



TIGER NATION NEWS

Jameson to Continue Football Career at WTAMU, Canyon By Matt Gonzales

On February 3rd senior Jameson Jackson signed with West Texas A&M University and received a scholarship to play football. He will be joining the Buffaloes as a defensive end.

Jameson has visited the campus and met the coaches at West Texas and is very excited to return.

"I felt welcomed and at home," he said "The defensive line coach, Coach Watson, waited three hours during a basketball practice just to talk to me after."

Jameson has been a part of the Slaton athletic program since his freshman year. He has received coaching from head football coach, Sam Robinson, all four years.

"Jameson stuck with it, and to see it paying off makes me super proud of him." Coach Robinson said.

Jameson will go to WTAMU in the upcoming fall semester of this year. He will be majoring



in accounting and is well known for not only being an all-around athlete but also a student who takes his academics very seriously.

"His academic record is so good it did not surprise me at all" Coach Robinson said.

Jameson is taking several college courses and will graduate with a total of 23 hours to-

wards his degree.

For the past 4 years Jameson has been a huge factor to the success of the athletics program and will be missed by his coaches and fellow teammates.

"We don't know who it is yet but someone has to step up and fill Jameson's position," Robinson said. "A couple of years ago when former Tiger, Tyree Williams, graduated us coaches sat and tried to figure out who was going to fill his shoes. And in comes Jameson."



Head football coach, Sam Robinson, addresses the crowd as Jameson prepares to sign a scholarship and letter of intent to play football at WTAMU in Canyon beginning this fall..

Making History

Cheer Squad Places in Inaugural State UIL Spirit Competition by Lisa Mosley

Sixteen members of the SHS Cheer Squad competed on January 7th in Arlington for the first ever UIL State of Texas Spirit Championships where they placed 5th in the Small School Coed Division. There were three areas of competition: Band Dance, Fight Song, and

Crowd-Leading Cheer.

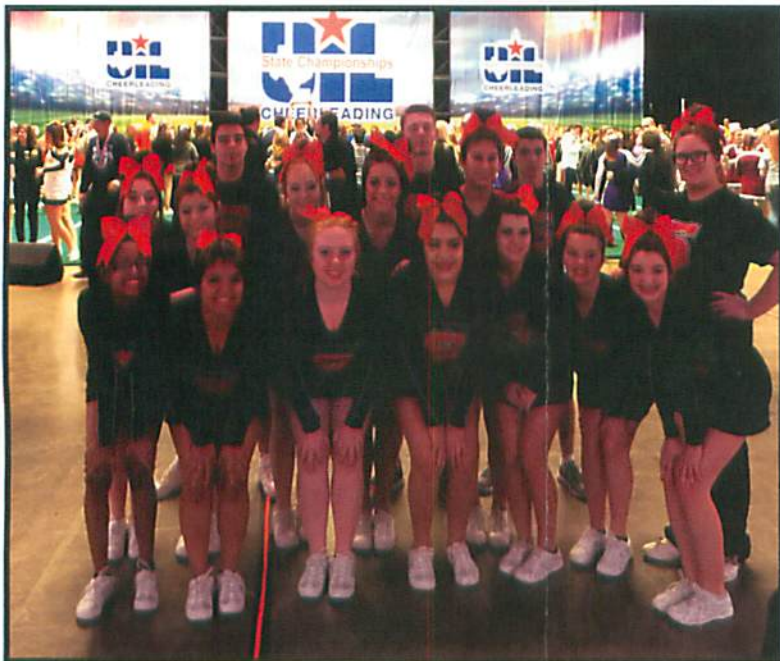
The squad advanced to the finals where the combined routine was performed.

"When the squad hit the mat for the finals and performed an energy-filled routine, it left Coach James Villanueva and I in

tears," said Cheer Squad coach Heather Sherrill.

