Dr. Roy Cornelius McClung
Sept. 7, 1917 - March 26, 2013
Remembering Dr. McClung

Editor’s Note: Former Wayland President Dr. Roy C. McClung passed away on March 26, 2013. Dr. Paul Armes offered the “Wayland Reflections” at the funeral service on April 1. These were his words.

Dr. McClung was a good friend to me, and an excellent leader of Wayland Baptist University. One of the favorite pictures I have on my bookshelf is of the two of us during his visit to the campus to help us celebrate our Centennial observance. Because of the difference in our heights, we look a little like Mutt & Jeff…but the most notable thing about the picture is his smile — it fills the frame. I’ll always remember Roy’s smile.

Roy and I intersected personally in a couple of interesting ways.

In 1968 my father, Woodson Armes, became the Secretary of the Christian Education Commission at the BGCT. That is the state convention organization which deals with the relationship between the Baptist churches of Texas and the faith based institutions of higher learning, like Wayland. As my Dad began his job, Dr. Bill Carden released his study of Texas Baptist Institutions of higher learning. In his report, Bill actually recommended that a few of the schools, including Wayland, be closed. Roy had been president at Wayland about 5 years when the report was released. He and a significant number of local citizens, like Graddy Tunnell, led a passionate and committed effort to strengthen Wayland. At the end of that journey, not only did Wayland not close, she actually became significantly stronger.

In 1983, Duanea and I were called to serve at Oakwood Baptist Church in Lubbock. I was pastor there for more than four years. The interim pastor of the church before I came was Dr. McClung, who had given strong and gifted leadership to the fellowship following the departure of Dr. Fred Meeks who became, as you know, pastor to the First Baptist Church of Plainview. Rogene and Nancy McClung Chaddick eventually joined Oakwood’s fellowship in Lubbock, and were a vital and involved part of the church family. Rogene was asked to serve as a Deacon at Oakwood. By the way, one member of that family was Dr. Chad Chaddick, a Wayland graduate and a wonderful example of the great work Wayland does! Chad currently serves as pastor of the Northeast Baptist Church in San Antonio.

Dr. McClung became the 8th president of Wayland in 1963. He served as the Chief Executive Officer of the school for 17 years. His autobiography listed some of the major accomplishments of his presidency:

New construction included Hilliard Field; the tower between Fleming and Mays dorms; Harral Auditorium, the music and arts wings of Harral; the Moody Science Building; six homes for faculty; Hutcherson Gymnasium; the Regional Occupation Center including the Wheeler and Muncy Buildings; Caprock Dormitory; married student apartments; the Llano Estacado Museum; traffic circle in front of Gates Hall; and Brown Chapel.

Additionally, several renovations were successfully undertaken: Nunn Business Building; two floors of Gates Hall; McDonald Hall; the President’s home (which was a generous gift from Laura and Mays Osborne); and the Wayland cabin at Glorieta.

Additionally, the Flores property was donated to Wayland as an endowment. That real estate bequest was the largest
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If you have any questions or comments about Footprints, email Danny Andrews at andrewsd@wbu.edu, or Jonathan at petty@wbu.edu, or write to us in care of the Wayland Alumni Office.
Dr. Roy McClung was President of Wayland Baptist College from 1963-1980, the second longest tenured president in the school’s history. Only George W. McDonald (Pres. 1924-1947) served longer. Under Dr. McClung’s leadership, Wayland experienced vast growth including the construction of numerous buildings on campus.

The university center bears the name of Dr. McClung and his wife Genelle, who preceded him in death. His second wife, Betty, continues to live in Louisville, Kentucky.
McCLUNG DIES AT 95

ROY MCCLUNG SERVED AS WAYLAND’S EIGHTH PRESIDENT

Story by Jonathan Petty

The Wayland Baptist University community is remembering Dr. Roy C. McClung, who served as the school’s eighth president from 1963-1980. Dr. McClung died March 26 at the age of 95. He was living in Louisville, KY.

Funeral services for Dr. McClung were held at First Baptist Church in Plainview on Monday, April 1.

Dr. McClung was familiar with Wayland when he took over as president in 1963. He had served on the Wayland Board of Trustees while pastor at First Baptist Church from 1958-63.

McClung grew up in rural Oklahoma, born in Frederick in 1917 to Joseph and Ethel McClung. The family moved to Manitou in 1922 where he graduated from high school in 1934. For the next three years, he owned and operated a filling station in Manitou before heading out to study biology at Oklahoma Baptist University, graduating with a bachelor’s degree in 1941.

