From Moccasin Bend RSD#5- First female chief leads Eastern Shawnee
PittState MAGAZINE

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From the editor
Another spring has arrived on the PSU campus. The flowers are beginning to bloom, the songbirds have returned and another issue of the PittState Magazine, full of news about the campus and Pitt State alumni, has arrived at your door. We hope you enjoy this issue and that you’ll take a few minutes right now to send us your submissions for the fall PittState Magazine, as well as your suggestions for articles and photos for the future. There are lots more great Gorilla stories to tell! We enjoy hearing from our readers! Send your letters to psumag@pittstate.edu
#PittState

Tenaciouss_T
Okay, I’m ready for college now. #PittState

Marissa_Bernal
I’m so excited for tomorrow. Visiting my future home #pittstate

kelseykinnaman
Love walking on campus in such beautiful weather. #pittstate

kait_stockemer
Pitt’s campus is gorgeous! #PittState #Fall

daytonjomo5
Officially part of Gorilla Nation! #PITTSTATE

Brixaddy
Wearing my #pittstate tie to work today. #tietuesday

AndraStefanoni
Traveled around world tonight w/out leaving #Pittsburg. Flavors, cultures, music @ #PittState International Fair

Scamp1309
Won a 500 dollar scholarship at apple day convocation thank you #pittstate

Coopa_12
My dream field to play on. #PittState

Sam_Squers
Swaggin out in my Pitt State University shirt #psu #gorilla #pittstate

CourtMarie715
I Know I made the right decision in choosing Pitt State … I absolutely love it here!

juliasammur
Had one of the best tours I’ve had since being an ambassador today. Sharing @pittstate with people like that makes me love PSU even more!

Porter Hall memories

Many wonderful hours
Since I rode to and from the campus every day with my father, I usually had a number of hours each day to spend on campus before and after classes. So for four years, I would frequently spend this time, deep in the stacks in a kiosk studying. As I walked down the white marble steps that eventful day in November 1963, it was there that I heard that John F. Kennedy had been shot and killed. A year or so later, my mother would become a librarian there. She loved working there with so many wonderful students. Over the years, a number of these students continued to keep up with her at Christmas. She occasionally would purchase artwork from students or others that were showing there in the library. Today, I have most of them in my home. Porter Hall was a beautiful place.

MIMI GUDGEN-CHAPMAN, BS ’67

Is it me?
I am pretty sure the student sitting at the table in Porter Hall in your Fall 2012 Edition is me (about 50 years and 50 lbs ago). I know I spent 3 to 4 hours studying every evening after work in the library stacks. These were small tables at the end of each row of books where it was quiet for individual students to work.

ALLEN FITCH, BS ’64

A place to work and learn
I attended PSU from 1974-1977 for my bachelor’s degree. During those years, I worked in Porter Library full-time in the summer and part-time all through the school year. My first experience was working for Eugene DeGruson up in the small room in Special Collections. When I applied for the job, he asked whether I could type on a manual typewriter. Since I could type on an electric typewriter, I figured it couldn’t be that much different. I was wrong. My first month that summer consisted of learning to type with that old manual typewriter, painstakingly erasing every letter that was halfway on the page!

I learned a lot about the Appeal to Reason and the early history in southeast Kansas, and Mr. DeGruson was a wealth of interesting information.

The next year I transferred to acquisitions, working for Helen Land. She was strict, quiet, and ran a tight ship in the library (and always had a cigarette between her lips!). No unnecessary talking was allowed, even though we were in the acquisitions department and not around the library patrons. Mrs. Stephens, my immediate supervisor, was kind and friendly, and on spring and summer days we opened the large windows on the first floor and enjoyed the beauty of the oval and the fresh air. We even brought a radio the week Mrs. Land was on vacation and listened to music as we processed new books! As much as I enjoyed opening boxes and discovering what books we had purchased, I was ready to leave the library and begin my teaching career!

DEBBIE CLAUSON, BS ’78, MS ’94

The perfect college library
Porter Library. Now, that was what a college library should look like! I worked in the library from 1968 -1970 with Mrs. Greta Gudgen. I learned how a library should work from the best. One summer, Mrs. Gudgen allowed me to take over as Reference Librarian while the two real librarians went on vacation. Porter Library was a great place to work, study, and meet people. I took all the library science courses offered at that time so my teaching certificate included an endorsement for Library Media (grades 1-9). I spent 10 of my 30 years in education as a junior high school media specialist. That part of my career all started because Porter Library was such a wonderful place.

RUTH ANN COAKER HIEBL, BS ’71

People of Porter
I attended PSU from Sept. 1955-Dec. 1957. As a library science major, I spent many hours in Porter. I also worked 20 hours per week as a student assistant. My job was to help graduate students with research materials.

(Here are) some of the people, places and things as I remember:
Dr. John F. Harvey, Library Director and my advisor. He was married to the college food services dietitian.
Bryant Jackson, Cataloger. He was a gourmet cook. I still use his recipe for peanut brittle.

Betty Bennet, Reference Librarian. She lived with her mother and walked home each day to eat lunch and watch the soap opera “As the World Turns.”

Marietta Edens, Library Science Instructor. She was from Berryville, Ark., and received her education at LSU. She was an excellent instructor, southern cook and friend. She also taught me how to knit and drink chicory coffee.

Gene DeGruson, Special Collections and Rare Books librarian. He also had a few stuffed birds and animals in his area. He always had time to talk with me about special books.

I was chosen the Outstanding Library Science student in 1957 (there were only 5 majors). My husband was in the Air Force in Amarillo, Texas. I was hired as assistant reference librarian at the Mary E. Bevins Public Library and went to work January 1958, for $5,800.

I received an MA in English in 1976. After 42 years, my degrees from PSU were great wherever I was: Texas, Missouri, Ohio and Kansas.

**BETTY J. MARTIN, BS ’57, MA ’76**

**Great Gorilla grads**

In my position as senior estimator here at High Country Millwork in Longmont, Colo., I currently work with four alumni of the PSU Wood Technology program, graduates from 1988, 2005, and two from 2010. Two of these alumni represented High Country Millwork at your 2012 Spring Job Fair. Additionally, we had three PSU student interns here this summer at High Country, with their individual focus in Project Management, Engineering, and Production Management.

I must say, as a graduate of SUNY ESF (State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY) and with 32 years in the woodworking/manufacturing business, that every one of these people is well-versed in the industry, well-spoken, receptive to new ideas, willing to (and capable of) learning new methods, and a pleasure to work with.

You are obviously doing a great job there at PSU, both in the classroom and laboratories, and in your extracurricular offerings. The reports we receive back of the Job Fair is also very positive, and you should certainly continue those. It is satisfying that there are college-aged students willing to pursue this field, and commendable that PSU is there to meet that demand and prepare them well. We look forward to continuing a summer internship program with Pittsburg State University.

Thank you for producing critically-thinking, well-rounded graduates for the woodworking/manufacturing industry. I can understand the pride they all show in being a Gorilla.

Thank you.

**PETER DOYLE,**

High Country Millwork
Longmont, Colo.

**An ode to football**

I enjoy reading your magazine and feel it is getting better with each issue. I notice you have no poetry...I have a football poem and wonder if you might like to use it for grins in some issue.

**CLAUDIA MUNDELL,** Carthage, Mo.

(Ms. Mundell, we’re happy to share your poem with our readers -- editor)

**September:**

**Crimson and Gold Game Day**

Rock wall stadium under a caressing cobalt sky;
Pillow clouds rest above the playing field.
An endless rainbow of team shirts, Fresh for a new season, a new game.
Sun shimmers off swinging tubas, Strutting uniforms and trumpeting brass.
The crowd stands as national anthem saturates the air
While the breeze snaps and furls the flag.
Aroma of sugared pecans, salted popcorn,
Steaming hot dogs flavor the day.
Bouncing red-ribboned cheerleaders fall into a tumble.
Gorilla mascot leads hay bale built players
Lumbering to pristine painted fifty-yard line.
Silver coin is tossed, the kick is made.
Crowd roars like unleashed animals As the ball careens skyward before descent
On a crimson and gold day.

**Proud to be a Gorilla**

I am so proud to have gone to Pittsburg State. What a great institution with a wonderful history! Receiving your magazine makes me realize how progressive PSU has become.

**MARK BAUGHER, BS ’82, MS Ed ’91**
New Dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies

In July 2012, Dr. Pawan Kahol was hired as the new dean of Graduate and Continuing Studies at Pittsburg State University. Kahol, who was the interim dean of the graduate college at Missouri State University, came to Pittsburg State with more than 30 years of experience in higher education.

“Dr. Kahol stood out in an incredibly talented field of finalists,” said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Lynette Olson. “He brings a great deal of experience in and enthusiasm for higher education.”

Kahol expressed excitement about joining the PSU staff.

“I’m very pleased and honored to be the next dean of graduate and continuing studies,” said Kahol. “Pittsburg State has a strong reputation for its academic quality and focus on student success.”

Kahol earned his bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and Ph.D. in physics from Panjab University in India. He has also worked at the University of Leeds, England, during 1979-82; as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at Stuttgart University, Germany, during 1983-84; as a research associate at Stuttgart University, Germany, during 1984-86; and as a research fellow at the University of West Virginia during 1986-88.

Biggest Gorilla rolls into town

There were lots of Gorillas in Pittsburg for Homecoming week, but the biggest by far was a shiny, 263,000-lb. brute courtesy of Watco Companies. The locomotive, painted in Pitt State colors and boasting pictures of Gus Gorilla on all sides, was introduced to the community as part of the Homecoming 2012 celebration.

“Watco has a great relationship with Pittsburg State University and many of our team members are alums of Pitt State,” said Tracie VanBecelaere, Watco communications director. “We thought this would be the perfect way to let everyone see just how proud we are of our Gorillas.”

This is the fourth Watco locomotive to be painted in school colors and PSU is the first NCAA Division II university to receive the honor. The only other university to receive an official, custom paint job is the University of Alabama.
Pioneers in the accreditation process
PSU is one of only 14 institutions of higher education originally selected as pioneers to help develop a new program to streamline the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association’s accreditation process.

The accreditation process is an intense, universitywide review over a 10-year cycle. It ensures that an institution’s academic programs are of the highest quality and that its students are able to receive federal and state financial aid.

“Pittsburg State was chosen because of its status as a mature and stable institution. PSU has been continuously accredited since 1915,” said Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Lynette Olson. “As we go through our accreditation process, we will be able to help the HLC develop new methods that will be used by colleges and universities throughout the nation.”

Learn more about Pitt State’s HLC accreditation at www.pittstate.edu/hlc. PSU will learn the results of its reaccreditation application this summer.

Ronald Barrett-Gonzales, associate professor of aerospace engineering at the University of Kansas and president-elect of the State of Kansas Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), presents the group’s Governance Award to PSU President Steven A. Scott. The award was given based on scores PSU received in an “Indicators of Sound Governance” survey.

40-foot addition
Members of the Pittsburg State University landscaping crew planted an October Glory Maple in October 2012 as part of Campus Sustainability Day.

“This is a nice addition to the trees we have on the Oval,” said Cate Breneman, landscape architect and grounds/maintenance supervisor. “Over time, it will be a nice complement to the wide variety of trees that make the heart of the campus such a beautiful place.”