Members of the squad competing were seniors Sydney Bateman, Leslie Escobar, Arianna Rodriguez, Braxton Creager, Josh Speed, and Gavin Schniers; juniors Brooke Richardson and Karlie Steffens; sophomores Malory Cofield, Charity Phillips, Marisol Guerra and Samantha Valdez; freshmen Alexis Rodgers, Kara Bond, Grace Parker and junior mascot Tuffy the Tiger, Brittany Silvers.

Congratulations to the cheer squad and coaches for representing Slaton High School and finishing 5th in the state in this history-making event.



Project Celebration by Sebastian Rodriguez

On January 21st, senior parents had a meeting in the library to discuss ideas concerning Project Celebration activities and ways to raise money to help make the Seniors' graduation celebration memorable.

There will be three fundraisers to help with Project Celebration.

The first will be a lock-in at the high school on March 11. Details will follow.

The second fundraiser will be a Parent's Night Out on April 9. Seniors will babysit for parents that evening and a movie /popcorn/drink will be provided for those

attending. Cost is \$15 for the first child and \$5 for other siblings.

On April 24, a kickball tournament will be held. Cost will be \$100 per team (\$10 per person) and the team MUST be made up of one-half girls and one-half boys.

The seniors will be given a survey soon to see what activities they would like to have during Project Celebration.

"The reason why Project Celebration is so important is because it gives the Seniors one last chance to hang out with their classmates in a fun,

safe, and drug-free environment," senior parent Sonya Smith said. "It also gives the underclassmen an opportunity to do the same and gives them something to look forward to."

If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Carla Rodriguez, Jeanne Terry or Keith Creager.



Josten Senior Ring Ceremony



Focus on



Student work exhibited at Malouf Abraham Gallery

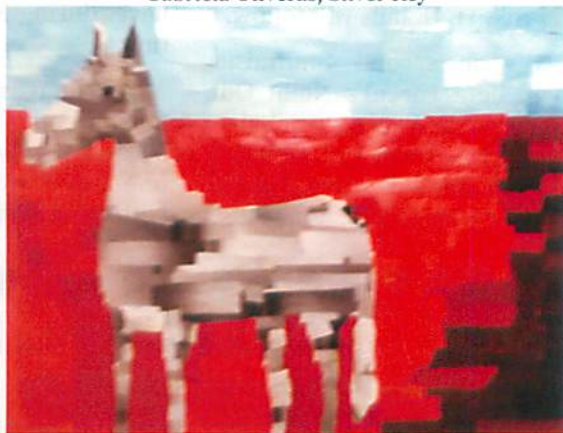
Art students under the instruction of Brittany Wright, Art 3/4 teacher, recently entered the West Texas Regional Scholastic Art Awards. These works were selected from over 1000 entries and hung in the Malouf Abraham Gallery on the Wayland campus as a part of the exhibit.

Gabriela Olivares received a Silver Key. Receiving Honorable Mention Awards were Valerie Castillo (2), Vivien Gutierrez, Gabriel Olivares, Cristina Rangel and Jacob Terry.

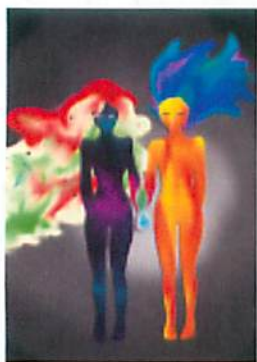
"These students who participated in Scholastic are a group of young artists that Slaton High School will miss," Mrs. Wright said. "These seniors have shown true dedication in art and I am proud they have been honored at this event."



Gabriela Oliveras, Silver Key



Jacob Terry, Honorable Mention



Top: Valerie Castillo (2 HM) Bottom L to R: Cristina Rangel (HM), Gabriel Olivares (HM), Vivien Gutierrez

IN THE TRENCHES



Stephanie Barrett is a veteran teacher joining the SHS staff.

She received her Bachelor Degree in Secondary Education from ENMU and her Master Degree in School Counseling at WTAMU. She is currently teaching Precal-

culus, College Prep and Math Models.