While in school, McClung was ordained to the ministry. His first pastorate was a small church near his hometown of Manitou. He served at South Deep Red Baptist Church from 1938-1940, then moved to Dale Baptist Church where he served as pastor until 1941.

In December of 1941, McClung and his new bride, Genelle Bucklew, moved to Louisville, where he attended graduate school at Southern Seminary. While working on a master’s degree in theology, McClung held several small pastorates in nearby Indiana. He completed his ThM in 1944 and immediately began work on a doctorate, which he completed in 1948. He continued to pastor churches in Kentucky before moving back to Oklahoma to take the pulpit at First Baptist Ada in 1954, where he stayed until moving to FBC Plainview in 1958. McClung’s move to the Wayland presidency in 1963 ushered in the second-longest presidential term in school history, running for 17 years.

During his tenure, Dr. McClung led Wayland to pursue distance education. In 1971, Wayland devel-
oped a program for police officers under the national Law Enforcement Education Program. Wayland soon began offering classes in the basement of the courthouse in Lubbock in 1972. This program soon branched out to include military involvement and in 1974, Wayland opened its first external campus at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls. Dr. McClung was instrumental in opening campuses in Lubbock, Amarillo and Hawaii as well. Wayland’s involvement in education has continued to grow as the university now operates 13 campuses in Texas, Arizona, Alaska, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Hawaii, as well as offering degree programs in Kenya, Africa, and online.

Several building were also added under Dr. McClung’s leadership, including Harral Memorial Auditorium, the art and music wings on the auditorium, Moody Science Building, Hutcherson Center, the Llano Estacado Museum, and Brown Chapel. The Nunn Gymnasium was also remodeled to house the school’s business program.

McClung resigned in 1980 and moved to Lubbock where he continued to raise funds for the Roy C. and Genelle McClung University Center. Dr. McClung spent the next 15 years serving as interim pastor and pastor of the International Baptist Church in Brussels, Belgium, at three different times (1983, 1989, 1996). He moved around, including stops in Dallas, then back to Lubbock where he continued to raise funds for the new library and taught classes for Wayland’s Lubbock campus.

On April 12, 1995, Dr. McClung’s wife, Genelle, passed away at the age of 75. They have three children, Dr. Michael McClung, Nancy Chadwick and Dr. Mark McClung, as well as three grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

McClung returned to Louisville and in 1998 married Martha Elizabeth Moseley Hartman, whom he had known since high school. Betty is still living in Louisville.

In 1999, McClung was awarded the Texas Baptist Elder Statesman Award. He stayed involved with Wayland throughout the years and was present for the university’s centennial celebration in 2008-09. Each year, Wayland presents the Roy C. McClung Award and Scholarship to a deserving future educator. Wayland also presents an endowed scholarship in the name of Roy and Genelle McClung each year.
single gift any Baptist school had received to that point.

Dr. McClung’s other accomplishments include: the beginning of the process of transitioning from college to university status; distance education was birthed beginning with Lubbock (1972), then Sheppard Air Force Base (1974), Amarillo (1976), and Honolulu (1979).

The university added the BSOE degree in 1973; enrollment topped 1,000 for the first time in Wayland’s history; and much of the funding for the McClung Student Center was secured.

Dr. McClung’s challenges were significant. The Carden Report urged the Baptist General Convention of Texas to close Wayland; Roy worked through a very public quarrel with one of the faculty members who served at the school at that time. [Years later, that same faculty member who had become an institutional president himself asked for Dr. McClung’s forgiveness, and Roy kindly extended grace to his colleague]; He also encountered some challenges with Board of Trustee dynamics and relationships. With determination and persistence, Roy worked through each of these challenges and brought each to a successful conclusion.

He said under the heading “My Gratitude to The Many Who Helped Move Wayland Forward”: “In my 17 years there were high moments of elation and celebration. There were other moments of despair. The progress made during my years with Wayland came through those days of despair and the joyous times of victory. There were thousands that gave of themselves, many who gave sacrificially, to make Wayland move into the modern era as a stronger and more viable institution.”

Dr. McClung had high regard for the faculty, administration, and staff with whom he served: “The progress made by Wayland in the years 1963-1980 was realized through the efforts of a ‘team.’ I am debtor to these and scores of others, faculty, trustees, donors, area pastors and thousands of student families and friends. I continue, to this day, to thank God for every one who shared the Wayland task with me.”

I believe Dr. McClung’s tenure as the president of Wayland will be viewed historically as a time of significant progress and achievement in the midst of significant and sometimes ominous challenges.

