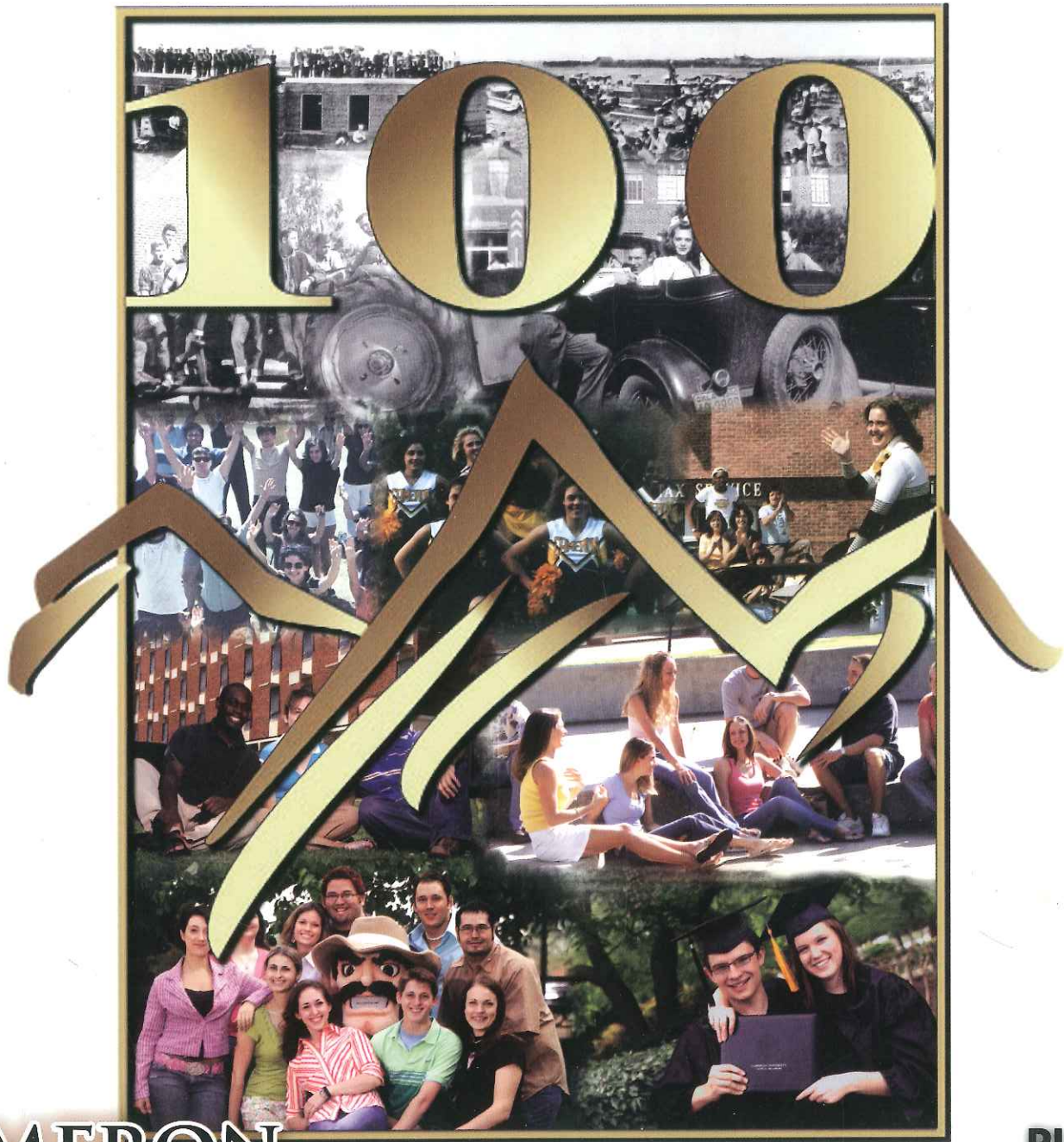


SPRING 2006

CAMERON

MAGAZINE



CAMERON ANNOUNCES CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

PLUS:

Alumni Discuss Life in Iraq

CU Receives Historic Gifts

Women's Golf Tees Off

Message from the President

Dear Cameron University Alumni and Friends:

Spring 2006 has been a historic time for Cameron University. Highlighted by unprecedented generosity, this semester will be remembered as one of the most dynamic and exciting times in the university's first century.

This edition of the *Cameron Magazine* chronicles the people and events that have defined our university during the past few months. Because students are the heart of our commitment, our students are featured prominently in this issue. Whether it's Zach Fort, who won three National Championships in speech and debate, or the many alumni fighting in Iraq, Cameron students continue to succeed on the local, state, national and global stage.

"This semester will be remembered as one of the most dynamic and exciting times in the university's first century."

The spring 2006 semester has seen fresh beginnings, such as the inaugural season of the Lady Aggies golf team, as well as a conclusion. Festival VI: *CU in Good Health*, a year-long celebration of physical fitness, came to a close and was a rousing success.

This semester's crowning moment was the launch of Cameron's Centennial Observance, entitled *Cameron University: Changing Lives for 100 Years, 1908-2008*. This multifaceted celebration will include academic events, social festivities and sweeping modifications to CU's physical and academic landscape, propelling Cameron University into its second century.

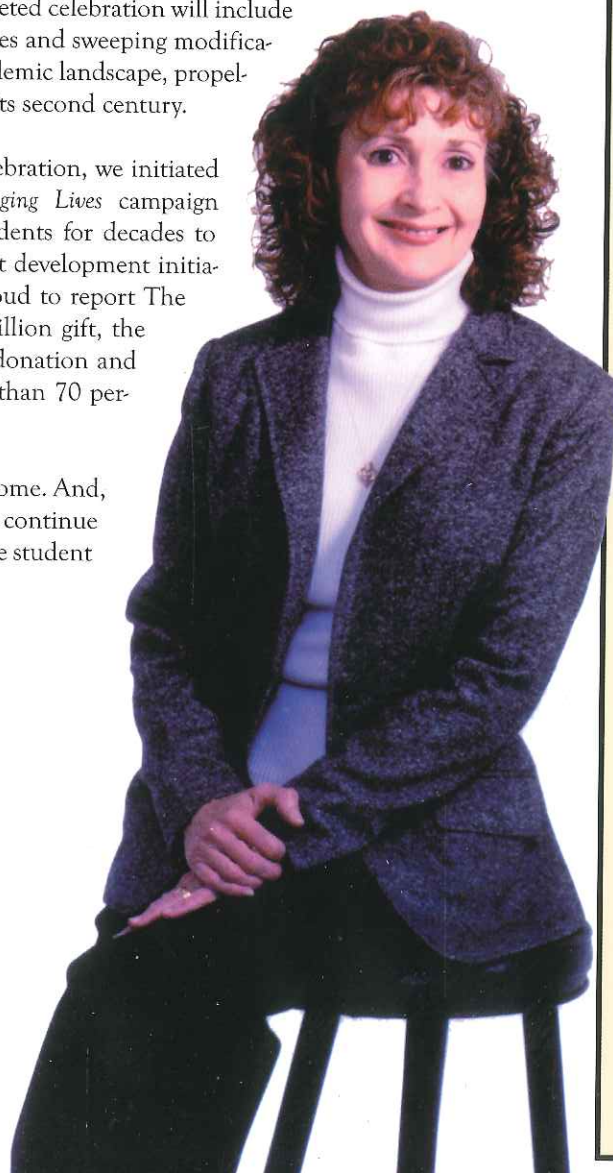
As part of the Centennial Celebration, we initiated the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign which will directly benefit students for decades to come. The \$8.5 million campaign is the largest development initiative ever attempted by the university. I am proud to report The McMahon Foundation's unprecedented \$4 million gift, the McCasland Foundation's generous \$600,000 donation and many other gifts, have already provided more than 70 percent of that goal.

It is satisfying to see how far the university has come. And, the real excitement is around the corner as we continue Cameron's commitment to changing lives – one student at a time.

Sincerely,

Cindy Ross

Cindy Ross
President



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Cindy Ross

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On the Cover: Cameron's new Centennial logo is inlaid with pictures representing the university's first 100 years. Cover design by Doug McAbee.

Ryan Alley is supported by Marcos Rivera and several Aggie cheerleaders during the unveiling of Ole Kim at the annual Homecoming pep rally. Alley and Rivera served as Ole Kim this year.



CAMERON MAGAZINE

- 2 Campus Update:** It has been a busy semester at Cameron. From crowning a national speech and debate champion to planting almost 100 trees, get caught up on the highlights of campus life.
- 4 Faculty Profile:** Carla Guthridge could have been a lawyer. Lucky for Cameron, she chose to teach biology.
- 6 Commencement 2006:** Martin Luther King III will inspire this year's graduating class as he delivers the 2006 commencement address.
- 7 Festival Recap:** Festival VI: *CU in Good Health* wraps up after a successful year of physically challenging activities and thought provoking speakers.
- 9 Lasting Partnership:** Just days after Cameron unveiled its Centennial Celebration plans, the McCasland Foundation donates the first major gift to the *Changing Lives* campaign.
- 10 Historic Generosity:** The McMahon Foundation's \$4 million gift is the largest in CU's 98-year history and will reshape Cameron for future generations of students.
- 11 100 Years in the Making:** Cameron launches Centennial Observation and \$8.5 million *Changing Lives* campaign, laying the foundation for CU's next century.
- 14 Letters Home:** Alumni fighting in Iraq continue Cameron's rich legacy of military service.
- 16 Ladies of the Links:** The Lady Aggie golf team unites through the highs and lows of its inaugural season.
- 18 Alma Matters:** Cameron alumni are working across the country and around the world. Find out where your classmates are now.
- 23 Legacy:** Buck Clements was more than a Cameron graduate – he was a partner and a friend.
- 24 Love 101:** Love blooms in the strangest places, so why not CU-Duncan's tutorial lab?

CAMPUS UPDATE

Fort reflects on successful speech and debate career

By J. Adam Calaway

If you debate Zach Fort, you will lose. He is simply one of the best debaters in the United States, and he has the hardware to prove it.

A senior speech communications major from Mannford, Okla., Fort has won almost 200 awards at the state, regional and national level during his four years as a part of Cameron University's acclaimed speech and debate team.

This spring, Fort led the Aggies to a fourth place finish at the Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament, while at the same time claiming the National Championship in three individual events: Varsity Debate, Programmed Oral Interpretation, and Prose Interpretation.

Winning national titles has earmarked Fort's career as he has captured five such awards during his college career.

"I am proud to have represented Cameron," Fort said. "The university's speech and debate team competes side-by-side with the large universities, and we continually do well."

Fort, a champion debater in high school, selected Cameron after attending the annual speech and debate camp. Four years later and just weeks before his college graduation, he sat in a small office in the Administration Building reflecting on his tenure.

Beaming a wide smile, Fort reminisced about traveling across the country to the various events, making a lifetime of memories with a team he now considers his family.

"It's bittersweet," he said. "As I was getting done (at my final competition), I remember thinking 'I am never going to debate again.' It has been a life-changing experience and one that I will treasure forever."

The culmination of Fort's speech and debate career came at the Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament, which featured 40 of the top regional and private universities from around the nation. Fort bested more than 48 of the country's premier speakers to win the Varsity Debate category.

CU's team has experienced an award-winning year as well. Beyond the fourth place finish at the national tournament, the CU speech and debate team placed third in Sweepstakes at a regional competition and second in the state tournament.

"We accomplished great team and individual success this year because all of the students worked hard together," said Tyler Thornton, speech and debate coach. "Special recognition goes to seniors Zach Fort and Sarah Collins who maintained strong leadership throughout the year. They provided constant moral support and strong examples of success, which encouraged the rest of the team to be successful."

Photo by J. Adam Calaway

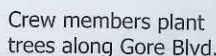


Photo by Doug McAbee

As part of Cameron University's new campus Master Plan, more than 100 trees have been planted throughout the university grounds since November.

