August.

“I previously spent a summer in Alpine working on my Master’s, and I have visited here a number of times,” he said. “This has always been a place I have migrated to and my family and I are looking forward to living in Alpine.”

Carroll and his wife, Beth, have one son, Waylon, and a bulldog, Merle.
SRSU’s softball team hosted LeTourneau as they hit off their three-game American Southwest Conference series at Lobo Field April 20-21.

The Lady Lobos almost bounced back from an 8-2 deficit in the nightcap. They scored twice in the bottom of the seventh but left the tying run on base coming up short, 8-7. The Yellow Jackets took the opener with a final score of 15-2 in only five innings.

In the nightcap, the Yellow Jackets were propelled by a first inning single, but the Lady Lobos answered back in their half of the first as Nicole Stoltz landed an infield singled and wild pitch. LETU landed two RBI doubles to take a 4-2 lead in the seventh. The Yellow Jackets added two more scores off an RBI single by Woodard. Scoring again off a double, the Yellow Jackets made the score 8-2.

SRSU tried to close the gap picking up an unearned run in the fourth on an error. Kalea Simon drove in a run with an infield hit and Clarissa Hernandez singled home a run in the fifth. Isaura Rodriguez singled home a run in the seventh for the Lady Lobos, and Dayna Whitmire had a sacrifice fly that made it an 8-7 game. A bounce out forced by LETU ended the game.

In the second game of action, Sul Ross came out swinging with an early lead, but LETU answered with seven runs in the second inning and dismantled the Lady Lobos for a 10-1 win.

ETBU won the first two games April 24 with scores of 12-2 and 18-4. The second game ended early due to the eight-run rule.

In the first game, the Lady Lobos led off with a single from Dayna Whitmire. She moved to third off Jessica Castellano’s misplayed bunt, leading to a score from Amanda Garza’s fielder’s choice. The Tigers took an early 3-1 lead, but SRSU chopped the lead to a single run in the fourth. Destanie Hernandez singled and Nicole Stoltz tripled her home. ETBU scored five straight runs in the fifth to mount an 8-2 lead and didn’t let up as they scored three more runs in the seventh. The Tigers landed a homer and three RBI’s to seal the game.

In the nightcap, two quick scores were made by the Tigers and the Lobos answered back with a score off a triple and sacrifice. Stoltz singled in a run for the Lobos in the fourth; they scored twice, once on an error and again on Garza’s sacrifice fly.

In the second inning, the Tigers scored five times and added four more scores in both the third and fourth. Perez homered and had five RBI’s, while Vasquez and Hollingshead each had three RBI’s for the win. The Lobos were dismantled by the Tigers in the final game of the series, 11-1, April 25.

ETBU’s Lindsey landed a three-run homer that led to a four-run score for the Tigers early in the game. SRSU was able to get on the board in their half of the inning.

Garza tripled with two outs and scored on a single by Shelby Doederlein.

In the second inning, Lindsey hit a two-run homer and a solo homer in the seventh. Lindsey drove in six runs for the Tigers and Clements contributed with three runs.

SRSU finished the season at 3-31 and 2-26 in the American Southwest Conference, while the Tigers are 31-2 and 27-2 in the ASC.

The Sul Ross Skyline, April 10, 2015
Baseball wins one against LeTourneau

The Lobo baseball team battled host LeTourneau April 20 in a three-game American Southwest Conference series.

The Yellow Jackets took the opener, but the Lobos won the second, but LETU answered back to win the third game.

In the opener, Kleat Smith landed a RBI single to put the Lobos ahead in the top of the first inning. A Yellow Jacket RBI single tied the game in the fourth.

LETU sealed the win in the 12th with Quinn Brankin’s single bunt that scored Ryan Bertram. Bertram led off with a single, sacrificed to second, and moved on to third on a wild pitch.

The Yellow Jackets came out strong in the second game as they led off with a RBI single to go up, 1-0. The Lobos bounced back with three runs in the fourth with two out. Turner Mattson singled home two runs and Ozzie Bueno trailed with an RBI single to make it 3-1. In the fifth Tyler Mills led off with a triple and Josh Vasquez singled him home.

In the finale, Shane Sawyer singled home a run in the top of third to tie it up, but the Yellow Jackets got three runs in the fourth and didn’t look back as they cracked the game open.

Lobos take on 10th ranked Concordia

In the last home series of the 2015 season, the Lobo baseball team displayed true grit against Concordia, the top team in the American Southwest Conference.

In the first game April 24, Sul Ross State mounted an early 2-1 lead, but it wasn’t enough to keep Concordia from rallying back to defeat the Lobos, 4-2.

Concordia capitalized on a double and single to take the lead in the third. The Lobos tied up the game when Turner Mattson singled, stole second, moved to third on an infield out, and scored on a wild pitch from the Tornados.

In the fourth SRSU was able to take control of the lead. Chris York doubled down the right field line and scored on Ozzie Bueno’s single with two out.

The Lobos held the lead until the top of the seventh, when Garrett Benyo tied the game as he hit a homer over the right field fence.

The winning pace was set by Connor Bertsch when he singled out in the ninth. After an out, Mellman grounded to third base. Berstch took third for CTX and scored on a hit from Shane Sawyer.

The lead was taken back in the fifth by the Tornados. CTX’s Benyo singled with bases loaded to make the score 2-1, and then a two-run double gave CTX the lead. A run was scored off a squeeze bunt and another double gave the Tornados a 5-2 lead.

The Lobos came back with 5 runs in the sixth inning. With two on and two out, Vasquez and Henderson each singled home runs to make it 5-4. Sawyer reached on an error to tie the game and Gallego doubled to left center field to give SRSU the lead. Colton West pitched a scoreless seventh for his ninth save of the year.

In the finale of the series, Concordia broke a scoreless tie with seven runs in the sixth. The Tornados were put on the board by with an opposite field home run over the left field fence. Steadman walked with the bases loaded, and Ortega bunted and reached on an error from Chris York, clearing the bases.

Sul Ross State scored twice in the seventh inning. Emmett Crisp hit a double and York was drilled by a pitch. Both players scored on a double by Ozzie Bueno. In the start of the ninth, Crisp walked and York singled against CTX reliever Mundkowsky. Traxler relieved and got two outs for the Tornados, but a two-run single by Vasquez and hit by Henderson brought the tying run to the plate. Traxler got Sawyer to bounce into a force play to finish the game.

Seniors Vasquez, Crisp, Sawyer, Bueno, Mattson and Vaughan were honored between games.

The Lobos are now 19-18 and 15-12 in the American Southwest Conference, while CTX is 27-9 and 21-5 in the ASC. Sul Ross State visits Howard Payne this weekend.
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**Monday/Wednesday**
Contact instructor for exam day/time

For times not listed, consult with your instructor.