

FALL 2006

CAMERON

MAGAZINE



HOME SWEET HOME

Cameron's first ever
faculty in residence
moves in

PLUS

Cameron alumnus prepares for marathon
Gabriel Vidal explores his many worlds
CU men's golf team shines at nationals

CAMERON
UNIVERSITY

Dear Cameron University Alumni and Friends:

Fall 2006 will be an exciting semester as Cameron University approaches its 100th year of changing lives through education. This semester promises to be a fulfilling time for Cameron students as the university continues toward its goal of becoming the "University of Choice" for Southwest Oklahoma.

This edition of the *Cameron Magazine* highlights several points of pride for Cameron including stories about successful students and distinguished alumni. The fall semester is a time of change as we welcome new faculty, new staff and a new freshman class to the CU family. The atmosphere at Cameron is vibrant, as opportunities continuously arise for change and growth.

"We are currently at 76 percent of the goal to raise \$8.5 million for exciting projects, including a new Student Activities Complex."

As Cameron's 100th birthday draws near, the success of the ambitious Centennial Campaign is impressive. We are currently at 76 percent of the goal to raise \$8.5 million for exciting projects, including a new Student Activities Complex. This project will greatly enrich student life on campus and further Cameron's goal of providing our students with the complete collegiate experience. To those donors who have stepped up to make early and significant investments in Cameron's future, we say thank you!

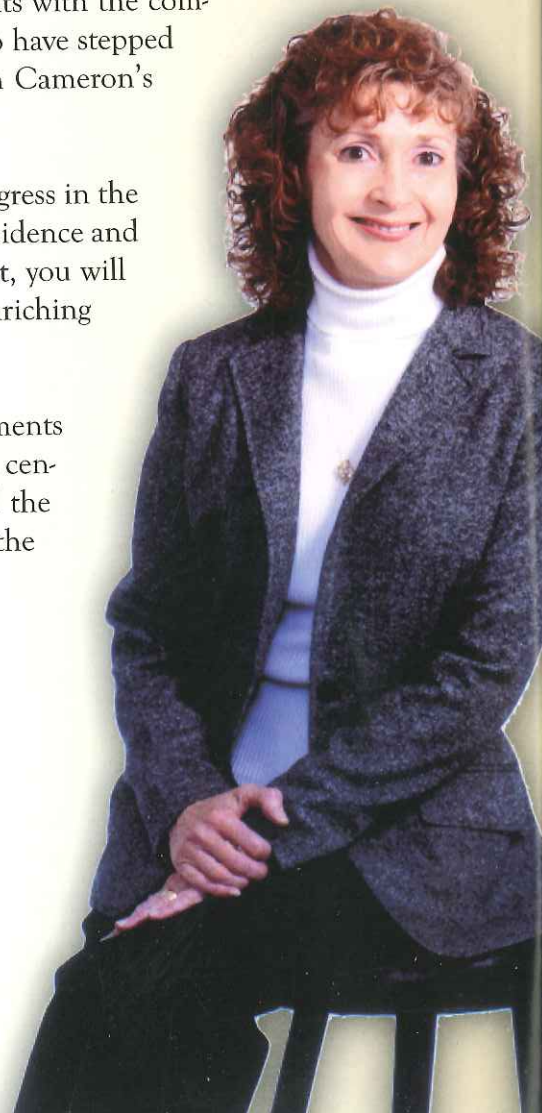
Cameron has continued to make significant progress in the last year. As you read about the new faculty in residence and the first Lawton-Fort Sill Technology Entrepreneur Contest, you will see just a few examples of the ways in which Cameron is enriching students' lives and reaching out to the community.

This next year will be full of new projects and proud moments at Cameron University. As we approach Cameron's second century of changing lives, students, alumni, faculty, staff, and the citizens of Southwest Oklahoma will all play a vital role in the university's continued success.

Sincerely,

Cindy Ross

Cindy Ross
President



CAMERON MAGAZINE

Cover story



Photo by Randy Stotler

11 Cameron assistant professor of business John Bachelor III, J.D., is Cameron University's first ever faculty in residence. Meet John, his wife, Cenee, and their two children, John and James, as the Bachelor brood settles into life on Cameron's campus.

Features

4 Take two of these and call me in the morning: Dr. Brent Smith has a prescription for health: a pair of sneakers. This Cameron alumnus has found health and happiness as a dedicated runner. Now, he's training for another marathon.

8 The many worlds of Gabriel Vidal: From his home country of Brazil to his new home at Cameron University, Gabriel Vidal has discovered his many passions, and he's pursuing them all.

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On the Cover: John Bachelor (right) with his wife Cenee, and their sons John and James stand in front of their new home, the McMahon Center. Cover design by Doug McAbee. Cover photo by Randy Stotler.

CAMPUS UPDATE

FRESH FACES

John M. McArthur, Ph.D.,



was selected as Cameron University's Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) at the end of July. McArthur

served as a professor and Dean of the School of Science and Technology before becoming the university's chief academic officer.

McArthur holds an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Rice University and a master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He has previously served on the physical sciences faculty of Southeastern Oklahoma

State University, and chaired its computer science and technology department. He was a mathematics professor at Colorado State University-Pueblo, where he chaired its departmental mathematics curriculum committee, before moving to Cameron in 2004.

Jennifer Holland was



selected as Dean of Student Services, effective July 1. Holland

has worked at Cameron University since 2000, originally as Director of Student Activities. She advanced to the Director of Student Development in 2003. Holland earned both her degrees from Cameron, including a Bachelor of Arts

in Communication (2000) and Master of Business Administration (2002).

Hillary Ashton joined



the Office of University Advancement in June 2006 as the Director of Development. Ashton

graduated from Cameron in 2000 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. She has spent the past six years in television news, working in Washington, D.C., Colorado Springs, Colo., and Toledo, Ohio. She is currently working on fundraising campaigns for the CU Foundation.

Zeak Naifeh assumed his



post as Director of Student Activities on June 1. Naifeh holds a Bachelor of Science

in Accounting from East Central University (2004) and Master of Education in higher education leadership from University of Arkansas in Fayetteville (2006). At the University of Arkansas, Naifeh served as the academic advisor for the Walton College of Business and worked with their student programming board.

Oklahoma Family Medicine Clinic to provide primary healthcare services to Cameron students.

This partnership, along with the 20 percent discount already available to Cameron students through Comanche County Memorial Hospital (CCMH), will increase the health care options available to students.

The clinic will offer immunizations, physical exams and treatments for such medical needs as sprains, colds, nausea, sinusitis and numerous other ailments.

Appointments can be made by calling 580.248.2288, ext. 10 or 11, and walk-ins are welcome. The clinic is located at 1202 NW Arlington in Lawton, and the Lawton Area Transit System has a stop near the clinic.

SPECIAL GUEST

Williamson "Wick" Murray will be a featured speaker at Cameron University's 2006 Alumni Weekend. Murray graduated from Yale University in 1963 and served for five years as an officer in the Air Force. He returned to Yale where he received his Ph.D. in military-diplomatic history.



He spent 18 years at Ohio State University as a military and diplomatic historian before retiring in 1995 as Professor Emeritus of history. Murray is currently a Senior

Fellow at the Institute of Defense Analysis and a member of the National Strategic Studies Group.

Murray has taught at a number of other institutions, including the Air War College, the United States Military Academy and the Naval War College. His presentation, entitled *The History and Effects of Military Transformation*, will be at 2 p.m., Friday, Nov. 3, in the University Theatre.

RESEARCH

In an effort to find alternative, renewable fuel sources, Cameron University is undertaking an aggressive, two-year study to discover if mesquite wood is a fuel of the future, and if that fuel can be made in Southwest Oklahoma.

Cameron University received a \$150,000 grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to study the feasibility of locating a mesquite-to-ethanol plant in Southwest Oklahoma.

Professor Jerry Dodd, Ph.D., Cameron Associate Professor Leon Fischer, Ph.D., an agronomist, and CU Assistant Professor and soil scientist Philip Schroeder, Ph.D., will

STUDENT HEALTH

In an effort to make quality healthcare more accessible, Cameron University is partnering with Southwest

lead the Cameron University mesquite-to-ethanol project, which involves a systematic assessment of Southwest Oklahoma rangelands to quantify the availability of mesquite and predict the number of ethanol plants this region can support.

NURSING

Cameron University's partnership with The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) is growing in an effort to meet the critical shortage of nurses in the region.

Cameron will provide additional spaces for OUHSC, which has a branch campus for its College of Nursing at Cameron, as well as remodel and expand classrooms and laboratories in Conwill Hall and South Shepler. The additional space will allow the OUHSC program to expand from 40 to 70 students.

Cameron received a \$192,000 grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for the expansion of the OUHSC program. With this grant, Cameron will remodel spaces on the fourth floor of South

Shepler for classrooms and on the sixth floor for office spaces. Additionally, labs within Conwill Hall will be expanded and the technology will be updated.

ATHLETICS

The Cameron athletic department has founded a booster organization dedicated to lending vital support to the 10 intercollegiate athletic teams that compete under the Aggie banner. The Cameron Gold Club was unveiled in July with a series of informal meet-and-greet events throughout the Lawton community. Various membership levels provide benefits such as Aggie athletic apparel and advertising options at Cameron athletic venues. For more information, call (580) 581-2460.

SAFETY

Cameron University ranks among the top 35 safest campuses in the United States, and now it is even safer. This spring, Cameron officials had 13 call boxes installed at strategically placed locations across campus. The self-contained, solar-powered units stand 10 feet tall and enable students immediate contact with the Office of Public Safety by pressing a button.