A variety of 2.5 and 3 inch caliber trees have been transplanted from area Oklahoma nurseries to locations north of Cameron Village, around the Sciences Complex and along the perimeter of the campus with a special focus placed on CU's north edge along Gore Blvd.

Robinson said Redbuds were used primarily on the interior landscapes, while the majority of the campus perimeter along Gore Blvd. was lined with Shumard Red Oaks, Chinese Pistaches and Allee Elms were mixed throughout.

"One of the main goals of planting these trees was to create a visual outline of the campus," Robinson said. "We want people to know they are at Cameron University."

Whenever Cameron University's student organizations need a ride to an event, all they have to do is call the CAB.

This semester Cameron unveiled a mid-sized passenger bus and christened the sleek vehicle the Cameron Aggie Bus – CAB for short.

“CAB can transport our students safely and comfortably to any event around the nation,” said Glen Pinkston, Vice President for Business and Finance. “Cameron has long needed a reliable bus for our students, and as our activity on the national level has increased, so has that need.”

The CAB comfortably seats 37 students (plus driver), runs on a 300 horse power, 6.6L diesel engine, and has an air ride suspension. CAB also features many amenities, including spacious rear storage, wide seats, and an audio/visual system.

Since its commission earlier this semester, the CAB has logged 12,550 miles, taking Cameron students across Oklahoma, Texas, Tennessee and New Mexico.



To honor those CU alumni who have left an indelible mark on the university or their particular career field, Cameron's Office of Alumni Relations began the Acclaimed Aggies program during the fall 2005 semester.

"Acclaimed Aggies are those individuals who have positively impacted Cameron or the world around them," said Sandy Joyner, Director of Alumni Relations. "We have so many great alumni who have gone on to shine on the local, state, national and global stage, and this is just a small way to honor them."

Recipients of the Acclaimed Aggie honor are memorialized at one of three informational stations. Each location features a 2-by-3 foot poster detailing the recipient's time at Cameron and his/her accomplishments. Each semester three new honorees are selected.

The fall 2005 class of Acclaimed Aggies included: Col. Albert Johnson Jr., Ed Huffine, and Dr. Katherine Newport.

This semester Dr. Charles Graybill, Claudus and Paula Smith, and Wallace Bridges were selected as Acclaimed Aggies.

Graybill served as a physician in Lawton for 42 years, founding numerous medical organizations. He has also served as Chairman of the McMahon Board of Trustees for 26 years.

Clodus Smith served in higher education for almost 40 years and was president of three colleges. He was honored with his wife, Paula, a former teacher, who was appointed to the first American Task Force of the National Education Association.

Bridges earned a bachelor of arts in speech and drama in 1983 and has gone on to be a fully tenured professor at Eastern Michigan University, writing and directing several critically-acclaimed plays.

To nominate an alumni for the Acclaimed Aggie honor, contact the Cameron Office of Alumni Relations at 580.581.2988.

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Cameron



THE SCIENCE OF LIFE

By Danaline McPhail Bryant

Carla Guthridge, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences at Cameron University. She didn't set out to be an educator, but her students are lucky she changed the direction of her life. She's been at Cameron for four years and teaches a variety of subjects, including Biology I, Molecular Biology, Genetics, Immunology, and General Biology for non-majors.

"I love teaching," Guthridge said. "When you're growing up people are always telling you that you should get a job you love, and then it will seem like you are getting paid to play. Well, that's what I do - I'm paid to play. Being in the classroom is like play to me. It really is. We have incredible facilities here, including a research lab, and we're growing in so many ways. Oklahoma is growing tremendously, and there's an exploding growth of research at the state's universities. Cameron is this mecca of a university, with so many opportunities. President (Cindy) Ross is not only receptive to change, she's pushing change. The big guys (research universities) want to talk to us; they reach out for us, and they want our students. So Cameron is a great place to be."

Though she had always loved science, Guthridge's initial career plan was to be a corporate lawyer. Eventually, she changed her plans, leaving the goal of corporate law far behind and earning a bachelor's degree in microbiology from Eastern Kentucky University and her doctorate in microbiology from the University of Kentucky. From there, she was awarded a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Her duties included being an instructor in research, and it was there she first discovered her love of teaching.

"Teaching is nothing I ever planned to do," she said. "I taught as an adjunct, and it became more and more fun. I was working in research during the day and teaching at night. One day I realized I loved going to my night job more than my day job, so I shifted my focus."

She moved into a full-time teaching position as an assistant professor, then later moved to Metropolitan State College of Denver for two years before coming to Cameron.

At CU, in addition to her teaching duties, she conducts her own research projects while also mentoring four to five students each semester in biomedical research. The mentoring is intense,

requiring many hours of one-on-one instruction and supervision, but it is incredibly beneficial for the students.

"This is true investigation, and it's a challenge for them," Guthridge said. "This is true research as if we were in a research institution. Funding comes from the University of Oklahoma and a huge National Institutes of Health grant. It takes a lot of time. It's like independent study. I'm teaching them, but they are also doing stuff on their own."

Guthridge believes teachers should approach each student as the unique individual he or she is.

"One of the best ways we can impact what we do with our students is being positive with comparisons. Each student is unique. Teaching is not one-size-fits-all. The more we recognize students as unique the more we save. Seeing them as individuals and having compassion has to be a big part of teaching. You have to understand what they are going through. Interacting with our students with the utmost compassion can make all the difference in the world. Motivation has to come from within, but you have to have that little nudge of compassion to help them on their way."

In graduate school, she met the man who would become her husband, Joel Guthridge, a bioinformatics major. They have two children, Aaron, 16 and Lauren, 8.

"My husband works for Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, and he's a big supporter of our students. He sometimes is a guest lecturer in my classes, and he's added major dimensions to my lectures. He's been very helpful to the department's students. Right now he's hosting one of our students as a research associate. He's an incredible help to Cameron University."

Guthridge is glad her life plan changed.

"Life is dynamic, always changing, and that's good," she said. "Going through life with blinders on is not the way to live. You should fly by the seat of your pants and go with the flow. I love teaching."

"There are lots of peaks and very few troughs. It's wonderful to see that light bulb turning on. Working in education, you get to see the effect of your energy. Yes, I'm accomplishing something. I'm having an impact on society with these kids. Every day is an adventure."

CAMERON UNIVERSITY



She is the future and she needs your help.

For nearly 100 years, Cameron University has provided for the educational needs of its students. However, the success of the University depends largely on the generosity of its alumni and friends.

If you would like to make a gift to help meet the many needs of Cameron students, or if you would like more information on giving options, please contact the Office of University Advancement at 580.581.2999, or visit the office located in Administration 245.

For more details on ways of giving to Cameron University, please turn to the back inside cover.

Martin Luther King III will deliver CU's 2006 graduation address

Martin Luther King III will deliver the commencement address to Cameron University's Class of 2006. The university's annual graduation ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 6, at Cameron Stadium in Lawton. The public is invited to attend.



"Commencement is the culmination of each college student's academic experience," Ross said. "I am very pleased that Cameron students, their families and friends will have an opportunity to celebrate that success by hearing the motivational message of Martin

Luther King III."

The son of legendary civil rights activists, Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King, King is the President and CEO of The King Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta, which annually draws more than 650,000 visitors from across the globe.

King has continued his parents' social and political work and has become known as a staunch advocate of the economically oppressed. During the 1980s, he protested for Nelson Mandela in South Africa and was eventually jailed for his efforts. Throughout the early 1990s, King was deeply involved in standing against political and moral oppression in Haiti, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

"Mr. King has devoted his life to fighting for human rights and a nonviolent society," Ross said. "He has not only continued his father's rich legacy of fighting for social and political justice, but he has added new dimensions."

King was born Oct. 23, 1957 in Montgomery, Ala., the second of Martin Luther King Jr.'s four children. He received a bachelor of arts in political science from Morehouse College, the same school his father attended.

King served as a commissioner of Fulton County from 1987 to 1993. He was elected to lead the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1997. King left the SCLC in January 2004 to take the helm of The King Center.

Located in Atlanta's Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, The King Center allows visitors to experience the life and teachings of Martin Luther King Jr. through interactive exhibits.

Visitors may also tour The King Center's Library and Archives, the social leader's final resting place and his birth home.

EXERCISING THE MIND AND THE BODY

Festival VI concludes
after successful year
of activities and lectures

By Kathleen Kelly

Every third year Cameron University presents an Academic Festival, an exciting and informative series of interdisciplinary, intellectual and cultural programs.

Academic Festival VI, celebrated during the 2005-2006 academic year, took a somewhat different approach. With the theme *CU in Good Health*, Festival VI examined the subject of wellness in high style, providing Cameron's campus community and the public with myriad activities and events for the mind and the body.

"Each festival is a collection of the finest lectures, activities and events academia has to offer," said Vice President for Academic Affairs Gary Buckley, Ph.D. "This year we combined the intellectual effort with many fun physical activities to create a healthy, educationally optimal event for our students and the public."

The McCasland Foundation of Duncan created a \$250,000 Endowed Chair to provide funding for the festival. Other contributors included the CU Lectures and Concerts Committee, Comanche County Memorial Hospital and the Simmons Center in Duncan.

"We are thankful to the many contributors that allowed us to put on this festival," Buckley said.

Festival VI events ranged from symposia with student poster displays and panel discussions to kick boxing instruction.

The cornerstone of the festival was the McCasland Lecture Series, which included a quartet of keynote speakers including: Dr. Kenneth Cooper, founder, president and CEO of the Cooper Aerobics Center; Dr. Miriam Nelson, director of the John Hancock Center for Physical Activity and Nutrition and associate professor of nutrition at Tufts University; Dr. Alvin Poussaint, professor of psychiatry at Harvard School

Continued on next page

Continued from page 7

of Medicine; and Dr. Joycelyn Elders, distinguished professor of public health at the University of Arkansas and former United States Surgeon General.

In October, Cooper spent two days on CU's campus, participating in a number of events including a question-and-answer session with students.

Recalling his 50 years of practicing medicine, Cooper told the students that when he started his practice the field of preventative medicine was virtually non-existent.

"I was taught nothing about exercise physiology," he said. "I was taught nothing about nutrition."

Cooper said there are two major epidemics in America: obesity and sedentary.

"It is cheaper and more effective to maintain good health than to regain it when it's gone," he said. "Remember that."

Shanda Thompson, psychology senior, and Robert Hughes, health and physical education senior, attended the Cooper lecture. Thompson said that the message she took away from the seminar was, "how important it is, being a busy college student, to make the time to exercise."

Hughes was impressed by the amount of detail Cooper provided in his discussion of preventative health care.

"I think he is an expert in the field," Hughes said. "He presented a lot of the statistical data supporting exercise as a way to prevent disease."

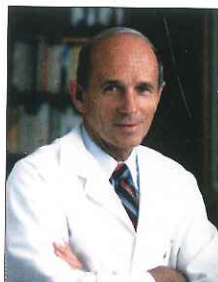
In November, Miriam Nelson, Ph.D., spoke on the topic of "Strong, Slim, and Fit: A Prescription for Life."

The author of countless scholarly journal articles and best-selling books, Nelson's honors for her work in the field of aging includes a Bunting Fellowship at Radcliffe College and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Governor's Committee on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Festival Coordinator Sally Bradstreet Soelle, Ph.D., said Nelson showed a tremendous insight into the field of physical wellness during her lecture.



Nelson



Cooper

"Her experience and knowledge have the potential to change lives," Soelle said.

Dr. Alvin Poussaint kicked off the spring semester with a lecture in February. Soelle said Poussaint was selected as a speaker in response to student input.

"This year students specifically requested that the university bring an individual to campus to address mental health issues that young people face, including anxiety, phobias, addictions, depression and suicide," she said. "We believe Dr. Poussaint's background and experience qualify him uniquely to talk with students and the larger community about these issues."