Mrs. Barrett was inspired to teach because of two very inspirational teachers in high school.

"They pushed me to do well in school and in life," Barrett said.

"Mrs. Betty Jennings taught me math and helped develop my love of the subject. Mrs. Lucy Smith was my business teacher

and she taught me to be a strong woman."

Outside of school, she loves to be with her family including three granddaughters, and she loves to travel in her RV with her husband.

If she was not a teacher, she would want to be a nurse.

"Medicine fascinates me and I enjoy helping others."

Kelly Waggoner who spent ten years teaching in Lubbock Cooper



ISD and one year at the Richard Milburn academy is enjoying her time as a first-year member of the SHS faculty.

You will find her teaching Specialized Support in Geometry/Math Models, and as an inclusion teacher in Biol-

ogy, U.S. History and in one English class.

She finds that her greatest challenge in teaching comes as a result of having a big heart for others.

"I want life to be fair, and I want everyone to be happy," Waggoner said. "That presents a challenge for me when times are such that I should not get involved."

Her mentor and person she admires the most is former Lady Raider Coach Marsha Sharp.

"I worked for the Texas Tech Athletics Department from 1984-1991," she said. "watching her behind the scenes as well as on court amazed me. Her passion for her job and the young ladies she coached really impressed me and created a big heart in me for kids."

Lynn Buxxemper graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in



business in 2000, but spent 30+ years substituting in Brownfield, Lubbock, Southland, and Slaton schools before earning her teaching certification in May 2015.

This is her first year as a Specialized Support/

Reading teacher (Read 180), and in English III & IV.

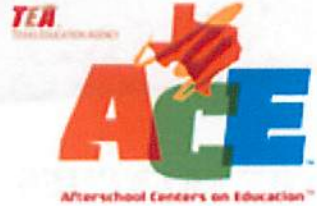
She was encouraged to get her certification after talking to Mr. Gordon about his change of career later in life.

"He told me that it was fairly easy to get certified to teach in the State of Texas," Buxxemper said. "Since I have always enjoyed working with and around kids of all ages, I decided that I,

too, could become a certified teacher."

In her spare time, she loves traveling, especially to places that she has never been and she loves meeting people everywhere she goes.

She is a certified scuba diver with over 150 ocean dives and she loves spending time with her five grandchildren.



Success - A Texas State of Mind™



spotlight on

Parent Café



SPRING SEMESTER SCHEDULE

February 9, 2016 – Come let US show YOU how much you are appreciated! You are our “Slaton Sweethearts” and we couldn’t do what we do for your child/children if it weren’t for you!

March 8, 2016 – Are you as crazy about March Madness as we are? Hear about the importance of extracurricular activities and ways you and/or your student may get involved.

April 12, 2016 – April is Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. Come and learn about ways to recognize warning signs and what to do if we see those signs. Topics will include signs to watch for regarding alcohol, drugs and internet threats to our children.

May 10, 2016 – Moms! This is your special night! Please come join us as we “Celebrate Moms” and all you do for your child/children and family!

June 14, 2016 – Dads! You didn’t think we would forget about you, did you? Please join us in the Slaton City Park for a cookout to celebrate all you do for your family!

“...empowering students to stay in school and achieve in life.”



Communities
In Schools

The South Plains

An Open Invitation to ACE Parent Café

Parent Café is a time for parents, grandparents and/or guardians to come together to learn about the many resources our district/campus has to offer. James Allison, our school counselor, speaks at each Parent Café and there is information about Communities in Schools (CIS); Catholic Charities, our partner; and the ACE programs offered at each campus.

While ACE, our before and after school programs, have been in our district for several years (ACE is a part of Communities in Schools), we now have a NEW program through Communities in Schools (CIS), that we are very excited about! This program offers mentoring, small groups, resources for families for food, medical needs, etc. Make sure to attend our upcoming Parent Café so that YOU can hear about the many ways your family can benefit from this amazing program!