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, the October Glory Maple grows to more than 40 feet in height and has “glistening dark green leaves in spring and summer that turn radiant red in the late fall and last for several weeks.”

Breneman said she chose the location on the southeast side of the Oval to balance against a large oak tree on the northeast side. She chose the maple, she said, because it was one of a few that would thrive in an area that is irrigated.

Dorm renovation continues
Campus and community representatives gathered in mid-August to celebrate a milestone in Pittsburg State University’s multi-year residence hall renovation project. The completion of Tanner Annex means that all of the student housing on the university’s north side is either new or renovated.

“The focus is on providing our students with a modern, safe and comfortable environment in which they can excel,” said President Steve Scott. The president praised University Housing staff for managing the ongoing work, which must take place during the short summer months.

“It’s amazing what can be accomplished when we work together to plan and build for the future,” Scott said.
University House named in honor of Crossland family

Throughout the months of planning, design and construction, Pittsburg State University officials have referred to the newest building on campus as simply “the University House.” With the approval of the Kansas Board of Regents on June 20, 2012, the building now has a name: the Crossland Family University House. Informally, it will be called the Crossland House.

The regents approved naming the building 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 Crossland family and Crossland Construction Company have done so much for Pittsburg State throughout the years,” said PSU President Steve Scott. “It’s this type of private support that allows Pittsburg State to continue to thrive and serve as an academic destination of choice for students throughout the world. We’re grateful to the Crossland family and to our many private donors for their support.”

Tobacco policy task force formed

Pittsburg State University has formed a Tobacco Policy Task Force to explore the feasibility of making the campus tobacco free. The move comes after students voted overwhelmingly in a referendum in spring 2012, to recommend that the campus move to a completely tobacco-free environment.

The task force is led by Jim Triplett, a professor in the Department of Biology, and Rita Girth, operations director of the Bryant Student Health Center. The university has also secured the services of Ty Patterson, the director of the National Center for Tobacco Policy. Patterson is one of the leading experts on developing and implementing tobacco policies for higher education institutions.

“Our students made their views on this matter clear,” said PSU President Steve Scott. “As a university, we should honor their vote by carefully exploring what tobacco policies are right for the campus. I’m looking forward to receiving the final report from our task force.”

A final report with recommendations will be delivered to the president in May of 2013.

Finding Gus Gorilla

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

Email 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 May 31, 2013. The winner will receive two (2) tickets to the Gorillas’ 2013 football home opener.

Congratulations to Tim Hughes of Topeka, Kan., who found the hidden Gorilla in the fall magazine!
The Gorilla Edge

The university’s popular “Gorilla Advantage” tuition program, which offers in-state rates to students in select counties in Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas, will soon have a companion program that will officials believe will make the school even more attractive to out-of-state students.

The program, which starts this fall, will allow qualified students who live outside of the Gorilla Advantage counties in Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas to attend classes at a reduced rate. It will also be available for students from Texas.

“Pittsburg State’s location and academic offerings make it very attractive for students in our neighboring states,” said Bill Ivy, associate vice president for enrollment management and student success. “Now the Gorilla Edge will make our tuition very competitive for these qualified students.

“You could view this opportunity as being equivalent to receiving a $7,300 scholarship. We hope alumni living in these areas will help us get the word out to prospective Gorillas.”

The new tuition program will be available to qualified students beginning this fall.

PSU image in high demand

The power of Gus Gorilla was on display in November of last year when Strategic Marketing Affiliates named Pittsburg State University as its 2012 New Institution of the Year.

The award, which is based on licensed merchandise sales, was presented during SMA’s annual conference in Indianapolis.

Pittsburg State has partnered with SMA to help protect and promote its licensed merchandise since November of 2010.

“We’re fortunate to have incredible fans, supportive vendors, a great partner in SMA and a brand that people want to showcase,” said Chris Kelly, associate vice president for university marketing and communication. “Every split-face Gorilla you see is a vote of confidence in Pittsburg State University.”

Pittsburg State saw its merchandise sales increase by more than 200 percent during the 2011-12 academic year thanks, in part, to a combination of academic and athletic success.

Dean Recital Hall dedication

During a special ceremony in early September, the performance area inside McCray Recital Hall was dedicated to Sharon Kay Dean.

Dean is the wife of Pitsco founder and CEO Harvey Dean, who made a generous donation to PSU for the renovation of McCray Hall. Harvey Dean and the couple’s three children were in attendance at the dedication ceremony.

“I was very surprised about it all,” Sharon Kay Dean said. “I felt like it should have been named for someone else, but I’m definitely grateful for this special honor.”

McCray Recital Hall was first dedicated in 1929 as Music Hall. In 1961, it was re-dedicated in honor of music teacher Walter McCray. During the ceremony to honor Sharon Kay Dean, PSU President Steve Scott said the hall is special to him because of his mother, who graduated from PSU in 1941.

“My mother probably performed in this room,” Scott said.

Randy Roberts, PSU archivist, described McCray Recital Hall as a “real workhorse for the arts and culture.”
Capture your Gorilla spirit with canvas

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Art
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
March 27 – May 1
Vanishing Point: Spring 2013
Bi-Annual Art Department Faculty Exhibit
Rhona Shand, Marjorie Schick, Malcolm E. Kucharski, James Oliver, S. Portico Bowman, Janet Lewis, Kyle McKenzie, Deann Norris
Reception: March 28, 5-7 p.m., Porter Hall

Harry Krug Gallery
Porter Hall
March 15 – May 1
Reunite
Jillian Palone and Annie Pennington
Artist Talk: March 28, 4-5 p.m., Russ Hall, Room 409
Reception: 5-7 p.m., Porter Hall

Music
April 23 - PSU Jazz Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Memorial Auditorium
April 28 - PSU Ontario
3 p.m., First United Methodist Church
415 N. Pine, Pittsburg
April 29 - PSU Percussion Ensemble
7:30 p.m., McCray Hall
May 2 – Four State Band Festival Concert
7 p.m., Memorial Auditorium

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

For extra copies or information:
PSU Office of Marketing and Communication
106 Russ Hall
1701 S. Broadway
Pittsburg, KS 66762-7575
telephone: 620-235-4122
e-mail: psumag@pittstate.edu

Prairie Art - John Allen (B.S.Ed ’97, MS ’98) and Mandy (Smith) Allen (B.S.Ed ’05, MS ’10) stopped at Alliance, Neb., in 2012, to snap a photo at Carhenge, an American spoof on England’s Stonehenge.

Gus is everywhere! - Melinda Velasquez (BSED ’08 ) just happened to be wearing her Gorilla shirt when she encountered this young man walking down the street in a town in Northern Africa. He said he bought his Gorilla shirt in the local market.

Historic Britain - Joyce Womeldorff Peak (B.S. ’70, M.S. ’81) displays her Pitt State tag at a visit to Britain’s most preserved Roman town - Caerleon, Wales - “Fort of the Legion.” She is a retired art teacher and now lives in Denison, Texas.

Glacier Gus - Sisters Amy Vail (BBA, ’95) and Lindy Rhodes (BST ’07), along with Lindy’s husband Jerod Rhodes (BBA ’07), were proud to show off their Pitt State gear on a family vacation to Glacier National Park in Montana this past summer. They spent a week traveling by train and hiking in the park with Amy & Lindy’s parents and Amy’s 8-year-old son, Spencer.

San Fran - Dan and Nikki Knaup took Gus along on a tour of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge last fall.
We would like to know what interesting places Gus has visited. E-mail your photo and a brief story to psumag@pittstate.edu

Gorilla on the roll - Andy Johnson (BS ’63) participates in the Backroads Century bicycle race in Berryville, Va., on September 23, 2012.

Gorillas on the bridge - Gerald (Jerry) Haller (BS ’69) and Karen Haller walk the Mackinac Bridge connecting Michigan’s Upper and Lower Peninsulas last fall. Labor Day is the only day people are allowed to walk on the bridge.

Sunny Italy - David Lowery (BS ’73) and Sandra (Meserko) Lowery (BS ’73) toured the Amalfi Coast of Italy in September 2012. Their Adriatic Sea Cruise stopped at ports in Italy and several other countries.

On the hunt - Dennis Malle (BS ’71) surveys the vistas in Jackson Hole, Wyo., the evening before the fall elk hunt.

Misty - Todd Hastings, Music Department faculty, wore his Gorilla shirt for a refreshing trip to Niagara Falls.

Rocky Mountain High - Brent Crandon, BS (biology) ’85, proudly displays his Gorilla windbreaker in front of the Crystal Mill in Crystal, Colo. The famous old mill is a 6-mile hike up the mountain from Marble, Colo.

Sunny in Jamaica - Blake and Christel Benson and sons Mason and Braden were proud Gorillas on Doctor’s Cave Beach in Montego Bay, Jamaica.
During the day, she helped pick the fruits and vegetables that fed post-war America. At night, her bed was beneath the canvas-covered, flat-bed truck that had brought her and her family from eastern Oklahoma to the migrant fields of California, Oregon and Washington. Each time the family moved to pick a new crop, she found herself starting over in a new school, where teachers placed her in the back of the room because they expected her to lag behind all the others.

From Moccasin Bend RSD#5
TODAY, GLENNNA WALLACE LOOKS back on that experience and also her years growing up poor in rural Oklahoma and recalls one of the important lessons she learned at an early age: without education, there are few choices in life.

“I can recall as a child looking at my mother and even at the age of 11 or 12, realizing that she had very few options in life,” Wallace said. “I wasn’t sure how I was going to do it, I just knew I wanted options and the only way to do that was through education.”

By any measure, Wallace achieved her goal. A wife and mother of three, Wallace earned a bachelor’s degree, master’s degree and an education specialist degree from Pittsburg State University. She spent nearly 40 years as a community college teacher and administrator and to top it off, in 2006 she was elected the first female chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

It is not a life most people would have expected for a poor Native American child in northeastern Oklahoma.

“I was born in Ottawa County – actually born at home in a log house down by a creek and lived there most of my growing up years,” Wallace said. “I went to a rural school called Moccasin Bend Rural School Dist. No. 5.”

WALLACE’S LIFE STORY BEGINS like that of so many other members of her tribe. Her mother was Eastern Shawnee. For a time, her father, who was not Native American, worked in the lead and zinc mines at Picher, Okla., but it was impossible to get ahead, especially with five children. When Wallace was about third grade, the family pulled up stakes and joined thousands moving west in search of a better life.

“There was always that dream of doing better elsewhere,” Wallace said. “So he (her father) cashed in his mining settlement and purchased a big, flat-bed farm truck. He put poles up on it and tossed a tarp over the top. Remember that picture of Granny with the “Beverly Hillbillies” with the rocking chair going out to California? Well that’s what we did.”

All together, there were 11 who made the trip, including Wallace, her four siblings, her parents, an aunt and uncle and their two children. They parked the truck in abandoned barns and city parks, working the harvest from south to north. After three difficult years, they returned to Oklahoma.

“We didn’t find that rich land that we thought we were going to find and my father’s health had gone bad by that time,” Wallace recalled. “So he (Wallace’s father) came back and had surgery. We returned to the same place we had left. I returned to the rural school and graduated from the 8th grade there.”

By the time Wallace graduated from high school – the first female in her family to do so – she was also married.