Poussaint, who has published numerous articles in medical journals, and co-authored two books, is one of the nation's top authorities on family dynamics. He lectured on the impact of the media on children, and on suicide and mental health crises, particularly among minorities.

"It was a powerful lecture," Buckley said. "I think it really opened up a lot of people's eyes to the serious issues surrounding the youth of today."

The capstone of the lecture series came in April when former Surgeon General Dr. Joycelyn Elders spoke on several key health issues facing the United States in her lecture entitled, "Health Care in the 21st Century."

Festival VI: *CU in Good Health* activities were not limited to just the cerebral variety. In a festival centered on physical health, festival-goers had opportunities to participate in the "Spin Around the Wichitas" bike ride, racquetball instruction, inner tube water polo, "No Foolin' Fun Run/Walk," and a faculty/staff vs. students softball game. Scavenger hunts, bird watching walks, swimming lessons and square dancing were also offered.

Alumni had the opportunity to participate in festival fun at the annual Alumni Dance in the fall when Joe Jones, assistant professor, offered basic line dance instruction.

"The festival was a great success," Buckley said. "I know it will have a lasting impact on our students, faculty, staff and community members who participated."

Page 7: Dr. Alvin Poussaint delivers his lecture as part of Festival VI.

Right: Dr. Joycelyn Elders answers questions during a press conference before her lecture.



Photo by J. Adam Calaway

LASTING PARTNERSHIP

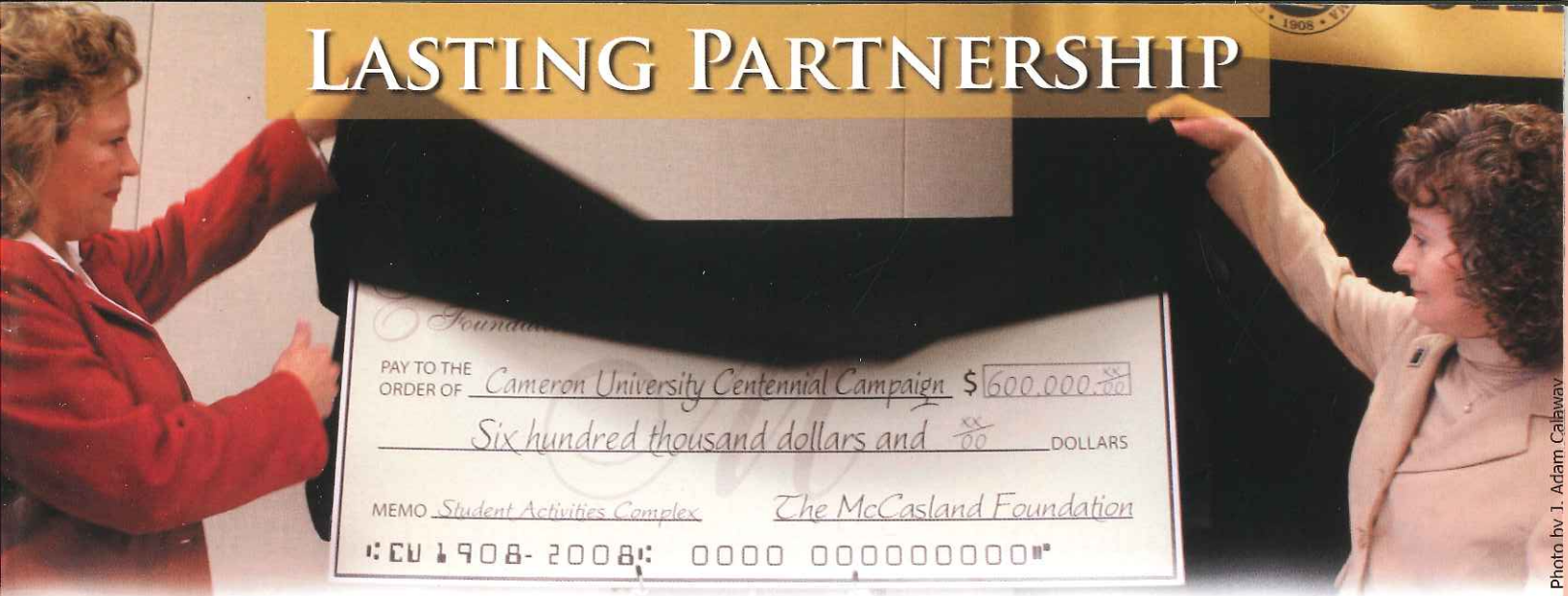


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

McCasland Foundation offers first gift to *Changing Lives* campaign

By Kathleen Kelly

For more than two decades, the McCasland Foundation of Duncan has steadfastly maintained its generous support of Cameron University's students, faculty, and staff.

Providing gifts in the form of grants, scholarships and endowments, the foundation has partnered with the university to enhance educational opportunities for residents of Southwest Oklahoma as Cameron continues to expand academic offerings and modernize facilities.

On Feb. 1, 2006, the McCasland Foundation, again, demonstrated its unwavering support, presenting a \$600,000 donation to university officials during a special ceremony at Cameron University-Duncan. The donation represented the first major gift in the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign, an \$8.5 million development initiative launched as part of Cameron's Centennial Observance.

Barbara Braught, Executive Director of the McCasland Foundation, presented President Cindy Ross with the donation at a ceremony attended by community leaders, local officials and Cameron students.

"Cameron has made a commitment to changing the lives of students, and the McCasland Foundation is committed to supporting those efforts," Braught said. "We are proud of our strong relationship and, as Cameron prepares for its second century, we want the university to know

One of the most significant contributions of the McCasland Foundation has been its tremendous support of Cameron's endowed faculty lectureship program. Through the McCasland Foundation Challenge Grants, the Foundation matches an initial donation of \$12,500 to form a \$25,000 lectureship, which is then matched by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) resulting in a \$50,000 endowment.

The McCasland Foundation has provided matching gifts for 36 of Cameron's endowed lectureships. When the "multiplier effect" of the endowed positions is considered, the grand total of gifts from the McCasland Foundation to Cameron University exceeds \$4 million.

"These lectureships provide Cameron University students and faculty members with educational opportunities that are not available at other universities," Ross said. "Through our partnership with the McCasland Foundation and the OSRHE, Cameron has the largest number of endowed faculty positions of any regional university in the state."

In recognition of the generous contributions the McCasland Foundation has made to Cameron University during the past two decades, McCasland Hall, part of Cameron Village, was dedicated during a special ceremony in late March.

"The McCasland Foundation's continued generosity has enhanced Cameron's ability to provide students with a top quality education and a complete collegiate experience," President Cindy Ross said. "We are grateful to have the McCasland Foundation as a dedicated partner. From this day forward, McCasland Hall will stand as a testament to the generosity of the McCasland Foundation."

McCasland Foundation History of Giving

**Endowed Lectureship
Positions Matching
Grants**
\$475,000

Scholarships
\$388,496

**Miscellaneous
Projects**
\$1,103,700

**Student Activities
Complex**
\$600,000

Total
\$2,567,196

that the McCasland Foundation will continue to provide vital private support."

The donation will be applied to the construction of the new \$6.5 million student activities complex, the cornerstone project of the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign.

"We are honored to receive such a generous gift," Ross said. "Cameron University and the McCasland Foundation have formed a lasting partnership that has provided countless opportunities to Cameron students. We are grateful for their continued support."



Ole Kim gives a thumbs up after unveiling McCasland Hall.

Photo by Doug McAbee

HISTORIC GENEROSITY



Photo by James Helvey

McMahon Foundation gives unprecedented \$4 million gift

By Danaline McPhail Bryant

February 9, 2006 was a day of historic importance for Cameron University.

That was the day CU officials formally accepted a \$4 million gift from The McMahon Foundation, the largest gift in Cameron's 98-year history and the largest gift in the 66-year history of The McMahon Foundation.

The gift was announced by President Cindy Ross during a special ceremony in the beautiful McMahon Center of Cameron Village.

"Today is a historic day, one that will be remembered for shaping Cameron University's future," Ross said. "As we prepare to celebrate Cameron's Centennial, this landmark gift will echo into Cameron's next 100 years. This gift will provide a better tomorrow for Cameron students. We are grateful to The McMahon Foundation for making this extraordinary and historic contribution."

The McMahon Foundation donation is the pacesetter gift in the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign, an \$8.5 million development initiative launched as part of Cameron's Centennial Observance. Cameron will celebrate its 100th birthday during the 2008-2009 academic year.

The McMahon gift will be applied toward the construction of a new \$6.5 million Student Activities Complex.

Dr. Charles Graybill, chairman of The McMahon Foundation, said the Board of Trustees made the donation because they support the administration's vision for the future of the university.

"Cameron University is committed to providing its students with a quality education, and The McMahon Foundation is dedicated to helping Cameron continue that mission," Graybill said. "We have formed a lasting partnership, one that has changed the lives of students during Cameron's first century and will continue to change lives for the next 100 years."

Regent Tom Clark, representing the Board of Regents of The University of Oklahoma, Cameron University and Rog-

ers State University, also praised the foundation's support of the university.

"Today will go down as an extraordinary day in Cameron's history," he said. "The McMahon gift represents tremendous progress toward fulfilling the promise of the *Changing Lives* campaign, which will reshape Cameron's campus and provide Cameron students with an all-inclusive facility."

The gift is only the most recent in the Foundation's long tradition of financial support of the university that dates back to 1947. It surpasses The McMahon Foundation's own record as the largest, one-time donation in Cameron University history. In 2004, the foundation gave \$1.25 million for the Cameron Village McMahon Center.

The total amount now given by the Foundation to Cameron is more than \$13 million. Ross praised The McMahon Foundation for its unwavering support of Cameron University.

"There are no words to adequately express our gratitude for The McMahon Foundation's legacy of giving," Ross said. "The McMahon Foundation has been a cornerstone in the success of Cameron University. On behalf of every student who has

the opportunity to earn an education because of a McMahon scholarship and every student who has taken a class in a facility constructed through the Foundation's generosity, I say thank you. Thank you for investing in the future of Cameron University's students and helping us change lives - one student at a time."

Other members of The McMahon Foundation Board of Trustees are Manville Redman, vice chairman; Gale Sadler, secretary/treasurer; and members Kenneth Bridges, Dr. Ron E. Cagle, Kenneth E. Easton, and Orville D. Smith.

The McMahon Foundation was established in 1940 by Louise D. McMahon and her son Eugene as a living memorial to E.P. McMahon, Louise's husband and father of Eugene.

The McMahon Foundation History of Giving

Scholarships
\$2,238,830

Total Major Grants
\$5,708,080

Miscellaneous Projects
\$1,258,982

Student Activities Complex
\$4,000,000

Total Donations
\$13,205,892



Photo by Doug McAbee

President Cindy Ross and Dr. Charles Graybill unveil a plaque commemorating The McMahon Foundation's gift.

100

YEARS

IN THE

MAKING

Cameron announces Centennial Observance, *Changing Lives* campaign

By Kim McConnell

Cameron University will not officially celebrate its 100th anniversary for another two years, but university officials are well on their way to reshaping the educational and physical face of the campus through an \$8.5 million campaign.

In early January, Cameron University President Cindy Ross announced the Centennial Observance, entitled *Cameron University: Changing Lives for 100 Years, 1908-2008*, as well as unveiled the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign. The *Changing Lives* campaign is the largest development initiative ever attempted by Cameron, and the largest three-year campaign of any regional university in Oklahoma. Cameron is serious about its fund-raising goal, and is more than two-thirds of the way toward achieving the campaign's promise. Ross said Cameron has raised \$6 million - 70 percent of the goal.