I will remember Roy as a man of great determination. Dr. Estelle Owens, Professor of History and University Historian conducted 27 oral history interviews with Dr. McClung while he was still president. Examples of that determination are to be found in Dr. Owens own words:

... What I recall about him was that he was always a very determined person. Once he’d made his mind up about something, he was willing to do what it took to achieve the goal. For example, money was in short supply when he was a newlywed and newly entered as a student at Southern Seminary. He accepted all kinds of odd jobs in addition to his pastorates. The one I found the most fascinating was as a chicken sexer. The way he tells the story in his autobiography, he took great pride in becoming fast and accurate about 98% of the time. He could determine the sex of thousands of chicks on any Sunday afternoon between morning and evening worship.

Another example that comes to mind was his learning French well enough to preach at the Belgian church he served on two occasions as pastor. Christa Smith tutored him. He would have been over 60 by that point, but he needed French to be effective in that part of Belgium; so he buckled down and went to work.

That determination served him in good stead in the face of the Carden Report. A lesser person might have given up at that point, but he never believed God intended Wayland to cease to exist as Wayland. He had built excellent relationships with the churches and West Texans in general; so there was no way such people would let Wayland fail. A Plainsman himself, he understood and related well to the people of this area.

Roy was a man of great faith. I loved to hear him preach—he reminded me of my father. His entire life was lived with a clear sense of the call of God upon him. An Oklahoma Plainsman boy in youth, Roy learned to identify the tracings of God’s hand in his own life as he saw God’s majesty revealed in the sunrises and sunsets of the flatlands.

Wayland is a better university because of the life, dedication and faith of Dr. Roy McClung. We will miss him, but we will be forever grateful that he gave himself to this school so unselfishly and passionately during his tenure as the 8th president of Wayland Baptist University.
The Spirit lives on

Spirit, a longstanding performance ensemble on the Wayland campus, was officially disbanded this semester, a result of curriculum changes and the need for students to focus on other performance areas.

Spirit will never die, however, as those who have been associated with the group throughout the years carry fond memories of their peers, professors and performances.
With a two-night performance at the beginning of the spring term, one of Wayland Baptist University’s iconic performing groups said goodbye. The group, Spirit, disbanded earlier this year as the university’s School of Music revamped its curriculum.

According to Dr. Ann Stutes, dean of the School of Music, “The ensemble has served this university well through the years, but changing times and new curricular requirements suggest that we modify how best to serve the educational needs of our students.”

Stutes explained that a new Choral Performance Lab course will be introduced in the fall of 2013 that will allow choral music education students to perform show choir music, in addition to study musical theatre, vocal jazz and other types of curricula currently found in active public school choral programs.

The group began in 1974 as the Spirit of America Singers, a band which often featured instrumentation as varied as a horn section, electric and bass guitars, keyboards and drums. Its musical selections ranged from sacred to jazz and often included popular secular favorites. The group’s original members were: Teresa Henson, Judy Sutton, Alba Wilcox, Carolyn Murphree, Leslie Haberer, Amy Fredricksen, Keith Longbotham, Gary Wilcox, Marvin Matthews and Walter Wright.

Longbotham and Matthews went on to professional music entertainment careers and Wright became the director of the Plainview High School choir and Chamber Singers.

According to current director Dr. Sarah Herrington, who lead the group from 2011-present and was a member from 1995-99, over the years the group often took on the form and personality of its director:

“Spirit has taken on a wide variety of roles throughout its existence — performing as a band, a contemporary Christian ensemble, a madrigal group, focusing on southern gospel literature, vocal jazz and many others. Every director has lent his or her own area of expertise to the group,” Herrington said.

Over the years, a few things have remained consistent. To begin with, the group brought out the best in its members:

“For the last 23 years, Tammy Payne/Aten, my wife, and I have used our experiences from Spirit to carry us and our music/worship ministry worldwide. Spirit of America was really ahead of its time. I was challenged by Mrs. (Jessye) Streeter/Whitis at the time to play more by ear than ever before.”

— Sherman Aten (keyboards and vocalist, Spirit of America Singers, 1982-84)

“Spirit has encouraged me to chase after my dreams by not only bringing an awareness of my talent about but also teaching me discipline, teamwork and humility, which I believe are lessons that will assist me wherever I may be in my walk of life.”

— Rachel Smith (2012-13)

“I discovered I had a knack for and love of choreography while developing our shows as a student. Those experiences as a novice choreographer led me to continue to develop and use that skill in a variety of ways.”

— Dr. Herrington

“(Spirit) gave me a love for performing that I never knew I had. I am currently serving in the United States Air Force in Dover, Del. I use what I learned from Spirit at my church. I participate in the music and lead the drama team. I also sing on a regular basis with my wife and my two boys.”