We invite parents across the district to join us! It does not matter which campus your student attends. Parent Café meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:00-7:30PM in the High School Library. Coffee and refreshments are provided!

For more information contact Kristal Jones, Site Coordinator SHS, at 806.828.5833 (ext. 2110); James Allison, SHS counselor at jallison@slatonisd.net.; or Carla Rodriguez, CIS Site Coordinator SHS/SJH at crodriguez@slatonisd.net.



Communities
In Schools

The South Plains

Choir Students Compete at Solo/Ensemble Contest

Silver, Rodriguez earn trip to State Competition

UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition was held on Saturday, January 30 in Frenship.

Laine Pinkert, Hannah Howard and Lazay Guitierrez all received a Division 1 on their solo: Love Has Eyes.

Arianna Rodriguez and Brittany Silvers qualified for the state contest in May with their solo performances.

Others participating were: Charlotte Lubitz, Allyssa Stapp, and Caitlyn Torres.

"It was a great weekend," choir director Heidi Wilson said. "I am so proud of the soloists who received a "1"."

If you have these students in your class, please congratulate them on their hard work and achievement.



L to R: Lazay Guitierrez, Hannah Howard, Laine Pinkert, Charlotte Lubitz, Alyssa Stapp, Brittany Silvers, Caitlyn Torres, Arianna Rodriguez.



State Qualifiers: Brittany Silvers, Arianna Rodriguez

"I am thrilled that Brittany and Arianna will get to compete at the state contest in May."

Heidi Wilson
Director

Gavin Schniers



Mixtli Espinoza



Erin Olmos



Tyler Sanders



DECEMBER



Alek Garcia



Emili Hodgson



Lizzie Thomas



Elias Lincoln

We are excited to announce our December and January Students of the Month
Here are the comments of teachers who nominated them:

Lizzie Thomas – Freshman: “Lizzie is every teachers dream”. She has an outstanding work ethic and is always prompt, prepared, polite and productive.

Elias Lincoln – Freshman: Elias is a great student who works hard in class. “He is really good at chess!”

Emili Hodgson – Sophomore: Emili is dependable, respectful and hard working. She has exceeded expectations. Her diligence has produced excellence.

Alek Garcia – Sophomore: Alek always has a smile on his face. He is polite, genuinely sincere and caring. He is a leader among his peers both in and outside of the classroom.

Erin Olmos – Junior: Erin is a hard worker who is very soft spoken but gets things done. She strives to push herself and always puts her best foot forward.

Tyler Sanders – Junior: Tyler is a caring, hardworking student. He is very conscientious about doing his best and always gets his work done and turned in.

Mixtli Espinoza – Senior: Mixtli is a hard working student who is a pleasure to have in class. She takes her education seriously and puts her heart into everything she does.

Gavin Schniers – Senior: Gavin always works hard and shows a desire to excel in everything he does from academics to athletics.

Hannah Howard/Freshman – Hannah is organized, pays attention to detail and is always focused and engaged in classroom lessons. She is a bright student grasping new concepts easily and is ready to think and analyze critically.

Santos Yanez/Freshman – Santos is a hard working young man in and outside of the classroom. He puts forth extra effort to tackle new challenges and improve every aspect of his high school experience. He is a pleasure to have in class.

Josh Salas/Sophomore – Josh is polite, courteous and always respectful. He is committed to doing his best in and out of the classroom. Josh sets an example of excellence in behavior and cooperation.

Paula Ballejo/Sophomore – Paula is a very determined and talented young woman that works hard in and out of the classroom. She has set high expectations for herself and is determined to meet her goals. She is always respectful and helpful!

Jesalina Muniz/Junior – Jesalina is a quiet leader with a calm and poised spirit. She is very studious, smart and loves to learn. Jesalina is demanding of herself and shows that her learning is imperative. She always has a smile on her face and displays a positive attitude.