"This is an impressive beginning to an endeavor that will stand as a lasting memorial of Cameron University's first century and lay the foundation for Cameron's second century," Ross said, explaining that the campaign will emphasize the university's history of providing quality education to its students, while signaling its intent to enhance opportunities to better serve future generations.

Because student opportunity has always been Cameron's focus, the majority of the *Changing Lives* campaign funds will be used to build the \$6.5 million Student Activities Complex, a 37,000-square-foot facility that will blend a student union with popular student services, a food court and community spaces.

Among the specific proposals under discussion are a student din-

Continued on next page

Continued from page 11

ing room, study lounges, student activity areas, a game room, meeting rooms and a ballroom suitable for student and community use. And, adapting to the changing technological needs of today's students, the complex will feature wire and wireless networks.

"Cameron students are the focus of the *Changing Lives* campaign," Ross said. "The construction of a new Student Activities Complex continues our effort to create the complete collegiate experience for our students. This complex will provide CU students with a top-quality learning and recreational space."

The *Changing Lives* campaign also will allocate \$600,000 for endowed scholarships, addressing the financial needs of students while also meeting Ross's goal of encouraging a greater number of Southwest Oklahoma students to earn their post-secondary education from Cameron.

"I'm proud to say this campaign goal has already been met," Ross said. "However, we will continue to collect funding in this area. We are committed to providing as many students as possible with the financial means to earn a college diploma."

Because faculty are a crucial part of that educational equation, Cameron will allocate \$650,000 for endowed faculty positions, adding to the university's already

outstanding endowment program. Taking advantage of matching funds, that initial allocation will mean \$1.2 million in new funding, enough for two endowed chairs and 12 endowed lectureships.

While quality education is always Cameron's primary goal,



Photo by Doug McAbee

Commissioners

EVERYTHING
YOU NEED
TO KNOW
ABOUT CU'S
CENTENNIAL
OBSERVANCE



Photo by Doug McAbee

Nineteen Centennial Commissioners will play key roles in the Centennial Observance and in planning for Cameron's second century. The commissioners are local, state and regional leaders, as well as Cameron alumni, faculty and students. From Left: Paula Smith, Dr. Clodus Smith, Dr. Don Sullivan, Cameron alumni, faculty and students. From Left: Paula Smith, Dr. Clodus Smith, Dr. Don Sullivan, Professor Jim Lambert, Regent Tom Clark (event guest), Dr. Gilbert C. Gibson, Aulena Gibson (not pictured), Pat Henry, State Regent Bill Burgess (event guest), Betty Graybill, Sid Hudson, President Cindy Ross, Dr. Todd Bridges, Dr. Charles Graybill, Stephen Bentley, Dr. Terral McKellips, Albert Johnson Sr., Barbara Braught, Maj. Gen. David Ralston (represented by Col. William Greer), Linda Grantham, Dr. Joseph H. "Bud" Sahmaunt, Fourth District Congressman Tom Cole (represented by Keri Dennis), Frank Myers, and Chancellor Paul Risser (event guest). Ross will serve as Centennial chairman, and Sullivan is executive director.

Cameron also wants to enhance the lives of its students by creating the Centennial Gardens, a \$500,000 project that will serve as the focal point of the north-south pedestrian corridor.

The North Shepler parking lot will be transformed, offering water-themed creations, quiet study areas, and walkways through landscaped areas featuring trees, shrubs and flowers.

"As students receive their education, it is important to offer them a space for reflection and serenity," said Don Sullivan, Ph.D., executive director of the Centennial Observance. "The Centennial Gardens will make Cameron's campus an oasis for students from around the state and the world."

Changing Lives also will allocate \$250,000 for university advancement, giving donors the opportunity to provide gifts that will be used in a variety of areas where the need is great.

"While the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign is unparalleled in its objectives and scope, the campaign's potential to impact future Cameron students and Southwest Oklahoma is equally as grand," Ross said. "Our efforts to continue the CU tradition of changing lives come with a significant price tag. It will require an unprecedented level of personal and financial commitment, and it will reshape the very essence of the university, making it even more attractive to potential students and propelling its educational pursuits for another century."

President Cindy Ross smiles at Ole Kim after unveiling the Centennial logo at January's announcement.

Centennial Clock starts ticking

More than three billion seconds have passed since Cameron University was founded in 1908.

As the university nears its Centennial Celebration during the academic year 2008-2009, the Cameron community will countdown the final moments of its first century with a new Oklahoma State Centennial Street Clock.

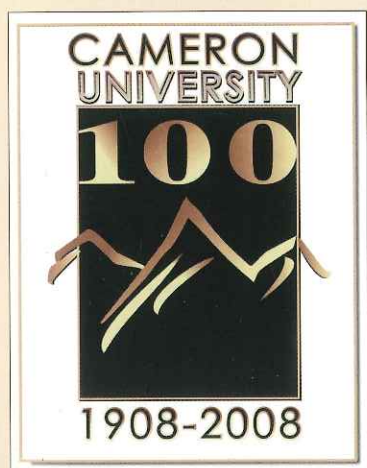
The clock was recently donated to Cameron by The McMahon Foundation of Lawton - in conjunction with the Oklahoma Centennial Commission's street clock initiative - to commemorate the university's upcoming 100-year anniversary.

Cameron officials and members of the McMahon Board of Trustees dedicated the new street clock during a brief ceremony this spring.

Located on the corner of University Drive and Gore Blvd. near CU's focal point, the 16.5 foot clock has a black lacquer finish with gold trim, consistent with Cameron's colors. The four-sided clock face glows warmly at night powered by an internal photocell.



Logo



The Cameron Centennial logo features a golden "100" rising above three golden mountain peaks. The peaks represent the Wichita Mountains, which serve as symbols for both Cameron University and Southwest Oklahoma.

Projects

Student Activities Complex
\$6.5 Million

Student Scholarships
\$600,000

Endowed Faculty Positions
\$650,000

Centennial Gardens
\$500,000

Institutional Advancement
\$250,000

Goals

1. To spotlight Cameron University's 100-year history of offering quality educational opportunities to students
2. To lay the foundation for Cameron's second century of providing students with a life-changing college experience
3. To enhance student learning and campus life to better serve future generations
4. To affect positive changes in the educational, economic and cultural lives of the people in Southwest Oklahoma

LETTERS HOME

Cameron alumni share experiences from Iraq

By J. Adam Calaway

When the World Trade Center towers fell on September 11, 2001, Mark Norton knew his future had changed – forever and violently.

Sitting in his South Shepler dorm room, the then-Cameron University ROTC cadet watched the twin towers crumble, knowing, as a member of the United States military, he would be involved in the resolution of a conflict not yet fully realized.

Five years later, the 36-year-old Norton, now a First Lieutenant, is stationed in Balad, Iraq, about 40 miles north of Baghdad. He's a Medical Operations Officer for an aviation brigade.

In a grander sense, Norton and three of his fellow Aggies who serve in the same brigade, are continuing a Cameron legacy. CU students have served in every major world conflict since the university's inception in 1908; from World War I to Vietnam and, now, the War in Iraq.

Unlike wars of the past, where letters home took weeks to reach their destinations, today's soldier has one communication advantage – email.

In the following words, Norton and fellow Cameron graduate, John Paul Mayo, a Blackhawk helicopter pilot and platoon leader, open up their daily diaries, trading emails with their home campus to offer a first-hand glimpse of what life is really like in the giant sand box where nobody wants to play.

From the candid quote – “Quit watching the news!” – to the poignant – “I am helping a country that desperately needs it” – this is their letter home.

Green-to-Gold

Norton enlisted in the Navy fresh out of high school and spent eight years as a hospital corpsman, serving in both Kuwait and Korea. He eventually left the Navy to attend nursing school, but he quickly realized the military was his calling and reenlisted, this time in the Army.

“I had to go back to boot camp and eventually found myself at Fort



Sill," Norton wrote in his first email. "One day I attended a Green-to-Gold briefing given by the Cameron ROTC, and I immediately started filling out the appropriate paperwork."

Norton recalls with fondness the friends he met during his time at Cameron, including Mayo. He wrote about their physically demanding training and a personally emotional graduation ceremony.

"I'll never forget walking across the stage and looking up at my parents in the audience," he wrote.

Looking back, Norton described the training he received at Cameron as invaluable.

"The Cameron ROTC department helped me a great deal," he wrote. "The leadership from the cadre put us in some difficult situations that all of us fall back on from time to time. Lt. Col. (Jeff) Finley taught me a great deal about what type of leader I wanted to be."

Time to Lead

Norton and Mayo would get their chance to lead more than 6,000 miles away from Lawton.

The pair were deployed to Iraq in October 2005 on a one-year tour. Norton said the main function of his brigade is to provide safe transport for troops.

"Let's face it, convoys are dangerous, so we fly them to keep their boots off the ground," wrote the 14-year military veteran. "It helps (counteract) the Improvised Explosive Device (IED) danger."

While the aviators fly, Norton spends 10 hours a day keeping them healthy. He's responsible for the day-to-day operations of the brigade's health clinic. One of those fly boys he watches out for is his friend. Entering his seventh year of service, Mayo manages a section of the maintenance company, flying missions and maintaining aircraft.

"I am glad that I am here doing my job," Mayo wrote, "and helping a country that desperately needs it."

Face to Face

Norton experiences the needs of a war-torn country on a very personal level.

"Throughout the country, there are certain days where (the Army) holds clinics for the local population," Norton said. "We see them here on Thursdays, they are escorted onto the base and we hold sick-call for them and their families."

This one-on-one interaction has provided Norton unfiltered access to the Iraqi people.

"The people that do not want us over here are a very small percentage of the population. For the most part, the people of Iraq are glad to have us," Norton said. Mayo was more direct about the difference in perception from those stateside and those living with sand in their boots.

"Unfortunately TV is reality to America, and most Americans believe the enemy over here (consists of) thousands of seven-foot giants trying to kill us when in fact it's a couple of hundred 5'7" guys hiding in the masses, fighting like cowards," he wrote. "We are doing a good thing here. Quit watching the news!"

The Weekly Mortar Rounds

Turns out there are many events that seem unusual to state-side



(Left to Right): 1st Lt. Mark Norton, 1st Lt. John Mayo, Capt. Abdul Wurie and 1st Lt. Natacha Whetstone, all CU graduates, are currently serving in Iraq.

civilians that are commonplace for soldiers in Iraq. For instance the random mortar rounds that fall from the sky.

Two or three times a week, Norton said, a mortar round falls a few hundred feet from where he sleeps. That doesn't mean he's scared, that's just a reality of life. In fact, fear doesn't seem to factor into the job at all for Norton and Mayo.

"I feel very proud that I am serving my country in this capacity," Norton wrote in his first email. "It really gives me an appreciation for the freedoms we Americans sometimes take for granted."

Like Norton, Mayo brushes off the idea of fear. Serving in a war zone was an expected, even desired, duty.

"I was hoping that the war would not get over until I did at least one rotation over here," he wrote. "Don't students in law school think they will end up in a courtroom?"

Down Time?

Along with the sand, the occasional critter, the sun and the mortar shells, the soldiers do find some leisure time.

"I go to the gym a lot," Norton wrote. "It definitely helps pass the time." Mayo uses most of his down time to talk to his wife and catch up on his sleep.

In the absence of work though, thoughts of home are not as easy to ignore. Free time serves only to highlight the people, places and comforts that are so obviously absent.

Both soldiers wrote in depth about missing their home and their families. It's the No. 1, all-time, without a doubt hardest part of being overseas. But there are a couple of other items every soldier misses. For Norton, it's something a little lower on the food chain - like a nice steak.

"They're too safe with meat around here," he wrote. "You can't get a medium rare anything!"

Mayo describes what he misses more directly: "My wife, kids, dogs, house, hot showers, good food, civilian clothes, sleeping in, weekends off, walking around Wal-Mart, green grass, driving my car, not having to walk to the bathroom or shower, my comfortable bed, not being woken up by F-16's, helicopters, or mortar attacks."