— Christopher Smith (2005-07)
“I can’t speak for the audiences, but as a member it was great to get to use what musical talents we had in a church setting. That opportunity didn’t always exist for the drummers/bassists/electric guitarists of the world.”
— Raymond Sherrouse (Drummer, Spirit of America, 1982-84)

“During the graduation (in Hawaii), the majority of the students were military. We sang, ‘Proud to be an American.’ In the middle of the song, a graduating senior stood up and saluted and the entire room followed. It took everything in us to finish the song. We were in tears and I had chills running up and down my spine. I was never more proud to be a part of the Wayland family and more proud to be an American.”
— Teresa Moore

The rehearsals with the band were the favorite part of my week, but the World’s Fair tour was my fondest memory.”
— Sherman Aten

The best part was the group . . . . We all got along great and were great friends. We have experienced marriages and kids and still see and talk to each other today, whenever we can.”
— Christopher Smith

The performances moved the audiences:
“Going and performing in Hawaii last May as part of the WBU Hawaii graduation, is my absolute favorite memory. It was such a unique experience because we did not get the touristy view of Hawaii. We stayed in a mission house on the slopes of the mountain outside downtown Honolulu, saw and performed at a homeless/food shelter where we got to visit and pray with the people there, visited some of the more remote beaches and fit more sights and performances into four days than I thought possible.”
— Christopher Kirby

“The rehearsals with the band were the favorite part of my week, but the World’s Fair tour was my fondest memory.”
— Sherman Aten

“The best part was the group . . . . We all got along great and were great friends. We have experienced marriages and kids and still see and talk to each other today, whenever we can.”
— Christopher Smith

The memories will last forever:
“We performed at a high school in Amarillo and the CD player that they provided for us to use for our track played our song faster and a whole step higher than what it normally was. On top of that, we were dancing in a very small space. We ended up tripping over each other, gasping for air and finished our song chuckling. It was a hilarious moment I won’t soon forget.”
— Rachel Smith

“I still play instrumentally at my church, primarily drums, but other instruments when they let me. I could fill pages with my memories of so many members of Spirit, but I don’t want to leave anyone out (and the ones I didn’t leave out would probably prefer I did). I’m up for an early-80s reunion, if Dr. (Claude) Lusk (Spirit of America-early 1980s) still thinks he’s got what it takes.” — Raymond Sherrouse

Sherman and Tammy Aten have spent the past two decades serving as fulltime Christian musicians, evangelists and conference leaders through Aten Ministries Inc. and are joined, when possible, by their son, Josh, and daughter, Brooke. The Atens were members of Spirit of America when they were students at Wayland in the early 1980s.
Spirit’s end marks new beginning

It was a strange way to commemorate an ending. Knowing that the night’s performance would be the last for Wayland Baptist University’s long-running group Spirit, Christopher Kirby stepped forward and sang one last song — and with it marked a new beginning.

The song was “Oh, Darling,” by the group Plug-in Stereo and it was directed at fellow student Morgan Switzenberg, who was seated in the front row of Wayland’s Black Box Theatre, although she didn’t understand at the time.

Soon, though, Kirby brought her on stage and she understood. That was their song. They had been dating each other since Dec. 7, 2010. Now, Kirby was using the moment, and the song, to propose to her — right in front of everybody in the audience.

“I had no idea,” she said recently with a laugh as she thought back to that evening. However, as things progressed more and more of the somewhat strange events of the evening began to make sense. In particular, she said, there seemed to be a lot of concern throughout the performance about where she sat.

“There was this thing about making sure I was sitting in the front row,” she said.

As it turned out, Kirby had enlisted the help of Switzenberg’s siblings.

“Christopher pulled my sister aside and said, ‘Make sure she sits in the front row,’” Switzenberg said, again with a laugh.

According to Kirby the two had been in Spirit together the year before and some of their closest friends were either still a part or had been a part of the group. In fact, her maid of honor and his best man are Spirit alums.

“So, it just felt right for me to propose at the final Spirit show,” he said. “When I told the other Spirit members back in October, they were all actually extremely supportive and there were even some tears of joy from some of the female members where are close to Morgan.”

The group’s director, Dr. Sarah Herrington, said she was “ecstatic” when Kirby asked her if he could propose to his girlfriend at the end of the final show.

“I’m really honored that Chris desired for us to be a part of this momentous occasion in his and Morgan’s lives,” she said, adding that the biggest challenge was keeping the secret.

For Switzenberg, once she found out she was ecstatic, as well. She explained that although she never expected it to happen, she actually had envisioned Kirby proposing to her in some similar manner one day.

