




Fall 2012

Pitt State

MAGAZINE



Ancient fossils reveal their secrets-
PSU alumnus uses technology
to unlock evolution's mysteries



PittState

MAGAZINE

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From the editor

We've enjoyed hearing from many of you since the last issue of the PittState Magazine and we hope you enjoy this issue every bit as much. We've added some new features that we think you'll enjoy. Some stories are marked to let you know you can see great companion video stories online. Take a few minutes to test your PSU knowledge with the crossword puzzle on page 43. Of course the ever-popular "Where in the World is Gus," "Finding Gus," and "Then and Now" features return.

Be sure to drop us a line to let us know how we're doing, submit your alumni news and photos and share your memories. We're looking forward to hearing from you!



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From the editor:

We love hearing from our readers!

Our letters following the spring issue fell into three categories: comments about the magazine; memories of Larry Wooster and his iconic gorilla statue, all inspired by our "Finding Gus" feature; and memories of the old college gym in response to the "Then and Now" feature. We would like to hear from you! Send your letters to psumag@pittstate.edu.

I have really enjoyed reading through this issue.

Thank you.
Phil Jack, BST '78

Just received the Spring 2012 issue of the Pitt State Magazine. Great job.

Tom Speck, BS '65.

Great magazine. The Extreme Experience article really made my heart swell with pride. I LOVE BEING A GORILLA!!!

Kellie Borders

Thank you for the publication and I enjoy the memories and the updates of campus changes.

Kermit Bohrer, '70

Great issue!!

Gary Price, Olathe, Kansas

Great magazine, I really enjoy getting it!

James Naff, Chanute, Kansas

We enjoy the magazine. Keep up the good work.

Tom, '61, '64 and Becky Elliott, '62

My wife Nancy and I enjoy reading the many different articles in the Pitt State Magazine!

Brian R. Shultz, Erie, Kansas

Love this magazine - read it cover to cover. Thanks for a classy production.

Kathy Meyer, '78

This is fun every time I get the magazine.

Lisa Jordan '90

Several of our letters for this issue were inspired by our ongoing "Finding Gus Gorilla" contest.

I knew this (Gus Gorilla) fiber glass sculpture in 1965. I was a PSU student at the time it was installed South of the Student Union. Larry Wooster was an Art instructor of mine.

For many years I owned a fiberglass art piece of Larry Wooster's. It was a woman's life-sized head painted black & mounted on a wooden base. Mr. Wooster traded the sculpture for some large pieces of (my) black walnut lumber, which he used for art bases. A few years ago I contacted Larry Wooster's widow & gave her the woman sculpture.

The only reference to the PSU mascot (that I remember) in the 1960s was the words "Gus" & "Gussie" on restroom doors of the Student Union main entrance.

Tom Hankins
BS '65, MS '68

During the 1964-65 academic year I was Larry Wooster's graduate assistant. As such, one of my more enjoyable jobs was to assist him in the construction of the original clay sculpture for the work and with the casting of its first version, which was in fiberglass. Larry was a wonderful man with a great sense of

humor. We remained friends for many years after I graduated. One of the last times I saw him was when he visited me at my home in Pennsylvania around 1974 or 75. My very best wishes to all Gorillas both past and present.

Larry Holmes, BFA '64, MS '65

I am in possession of serial #2 of the four-foot plastic gorilla being produced at Charloma in Cherryvale. The aluminum castings used to produce Gus were cast at my company, Pressure Cast Products, in Coffeyville, Kan.

Don McFerrin, '63

Larry Wooster, Robert Russell, Bert Keeney and Harry Krug were my instructors-heroes!

Charles "Herb" Jenkins
BFA January, '68

My dad played football at Pitt State for Carnie Smith...coached with Al Ortolani (BS, MS and EdS from Pitt). I played volleyball at Pitt State (BS and MS degrees from Pitt). One of my sisters is a Pitt grad also (BS from Pitt). Currently, my oldest nephew attends Pitt State. Yes, I'm trying to convince you that I should win!!!!) LOL

Andrea Becker
Secondary Instructional Coach
Turner (Kan.) High School

Memories of the Old Gym

The Gym, crunched in between the tennis courts and the Mine Building on the then north east corner of the campus is full of memories. As a student at Horace Mann I learned to swim in the pool as soon as I was 36" to my armpit. As the son of a Gorilla basketball fan I watched hours of basketball and enjoyed watching Coach John Lance heckle the refs. (I

remember) listening to the band and Oscar Stover playing the trumpet. Later, I earned SCUBA certification in the pool with JayHawk Divers. For four years, I climbed to the crow's nest platform high in the rafters to play in the Pep Band at all home games. It was also here I met Al Ortolani as a student teacher as we aspired to climb the rope suspended from the lofty ceiling. It was all good. I missed The Gym with its many sounds and smells.

John Robb, BA '64

I saw the photos of the Old Gym in the Spring addition of the Pitt State Magazine and had to smile. Having had the privilege of being part of the Gorilla Basketball team from 1968 to 1972, I have many fond memories of the Old Gym, including having played in the last game there in February 1971.

In December 1969, the Gorillas faced Rockhurst out of Kansas City, one of the top NAIA teams in the country. Laced with All Americans, Rockhurst was a formidable team. The Gorillas, coached by the late Bob Johnson, and led by talented players, Bill Feuerborn, Johnny Battles, Ernie Lewis, and Doug Dodge, the Gorillas played flawlessly that night. The Old Gym was packed with spectators including the Fifth Floor Animals of Dellinger Hall. The place was literally rocking.

The Coach of Rockhurst got so frustrated from the severe beating Rockhurst took that evening, he

received three technical fouls, was tossed from the game, and was escorted from the Old Gym. As he was leaving, he tossed his plaid sport coat into the stands and vowed never to play another game at the Old Gym.

As a reminder of those days, I have one of the original bricks from the Old Gym serving as a doorstep in my office.

Once a Gorilla, Always a Gorilla!

Montie Taylor, '72
Parsons, Kansas

The old gym could be an intimidating environment for opposing teams. We had some good teams in the mid to late '60s and packed, standing-room crowds were the norm.

My most memorable moment came in the closing minutes of a real barn-burner versus a favored and very talented team from Lincoln.

Instigated by the infamous "K-Club," the entire crowd began stomping non-stop in unison. We must have hit the sympathetic vibration frequency of the building. The old girl began to shake, rattle and roll until paint and other small bits of the ceiling began to rain down on the court.

This had a very unnerving effect on the players and coaches from Lincoln. The blizzard and some good old home-court officiating allowed the Gorillas to pull off an "upset" victory. It was crazy good!

Stephen Rumford
BSed '68, MS '74

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Indian students share a colorful festival

Few other events illustrate the richness of diversity that international students bring to the campus as well as the Indian Festival of Colors. The Hindu festival, called "Holi" in India, is observed at the end of the winter season and is a celebration of good over evil.

The most notable aspect of the festival and the thing that American students seem to enjoy the most is the tradition of throwing colored powder and colored water at each other. On March 31, students from India, the U.S. and many other countries gathered at the University Lake to celebrate the festival.

Dr. Ananda Jayawardhana, adviser for the Indian Student Association, said that in India, Holi is a time when normal barriers between people are taken down.

"If you are in the street, anyone can throw paint on you and it's all right. On one day of the year everybody is equal."

At PSU, the colored powders filled the air and by the end, nearly everyone had a good dowsing with water, as well.



Indian students celebrate their colorful Holi Festival traditions with their American friends at University Lake.

*"If you are in the street,
anyone can throw paint
on you and it's all right.
On one day of the year
everybody is equal."*



PSU begins iPad initiative

Pittsburg State University students returning in the fall are likely to see their professors using a new piece of technology in the classroom. The university began its iPad initiative in the spring by distributing the tablets to faculty taking part in the program.

"Technology in the classroom is constantly changing," explained Dr. Lynette Olson, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "The iPad is simply the latest in a long line of classroom technology. We want to make certain our faculty have access to the tools that can make a real difference to the students in their classrooms."

Training workshops were provided for professors in the spring and additional workshops will be held in the fall. The iPad program is an initiative of the Provost's Office and initial results have been positive.

"The possibilities are almost endless," said Provost Olson. "When it's done correctly, the integration of technology into the curriculum can provide students with a classroom environment that is even more dynamic. This program is another example of how Pittsburg State is continuously seeking new methods of improving the academic experience for our students."



Textbook rental growing rapidly at PSU

When Pittsburg State University students returned to the campus this fall, they saw a lot of green signs with the word "Rental." It had nothing to do with the housing market in Pittsburg, but instead is an indication of the growing number of books for rent in the Barnes and Noble Gorilla Bookstore.

Bookstore Manager Fawn Chesnutt said textbook rentals have grown steadily since the bookstore first offered them in the fall of 2010.

"The first year, 20-25 percent of the titles were available as rentals," Chesnutt said. "This year it's about half. It is becoming very popular and it's grown primarily by word of mouth."

Chesnutt said students saved more than \$182,000 last year by renting textbooks versus buying new ones. This fall, there were 380 titles available to rent, compared to 320 last fall, so the savings could be much greater.

Chesnutt said the bookstore works to provide a variety of options for students looking to save money on textbooks. In addition to renting, Chesnutt said, students can purchase used books and there are also many titles available digitally.



Pittsburg State signs Presidents' Climate Commitment

Pittsburg State University this spring demonstrated why it's quickly becoming known for its environmental efforts with President Steve Scott's signing of the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.

PSU is the first four-year university in Kansas to sign the commitment, which calls for universities to work towards climate neutrality.

"This is an important step forward for Pittsburg State University," said Scott. "It's an initiative that really reflects our commitment to the environment and the steps this campus is taking to be better stewards of our resources."

Over the past year those steps have included the installation of a geothermal heating and cooling system for McPherson Hall and Timmons Chapel, increased emphasis on recycling programs on campus and the addition of a new academic program.

Students, faculty and visitors to campus will soon be able to see the university's progress in sustainability for themselves, thanks to the addition of energy monitors. The monitors will report building energy usage in real-time and are another example of how PSU is using technology to advance its sustainability efforts. **+V**



PSU honors student employees

Tracey Fienen (left) and Carrie Nelson were selected as PSU Student Employees of the year at a ceremony last spring honoring all student employees. Fienen, who works in the Office of Analysis, Planning and Assessment, was selected on-campus student employee of the year. Nelson, who works at Via Christi Village, was named off-campus student employee of the year.



University dedicates new Senior Walk

Alumni and friends returning to campus will notice something new on the lawn of Russ Hall. The university officially dedicated a new Senior Walk this spring during a special ceremony that featured outstanding seniors from the past.

President Steve Scott paid tribute to the university crews who designed and built the new Senior Walk and to the Student Government Association and others for funding the project.

The project was made possible by a gift from the SGA, which funded the initial Senior Walk decades ago. The new structure, which is in the same location as the original structure, replaces a number of missing plaques from the early years and also allows space for many additional plaques. +V



Outstanding Senior Award recipients spanning several decades gathered in front of Russ Hall in the spring to dedicate the new Senior Walk. The walk was designed, built and landscaped by PSU's Physical Plant employees. Bronze plaques inscribed with the names of Outstanding Seniors encircle the flag pole at the center of the walk.



Big Event marks 10 years

The Big Event marked its 10th anniversary in April in a big way. More than 1,000 PSU students turned out on a rainy day to rake, paint, clean and do other jobs in the community that students call home, at least for their years in Pittsburg. Organizers said it was the largest turnout in Big Event history.

The Big Event is a community service project designed to give back to the community and show the students' appreciation for the support it receives from Pittsburg and the surrounding area. Students participate individually and in groups, including the sororities and fraternities and campus groups like the Residence Hall Assembly.

Participants said they enjoyed both the experience of community service and working with other students for a good cause. +V



First-year students honored

Pittsburg State University inducted more than 358 students into the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society during a special ceremony at Pittsburg's Memorial Auditorium. This is the first time the university has hosted a first-year national honor society on its campus.

"A student's first year in college is so important and, for some, may be the most difficult as they adjust to campus life," said Heather Eckstein, director of first-year programs at PSU. "It is important that we celebrate the hard work and scholarship of these outstanding women and men."

The group of inductees was larger than might normally be expected, Eckstein said, because for its founding year at PSU, Phi Eta Sigma membership was open to any student who met the honor society's requirements during their first college year.

Phi Eta Sigma requires its members to have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale. **+V**

Finding Gus Gorilla

Can you find the hidden Gus? Search this issue for the iconic bronze Gorilla created by Larry Wooster in 1965.

Find the 1965 Gorilla in this issue of the Pitt State Magazine and enter to win a hardbound copy of the university's book, "Pittsburg State University: A Photographic History of the First 100 Years," by Randy Roberts, PSU archivist.



Send an email to psumag@pittstate.edu to submit your entry for our Hidden Gorilla Contest. Please include your first and last name as well as the page number and location you found the hidden gorilla. One entry per person.

****Entries must be received by October 15, 2012.** The winner will be contacted by October 22, 2012 and announced in the next issue of the Pitt State Magazine.

Congratulations to **Chris and Lisa Reddout** of Miami, Okla., who found the hidden Gorilla in the spring magazine! The Reddouts receive two (2) skybox tickets to the Gorillas' Football home opener on September 8.

Fraternities change recruiting

PSU's six fraternities are taking a new approach when it comes to recruiting members this fall. The fraternities will hold formal fraternity recruitment, similar to that hosted by sororities, in hopes of interesting a wider range of university men in fraternity life.