Summer and Sandstorms

Right now, winter in Iraq is coming to an end. It's been a wet winter - well, wet for a desert. The season did bring a hearty laugh for some of the troops in Norton and Mayo's brigade.

"When the biggest rain storm came it flooded the area where all our senior leaders sleep," Norton wrote. "Some of them had to come out in the morning with their chemical protective rubber boots on. Everyone was laughing."

The weather has been bearable up to this point. A decent 80 degrees around dusk and dawn, but becomes "uncomfortably hot" by 8 a.m. Of course, that's winter. As the summer months approach, Norton and Mayo are preparing for days when the mercury will reach a blistering 130 degrees.

Then there are the looming sandstorms, destructive walls of wind and chaos that will torment the troops, damage equipment and hinder the overall operation.

But those are tomorrow's problems. Right now, Mark Norton and John Paul Mayo are writing letters home.

The Lady Aggies Golf Team includes: (in front) Laura Gonzales, (back row: from left to right) Renee Breez, Devri Morgan, Krystle McCorgary, Jennifer Madden and Laura Madden.



FIRST LADIES of the LINKS

The Lady Aggies are proving that anyone who takes them lightly is making a serious mistake

By Steve Doughty

The life of a first-year athletic program can be rough. Opponents welcome you onto their schedule with open arms, but not before they pencil in the "W" next to your name. You step off the team bus and the "who are they?" whispers begin. When people ask you what team you play for, you have to repeat your answer.

First-year programs are the Rodney Dangerfields of collegiate athletics - they get no respect.

But from the start, the Cameron women's golf program had no plans to be a doormat. And in

their first season of competition in the Lone Star Conference, the Lady Aggies are proving that anyone who takes them lightly is making a serious mistake. Head coach Rick Goodwin has assembled a squad mixed with seasoned veterans and talented newcomers, and the results have been impressive.

The Lady Aggies have three Top 10 team finishes already this year, including a third-place effort in their own Oklahoma Intercollegiate tournament played at the Lawton Country Club in

October. And with each passing event, Goodwin sees a team quickly maturing into a contender for postseason play.

"When you have a first-year program, I don't think people expect a lot out of you. But our goal has always been to be competitive right from the beginning," Goodwin said. "To me, being competitive means having a chance to play in the regional championships, and we're working hard every day to get to that point and then get to the national championships before all is said and done."

"We've got a great opportunity to be successful here," he added. "We've already got a great tradition established with our men's golf program and we're excited about being able to add to that tradition."

Under the direction of longtime head coach Jerry Hrniciar, the Cameron men's golf program is perennially considered among the top teams in the nation. The Aggies have 15 national tournament appearances and 32 All-Americans to their credit. Seventeen more Aggie golfers have earned All-American academic honors, as well. Cameron has six Lone Star Conference men's golf championships, all of which have been earned since 1990. Goodwin sees the same potential for success with his women's squad.

"When you're starting a program from scratch, having experienced players in the mix from the beginning can really help jump-start things," Goodwin said. "We were fortunate to be able to help build our program with a few transfers who have come in with collegiate experience. But we've got three freshmen who are playing well for us, as well, so that's going to be to our benefit down the road."

"Plus, we only have six girls on our roster this year and all of them have been able to get tournament experience this year," he continued. "Ideally, you would like to have nine or 10 kids competing each week for positions in the lineup, so they all push each other to perform better. We'll get to that point in the next year or so, but for now, having all of our girls out there competing in tournaments has helped get them that experience they needed."

The results haven't been too bad either. Cameron officially began competition in collegiate women's golf on Sept. 19 at the Northeastern State University Women's Golf Classic. The Lady

Aggies finished 11th among the 16 teams competing, finishing ahead of several well-established teams. They followed that with a fifth-place showing at the St. Edward's University Fall Invitational and finished eighth at the Tarleton State Classic before posting their highest finish at the Oklahoma Intercollegiate to close the fall portion of their schedule.

"Realistically, we're about where I think we should be right now," Goodwin said as his team began its spring push toward reaching its postseason goals. "Of course, as a coach, I'm always thinking of ways we can get better. But our freshmen are really coming along now that they have been exposed to playing at this level and have done a good job, too."

On a roster that is two-thirds full with home-grown talent, it seems only fitting that a Lawton product take the lead in the Lady Aggies' inaugural season. Lawton High School graduate Laura Madden currently leads the team in stroke average and has four Top 25 individual finishes, including a Top 10 showing at the Oklahoma Intercollegiate.

Madden, who transferred from Central Oklahoma following Cameron's announcement of the addition of women's golf, is one of four Lady Aggies who call Lawton home. Madden's twin sister, Jennifer, is on the squad.

As are 2005 LHS graduates Lauren Gonzales and Renee Breeze, who were the first two players signed to the Cameron women's golf program last April.

Bixby, Okla., freshman Devri Morgan and Pratt Community College transfer Krystle McCorgary, a native of Arkansas City, Kan., have also made solid contributions in the Lady Aggies' first season.

These six players, Goodwin believes, have provided the foundation for a successful program that he sees as a potential powerhouse in collegiate women's golf.

"These kids have done a great job of getting our program off to a solid start," Goodwin said. "You have to establish a firm foundation if you expect to build anything significant, and I think we've done that in our first season. But if I can do my job recruiting and get more good players in here, we're going to move up that competitive ladder rapidly," he continued. "We have a successful tradition of athletics here at Cameron University and there's no reason why women's golf can't be included in that tradition, as well."

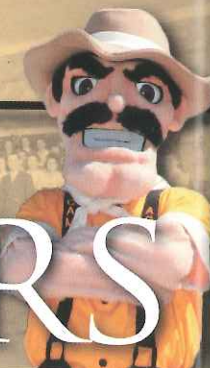


"You have to establish a firm foundation if you expect to build anything significant, and I think we've done that in our first season."

- Rick Goodwin
Lady Aggie Golf Coach



ALMA MATTERS



Alumni are the foundation of Cameron University's success. Today's generation of Aggies walk on a path forged by those who came before. In this portion of the *Cameron Magazine*, named Alma-Matters, alumni are presented by year to help update classmates on their present locations and occupations. Alumni who received more than one degree are listed by year of their most recent degree. Those who attended but did not graduate are listed under the year they would have graduated or the last year they attended.

Persons who wish to update their address, change job status, or have news to share, should contact the CU Alumni Relations Office by mail at 2800 W. Gore Blvd., Lawton, OK, 73505; by phone at 580-581-2988; or by email at alumni@cameron.edu.

1939: Edd D. Rhoades, Chickasha, is a retired engineer.

1941: Edith Sanman Kelley, Lawton, retired from Civil Service and as a travel consultant. **Jessie Mae Bradley Mengel**, Edmond, was chief clerk at Cameron for many years and worked for Civil Service.

1948: Edgar Malone Sr., Fletcher, is retired as owner of Malone Motor Company, a Ford dealership.

1949: Dr. William Carmack, Norman, is a University of Oklahoma Regents Professor of Communication. **Marcus D. Price**, Mesa, Ariz., is a retired system implementation manager.

1950: Betty Lewis Kriz, Lawton, retired as claim manager for The Hartford Insurance Company.

1951: Bill Davenport, Lawton, is a retired commercial building contractor.

1952: Retired Air Force Lt. Col. David Choate, Williamsburg, Va., is retired from Telcordia Technologies.

1954: Farron Hottel lives in Purcell. The Purcell Register printed a November article about his boxing days at Cameron as a state

Golden Gloves Champion. He continued boxing while serving in the Army.

1955: Retired Army Col. James Harry Byrn Sr., is a self-employed real estate investor. Retired Army **Brig. Gen. David Funk**, Montgomery, Ala., is a retired Troy University professor.

1956: James Fullerton, Lawton, is a retired attorney. **Jean LaDoyce Noel Lynch**, Frederick, retired as a clerical employee for Tillman County.

1958: Glen Stephens, Stillwater, retired as owner of Wendell Stephens Insurance Agency.

1959: Earl Tankersley, Amarillo, Texas, is retired from Bell Helicopter.

1961: Juanita Faye Clower Kirby Wells, Faxon, is a retired teacher.

1962: John Paynter, Lawton, retired as Cameron's reference librarian. Over 70 paintings from his collection of Native American art have been placed on permanent loan to Cameron. They hang on the walls of the new McMahon Center, the Cameron Library and in the office complex of President Cindy Ross. He has also established the John C. Paynter Endowed Lectureship in Communications.

1965: Sen. Ronald Justice, Chickasha, serves in the Oklahoma Senate.

1967: Retired Lt. Col. George Bearden, San Antonio, Texas, has retired from the Army with 36 years of service. His last assignment was as training manager, Department of Pastoral Ministry Training, U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Fort Sam Houston.

1970: Sheila Martin Fountain, Lawton, is director of special services for the Lawton Public Schools.

1971: Harold Asbury, Oklahoma City, is retired. **Jim Cantrell**, Lawton, is President

of City National Bank. **Berniece Johnson**, Portland, Ore., is retired from the Portland Police Department and is employed as a U.S. Marshall Service CSO. She is a country music singer. **Janet Giffin**, Green Cove Springs, Fla., is music director at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church. **Roy B. Hooper**, Lawton, is self employed as a consultant and insurance broker. **Robert Viana**, Murchison, Texas, retired as chief polygraph examiner for the Fort Worth Police Department.

1972: Keith Boyer, Lehighton, Pa., is superintendent of the Jim Thorpe Area School District. **Charles Coker**, Duncan, is retired and serves as secretary for the Duncan Masonic Lodge #60. **Ralph Edwards**, Houston, is a retired IRS agent. **Jeremiah Griffin**, Escondido, Calif., retired from the Department of Defense where he worked in financial management. He has received two Department of the Army Meritorious Civilian Service Awards and a Department of Defense Exemplary Civilian Career Service Award.

1973: Yolanda Auguster Crump, Baton Rouge, La., is a psychologist corrections program manager for Jetson Correctional Center for Youths. **Judy Davis**, Fletcher, serves on the Fletcher School Board. She taught at Cleveland School for 25 years before retiring. **Donna Smith**, Tipton, taught secondary English in Altus for 23 years and now teaches composition and world literature for Wayland Baptist University. She is a published writer and maintains a website to promote authors at <http://www.victoryherald.com>.

1974: James Brown, Durham, N.C., is assistant county manager for Robeson County. **Garry Davis**, Paris, Texas, is assistant vice president at 1st Federal Community Bank. He is married to **Karla**, '75. **Victor Patrick**, Hedgesville, W.Va., is a federal security officer for the Defense Information Systems Agency.

1975: Dr. James Blomgren, Lincoln, Neb., is a family physician with Lincoln Family Medical Group, PC. **K. Mark Bobo**,

Need a Ride?

Frederick, is EVP/CSO at BancFirst. Loyd Dale Cagle, Lawton, is administrator for the Comanche County Detention Center. Karla Compton Davis, Paris, Texas, teaches third grade. She is married to Garry, '74. Roy Dwyer Jr., San Antonio, Texas, is chief pilot for Four Star International Inc. Deborah Vosler, Eyota, Minn., was a member of the 2004 United States Paralympic Sitting Volleyball team. The team won a bronze medal in Athens, Greece, becoming the first disabled volleyball team in the U.S. Volleyball Organization to win a medal. She is a secondary science educator.

1976: Mary Jones, Lawton, is a housewife.

1977: Darrell Cofer, Anadarko, is an investment representative for Edward Jones Investments. Retired Maj. Gen. Evan Gaddis, Vienna, Va., is president and CEO of National Electric Manufacturer's Association. Regina Hargrove, Lawton, is a teacher. Ronald Sharp, Ph.D., Temple, Texas, is a retired educator. He has been awarded a Distinguished Service Cross, the highest honor of the National Association of Medics and Corpsmen.