The call boxes can be used for emergency situations or everyday assistance, such as when a student needs an escort, needs help jump starting a car or if they lock their keys in their car.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

- Aug. 14 Faculty offices open
- Aug. 21 First day of fall semester classes
- Aug. 25 Women's volleyball begins
- Aug. 31 Men's cross country begins

September

- Sept. 4 Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 8 CUAAs Benefit Golf Tournament
- Sept. 28 CU Theatre presents "Watbanaland"
- Sept. 29 Convocation

October

- Oct. 8 CU/Lawton Community Band, 3 p.m., University Theatre
- Oct. 12 Hyunsoon Whang Faculty Piano Recital, 8 p.m., University Theatre
- Oct. 15 CU Percussion Ensemble, 3 p.m., Percussive Arts Museum
- Oct. 17 CU Civic Symphony, 8 p.m., Off Campus
- Oct. 19 Fall Break
- Oct. 20 Fall Break
- Oct. 24 Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre
- Oct. 25 Business Building Groundbreaking
- Oct. 26 Cameron Percussion Ensemble, 8 p.m., University Theatre

November

- Nov. 1 Men's basketball begins (first exhibition game)
- Nov. 2 Country Jazz Fusion, 8 p.m., University Theatre
- Nov. 3-4 Alumni Weekend
- Nov. 5 Cameron Jazz Ensemble Concert, 2 p.m., Duncan Simmons Center
- Nov. 6 Women's basketball begins (first exhibition game)
- Nov. 6 Harold and Elizabeth Hackler Endowed Lecture ship in Teaching Excellence Award Reception
- Nov. 7 Cameron Concert Band Fall Concert, 7:30 p.m., University Theatre
- Nov. 16 Cameron presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
- Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov. 30 "A Cameron Christmas"
- Nov. 30 Solo Guitarist David Burgess, 8 p.m., University Theatre

December

- Dec. 8 Opera "Hansel and Gretel," University Theatre
- Dec. 9 ROTC Commissioning Ceremony
- Dec. 10 Community Reception at Cameron House
- Dec. 11 Community Reception at Cameron House
- Dec. 12 Finals Week Begins

January

- Jan. 8 First Day of Spring Semester Classes

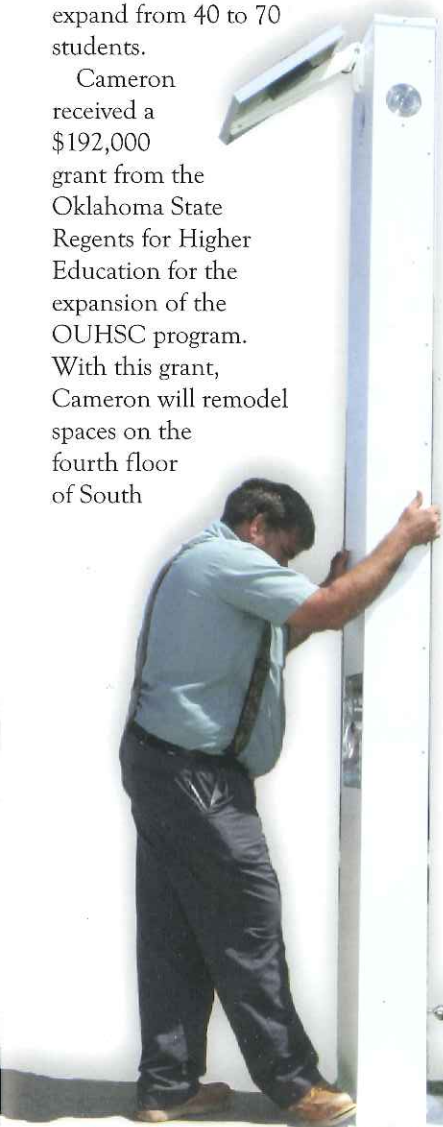


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

EARN A MASTER'S D

At age 47, he decided that he hurt every day anyway, 'so I might as well run.'



Photo by J. Adam Calaway
© 2005 Asics

A RUN A DAY...

...KEEPS THE DOCTOR AT PLAY

By Kim McConnell

You don't have to be a doctor to appreciate the healthy aspects of running.

But, Dr. Brent Smith - family practitioner, Cameron University alumnus, dedicated runner and occasional marathoner - is quick to note that running helps the mind and the body. And, it just plain feels good.

Smith wasn't always a runner, although it has entered his life twice.

Smith, whose father George headed Cameron's music department from 1968 until his retirement in 1990, was a chemistry major at Cameron (as was his brother Keith), in preparation for his medical career. His hobby was music; in fact, he attended Cameron on a music scholarship.

Fast forward to his mid-30s, and Smith took up running for health reasons. He also stopped running for health reasons.

"I had back surgery when I was 37. I had significant pain and couldn't run," said Smith, now 50.

He stayed away from his sport for a decade. But, at age 47, he decided that he hurt every day anyway, "so I might as well run."

His decision was influenced by his friends and neighbors, starting with Dr. Richard Allgood, another local physician who invited Smith to become part of an informal running group.

Although the friendly group was part of the allure, Smith admitted that running seemed like a good exercise choice because it doesn't require a lot of time - attractive, to the busy doctor - and it doesn't require much in the way of equipment. Good running shoes are the only essential item; ever the doctor, Smith is adamant about the quality of those shoes.

But, he really enjoys the social aspect.

"People bond," he said.

That social aspect is important in Smith's group. There is another link: many members took up running later in life and several have marathons under their belts. Smith said his inspiration is Steve Bell, a 66-year-old who has competed in 20 marathons.

"He runs with me at long distances. Last weekend, he did 16 miles with me. That's amazing," he said.

If the mileage seems a little high, it is. Smith is training for another marathon.

His first was the White Rock Marathon in Dallas. His second will be the Chicago Marathon in October, when he will run with his brother Keith.

Just as Smith's friends were the inspiration for his first run, he was the inspiration for his brother.

"He watched me run (in December) and told me, 'I need to do this,'" Smith said, noting he hadn't necessarily planned to do another marathon, but agreed to accompany his brother.

Keith Smith also serves as a textbook example of the benefits of exercise. After Keith Smith took up running, he saw his weight decrease, while his blood pressure dropped to 110/70 (it had been 150/90).

Smith said it's a perfect illustration of why exercise is beneficial. In the case of running, it improves the cardiovascular system, keeps weight down, prevents diabetes and is a great way to alleviate anxiety and stress (running releases endorphins, the brain's "feel good" chemical, the doctor said).

Smith, who spends his professional life urging patients to assume healthier lifestyles, said running is great exercise for all ages. But, while marathon running might be suitable for older people, he doesn't recommend it for children.

"That's something for certain individuals who want a challenge," he said, recommending short distances for the average person.

He plans to follow his own advice. While Smith is in training mode - his 16 miles of weekend running in July will increase to 18-20 miles in August - that's all for his marathon.

Afterward, he plans to ease back into a regular running regimen that is decidedly less than the 26.2 miles he will run in Chicago. But, he'll definitely keep running.

"Running is the right thing for me," he said.

MEET THE SANNERS

Duncan couple creates new opportunities for CU students

By Kim McConnell

Todd Sanner sees his endowed lectureship as simply a way to give back to the university that gave him a head start in his life's work, while allowing him to remain close to home.

Sanner and his wife Cindy donated a \$25,000 endowed lectureship in chemistry to Cameron University more than 20 years after they graduated.

But, while they may have physically left campus, they continue to hold close to what they learned there.

"We just wanted to give something back to the university that helped us on our way," Sanner said. "My wife and I are both big believers in education beyond high school. College may not be for everybody, but ... for those who desire to go to college it is a very big deal. We feel very strongly that kids should get a college education these days. It makes a difference - immeasurably."

A Duncan native, Sanner graduated from Cameron in 1983 with a degree in chemistry (his wife earned an education degree). He had the opportunity to leave Southwest Oklahoma to attend school - in fact, he did attend two other universities - but he returned to Cameron, knowing he would earn a quality education. Also, the fact that Cameron was close to home was an allure for a young college student.

"Cameron had a lot more one-on-one education with the professors. It was more intimate," he said, noting that classmates thought so as well. "Several in my graduating class were heading toward medical school or pharmacy school."

Sanner's interest was chemistry, which evolved into the business application of chemistry. It was a natural decision for the Duncan native, who grew up in a town known for its ties to the nation's energy industries. Even as a high school student,

he was linked to Duncan's major oil employers, as he worked in a machine shop.

"At that time, there were a lot of machine shops in the Duncan area, and I was able to find work there, for fairly good pay at the time," Sanner said, noting machine shops were intimately linked to oil and gas industries. They also helped get him thinking about his future.

"I had worked for a summer at Halliburton Energy Services, in the technology center in Duncan, and I became interested in chemistry from working out there," Sanner said.

His work with Duncan's top industry led to a university degree in chemistry and ultimately to his own business. Today, Sanner is President of CESI Chemical Group, which is a Flotek company.

"We manufacture and sell specialty chemicals to the oil and gas industry," Sanner said, noting he continues to contribute to the industries that link Duncan to America's energy needs.

His work also allows him to remain in his hometown, where he and Cindy have a comfortable life.

"I was born and raised in Duncan," he said.

The same chemistry degree that Sanner received from Cameron University allowed him to give back to the university by donating \$25,000.

"I think I got a very good chemistry education there, and I had the opportunity to give a little back. And that's what I decided to do," he said, envisioning a lectureship that will enhance educational opportunities for students.

Educational opportunities are important for Sanner and Cindy, his wife of almost 26 years, who was vice president of mortgage lending at Arvest Bank when she retired.

"We have no children," he said. "So, I guess we're trying to help others' children."