James Saltat, vice president of recruitment with the Interfraternity Council, said PSU's fraternities have traditionally conducted "informal" recruitment throughout the year. That process relies heavily on social networking. This fall, however, the fraternities will host fraternity house tours, an all-fraternity barbecue and individual rush events for each house over a three-day period.

"Many freshmen may feel intimidated about joining a fraternity," Saltat said. "Many others aren't informed about fraternity life. Formal recruitment makes it easier to learn about the individual fraternities and get to know the members."

Saltat said the formal recruitment process should also help students choose the fraternity that best suits them.

"Every house on campus is different," Saltat said. "Getting a chance to meet and know each fraternity will help men choose the best fraternity for them."

Saltat said the fraternity leaders hope the formal process will help boost numbers.

"At Pitt State, less than 10 percent of students are Greeks," Saltat said. "Certainly, we hope the process will encourage more Pitt State men to consider joining a fraternity."

Fine Arts Calendar

ArtDept.

Lecture and reception dates and times to be announced. Contact sbowman@pittstate.edu or call 620-235-4305 for more information.

University Gallery

Porter Hall

October 3 - November 15

Erin Wiersma

"B8.8.11 8AM"

Acrylic, graphite & charcoal on paper
From the "Intervals of Time" exhibit

August 23 - September 24

David Marquez

"Bi"

Ceramic and silicone
From the "Vessels" exhibit

November 21 - January 18

Andrew Casto

"Here it is Now"

Ceramic, luster, MDF, OSB, steel,
epoxy, hardware
From the "We Meet in Iowa" exhibit

Harry Krug Gallery

Porter Hall

August 30 - October 17

Russ Revock

"Playing Too Long With Dolls"
Digital composite & pigment inkjet
From the "Dream States and Detritus"
exhibit

October 24 - December 6

Inspiring Voices

Open reception: Nov. 9, 5-8 p.m.

November 1 & 2

Intervals of Time

Fall 2012 Art Department
Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

PSU Theatre Productions

For ticket information on PSU Theatre productions visit www.pittstate.edu/ticket or call 620-235-4796

"The King Stag"

by Carlo Gozzi / Adapted by Megan Westhoff

Directed by Megan Westhoff

October 18-20, 8 p.m.

Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

"Theatre Unplugged"

Student Directed One-Acts

November 30 - December 1, 7 p.m.

Grubbs Studio Theatre

"True West"

by Sam Shepard / Directed by Gil Cooper

February 28 - March 3

evenings: 8 p.m. | Sunday matinee: 2 p.m.

Grubbs Studio Theatre

"The History of Laundry"

conceived and directed by Cynthia Allan
With the PSU Advanced Performance Ensemble

April 25 - 28

evenings: 8 p.m. | Sunday matinee: 2 p.m.

Grubbs Studio Theatre

PALS

Performing Arts & Lecture Series

For ticket information and prices go to
www.pittstate.edu/ticket

Quixotic

September 7

Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Carmen Agra Deedy, storyteller

November 17

McCray Hall, 7:30 p.m. (Free)

Step Afrika!

February 19

Memorial Auditorium, 8 p.m.

"Twelfth Night"

American Shakespeare Center

March 14

Memorial Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

MusicDept

SEPTEMBER

10..... Faculty Recital
Patrick Howel (voice),
Reena Natenberg (piano);
7:30 p.m., McCray Hall

23..... SEK Symphony
3 p.m., Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

OCTOBER

1..... Jazz Concert
7:30 p.m., Overman Student Center,
Crimson & Gold Ballroom

4..... Wind Ensemble
7 p.m., Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium;
Joplin Tribute Concert: "After the Storm,"
follows Wind Ensemble

14-15 Midwest Trumpet Festival
various guest recitals, McCray Hall

NOVEMBER

9..... Choir Concert
7:30 p.m., McCray Hall

18..... SEK Symphony
3 p.m., McCray Hall

29..... Jazz Concert
7 p.m., Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

DECEMBER

2..... Holiday Concert
2 p.m., Pittsburg Memorial Auditorium

5 & 7 Timmons Holiday Concert
7:30 p.m., Timmons Chapel

Solo & Chamber Music Series

All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. in McCray Hall. Tickets are available at the door and by calling the PSU Ticket Office at 620-235-4796.

Friday, September 28

Yale Brass Trio

Friday, October 12

Wind Soloists of New York

Friday, November 16

Wayward Sisters (Baroque ensemble)

Friday, January 25

Sarah Wolfson (soprano)

Friday, March 8

Soyeon Lee (piano)

Friday, April 19

Minneapolis Guitar Quartet

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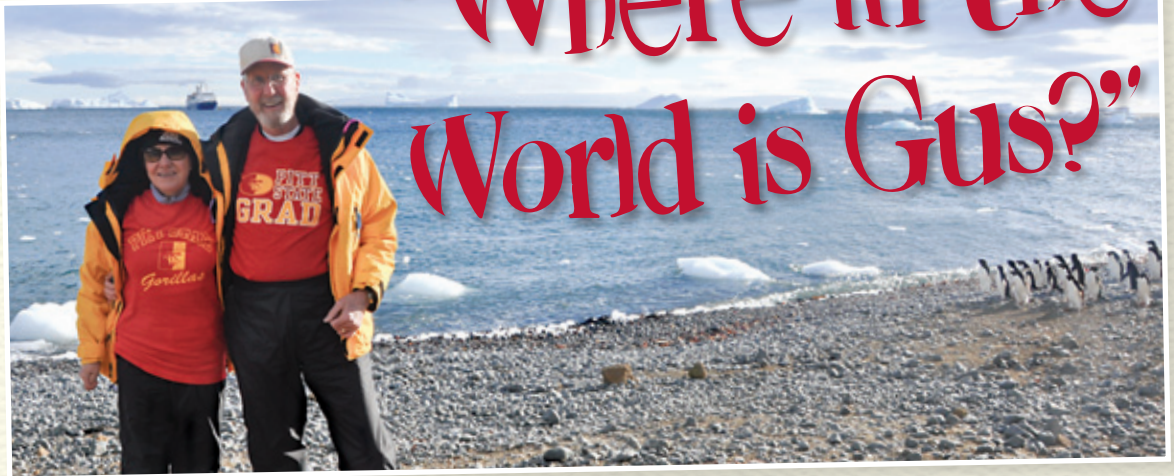
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“Where in the World is Gus?”

Gorillas at the bottom of the Earth

There's no doubt where these Gorillas' loyalties lie. Leland (Lon) Gallup (BS '63) and his wife, Marianne, pause for a photo in Antarctica in January. The Gallups spent 21 days on an ice breaker, going to islands such as South Georgia, Elephant Island the peninsula, and many more. They live in Littleton, Colo.



Gorilla in the snow

A Gorilla National Championship football sweatshirt keeps Joseph A. Smith warm in the Antarctic where he was working as a physical therapist for six to nine months. Joe played on the 1991 championship team and now lives in Billings, Mont. This photo was submitted by his mother, Madeline Smith, who noted that she and daughter, Frances, also have degrees from PSU.



Gorilla in Gecko Gallop

Marcus Barrager (AAS, Electrical Technologies 2010) represents his alma mater in the 5k Gecko Gallop in Hawaii. Marcus is on active duty in the Army and is stationed at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. There he is a watercraft engineer aboard the Army's LSV-4.

Touching lives in Africa

Kylie Miller (BSN 2012) was a proud Gorilla as she worked last summer in Kenya. Kylie was a volunteer through the organization African Impact and worked with the project titled, "HIV/AIDS Orphans Work in Hospitals & Slums." As a volunteer, Kylie was involved in community and teaching projects in Nairobi slums, assisted in feeding programs, worked in HIV/AIDS clinics, assisted nurses in health centers, improved orphan facilities and experienced other playful interactions with the orphans.



Royal Gus

Mildred Fossey Reed (B.S. '68, M.S. Biology '71) looks regal in her Pitt State shirt as she sits in Henry VIII's council chamber at Hampton Court Palace southwest of London. Mildred lives in Hutchinson, Kan.



PSU beach wear

Michael R. Hartley, CPO (BS 2000) wears his Gorilla gear on the beaches of Maui. "I always travel with Pitt State Gear," he said. Michael is the Clinical Director of Orthotics at Abilities Unlimited, Inc., in Colorado Springs, Colo.

We would like to know what interesting places Gus has visited.

E-mail your photo and a brief story to psumag@pittstate.edu



Gorilla in service

Jason P. Gorman, (BS-Sociology/Psychology '95; BS-Elementary Education '97) was deployed and served in Afghanistan, March 2011-May 2012. He is shown with his interpreter in Spin Boldak near the Pakistani border. He currently resides in the Olathe area along with his children, John D., 12, and Annie, 10.

Bonjour!

Jamie Leifer (BS '08) and his wife, Katy (Thompson) Leifer (BS in Ed '08), proudly display their Gorilla pride on the cobblestone streets of Lyon, France. Jamie is a senior engineer, project leader of verification at Volvo Powertrain in Hagerstown, Md. His current project sent him on multiple trips to both Sweden and France. Katy took a break from her first year of teaching to join him on the trip, bringing with her the PSU pennant that hangs in her 4th grade classroom. "We are both so grateful for PSU and the countless opportunities and experiences our education continues to provide us with," Jamie said.



In the Mayan ruins

The Myers family wore their Gorilla gear on a recent trip to the Mayan ruins in Uxmal, Mexico. Left to right: Boone Myers, Jamie (Lucian) Myers (BS '85, MS '89), Terry Myers (BS '85), 2nd Lt. Lucian Myers (BA '12) and Maddie Myers.



Morocco adventure

A group of Frontenac High School seniors show their Gorilla pride on a day trip from Spain to Tetouan, Morocco. Erin Douglas (BS '05), a Spanish teacher at FHS, and two sponsors led the trip. In the photo, L-R: Haleigh Fay, Chelsea Hudson, Travis Cleffman, Jessica Fletcher, Eli Spurling, Ashlyn Corn, Erin Douglas, Brandon Belew, and Katharyne Belew ('08).



Golfing Gorillas

Proud Gorillas and best friends Kendall Gammon ('92) and Tim Sinclair ('92) finish a round of golf on the original golf course, St Andrews – The Old Course in St Andrews, Scotland.

*Ancient fossils
reveal their secrets-*

PSU alumnus uses technology to unlock evolution's mysteries

USING MODERN TECHNOLOGY, Gabe Bever (BS '96) is helping the world to see dinosaurs in ways they have never been seen before and connecting the dots that link ancient dinosaurs to current life on Earth.

Bever, a paleontologist and a research scientist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York, uses non-destructive, high-resolution computed tomography (CT) to examine internal anatomical structures hidden inside delicate dinosaur bones.

"Computed tomography and other advanced imaging technologies (e.g., synchrotron scans) allow me to look inside extremely rare and delicate fossils in a non-destructive way," Bever said. "This ability really represents a paradigm shift in paleontology and evolutionary biology and is a major part of my own research program. CT allows me to not only look inside the cranial cavities of extinct relatives of birds within Dinosauria, but to digitally reconstruct in

(see Bever, pg. 14)



Deep in the American Museum's vast collection of dinosaur bones, Gabe Bever works to unlock some of evolution's mysteries.



Bever (*from pg. 12*)

surprising anatomical detail what their brains looked like.”

In a quest to unlock some of the mysteries of evolution, Bever is one of a number of scientists who have integrated studies of living reptiles (including birds) with the fossil record of dinosaurs. These comparisons are helping researchers better understand the development of dinosaurs and how that compares to their living relatives today. In a paper published this year in “Nature,” Bever and other researchers reveal amazing similarities between the skulls of modern birds and those of juvenile dinosaurs.

“One of the big trends in evolutionary biology has been our rapid understanding over the past 10 years about development and how we actually are built from an embryo to an adult,” Bever said.

“One of the primary questions my research addresses has to do with the evolutionary and developmental pathway that produced the remarkably large brain of modern birds and how it is different from the pathways that produced the mammalian brain. You look at the DNA code of a reptile vs. the DNA code of a mammal, and they’re surprisingly similar. And yet, the process of development produces such varied body plans. One of the things I do as part of my research is integrating the fossil record with emerging developmental data to understand how (that happens).”

Bever said the keys to these evolutionary mysteries are locked away in ancient stone in places like Mongolia and South Africa.

“In the origin of birds, we’re looking at rocks that are about 80 to 150 million years old. For the origin



“Following the rock” has taken Gabe Bever around the world and introduced him to cultures and people much different from his Kansas roots.

of turtles, we’re looking at rocks that are well over 200 million years old. These are really old, really old,” Bever said. “So you have to follow the rock. You figure out what problems you’re interested in. We have an idea of where those problems might be revealed in the rocks. And then you literally pull a map out and you ask, ‘Where are rocks of that age, exposed on the surface of the Earth?’

“Following the rock” has taken Bever to some exciting and interesting places.

“In the Asian localities, we were looking at rocks that are around 80 million years old, because we’re interested in finding early representative mammals as well as dinosaurs,” Bever said. “In all of these international cases, we’re working closely with scientists that are in those countries. We’re going out in the field with those scientists - with

people from those countries. So it’s not only scientifically very engaging and rewarding, but culturally as well. I’ve learned a lot everywhere I’ve been.”

BEVER’S JOURNEY to a spot on the research staff at the American Museum began on the farms and fields of southeast Kansas near Farlington.

“Unlike most of the people who I work with, I don’t ever remember being into dinosaurs or fossils as a kid,” Bever said. “I’m sure I liked them, but I was into animals and I was particularly interested in mammals of Kansas. I spent a lot of time outdoors and grew up in a rural area, so the animals were very much a part of my interest growing up.”