1978: Gary Jones, Lawton, is Oklahoma Republican State chairman and executive director. James Keeter, Walters, teaches chemistry and biology and is K-12 counselor for Big Pasture Schools. He is married to Nancy, '87.

1979: Laura Brown Cook, Williamsburg, Va., is an accountant for Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

1980: W. Scott Deal, Fairbanks, Alaska, is a professor of percussion at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. He was a guest performer at the CU Percussion Ensemble Spring 2006 concert. Bob Elam, Lawton, is retired. He worked in engineering operations for the Air Force. Lawrence Suffern, Boerne, Texas, is a database analyst for Security Service Federal Credit Union. He is married to Carla, '83.

1981: Kenny Bates, Lawton, is project manager for McKesson Corporation. He serves on the CU Alumni Association board of directors. He is married to Rebecca, '82. Kathy Bayers, Altus, teaches English at Navajo School. Gayle Colyer, Mead, is a tribal resource conservationist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, NRCS. Mary Fisher Henderson, Arlington, Texas, is assistant controller for Trinity Industries Inc. Registered nurse Sylvia Stubits Thompson, Port Angeles, Wash., has worked in many areas of the nursing profession and as owner of The Well Foot Clinic. She is a state instructor for fundamentals of nursing.

1982: Rebecca Beene Bates, Lawton, has been an elementary school teacher for 24 years. She



Photos by J. Adam Calaway



Top: Members of the Cameron University ROTC perform a "hot load" – boarding a Blackhawk helicopter while it is preparing to lift off – during a special Joint Field Training Exercise (JFTX).

Left: Cadets smile after they practice bailing out of a Blackhawk.

Below: Cameron University and Texas Tech Cadets listen to instructors detail the specific aspects of the Blackhawk helicopters, which came to Fort Sill from the West Virginia National Guard before deploying to Iraq. Two Blackhawks landed in the field north of Cameron's softball field to give the cadets a lift to their training site on Fort Sill.



is married to **Kenny**, '81. **Cheryl Everman**, Federalsburg, Md., is a self-employed marketing consultant. She is married to **David**, '78. **Francis O'Connor**, Lawton, is retired from the Army. **Margie Wilkerson Ball**, Duncan, married Thomas Ball in December. She is employed at Bartling Insurance.

1983: Michael Cox, Blacklick, Ohio, is professor of music and coordinator of the graduate program at Capital University, Columbus, Ohio. He was the headline performer at Cameron's 30th annual Jazz Festival. He has performed nationally as a saxophonist. **Sharon Lynn**, Arizona City, Ariz., retired as an instructor for MTI Business College. **Carla Estep Suffern**, Boerne, Texas, is a teacher for Northside ISD in San Antonio. She has received the Exceptional Classroom Award from Sylvan Learning Centers. Her poetry has been published. She is married to **Lawrence**, '80. **Daniel Toombs Jr.**, Lawton, is a campus minister for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

1984: Gerald Gardner, Lawton, retired from the Navy as a machinist mate.

1985: Gaston Cyr, Horizon City, Texas, is retired from the Army. He is the golf coach and French teacher for the Socorro ISD. **Faith Gibson**, Holland, Mich., is a housewife.

Jon Kalbfleisch, Alexandria, Va., was guest conductor for the Lawton Philharmonic Orchestra in March. He is resident musical director at the Signature Theatre in Arlington, Va., and conductor for the Washington Ballet. He has played and/or conducted many performances at venues including the White House, Kennedy Center, National Theatre, Smithsonian and on Broadway.

1986: Barbara Moeller Garlow, Lawton, is a realtor broker and owner of Prudential Moeller and Associates. **Eugenia Glenn**, Altus, is an instructor in the business and computer technology program at Southwest Technology Center. Retired Army Sgt. **Maj. Larry Becker**, Lawton, is also retired from City National Bank. He and his wife Jacqueline celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in December. **Carolyn Davis**, Duncan, was named 2005 Duncan Public Schools' Teacher of the Year. She is a business teacher at Duncan High School and has received her National Board Certification Career/Technology.

1987: Nancy Dowell, Cushing, is a teacher. **Nancy Keeter**, Walters, teaches 2nd grade. She is married to **James**, '78. **Ima Jean Scruggs**, Lawton, retired from Civil Service at Fort Sill where she worked in the Commanding General's office.

1988: Terri Hooper, Walters, teaches 5th

and 6th grade science, math and social studies for Temple Public Schools and is a 4-H leader. **Ann King**, Walters, has taught various subjects in kindergarten through 8th grade for 17 years. **Lana McCracken Moore**, Cache, is co-owner of Redbud Occupational and Physical Therapy in Lawton; She is a registered physical therapist. **Lisa Bledsaw Woehler**, Harvest Ala., is manager of retail sales for Summer Classics.

1989: Sean Rezentes, East Amherst, N.Y., is employed by HSBC. **Andy Simpson**, AIA, Selma, Texas, has his own architecture business, Archimedia. He has worked on over two million square feet of facilities for educational, municipal, institutional and residential clients. **Lloyd Sumner, Ph.D.**, Ardmore, is associate scientist and head of biological mass spectrometry, plant biology division at Samuel Roberts Nobel Foundation. He has been inducted as a Fellow of the American Association of the Advancement of Science based on his outstanding work on the application of large-scale biochemical approaches to better understand plant phytochemistry and natural product biosynthesis. He lectures in this area all over the world and will chair a National Symposium related to his research in the UK in April.

1990: Liviana Casotti, Fayetteville, N.C., is a

Remembering Martin Luther King Jr.



Photo by Michael D. Pope

Julian Bond, the immediate past chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), visited CU's campus as part of the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration. He was the keynote speaker at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Banquet. Bond has been a pivotal figure in civil rights and economic justice efforts since 1960.

free lance artist. **Tina Harmon**, Cedar Creek, Texas, is a supervisory accountant for the Department of Veterans Administration.

1991: Isidora Arzu, Lithia Springs, Ga., is a Spanish teacher. She is married to **Alfredo**, '99. **Patti Ward Clift**, Norman, is a CPA and senior associate at Smith, Carney and Company, PC in Oklahoma City. **Phil Dennis**, Lawton, is a science teacher, girls' golf coach and assistant football coach at Eisenhower High School. He is married to **Jennifer**, '94. **Susan Johnson Dias**, Duncan, works for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections as a correctional officer in the rank of corporal. She is a certified peace officer. **John Haverty**, Qatar, is director of maintenance programs for ITT. **Maj. Mark Roy Hodgkins**, Elgin, serves in the Army. **Anne Beltrane McClure**, Lawton, is a physical therapist and owner of Physical Therapy Solutions. **James Myers**, Lawton, is a deputy sheriff for the Comanche County Sheriff's Department. **Karen Pike**, Altus, is a procurement analyst for Civil Service at Altus Air Force Base. Retired Army Reserve **Maj. Edward Pulido**, Edmond, works for the United Way of Central Oklahoma. He spoke at the Fall Kickoff of Fort Sill's Combined Federal Campaign and related how he was helped by Combined Federal Campaign-supported agencies during a time of crisis. While on active duty in Iraq, he received injuries from an explosive device which resulted in the loss of a leg. A computer-controlled limb, provided by the Army, allows him to walk, run and participate in sports. His mission through the United Way is to let everyone hear his story of how the CFC agencies helped him and his family with counseling, housing and basic support.

1992: Ivan Velez, Aibonito, Puerto Rico, has been selected Citizen of the Year. He retired as EEO manager of the Department of Veteran Affairs.

1993: Stephanie Williams Christophe, Helena, Ala., is senior programmer analyst at Southtrust/Wachovia Bank. **Dr. Lisa Phegley Myers**, Ponca City, is a chemist and director of new catalysts at ConocoPhillips. **Terrie West Patterson**, Wynne, Ark., is a drug treatment specialist for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. **Jeffrey Shaw**, Lawton, is general manager of Billingsley Hyundai dealership. **Richard Zamarripa**, Corpus Christi, Texas, is director of business development for Work-Force 1 and serves on the board of directors for the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce.

1994: Rolanda Cole, Charlotte, N.C., is a facilitator for Mecklenburg County Youth and Family Services. **Jennifer Johnson**

Dennis, Ph.D., Lawton, is assistant professor of education and master of arts in teaching coordinator at Cameron University. She is married to **Phil**, '91. **Timothy Flaig**, Oklahoma City, is risk manager for the County Health Department in Oklahoma City. **Adrienne Freese**, Lawton, teaches science courses at Temple and is the academic team coach. Retired Army Chief Warrant Officer **Charles Kuntz** lives in Lawton.

1995: Sherrie Melvin Grimes is an accountant for DFAS in Europe. Retired Chief Master Sergeant **Bradley Ward**, New Braunfels, Texas, is a quality assurance representative for the Air Force.

1996: Holly Bailey, Venus, Texas, teaches 4th grade at Waxahachie ISD. She was

named 2004-05 Teacher of the Year at Joe Wilson Intermediate in Cedar Hill, Texas. **Kathryn Ashton Carlson**, Colorado Springs, Colo., is a stay-at-home mom. **Doug Howard**, Choctaw, is a firefighter with the Midwest City Fire Department. **Antonio Henley**, Lee, N.H., is director of the McNair Scholars Program at the University of New Hampshire. **Cathy McCrary**, Apache, is a Civil Service senior budget analyst. **Terry Norrell**, Lawton, is director of pharmacy at Jim Taliaferro Community Mental Health Center. **Russell Pemberton**, Magnolia, Texas, is human resources manager for SABIC Americas Inc. **Amanda Massey Villanueva**, Commerce, Texas, teaches Spanish for Mesquite ISD.

1997: Olivia Adamson, Lawton, is a therapist for Dayspring Behavioral Health Services,

Taking Aim

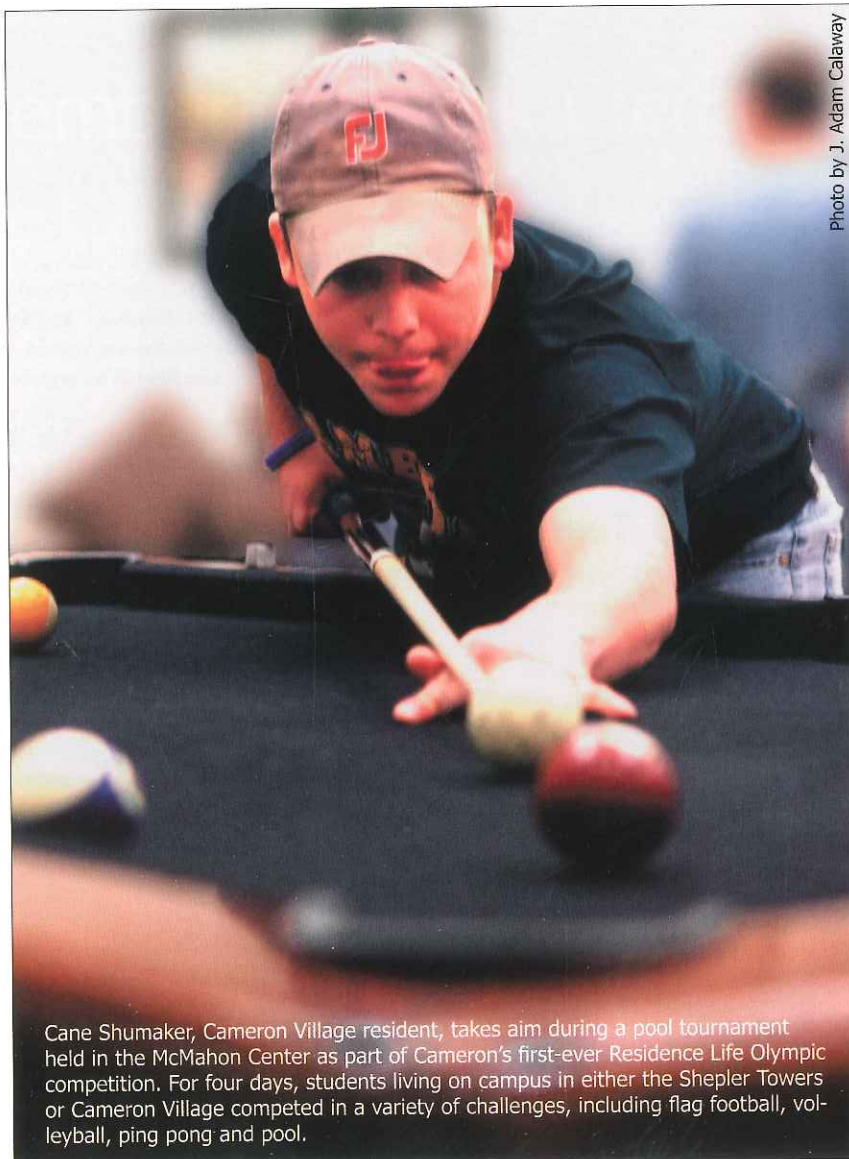


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

Cane Shumaker, Cameron Village resident, takes aim during a pool tournament held in the McMahon Center as part of Cameron's first-ever Residence Life Olympic competition. For four days, students living on campus in either the Shepler Towers or Cameron Village competed in a variety of challenges, including flag football, volleyball, ping pong and pool.