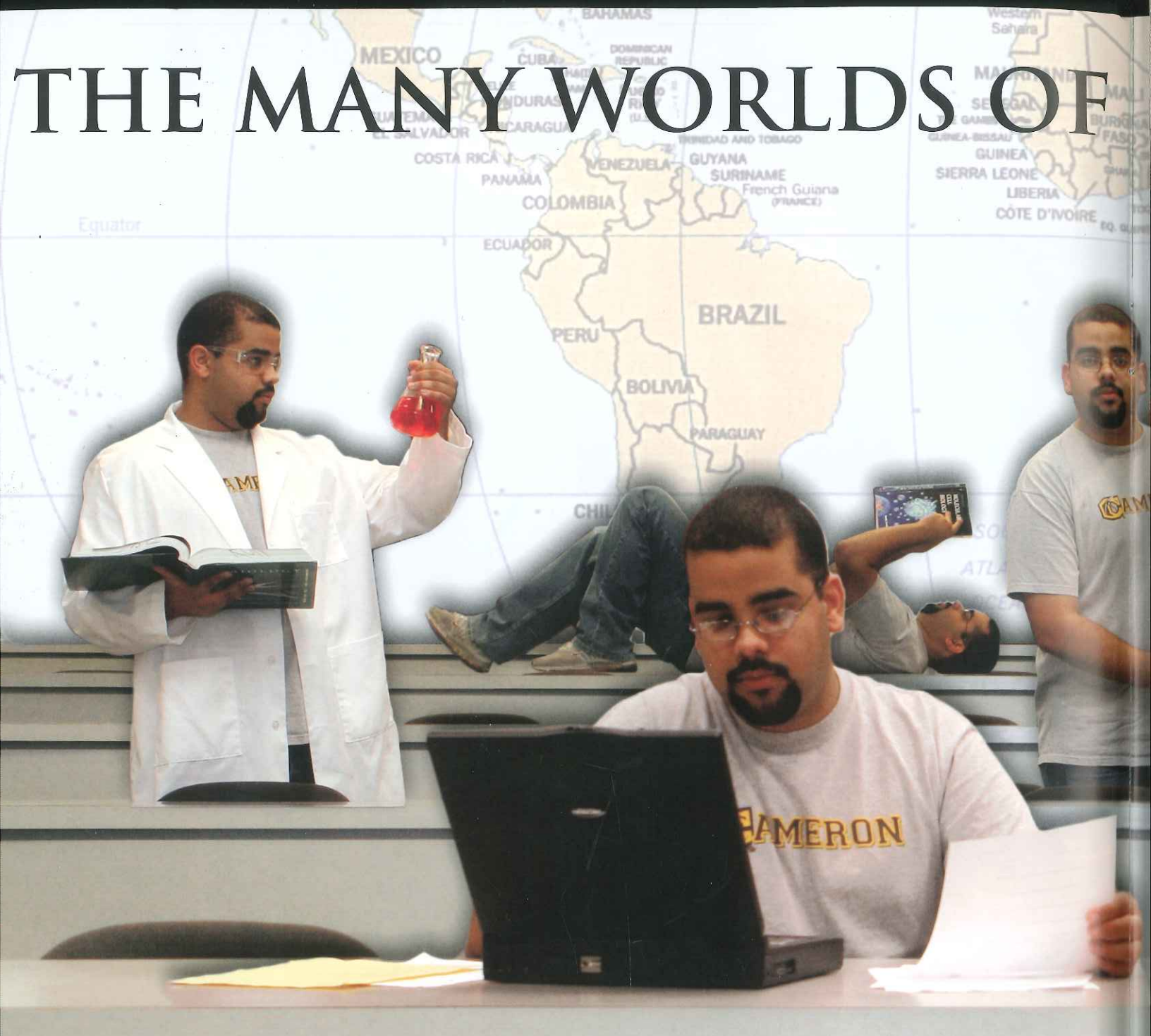




Photo by Randy Stotler

Todd and Cindy Sanner take a moment for a picture in their Duncan home. The Sanners recently created an endowed lectureship in chemistry.

THE MANY WORLDS OF



By Danaline McPhail Bryant

Gabriel Vidal is a man who encompasses many worlds.

He double majors in computer science and math and double minors in biology and foreign languages.

He is from Salvador, Brazil, but has lived in the United States since 2000. He is also a man of science with a strong faith in God. He has two families, his Brazilian birth family and the Texas family he lived with during his last two years of high school.

He grew up in sight of Brazil's ocean coastline but now loves the Wichita Mountains in landlocked Oklahoma.

He is a dedicated student with a GPA of 3.8 but finds time for his many friends and activities with numerous campus organizations.

This summer Vidal is a research intern at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, but he's already planning extracurricular activities and scientific research when he returns to Cameron in the fall. Such a man could not be limited to one career, and Gabriel Vidal has set a goal to achieve two professions.

Vidal started out as a pre-med major but eventually switched to computer science and math. Though he had a double major, he wasn't sure what he was going to do after college.

Additionally, after dropping his pre-med plans, he discovered he missed biology but couldn't think of any career that would allow him to use all of his academic interests.

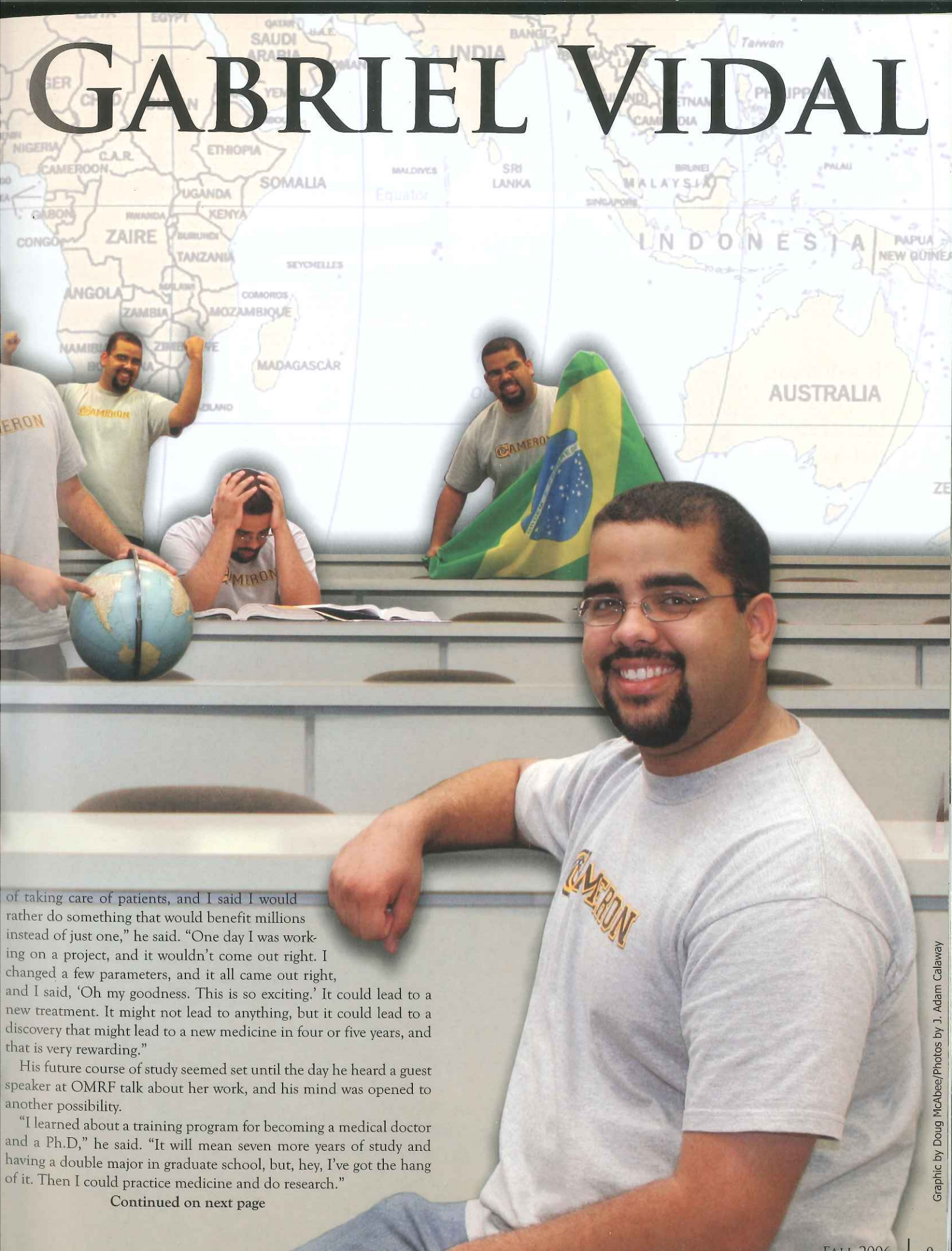
His summer internship provided him with an answer to both problems.

"At the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation I met Joel Guthridge, husband of Cameron professor Carla Guthridge, and he told me there is actually a connection," Vidal said.

The connection he found between biology and computer science is medical research. At OMRF, Vidal is conducting research into the way lupus, a chronic autoimmune disease, manifests in different segments of the populace. He loves the work and decided he'd pursue a career in research.

"Dr. Guthridge asked me why I wanted to find new cures instead

GABRIEL VIDAL



of taking care of patients, and I said I would rather do something that would benefit millions instead of just one," he said. "One day I was working on a project, and it wouldn't come out right. I changed a few parameters, and it all came out right, and I said, 'Oh my goodness. This is so exciting.' It could lead to a new treatment. It might not lead to anything, but it could lead to a discovery that might lead to a new medicine in four or five years, and that is very rewarding."

His future course of study seemed set until the day he heard a guest speaker at OMRF talk about her work, and his mind was opened to another possibility.

"I learned about a training program for becoming a medical doctor and a Ph.D.," he said. "It will mean seven more years of study and having a double major in graduate school, but, hey, I've got the hang of it. Then I could practice medicine and do research."

Continued on next page

Graphic by Doug McAbbee/Photos by J. Adam Calaway

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He wants to work in cancer research, and he has a personal motivation for finding a cure. Recently, his mother, Gloria Vidal, was diagnosed in the early stages of cancer. With phone calls and emails from the U.S., he kept in touch with his mother as she underwent chemotherapy.

"She didn't want me to worry and didn't want to talk about it, but I told her I wanted to know," he said. "She's doing much better now. She lost all of her hair, but she's off chemo now and her hair's growing back. I want to work with cancer research, and after my mother was diagnosed, it made even more of an impression on me. Now I think how can I be the best in my field? I want to become the best and do cancer research, maybe brain cancer, and treat patients, too."

In the fall, as he begins his senior year, he's planning to continue lupus research with CU Assistant Professor Mary Song, Ph.D, who has been conducting her own research.

"After summer, we'll meet and compare results and see if we want to try another approach," Vidal said.

He's also planning to continue his campus activities, especially with the Baptist Collegiate Ministry.

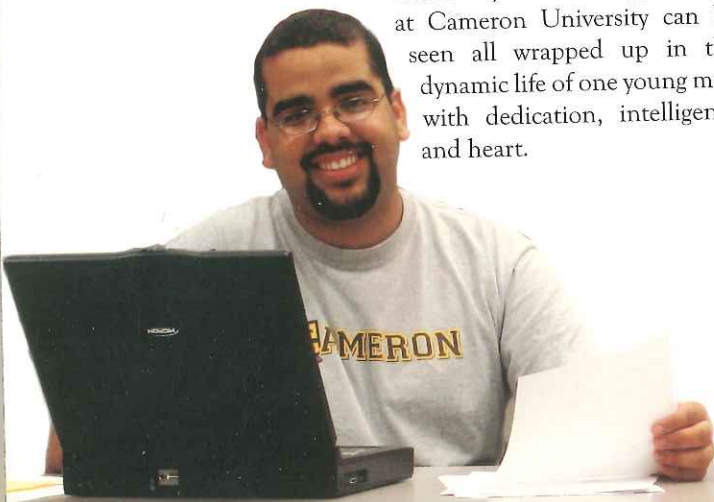
"That organization has been really good to me. It really helped me just have fun and relax from academics," he said. "This fall I will be on the leadership team for BCM. My faith and belief in God is what helped

me get through coming to the U.S. It took \$5,000, and we didn't have the money. My mother said 'Pray, just pray, and it will happen,' and it did. It was a blessing from God, and God opened the way for me to come. Faith is so important. You can't do it alone. My church family, friends and my family have been so much help to me."

He hopes to begin his medical school and doctorate training in August 2009.