After high school, Wallace worked and had three children, but the drive to continue her education kept nagging at her. With the support and encouragement of her husband, Wallace enrolled at NEO A&M in Miami when her youngest was a year old.

She earned 56 hours of credit at NEO before transferring to PSU to

“I was born in Ottawa County – actually born at home in a log house down by a creek and lived there most of my growing up years.”

– Chief Glenna Wallace
complete a bachelor’s degree. She immediately began work on a master’s degree.

“I never thought that would be possible,” she said.

In 1968, with her master’s degree in hand, Wallace landed a teaching position at Crowder College. Over the years at Crowder, she taught English and served in a variety of administrative roles. She also began work on her education specialist degree. Her husband, who had been so supportive of her educational endeavors, died in 1988, just as Wallace was completing her Ed.S.

Although she was not “raised actively” in her Native American culture, Wallace’s interest in the tribe, its culture and its history had grown during her adult life as she watched her mother get more involved with the tribe.

“My mother became secretary-treasurer of the tribe,” Wallace said. “Seeing her work in that naturally brought me in.”

Another thing that sparked Wallace’s interest was the tribe’s growing focus on finance and business.

“I was interested in finances, Wallace said. “So I ran for the business committee. I was on the business committee for more than 15 years.”

In 2006, she decided to run for election as chief and won, becoming the first woman to ever hold that position. She was re-elected in 2012.

Since then, Wallace has found herself very busy.

The tribe had operated Bordertown Casino for years but took a gigantic leap into the competitive resort casino business in northeast Oklahoma with the opening of Indigo Sky, an $85-million resort hotel and casino just southwest of Seneca, Mo.

“When my mother was the secretary-treasurer, our income was $50 a year,” Wallace laughed. “When you go from that to undertaking an $85-million project, that’s a great accomplishment.”

In addition to the casino, the tribe manages other business investments, including banks.

“We own 57 percent of the People’s Bank of Seneca,” Wallace said. “We just opened a new branch close to Joplin on Highway 43. It’s a beautiful facility. We’re now looking for a third location.”

This growth is helping the tribe address some of its most intractable issues, Wallace said.

“The tribe has been so poor since we came to Oklahoma,” Wallace said. “In the 1930s, we had such a difficult financial time that many of our people left.”

Given her own attitude about education, it

Visitors to the Eastern Shawnee’s Indigo Sky Casino and Resort are surrounded by Native American iconography, including a towering fire pit in the lobby.
is no surprise that one of the tribal initiatives that Wallace is most proud of is its support for higher education.

“We encourage our youth, even our adults to go back to school,” Wallace said. “We pay up to $4,500 per semester. If they graduate and go on to graduate school, it’s $8,000 per semester for master’s and above. We now have approximately 300 of our tribal citizens in those higher education offerings. That’s something we’re proud of. We long for the day – and again this is beginning to happen – that our own tribal citizens are able to complete those training courses and come back and work for us, so that they can have a nice wage and make a contribution to the culture and to the success of our businesses.”

At the same time the Eastern Shawnee have worked to build on their financial success, they have also been working to strengthen their cultural heritage.

“We were forced out of Ohio in 1832,” Wallace said. “We basically lost everything. By 1900, we were down to just 63 people. With 63 people, we did not retain our language. We lost our ceremonials. We lost even our history about that removal.”

“Today, 180 years after they were forced from their homelands in Ohio, the tribe is working to recover as much of its history as possible, Wallace said. Their goal is to pass it along to a new generation of Eastern Shawnee.

“In the appropriate months we have social dances,” Wallace said. “Animals are a very large part of Native American culture and we have many social dances that are named after animals. We teach our young people those dances and the elders come and watch and more and more some of those elders are getting up and dancing.”

Wallace said other tribes have helped the Eastern Shawnee recover some of their culture.

“It had to be inter-tribal,” Wallace said. “Other tribes taught us.”

“When (the powwows) first started, I can think of only one person who wore Shawnee regalia or knew any of the dances,” Wallace said. “When we had our powwow this year, I wouldn’t have been surprised if we didn’t have 40 or 50 of our own tribal citizens who were dressed in regalia and who were participating, some of them in competition.”

Wallace said the tribe has received a grant to research the tribes’ removal from Ohio.

“We’re hoping to learn more of our history,” Wallace said. “We’re learning more of the stories and learning more about how the Ohio people felt about our leaving. It’s exciting, not just for us as Eastern Shawnee, but for the nine federally recognized tribes in Ottawa County.”

Wallace believes the future for the Eastern Shawnee Tribe is bright.

“There’s an enormous growth in pride and we have a belief in ourselves,” Wallace said. “I have to give credit to the United States. Although we still have bias and although we still have prejudice, more and more ethnic groups are able to retain their identity and retain their culture and the world is realizing that it makes a richer heritage for all of us.”

Wallace said she hopes that pride spreads, both among those Eastern Shawnee in eastern Oklahoma and those scattered across the U.S.

“I often hear the expression, ‘It’s in the blood, it’s going to call you back,’” she said. “I suppose it’s about always wondering who you are and who those people were who came before you. So there is a calling. If you ever go to a powwow, and you ever hear that drum, then there’s no return.”

The panther and the swan are central symbols for the Eastern Shawnee and can be found on everything from the tribe’s flag to handcrafted pieces in the casino.

“If you ever go to a powwow, and you ever hear that drum, then there’s no return.”

TODAY, 180 YEARS AFTER they were forced from their homelands in Ohio, the tribe is working to recover as much of its history as possible, Wallace said. Their goal is to pass it along to a new generation of Eastern Shawnee.

“In the appropriate months we have social dances,” Wallace said. “Animals are a very large part of Native American culture and we have many social dances that are named after animals. We teach our young people those dances and the elders come and watch and more and more some of those elders are getting up and dancing.”

Wallace said other tribes have helped the Eastern Shawnee recover some of their culture.

“It had to be inter-tribal,” Wallace said. “Other tribes taught us.”
No ordinary groundbreaking

It happened, as it typically does, after a count of three. The shovels hit the dirt, cameras clicked and people applauded. It happened in the fashion of most ceremonial groundbreakings.

Top photo: Kansas Regent Tim Emert and PSU Student Government President Lara Ismert listen as President Steve Scott addresses those attending the February 1st groundbreaking ceremony for the Center for the Arts.

Even though the Center for the Arts groundbreaking was moved inside because of inclement weather, officials did turn dirt. Shown from left to right: PSU Alumni Jim and Treva Dawson, representing donors to the project; Ivan Crossland, Jr., of Crossland Construction Company; University Provost Lynette Olson; PSU President Steve Scott; Kansas Regent Tim Emert; Lara Ismert, president of the PSU Student Government Association; and Duane Cash, project manager with ACI Boland Architects.
BUT THIS WAS NO ORDINARY
groundbreaking. It was more than that.
It was Pittsburg State University
signaling its “intent to reclaim its
rightful place as the cultural center of
this region.”

Members of the PSU family came
together on February 1 for the
ceremonial groundbreaking of the
Pittsburg State University Center for
the Arts, a $30 million facility that will
serve as one of the Midwest’s premiere
venues for educational and recreational
music, theater and all things arts.

“It’s often said that we stand on the
shoulders of those who come before
us,” President Steve Scott said. “Never
has this been more true than today.
There is no doubt this project is the
culmination of 35 years of hard work
and the contributions of many, many
individuals.”

The Center for the Arts, which will
be located just south of the Weede
Physical Education Building on the
corner of Homer and Ford streets,
will be the university’s first large,
on-campus performance venue since
Carney Hall closed in 1978.

Plans to build a new performance
hall began even before Carney Hall was
razed, but those plans took on life five
years ago when an anonymous donor
committed $10 million to the project.

“This person’s anonymous gift ignited
the artistic passions of our alumni,
students and friends,” Scott said.
“In essence, that single gift made us believe we could
get this done.”

It also ignited a series
of other donations,
including a $7 million
pledge in student fees
over the next 20 years
from PSU students.

“This begs the question,” SGA
President Lara Ismert said. “Why would
students, many of whom will not be
here when this center opens, pledge
their support for a new Center for the
Arts? It’s because we believe in this
university and want to see it thrive for
the next generation of Gorillas. In order
for this to happen, our university must
have a dedicated facility where students
can learn about and experience art in
all of its forms.”

Generous donors continue to come
forward to support the project, and
Executive Director of University
Development Kathleen Flannery
said more opportunities to give are
available.

“This celebration is but the first step
toward reaching our goal of becoming
the regional cultural center for the
arts,” Flannery said. “We are so grateful
to the many donors who have made
gifts that enabled us to break ground,
but our fundraising efforts are not
complete. For those who would like to
support this historic project but have
not yet made a gift, there is still time.”

During the groundbreaking
ceremony, Kansas Board of Regents
Chairman Tim Emert praised PSU for its
commitment to the arts.

“Today’s groundbreaking is a strong
statement that the arts are alive and
thriving in this beautiful corner of
Kansas,” Emert said. “On behalf of the
Kansas Board of Regents, I offer my
congratulations to those who made
today’s celebration possible. Job well
done.”

Emert, who also serves as president
and a board member of the William
Inge Festival Foundation, talked about
the importance of the arts in education.

“They help develop communications
skills, strengthen character and by
their very nature, encourage critical
thinking,” Emert said. “This is why it
is so important that universities and
communities continue to invest in the
arts.”

The event concluded with officials,
who represented the campus
community, donors, and those involved
in the actual construction of the
building, turning spades of dirt.
Turning spades of a dream come
ture.

...we believe in this
university and want
to see it thrive for the
next generation of
Gorillas.”

Artist’s concept drawing -- The PSU Center for the Arts will face west on the corner of
Ford and Homer streets.
AS A NEW PITT STATE FRESHMAN, Joe Douthitt thought he wanted to be a television weatherman. Today, the only time he worries about the weather is when it might affect the activities at Heartland Park, a multimillion-dollar racing complex in Topeka, Kan.

How Douthitt went from dreaming of forecasting the weather on TV to marketing and managing a growing racing experience is a story that turns on timely advice, faculty guidance and Douthitt’s own focus on getting and capitalizing on experience.

Douthitt graduated from Leavenworth High School in 1990 and headed south to Pittsburg. “I loved the campus,” Douthitt said. “As soon as I walked on campus, I said, ‘Yep! That’s for me.’”

Douthitt jumped into college life with both feet -- literally and figuratively. He ran track and was a football walk-on with the ’91 national championship team. To pay for school, he got a job delivering Pizzas for Little Caesar’s, where he met his future wife, Christina Harman (BS Social Work, ’92), who was the shift manager.

“I was going to go the route of communications with an emphasis on media and then go into weather that way,” Douthitt said.

To gain media experience, he got a job at KOAM TV and also worked part time for KWXD-FM. Everything was going according to plan, but some advice from the evening weatherman at KOAM, caused Douthitt to rethink his direction.

“He just kind of pulled me aside one time and said, ‘You just started a family. This may not be a career choice you want to go into.’ He was thinking of the 10 o’clock news and the late nights,” Douthitt said.

Douthitt sought advice from Danny Thomas, the station’s general manager, who suggested that Douthitt might be wise to pair his media experience with advertising and marketing for a successful career, which is what Douthitt set out to do.

His first foray into advertising was for the station’s first “Pigskin Preview.”

“I sold advertising in all the small communities. That was my first start in any kind of advertising or marketing,” Douthitt said. “That was pretty cool to be part of that magazine.”