As a junior biology major at PSU, Bever took a comparative anatomy class from Professor Steve Ford. In the class, Bever spent hours dissecting and learning how the animal structures told the story of evolution. He knew that he had found his real passion. He just didn’t know how to make a career of it.

“I knew I was interested in this (comparative anatomy), but using anatomy to understand what? I didn’t know,” Bever said. “Most people take comparative anatomy as a primer going into medical school, but I was actually interested in comparing the anatomy of these animals and trying to learn something new.”

Bever posed those questions to his professor, who urged him to look into the field of paleontology.

“So I went to the library and I checked out a book on paleontology,” Bever said. “This is when I was a junior. So it’s not like I’m even early

on in my biology career. That's how it started."

After earning his biology degree from PSU, Bever went on to earn a master's degree in geology at Fort Hays State University and then a Ph.D. in geology from the University of Texas at Austin in 2006. For his dissertation, Bever wrote on the relationship between population-level evolutionary processes and broad evolutionary patterns of morphological change as interpreted from the vertebrate fossil record.

After earning his Ph.D., Bever accepted a highly prized post-doctoral research fellowship at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

"It was a great day when I found out that I had that," Bever recalled.

After nearly three years of post-doctoral research with the American

Museum, Bever accepted an inter-departmental research fellowship at Yale University in the Departments of Geology and Ecology & Evolutionary Biology.

In 2011, Bever returned to the American Museum in New York as a research associate in the Division of Paleontology. He is also an assistant professor of anatomy at the New York Institute of Technology.


These days, Bever is busy with his research, teaching and writing. His research has been published in "Nature," "Science," "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" and other top scientific journals. His wife, Amy, whom he met at the University of Texas, is also a scientist. She holds a Ph.D. in geology from Columbia and also works at the Natural History Museum.

Although teaching and research at

the museum have occupied most of his time, recently, Bever said he has some places where he would like to do more field work.

"I would really like to work in Argentina and to expand my research into other parts of Central Asia," Bever said. "I also have colleagues who are beginning to work in Antarctica. It's a very narrow window when you can go and logistically, it's a nightmare, but what's great about it is there are very important rocks there, scientifically, and they haven't been worked very much for obvious reasons. So I would like to try and work there. I would also like to work in the Sahara."

Wherever the trail leads, Bever will be one of a number of scientists who are using modern technology to unlock some of the world's oldest secrets. •

A photograph of a man with a beard and sunglasses, wearing a plaid shirt and a backpack, standing in front of a vast, colorful landscape of layered rock formations. The rocks show distinct horizontal bands of red, orange, and white. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The man is standing on a rocky path with some green shrubs in the foreground.

"So you have to follow the rock. You literally pull a map out and ask, 'Where are rocks of that age exposed on the surface of the Earth?'"

"DEAD MAN

--MORE THAN A PLAY



DIRECTING A PLAY is a major undertaking for any student, but when graduate student Kristy Magee took on "Dead Man Walking," it was unlike anything she had ever attempted and it had a lasting impact on her.

"My adviser gave me the play. I read it and I started researching what the project was about and realized that it was much more than a play, it was an interdisciplinary project.



I immediately fell in love with it," Magee said

"Dead Man Walking" is a play by Tim Robbins and is based on the experiences of Sister Helen Prejean with convicted murderer Matthew Poncelet. It was made into a major Hollywood film starring Sean Penn and Susan Sarandon. Today, the play is part of the nationwide Dead Man Walking: School Theatre Project.

Magee began work on the project

WALKING"



One of the highlights of the "Dead Man Walking" project was Sister Helen Prejean's presentation to a large crowd at Pittsburgh's Memorial Auditorium.



by talking to classes ranging from poetry to ethics, social work and broadcasting. The topic sparked sometimes intense discussion.

"I learned a lot because I got to see different viewpoints," Magee said. "It's a very sensitive topic with many people. I learned what I needed to do to understand both sides in order to put on a successful production."

In the weeks leading up to the production, Magee worked with

campus groups to arrange for two public speakers. One was Rob Warden, an award-winning legal affairs journalist and executive director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions at the Northwestern University School of Law. The second, and for Magee, most surprising, was Sister Helen Prejean, about whom the play was written.

"I really didn't think there was any

(see *Dead Man Walking*, pg. 18)

Rob Warden, an award-winning legal affairs journalist and executive director of the Center on Wrongful Convictions, talked about his work to exonerate persons who had been wrongfully convicted. Warden is originally from southwest Missouri.



"My adviser gave me the play. I read it and I started researching what the project was about and realized that it was much more than a play, it was an interdisciplinary project." – Kristy Magee, director



Dead Man Walking (from pg. 17)

chance we could get her to come to Pittsburg to speak," Magee said.

Sister Prejean spoke to a large crowd at Memorial Auditorium as part of the 2011-2012 Performing Arts and Lecture Series.

On campus, "Dead Man Walking" played to full houses and got outstanding reviews.

Magee said directing "Dead Man Walking" will be an experience she will always remember, made more so by the campus and community discussion that preceded the production.

"This was an amazing opportunity to show how theater can impact several different departments and a community and a society as a whole," Magee said. •



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SHOWING HIS GORILLA PRIDE



IT WOULD BE A SURPRISE if Brian Hutchins didn't have a Gorilla room. A former quarterback who wears a national championship ring from 1991, Hutchins can't remember a time when he wasn't a PSU football fan.

"I grew up watching the Gorillas," Hutchins said.

Hutchins has only to step into the basement room he calls "The Pitt" to surround himself with a flood of Pitt State memories.

"A lot of this stuff was collected when I was in college," Hutchins said.

After his playing days were over, much of Hutchins' collection went into storage. But when Hutchins and his wife, Stacy, built a new home, he made sure the plans included a room designed specifically for the memorabilia.

Every wall and shelf in The Pitt has something related to Pitt State and specifically, Gorilla football. Even the pingpong table is painted in a PSU theme. Gorillas sit on the shelves amongst a collection of game balls and other trophies.

Hutchins said his PSU passion goes beyond just his experience as a student athlete and he knows thousands of alumni share it.

"There's something about Pittsburg and Pittsburg State that's special," Hutchins said. "When you travel around, you see that. What it is, I don't know, but there's definitely something."

Asked to name his most prized mementos in the room, Hutchins thought about the photo of himself

and quarterback Zac Dickey, taken during last year's championship run. He picked up the hand-painted game ball from his own championship year. But in the end, he settled on a series of photos of his two sons, which he has interspersed among the Pitt State memorabilia.

"The pictures of my kids, that's top of the list," Hutchins said.

That's two more youngsters who are growing up to love Pitt State. **+V**



Do you have a room or wall or special place where you display your Gorilla pride? Send us a photo at psumag@pittstate.edu and we'll share it in print or online in the next issue. – Editor



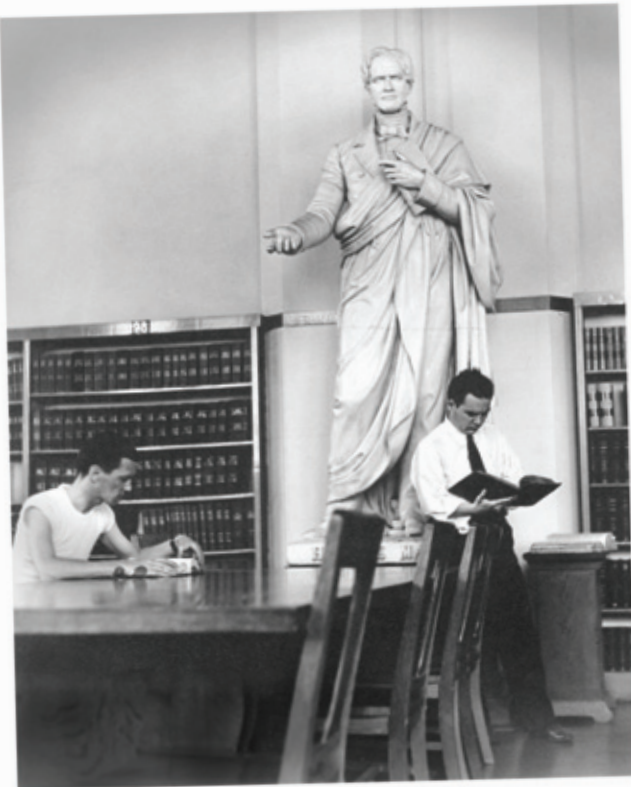
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Preserving history is student's future

EACH DAY, PSU SENIOR JORDAN BOYD surrounds himself with everyday articles that tell a faded story of life in the mining country of southeast Kansas. Boyd was a summer intern in the new Miners Hall Museum in Franklin, Kan. It is a job that is helping him prepare for his future.

A native of Afton, Okla., Boyd hopes one day to be a museum curator. Although still a student, he already has considerable experience in the museum world. Prior to transferring to PSU from NEO to complete his bachelor's degree in history, Boyd worked at the Dobson Museum in Miami, Okla.

"I have always loved history and initially I thought I wanted to be a history teacher," Boyd said. An internship at the Dobson Museum in Miami changed his thinking.

"One of my first projects (at the Dobson Museum) was to organize negatives from the Orrick Sparlin, Travis Lee, and Bill Boyer collections in preparation for scanning them," Boyd said. "I started scanning the negatives last June. Once I started working with this project, I realized I had a love for history and wanted to preserve our local history."

Boyd said the approximately 43,000 negatives chronicle life in Ottawa County and include images of everything from weddings, funerals and sports to floods and tornadoes.

Boyd said his experience at the Dobson Museum has been a great asset in his work at the Miners Hall Museum, which opened in May 2012.

"There is no way I would have been able to take on this internship at Franklin and assist with their inventory, if I

had not of had this last year's worth of valuable museum experience from the Dobson Museum," Boyd said.


Although it is brand new, the Miners Hall Museum is a very active place, Boyd said.

"We had about 700 people come through in the month of May, alone."

The museum's growing collection frames a central space in which exhibits, sponsored by various groups and organizations, rotate each month. For example, the first month of operation, the Rolling Nostalgia Car Club was responsible for the center display and it featured transportation. The following month, the exhibit was organized by the Pittsburg Area Young Professionals. It was based on the theme "The Way We Worked in Southeast Kansas - Retail."

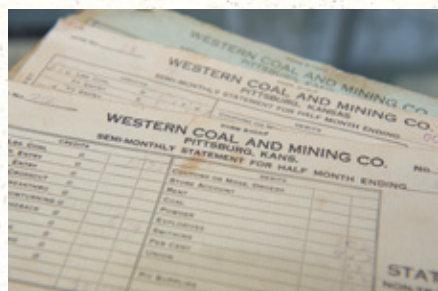
"The idea is to keep the exhibits fresh and interesting," Boyd said.

As Boyd and others at the Miners Hall Museum plan the monthly exhibits, their eyes are on next spring when the Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "The Way We Work," comes to the museum.

"That will be a really exciting event," Boyd said. 



Jordan Boyd



Surrounded by artifacts in the Miners Hall Museum, Jordan Boyd says he has a heightened sense of the everyday lives of Southeast Kansas miners and their families.

Elizabeth Ann (Bettis) Sanders, BSEd '69, MS '70

Outstanding Senior: Teacher, leader, pioneer

IT HAS BEEN MORE THAN

40 years since Elizabeth Ann (Bettis) Sanders was named the Outstanding Senior Woman, but when she returned to campus last spring for the rededication of the Senior Walk, some things about the former coed hadn't changed.

Sanders, whose friends call her Ann, still had that infectious smile and she talked with familiar enthusiasm about her life, family and career.

Now an associate professor of educational leadership at Baker University, Sanders teaches in the university's doctoral program and is the director of continuing education. Previously, she was a teacher and administrator for the Shawnee Mission, Blue Valley and Olathe school districts.

Sanders earned a BSEd in 1969 and an MS in 1970, both from PSU, and later a Ph.D. from the University of Kansas. She came to PSU from Independence, Kan., where she was the first African-American salutatorian at Independence Community College.

At PSU, Sanders was not only a top student, but also a leader in campus activities and particularly in the struggle for equal rights.

"The 1960s were exciting times to be in college," Sanders said. "It was a fun time."

Sanders noted that "the literature of the time drew stark lines between black and white, but it truly wasn't that way in Pittsburg."

Sanders, in fact, was elected president of Tanner Hall, which was mostly white, and was named homecoming queen.



As a student, Ann Bettis was a leader on campus in the '60s. She brought those same leadership skills to a distinguished career in education.



"I loved Tanner Hall," Sanders said. "All of the girls got along. There were probably 30 African-American girls out of probably 250 girls in the hall. It was about what was right and who could make friends, who has empathy and who can inspire others to work together."

Still, there were battles to fight. Sanders worked with other students to gain recognition of the Black Student Movement as an official student organization. She led a peaceful protest that resulted in a local store hiring its first African-American student employees. She also organized a peaceful protest involving both black and white students when Sen. Strom Thurmond, a fierce opponent of civil rights legislation, spoke on campus. The emphasis, she said, was always on non-violence.

Today, Sanders teaches educational leadership and she uses lessons she has learned along her own journey to inspire others.

One of those lessons stands out. It is the one she tells her daughters and anyone else who asks: "To whom much is given, much is expected." •

Aaron Hight, BST '03

Built with Gorilla pride

AS A PROJECT MANAGER for Crossland Construction, Aaron Hight (BS '03, Construction Management) is used to handling a wide variety of projects simultaneously. One of the six projects Hight managed this past summer, however, was different from any he had ever worked on.