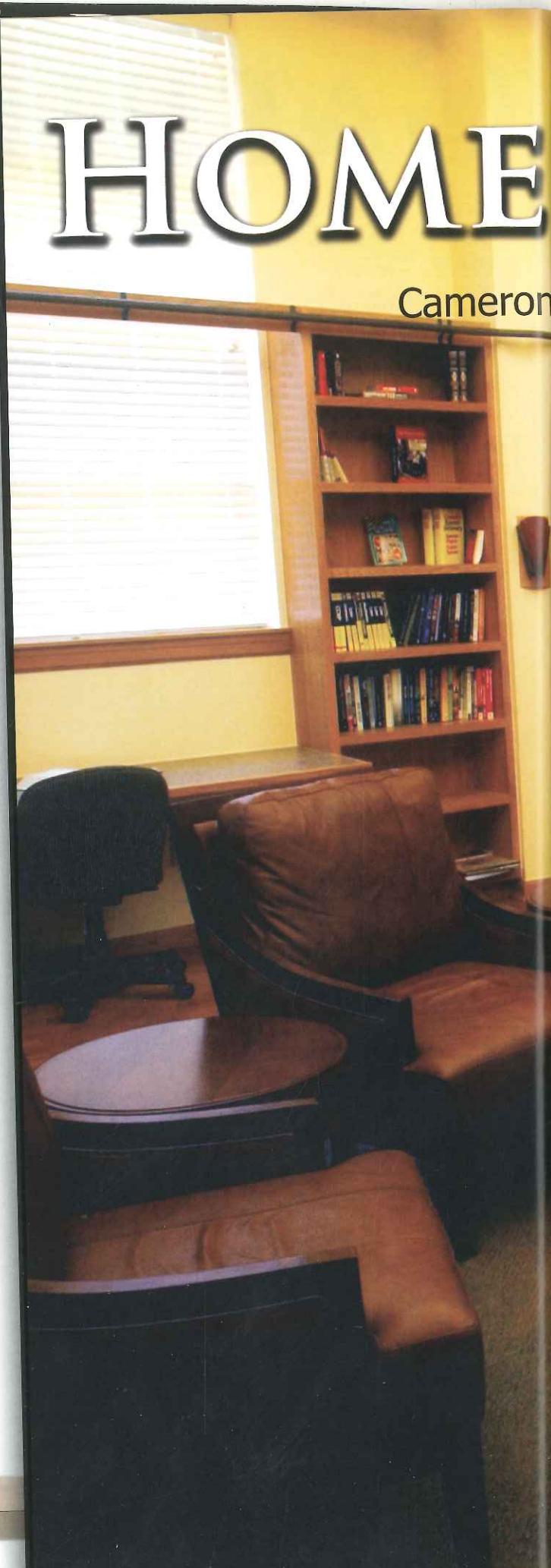
"I will have one more year at Cameron for sure, and then I will come back to get my prerequisites for medical school," Vidal said. "Cameron won't be rid of me quite yet."

The many worlds of opportunity at Cameron University can be seen all wrapped up in the dynamic life of one young man with dedication, intelligence and heart.



HOME

Cameron



SWEET HOME

University's first-ever faculty in residence moves in



By J. Adam Calaway

John Allen Bachelor IV will not attend Cameron University for 14 more years, but he's already selected his future profession.

"Someone asked him, 'Do you want to be a lawyer or an accountant?' because I'm basically both," said John Bachelor III, J.D., of the recent question posed to his four-year-old son. "He said, 'I'm going to be a cowboy.'"

Whether Cameron offers a major in cowboyology or not in 2020, the Bachelor clan has roped themselves a new homestead this year. Bachelor, a CU professor of accounting, was selected this spring to serve as Cameron's first ever faculty in residence at the McMahon Center.

"This is an opportunity to impact the lives of students beyond the scope of the classroom," Bachelor said. "My family and I have the opportunity to contribute towards the personal success of Cameron's students."

The Bachelor family moved into the faculty in residence's two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment, located on the south wing of the McMahon Center, in mid-June.

Photo by Randy Stotler

John Bachelor reads to his two sons, John IV and James a bedtime story in the McMahon Center Library.



Photo by Randy Stot

Cenee' Bachelor helps her sons John and James with a snack.

"I love the campus atmosphere and everybody has been extremely welcoming to me and the boys."

Cenee' Bachelor

Continued from previous page

"I love the campus atmosphere and everybody has been extremely welcoming to me and the boys," said Bachelor's wife Cenee' as she held the couple's younger son, two-year-old James. "The apartment is comfortable and plenty big for our family."

On a sun-baked July afternoon, the Bachelors sat down in their living room for a chat about their journey to the McMahon Center, the upcoming semester and two escapees who busted out to explore their new world.

The Bachelor's journey to Cameron's faculty in residence apartment actually began on the 10th floor of South Shelper, where John lived 11 years ago.

Bachelor attended Cameron as a PLUS scholar and earned a Bachelor of Accounting degree in 1997 just two years after graduating high school.

"I took concurrent enrollment in high school, but I really worked hard to complete everything in two years," Bachelor said, casting his eyes out one of his living room windows and staring up at the towers that stretched into the summer sky. "I lived right up there."

After graduation, Bachelor stayed true to his blistering educational pace. He earned his law degree in just three years from the University of Oklahoma College of Law.

It was during his first year at law school that Bachelor received his education in love as well. Bachelor met Cenee' (pronounced like Renee with an 'S') and the pair married seven months after his May 2000 graduation.

The speed of life never slowed for the new couple, and John pursued more education. The Bachelors moved to Dallas, where John earned a Master of Law in taxation from Southern Methodist University.

In the Spring of 2002 during their time in Dallas, Cenee' gave birth to the couple's first child - John Allen IV.

Four years later, during his parents' interview, John

Allen needs a bit of attention. A mysterious toilet flush drew Cenee' from her seat to investigate.

"Hey, boys, what are you doing?" Cenee' questions as she rises. Giggles echo from the back of the apartment.

The couple returned to the Oklahoma City area after John IV's birth, where Bachelor took a job at a law firm. Two years after John Allen's birth the couple welcomed son No. 2 and found themselves yearning for the comfort of family. In August 2002, they moved east of Duncan to be near both sets of grandparents.

Bachelor found himself leaving the courtroom and returning to the classroom; this time as a faculty member in Cameron's School of Business.

Bachelor quickly rooted himself in campus life. He taught a full load of accounting classes, served as the SOCA faculty advisor, the Student Government Association faculty advisor, assisted with the Accounting Club, the Programming Activities Council, and the College Republicans, represented the School of Business to the Faculty Senate and assisted the SIFE team during their Governor's Cup victory last spring.

All this despite an hour commute each way.

Then last fall, a call for applications went out for the faculty in residence position; it was an opportunity for a person to work and live in the newly constructed McMahon Center. During Cameron Village's premiere in October, the couple toured the McMahon Center and casually talked about applying.

"We were really impressed with the McMahon Center's Great Room," John said. "The architecture was impressive and when we walked down here to the (faculty in residence) apartment we liked the layout."

The couple began seriously discussing the McMahon Center as an option in December, hoping to drastically decrease John's commute time.

"We talked about it all through the Christmas break," said Cenee' smiling before arching her eyebrows and casting a motherly you-better-stop-that stare toward two-year-old James who has purposefully knocked over a nearby chair. "I was just excited with the fact that he would not have to do all that driving."

"It's going to be one of my busiest years," said Bachelor who, in addition to his other duties, will be Chair of the Faculty Senate. "Applying for this position just made sense."

The couple concluded that they would apply and if it was meant to be then it would be.

In his application letter, Bachelor spoke from the heart: "The addition of Cameron Village (is) a profound testimony to Cameron's commitment to providing a true college experience to traditional students. The most rewarding part of the faculty in residence program would simply be the expanded interaction with students, and the chance to positively contribute towards their personal success."

Bachelor interviewed in late February and by mid-April he was selected.

"We selected Dr. Bachelor from a pool of qualified candidates," said Gary Buckley, Ph.D., who interviewed John for the position. "John's ideas about the faculty in residence, and his experience working with students and the faculty senate made him the ideal candidate."

The door had been opened but was Cenee' comfortable with raising two boys on a college campus?

"There was no hesitation," she said. "I've always liked the atmosphere and the people I've met at Cameron events, and the boys have really taken to the students. They wave and the students come up and talk to them. They pretty much think this whole place is theirs. They play outside. We go see John in his office. They love it, and I love having John so close."

The fall 2006 semester represents a new era for both Cameron University and the Bachelor family. Cenee' will home school John Allen. James will continue to do what two year olds do best - grow. And Bachelor's commute will consist of walking across the street. For Cameron, the faculty in residence offers students everything from an additional informational resource to a counselor and a friend.

"The faculty in residence is not a director of residence life. Cameron has one of those, and he is excellent," Bachelor said. "A faculty in residence's main focus is on interaction with students on a very informal basis. I provide open office hours for students. I'm here if they need to discuss anything concerning life on a college campus to career and academic counseling."

As the faculty in residence, Bachelor has organized workshops on a range of topics from adjusting to college life for freshman, to time management and study skills for all students and job hunting research for upper division students. Bachelor will host a seminar each month in the McMahon Center.

"I'm building a relationship with the students. I'm here and, really, we're here to help them in anyway we can," said Bachelor, looking over at his wife and smiling. "We want the students to know they can come to us for advice and assistance. Our door is always open."

In the few months since the move in, the Bachelors have settled into a routine.

The boys play. Cenee' works around the apartment. John enjoys his short walk to work each day and spends the evenings holed up in the quiet seclusion of the McMahon Center Library, where he sometimes reads the boys bedtime stories.

The move has been seamless, almost eventless, save one small incident. A week after the move in, John Allen made a discovery - he was tall enough to unlock the apartment door.

With his mother busy making lunch, John Allen with his sidekick brother made a break for it. They didn't get very far - just down the hall - before Steve Scott, head of the McMahon Center's maintenance, corralled the boys and returned them to their mother, who was already searching for her free-wheeling kiddos.

Steve installed a chain lock at adult height, and the problem was solved.

"They are quite the pair," said Cenee', beaming a proud motherly smile. "I just love that we're all here together."

Right on cue John Allen runs into the living room with a hand full of pieces from a board game and scatters them across the floor.

Of course, that's just the cowboy in him.

"The boys have really taken to the students. They wave and the students come up and talk to them. They pretty much think this whole place is theirs."

Cenee' Bachelor



Photos by Randy Stotler

(Left) John Bachelor at work with John IV. (Right) Bachelor family at play.



BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

By J. Adam Calaway

Cameron University's vision for a Centennial Student Activities Complex is quickly becoming a reality. This summer, Cameron received two donations, totaling \$310,000, for the construction of the Student Activities Complex.