Douthitt got his first real break in the business when he landed a job with the

Heartland Park’s diversity of tracks means that throughout the year, visitors may see everything from motorcycle clubs to street racers to high-performance dragsters.
Kansas City media buying firm Light and Associates and it happened because he paid attention to something one of his professors said.

“It was Dr. Z (Thimios Zaharopolis),” Douthitt said. “He was really good with me to say, ‘put together a good portfolio. Make a nice presentation and have it organized, because you never know what questions you’re going to get asked in an interview.’”

The question Douthitt was asked was about strategic marketing. He reached for his portfolio, thumbed to the tab marked “strategic marketing,” and pulled out an award he had won in a strategic marketing competition sponsored by a local bank.

He landed the job.

In the years following, Douthitt worked for prominent Kansas City marketing firms with national accounts. At each step, Douthitt gained more experience and had more responsibility.

He got his first taste of sports marketing at Berstein-Rein when a national construction rental company turned to a NASCAR sponsorship as a way to market themselves in the southeastern U.S.

(continued on pg. 20)
“I was bit by that bug in sports marketing,” Douthitt said. “Because of my background in sports, I kind of thought, ‘If I could take everything I learned about marketing and still be around sports, that’s a pretty cool deal.’”

At MAI Sports, Douthitt managed the NASCAR relationship with Sprint. In addition to working with NASCAR, Douthitt managed sponsorships with the PGA, the 2002 Olympic Games, the Kansas City Royals and Chiefs, and even Broadway in New York.

As he gained experience, Douthitt said he found himself working less on the tactical side of the business and more and more on the strategic and management side of the business.

In 2010, Douthitt was recruited to manage Heartland Park in Topeka. He embraced the new job with his typical energy and his role quickly expanded. Soon, Douthitt was elevated to general manager.

As Heartland Park begins its busy spring 2013 racing season, there is no more enthusiastic cheerleader for the facility.

“Racing is an out-of-body experience,” Douthitt said as he drove the park’s Dodge Charger through the turns on the road course. “All five senses are engaged.”

Heartland Park has three tracks. One is a 2.5-mile, Grand Prix style, road course that can be configured five ways. The park also has a quarter-mile drag strip and a 3/8-mile dirt track.

“What we’re most known for is the drag strip,” Douthitt said. “The most recognized event for the drag strip is the NHRA Kansas Nationals. It’s the top of the line for drag racing. It is a platform to put Kansas on a pedestal. This year is the 25th anniversary for the track and also the 25th anniversary of NHRA being in Topeka.”

Whether it is NHRA Nationals, street-legal drag racing, car clubs racing on the road course or racers kicking up dust on the dirt track, Douthitt is working hard to offer events that are family-friendly and fun.

“We try to do as much as we can to try to get the public on the property so they can experience some of the things out here,” he said.

The result is an enterprise that has a local economic impact of well over $100 million annually.

For 2013, Heartland Park will offer some new events designed to get even more people on the 750-acre property.

Douthitt said his experience reaffirms what he tells his son and what he would tell any student or recent graduate.

“Get that diverse experience or knowledge,” Douthitt said. “Employers are looking for people who are diverse. Experience as much as you can in education.”

For more about Heartland Park: www.hpt.com.

Go down in history as someone who helped build the Pittsburg State University Center for the Arts

Construction is underway but your help is still needed.

Seat plaques are available for gifts at the $500 and $1,000 levels. Show your support of the arts or honor a loved one with a seat plaque.

All gifts will support construction of the facility, including phase two of the project:
- fully equipping the two performance venues
- designing and completing the interiors of the art gallery and rehearsal hall/meeting room

Additional naming opportunities are available. Gifts of all size are welcome.

To see a list of naming opportunities visit: pittstate.edu/centerforarts

To make a gift online visit: www.pittstate.edu/givenow

University Development
620-235-4768 • devel@pittstate.edu
THE FIRST PLACE prospective students and their parents visit when they come to PSU is the Student Welcoming Center, which is now located in the old Horace Mann laboratory school. Today’s visitors are likely not aware of the building’s original purpose, but many former students have fond memories of their days in the school.

Dr. Aldon Bebb, director of the lab school from 1953 until 1962 and director of elementary education until 1973, said students in Horace Mann benefited from being on campus.

“The children attended many types of things that the ordinary public schools couldn’t do,” Bebb said. “Their curriculum was quite improved. We were cited as a very, very good teacher education program.”

Horace Mann was built in 1927 and served as a lab school for grades 1-6 until 1971. It was renovated in 2000 and now houses the offices of Admission, Financial Aid, Housing, Student Diversity and Career Services. A laboratory high school operated in Russ Hall until 1951, when College High was completed. College High is now home to the Kelce College of Business.

Please share your special memories of Horace Mann at psumag@pittstate.edu or by regular mail to: Pittsburg State University 106 Russ Hall 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, KS 66762

Look for your responses in the print or online fall issue of the PittState Magazine.
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For additional information, please contact the University Development Office at devel@pittstate.edu or 888-448-2778.

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PSU Alumni and Constituent Relations

620-235-4758 or 877-PSU-ALUM • www.pittstate.edu/alumni
People on campus have been seeing double this year. Meet the nine sets of twins who are members of the 2012-13 freshman class!
Spring 2013

Dear Pitt State alum:

I’m proud to call Kansas my home, and there’s never been a better opportunity to make our state your home. It’s an ideal place to live, work and raise a family. We have done much to improve the quality of life and expand economic opportunity in Kansas, especially in the rural areas of our great state.

Whether you have recently graduated from college or already have an established family and career, there are two things you should know about Kansas:

1. You can live tax free in our great state.
2. You can pay down your student debt.

Our state has designated 50 counties as Rural Opportunity Zones (ROZ), and you may qualify to take advantage of one or both of these financial incentives.

The first incentive allows out-of-state residents to move to an ROZ county and pay no Kansas state income tax for up to five years. The second incentive allows any out-of-state or current Kansas resident who graduates from an accredited, post-secondary institution to have up to $15,000 in student loans repaid after moving.

Kansas has also eliminated most state income taxes for small businesses—sole proprietorships, LLCs and subchapter S corporations. So, if you’re thinking about starting a small business—or already have one—then establishing or moving a business to a ROZ county offers you an even bigger advantage.

Visit TaxFree.ks.gov to learn more, see detailed profiles of participating counties, and find out about eligibility requirements and the application process.

I would love to welcome you to a Rural Opportunity Zone. Thank you for being a loyal and proud alum of Pittsburg State University!

Sincerely,

Sam Brownback

Sam Brownback
University family remembers Judith Shaw

WHEN WORD was received of Judith Shaw’s death on Dec. 25, 2012, Pittsburg State University’s Facebook page lit up. The long-time history professor’s former students recalled how much they enjoyed her classes, how impressed they were with her knowledge and how well she told stories.

Most comments were similar to this, from former student Ron Rice:

“I have great memories of her classes,” Rice wrote. “I loved how she would come into the room, set her purse and coffee down and then sit on the desk and just start talking. I will miss her, and will try to pass on her style of teaching with my own as I teach in Alaska.”

Cathleen Garrison, remembered that Shaw almost never read from prepared notes.

“From Cleopatra to the British Empire, she told us her stories and we listened like children hearing a great bedtime story,” Garrison wrote.

Shaw joined the PSU faculty in 1959 and over the next half century developed a reputation both as an expert in her field and as a master storyteller. Her area of research included British and French history, local history and women’s history in the 19th and 20th centuries.

A graduate of Western Kentucky State University, Shaw earned a master’s degree from the University of Kentucky and studied at the Sorbonne in Paris as a Fulbright Scholar.

In 2009, at a ceremony honoring her for 50 years of service to PSU, colleague John Daley estimated Shaw had taught more than 10,000 students.

“Some of our current students have grandparents who took courses from Judy and still ask after her,” Daley said.

In February, friends, colleagues, former students and family attended a memorial for Judith Shaw in McCray Hall.

Greeks earn national accolades

TWO PITTS STATE GREEK organizations received top honors in 2012.

The Eta Eta Chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha earned the Crown of Excellence Award, which is the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a chapter. This marked the first time that the Eta Eta Chapter had won the award in its 92-year history.

The Crown of Excellence Award was established in conjunction with the Four-Star Chapter Award to recognize the chapter achieving the highest percentage of requirements toward the Four-Star Chapter Award.

The Four-Star Chapter Award was established in 1985 to recognize annually Alpha Sigma Alpha’s collegiate chapters that uphold the high ideals of the sorority in the areas of membership, academic excellence, finances, membership education, chapter operations, philanthropy, national meetings, ritual, organization image, national bylaws, policies and procedures, advisory board and alumnae involvement.

“Eta Eta is extremely proud and honored to receive this award,” Julia Sammur, chapter president, said. “It was our time to win the award. It was earned by the fantastic leadership and devoted membership of the women who make up Eta Eta Chapter.”

The Zeta Iota Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity earned the Peterson Significant Chapter Award, which is given based on criteria including financial stability, recruitment, chapter and member reputation, and ritual and initiation performance. It was the highest honor a chapter can receive.

“This was a huge honor for our chapter because of where we had come from in the past few years,” Tom Roudebush, chapter president, said. “We had not won a Peterson (award) in nearly 15 years prior to our 2011-2012 award.”

The Zeta Iota Chapter was featured in the Winter 2012 issue of the national Sigma Chi magazine.
“Community involvement and support are required for well planned educational facilities designed to provide the best possible standards. Crossland has experience across the spectrum from K-12 to University Buildings and Campuses. We are proud of our heritage of providing instructional and administrative spaces that support the achievement of curriculum standards and athletic fields that support the health and well being of students.”

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As media around the globe chronicled the fight with al-Qaeda-linked militants in the North African nation of Mali, few watched with more interest than PSU history professor Steve Harmon.

Harmon, an expert on terrorism in North Africa and the Middle East, spent the past fall semester in Mali doing research for a book on unrest in that part of the world.

“Mali is right at the center of what I’m researching,” Harmon said.

Harmon returned to the U.S. on Jan. 1 from a four-month field research trip to Mali, just days before militants launched unexpected attacks on government-controlled cities in southern Mali. France, fearing a collapse of the Malian government, intervened.

Harmon, who has made five trips to Mali over the years, said the past year has been an especially difficult one for the country.

Mali’s weakened democratic government, in power since 1992, fell in early 2012 and a military junta took control. Subsequently, the junta found itself battling groups of radical Islamists who soon controlled the mostly desert northern half of the country.

Harmon said complex power struggles in a land so far away from the U.S. may seem unimportant to Americans worried about the economy and other issues at home. But what happens in Mali, he said, can have a direct impact on the U.S.

“Uncontrolled spaces can become havens for terrorists, where they are free to plan and launch attacks around the world,” Harmon said, noting that the World Trade Center attacks came out of similar uncontrolled spaces in Afghanistan.

Beyond the political implications of the struggle in Mali, Harmon said, there is a human toll the struggle takes. For example, he said, the radicals brought with them a harsh interpretation of Sharia law. Floggings, amputations and executions were carried out for offenses ranging from smoking or listening to the wrong music to infidelity.

Because of his many visits to Mali, Harmon is especially touched by the suffering of its people.