Tulsa. **Carolyn Buben**, Oklahoma City, is compliance officer and vice president of Union Bank. **Robert Payne**, Cheyenne, is county executive director of the Roger Mills County Farm Service Agency. **Wanda Proctor**, Universal City, Texas, is a paramedic for Kirks EMS.

1998: **Christina Newland-Cale Lang**, Ardmore, is a law school graduate. **Dr. Robert Mullen**, Wooster, Ohio, is an assistant professor at Ohio State University. **John Nowak**, Lawton, married Aimee Vardeman in November. He is a teacher and soccer coach. **Capt. Samuel Rosario Valentin**, El Paso, Texas, serves in the Army. **Dr. Raymond Roy Jr.** works in the civilian Department of Defense position as chief of the environmental laboratory division for CHPPM-PAC located in Camp Zama Japan. He is married to **Grazyna**, 2000. **Capt. Tyquese Pratt-Chambers**, Joppa, Md., serves in the Army.

1999: **Nicolle Miller Ayala**, Lawton, is an academic counselor for East Central University. **Vina Lou Christian**, Blanchard, is owner and CEO of Cornerstone Financial Strategies and a financial consultant for AXA Advisors. She has received numerous awards for accomplishments in her field. **Daneice Foster**, Tuttle, teaches science at Tuttle High School. **Richard Gillespie**, Lawton, is director of practice management at Comanche County Memorial Hospital. He serves on the board of directors of the CU Alumni Association. **Russ Igo**, Anadarko, is soil conservation technician for the Natural Resources Conservation Service in Comanche County. **Tiffany Kobashigawa**, Woodland Hills,

Calif., is marketing manager for Health Net Inc. **Danny McCall**, Duncan, has worked 25 years at Halliburton. He is human resources manager at the Manufacturing Center.

2000: **Hillary Ashton**, Toledo, Ohio, is a news producer at ABC News affiliate WTVG-TV. **Angela Casler**, Chico, Calif., is owner of SB Bear Trucking. **Leslie Cothren**, Carlisle, Pa., is associate director of student activities at Dickinson College. **Chearlene Glover Johnson**, Elgin, is director of development at Hospice of Southwest Oklahoma and is working toward a doctoral degree.

2001: **Christopher Boyd**, Lawton, is a computer-aided draftsman at CDBL Inc. **Dana Brown**, Temple, teaches special education for K-12 in the Temple Public Schools. **Paula Clement**, Hollis, is a secondary teacher. **Virginia Fredricks**, Herndon, Va., is a senior accountant II at MCI. **Shawn Hall**, Lawton, is vice president of operations at Top to Bottom Inc. **Phaedra Philpott**, Walters, is supervisory pharmacy technician for Reynolds Army Community Hospital at Fort Sill. **Rev. Jenny Wynn**, Norman, has been ordained into The Order of Christian Ministry. She is minister of faith development at First Christian Church in Norman.

2002: **Casey Crume**, Snyder, instructs the construction trades program at Southwest Technology Center. **Rosalyn McDaniel**, Rainbow City, Ala., is business center manager for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.

2003: **Richmond Adams**, Carbondale, Ill., is a doctoral graduate student. *The Film Journal*

has published his article *Faithfulness: A Vision of Stanley Kubrick's Last Three Films*. The article can be read at www.thefilmjournal.com/issue13/kubrick.html. **Marla Doye**, Walters, teaches 2nd grade at Walters Elementary School. **Carline Edwards**, St. Kitts, is a trained graduate teacher. She directs the Sandy Point High School Show Choir which has performed at functions of national importance. **Melinda Hawkins**, Lawton, is a housing development specialist for the city of Lawton. **Charles David Ray**, Duncan, married **Amber Smith Ray**, '04, in October. He is employed by the Lawton Police Department. **Alfonzo McKinley**, Fayetteville, N.C., is a provost sergeant major in the Army and is pursuing a master's degree. **Jan Woomavoyah**, Lawton, is an adjunct professor at Cameron University and Comanche National College. Her film *NDN General Clinic* was part of the Comanche National College Invitational Film Festival in September.

2004: **Angelina Brooks**, Lawton, is a human resource specialist for the Army. **Larry Joseph Conner**, Pearland, Texas, is an investigator for the Department of Children's Protective Services. He is married to **Chandra**, '02. **Lindsay Brown Geiger**, Marlow, married **William Stanton Geiger** in September. She is a teacher at Wilson Elementary in Lawton. **Amber Smith Ray**, Duncan, married **Charles David Ray**, '03, in October. She is a registered nurse at Comanche County Memorial Hospital. **Donald Taylor**, Duncan, is a special education paraprofessional and coaches football at Duncan High School. After playing football for Cameron in the 1970s, he was a free agent draft to the Houston Oilers in 1973. **Brandy Wyatt**, Altus, teaches 1st grade at Washington Elementary.

2005: **Sarah Teague Bruehl**, Lawton, teaches 3rd grade at Howell Elementary. **Sandra Dunn**, Duncan, is secretary for the Cameron music department. A one-woman show of her art work was displayed recently at the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center. **Audrey Glascock**, Tulsa, works for the Oklahoma DHS Developmental Disabilities Division-Area II as a case manager II at the Laura Dester Center. **Erin Griffin**, Lawton, is a special education teacher. **Charles Morey**, Lawton, is a special education teacher. He is married to **Dianna**, '04. **Peary Livingston Robertson**, Maud, married **Angela Cotanny** in July. He is an instructor of economics at Seminole State College and works for the Seminole Nation Development Authority. **Megan Smith**, Lawton, is pursuing a degree in veterinary science. **Kristie Punley Subieta**, Anadarko, is an education technician at Riverside Indian School. **DeMarco Williams**, Lawton, is site manager for Cunningham Apartments. **Chris Young**, Lawton, is a training developer for TeeMasters.

Tomorrow's Leaders



Sen. Daisy Lawler, D-Marlow, visits with Zach Fort, senior communication major from Marlow, and Jonathan Hooks, sophomore communication major from Duncan, during Higher Education Day, held every February at the Oklahoma State Capitol. Students from around the state meet at the Capitol to discuss issues important to higher education.



Legacy

1908-2005

Remembering Buck Clements

By Kim McConnell

Buck Clements saw his investment in Cameron University as a way to repay the educational institution that gave him his start in life.

Alvin M. "Buck" Clements, who worked with his wife Irene to create two endowed scholarships and an endowed lectureship at Cameron, died Dec. 8, 2005. A farmer who made his home near Ninnekah for decades, Buck's death returned him to his birthplace and to the area where he gained the education that allowed him to pursue his vocation.

A son of the soil, Buck thought he would attend Cameron State Agricultural College in 1936 on a football scholarship, at the invitation of Cameron football coach Ju Johnston, his wife Irene remembers.

"After he got to Cameron, he decided the better thing for him to do was to work on the college farm, and work his way through school. He didn't do so well in football, he said, so he went ahead and chose farming," said Irene, a retired teacher who is also a Cameron alumna. "We were both brought up on farms. I had enjoyed home economics in high school and that seemed like something a girl should do. His aim was to be a farmer, an educated farmer."

It's just as likely that farming chose Clements. Growing up in rural Oklahoma during the nation's Dust Bowl days, Buck had firsthand experience with farming practices before

the era of soil conservation. His two years at Cameron prepared him for Oklahoma A&M and a degree in agriculture, with an emphasis on soil, then for a 35-year career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service.

Cameron also brought him a wife. While Buck and Irene grew up 12 miles apart, the two Southwest Oklahomans dated only after they met at Cameron as a sophomore and freshman.

Irene remembers that they met because Buck was trying to save a nickel. In those days, Cameron was about one mile outside Lawton, and students who went to town had the option of walking or riding a bus. Girls rode free; boys had to pay a nickel, unless they were escorting a girl.

Buck claimed Irene's companionship on one ride and, once acquainted, the couple began to date, with Irene following Buck to Oklahoma A&M to finish her education.

After Buck earned his degree, he went to Hugo to begin his extended career with the Soil Conservation Service, emphasizing practices that allowed farmers and ranchers to reclaim their land.

"From Hugo, we were finally married. He said he finally had enough money to keep me, too," Irene said, of their June 1941 marriage.

The years took them to Chicago - "very educational, but scary at the time," Irene remem-

bers - and to a stint in the Navy, where the dryland native's closest acquaintance with water was "the Navy pier that extended out into Lake Michigan."

The years eventually brought them home to Oklahoma, to careers in soil conservation and teaching, to friends across the state, to their own farm and to acclaim (Buck was named to the Oklahoma Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1999; as president of the Oklahoma Wheat Growers Association, he promoted agriculture in Washington, D.C.).

Life also prompted the couple to return to the institution that launched their personal and professional lives.

The decision to donate \$53,500 for the Buck and Irene Clements Endowed Scholarship in Agriculture, Buck and Irene Clements Endowed Lectureship in Agriculture, and the Buck and Irene Clements Endowed Scholarship in Early Childhood Education was easy.

"We appreciated the fact that Cameron gave us a good start in our lives. And, we wanted to help other youngsters who had a need for help," Irene said, noting she would like people to remember Buck as a man who loved people and the land.

"He had a great, friendly personality and he had friends all over Oklahoma. He was a real booster of the correct tillage of the land and how to take care of it. I think he was a great individual."

LOVE 101

Couple finds love and education at Cameron-University Duncan

You can't really blame Heather for not wanting to be interrupted.

She was, after all, writing an important paper and important papers require a great deal of concentration.

So when Michael, her beau of almost two years, unexpectedly inched into the Cameron University-Duncan tutorial lab, she signaled for him to wait while she pecked out another couple of sentences.

What - she thought - could be so important? It's not like he was going to propose ... right then ... in the tutorial lab ... while she was writing.

As it turns out, that's exactly what he did.

"I had no makeup on. My hair was a mess and I was in a t-shirt and jeans," said Heather, expressing her surprise through the lack of wardrobe. "I looked horrible."

"I didn't think so," said Michael, his eyes dropping bashfully to the table then rising to meet hers.

More than a month after Michael's surprise proposal, the high-flying love birds sat at a corner table in Cameron University-Duncan's student center, washed in the afterglow of a day they'll never forget.

"I know it's kind of cliché to propose on Valentine's Day," Michael said as he began retelling "the story." "But how many people have proposed at 9 a.m. in the tutorial lab at Cameron University-Duncan? It's my way of being original."

Original proposal? Definitely.