The complex is the centerpiece of the *Cameron University: Changing Lives* campaign, an unprecedented \$8.5 million development initiative underway as part of Cameron's Centennial Observance.

In total, the university has garnered \$4.9 million, more than 76 percent of the necessary funds for the construction of the \$6.5 million complex.

"With support from the local community, Cameron has raised three-fourths of the money needed to construct the Student Activities Complex," said President Cindy Ross. "This is especially exciting when you consider we kicked off the *Changing Lives* campaign only 8 months ago."

In June, Cameron University officials received a \$60,000 donation from Lawton's IBC Bank and the Retail Merchants Association (RMA). The donation was the first from a local business to the *Changing Lives* campaign.

During the presentation, IBC Bank President Brian Henry spoke of the invaluable partnership between Cameron and the local community.

"IBC is proud to partner with RMA to help Cameron University achieve its mission of higher learning," Henry

said. "We recognize the value of education and believe wholeheartedly in the importance of good corporate citizenry."

Dr. Gib Gibson, President of the RMA and a member of the IBC-Oklahoma Board of Directors, echoed Henry's comments.

"Cameron University plays a major role in the educational process in Southwest Oklahoma," Gibson said. "Cameron does a remarkable job of meeting the needs and challenges of students, and the Retail Merchants Association and IBC Bank are sensitive to helping the university meet those needs."

In honor of the donation, Ross announced during a special ceremony that the new Student Activities Complex's executive boardroom will be named the IBC Bank/Retail Merchants Association Executive Boardroom.

"Naming the executive boardroom in recognition of IBC Bank and the Retail Merchants Association is just a small way to recognize their tremendous generosity," Ross said. "We want every person who enters the executive boardroom to know it was made possible by two of our local businesses."

The second gift this summer was a \$250,000 donation to the *Changing Lives* campaign and the Student Activities Complex from the Cameron University Foundation (CUF).

"The foundation recognizes how vital the Student Activities

"Cameron does a remarkable job of meeting the needs and challenges of students."

Gib Gibson
President of RMA



Photo by Jeff Dixon

Complex is to offering Cameron University students the complete collegiate experience," said Todd Bridges, President of the CUF Board of Directors.

Ross praised the CUF for its leadership in continuing to support university initiatives to better serve students.

"Cameron students receive a higher quality education and more complete collegiate experience thanks to the generosity of private donors," Ross said.

The Student Activities Complex will provide a central location for Cameron students to study, dine, interact and relax, while serving as a community gathering place. The complex will have a large ballroom available to host some of Southwest Oklahoma's many events.

Construction on the complex will begin once the funds have been raised.

"We are grateful to all those who have generously contributed to the *Changing Lives* campaign," Ross said. "We are thankful for the support our local and area community provides, which enables Cameron to better serve students and the community."

From left, Nicki Livingston, Virginia Brewczynski, Gib Gibson, and Brain Henry, present a check for \$60,000 to President Cindy Ross.

CAMERON UNIVERSITY'S CHANGING LIVES CAMPAIGN

By the Numbers

Overall campaign

Funds needed:	\$8.5 million
Total gifts received:	\$6,535,911
Gifts Still needed:	\$1,964,089
Percent completed	76.89%

Student Activities Complex

Funds needed:	\$6.5 million
Total gifts received:	\$4,941,000
Gifts still needed:	\$1,559,000
Percent complete	76%

Endowed Faculty Positions:

Funds needed:	\$650,000
Total gifts received:	\$697,278
Gifts still needed:	\$0
Percent complete:	107%

Scholarships:

Funds needed:	\$600,000
Total gifts received:	\$620,596
Gifts still needed:	\$0
Percent complete:	103%

Centennial Gardens:

Funds needed:	\$500,000
Total gifts received:	\$75,075.50
Gifts still needed:	\$424,925.50
Percent complete:	15%

University Advancement:

Funds needed:	\$250,000
Total gifts received:	\$201,282
Gifts still needed:	\$48,718
Percent complete:	80.5%

A SEASON TO REMEMBER

Cameron golfers compete in national championship tourney

By Steve Doughty

Less than three months removed from leading his team to an appearance in the national championship tournament, Jerry Hrniciar is already thinking about the next trip.

It's not that he doesn't want to revel in the fact that his Cameron Aggies solidified their place among the top NCAA Division II men's golf programs in the country with a seventh-place finish at nationals. And it's not that he doesn't want to take a moment to appreciate his program's 16 overall national tournament appearances or 34 All-American awards, including two last season.

He would like to reflect on the past accomplishments of his storied program - he just doesn't have the time.

"Competition in Division II golf has grown so fast with the California and southeastern schools putting so much emphasis on their golf programs," Hrniciar said. "It has presented teams across the country with the tremendous challenge of keeping up the pace."

Since joining the Division II ranks nearly two decades ago, the Cameron men's golf program has been among the most successful teams in the nation.

Winning the South Central Regional Championship last spring advanced the Aggies to their eighth NCAA national tournament, including their third trip to

nationals in the last six years. Cameron has also claimed three Lone Star Conference Championships since 1999 and owns six overall LSC titles. But while programs across the country scramble to find a formula that will produce similar results, Hrniciar's key to keeping his Aggies on top has gone unchanged for more than 30 years.

"The plan has always been to keep a steady flow of talent on hand, rather than stock up for a one-shot surge for a championship," he said. "We've always been fortunate to be able to recruit top young talent and allow them to grow in our system while having older experienced players from which to learn.

"Our philosophy is to reload, not rebuild."

That process continues this season, as Hrniciar sets to steer the Aggies to their first back-to-back national tournament appearance since 2001 and 2002. Cameron returns four of the five players who competed in the national championships last season, but must find a replacement for graduated senior Travis Lovins, the individual champion at last year's regional championships and a two-time All-American selection by the Golf Coaches Association of America.

In the regional tournament last spring, which Cameron University hosted at The Territory Golf Club near Duncan, Lovins led a final-round charge which saw the Aggies rally from nine strokes down entering the final 18 holes to win the regional crown by two strokes over St. Mary's University.

The Canadian, Texas, product fired a final-round score of two-under-par to win the individual regional title, as well.

Lovins finished in the Top 10 in 11 of 12 events last season, including seven Top 5 finishes. He led the team with a 72.85 scoring average, good for 12th among all NCAA Division II players.

"Travis was probably one of the most consistent players in the South Central region last season," Hrniciar said. "It's always a challenge to replace your top player, especially one who has been as steady as Travis. But we have some very talented players returning and some outstanding recruits that will do a very good job for us this season.

"Expectations will be lofty."

Three-time All-American Owen Mahaffey tops the list of returning players. The Wichita Falls, Texas, native

"We've always been fortunate to be able to recruit top young talent and allow them to grow in our system."

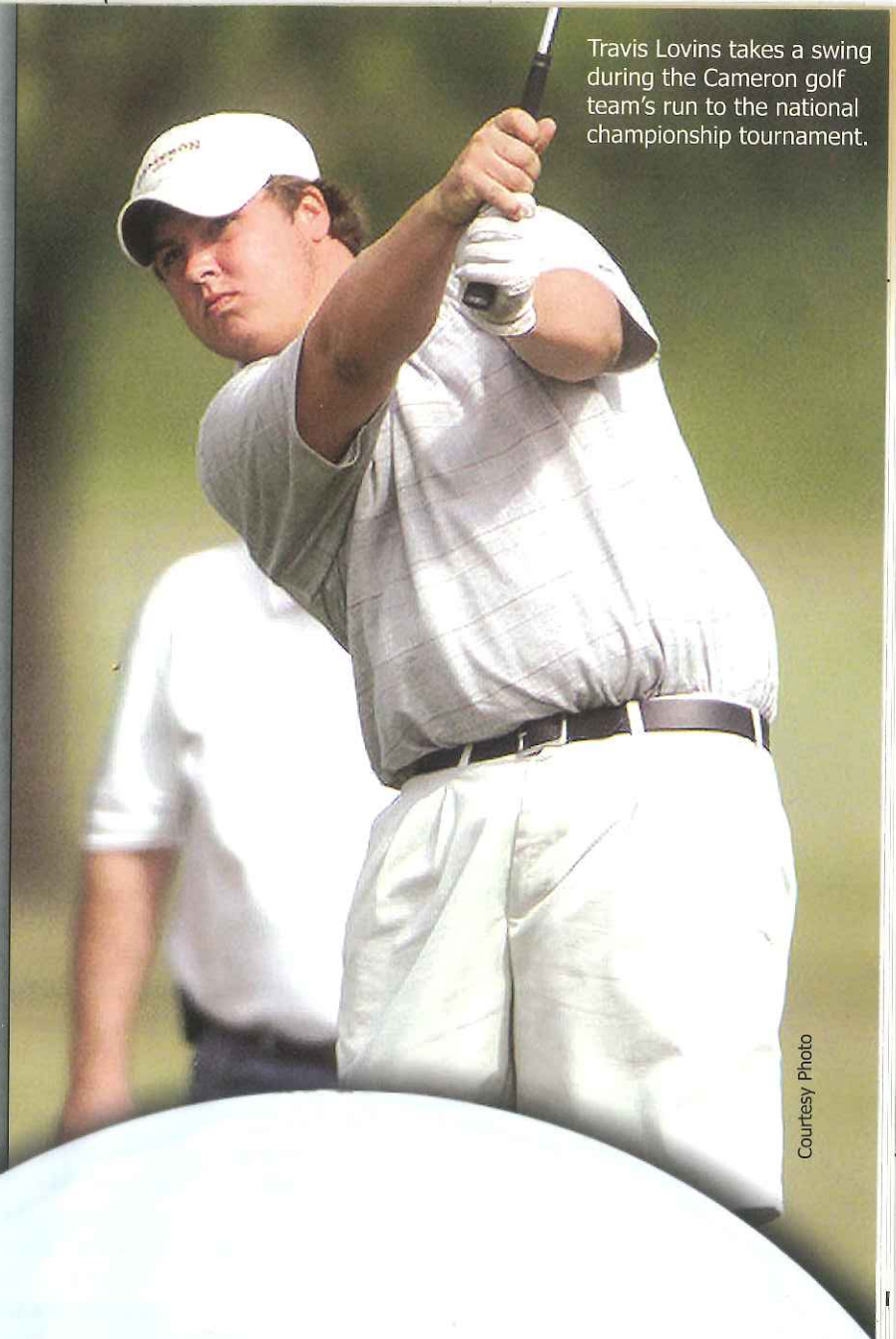
Jerry Hrniciar
CU men's golf coach

Cameron's men's golf team takes a snap shot after competing at the national championship



Courtesy Photo

Travis Lovins takes a swing during the Cameron golf team's run to the national championship tournament.