“The people are very welcoming and very kind to foreigners,” Harmon said.

They are 95 percent Muslim, he said, but they are moderate and resentful of the radical actions taken in the north.

“They want what most of us want,” Harmon said, “education for their children, a chance to make a living.”
Carnegie Hall debut

Patrick Howle and Reena Berger Natenberg gave a performance of a lifetime in January. Howle and Natenberg, both members of the faculty in the Department of Music, performed in Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall on Jan. 22.

Both have performed extensively in the U.S. and abroad, but Howle said there is something special about a debut at Carnegie Hall.

“Every performer dreams of performing at Carnegie Hall,” Howle said, “so to make my recital debut there is really the culmination of my work as a solo vocalist.”

Howle, a baritone, teaches voice and opera and directs the PSU Voice and Opera Workshop. Natenberg is an associate professor of piano at PSU and was a recipient of the 2012 Excellence in Teaching Award from PSU’s College of Arts and Sciences.

Simply the best!

Three PSU communication students won national honors in the College Broadcasters, Inc., national broadcasting competition last fall and six made it to the finals.

PSU won national honors in the category “Best Television News Reporting,” for a piece on nursing simulations; in the category “Best Television PSA” for “Sustainability PSA;” and in the category “Best Television Documentary/Public Affairs” for “Behind Enemy Signs.”

“It’s an incredible achievement for our students, and I couldn’t be more proud,” said Troy Comeau, director of broadcasting. “We work diligently to provide a well-rounded curriculum that combines classroom theory with hands-on experience. We think this type of program allows our students to shine and the results really speak for themselves.”

Grant boosts nursing

A major federal grant is helping the Department of Nursing prepare nurses to become Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (APRNs). The department learned in October that it had received a $325,000 federal Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) grant. It is renewable for another $325,000 for the 2013-14 school year, which would bring the total to $650,000.

The grant is designed to increase the number of advanced education nurses who are trained to practice as primary care providers. It also aims to reduce a national shortage of nursing faculty, which prevents nursing schools from educating the number of nurses needed to meet demand.

Mary Carol Pomatto, chairperson of the Department of Nursing, said the grant helps PSU produce needed health care professionals for typically underserved rural communities and also plays a role in the university’s growth.

The grant, written by Cheryl Giefer, a member of the Nursing Department faculty, and Brian Peery, PSU’s grants coordinator, will be used for tuition and books as well as stipends for living expenses.

True inspiration

In December, Chuck Harper (BS, Social Work) walked 56 feet across the stage to pick up his college diploma. His brief walk represented a journey that could not be measured in feet or miles.

At 45, Harper has suffered job loss, worked to prepare for a new career and survived a rare blood disease that nearly took his life. He made the walk across the commencement stage on legs made of titanium and plastic that he was still getting used to.

Because of his illness, Harper had his legs amputated and spent 49 days in the hospital before returning to school to finish his senior year. Throughout the ordeal, Harper received tremendous support from his fellow students and the social work faculty.

Kristen Humphrey, an associate professor in the Department of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences, said Harper’s positive attitude throughout his ordeal was inspirational.

“He has been such an inspiration and role model to his fellow social work students,” Humphrey said.

After graduation, Harper went to work for TFI Family Services, a non-profit agency that provides foster care and adoption services throughout Kansas.

Chuck Harper

Patrick Howle  Reena Berger Natenberg

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Chuck Harper
Students honor nursing department founder

Cecelia Waggoner smiled as 150 nursing students sang “Happy Birthday” to her in recognition of her 100th birthday, which was in January.

“It’s quite an honor,” Waggoner said.

Waggoner’s birthday observance, hosted by the Department of Nursing in February, was a special day not just for Waggoner, but for current nursing students, who got to meet the woman who founded PSU’s BSN program in 1971.

Waggoner retired from PSU in 1979, but has remained active and close to the department.

Art Day draws hundreds

Art Day has a short history on campus, but it has rapidly grown. This past fall, the event, which brings high school students from Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma to PSU to compete in an unusual art challenge, attracted more than 330 enthusiastic young artists.

“The response has been amazing,” said Rhona Shand, PSU Art Department chairperson. “When we started this, we had 40 or 50 students. The growth has been phenomenal.”

Shand said Art Day sends a strong message to students about the role and value of art in today’s society.

“It tells students that the arts are relevant to our communities,” Shand said. “It reminds them how the arts can help develop teamwork skills and critical thinking.”

Pre-med students credit faculty

Why are PSU’s pre-professional programs so successful? Students headed off to medical school say it’s the faculty.

“I really feel free to talk to any of the professors,” said Mitch Ayers, who was accepted into the University of Kansas School of Medicine’s early decision program and begins med school there this summer.

He and classmate Andrea Petersen, who was also accepted into KU’s early decision program, said the faculty made sure they were well prepared not just academically, but also for that all-important interview at KU.

“I had a lot of my teachers do mock interviews with me to prepare for the KU interview,” Petersen said.

Petersen and Ayers said it was also helpful that they had rich, hands-on experiences at PSU.

“I’ve had multiple opportunities to do medical mission trips,” Petersen said.

Ayers said his work with the Pre-Meds of Promise Program was an important part of his resume.

“It (Pre-Meds of Promise) has given me the opportunity to have a lot of patient interaction,” Ayers said. “That’s good, because (the admission committee) likes to know that we understand what we’re getting ourselves into.”

When Ayers and Petersen begin medical school this summer, they’ll be following in the footsteps of many PSU grads.

“Typically, we have about 20 students who apply to professional programs each year,” said Virginia Rider, biology professor and a pre-medical and pre-veterinary adviser. “Our success rate has not wavered substantially.”

In 2012, for example, 17 of the 18 students who applied to medical school were admitted. It’s a record that students note when choosing where to go to college.

“I had heard a lot about the pre-med program at PSU,” Petersen said. “I’ve wanted to be a doctor since second grade, so that was important.”
Officially ‘family-friendly’

Pittsburg State University’s Kelce College of Business came in at number five on the Princeton Review’s 2013 list of the most family-friendly schools in the United States. The list was published in the Review’s 2013 Edition of “The Best 296 Business Schools.”

The top friendly business school on the Review’s list was Brigham Young, followed by Dartmouth, Indiana University-Bloomington, Penn State, Pittsburg State, College of William and Mary, University of Notre Dame, Duke, Cornell and the University of California-Berkeley.

Paul Grimes, dean of the Kelce College of Business, said the Review’s high ranking of the college on its family-friendly list is in line with the university’s overall reputation as a campus that cares about its students.

“The Kelce College of Business’ reputation as a family friendly school is a reflection of the Pittsburg State University character as a whole,” Grimes said. “Led by a dedicated team of faculty who are committed to helping students succeed, the Kelce College of Business is a family within the larger Pitt State family. The student responses bear that out.”

PSU President Steve Scott said the students are a major reason for the college’s success.

“We remind ourselves continually that students and their success are at the heart of everything we do,” Scott said. “That is true in the Kelce College of Business and in every department and college on campus.”

Alumnus still saying “thank you”

A Pittsburg State University graduate made another substantial donation to the scholarship fund he founded to honor one of his favorite professors.

John E. Lowe, former executive vice president with ConocoPhillips and now a senior executive adviser at Tudor, Pickering, Holt and Co., recently donated $150,000 to the Guy Owings Scholarship, which is named for the former PSU accounting professor.

Lowe and his wife Susan, who is also a PSU graduate, founded the scholarship in 2009 with a $100,000 donation to honor Owings, who was instrumental in helping Lowe earn his accounting degree in 1981.

“Guy Owings had a great impact on my life, both in college and in my professional career,” Lowe said. “This is my way of saying ‘thank you’ to him and to PSU, and it’s my way of helping current and future PSU students chase their dreams.”

SIFE changes name

Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) is now ENACTUS, the result of a rebranding effort aimed at highlighting the organization’s focus on entrepreneurial action “as a catalyst to transforming communities and lives.” The name ENACTUS is a combination of the words “entrepreneurial,” “action,” and “us.”

Suzanne Hurt, PSU’s academic advising coordinator and ENACTUS adviser, said the name change should help expand the group’s reach and add more diversity to the membership.

“For some time, SIFE had been known as a club for business majors,” Hurt said. “What we’re hoping to do with ENACTUS is bring more students together because there is a great need for a combination of expertise campuswide.”

Founded in 1975, Students In Free Enterprise had grown to become one of the largest university-based organizations in the world. SIFE teams became active in more than 40 countries on 1,500 campuses with more than 42,000 participating students around the world. There are 50 members in PSU’s group.

Survey says...

Strengthening the retail industry in Pittsburg was the objective of a project conducted by a group of Pittsburg State University graduate students.

PSU’s MBA Association completed a survey of 1,160 PSU students and community members during the fall 2012 semester in an attempt to pinpoint the retail needs and desires of local residents.

“What we were trying to do was figure out what needs to be done to keep local dollars here,” Sonya Bhakta, MBA Association president and the project’s lead investigator, said. “We wanted to know what the people of this community want and need so that they don’t always have to go Joplin or Kansas City to shop.”

The project was conducted in conjunction with the City of Pittsburg and the Pittsburg Area Chamber of Commerce.

“We’ve been talking a lot about going straight to students in our community and asking what we’re missing,” Blake Benson, Chamber president, said. “We want to know what type of items they are leaving the community to buy. As it turns out, the MBA Association was talking about the same thing.”
Like many students studying within the halls of the Pittsburg State Kelce College of Business, Matthew Yoakum has dreams of owning his own business after graduation.

“My dad owns a drilling company,” the Cleveland, Mo., native said, “and I’d like to take over that one day or maybe even start my own.”

Whichever route he takes, Yoakum, who double majors in business management and marketing, won’t be new to the business owner world. He started a lawn and landscaping business while in high school, and he has since created two additional businesses – one that raises money for the fight against testicular cancer and another that deals with buying and repairing used motorbikes.

He credits Pittsburg State’s Kelce College of Business with helping him make each venture a stirring success.

“When I was looking at colleges, I saw that PSU ranked high on the charts for business schools,” he said. “We have a great program here at PSU, and I don’t know where I’d be right now if I had chosen a different school. PSU has taught me a lot about not only methods and theory, but also how to apply those things to the real world. Being here has been of great benefit to my entrepreneurship ambitions.”

“Most people would say that their school couldn’t have been a better choice to look good,” Yoakum said. “But honestly, besides my family and friends, I wouldn’t be at the point I am today if it wasn’t for my education at PSU.”

Education + ambition
3 businesses

Matthew Yoakum

Kelce celebrates 35th!
The Kelce College of Business celebrated its 35th birthday in 2012 with a wide variety of activities designed to engage students, friends and alumni. Events included tailgates at home football and volleyball games, celebratory cookouts and a golf tournament fundraiser in Kansas City.

Fastenal, one of the nation’s leading distributors of construction supplies, presented a $10,000 gift to the Kelce College of Business in January. Left to right: PSU President Steven A. Scott, Fastenal Executive Vice President Ken Nance, Fastenal Regional Vice President Joe Stephens, and Kelce College of Business Dean Paul Grimes.
As a baseball fanatic growing in Marquette, Kan., Jeremy Deckard probably should have become a Kansas City Royals fan. The Royals, however, didn’t have their own television network in 1986.