However, Michael Peddycoart and Heather Pilkington's story began the way many courtships do - in high school. In fact, if their relationship has a common denominator, it's that most of their landmark events have happened at an educational institution. The couple met at their hometown high school in Marlow and dated on and off.

After high school, it only seemed natural to begin college down Highway 81 at Cameron University-Duncan. It was at CU-Duncan, the pair's path through life would permanently merge.

Michael landed a job as the student worker in the main office, and Heather spent countless hours studying in the tutorial lab.

"School is always stressful but we always had each other to brighten our day," Heather said. "I'd be studying and look up and see him and it would make me happy."

Soon they were sure the education of their minds was leading to the education of their heart.

"She had been hinting towards (me proposing)," Michael said. "What she didn't know is I had been planning it for three months."

After a sleepless Feb. 13 night, Michael spent the morning wearing a path in the office carpet. Finally, his co-workers pushed him out the door.

"It was too much to sit there and think that the biggest thing in my life was getting ready to happen," he said.

Though the tutorial lab is only about 20 yards away, Michael's journey seemed epic. On fawn legs he stumbled into the room. There sat his future bride, who told him (insert symphonic crescendo here) - without turning around - to hold on.

It was only a moment (one that still makes them both laugh out loud) but for Michael it seemed like the last minute of school before summer vacation.

"I think since I had been planning so long, I wore my nerves out," he said. "I was doing well until I got down on one knee and looked at her. It was so unexpected. I thought I was going to have to catch her."

Turns out he almost had to.

"As soon as I turned around he got on his knee," Heather said, smiling sheepishly and leaning into Michael. "I was speechless. I was about to faint, but I was incredibly happy."

So was their audience.

Having observed the entire event from their perch in the main office (which can

see into the tutorial lab through a window), Michael's office mates erupted in laughter and cheers.

"You always hope students have positive life-changing experiences in college," said Susan Camp, Director of CU-Duncan. "But every once in a while they have a tremendous personal milestone as well. There before our eyes we watched love bloom. It was very exciting."

The only item left was the ring. Heather showed it off, stretching her fingers out and allowing the diamond to catch the early spring sun from a nearby window.

The ring was a family heirloom. Michael's father had given it to his mother many years before.

"(My mom) wanted me to use the ring because she said I look at Heather like dad looked at her," he said, glancing over at his fiancé. "The ring has a lot of sentimental value."

And, now, so does the tutorial lab.

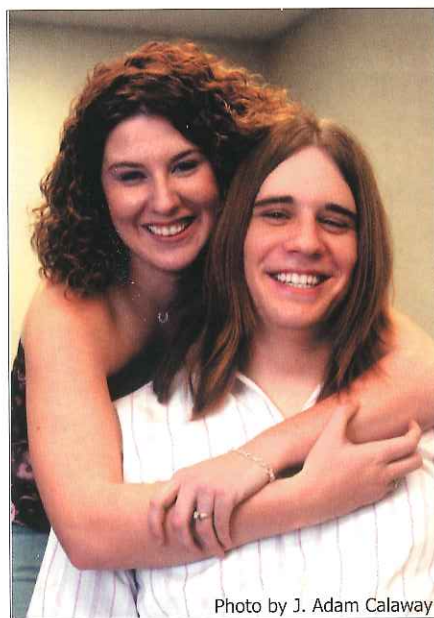


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE A LIFE?

Throughout this edition of the Cameron Magazine, you have read how Cameron University has changed the lives of its students for nearly 100 years, providing a top-quality education under a caring and knowledgeable faculty. If you would like to help the University change lives for the next generation of Cameron students, you can establish your own legacy of giving by utilizing one of the several methods listed below.

Scholarships

Even though an education at Cameron has been rated as one of the best bargains in the nation, almost 80 percent of Cameron's students have a need for assistance. Your scholarship contribution will directly impact a student's life.

Endowed Faculty Positions

Endowed faculty positions assist in recruiting and retaining top quality faculty and provide superior learning experiences for students. Gifts are matched dollar-for-dollar by the State Regents. This is an excellent opportunity to leverage your gift, receive lasting recognition, and influence, in perpetuity, the quality of education at Cameron University.

"In Memoriam"

An "In Memoriam" contribution allows families to memorialize a loved one by providing a living gift in the family member's name. "In Memoriam" gifts are used to enhance student success.

President's Partners

President's Partners are the backbone of Cameron's annual giving. A partner contributes \$1,000 annually to be used for high priority projects that distinguish Cameron as an institution of the highest quality. Partners may designate one-half of their contributions to a department or program of their choice.

Heritage Society

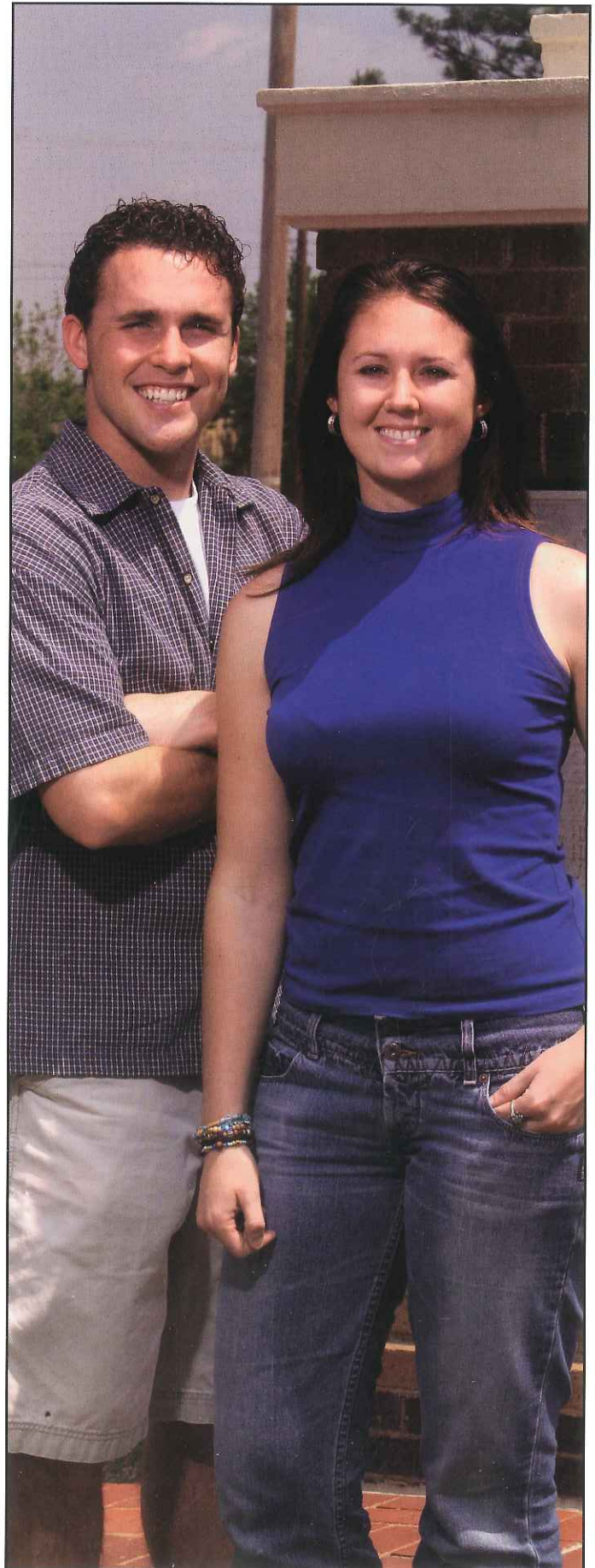
If you would like to make a significant and long-term commitment to Cameron University, the Heritage Society provides the opportunity to establish a lasting legacy for future generations through wills, trusts, and insurance policies.

Cameron Associate

If you are younger than 36, you are eligible to become one of Cameron University's distinguished Cameron Associates. As a Cameron Associate, you contribute \$500 annually to the Cameron University Foundation to support priority programs at the University.

How to Give

If you would like to make a gift to help meet the many needs of Cameron students, or if you would like more information on giving options, please contact the Office of University Advancement at 580.581.2999, or visit the office located in the Administration Building Room 245 on CU's main campus in Lawton.

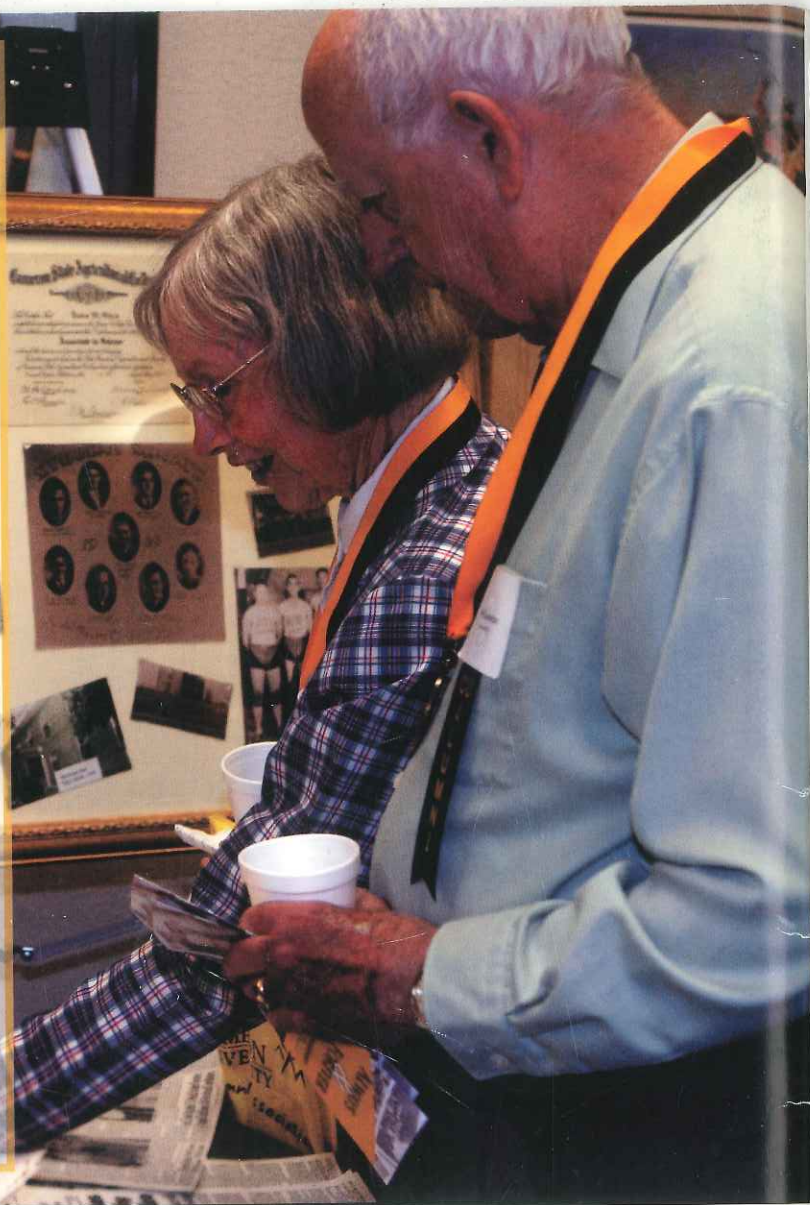


SAVE THE DATE!

Attention All Cameron Alumni:
Alumni Weekend 2006 will be
November 3-4.

A fun-filled weekend of festivities awaits all alumni, including the presentation of Golden Associate medallions to the Class of 1956 and prior years; a Salute to Coach Ted Owens and reunion of students who attended during his era; the presentation of Distinguished Alumni, Outstanding Young Alumni and Faculty Hall of Fame Awards; tours of the growing campus and much, much more!

For more information, contact the
Cameron University Office of Alumni Relations
at 580.581.2988 or visit
www.cameron.edu/alumni.



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