Courtesy Photo

won the individual title at the Lone Star Conference Championships as a freshman in 2004, and has finished second in each of the past two conference tournaments. Mahaffey battled unfavorable playing conditions and an official's ruling error to finish ninth individually at the Division II National Championships, which were played in May at the Glade Springs Resort in Daniels, W.Va.

"The course at the national tournament played extremely hard because they moved two of the par 5s up to par 4s without taking away much of the distance," Hrniciar said of his team's experience playing in unseasonably cold and damp conditions at Glade Springs. "And the Kentucky bluegrass rough they had there, when it was wet, was just really hard to get out of. It was like U.S. Open rough."

The Aggies persevered for a seventh-place finish at nationals, marking the team's highest finish in the national tournament since a third-place effort in 1996.

But Hrniciar begins the 2006-07 season not just looking to get back to the tournament, but to once again challenge for the national championship.

Joining Mahaffey as returners to the Aggie roster this season are senior Matt Trammell, junior Cane Shumaker and sophomore Peter Svajlen.

Sophomore Cade Lewis, who picked up valuable experience as a true freshman last season, also returns to the Aggie lineup, while newcomers Justin Jang and Clint Wilson add talent and depth.

"Last season was like a roller coaster ride," Hrniciar said. "We had some really good tournaments and then we came up short in the conference tournament. That disappointment was erased when we made that dramatic comeback at regionals, then we suffered from a lack of recent national tournament experience that prevented us from finishing higher than seventh."

"But having the majority of last year's team back after having that experience will be a tremendous asset to our team this season," Hrniciar added. "Everything the team has accomplished, both last season and in our program's history, is certainly something to be proud of."

"But our challenge is to use that past experience to help us reach our goals this season. We're ready for a run at the title."



BUILDING A BUSINESS

Cameron launches three new technology-based businesses

By Danaline McPhail Bryant

In June, Cameron University's Center for Emerging Technology and Entrepreneurial Studies (CETES) selected three businessmen with potential, determination and vision as the winners of the first ever Lawton/Fort Sill Technology Entrepreneur Contest (LTEC).

Earl Gardner, Dr. Terry Reed and Chris Johnson were selected from 15 semi-finalists in the contest designed to find the next groundbreaking invention or technology-based business.

"It will be exciting to watch these ideas transform into companies and eventually commercialized products," said Peter Abramo, Ph.D, Executive Director of CETES.

Gardner's business will develop new software for herd management in the cattle industry in the area of artificial insemination and embryo transplantation services. Reed is developing software for medication management that can transmit medical alerts, while Johnson works in the field of advanced prosthetics.

The winners were awarded free office space in the CETES incubator, assistance with intellectual property protection, market research, marketing, business plan and prototype development, Web site creation, and business development support. Total prize value is more than \$100,000.

CETES immediately began working with the winners in ways that also will benefit Cameron students.

"We've met with all the winners to find out more details about what they'll need," Abramo said. "There are several areas where we can connect our students and faculty with the winners, and we're excited about the opportunities this will present, such as having faculty members on advisory boards to give guidance and assigning students to work with the winners in their companies.

"CETES has been open for a year, and with these companies we'll be able to solidify the connection be-

tween faculty and student body and add to the whole learning experience for our students."

The winners are excited about their new opportunities.

"This will be a lot of work, but it will be a lot of fun," said Gardner, who partners with his son, Joshua Gardner. "Certainly, in every part of the cattle industry, people are looking for something that will make them superior to the next producer. I'll be working with Cameron to utilize the assets available in the business, technology and agriculture departments. This is a real opportunity for me and my son. Cameron and CETES can give real time and real life experience to businesses before they step out into the market place."

"This means quite a bit simply because of the access CETES can provide to a lot of state services that I was not aware of," Reed said. "The state has a tremendous amount of resources that can help, but if you don't know about them they can't do you any good. Peter Abramo is always working on new contacts to help businesses and entrepreneurs. Those contacts are priceless because it would take me months to find them, if I could even locate them. This will let me move forward a lot faster and with a lot more quality than I could have by myself."

"I am thankful there is such a thing as CETES and that the state has enough brains to fund advanced technology efforts," Johnson said. "I am excited because CETES is going to help me in the pursuit of intellectual property and also help in correctly establishing a business based around intellectual property. Everything is going really well. I'm getting advice on what to do with the next step. I'll be using campus resources, whether it's building a Web site or getting consultations with college professors. I'm an inventor who has nine patents, but I don't own them because I've been working as a traditional engineer. This is an opportunity to pursue something of my own."

President Cindy Ross (left) greets the three LTEC winners (center) along with Dr. Peter Abramo, Executive Director of CETES at a special awards ceremony.



Photo by Jeff Dixon

The Cameron University Alumni Association will present its 2006 awards in three categories at a special luncheon during Alumni Weekend (Nov. 3-4).

The **Outstanding Young Alumni Award** will be awarded for the first time this year. The criteria are the same as those for the Distinguished Alumni Award, but the recipient must have graduated no more than 10 years from the year of the award. This year's recipient is Christopher O. Keller, Classes of 1997 and 1998, of Lawton.

The **Distinguished Alumni Award** honors Cameron alumni of 11 or more years. The award is presented to those who have made significant contributions to society and whose accomplishments have brought credit to Cameron by distinguishing themselves in their careers and/or in service to their communities and/or through continued support of Cameron University. The 2006 recipients of this award are Linda Cassidy Pelton, Class of 1965, of Norman; and Ret. Maj. Gen. Toney Stricklin, Class of 75, of Lawton.

The **Faculty Hall of Fame Award** honors current or retired faculty who have taught a minimum of five years at Cameron and emphasizes teaching effectiveness, positive impact on students' lives and involvement at Cameron outside of the classroom and in the community. The recipients are V. Sivarama Krishnan, Ph.D., Professor of Finance in the School of Business, and Rebecca K. Pazoureck, Ph.D., Professor of Human Ecology in the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences.

Nominations for the awards are accepted annually by April 1. For additional information, contact the Cameron Alumni Office, 2800 W. Gore Blvd, Lawton, Okla., 73505; by phone at 580-581-2988; by e-mail at alumni@cameron.edu; or visit the Web site at <http://www.cameron.edu/alumni>.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

Christopher O. Keller

Christopher O. Keller's involvement with Cameron University began 14 years ago when he enrolled as a freshman.

Today he is an Assistant Professor in the Cameron Department of Communication, teaching journalism classes and serving as adviser to *The Cameron Collegian*.

Keller received a Bachelor of Arts in English and Professional Writing in 1997 and a Master of Arts in Teaching in 1998 from Cameron.

He is a candidate for a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from the University of Oklahoma.

As a student at Cameron he received the English Major of the Year Award, the Josephine Raburn Award in English, placed first in Sigma Tau Delta and English department fiction writing contests, and was inducted into Sigma Tau Delta, the National English Honor Society.

His fiction writing was published in *The Rose Review* and *The Forum*. He worked as a reporter for *The Comanche County Chronicle* in Elgin and *The Lawton Constitution* while he was a student.

Keller worked for two years as an English teacher, yearbook adviser and technology adviser at Elgin High School before he was first hired as an instructor in Cameron's

Department of Education in 2000-2001. After a one-year hiatus as an Instructional Designer for the Army Field Artillery School at Fort Sill, he returned to teach at Cameron.

While serving as adviser to *The Cameron Collegian*, the publication has received the Oklahoma Collegiate Press Association's *Award of Excellence* for three consecutive years and the Oklahoma Interscholastic Press Association's *All-Oklahoman Newspaper* award for two years. He has been inducted into the academic honor society Phi Kappa Phi and was a nominee for the Professor of the Year award. He participates in numerous professional organizations and has conducted technology workshops for teachers and students.

Colleagues and students attest that his creative energy, genuine concern for others and ability to motivate those around him are a credit to his profession.

Keller in turn says, "I have the great fortune to spend every day with the most motivated, intelligent people I have ever met - my students - and have the opportunity in every class I teach to learn something new. For me, there is not a more fulfilling, socially impacting, and personally enriching job on this earth than being a university professor."



Photo by J. Adam Calaway

FACULTY HALL OF FAME

V. Sivarama Krishnan, Ph.D.

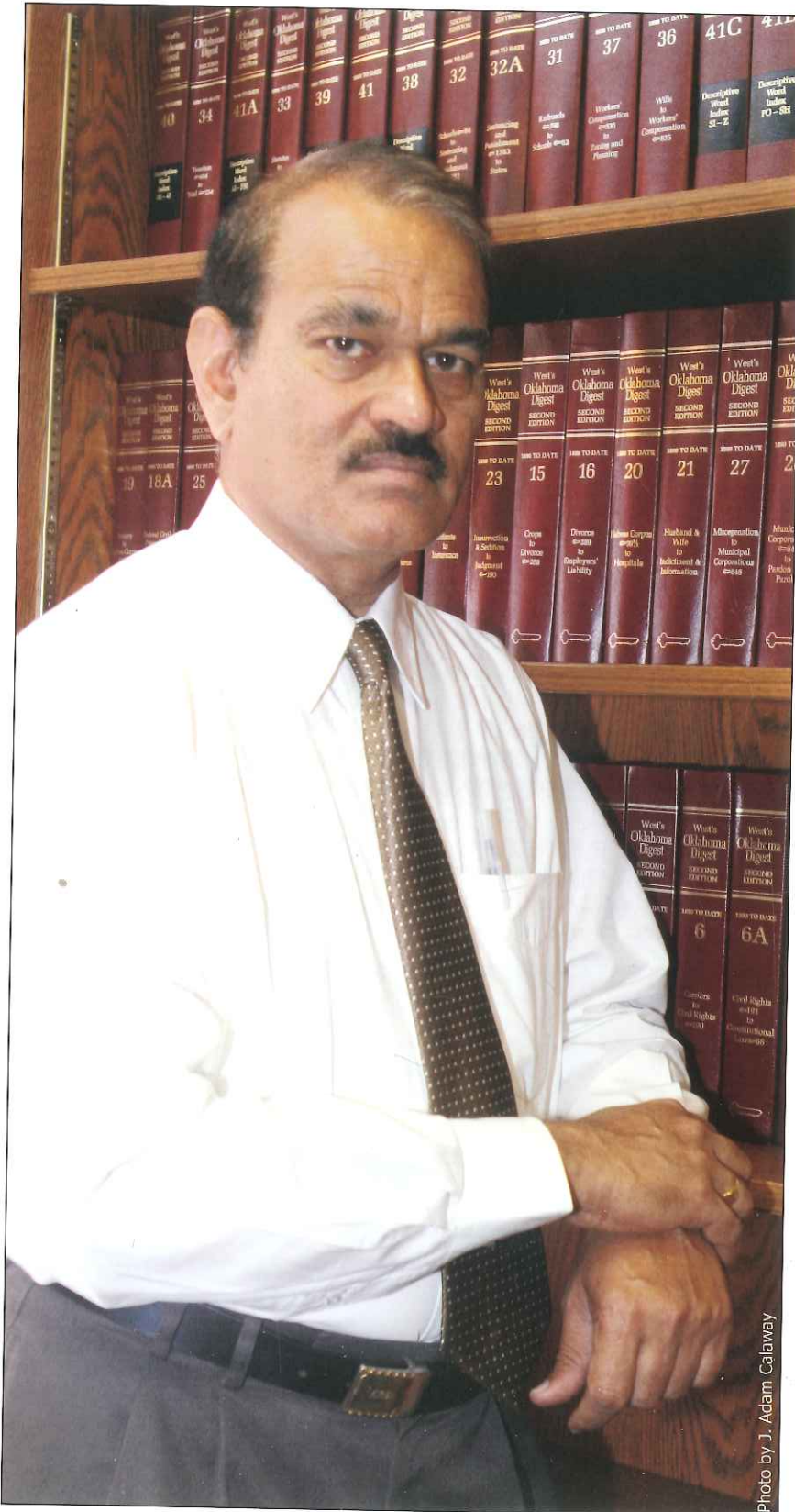


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

V. Sivarama Krishnan, Ph.D., has taught at Cameron since 1992, and now serves as Professor of Finance in the School of Business. During this time at CU, he has established himself as a scholar and teacher with expertise in global finance and international business issues.