Hight oversaw the construction of the University House, a multi-purpose building that was designed in part as the residence for the university president and his or her family and in part as a public space for hosting events and welcoming friends and alumni of the university.

The building sits on the site of the old President's Home on the east side of the University Lake. That location was as challenging as it was beautiful, Hight said.

"The architect had in mind to build a building that looked old, but included modern technology and could stand 100 years," Hight said. "It was a major accomplishment, especially building around the big oak trees, which are a very, very important part of the project."

As a loyal alumnus and a former member of the Gorilla football team, Hight said he takes a lot of pride in building a structure that is destined to take its place alongside many other campus icons.

"It's a great opportunity," Hight said. "I'm an alumnus of Pitt and to come back and do something so special is amazing."


Hight said he isn't the only one on the construction team who has some Gorilla pride invested in the project.



Although just one of six projects he managed this summer, the new Crossland Family University House is special for proud PSU alumnus Aaron Hight.

"We (Crossland Construction) actually carry most of our workforce from PSU, either through interns or past graduates," Hight said. "We do go down into OSU and grab some graduates, but our primary focus is Pitt State. It's the best in the country, we've found, and we love to get graduates from Pitt."

Hight said he looks forward to visiting the University House as an alumnus, without the worry and pressure of construction.

"That would be very nice," he said, "to just go and relax. That would be awesome." 

Editor's Note: In June, the Kansas Board of Regents approved naming of the University House for the Ivan, Sr., and Virginia Crossland family not only for their contributions as the lead donors, but also for their longstanding support of the university. The house will be known formally as the Crossland Family University House and informally as the Crossland House.

Some of the best in the world

SCOTT NORMAN is getting ready for a different kind of Olympics. Norman, an automotive technology professor at PSU, has been chosen to be the U.S. technical delegate for WorldSkills, an international competition that has been called the “Olympics of the Skilled Trade Industry.”

“It’s an honor for me to have been named to this position,” said Norman, who will serve as the liaison between the international community and the U.S. team, making certain the team members are ready. “I’m looking forward to working with the top students in their fields.”

WorldSkills is an international competition that tests the skills of contestants from 52 countries in dozens of categories, ranging from cabinet-making and welding to culinary arts and beauty therapy. The event is held every two years at different locations across the world. In 2013, WorldSkills will be held in Germany.

Norman, a two-time PSU graduate who previously worked as an instructor for Chrysler Corp., said the opportunity to hold such an impressive post with an organization of this magnitude is incredible.

“I will be interacting with other technical delegates who are often high-ranking education ministers in their countries,” Norman said. “This is an unbelievable opportunity for me.”

Norman, who began serving on the national automotive service technology committee of SkillsUSA in 1997, has served as national chairman for the past five years.

For the 2013 competition, Norman said, the nation’s delegates are searching for a team of about 19 competitors. •



When Kieron Kohlmann, the U.S. representative for the WorldSkills automotive competition, needed to train, it meant coming to Pitt State to be with Scott Norman, one of the top automotive minds in the U.S. and the national technical delegate for WorldSkills. At PSU, Kohlmann had the benefit of working not only with Norman, but automotive experts Ron Downing and Mike Elder.



Scott Norman

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Dr. Virginia Rider and Brenda Hedrick

Researcher, subject meet for the first time

For the past 15 years, Dr. Virginia Rider has known the subject only as “B.H.” As she worked in her lab to help unlock some of the mysteries of lupus, Rider soon came to prize the blood samples she received from “B.H.” for her research.

“We used to fight over her blood,” Rider joked.


Rider, a professor in the PSU Department of Biology and a passionate researcher, finally

met “B.H.” when Brenda Hedrick, of Newton, Kan., arrived on campus with a donation to help support Rider’s research.

“My father passed away a month ago today,” Hedrick said as she and Rider visited outside of the Biology Department offices on April 17. “The memorials were made out for lupus research. That’s why we came down today. It was important for me to do this.”

In the brief time they had together, Rider and Hedrick got to know each other on a personal level and Hedrick, who was diagnosed with lupus at the age of 16, shared details of her 30-year struggle with the disease.

Rider thinks that researchers are getting close to unlocking some of the mysteries of this very complex disease.



“We have worked so many years,” Rider said. “We did this, we did that, and (for) everything we did, the (answer was) ‘no, no, no.’ And now, I think finally we’ve got something that might be ‘yes,’ at least partly, ‘yes.’ So I’m really excited. Having a ‘yes,’ after so many years of ‘no, no, no.’” 

Literary project produces high-class board games

Pittsburg State University English Professor Paul McCallum says one of the things that makes teaching so much fun is when students exceed even his highest expectations. That was certainly the case with his English 771 (Major Authors) class this past spring.

“Traditionally, I had always assigned a major research paper,” McCallum said. “But I knew I had such high quality students that I allowed them to choose a project of their choosing.”

McCallum said the assignment triggered an explosion of creativity in the class, which focuses on the English novelist Jane Austen. The students presented many diverse projects, including a Jane Austen cooking demonstration and even an equestrian lesson, but three board games caught his attention because of their visual impact and their level of detail.

“There was a huge wow factor,” McCallum said of the day the students presented their games. “I didn’t expect the quality to be what it was.”  




ROTC continues success

ROTC continued their tradition of success in the Ranger Buddy Challenge in April, coming in a close second to the host team at the University of Kansas Ranger Buddy Challenge where they competed against 130 teams from 30 universities.

The Ranger Buddy Challenge is designed to be tough, beginning with a 15-kilometer road march at 4:30 a.m. and ending with a 2.5-mile run at 5 p.m. In between, the cadets cycle through seven events that are designed to assess basic skills under duress. For the competition, there were eight events for each of the three divisions. PSU teams took first place in seven events.

Lt. Col. Chris Lambert, chairman of the Military Science Department at PSU, said he was proud of the way the Pitt State students represented the university and the Gorilla Battalion.

“We sent a total of six, two-cadet teams,” Lambert said. “Four of the teams were all-male, one of the teams was all female and one was co-ed. Our all-female team placed second overall in their division.”

In addition, one of the all-male teams placed second in their division, another placed eighth and a third placed 21st. The co-ed team placed fourth overall. 



Marching Band records for Hollywood movie

For one day, the bright lights of Hollywood shone on current and former members of PSU's Pride of the Plains Marching Band. The musicians came together in the midst of summer to rehearse and record music for "The Campaign," a film starring Will Ferrell that was released in August.

"This is an incredible opportunity for the students and alumni," said Doug Whitten, director of athletics bands at PSU. "It is very unusual for bands outside of California to get an opportunity like this."

That rare experience came about because of Whitten's longtime friendship with Chris Fogel, an award winning recording engineer and producer.

After the recording was finished, Fogel had good things to say about the band and also about his friend.

"It's a great band," Fogel said. "They're very well taught, very well disciplined and good players. Even the producers in Los Angeles remarked about how good the quality was. It was very good."  

Student spends fall semester at Russian university

Tyler Conklin has embarked on an overseas adventure. Conklin, a sophomore from Owasso, Okla., is spending the fall semester taking general education and Russian courses at the St. Petersburg Polytechnic State University in Russia.

As a freshman, Conklin, a political science major, wanted to take a foreign language class, but because she had enrolled late, her choices were limited. She eventually got in a Russian class and loved it. That matched perfectly with an American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) program in Russia that Conklin learned about at a study-abroad information fair.

"AIFS offers a semester program in St. Petersburg, Russia, where students can study Russian and also take classes in English on politics and international studies," said Megan Corrigan, Conklin's Russian language instructor. "This was exactly what Tyler was looking for."

Conklin was one of 34 Americans studying in St. Petersburg this fall through the AIFS program.

Preschool earns national accreditation

Earlier this year, the PSU Early Childhood Preschool Lab earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

"We're proud to have earned the mark of quality from NAEYC and to be recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards," said Amber Tankersley, Ph.D., preschool director and assistant professor in early childhood development. "NAEYC accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences possible."

Tankersley said to earn accreditation, the PSU Preschool went through an extensive self-study that measured the program and its services against the 10 NAEYC early childhood program standards and more than 400 related accreditation criteria. In addition NAEYC assessors visited the preschool to ensure the program met the program standards.

More than 7,000 programs across the U.S. are accredited by the NAEYC, which is approximately eight percent of all preschools and other early childhood programs.

Apollo the bald eagle adjusts to a new home

Like any youngster who's had a rough start in life, Apollo is taking some time to get used to his new home. Apollo, a young male American bald eagle, is adjusting to his new permanent enclosure at PSU's Natural History Research Reserve.

Apollo arrived in the spring and Delia Lister, Nature Reach program coordinator, said he appears to be doing well in what is undoubtedly a stressful situation.



"I came out this morning and just sat in his enclosure reading a book," Lister said as Apollo looked on warily from his perch.

Apollo, a young male, was found in 2011 near Clinton Lake with an injured wing.

"We think he was shot," Lister said. "The x-rays showed metal fragments in his wing."

Eventually, Apollo will fill an important void in the Nature Reach educational program that occurred when Aurora, a female eagle that had been part of the program for many years, died.

But, Lister said, she isn't going to rush Apollo to step into his new role.

"We will take our time with him," Lister said. "He deserves that."  



Professor plays role in Iraq rebuilding

On the occasional lists of dangerous jobs, university professors aren't even an afterthought. But this summer, when Dean Cortes went to teach, he wore a Kevlar vest and rode in a caravan with well-armed South African guards.

Cortes, professor and chair of the Department of Economics, Finance and Banking in the Kelce College of Business, spent a month teaching business professors in Iraq. He was a participant in a project sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) that is designed to help Iraqi business schools rebuild and update both their facilities and curriculum.

Cortes developed five days of workshops focused on financial curriculum and teaching methods. The workshops took place at Al Mansour University where professors from several universities gathered.

"We always traveled by convoy," Cortes said. "We were accompanied by South African and Iraqi security forces. We were in the middle in a huge bullet-proof van, like a Suburban, and I wore a Kevlar vest."

Once in the safety of the



Dean Cortes

classroom, Cortes was on familiar ground. With the help of simultaneous translation, he walked the professors through the course of study he had planned.

The entire experience was rewarding for Cortes and he hopes in some small way that he has helped the rebuilding process along.

"It's a nice start. I think I've created a good starting point and a good relationship, not just with USAID, but also with these universities. I think it's a big win for us to pursue these relationships," Cortes said. "It was a different experience. I think we are contributing to the rebuilding of a nation and it's a good feeling."




Summer construction at Kelce College of Business

Construction crews spent most of June and July at the Kelce College of Business restoring masonry and removing aging pieces of the exterior, including the retaining wall on the east side of the building.

"It's important to maintain our buildings as they age," said Paul Stewart, director of facilities planning. "Kelce is an older building, but these steps should ensure the integrity of the exterior."

The summer construction is the latest in a string of improvements to the building that have included exterior window replacement as well as limited interior renovations and infrastructure improvements.

Future plans include a full study to help improve drainage issues within the building. 

PSU SIFE team finishes top 20 in the nation

The PSU SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team walked away from the organization's National Exposition as the 16th best team in the U.S.

SIFE adviser Suzanne Hurt said she was proud of how well the PSU team competed against teams from much larger universities and from private schools with seemingly unlimited budgets. Pittsburg State's formula for leveling the playing field, she said, comes down to hard work.

"In comparison, we have a much smaller team and budget," Hurt said. "But our students give so much more of their time."

In the annual SIFE competitions, the teams give presentations on projects they have done over the past year. In PSU's case, that was called "Building Pittsburg."

Hurt said she believed the judges, all company CEOs, were impressed with not only how well the PSU students presented their project, but also with the quality and the hands-on work the students completed.

New class inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma

Twenty-one students were inducted during the spring semester into Beta Gamma Sigma, the international honor society for AACSCB accredited institutions. Also inducted was John Patterson, Pittsburg State University vice president for administration and campus life, who received an honorary membership into the honor society.

"Mr. Patterson has served this university for more than 22 years and exemplifies the characteristics of a Beta Gamma Sigma member," said Dr. Paul Grimes, dean of the Kelce College of Business. "He is an outstanding example of a great financial leader and we thought it appropriate to recognize him in this manner."

Patterson was humbled by the honor and grateful to be included with such an outstanding group of individuals.

"The criteria for membership into Beta Gamma Sigma are so high, that I'm not certain I could have gotten in any other way," he jokingly said when referring to his honorary status. "These students really represent the very best that Pittsburg State has to offer, and it's a privilege to be inducted with them."



John Patterson



Kelce prepares to celebrate 35 years

This year marks the 35th anniversary of Pittsburg State University naming its college of business in honor of Gladys A. Kelce. Kelce moved to Pittsburg with her family as a teenager and received her Life Certificate in teaching in 1916 from what was then the State Manual Training Normal School.

Gladys and her husband L. Russell Kelce, met in the early 1920's and moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they founded the Sinclair Coal Company. After her husband's death, Mrs. Kelce donated large sums of money to several organizations and particularly to Pittsburg State University. She first gave \$35,000 to the college in 1964 to build the L. Russell Kelce Planetarium located in Yates Hall.

In 1973 she donated \$500,000 to renovate the old College High School building, which was rededicated as the Gladys A. Kelce Center for Business and Economic Development in 1975. Two years later, in 1977, the center became what is known today as the Gladys A. Kelce College of Business. She gave an additional \$500,000 in 1981 for further renovations of the center and just before her death in 1985 she gave an additional \$70,000 for equipment. Finally, in her will, she left \$100,000 in a trust fund for the maintenance of the L. Russell Kelce Planetarium.