“We have it on tape and we have to turn it down because the crowd went crazy,” she said. “Everyone came up and congratulated me afterward. It was really neat.”

For Kirby, everything worked just like he hoped it would.

“Morgan was at first in so much shock that she couldn’t say anything when I proposed, but she was overjoyed at the proposal and said there wasn’t a way I could have done it any better,” he said.

The two will get married on December 13 and Switzenberg, who is a native of Plainview and already has graduated this past December from Wayland with a degree in music education, said she is applying for jobs in the Metroplex so the couple can live closer to his family in Plano.

Herrington said the events of that night were bittersweet. It was the final performance of the group she had been a part of as a student from 1995-99 and had directed for the past three years. Still, the night was the beginning of a new family for two of her students.

“What a perfect and joyous way to leave our final show, an experience that was sad and hard for some of us. And there couldn’t be a better couple with whom to share this experience,” she said.
Rachel Laue

It’s not easy being a non-traditional student, but Rachel Laue has made the most of her opportunity. The history major from Great Falls, Mont., will soon have a paper published in a professional, peer-reviewed journal in spite of her struggles with finding the right college, and a mysterious illness that kept her out of school for a full semester.

Laue has also served Wayland as a President’s Ambassador, is a member of several honor societies, and is already making plans to continue her education once she graduates with a bachelor’s degree next December.
NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT MAKING PERSONAL HISTORY AT WAYLAND

Story by Jonathan Petty

It’s not very often an undergraduate is published in a professional, peer-reviewed journal. Then again, it’s not very often you run across an undergraduate like Rachel Laue (pronounced Law).

This fall, Laue’s paper “Fighting the Cold War at a Baptist College: Anticommunism in the Wayland Baptist College Trailblazer,” will be published in the West Texas Review, the journal for the West Texas Historical Association that is based at Texas Tech University.

“It’s not often that an undergraduate can even get a paper considered for publication, much less published,” Laue said.

The history major from Great Falls, Mont., wrote the paper for her historical methods class, looking at anti-communist sentiment in the college newspaper during the cold war. At that time, college campuses were typically more politically involved than they are today. As a result, Laue found no shortage of opinions being published in the Trailblazer, Wayland’s student newspaper.

“They were probably more opinionated than a newspaper staff should be,” Laue said. “There were some pretty considerable biases in their articles.”

While Laue found looking at the history of Wayland fascinating, it was her own history that almost kept her from attending college. By every definition of the word, Laue is a non-traditional student, although you wouldn’t know it unless she told you.

“I didn’t go to college at age 18 like everyone else,” she said. “I was 22 when I came here. It hasn’t really been awkward for me because I blend in. I look young.”

Being the first member of her immediate family to attend college, Laue was on her own to find the right fit. It was only in a last-ditch internet search that she found a school that was affordable and offered everything she was looking for in a university.

Born in Missouri, Laue spent her childhood moving back and forth between Missouri and Montana, on nearly a yearly basis. The second of four children, Laue said the constant movement and being homeschooled made it hard to make friends.

“There were a lot of places we lived where I didn’t know anyone. We didn’t go to school, so we didn’t meet people. A lot of places we lived, I only knew my family. That was it,” she said.

Laue explained that her family moved so much partly to look for work and partly because “they were just restless souls.” She said her family was poor and everyone had to work to make ends meet. That meant she had to stay at home and help raise her younger brother and sister.

“I was my siblings caretaker for about nine years, until they were old enough be left alone,” she said.

At the age of 22 Laue finally had a chance to do something she
wanted to do – go to college. She began looking in the south – to find a warmer climate, she said – for a faith-based college.

“I decided I would like to go to a Christian college. I didn’t want to deal with having a drunken room-mate at 4 o’clock in the morning. Which may or may not happen. ...,” she grinned.

Being raised a Baptist, she was looking for Baptist schools first, but the expense of private education was keeping her from finding a suitable school.

“Private institutions are usually really pricey,” Laue said. “I had almost given up and finally, just one last Google search and Wayland came up. I hadn’t seen it in any other search I had done. I think I just put in Baptist Colleges and there it was.”

The next fall, Laue started college as a 22-year-old freshman. She found enough funding to pay for school and chose to live in the dorm with the younger students.

“There were still people around my age,” she said. “I was 22 and 23 and there were still a lot of seniors and older students around. My junior year was the first one where I thought, ‘they are so young.’ There started to be a significant gap.”

Laue’s junior year was also the year she fell victim to a mysterious illness that ended up forcing her to stay home for the entire spring 2012 semester. The onset of the illness, the main symptom of which was extreme exhaustion, was in the fall of 2011 when she missed an entire month of classes.