Krishnan received a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University Kerala, India, a Ph.D. in Finance from Texas Tech University and has professional certification in cost accounting as an Associate Member of the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India.

He was selected as a 2003-2004 Fulbright Scholar at Tallinn Technical University in Estonia. In addition to his teaching background, he has work experience in industry and banking.

He was selected for the Independent Insurance Agents of Lawton Chair in 1995-2000 and served as the director of the Business Research Center in the School of Business.

With his leadership, the Center developed community Business Forums and performed economic and financial research on behalf of the regional business community.

He has shared expertise with the Lawton-Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce and charitable organizations. A major project was a *Needs Assessment Study* for the City of Lawton and United Way that helped the city obtain federal grants. In recognition of his many achievements, he was awarded the School of Business Lifetime Research Award in 2004.

An active researcher in corporate and personal finance, he has published numerous papers in journals such as *Financial Management*, *Financial Review*, *Managerial Finance*, *Financial Practice and Education*, and *Financial Services Review*.

He was editor of the journal, *Southwest Business and Economics Journal* in 1995-2000. He has authored three editions of the Study Guide for use with the textbook *Principles of Corporate Finance* by Brealey, Myers and Allen.

Cameron has benefitted from Krishnan's membership on committees such as the Long Range Planning Committee, Graduate Council, Advisement and Retention Committee and the School of Business Curriculum Committee.

Krishnan considers the ideal teacher to be a combination of a guide, coach, facilitator and sometimes a friend. He stresses interactive class participation and hands-on assignments. His students and colleagues agree that he is a "master teacher."

FACULTY HALL OF FAME

Rebecca K. Pazoureck, Ph.D.

Known for going the extra mile for her students, Cameron University and the community, Rebecca K. Pazoureck, Ph.D., has been a part of the Cameron family for 31 years. She is now a professor in the CU Department of Psychology and Human Ecology and teaches consumer resource management, nutrition and human ecology courses.

She received a Bachelor of Science in Institutional Administration from Madison College in Virginia and completed a dietetic internship at the Medical College of Virginia. Pazoureck served as a clinical dietitian at March Air Force Base in California before moving in 1970 to Lawton where she was a clinical dietitian for Comanche County Memorial Hospital and a consultant dietitian for McMahan-Tomlinson Nursing Center until 1973.

Pazoureck worked as a counselor for Army Community Service at Fort Sill for a year before joining the faculty at Cameron in 1975. She continued her education at the University of Oklahoma, receiving a Master of Science in Foods and Nutrition and at Oklahoma State University with a Ph.D. in Home Economics (foods, nutrition and institution administration).

When Cameron introduced the Interactive Television System (ITV), she was one of the first faculty members to transition from the old "talkback" system. In the initial stages of development,

she served her fellow faculty members as a mentor by sharing her expertise, experiences and encouragement.

Pazoureck has a strong history of community outreach. She has given presentations at the Leslie Powell Gallery and other off-campus venues on topics ranging from coping with stress to healthy eating and time management. She has judged for numerous contests, competitions and academic decathlons. She has served the American Heart Association of Comanche County as a board member, the J. Roy Dunning Children's Shelter as an advisory board member and as president, and Hospice of Lawton as a consultant dietitian.

An active participant in professional organizations at the state, regional and national levels, she has held positions in the Oklahoma Dietetic Association, Oklahoma Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Awards she has received at Cameron include Professor of the Year, Advisor of the Year and the Hackler Award for Teaching Excellence. She is an honorary member of Phi Omicron Upsilon Honor Society in Family and Consumer Sciences, and the Oklahoma Association of Family and Consumer Sciences has honored her with its Professor of the Year Award.

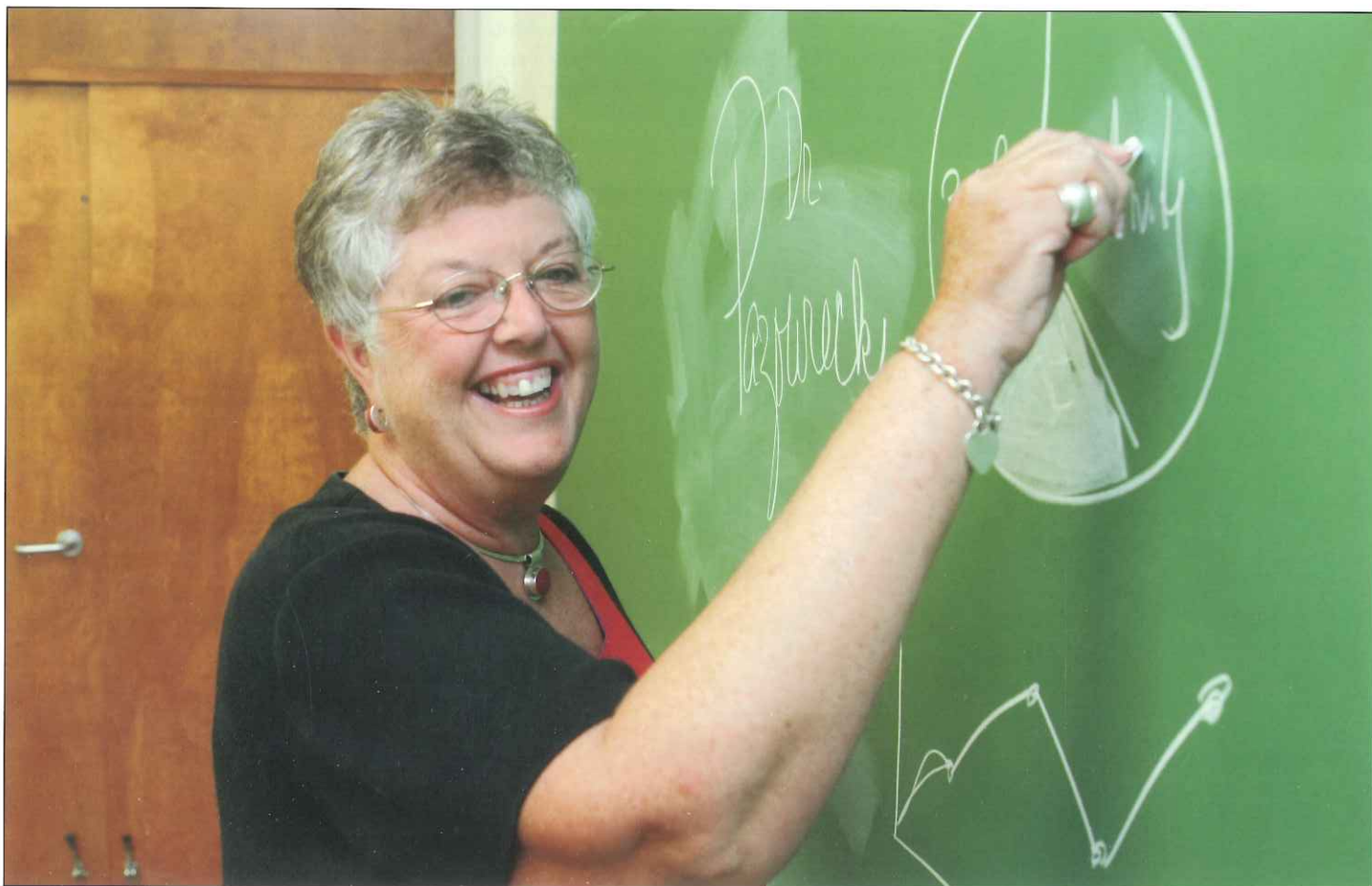


Photo by J. Adam Calaway

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Linda Cassady Pelton



A desire for life-long learning began when Linda Cassady Pelton received an associate's degree in business from Cameron in 1965. At Cameron she served on the yearbook and newspaper staffs, was secretary and president of the Future Business Leaders of America and served as secretary in the Military Science Department.

She has earned three master's degrees - one from the University of Central Oklahoma in reading and two from the University of Oklahoma in special education and in administration and curriculum plus registry training in many areas of special education.

Pelton has taught in the Oklahoma City Public Schools for over 34 years at the high school, middle school and elementary levels. She currently teaches special education classes at Andrew Johnson Elementary School. Her students have benefitted from more than \$22,000 in grants she has initiated, developed and implemented.

A multi-tasker, Pelton has intertwined her career in education with her community service. On Sunday mornings you can find her teaching special needs adults at Portland Avenue Baptist Church.