Dr. Paul Grimes, dean of the Kelce College of Business, was one of the first students to attend the university following the business college's name change.

"I enrolled in 1978, one year after the name changed," said Grimes. "I'm not certain anyone really understood what it meant to have a named college of business. It was a sign of our progress as a college and as a university."

Professor links economics to life

Dr. Kenny McDougle peppered the students in one of his summer intersession classes with baseball statistics. They learned which players provided the best return on investment for team owners and whether player salaries had any correlation to winning percentages. They speculated on whether it was smarter to draft a player right out of high school or wait until they finished playing college ball.

McDougle, a professor of teaching and leadership, wasn't training hopeful baseball managers. He was helping elementary and secondary teachers add another approach to their collection of tools for teaching youngsters about economics.

"Baseball Economics" was just one of three summer economics workshops in which he used everything from puppets to trees to drive home the lessons.

"We can look around us every day and see economics at work," McDougle said. "If a teacher can demonstrate basic economic principles with something their students can relate to, like baseball or the environment, their students are more likely to understand and retain what they have learned."

For his Baseball Economics class, McDougle drew from economist J.C. Bradbury's 2010 book, "Hot Stove Economics." In that book, Bradbury applied the rules of economics to try to determine what baseball players are really worth. McDougle also showed clips from the hit movie, "Moneyball," which is based on the Oakland A's 2002 season and manager Billy Beane's attempt to put together a winning team without a big budget.

But the point of the class, McDougle said, wasn't to teach students about baseball or to appeal only to die-hard baseball fans. It was to show teachers how they could use baseball, or a wide variety of other common themes, to teach economics.

Awards honor educators

Each spring, the College of Education honors a small number of teachers and administrators with the Clyde U. Phillips



Clyde U. Phillips award winners: Glenn Bliss, Lacey Hight, Terri Hart and Matt Robertson.

Awards. This longstanding event honors one administrator and one teacher for achievement and two teachers (elementary and secondary) for their success in the first seven years of their professional careers.

In April, the awards for distinguished service went to Terri Hart, coordinator for curriculum, instruction and assessment for the Joplin Schools, and Glenn Bliss, a physical education teacher at Pittsburg Community Middle School. The outstanding education awards went to Lacey Hight, a third-grade teacher at Central Elementary School in Baxter Springs, Kan.; and Matt Robertson, a U.S. history and world geography teacher at Wyandotte High School in Wyandotte, Okla.

"This is always a special night," said College of Education Dean Howard Smith. "It is truly inspirational for the students to see these educators and hear their personal stories."

Terri Hart has served as coordinator of curriculum, assessment, and instruction for Joplin Schools since 2010. Prior to her current role, she served as a middle school teacher and instructional coach in the Joplin Schools. Hart graduated from PSU in 2005 with a bachelor of science degree in elementary education. She completed a master's degree in educational leadership at PSU in 2010 and is the recipient of PSU's Graduate School Excellence in Professional Service Award.

Glenn Bliss earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from PSU in 1972 and a master's degree in physical education, also from PSU, in 1977. He added an administrative endorsement in 1987 from Pittsburg State. Bliss' early career was at the elementary level where he served as a physical education teacher at Eugene Field, Westside and George Nettels Elementary Schools in Pittsburg. In 1991, after 20 years in elementary schools, Bliss moved to Pittsburg Middle School and has served there since.



Teacher Interview Day

The job market remains challenging, but students at Teacher Interview Day found many districts looking for graduates to replace retiring veterans or to fill specialized needs. "We appreciate our education partners," said Dean Howard Smith. "One of the things we hear repeatedly is how highly they regard our graduates." 

Student teacher heads for Australia

This fall, a PSU student teacher will get part of her experience in another country. Julie Penner, a music education major from Pittsburg, is doing the first five weeks of her student teaching in Brisbane, Australia.

Jean Dockers, director of teacher education, said the program will give Penner a solid learning experience and also an enriching study-abroad experience.

An experienced traveler, Penner said she jumped at the chance to student teach in another country.

"I've actually traveled quite a bit, both in the U.S. and internationally," Penner said.

Penner plans on being either an elementary school music teacher or a band teacher and said she is eager to see how the schools and students in Australia differ from those in the U.S.

In Brisbane, Penner will be at the Morayfield East State School, which includes children through seventh grade.

Dockers said Carol Werhan, a new member of the Family and Consumer Sciences Department faculty, was instrumental in getting the international student teaching opportunity in place. Werhan came to PSU from Minnesota State University, where she helped establish the program.

When she returns to the U.S., Dockers said, Penner will complete 10 weeks of student teaching in Carthage, Mo.

Teacher of the Year: put kids first

As Tiffany Richard faced a room full of new teachers preparing for their first classrooms, this past spring, she said she couldn't help but think back to her first teaching assignment.

"I've been thinking a lot about my first students lately, because they were in Joplin," Richard said.

Richard, a 1995 PSU graduate and the 2012 Kansas Teacher of the Year, spoke at PSU's Student Teacher

Graduation ceremony. She related a story about her first class, at Joplin High School, and the important lessons she learned there.

Richard told the new teachers that to be successful, they needed to care about each individual student.

"Our students must know that we care more about them than just their test scores," she said. "When students know that you won't let them down, they won't let you down either."

Richard acknowledged that "teaching is not easy" and along the way, each teacher faces many challenges.

"But do not lose sight of individual students in your classrooms," she said.

Today, Richard is a biology and chemistry teacher at Olathe East High School in Olathe, Kan. She began her teaching career at Joplin High School and then moved to California, where she taught in El Segundo until returning to Kansas with her husband, Bryan, also a southeast Kansas native, and their two sons in 2003. She has taught in the Olathe school district since.

Richard comes from a family of teachers. Her father, Bill Biggs, was superintendent at USD 246 from 1988 to 1997. Her mother, Martha, taught English at Northeast High School from 1993 to 1997. Both are PSU alumni.



Tiffany Richard with her students at Olathe East High School.



Susan Knell

Knell says Russian education is changing

Susan Knell, an associate professor in teaching and leadership, has led numerous study trips to Russia.

"It's a good exercise in comparative education," Knell said.

After this spring's trip, Knell noted that education in Russia has changed quite a bit from the days of her first visit there.

"The classrooms are still a little behind those we typically see in the U.S. as far as technology, maintenance and resources," Knell said, "but they are making progress. They have acquired quite a bit of new technology. On my first trip, they didn't even have overhead projectors and now there are smart boards. They are becoming more westernized."

Knell said the U.S. students she takes on these trips always have lots of questions for their hosts and that educators and students in Russia have questions for them, as well.

"It is always a good exchange of ideas," Knell said.

Thermal imaging cameras give students an edge

Students in the School of Construction are using new technology to solve some age-old problems. Five thermal imaging cameras are the latest addition to the school's impressive collection of top-grade equipment, which is helping students gain valuable experience before entering the job market.

Shannon Nicklaus, a professor in the School of Construction, said the thermal imaging cameras operate by registering heat within walls and ceilings in order to locate materials and airflow.

To be able to aim the camera at a wall and locate where a draft may be coming in (or where warm air or water is flowing through a pipe; or which outlets have electricity flowing to them) means fewer mistakes out in the field, Nicklaus said. Even mold inside structures can potentially be detected with the cameras, because mold registers at a different temperature.

"After a building has been built, we can see where we're picking up or losing heat inside a structure," Nicklaus explained. "These cameras can be used to make homes more energy efficient, but they also have commercial and industrial applications."

Cameras are used in several School of Construction courses including Mechanical Systems, Electrical Systems, Residential Construction, Safety, and the Testing and Inspection class. Nicklaus said some students and alumni are using the tools in their internships and new jobs. The cameras are a good example of the technology students need to learn before they try to find a job, he said.

"It's pretty rare to have access to technology like this in a college setting," Nicklaus said. "To be able to see how construction methods and materials are being used correctly or incorrectly can be a big benefit."

Gorilla Racing has a good year

It was a good year for Gorilla Racing. The team finished seventh overall out of 88 teams at Auburn University in April and 11th overall at Oregon a month later.

The seventh place finish at Auburn, where PSU was third in the grueling endurance race, was Gorilla Racing's best finish ever in U.S. competition.

The overall winner at Auburn was Cornell. PSU finished just ahead of the University of Oklahoma and Johns Hopkins.

Out of 52 teams competing in Oregon, PSU finished fourth in the endurance event, and 11th overall, just ahead of the University of Michigan.

SAE Baja is a design-build-race competition that tests students' skills in a wide range of engineering challenges. Each of the student teams designs and builds an off-road vehicle that they then race over a challenging obstacle course. Pittsburg State hosted the event for the first time in 2011.

Members of the Gorilla Racing team said the course at Auburn was difficult but not nearly as muddy as PSU's course last year, which was soaked by heavy rain in the days before the race.

Faculty sponsors of Gorilla Racing are Bob Schroer and Trent Lindbloom.



Robotics camp marks a decade

PSU's Adventures in Robotics workshops celebrated its 10th year this past summer. Randy Winzer, associate professor in Engineering Technology, said nearly 30 youngsters participated in the first week-long camp, which is designed for students aged 9-13.

"That's about as many as we can handle," Winzer said.

Winzer said students in the workshops learn not only computer software and technology, but also important life lessons about teamwork and problem solving.

He said he gets a great deal of enjoyment from leading the workshops and that the students are an inspiration.

"The excitement students have when they solve a problem or when they learn something new is contagious," Winzer said.



Kaelum Hasler, Lawrence, Kan.; Kaleb Kroenke, Pittsburg, Kan.; and Bryn Neria, Carl Junction, Mo.; prepare their robot for its first test of the day during Adventures in Robotics II.

Group honors Downing

When Kansas SkillsUSA gathered in Wichita earlier this year, they had a special award for Ron Downing, associate professor of automotive technology. The group honored Downing with a hand-crafted trophy and an honorary life membership in the organization, which is a career and technical organization with more than 300,000 members.

The award recognizes Downing for nearly four decades of service to the organization. He was able to serve as the national automotive service technology expert for World Skills during this time and watch his students win numerous national awards and hold top leadership posts.

Downing taught at Lamar (Mo.) Area Technical School for 24 years before joining the PSU Automotive Technology faculty in 1996.

At PSU, Downing helped restart the campus SkillsUSA chapter. From 1997 through 2002, PSU automotive students won three gold and three silver national medals in the college division. In 2002, PSU stepped away from the competition to take over management of the state automotive contest, with Downing as chairman, and many of the PSU automotive faculty being involved, as well. In 2011, the chairman's position was turned back over to industry so PSU students would have the chance to compete again.

In 2001, Downing was selected as World Skills expert for automotive technology. In four world skills competitions, the U.S. won three silver medals and one fifth place finish. PSU graduates Rusty Brown and Jack Frederick both won silver medals, and best-in-nation awards in 2003 and 2009.



Ron Downing

Construction students earn 'Green' designation

Students in Professor Justin Honey's Residential Design course scored an impressive accomplishment in the spring when they all passed the challenging Certified Green Professional Designation exam offered by the National Association of Homebuilders.

"In the past, as long as graduates had a diploma, that was enough," said Honey, who has been focused on improving the school's residential construction program by offering opportunities for professional designations and new and improved courses. "With the job market getting tighter, employers want their people to have professional designations. It gives students a leg up in a tough job market."

Honey's students plowed through six weeks' worth of coursework to prepare for the Certified Green Professional exam, which is the first green building program to be recognized by the International Code Council. Most industries would pay about \$1,000 to get an employee certified, Honey said. In Pitt State's case, the cost of the exams was covered by a significant grant the School of Construction received in 2011.

"What we're trying to do is make our students more marketable," Honey said. "We're trying to help them make an immediate impact as soon as they get into the industry."



GIT students shine in competition

This talented group of Graphics and Imaging Technology students won seven gold awards, nine silver awards and two special awards at the 2012 American Advertising Federation - Joplin ADDY Awards.