Mike Chapa/Junior – Mike is friendly and courteous to his peers and teachers. He is a hard working student always asking questions, working to improve daily. He cares about his education and it shows in everything he does.

Carlos Garcia/Senior – Carlos is respectful at all times and works hard in and out of the classroom. He is kind hearted and compassionate, often tending to the needs of others. Carlos is well liked among his peers. He is also very smart and intuitive.

Rosario Esquivel/Senior – Rosario is kind hearted and sweet, always smiling brightening the day of everyone she encounters. She works hard and takes care of business in all her classes. Rosario is dedicated to her education.

Carlos Garcia*Rosario Esquivel**Jesalina Muniz**Mike Chapa***JANUARY***Josh Salas**Paula Ballejo**Hannah Howard**Santos Yanez*

Basketball Teams Finishing Exciting Season

With playoff hopes still on the line, the basketball teams are looking to finish strong and place their teams in a position to extend their playing into the post-season.

The Tigerettes are currently 16-13 and depending on how the district games play out on Tuesday, they still have an opportunity to be in the playoffs.

According to senior Kim Hernandez, this season has been hard both mentally and physically.

"It has been a tough year," Hernandez said. "We have had a lot of injuries that took out some of our starters and we have worked very hard physically on conditioning."

The Tigers are 19-7 and currently sitting in second place in district standings behind Brownfield.



Three-year letterman, Carlos Garcia (Sr.) knows that the games this week are crucial.

"Our game against Brownfield (Friday, Feb. 12) will be our biggest game of the year," Garcia said. "Our goal is to win district and make it past the first round in the playoffs."

Senior Micah Ivey credits two things for the Tigers success this year.

"We only lost one senior from last year's team, so we have experience" Ivey said. "And our coaches have expected a consistent hard work ethic from all of us."

With playoff chances on the line, we encourage everyone to head to Roosevelt on Tuesday as the girls finish their district play, and then come to the gym on Friday as the boys play their final district game against Brownfield.

**Come support the
Tigers and Tigerettes !**

Lubbock County Livestock Show Results

Brooke Richardson: two 1st place lambs

Tyler Sanders: Breed Champion Berkshire pig, 3rd place Spot, 3rd place Cross and 7th place Cross

Trey Graves: 7th place cross,

Colby Prieto: 5th place Duroc and 7th place Hampshire,

Trevor Wright: 4th place Yorkshire and 7th place Cross,

Grant Kitten: 1st place Duroc, 6th place Berkshire, 6th place Spot

Sailor Fulton: 1st place Spot, 1st place Cross, 2nd place Berkshire, 3rd place York and 4th place Chester,

Wyatt Harlan: 6th Spot and 8th place Cross,

Mindy Huddleston: 2nd place Cross, two 6th place crosses,



Powerlifting Meet a Huge Success



Thursday, January 14th, Slaton hosted its 2nd Annual Powerlifting meet.

There were fourteen school records established or broken by our lifters on the boys and girls sides, and both teams finished in the top three.

The Tigerettes, with eight of their nine girls finishing in the top five of their weight class, placed 2nd as a team, and placed as follows in their respective weight classes:

- Alexis Rodgers: 2nd place with 115 lb. squat, 55 lb. bench, and 185 lb. deadlift for a 355 lb. total.
- Amber Guzman: 2nd place with 125 lb. squat, 70 lb. bench, and 155 lb. deadlift for a 350 lb. total.
- Paula Ballejo: 4th place with 185 squat, a **SCHOOL RECORD** 100 lb. bench press, 235 lb. and deadlift for a 520 lb. total
- Oralia Cardenas: 5th place with 185 lb. squat, 75 lb. bench, and 250 lb. deadlift for a 510 lb. total.
- Tiffany Hagood: 1st Place with 155 lb. squat, **SCHOOL RECORD** 85 lb. bench, deadlift of 200 lbs. for a 440 total.
- Malory Cofield: 3rd place with a 155 lb. squat, 80 lb. bench, and deadlift 185 lbs. for a 420 lb. total.