“I got really sick. They couldn’t figure out what was wrong,” Laue said. “I did kind of rally enough to finish the semester, but when I went home, the doctor said I couldn’t come back to school.”

Laue returned in the fall of 2012, but still feels the effects of the illness.

“I wasn’t sure I was going to be able to stay because I felt so bad,” she said. “I have been doing better this semester. I’m not sure what the difference is. I’m a medical anomaly, apparently.”

Laue picked up where she had left off the previous year. She serves as a President’s Ambassador, an elite group of students hand-picked to represent the Office of the President and the Offices of Advancement at various functions on and off campus. She also has been named to several academic honor societies and was selected this fall to represent the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences as its research champion.

Laue plans to graduate in December and then continue her education in graduate school studying history and archeology. She has a heart for missions and hopes to one day visit the “deepest, darkest jungles of Africa.” An historian by choice, Laue is a writer by nature. She has always been interested in journalism and considered majoring in it before deciding to focus on history. A member of the Sigma Tau Delta literary honor society, Laue pursues creative writing as a hobby. Just don’t ask her about her poetry.

“I don’t do poetry. My poetry is really bad,” she said. “April is a poem-a-day month. I’ve been trying to do that and it is horrible.”

Still, she is currently writing a western, a fantasy story and a “Bridgett Jones” type novel about being a single girl. ... And she says she didn’t inherit her parents “restlessness.”

“Maybe I’m a little free-spirited,” Laue laughed. “It just manifests itself a little differently.”
Wayland Baptist University President Dr. Paul Armes was recognized recently for being not only the leader of the local university, but also a leader in so many other aspects of the community of Plainview.

Armes, who is the 12th president of Wayland and has served in that capacity since Feb. 2001, was named Plainview’s 2013 Man of the Year during the community’s annual Chamber of Commerce banquet, held ironically, on the Wayland campus in the Laney Center.

According to the letter nominating Armes for the honor, in addition to leading the university for the past 12 years, he has served as president of the community’s United Way and is a member of the Rotary Club of Plainview. He and his wife, Duanea, financially support, are members of and attend Community Concerts and the Plainview Symphony, as well as other community events and are members of First Baptist Church, Plainview.

One of the things that the nominating letter pointed out was that Armes enjoys woodworking. In particular, it read, the president crafts pens from wood and gives them to graduating President’s Ambassadors.

“He doesn’t have to do that. He does it because that’s who he is,” the writer wrote.

The writer of the letter went on to complement Armes on his ability to empower his faculty and staff, as well as others in ways that enable them to excel.

“That is what real leadership is, empowering others,” the letter read.

While Armes was honored to receive the recognition, he was quick to focus on what Wayland and the community of Plainview mean to each other.

“It’s always an honor to be recognized for what you try to do and the ways you try to serve,” he said, adding that of greater significance is the recognition of the partnership between the university and the people of Plainview.

“It illustrates the importance of the partnership between Wayland and the community. All of us who work at Wayland are aware of the importance of the community to our students and we cherish that partnership,” he concluded.
Wayland Baptist University professor Dr. Jeff Anderson recently completed a sabbatical in which he spent nearly five months living in Jerusalem, working on a book that will be published later this year.

Anderson’s book, The Blessing and the Curse: Trajectories in the Theology of the Old Testament, is currently in the hands of the editor. Anderson said he should hear back from the editor early this summer. At that time, he will make suggested revisions. The manuscript should be ready for publication later in the year.

Anderson said his book deals with applying speech act theory to passages in the Old Testament that deal with blessings and curses. He said speech act theory is a modern linguistic methodology that tries to identify the power of spoken words outside of the ideas and notions of magic.

“For example,” Anderson said, “when a jury foreman proclaims a verdict of ‘guilty,’ it doesn’t matter whether a person is guilty or not, the reality has been changed through the social structures that are part of the verdict that is proclaimed. Or when a minister says, ‘I now proclaim you husband and wife,’ those aren’t words that just describe things. They actually change reality.”

Anderson said he applied this theory to the blessing and curses in passages of the Old Testament to determine the power of the spoken word without resorting to mystical or magical theories. Anderson said the text is targeted more toward faculty members and not a widespread audience.

“We will see if I sell any copies,” he joked.

Anderson, who first came to Wayland as a freshman student in 1975, holds a bachelor’s degree from Wayland as well as a master of divinity degree from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in religion from Vanderbilt University. He joined Wayland as the Dean of the Wayland campus in Anchorage, AK, in 1991. He served in that capacity until 2007 when he felt a desire to teach fulltime. He has held full-time faculty status in the School of Religion and Philosophy for the past six years.