Spring 2012 highlights

- Men's track & field captures MIAA Track and Field Title
- PSU softball tied a school record of 15 consecutive wins
- 2012 MIAA Hall of Fame Class: 1991 Pitt State National Champion football team, All-American Ronald Moore (football) 1989-92, All-American Christie Allen Logue (cross country/track & field) 1989-93
- PSU women's basketball qualifies to the Elite Eight



Men's track & field captures MIAA Track and Field Title

Spring honors

- Men's Track & Field
All-Region honors
 - Mike Beeler (Sr.), Marquise Cushon (Fr.), Calvin Hughes (Sr.), Kiara Jones (Sr.), Jeff Piepenbrink (Fr.), Colbie Snyder (Jr.), Keenan Soles (So.), John Talbert (Jr.), Adam Volkert (Jr.)
- Women's Track & Field
All-Region honors
 - Melissa Peden (Sr.), Jalexis Peterson (Jr.), Larissa Richards (Jr.), Heidi Smith (Sr.), Kaley Temaat (Sr.)
- Head Track & Field Coach Russ Jewett and assistant coach Matt Brown received regional Coach of the Year honors.
- Head Track & Field Coach Russ Jewett was named MIAA Coach of the Year
- Mannie DeCastro (Sr.) was named second-team NFCA All-American, NFCA South Central Region first team and Daktronics second-team All-South Central Region
- Softball Tiffany Brown (So.) was named to the All-Region second team for both the NFCA and Daktronics
- All-MIAA Baseball honors
 - Honorable Mention: Chase Barnes (Sr.), Matt Stalcup (Jr.)
- All-MIAA Softball honors
 - Mannie DeCastro (Sr.), 2012 MIAA Player of the Year.
 - First Team: Mannie DeCastro (Sr.), Cheslyn Mitchell (Fr.)
 - Second Team: Brenna George (So.), Tiffany Brown (So.)
 - Honorable Mention: Hilary Erbert (Sr.), Kreslee Ketcham (Jr.), Jessica Barnes (So.)
- All-MIAA Golf honors
 - Justice Valdiva (Fr.) 2011-12 Freshman of the Year
- Lizzy Jeronimus (Fr.) earned honorable mention WBCA All-American honors
- Head Women's Basketball Coach Lane Lord was named Russell Athletics/WBCA Region 6 coach of the Year as well as MIAA Coach of the Year
- Lisa Elmer (Jr.) won Elite 89 Award for NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championships
- 2012 NCAA Division II Indoor National Championship All Americans (Track)
 - Keenan Soles (So.) placed third in the long jump
 - Colbie Snyder (Jr.) placed second in the men's pole vault
 - Heidi Smith (Sr.) placed seventh in the women's shot put
- 2012 NCAA Division II Outdoor National championship All Americans (Track)
 - Heidi Smith (Sr.) placed seventh in the women's hammer throw and seventh in the women's shot put
 - Keenan Soles (So.) placed seventh in the men's long jump
 - John Talbert (Jr.) placed sixth in the men's discus
 - Mike Beeler (Sr.) placed second in the men's javelin
- PSU men's basketball advanced to the finals of the MIAA Postseason Tournament at Kansas City, Mo.
- All-MIAA Men's Basketball honors
 - Second Team: Andra Bailey (Sr.)
 - Honorable Mention: Eric Ray (Sr.), JaVon MvGee (Jr.)
- All-MIAA Women's Basketball honors
 - First Team: Lizzy Jeronimus (Fr.) Freshman of the Year
 - Second Team: Brooke Conley (Sr.)
 - Third Team: Larissa Richards (Sr.)
 - Honorable Mention: Drew Roberts (Jr.), Alexa Bordewick (So.)
 - All-Defense Team: Larissa Richards (Sr.)





Matt Murray named head baseball coach

Matt Murray, who has served as assistant baseball coach at the University of Central Missouri the past five seasons, has been hired as Pitt State's head baseball coach. He replaces Steve Bever who retired following the 2012 season after 22 seasons as the Gorillas head coach.



Matt Murray

"We are very excited to have Matt Murray join the Gorilla family as our new head baseball coach," PSU athletics director Jim Johnson said. "Matt has enjoyed tremendous success as a coach in each of his previous assignments and he was very articulate in laying out his vision and blue print for the future of Pitt State baseball. We are looking forward to Matt coming on board and helping us move forward with the Gorilla baseball program."

A full bio on Murray can be found at www.pittstategorillas.com



Women's basketball team sets records

The PSU women's basketball team made its first trip to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight this year, but that accomplishment was only one of many. The Gorillas started out the regular season by setting a school record for most consecutive games won with 14, and continued to be the fastest in program history to reach the 20-win mark. The Gorillas finish the season with a 27-6 record, setting records for most wins in a season, fewest losses, longest win streak (14 games), most rebounds and most blocked shots.

The team finished second in the MIAA, won the program's first NCAA Tournament game, captured the South Central Regional title and advanced to the Elite Eight for the first time in program history. Lizzy Jeroninus was named an honorable mention All-American and Lane Lord earned both MIAA Coach of the Year and WBCA Region 6 Coach of the Year honors.

PSU receives \$1.2 million gift from Whetzels

Pittsburg State University officials announced last spring that Alan and Roberta Whetzel have provided a \$1.2 million leadership gift for the renovation of John Lance Arena.

The Whetzels' donation helps pave the way for the renovation of the Weede Athletic Complex and the creation of an Indoor Event Center.

Alan earned a pair of varsity basketball letters in 1958-59, playing for and later coaching with legendary PSU coach John Lance. Roberta was a PSU cheerleader and an ardent supporter of athletics.

The leadership gift allowed the first phase of the plan to construct a new Weede Athletic Complex and Indoor Event Facility to begin.

The project began with the removal of the John Lance Arena hardwood, which has served the facility since 1996. Work began to remove current seating and then install a new maple floor that will include three basketball playing courts and as many as seven volleyball courts – 31,000 square feet of hardwood in all. New seating on the lower level will be installed to complement existing mezzanine seating.



Roberta and Alan Whetzel

Honorary first pitch!

Head Football Coach Tim Beck was honored with throwing out the first pitch at Royals, T-Bones and Northwest Arkansas Naturals baseball games.





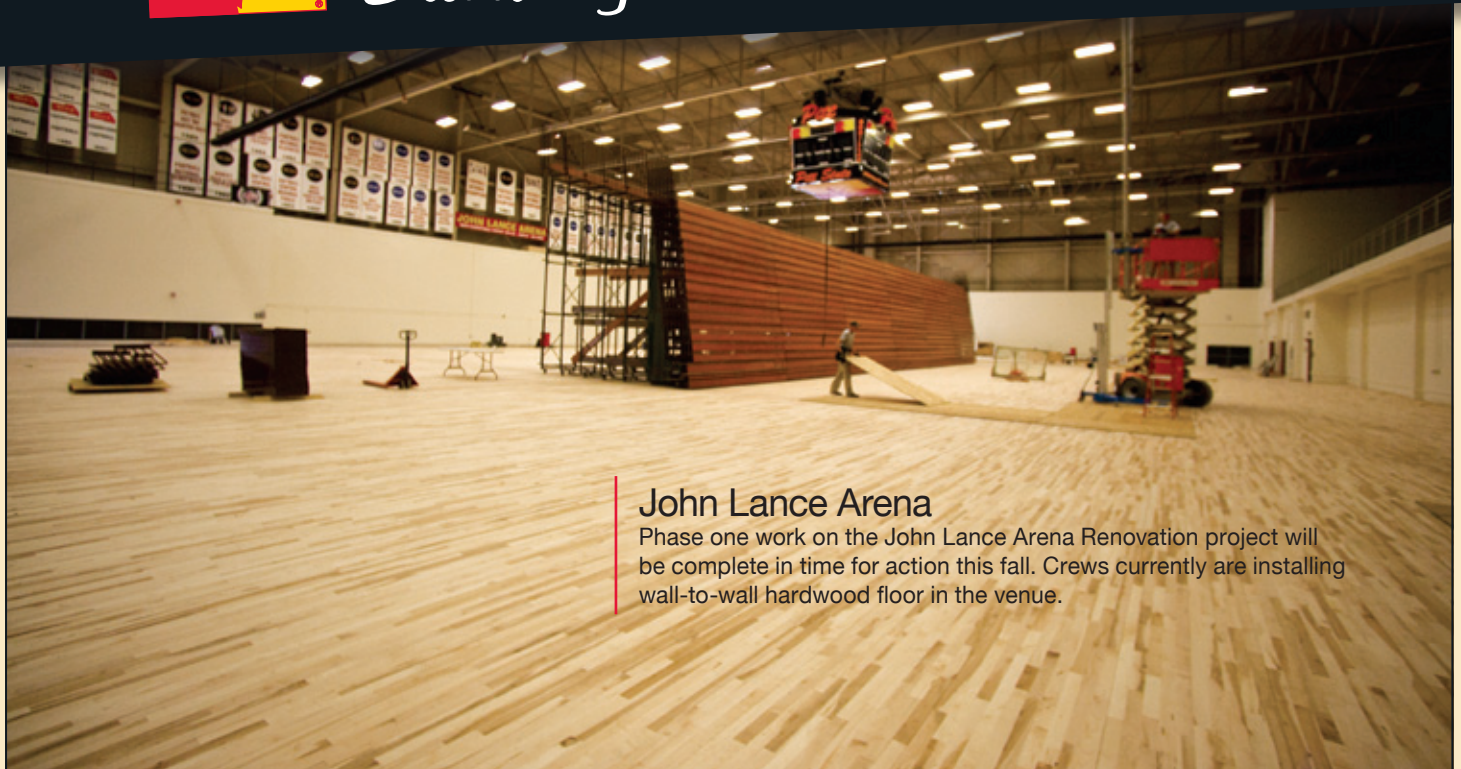
Carnie Smith Stadium/Brandenburg Field

Carnie Smith Stadium will have a new look this fall with the replacement of its artificial turf playing surface. A new Mondoturf surface was installed in time for preseason camp in August to replace the original Fieldturf surface which served the stadium for the past 10 seasons.



PITTSBURGH STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Building for the Future



John Lance Arena

Phase one work on the John Lance Arena Renovation project will be complete in time for action this fall. Crews currently are installing wall-to-wall hardwood floor in the venue.

Volleyball team travels abroad

Traveling abroad may be on many students' wish lists, but it is no longer on the list of the PSU volleyball team. This summer, head volleyball coach Ibraheem Suberu and assistant coach Jenny Mueller took 12 members of the team on a once in a lifetime trip to Europe.

"Last June the team decided they wanted to go on this journey," said Suberu. "All of the funds needed to take the team were

raised by letters to families and friends, fundraising cards supported by local businesses and delivering flowers on Valentines Day for Dillons."

The group of girls played against teams in Budapest, Hungary; Klagenfurt, Austria; Ljubljana, Slovenia; and Venice, Italy. Between matches the team had time to tour and experience the culture in each of those countries.

This was the first PSU team to represent the university internationally and coach Suberu hopes it won't be the last. "Our goal is to continue this trip every four years to give future Gorillas the same opportunity to travel abroad and learn about different cultures. We also hope that visits like this will help to build relations between the schools we visit and PSU."

A blog with updates from each team member can be found at www.pittstategorillas.com



Athletes reach out to the community

The Pittsburg State Gorillas proved to not only impress fans on game day, but throughout the community as well. Service and community engagement projects played an important role in the student-athlete experience this past season.

"Involvement in the community is paramount in a town like Pittsburg. Having the student-athletes devote more time to community engagement and service opportunities offers them character building experiences outside of the field of competition," said director of marketing and community engagement Emily Moses.

"It's a way to give back to the community, while also giving the student-athletes a chance to directly interact with their fans."

Students from each sport made their presence known around Pittsburg this past year. Projects ranged from Joplin tornado relief efforts and volunteering at a Kansas City soup kitchen, to events on the Oval and year-round Make-A-Wish support.





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Alumni honored

Pittsburg State University recognized three alumni with its Meritorious Achievement Award this past spring. The Meritorious Achievement Award is the highest award given to PSU alumni based on career achievement.

John C. Dormois, M.D., is a retired cardiologist who is currently a student in the Duke University Divinity School. A native of Kansas City, Kan., Dormois earned a bachelor of science degree in biology from Pittsburg State University in 1965. He graduated from the University of Kansas School of Medicine in 1969 and served a medical internship at the University of Kansas and completed his residency in internal medicine at Vanderbilt University.

Dormois served as a medical officer for the U.S. Navy in Pensacola, Fla., and served a fellowship in clinical pharmacology and cardiology at Vanderbilt. In 1975, he began private practice in cardiology in Florida, which he maintained until his retirement in 2010.

In the years leading up to his retirement, Dormois became interested in end-of-life care and following his retirement, Dormois took a course at Tampa General Hospital on being a chaplain. For nine months he served in that role at the hospital and following that experience, Dormois entered the Duke University Divinity School.

Most of his classmates are headed into traditional roles in the ministry, Dormois said, but he expects to use his experience and his credentials to teach medical students about spirituality.

Barron H. Harvey, Ph.D., is the dean of the Howard University School of Business in Washington, D.C. Harvey grew up in Aliquippa, Pa., and came to Kansas to play sports and attend Coffeyville Community College. He transferred to Pittsburg State University in 1967 where he worked toward a degree in business



Outstanding alumni, Barron Harvey, Glenna Wallace, and John Dormois.

until 1970, when he transferred to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to complete his bachelor of science degree in business administration and begin graduate school. He holds a BSBA, a master's degree in accounting and a Ph.D. in organizational behavior and management theory, all from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Harvey is a tenured member of the faculty at Howard University and has served as a full professor in the Department of Accounting for more than 20 years. During his academic career, he has held numerous other administrative positions at the university. Previously, he held faculty appointments at the University of Nebraska, University of Miami, and Georgetown University.

In 2011, Harvey received the National MBA Dean's Roundtable also known as the Milton-Wilson Dean's Award and received a Richard D. Irwin Fellow from Beta Gamma Sigma Faculty National Business Honor Society and throughout the years has been honored with many other awards showcasing his commitment to education.



Glenna J. Wallace is the chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. A retired English teacher

and administrator at Crowder College, Wallace earned a bachelor of arts degree, a master of arts degree and an education specialist degree, all from PSU.

Over the years, Wallace pursued her education while at the same time serving the role of wife and mother to three. Her husband of 33 years died suddenly in 1988, just as she was completing her Ed.S.

Wallace joined the staff at Crowder College in 1968 as an English teacher. It was a relationship that would last more than 38 years until her retirement in 2006. During that time, Wallace estimates she taught more than 25,000 students.

In 2006, Wallace was elected chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, the first woman to hold that position. She was elected to a second four-year term in 2010. As chief, she has emphasized the importance of grant writing and since she was elected in 2006, the tribe has received funding for six administrative buildings. Currently, the tribe is building a casino and resort on Highway 60.