- Leslie Escobar : 2nd place (**SCHOOL RECORDS IN EVERY EVENT**) with 225 lb. squat, 105 lb. bench, and a deadlift of 250 lbs. for a 580 lb. total.
- Samantha Valdez: 8th place with 135 lb. squat, 95 lb. bench, and 205 lb. deadlift for a 435 lb. total.
- Rachel Payne: 3rd place with **SCHOOL RECORD** 280 lb. squat, 115 lb. bench, and 275 lb. deadlift for a 670 lb. total.

On the boy's side, the tigers finished 3rd as a team led by eight medalists.

- 114's Jordan Garcia 4h place with a 155 lb. squat, 90 lb. bench and 245 lb. deadlift for a 490 lb. total.
- 114's Desmond Williams: 5th place with a 145 lb. squat, 85 lb. bench and 205 deadlift for a 435 lb. total.
- 123's Philip Rocha: 1st place with 250 lb. squat, 150 lb. bench and 315 deadlift for a 715 lb. total.
- 132's Gavin Schniers: 1st place with 245 lb. squat, 160 lb. bench, and a 330 deadlift for a 735 total.
- 165's Seth Rennels: 9th place with 235 lb. squat, 170 lb. bench, and 290 lb. deadlift for a 695 total.

- 165's Josh Flores: 13th place with 155 lb. squat, 115 lb. bench and 250 lb. deadlift for a 520 lb. total.
- 198's Austin Bramlett: 8th place with 240 lb. squat, 160 lb. bench, and 350 lb. deadlift for a 750 lb. total.
- 220's Harley Simpson: 3rd place with **SCHOOL RECORD** 520 lb. squat, 265 lb. bench, and deadlift of 405 lbs. for an 1185 lb. total.
- 242's Israel Rodriguez: 3rd place with 340 lb. squat, 175 lb. bench, and 370 lb. deadlift for a n 885 lb. total.
- 275+ Alek Garcia: 2nd place with 465 lb. squat, 215 lb. bench, and a deadlift of 405 lbs. for a total of 1085 lbs.
- 275+ Josh Salas: 8th place with 340 lb. squat, 195 lb. bench, and 340 lb. deadlift for a total of 875 lbs.
- Also lifting in this division was Victor Soto with a bench of 210 lbs. and a deadlift of 335 lbs.

To everyone who purchased a shirt, worked the table, worked the concession stand, set up the hospitality room, ran the computer system, my administrators who helped get everything ready to go, and everyone who came out to support—THANK YOU!
Coach Henzler

Counselor's Corner

by James Allison

Parent Café

Wow! It seems like such a short time ago that we were welcoming in a new school year and now the spring semester is in full swing. I want to take this opportunity to highlight the ACE/CIS article in this edition of the newsletter (Page 7).

I am privileged to be able to partner with Parent Café hosted by our ACE program. I speak at each Parent Café in an open forum setting where you can come with concerns or questions.

I also get to provide you with resources and tip on topics such as

parenting, college readiness, and stress along with many others.

I am also very fortunate to be able to work with Carla Rodriguez and the new CIS program here at SHS. She and I have already been collaborating to help students in need.

I would love for you to swing by Parent Café and enjoy some time collaborating with me and others. It will also be a great opportunity for us to get to know each other better. Be blessed! Spring break is almost here!

Grace and Peace,

James Allison

School Counselor
Slaton High School



Fall Semester Teachers of the Month

The following SHS teachers were honored in the fall semester as Teachers of the Month. school board meeting and received a special gift courtesy of Slaton Bakery.

Each honoree was introduced at the monthly school board meeting. Congratulations to all the honorees!



September

Shelby Arrington



October

Lisa Mosley



November

Michelle Perez



December

Trey Gossett