“You couldn’t find them on TV,” Deckard, a 1999 PSU graduate, said. “If you wanted to watch baseball, it was either the Cubs on WGN or the Braves on TBS.”

His love of all things Chicago Cubs recently led to the publishing of his first book, “Capital City Cubbie: Tales of Travels of a Kansas Cubs Fan.” Deckard, a sports correspondent and blogger for the Topeka Capital-Journal, returned to PSU on Nov. 7 to sell and sign copies of his book, which was released by Topeka-based Hammerville Publications.

“It’s a non-fiction memoir of being a Cubs fan,” Deckard said of the book. “It chronicles the 2012 season, and it has plenty of stats that will appeal to the avid baseball fan.”

A former writer for PSU’s Collegio and The Morning Sun, Deckard graduated from Pittsburg State with a degree in education. He taught and coached for five years at the Washburn Rural School District before working for a few years with state government agencies. In 2011, his love of writing led him to his position with the Capital-Journal.

“Capital City Cubbie” can be purchased at Deckard’s website, www.hammerpub89.com, and $2 from each sale is donated to the Kansas chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

**New hall of famers**

The Kansas Teachers’ Hall of Fame in Dodge City inducted two PSU alumnae last summer. The 2012 honorees included Vicki Lynn O’Neal of Baxter Springs, Kan.; and Brilla Highfill Scott of Lawrence.

O’Neal (MS ’80) has taught second grade at Baxter Springs for 40 years. She has received numerous awards, including PSU’s Clyde U. Phillips Outstanding Educator Award and was a Kansas Teacher of the Year finalist.

Scott (MS ’71) was a teacher at Winfield High School from 1959 through 1966 and at Lawrence High School from 1966 through 1976. From 1976 through 1985, Scott was the principal at West Junior High in Lawrence. She served as the executive director of the United School Administrators in Topeka from 1985 through 2003.
**Quick thinking**

Everyone knows teachers change lives, but sometimes they’re even called to save them.

That was the case for first-year teacher Tracy Naumann (BSED 2011), a third-grade teacher at Rockdale Elementary School in Miami, Okla., last fall.

Naumann’s students, who eat their meals in the classroom, were finishing their meals when one of the boys came running up to her in distress. His face was already purple and it was clear that he had food lodged in his throat.

Naumann had taken a CPR class at PSU and her training immediately kicked in. She performed the Heimlich Maneuver on the youngster, dislodging the food, and he began breathing again.

It wasn’t until later, Naumann said, that the magnitude of what had happened began to sink in.

“My instructor told us you never know when you will need the skills you learn here. How right she was,” Naumann said in an interview published in the local paper.

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**HHPR grant**

The Kansas Health Foundation is helping the Department of Health, Human Performance and Recreation improve health in southeast Kansas.

The foundation has awarded a $25,000 grant to the department in honor of Andy Tompkins, a long-time member of the KHF board of directors and the current CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents. The grant is to be used to support a series of symposiums designed and conducted by HHPR.

Steve Coen, president & CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation, said the KHF awarded the grant in Tompkins’ name as a way to thank him for his service on the board of directors from 2002 until 2012.

Dr. John Oppliger, chairman of the department, said the KHF grant will be used to fund symposiums and workshops that will address obesity, geriatric health and wellness, health and mobility issues of wounded warriors, park and community recreation and leisure activities, and Native American health issues.

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**Kansan of the year**

It’s been more than 20 years since Norm Conard was a student at PSU, but the memories of his time as a Gorilla remain vivid and inspiring.

“Being at Pitt State was a tremendously wonderful experience,” Conard, who in 1992 received a master’s degree in history from PSU, said. “I greatly enjoyed the focus on the positive, the outstanding faculty and all who were involved in the university.”

Conard was named the 2012 Kansan of the Year by the Topeka Capital-Journal. Since 2007, he has served as the director of the Lowell Milken Center in Fort Scott, which focuses on project-based learning and gives students across the country opportunities to work with hands-on history projects.

The Kansan of the Year award is the latest in a long list of accolades for Conard, which includes Teacher of the Year, National Secondary Social Studies Outstanding Teacher and USAToday All-American teacher.

In 1998, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award from PSU.

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**Little school library rescue**

It is not surprising that it was a group of teachers-to-be who came to the rescue of a little school library.

Future Educators of America (FEA) and Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education, solicited donations of books from individuals and groups when they learned that teachers at the SEK Learning Center, a school that helps southeast Kansas students with behavioral problems, were struggling to put together a small library.

Nate Morris, a graduate student in education and president of Kappa Delta Pi, said the idea for the project began with a suggestion from Julie Samuels, associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Leadership, who was aware of the Learning Center’s great need for library resources.

“The students were super excited to help,” said Samuels. “Inspiring a love of reading is one of the most important things teachers can do. I am thrilled our students, who will be teaching in their own classrooms soon, understand that.”

Anyone interested in donating books can do so by calling 620-235-4183.
Company Day networking

Bruce Dallman was smiling a lot on Sept. 19, 2012. Dallman, dean of the Pittsburg State University College of Technology, moved from one table to the next in the Kansas Technology Center, visiting with company representatives who were there to meet students at PSU’s annual Company Day. He liked what he was hearing.

“There is definitely a more positive attitude this year,” Dallman said, referring to the way the recession affected Company Day the past few years.

He noted that even through the lowest points of the recent recession, placement rates for College of Technology graduates remained at nearly 100 percent. The recession, however, cooled the spirited competition for new technology grads that existed before 2008.

“A number of these companies are again competing for graduates,” Dallman said. “We’re seeing more of our graduates selecting from multiple offers.”

Company Day began initially as a showcase for construction companies. It soon expanded to include engineering technology, automotive and diesel/heavy equipment, graphics and imaging technologies, electrical technology and wood technology.

Scholarship recipients

Three Pittsburg State University students have been awarded national scholarships from the Foundry Educational Foundation.

The scholarships were awarded at the FEF’s College Industry Conference, on Nov. 15 and 16 in Chicago.

Shawn Moody, a senior manufacturing major from Coffeyville, earned the Carl Loper Award, a $4,000 scholarship that is the highest awarded at the CIC. Established in 2006, this fund honors Dr. Carl R. Loper, Jr. who served as an FEF key professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for more than 30 years.

Steven Brown, a mechanical major from Kansas City, earned the Glenn Birtwistle Memorial Scholarship. This $2,000 scholarship was established in 1984 in memory of Ron and Glenn Birtwistle by their father, Don Birtwistle. Don is a former FEF Board member and President Lifetime Patron. He was one of the founders of Great Lakes Castings Corporation, and after 47 years, retired in 1992.

Brennon Holenda, a mechanical and manufacturing major from Chillicothe, Mo., earned the $2,000 Keith Millis Memorial Scholarship, which is named for the inventor of ductile iron and founded of the Ductile Iron Society.

$100,000 worth of CATs

In 2012, the Kansas Technology Center received three Caterpillar simulators, which helps train students to operate heavy equipment.

The simulators, which cost $100,000, help the students become acclimated to the type of machinery they will operate, manage and inspect when they join the workforce.

“These simulators allow us to take real jobsite applications that involve heavy equipment and bring them into the classroom,” said PSU construction instructor Paul Zerkel said.

School of Construction Chairman Jim Otter said the simulators serve as a complement to classroom instruction.

“We’re trying to set up more simulation laboratories, which industry is telling us is a strong trend these days,” Otter said.

The simulators were featured at Company Day 2012, where more than 120 companies from around the world networked with PSU students.
**Professor elected to national board**

Pittsburg State University Professor Russ Rosmait has been elected to serve a two-year term on the national board of directors of The Investment Casting Institute. Rosmait, a professor in engineering technology, is the first person from academia to be elected to the ICI board in the institute’s nearly 60-year history.

The ICI is a nonprofit corporation that exists to promote quality standards, collect and disseminate information about the investment casting industry and provide industry education opportunities to its members.

Rosmait has been the Foundry Educational Foundation (FEF) key professor at PSU for the past 25 years. He is the faculty adviser for the American Foundry Society (AFS) student chapter at PSU and is active with the AFS Tri-State, Mo-Kan and Plains States chapters.

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**Fundraising milestone**

The PSU Construction Alumni Association reached a milestone in 2012 when its fundraising surpassed $500,000.

The group, formed by four PSU alums, has raised $524,000. More than $334,000 has been awarded as scholarships to PSU students majoring or minoring in construction. The remaining funds are kept in an endowment. The group raised more than $54,000 in 2012. Of that, more than $34,000 was awarded as scholarships.

“This is a big milestone for us,” Jim Otter, chairman of PSU’s School of Construction and a founding member of the PSUCAA, said. “Now it’s time to aim for the million-dollar mark.”

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**Top honors in Brazil**

A Wisconsin automotive technology student trained by Pittsburg State faculty received top honors at the WorldSkills America competition in Brazil. The WorldSkills Americas contest took place in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and featured 24 North and South American countries competing in 34 skill areas.

Kieron Kohlman, an automotive engineering technology major at Ferris State University, earned a gold medal in the automotive technology skill area. He also earned the highest score of an U.S. competitor and received the “Best in Nation” trophy.

Kohlman was coached by PSU automotive technology instructor Mike Elder, who recently succeeded PSU’s Ron Downing as the WorldSkills Automotive Technology Expert. Kohlman trained for four days this summer with Elder, Downing and assistant professor Scott Norman, who is the U.S. Technical Delegate for WorldSkills. Elder and Norman traveled to Brazil for the competition, which took place Nov. 11 to 18.

Next up for the WorldSkills team is the WorldSkills International competition in Leipzig, Germany, in July 2013. That event will feature competitors from more than 60 countries.

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**GIT class project turns into dream job**

What began as a class project quickly became a dream come true for two Pittsburg State University students.

Seniors Blake Broaddus and Devin Greenwood, both of Diamond, Mo., and co-owners of Antler Shed Media, were hired as executive field producers for a new reality show. Quest TV, to air in the Midwest and nationally in Canada, highlights the ups and downs of life and business in the outdoors.

While at PSU, Broaddus and Greenwood launched Antler Shed Media, which provides photography, videography and design services for a variety of occasions. “It started as a class project,” Broaddus said. “I had a graphics background, and Devin had photography. We had class together and decided to team up.”

Quest TV will feature a variety of episodes highlighting the life of an outdoorsman. “It’s about more than hunting,” Broaddus said. “It’s going to show how outfits run. It’ll highlight how hunts are scheduled, what guides do on those hunts and pretty much everything that goes into a hunting expedition.”

Blake Broaddus, left, and Devin Greenwood
Athletes give back

John Brown and junior linebacker Nate Dreiling both garnered All-America honors on the Daktronics/Division II All-America Team.

“Daktronics/Division II All-America Team Second Team: John Brown (Jr.), Nate Dreiling (Jr.)”

For a full listing of Fall 2012 honors visit magazine.pittstate.edu

Making the grade

It’s easy for Gorilla fans to recognize the success of student-athletes on the playing field and court. But fans rarely get a chance to know when that same success occurs in the classroom.

This won’t be the case any longer thanks to a partnership between the provost’s office and university athletics. It’s called the Provost’s Award for Academic Excellence and it’s designed to recognize student-athletes who excel in the classroom.

“These truly are the best of the best in the classroom,” said PSU Provost Lynette Olson. “We wanted to create a program to celebrate academic achievement and help motivate others to perform at a high level. I’m very proud of these students.”