Because of his sabbatical, Anderson was able to accept an appointment as a senior associate fellow at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem. Anderson lived in Jerusalem from June through October of 2012. While there he took advantage of several biblical research libraries where he gathered sources for his manuscript. He was also able to visit many of the sites where Old Testament stories took place.

“I would visit a site, then go back and do some research on that site and then visit it again,” Anderson said. “Some sites I went to a third and fourth time to really let it sink in.”

While in Jerusalem, Anderson also worked on several archaeological digs unearthing pottery and things of that nature. He said he didn’t find anything amazing, although there was one interesting find that could lead to something big … but it’s too soon to elaborate.

Anderson encourages other faculty members to take advantage of Wayland’s generous sabbatical policy. He said while staying at the Albright Institute he met many other archaeologist and scholars who struggle to find grant money to fund their research.

“I met a lot of unemployed archaeologists who were always patching together grants to try and fund what they love to do,” Anderson said. “Their question was always, ‘Where did you get your funding?’”

Anderson said they were surprised to hear about the small West Texas university with an amazing sabbatical program.
In 2012, Bob Johnston fulfilled two lifelong dreams. At age 53, the pastor of Northgate Community Church graduated magna cum laude from the Wayland Baptist University campus in Wichita Falls with a bachelor’s degree in Christian ministry. He also delivered the graduation address — something he’s always longed to do.

Not bad for a guy who, as a teenager, suffered from attention-deficit disorder, was a discipline problem throughout his schooling at Hirschi High School, and wound up three credits shy of a high school diploma. His fiancé forced him into summer school before he could collect his degree and marry her.

Johnston joined the Army, worked at a factory and served in nonprofit organizations before he decided at age 48 that he wanted a college degree so he could pastor a church.

Wayland, a school that serves the nontraditional student, helped him do it. Its typical student is 30 to 35 years old, military or civilian, who has enough work experience to understand the value of education and how a degree can lead to better jobs.

That typical student, like Johnston, has a full-time job and family responsibilities that demand a college that offers classes during nights, weekends and online.

“It’s changed the entire arc of my family,” said Johnston, who found himself sitting in classes with his brother, sisters, wife, daughter, son, and a daughter-in-law, who walked the stage with him.

“I had classes with just about everybody. It was pretty stinkin’ awesome,” Johnston said.

The faculty felt like family, he said, helping him master algebra – on his second attempt – with a “B.”

“The staff, the teachers, they’re so wonderful and friendly and happy guys,” he said. “They helped us with forms like FAFSA (for federal student aid) and loans. They made it possible for people who are non-traditional – people who have been out of school for a long time – to get their degree.”

Wayland Baptist’s mascot is “The Pioneer” for that reason, said Dr. Elane Seebo, Wayland’s executive vice president for external programs and graduate studies.

Johnston had nightmares for years about academia, after not being able to graduate from high school in 1977.

He remembered how Hirschi teachers had pulled aside his high school sweetheart – now his wife for more than 35 years – and advised her, “Don’t marry him. He’s a bum!”

But until Diane began attending Wayland Baptist, no one in Johnston’s family – or hers – had gone to college.

Johnston’s son-in-law educated himself to become a registered nurse, his son earned an education degree and teaches at Midway, his wife earned a teaching degree and teaches at American Commercial College, and his daughter-in-law manages Mardel Christian Book Store.

“Education can lead to financial security, community prosperity and national recovery,” Johnston said.

“Wayland Baptist University changed my life, my future and the future of my family. It continues to make Wichita Falls a better place to live and work.”

Bob Johnston along with his wife, Diane, attended the Wayland campus in Wichita Falls.
Dwight Pennington

Not everybody is born to be an airborne ranger in a covert unit of the United States Army, but Dwight Pennington (standing, left) was good at it.

While he was making a name for himself in the Army, things were falling apart at home. But thanks to a reconnection with the church and a push from his 14-year-old daughter, Pennington is now serving in God’s Army and is working toward a degree in Christian ministry.

A story of personal tragedy, injury and constant struggle, Pennington hopes his witness will inspire other’s to find what is truly important in life — a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
Dwight Pennington was at the end. Things were bleak with no hope of getting better. He watched as his life was falling apart. While he was successful at his job, it was stripping away the fabric of his family. An infantry airborne ranger and sniper in the United States Army, Pennington could jump out of airplanes, repel from helicopters, he could hunt a man, and he was good at it. But he couldn’t take care of his responsibilities at home.