She has taught evening GED classes for

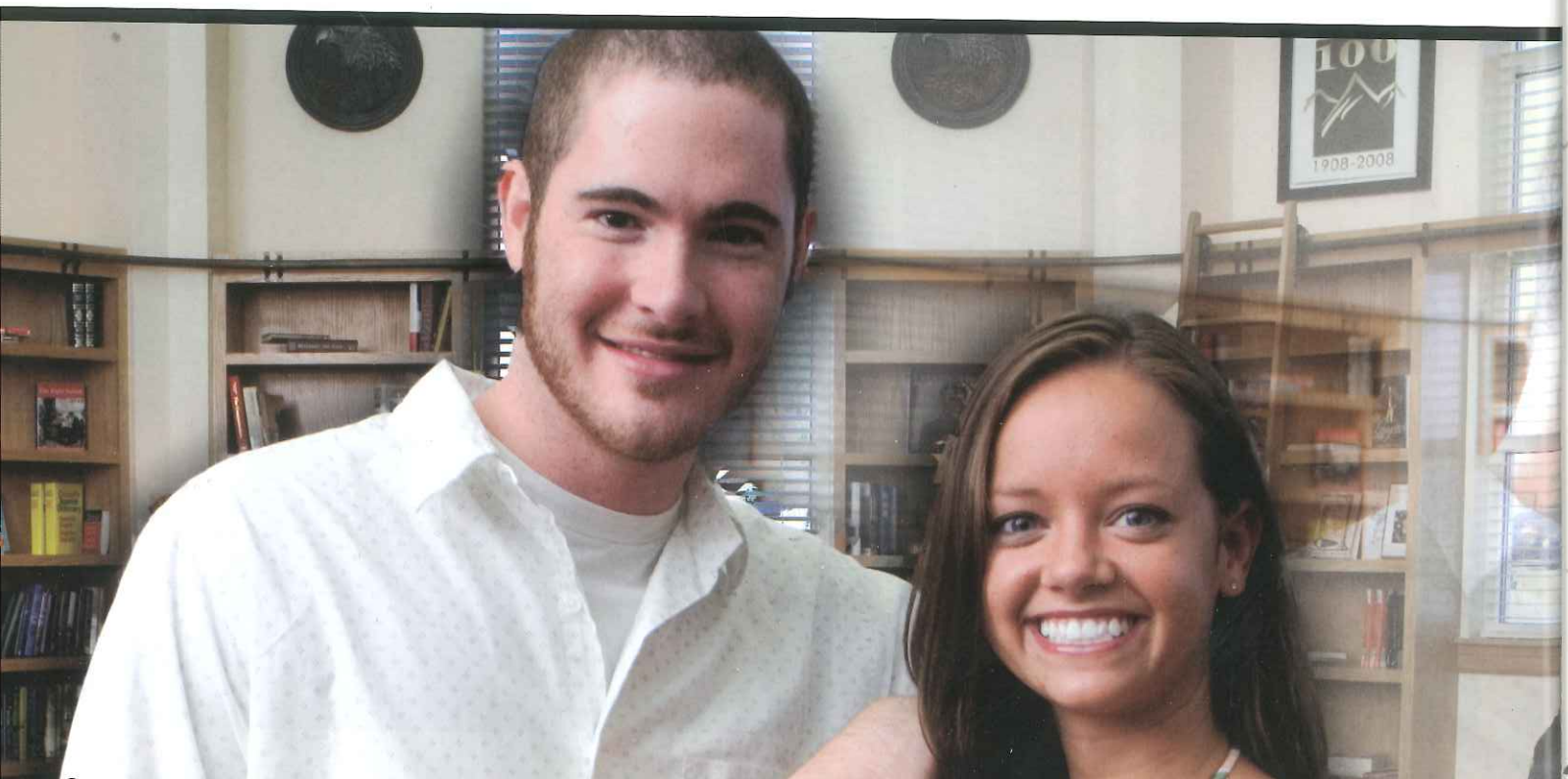
Asian Americans. During summers, she has taught at the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center.

Taking a leadership role with the American Red Cross, she worked at the Disaster Command Relief Center during the May 1999 Oklahoma tornadoes.

On behalf of the American Federation of Teachers, she has held multiple leadership roles and was featured in the Washington Post when she attended the 2004 national conference in Washington D.C.

She is president of the Northwest Casady Kiwanis Club and is a 2006 graduate of the Partners in Policymaking Program, an innovative leadership training program for individuals who desire to have an impact on the lives of people with disabilities.

A few of the honors Pelton has received include Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation's Excellent Educator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Excellence Award, Oklahoma Seeds of Success Winner, Fox-TV Golden Apple Award, and UCO Outstanding Alumni Award. Pelton's Pathways, a walking path, has been built at her school in honor of her service to the community and the school.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Ret. Maj. Gen. Toney Stricklin



Retired Major General Toney Stricklin is Vice President of information security and systems training and simulations for Tchrizon LLC, in Lawton. The company has supported the Army, other Department of Defense and government agencies and commercial clients for more than 30 years.

This position is a natural transition for a man who served his country in the Army.

"Service to our country is my greatest achievement and honor," Stricklin said. "For 32 years it was a privilege for me to work with soldiers in the defense of our nation. The United States Army is an enduring institution with a legacy of values, honor, respect and integrity that we all cherish."

He has strong ties to the Lawton-Fort Sill community. He came to Fort Sill in 1969 for Officer Candidate School, returned for the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course in 1975, and was stationed at Fort Sill when he completed his bachelor's degree in business administration at Cameron in the fall of 1975.

In August of 1999, he assumed the position of Commanding General, United States Army Field Artillery Center and School at Fort Sill, and retired from active service in 2001. Other

assignments include a variety of command and staff positions throughout the United States, Germany, Korea and Vietnam.

Stricklin received a master of arts in international relations from Newport College in Rhode Island and is a graduate of the National War College.

His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf clusters, the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf clusters.

The Governor of Oklahoma has appointed Stricklin to serve as a member of the State Board for Career and Technology Education and he chairs the Information Technology Panel for the Governor's Economic Development Generating Experience (EDGE). He is president of the Southwest Oklahoma Advanced Technology Association.

Other honors he has received at Cameron include the Distinguished Service Award, Distinguished Alumnus of the School of Business and an honorary inductee into the Cameron University Chapter of Delta Mu Delta. He is a Cameron University President's Partner donor.

CAMERON UNIVERSITY

They are the future and they need 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.

THE LIFE OF LANG

Dennis Lang never attended Cameron University, but he was a great friend to the university. And to me.

Dennis was the longtime Managing Editor of the *Lawton Constitution* and championed Cameron in print and in life. He opened up his newsroom to countless interns so they could take their first dip in the journalist pool, and he hired Cameron graduates with a great fervor, not just because they were qualified and capable, but because he cared. Dennis never forgot what it was like to start out.

I was one of those know-it-all kiddos he hired. In fact, he hired me four times. Dennis initially brought me to work at the *Constitution* during my second year of college to fulfill the most glorious of all newspaper jobs – the night switchboard operator job.

It was the almost-graveyard shift – 5 p.m. to midnight, Thursday through Sunday. I answered phones, watched over the elevator and filled the hours by either studying or observing the daily dealings of a newsroom.

A comatose monkey could have done the job, but as a fledgling journalist it was nirvana. I was paid to do homework and I knew my foot was sliding through the door.

When Dennis discovered I was a journalism student at Cameron University, he gave me the opportunity to move up (in a manner of speaking) to obituary reporter. Then after I wrote an obituary for twin babies I left, and he understood.

But as soon as possible, Dennis brought me back to man the switchboard. Then he (and Joey Goodman) hired me to write sports part time during my senior year of college, and when my world was crushed by the death of my grandmother, he understood when I left yet again. Graduation came and what was a hometown boy to do?

Job offers came in from Kansas and Tulsa, from Texas and all places unfamiliar. Dennis had a better offer: come back and work for him. And I did. Four months later, I met the woman who would be my wife.

People call the first years of marriage the lean years; I call them the salad years because all Elizabeth and I could afford was a few weeds to chew on. But there was Dennis, who gave me a raise, patted me on the back and reassured me.

For more than three years, I was a reporter. I wrote. I snapped pictures. And I experienced Southwest Oklahoma for all its majesty and all its kookiness. Dennis was right there every step of the way.

He was one of those bosses, who listened to any complaint with a father's patience, then did what was right for everyone even when it wasn't what I wanted. His patience and penchant for perfection preceded everything, and kindness was a trademark of his life.

Dennis graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in journalism. A year before graduation, Lang married Gloria his college sweetheart.

"I had a close group of friends that I hung out with and he was the quietest one. When I told my mom that I was marrying Dennis, she said 'Which one is he?' and I said, 'The quiet one,'" Gloria said during a recent conversation. "We had a double wedding with my sister. My dad said, 'It's a double wedding or nothing.' My sister picked out dresses. My dad picked the flowers. All I did was pick

him out. I didn't care about anything except him."

The pair moved to Lawton in January 1974 when Dennis began work at the *Lawton Constitution* as a cub reporter (that's newspeak for low man on the totem pole). Throughout the next three decades, Dennis and Gloria raised their children (the couple now has three grown sons: Alan, Scott, and Ryan) and Dennis advanced through each position in the newsroom before finally landing in the Managing Editor's chair.

"He's always been wonderful to me. The titles were just icing," Gloria said.

Then came the blurred vision.

In the spring of 2003, Dennis began experiencing blurred vision, which then worsened to double vision. I remember him mentioning it to me one day and I reassuringly dismissed it as a passing ailment. However, an MRI revealed what doctors deemed as "a worrisome mass." Further tests revealed the tumor was located in the worst possible place – near the brainstem.

"I just kept thinking, 'This really can't be happening,'" Gloria said.

Dennis underwent surgery that fall. His office light was dark for almost two months. He returned to work but less than 10 months after brain surgery, Dennis and Gloria were told that the tumor had grown back. There was another surgery in August 2004, followed by radiation, chemotherapy and a Gamma Knife procedure.

That fall, I left the *Lawton Constitution* for the fourth and final time to come to Cameron. A few months later, Dennis Lang left as well, this time for good. After three decades in the newspaper business, Dennis was forced into medical retirement by something the size of a dime. But his legacy lives on in the *Lawton Constitution* newsroom, in newsrooms across the country, in the numerous Cameron graduates who he helped along the way and in me. I know that his kindness has forever altered my life. I know that I'm not the only Cameron graduate that feels that way, so it's only fitting that CU's first-ever journalism scholarship is in the process of being established in the name of the quiet boy from Sand Springs.

These days Dennis still has vision problems, trouble with balance and walking, tremors in his right hand and he's developed Bell's Palsy, among the various side effects caused by his medications and treatments. Still Gloria, his full-time caretaker, says she wouldn't be anywhere else in the world.

"He's the love of my life," she said. "He's my best friend. I can't imagine anything without him."

And as selfish as it sounds, I can't imagine where I'd be without Dennis Lang's generosity.

This will most likely be the last words I write for Cameron as my road through life has taken another turn, and I find myself preparing to leave my hometown of 28 years. Times of change often bring about great reflection and this time has been no exception.

I know the opportunities that lay before me would not be possible without the kindness of so many people, including Dennis Lang, who ushered me along the path of life for a time.

Yes, Dennis Lang hired me four times and I'm thankful for each one. So are all the other kids just like me.

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 state, 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.

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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.



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