To be eligible for the award, student-athletes must have completed 30 semester hours toward their degree during the previous spring, summer and fall semesters while maintaining a cumulative grade-point-average of 3.5 or higher.

A total of 46 students earned the award this year. They were honored at a halftime ceremony during PSU basketball’s doubleheader on February 16 and at a dinner that included their parents, academic advisors and deans.

For a list of recipients, please visit pittstategorillas.com.

As a Pitt State student-athlete, life isn’t always about the performance on game day. Part of being a student-athlete in Division II is the commitment to the community. The Gorillas showed their community support over the past year with many new outreach activities.

Led by SAAC, student-athlete advisory committee, PSU athletes organized two large events as a way to give back.

“Being able to give back to the community is a very special opportunity,” said Jacob Stevenson, a sophomore on the baseball team from Carl Junction, Mo. “When you can help those in need, it really humbles you.”

On a Thursday night in November, John Lance Arena played host to the first annual “Gorillas Got Talent” Make-A-Wish event. “Make-A-Wish is a charity that the NCAA focuses on as a primary fund raiser across its three divisions,” said director of marketing and community engagement Emily Moses. “Every year the student-athletes develop several different events to raise money for Make-A-Wish. Like past years, stars were sold before each home basketball game for the Wish Wall, but this new event was a huge money maker on top of the other efforts.”

The “Gorillas Got Talent” student-athlete talent show featured athletes from nearly every sport with a special talent to show off for the night.

Local celebrities were in attendance as judges to help rank the talents.

Baseball proved to have the best set of skills on that night with a hip hop dance performance that had the crowd on their feet. The event raised $650 for the Make-A-Wish foundation.

Another service project the Pitt State student-athletes set their sights on in December was a “Kids Night In with the Gorillas.” With more than 80 student-athletes on hand, local kids came out to the Weede to have a night of games and activities with their favorite Gorillas.

“The athletic department did a great job setting these events up,” said Stevenson. “It was a blast being a part of them and I am looking forward to more of them in the future.”

Kids had the chance to write letters to Santa, play games like Bingo and Twister, and show their skills in games of basketball and football with the Gorillas. The night was a great success, raising more than $500 for Pittsburg CHOICES Emergency Shelter.
Pittsburg State University’s student-athletes and fans have a new court to enjoy thanks to the support of two of its loyal alumni, Alan and Roberta Whetzel.

Alan (‘60 BS) and Roberta (‘59 BS) provided the leadership gift that has allowed university officials to begin renovating John Lance Arena. The renovations include a new 31,000-square-foot maple hardwood playing surface that encompasses the main court and two practice courts, along with new seating on the lower level. Future renovations will include the construction of new office space and multi-purpose rooms on the mezzanine level. This will include space for pre-game receptions beginning with the 2013-14 season and production space for CAPS-TV.

In honor of their contributions, university officials held a ceremony on January 5, 2013, to dedicate the Gorillas’ basketball and volleyball playing court as “Whetzel Court.”

“What they made possible with phase one of our construction project will ultimately end up being a multi-million dollar project that will touch every athletic facility on this campus in some way,” said Jim Johnson, director of intercollegiate athletics. The Whetzes, who first met on PSU’s campus more than 50 years ago, say they wanted to give back to the academic and athletic programs that mean so much to them.

“We wanted to honor the past, celebrate today and invest in the future,” said Roberta Whetzel. “This project has done all of those things.”

Members of the men’s and women’s basketball teams present Alan and Roberta Whetzel with a gift of appreciation at the dedication ceremony.

Cross Country
The Pitt State women’s cross country team raced to a 24th place finish among the 32-team field at the 2012 NCAA Division II National Championships in November.

The Gorillas, making their third straight appearance at the national championships, posted a 544-point team score in the six-kilometer race at the Missouri Southern State University Cross Country Course.

Senior Kaley Temaat finished in the 73rd scored position in the race, crossing the finish line in 22 minutes, 5.9 seconds. Sophomore Alex Moase finished second on the squad in 91st scored position in 22:26.6. Sophomore Bridgette McCormick (112th, 22:40.1), sophomore Cate Dunn (120th, 22:43.9) and junior Casey Epps (148th, 22:58.0) rounded out the Gorillas top five performers.

New turf
PSU President Steve Scott honored C.L. (left) and Caleb Farabi (center) during a fall football game for their leadership and support of the university’s turf replacement project at Carnie Smith Stadium. The new turf helps ensure that the Gorillas will continue to offer players and fans one of the best stadium environments in the nation.
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Athletics

Lessons in teamwork

Team sports are about more than just wearing the same uniform. They’re about teamwork and communication. They’re about trust.

Pittsburg State student-athletes are taught this lesson every day during classes, at practice and during games. During a recent outing with PSU’s ROTC, the Gorillas experienced that lesson in a whole new way.

Members of the track and field, softball and men’s basketball teams went through a variety of team-building activities using the ROTC ropes course and rappel tower.

The softball and track student-athletes participated in the ropes course, which featured a variety of mental and physical drills that promoted communication, teamwork and problem-solving.

“These activities allowed us to problem solve and work as a team on an activity that was new to everyone,” softball coach Elizabeth Economon said. “ROTC is a great program. We are lucky to have them on campus with us and having worked with them will help make us a better team.”

The men’s basketball team took on the rappel tower, which requires communication and trust to conquer.

“The experience was beneficial to our team in many ways,” said head men’s basketball coach Kevin Muff. “It gave us an opportunity to work together to participate in an activity that was out of our comfort zone. It encouraged our guys to work together as a team and to encourage each other, especially those with apprehension to rappel. We also learned to trust each other and the importance of working together and following instructions to accomplish a goal.”
Pittsburg State University honored three alumni with its 2012 Kenneth K. Bateman Outstanding Alumni Awards during Homecoming activities.

The recipients were selected based on their professional achievements and community and organizational involvement.

This year’s recipients are: Andy Carson, weatherman on KPTV’s “Good Day Oregon,” the top rated morning show in Oregon; Bethene Fahnestock, vice president for academic affairs at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College; and Matt Kaminsky, a partner in and COO of ACI Concrete Placement in Spring Hill, Kan.

**Bethene Fahnestock**

Bethene Fahnestock is vice president for academic affairs at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, Okla. At NEO, Fahnestock is responsible for academic programming and institutional accreditation. She oversees assessment activities, develops new programs and works with area schools to develop partnerships for strengthening academic performance of students.

Fahnestock received her diploma in nursing from Research Medical Center School of Nursing in Kansas City, Mo.; a bachelor of science (1990) degree in nursing from PSU, a master of science degree in nursing from the University of Kansas Medical Center; and her doctor of philosophy in education from Oklahoma State University.

Fahnestock began her professional career as a registered nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Okla. She then practiced at Baptist Regional Health Center in Miami for 12 years, serving in various roles including staff nurse, charge nurse, head nurse, nursing supervisor and nurse educator.

For the past 22 years, Fahnestock has served on the NEO staff, beginning as a nursing faculty member. She has served as chairperson and director of the Health Science Division, director of institutional research, dean for human environmental sciences, and assistant vice president for academic affairs.

Fahnestock lives in Miami, Okla.

**Matt Kaminsky**

Matt Kaminsky is a partner in and COO of ACI Concrete Placement, which has its headquarters in Spring Hill, Kan. ACI Concrete Placement specializes in delivering concrete pumping solutions “that work.” ACI, founded in 2007, has additional locations in Wichita, Kan., and Columbia and Springfield, Mo.

Kaminsky’s role at ACI is to provide executive management and oversight at all of the company’s locations. He oversees bidding of large projects and guides the company’s future.

Prior to joining ACI, Kaminsky was a partner and a producer for the Thomas McGee Insurance Agency.

Kaminsky serves as the secretary for the American Concrete Pumping Association and sits on the board of the Concrete Promotion Group. He is also a board member on the PSU Construction Leadership Council.

Kaminsky earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration from PSU in 1990. He and his wife, Rochelle, live in Olathe, Kan. They have three children.

**Andy Carson**

Andy Carson is the weatherman on “Good Day Oregon,” the top rated morning show in Oregon. A four-and-one-half-hour live show, “Good Day Oregon” airs on KPTV, Fox 12, in Portland. Carson is also the co-host of “More,” a lifestyles show that airs on that same station.

Carson earned a bachelor of arts degree from PSU in 1992.

As a student, Carson did an internship for “Late Night with David Letterman” and then landed a job as weekend weathercaster at KOAM. After graduation, he joined best friend and fellow alumnus Toby Cook to start KOAM “1st News.”

In 1995, Carson went to Lynchburg, Va., to join a morning show called “Good Morning Virginia.” A year later he moved to Portland, Ore., to join “Good Day Oregon.”

An avid runner, Carson has run three marathons and numerous shorter races and celebrated his 40th birthday by running 40 miles. He and his wife, Denise, have three children.
A great day for Family Day!

Family Day at PSU last fall was not limited to a great football game day experience. From game night at the library to children’s activities on the Oval, there was something for everyone! Pictured right: The family of Tom and Bev Berberich of Olathe, Kan., was named the 2012 Honorary Family during Family Day festivities at the PSU vs. Lincoln football game. The family was nominated by their daughters Jaimie, a junior nursing major, and Jessica, a senior education major.
Class of 1961

Elidon Danenhauer (BSED, ‘61) was among the 2013 inductees into the Topeka Business Hall of Fame. A former pro football player for the Denver Broncos, he also owned Lapeka distributorship. He played football for PSU.

Class of 1980

DeAnn Hill (BBA) a Baxter Springs CPA, was appointed to the Kansas Governor’s School Efficiency Task Force to examine education spending. She has operated her own family public accounting business in Baxter for more than 30 years.

Class of 1982

Jackie Hall (BS ’82, MS ’89) celebrated 30 years as volleyball and track coach at Uniontown High School. She was first hired at Uniontown as a high school physical education coach. She also coached girls basketball for eight years.

Class of 1983

Mark Watkins (BBA ’83, MBA ’99) was named Dean of Instruction at Labette Community College. He began his role on Aug. 1. Prior to accepting the position, he was a business instructor at Neosho County Community College in Chanute.

Class of 1991

Tim Hallacy (BS, School Admin.) was hired as superintendent at Silver Lake School District. He taught at Silver Lake from 1992 to 1999 before moving to administration as assistant principal at Northern Hills Junior High School. In 2006, he became principal at Shawnee Heights Middle School.

Class of 1993

Jeff Martin (BS, ‘93) was named vice president of regulatory affairs of Westar Energy in February 2013. He had previously served as executive director of regulatory affairs since March 2012. He has responsibility for all regulatory matters of the company.

Class of 1994

Clayton Tatro (BS, ’94, MS, ’95) was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Kansas Leadership Center, a leadership development organization in Wichita. Tatro is the president of Fort Scott Community College.

Class of 1995

Jean Gillogy McCall (MS ’95) was selected to be honored on the Ottawa High School Wall of Honor. McCally died in 2011, but was nominated posthumously by her sorority, Beta Sigma Phi. She received her doctorate of education from the University of Kansas.

Class of 1998

Sara Moore (BA,’98) was named Chief Marketing Officer for All Star Vacation Homes. She has led All Star’s marketing efforts for the past nine years. She also supports industry promotion and awareness by representing All Star on local, state and national tourism committees.