To view a complete biography of the three winners and watch a video of the celebration visit magazine.pittstate.edu.  



Don Smith and Dr. Donald Holsinger

Two receive award for service

Pittsburg State honored two men for their service to the university and its students this past spring. Dr. Donald Holsinger and Don Smith received the Ralf J. Thomas Distinguished Service Award at the Apple Day convocation March 1.

The award, established in 1991, honors the late Ralf J. Thomas, a long-time member of the faculty who volunteered his service to the PSU Alumni Association for 22 years and who was the first recipient of the award.

Don Holsinger, a Pittsburg physician who received a bachelor's degree from PSU in 1960, has been involved in almost every aspect of the PSU community. Don Smith, a minister with Campus Christians, has made it his mission to help international students get around.



Members of the Class of 1962 gathered at PSU for their Half-Century Club reunion in May. Alumni participated in a variety of activities ranging from a luncheon on the Oval and campus tour to attending a graduation ceremony as honorary guests.

PSU plates in Missouri!

This fall, PSU license plates will hit the roads in Missouri!

Applications were submitted this past spring and PSU is the first university in Kansas to have a specialty license plate available in Missouri.

"The PSU plates have been very popular in Kansas," Johnna Schremmer, director of alumni and constituent relations at PSU said. "We got our first Kansas plates in 1999 and currently we have more than 1,700 on the road. We have almost 10,000 PSU alumni who live in Missouri, and from now forward, anyone in Missouri with a vehicle can get a plate by contacting our office first then the state," Schremmer said.

Visit pittstate.edu/gorillaplate to register for your Kansas or Missouri plate.



Northwest Arkansas Gorilla Gathering

Chris Kelly, associate vice president for Marketing and Communication, updates alumni about the campus at a gathering that included a Nationals baseball game.

Class of 1962

Lorna (Johnston) Smith (BSED '62 & MSE '91) and **Glenn Smith** '63 (BS) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 10. Lorna teaches speech and psychology courses at Fort Scott Community College and Glenn is a retired ranch foreman who continues to participate in team roping events throughout the midwest. The Smiths live in rural Redfield, Kan.

Class of 1974

Gary Green (BMEd), music director in the Department of Theater at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., was in Kansas for the summer to revive summer theater at the Waterville (Kan.) Opera House. He put on two performances as a fundraiser for renovations to the Opera House and to reconnect Waterville and live theater.

Class of 1976

Charles Duane Kater, Ph.D., (BS technical education '76, MS technical education '77) was appointed associate vice president for distance learning at Park University in Park City, Mo., in January. Kater served as director of technical programs and curriculum for the Kansas Board of Regents from 2010 through 2011. Previously, he served as vice president for workforce development at Northwest Arkansas Community College (2009-10), dean of the College of Professional Studies and vice president of community college outreach and director of satellite campus operations at Bellevue University in Nebraska (2004-08), associate dean of professional and online studies at Southwestern College in Kansas (2002-03) and director of educational technology at Hill's Pet Nutrition



Inc. in Topeka, Kan. (1991-2002). He earned his doctorate in technical education from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Class of 1980

Judson Hall (BS) retired from the Boeing Company in 2012 after 32 years of service. Judson lives in O'Fallon, Mo., with his wife, Carol.

Class of 1983

Dr. Mark Watkins (BBA, MBA '99, Spec. '05), has been selected to serve as dean of instruction for Labette Community College in Parsons, Kan.

Class of 1990

Julie (Walburn) Badders (BSED) of Liberty, Mo., has been appointed elementary principal of Maplewood Elementary in the North Kansas City School District for the 2012-2013 school year. Prior to her appointment, Badders served as a teacher and assistant principal in the

district. Julie and her husband, Scott (BS '89), have three children, Taryn, Brynn and Carson.

Bethene (Bitner) Fahnestock (BSN), was appointed vice president for academic affairs for Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (Miami, Okla.) on July 1. Fahnestock most recently held the position of assistant vice president for academic affairs for NEO.

Class of 1996

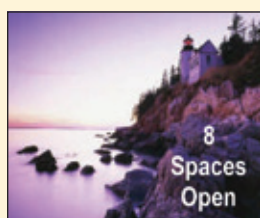
Mike Calvert (Spec.) has been named as the new president of Central Community College—Grand Island in Columbus, Neb. Previously, he served as dean for humanities and social science at Butler Community College in El Dorado, Kan.

Class of 1998

Carrie Agosto (BS, MS '02, Spec. '07), was named counselor of

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LEAVES, LIGHTHOUSES & LOBSTERS OCTOBER 13-20, 2012.

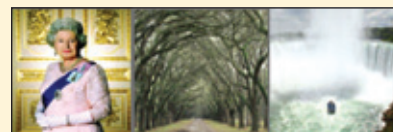
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April 21-28: SPRINGTIME SOUTHERN GRACE & CHARM

October 6-14: NIAGARA FALLS & EASTERN CANADA



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the year by the Southeast Kansas Counseling Association. Agosto is the counselor at Jefferson School in Independence, Kan.

Class of 1999

Lisa (Swaim) Collier (BS) was named 2012 Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Paola (Kan.) School District #USD 368. Lisa has been teaching math at Paola High School for 13 years and is currently the department chairperson. She lives in Paola with her husband, Troy, and two daughters, Jenna and Jacie.

Class of 2000

Scott Sinnett (BBA) has joined McCormick Armstrong's Southwest regional sales office in Dallas. McCormick Armstrong is a commercial printer with web and sheet fed capabilities, direct mail,

catalog, fulfillment, distribution, and other brand management tools. Sinnett serves customers throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area, as well as key accounts in Houston, Tulsa, and Manhattan, Kan. Sinnett has more than 12 years of experience the security-sensitive financial printing field, previously working for Bowne of Dallas and Merrill Corporation and, most recently, with IntegraColor. Prior to his career in printing sales, Sinnett spent four years in the U.S. Army as an interrogation team leader for the 110th Military Intelligence Battalion.

Class of 2005

Aimee (Shields) Banks (BA), has been named the director of public relations and grants for Tri Valley Developmental Services in Chanute, Kan.

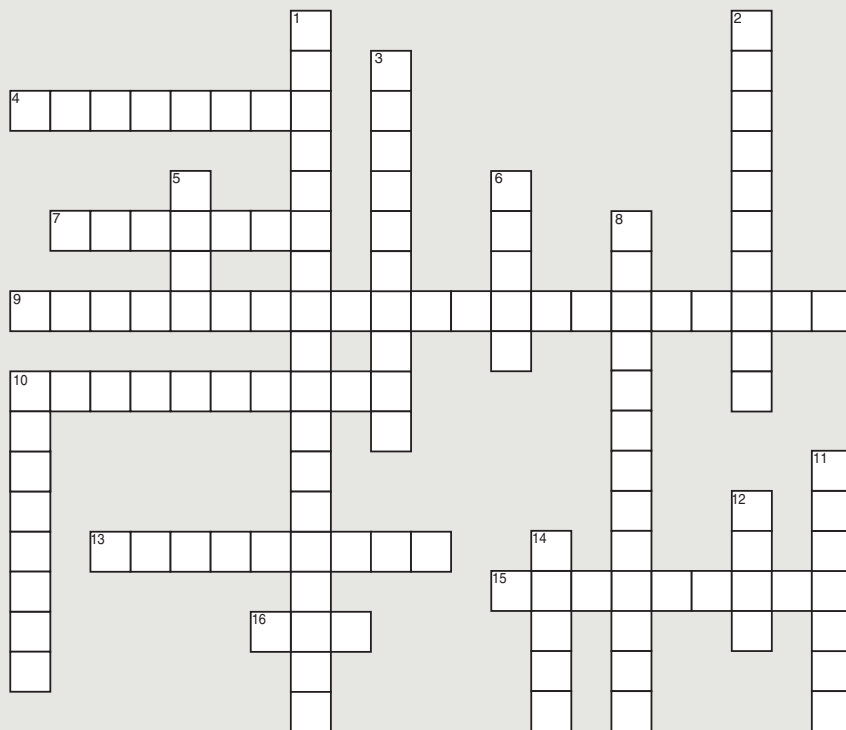
Class of 2006

Sarah (Wohlgemuth) Johnson (BA) has been named head volleyball coach at the University of Saint Mary, Leavenworth, Kan. An Atchison native, Johnson earned a master's degree in education from the University of Saint Mary.

Class of 2009

Lindsay (Quall) Hothan (BS), De Soto, Kan., was presented with the Horizon Award by the Kansas State Department of Education. This award identifies and recognizes first-year teachers that represent excellent teaching in the elementary and secondary classrooms. Hothan teaches family and consumer sciences at De Soto High School.

How well do you know Pittsburg State? Put on your thinking cap!



ACROSS

4. The College of Arts & _____ is the largest college at PSU
7. Heart of the campus
9. Downtown Pittsburg building that was the original home of the university
10. First organized sport at PSU
13. Student who died fighting the 1914 Russ Hall fire
15. The Kansas _____ Center, home of the College of Technology
16. First name of PSU's mascot
17. This building once had a rooftop observatory

DOWN

1. Founder and first principal of Manual Training Normal School in Pittsburg
2. Week-long fall event includes a parade, yell like hell and a football game
3. Named after a former University President, this building is the home of the College of Education
5. Number of national football championships
6. First celebrated in 1907, students, faculty and staff continue to celebrate _____ Day, the university's oldest tradition.
8. PSU's second oldest academic building
10. Largest student organized community services project
11. When built, it was the largest collegiate video screen in Kansas
12. School colors are crimson and _____
14. This year, the _____ College of Business is celebrating its 35th anniversary.

Pitt State Crossword
challenge

Family matters...

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In Memory

Deaths are listed based on information received from families or reported in local newspapers. They are listed by date of graduation or attendance.

Dorothy I. Suainball, 1929
 Merle W. Coe, 1929, Occidental, Calif.
 Pauline J. Douglas, 1929,
 Monroe Township, N.J.
 Virginia L. Hudson, 1929, Topeka, Kan.
 Aimee T. Samuel, 1930
 Corinne Maffett, 1931
 Gertrude Stoerman, 1931
 Willna A. Corrington, 1931
 Alice G. McCreight, 1933
 Elva L. Cooper, 1933
 Grace M. Zanders, 1933, Scarsdale, N.Y.
 Howard J. Stark, 1933
 John F. Habeger, 1933, Edison, Neb.
 Pete J. Lamonti, 1933
 Katherin G. Stewart, 1934
 Margaret G. Martin, 1934
 Constance M. Peterson, 1935,
 Pittsburg, Kan.
 Elton B. Brown, 1935, Hillsboro, Mo.
 William F. Roberts, 1935
 Kenneth Herbert Waite, 1937,
 Louisburg, Kan.
 Doris K. Castango, 1938, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Vera J. Brown, 1938
 Betty Neely, 1939, Palm Springs, Calif.
 Esther Katherine Benton, 1939,
 Pretty Prairie, Kan.
 Claron Glenn Cole, 1940, Garnett, Kan.
 John L. Johnston, 1941, Bloomington, Ill.
 Lois E. Stegen, 1941, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Martha A. Crosson, 1941,
 Independence, Kan.
 Mary Elizabeth Hancock, 1941,
 Loveland, Colo.
 Mary L. Logan, 1941, Wichita, Kan.
 Ola M. Ford, 1941, Owings Mills, Md.
 Elizabeth Jones, 1942
 Rolland H. Bushner, 1942, Tyron, S.C.
 Elizabeth Ryan, 1943, Coffeyville, Kan.
 Kathleen A. Dickert, 1943,
 Fort Dodge, Iowa
 Ruth M. Elliston, 1943, Manhattan, Kan.
 Betty V. Wiley, 1945, Oswego, Kan.
 Carrol Anderson, 1945,
 Panama Canal, Panama
 Virginia Copeland Noble, 1945,
 Coffeyville, Kan.
 Virginia J. Noble, 1945, Springfield, Mo.
 Donald W. Woolman, 1946,
 Parsons, Kan.
 Colleen Tolle, 1947, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Edna E. Farren, 1947,
 South Hutchinson, Kan.
 Doris K. Johnson, 1948,
 Humboldt, Kan.
 Herbert L. Stocking, 1948, Joplin, Mo.
 Marian G. German, 1948,
 Neodesha, Kan.
 James R. Roberts, 1949,
 Overland Park, Kan.
 Lottie Louise Neighbors, 1949,
 Parsons, Kan.
 Walter L. Mathiasmeier, 1949,
 Arkansas City, Kan.
 Arthur C. Jordan, Jr., 1950,
 Las Vegas, Nev.
 Bob L. Replogle, 1950, Phoenix, Ariz.
 Charley Queony, 1951, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Deanie W. Jones, 1951, Salem, Ore.
 Eva Bracy, 1951, Kansas City, Kan.
 Roger L. Bezinque, 1951,
 Baxter Springs, Kan.
 H.A. "Pete" Stover, 1952,
 Coffeyville, Kan.
 James F. Kimson, 1952, Seattle, Wash.
 John Corpolongo, 1952, Jay, Okla.
 John T. Gardner, 1952, Mojave, Calif.
 Re Minta M. King, 1952, Lenexa, Kan.
 Donald Bachtel, 1953, Clifton, Kan.
 Robert A. Adams, 1954, Joplin, Mo.
 Ava Mae Adams, 1955, Arcadia, Kan.
 Gene R. Seifert, 1955, Shawnee, Kan.
 Loretta Zimmerman, 1955,
 Overland Park, Kan.
 Robert E. Ventrurella, 1955,
 Pittsburg, Kan.
 Virgie King, 1955, Rolla, Mo.
 Bert N. Felter, 1956, Independence, Mo.
 Dick E. Myers, 1956, Kansas City, Mo.
 Gene W. Johnson, 1956, Augusta, Kan.
 Ila Jo Martin, 1956, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Joyce Medford, 1956, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Richard P. Green, 1956, Joplin, Mo.
 Robert E. Jackson, 1956,
 Coffeyville, Kan.
 Caroline Josephine Burke, 1957,
 Erie, Kan.
 Bill E. Blythe, 1958, Chanute, Kan.
 Franky 'Wampy' Blazic, 1958,
 Pittsburg, Kan.
 Gene R. Curless, 1958, Liberal, Mo.
 Iva E. Price, 1958, Fort Scott, Kan.
 Julie Ann Gorman, 1958,
 Mound City, Kan.
 Mary A. Hund, 1958, Paxico, Kan.
 Ralph G. Hawkins, 1958,
 Springfield, Mo.
 Richard "Dick" Andrews, 1958,
 Coffeyville, Kan.

William Calvin Finch, 1958,
 Osage City, Kan.
 Dick L. Deonier, 1959, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Edgar W. Maxwell, 1959, Jasper, Mo.
 Flossie L. Perkins, 1959, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Garland H. Middleton, 1959,
 Camarillo, Calif.
 George E. Jackson, 1959, LaCygne, Kan.
 Mary A. (Carns) Heckman, 1959
 Ron D. Hutts, 1959, Spring, Texas
 Arvin R. Todd, 1960, Bartlesville, Okla.
 Carroll L. Akin, 1960,
 Overland Park, Kan.
 Don R. Jones, 1960, Girard, Kan.
 Gene Wilmoth, 1960, Gardner, Kan.
 Val E. Villamaria, 1960, Nevada, Mo.
 Wayne E Cowen, 1960,
 New Braunfels, Texas
 Andrew Peterson, 1961, Mankato, Kan.
 Jerlene A. List, 1961, Belton, Mo.
 Lila M. Lair, 1961
 Wilbur "Gene" Dodson, 1961,
 Caney, Kan.
 Donald C. Wooton, 1962,
 Silver City, N.M.
 Donald D. Perry, 1962, Emporia, Kan.
 Evaugh C. (Welch) Boswell, 1962,
 Arma, Kan.
 Freda E. (Bozman) Cink, 1962,
 Caldwell, Kan.
 Jessie (Timi) Ossana, 1962, Arma, Kan.
 Ralph A. Holland, 1962, Fredonia, Kan.
 Wayne W. Stucky, 1962, Fredonia, Kan.
 Charles E. Wirt, 1963, Andover, Kan.
 James L. Kinne, 1963, Erie, Kan.
 Robert Brown, 1963, Cherryvale, Kan.
 Robert E. Townsend, 1963,
 Kansas City, Kan.
 Robert M. "Bob" Ferguson, 1963,
 Carl Junction, Mo.
 Clark W. Beasley, 1964, Abilene, Texas
 Janis Lin (Pratt) Bair, 1964,
 Hutchinson, Kan.
 Clifford Joe Edwin Myers, 1964,
 Emporia, Kan.
 Faye (Reece) Robertson, 1964,
 Thayer, Kan.
 Howard F. Armstrong, 1964,
 Fort Scott, Kan.
 Joe Myers, 1964, Emporia, Kan.
 Jonell (Doyle) Tolle, 1964,
 Overland Park, Kan.
 Phyllis J.(Holden) Baker, 1964,
 Ozark, Mo.
 Alvin Eugene Ballou, 1965,
 Tonganoxie, Kan.
 E. Faye (Reece) Robertson, 1965,
 Kansas City, Kan.

continued

James S. Head, 1965, Kansas City, Kan.
 Mary E. (Mattison) Weeks, 1965,
 Central, S.C.
 Robert B. Runyan, 1965,
 Fort Worth, Texas
 Dale R. Ward, 1966, Chanute, Kan.
 Donald Eugene Byers, 1966,
 Welch, Okla.
 Kenneth Lee Weide, 1966, Garnett, Kan.
 Lyla M. (Miller) Vaughn, 1966,
 Andover, Kan.
 Sharon L. (Fransworth) Johnson, 1966,
 Fredonia, Kan.
 Wendell Phillip Gafford, 1966,
 Salina, Kan.
 Bill B. Cross, 1967, Fort Scott, Kan.
 David Lee Beasley, 1967,
 Overland Park, Kan.
 Judith A. Zbrunek, 1968, Joplin, Mo.
 Dennis W. Hewett, 1969,
 Livermore, Calif.
 Dennis W. Worsley, 1969,
 Bronaugh, Mo.
 Doris Beatrice (Simpson) Mack, 1969,
 Fort Scott, Kan.
 Gay M. (Stangl) Dawley, 1969
 James Arthur "Jim" Hanson, 1969,
 Billings, Mont.
 Lowell E. Hoch, 1969, Ottawa, Kan.
 Cheryl E. (Sanders) Metcalf, 1970,
 Fort Scott, Kan.
 Hank D. Myers, 1970, Oxnard, Calif.
 John R. Gallagher, 1970, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Leon M. Merz, 1970,
 Arkansas City, Kan.
 Michael P. Crowley, 1970,
 Little Rock, Ark.
 Billy J. Smith, 1971, Doniphan, Mo.
 Bobby Dean Shipley, 1971,
 Fort Scott, Kan.
 Dan B. Snyder, 1971, Ozark, Mo.
 Donald D. Wilson, 1971,
 Lawrence, Kan.
 Donald Duane Willson, 1971,
 Lawrence, Kan.
 Larry Dean Ortgies, 1971,
 Ottumwa, Iowa
 Nancy M. (Tindel) Kahn, 1971,
 Shawnee, Kan.
 Robert Muller, 1971, Liberty, Mo.
 Ron C. Staton, 1971, Olathe, Kan.
 Diana Ruth (Webber) Hisaw, 1972,
 Miami, Okla.
 Elizabeth W. (Walker) Burris, 1973,
 Pittsburg, Kan.
 Felix N. Melvin, 1973,
 Soda Springs, Minn.

Jann (Heslop) Brownlee, 1973,
 Coffeyville, Kan.
 Martha L. (Westfall) Alford, 1973,
 Joplin, Mo.
 Barry K. Emerson, 1974, Skiatook, Okla.
 Bertha Jean (Smith) Shaffer, 1974,
 Carthage, Mo.
 Roger L. McCann, 1974, Joplin, Mo.
 Deborah Sue Folk, 1975, Basehor, Kan.
 Edward M. Sauerwein, 1975,
 Fort Scott, Kan.
 Elizabeth Ann Jesse, 1975,
 Humboldt, Kan.
 Glenn F. Hayden Jr., 1976,
 Coffeyville, Kan.
 Mark S. Fincher, 1976, Pittsburg, Kan.
 Harold B. Rauch, Jr., 1977,
 Broken Arrow, Okla.

John A. McCormack, Jr., 1977,
 Neosho, Mo.
 Norma Jean (Miller) Bolt, 1977,
 Pittsburg, Kan.
 Joel D. "Joe" Singleton, 1978,
 Olathe, Kan.
 Timothy Michael Murphy, 1978,
 Shawnee, Kan.
 Cathy S. (Sullins) Cole, 1979,
 Little Rock, Ark.
 Erma Josephine "Jody" (Hixon)
 Nichols, 1980, Elixabethton, Tenn.
 Gwendolyn Marie (Maahs) Dreyer,
 1980, Nevada, Mo.
 Patricia (Munson) Bowen, 1980,
 Clay Center, Kan.
 Charlotte Seifert, 1981, Parsons, Kan.

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Erik Moore, 1981, Pittsburg, Kan.
Neva J. Woods, 1981,
Lees Summit, Mo.
William R. Barker, 1981,
Lawrence, Kan.
Randy F. Wickizer, 1982,
Bartlesville, Okla.
Clarence "Leon" Rhodes, 1983,
Fort Scott, Kan.
Carolyn J. (Harvey) Chiartano, 1984,
Collinsville, Okla.
Glen Dean McLaren, 1984,
Pittsburg, Kan.
Leon Rhodes, 1984, Kansas City, Kan.
Faye Covey, 1986, Fort Scott, Kan.
Joan M. (Ala) Parks, 1986,
Cummings, Ga.
Dennie LeRoy Ferrell, 1987,
Lawrence, Kan.
Ronald A. Marshall, 1987,
Lawrence, Kan.
John D. Reust, 1988,
Independence, Kan.

Margaret Louise (Tippe) Walters,
1988, Savonburg, Kan.
Thomas M. Green, 1988,
Pittsburg, Kan.
Mercedes M. Glover, 1989,
Webb City, Mo.
Patrick Dean Jordan, 1989,
LaCygne, Kan.
Stephen Lee Timme, 1989,
Bella Vista, Ark.
George S. Trout, 1990, Arma, Kan.
Lucy Z. (Zinni) Hamlet, 1990,
Sebring, Fla.
Brenda J. (Kerr) Ross, 1992,
Independence, Kan.
Clyde O. Well, 1993, Simi Valley, Calif.
Clifford E. Brown, 1994, Pratt, Kan.
Evelyn (Woodall) Henry, 1994,
Coffeyville, Kan.
William E. Meehan, 1995,
Neodesha, Kan.
William "Bill" Edward Meehan Jr.,
1997, Neodasha, Kan.

Lisa (Miller) Hays, 2001, Derby, Kan.
Amber Gene (Crawford) Kirkland,
2003, Pittsburg, Kan.
Brent Jackson, 2009, Elsmore, Kan.
Holland Kay Moody, 2012,
Andover, Kan.

Graduation/attendance year(s)
unavailable

Bessie A. Smith, Fredonia, Kan.
Estel (Hedde) Wilson, Manhattan, Kan.
JoEllyn (Brown) Baker, Columbus, Kan.
Katherine L. (Sumpter) Ruhl,
Fort Scott, Kan.
Kathreen H. Kunstel, Arcadia, Kan.
Kenneth Paxton Zabel, Wetmore, Kan.
Neva A. Riley Smith Odell,
Devine, Texas.
Raymond L. Denny, Baton Rouge, La.

A large advertisement for Crawford County, Kansas. The background is a collage of images showing various activities: a person on a tractor, a baseball game, a person on a horse, a person on a bicycle, and a person on a boat. The text "Crawford County" is written in large, bold, black letters across the center. To the right of "Crawford County" is the word "cornered" written vertically in white. Below "Crawford County" is the text "we have it" in white. Below "we have it" is a paragraph of text: "If you're looking for an affordable, relaxing weekend getaway, a family day trip, a week of outdoor recreation or great sports you'll find it in Crawford County, Kansas. Crawford County is the ideal destination featuring a unique blend of history, heritage, art and culture, food and activities for all ages! Crawford County, Kansas 'We Have Your Next Getaway Cornered!'" Below this paragraph is the website "VisitCrawfordCounty.com" in white. To the right of the website is a QR code. Below the QR code is the Crawford County Convention & Visitors Bureau logo, which includes the text "crawford COUNTY" and "Convention & Visitors Bureau".

Crawford County cornered

If you're looking for an affordable, relaxing weekend getaway, a family day trip, a week of outdoor recreation or great sports you'll find it in Crawford County, Kansas. Crawford County is the ideal destination featuring a unique blend of history, heritage, art and culture, food and activities for all ages! Crawford County, Kansas "We Have Your Next Getaway Cornered!"

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crawford COUNTY
Convention & Visitors Bureau

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8.....Football Home Opener
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*Hospitality tent hosted by Accounting
and Computer Information Systems*

19....."Pack the Weede"
Volleyball, vs. Missouri Southern
*Sponsored by
Kelce College of Business*

22.....Family Day
Football vs. Lincoln
*Hospitality tent hosted by
Kelce College of Business Students*

OCTOBER

1...Kansas City Golf Tournament
to register visit pittstate.edu/cob

6.... Football vs. Central Missouri
*Hospitality tent hosted by
Management and Marketing*

20..... Homecoming
Homecoming Parade;
Football vs. Missouri Western
*Hospitality tent hosted by
Kelce College of Business*

NOVEMBER

3.....Football vs. Lindenwood
*Hospitality tent hosted by
Economics, Finance and Banking*



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For more information visit pittstate.edu/cob





A family affair.

PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY is an important place for countless Gorilla families and they express that loyalty through philanthropy that unites the generations.

The Dellasegas and Wilberts are two such families. Matriarchs Betty Dellasega and Melva Wilbert say giving to PSU became a family tradition many decades ago and they are proud that it is a tradition that has been carried on by children and now grandchildren.

"The university played such an integral part in my life," said Dellasega, whose husband, Charles, was a business professor at PSU. "There was never any doubt about supporting the university."

"My six children graduated from here," said Wilbert, a long-time PSU employee, whose husband, Ron was also a loyal supporter of PSU. "Pittsburg State is, in a way, part of my family."

Nationally, younger alumni tend not to support higher education at the same rates as their parents and grandparents, but the Wilbert and Dellasega clans say they have been inspired by the example set for them.

"Pitt State has definitely played a role in our lives and we are all proud of the way that our parents and grandparents supported PSU," Said Nick Dellasega, a 2008 graduate. "I know we want to carry that on."

For more information on how to give back to PSU, visit www.pittstate.edu/support-your-passion.

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FOUNDATION

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