Class of 2000

Misti Mustain (BS ’00, MS ’02) was named director of specialty services at the Labette Center for Mental Health Services. Mustain joins Dr. Mark Haslett, Sandra Dickerson and Shereen Ellis in directing the daily operations of the programs.

Class of 2002

Shelly Hunter (MBA) was named one of the 15 most influential women of 2012 by the Joplin Tri-State Business

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Watch for announcements soon about exciting 2014 special travel opportunities! Special “personally escorted” FEATURE TOURS travel experiences will once again be featured. Also, “on your own” AS YOU LIKE IT travel savings will also be available. Inquire.

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Journal. Hunter is a lifelong Joplin resident. She has served as a board president for both Joplin NALA Read and Show Me Missouri Chapter of Healthcare Financial Managers.

Class of 2007
Ginger Niemann (BS ’07) joined the staff of U.S. Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins as a legislative aide. Niemann covers military, agriculture, veterans, postal and welfare issues for Rep. Jenkins’s office. Niemann served two terms as student body president at PSU.

Marla Starling (BS ’07, MS ’11) was named the 2012 affiliate winner of the Outstanding New Career and Technical Teacher Award from the Kansas Association for Career and Technical Education. Sterling is a 7th-12th grade Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Cherryvale Middle/High School.

Mark your calendar!

PSU Class of 1963
Half Century Reunion
May 9-10, 2013

• Reconnect with your classmates
• Induction into the Half Century Club
• March at Commencement
• Plus many more activities

For more information or to join the planning committee:
PSU Office of Alumni & Constituent Relations
620-235-4758 or 877-PSU-ALUM
www.pittstate.edu/alumni

Over the past 14 years, 1,000 students have received more than $250,000 in scholarships through the Alumni Legacy License Plate Scholarship Program. In 2012, 126 freshmen with a 3.0 GPA or 21 ACT score and a parent that’s a PSU alum received the scholarships. These scholarships are made possible by the annual royalty fees collected through the Gorilla License Plate Program.
Family matters...

Via Christi Hospital in Pittsburg has been serving southeast Kansas for more than 100 years. We offer a full line of services including the **Via Christi Heart Center**, the **Via Christi Cancer Center** that’s accredited by the American College of Surgeons, a **Level III Trauma Center**, an **Outpatient Therapy Center** and the **Via Christi Sleep Lab**, accredited by the American Academy of Sleep Medicine.
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.

Lillian Schmidt, 1934, Wichita, Kan.
Willella L. (Young) Shanks, 1937, Monett, Mo.
Alta V. (Bowen) Mitchell, 1938, Marion, Kan.
Hazel Irene (Cox) Howarter, 1939, Escondido, Calif.
Rose C. (Dreher) Drake, 1940, Sherman Oaks, Calif.
Howard D. Woodworth, 1942, Front Royal, Va.
Richard G. Alsup, 1942, Vienna, W.V.
Pearl F. Rice, Hayes, 1943, Denver, Colo.
Mac E. McClarrinon, 1943, Frontenac, Kan.
Byron “Buck” Reardon, 1943, Liberty, Kan.
Charles L. Souder, 1944, Joplin, Mo.
Margaret E. (Jones) Lokken, 1944, Columbus, Kan.
Doris (Gant) Tracy, 1944, Pittsburg, Kan.
George C. Brown, 1945, Carbondale, Ill.
Edward M. Gorence, 1945, Midland, Texas
Dorothy N. (Brock) Hudson, 1945, Oak Harbor, Wash.
Mary (Golden) Cook, 1945, Fort Scott, Kan.
Edward E. Fields, 1947, Kansas City, Mo.
Buck M. Balzer, 1948, Buhler, Kan.
Vern C. Pelphey, 1948, Walnut Creek, Calif.
Glen E. Howerton, 1949, Greenville, S.C.
Bill Conrad, 1950, Palisade, Colo.
Fred L. Stumbo, 1951, Lawrence, Kan.
Paul B. Williams, 1951, Parsons, Kan.
Thomas Arthur Lester, 1952, Grove, Okla.
Donald E. Childress, 1952, Smithville, Mo.
John D. Corpolongo, 1952, Gallup, Minn.
Emma Jean (Payne) Dozier, 1953, Kansas City, Mo.
Ralph L. Costley, 1953, Shreveport, La.
Donald E. McWhirt, 1954, Dodge City, Kan.
Opal M. (Dixon) Rigg, 1955, Parsons, Kan.
Martin Pinnell, 1955, Diamond, Mo.
Gene R. Siefert, 1955, Kansas City, Mo.
Jack T. Holden, 1955, McKinney, Texas
Barbara F. Lockhart, 1955, Joplin, Mo.
Edna P. Rommer-Mouser, 1955, Houston, Texas
Wallace H. Schwartz, 1955, Kansas City, Mo.
David N. Sorem, 1955, Corvallis, Ore.
Frank A. Miller, 1955, Sedan, Kan.
Kenneth E. Worthington, 1957, Lexington, Mo.
William A. Nickell, 1957, Belton, Mo.
Wayne L. McChesney, 1957, Fayetteville, Ark.
Berniece “Bea” (Hardeman) Pender, 1958, Overland Park, Kan.
Elizabeth (Shelton) Ross, 1958, La Cygne, Kan.
Louis H. Flowers, 1958, Satellite Beach, Fla.
Ronald E. Howard, 1958, Lee’s Summit, Mo.
Pat R. Thomason, 1958, San Antonio, Texas
Ronald D. Medley, 1958, Gainesville, Texas
King W. Hyde, 1959, Odessa, Texas
Harold L. Thompson, 1960, Joplin, Mo.
Jerry Barnett Stark, 1961, Carl Junction, Mo.
Julia A. (Coop) Leaman, 1961, South Coffeyville, Okla.
Dale E. Adell, 1961, Dubois, Wyo.
Wayne K. Stuckey, 1962, Menifield, Calif.
Donald J. Strah, 1962, Midland, Texas
Robert E. Beckwith, 1964, Cedar Park, Texas
Dora (Carver) Crites, 1964, Joplin, Mo.
Frank A. Matteucci, 1964, Villages, Fla.
Gary V. Richardson, 1964, Lenexa, Kan.
Keith E. Weide, 1965, Omaha, Neb.
Bobbie Z. (Richardson) Short, 1966, Joplin, Mo.
Betty D. Fields, 1968, Miami, Okla.
Sherry Francis, 1968, Neosha, Mo.
Larry S. Krull, 1968, Rochester, Minn.
Barbara J. (Hodderread) Smith, 1968, Newton, Kan.
Elizabeth M. (Kovacic) Hewett, 1969
Dennis W. Worsley, 1969, Bronaugh, Mo.
Peter J. Martin, 1970, Boerne, Texas
Rita Westervelt, 1970, Columbus, Kan.
James R. Richards, 1972, Columbus, Kan.
Steven K. White, 1972, Thayer, Kan.
Earl L. Atkinson, 1973, Dayton, Texas
George A. Trout, 1973, Liberal, Mo.
Lee Dawson, Jr., 1973, Tulsa, Okla.
Kathleen “Katie” Rose (Aaron) Yoakam, 1974, Leavenworth, Kan.
Gordon E. Huggins, 1975, Parsons, Kan.
continued
David J. Mirostaw, 1975, Steamboat Springs, Colo.
Nora J. (Doubek) Shorock, 1975, Great Bend, Kan.
Daniel H. Bryant, 1976, Dallas, Texas
Daniel H. Bryant, 1976, Dallas, Texas
Micheal W. Fredericksen, 1977, Granite Bay, Calif.
William A. Olson, 1977, Fort Wayne, Ind.
James J. Williams, 1977, Hattiesburg, Miss.
Glenda Louise (Williams) Bachman, 1977, Miami, Okla.
Mary Katherine Nutter, 1984, Basehor, Kan.
Hazel Irene Schoemaker, 1984, Basehor, Kan.
Joyce A. (Cash) Wren, 1990, King, N.C.

Charles G. Bollinger, Jr., 1993, Conroe, Texas
Daniel E. Parker, 1994, Kansas City, Mo.
Alex Gabe Nichols, 1994, Baxter Springs, Kan.
Randall W. Cooper, 1999, Clarksville, Tenn.
Dana I. (Ison) Thompson, 2001, Lamar, Mo.
Sarah (Coleman) Burkeybile, 2011, Galena, Kan.
Caleb Clark Barnwell, 2012, Jay, Okla.

Class year not provided:
Lawrence “Butch” Harris, Chanute, Kan.
John L. Gaddy Sr., Pittsburg, Kansas.
Hazel Irene Schoemaker, Fort Scott, Kan.
Thelma How, Baxter Springs, Kan.
Jay Carnes, Carthage, Mo.
Dwight A. Lollar, Mulvane, Kan.

Submit class notes information online: psumag@pittstate.edu

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It’s all about giving back...

WHEN PAUL AND GENEVA SCHLEICHER made their estate plans, they knew they wanted to include Pittsburg State University because it had played such an important role in the success and happiness in their lives.

Geneva grew up in Pittsburg, and Paul came to PSU from Kansas City to play football.

“The coach at my high school, Lon Farrell, took me to PSU and I met Carnie and Cora Smith,” Paul said. “Carnie was such a fatherly figure. I lost my dad when I was a freshman and Carnie kind of took me over.”

Paul was a record-setting running back on the 1957 national championship team and also met his future bride at PSU.

The Schleichers married in college and lived in the Quonset huts east of present-day Axe Library. When Paul & Geneva were expecting twins, Paul considered quitting school to provide for their young family, but their Pitt State family rallied around them and Paul was able to finish his degree in business administration and continue his football career as a Gorilla.

Today, the Schleichers live in Overland Park, Kan. They have three grown daughters and are proud that two granddaughters have also chosen PSU. By including PSU in their estate planning, they hope to provide the opportunities they had at PSU to others. Those plans include two endowments, a nursing scholarship and a scholarship for football student athletes.

“We know students at PSU still need help with the cost of finishing college and we want to do our part to provide them with the help we were fortunate enough to receive,” the Schleichers said.

Paul & Geneva would like to encourage others to consider PSU when making beneficiary designations in their estate plans. “We feel great about this opportunity to give back,” Paul said.

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

Attend a Gorilla Gathering in your area or an event on campus!

2013

April 25 ...... Kansas City Networking Lunch .............. Overland Park, Kan.
April 27 ...... Kansas City Area Family Day .......... Overland Park, Kan.
May 18 ...... South Central Kansas Gorilla Gathering .......... Sedgwick County Zoo, Wichita, Kan.
June 7 ...... Springfield Cardinals Game .......... Springfield, Mo.
June 22 ...... Kansas City T-Bones Game .......... Kansas City, Kan.
June 28 ...... Arkansas Naturals Game .......... Springdale, Ark.
July 9 ...... South Central Kansas Gorilla Gathering Lunch .......... Wichita, Kan.
July 25 ...... Kansas City Gorilla Gathering Lunch .......... Kansas City, Mo.

Where in the U.S. is GUS going next?

YOU decide where the next Gorilla Gathering is going to be!
All are invited! Vote for the city of your choice and look forward to a PSU Gorilla celebration!
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you choose the city!
Details and voting information online at pittstate.edu/alumni

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