At the end of his rope, Pennington held a gun to his chest and asked his wife to pull the trigger. …

It was a long and treacherous journey, but Penning, 40, finally found what was missing in his life. He has since surrendered to Christian ministry and is completing his bachelor’s degree at Wayland Baptist University. He plans on continuing his education, earning a master’s degree before entering the full-time ministry. While his life seems to be back on track, Pennington’s testimony is a story of redemption and salvation.

He was born on the Navy base at Quonset Point, Rhode Island. The son of a Navy man, Pennington’s dad paid a price for his service in the Vietnam war.

“He was 100 percent disabled from Nam,” Pennington said. “He was pretty messed up with alcohol and narcotics. Mostly mentally. During Nam, they didn’t have the treatment for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) like they do now.”

The disorder resulted in an abusive childhood for Pennington. His father wanted nothing to do with him, and was physically abusive toward his mother. He was also suicidal.

“His fifth suicide attempt, he held us hostage and called the police department,” Pennington said. “Mom got us free and took us over to a neighbor, then she went back to try and get him to stop.”

Pennington was barely old enough to go to school when his father had his knee cap shot off by the police. The suicide attempt was unsuccessful, but the damage to his knee only amplified the dysfunctional situation at home.

“They wound up fusing his leg, but he kept getting gangrene,” Pennington said. “A lot of my memories are of him digging it out with a coat hanger because he didn’t want to lose his leg.”

Little did Pennington know at the time, but his father’s struggle with multiple surgeries on his injured leg would mirror what he would go through later in life when a back injury effectively ended his military career.

As a child, Pennington was introduced to religion as his mother
placed him in a private, Pentecostal school. He went through the first eight grades at the school. It was designed as a self-paced program, so Pennington completed the eighth grade by the age of 12. But school didn’t come without its problems.

“One of the teachers was beating me,” he said. “My dad found out about it. She actually came to the house and threatened to beat me with a wooden spoon.”

The result was his father deciding to move the family to California. Pennington was introduced to public schools, although he was pushed back two grades because the school system felt he was too young to enter high school. Pennington continued to get in trouble. It got so bad that one day he stole his father’s gun and carried it to school in his backpack. If not for the actions of his history teacher, things could have gotten out of control.

“He saw me getting beat up for months,” Pennington said. “He saw me go into the bathroom after this one kid. I came out, he didn’t. I went and got my backpack. He stopped me, peeked into the bag and called my dad.”

Pennington would later say it was God looking out for him.

The family moved again, this time landing in Vermont where Pennington started high school and found an outlet in athletics. As he grew older, he finally found a connection with his father – girls and cars.

“I had been working and saved up my money and bought my first car,” Pennington said. “He would help me work on it. It was nice to have him around, but he was still beating my mom. She was protecting us, but he was beating her.”

It got so bad that Pennington’s parents eventually separated. He still had contact with his father as they worked on cars and talked about girls. But just as he was starting to develop a close relationship with his father, things changed.

“He called one night and said, ‘They are coming for me. They are going to kill me. I love you. Take care of your mom and your sister.’ The next day, he was dead,” Pennington said. “I thought he was just drunk. I didn’t think anything of it.”

The family never really knew what caused his father’s death as they received conflicting autopsy reports. The result, however, was Pennington getting angry at God for taking his father away just when they were starting to get close. He already was rebellious toward organized religion, feeling it was forced on him and the highly conservative viewpoint of the Pentecostal church made it virtually impossible for a teen in his position to ever see himself going to heaven. The untimely death of his father was just one more reason for Pennington to rebel against God and religion.

“I went out and got drunk. They found me in a snow bank passed out,” Pennington said.

A month later at the age of 17, Pennington enlisted in the U.S. Army. He forced his mother to sign the papers, saying she would never see him again if she didn’t. But that wasn’t the only major change Pennington made in his life. He had been dating Maria for more than a year. She had moved back to Petersburg, Texas, to be with her family. Pennington flew to Texas on spring break to propose, and Maria said yes. Pennington finished school then moved to Texas to pick cotton for her uncle. Once he turned 18, the two were married and one month later, Pennington was in basic training.

The basic training and infantry school schedule made it difficult for Pennington to see his wife. He finally had an opportunity to see her when he finished infantry school before heading off to airborne school. She got pregnant. Pennington was in airborne school for three weeks, then immediately was shipped to covert operations training for six months. The next time he saw her, Maria was seven months pregnant. Their first son, James, was born six weeks premature.

“I could literally hold him in my hand and his legs would drape off my
wrist,” Pennington said. “He spent 26 days in an incubator. That was kind of tough.”

Fortunately, the military picked up the medical bills, but there was no relief from the stress as Pennington went back into training, this time as a sniper.

“I was very successful in the army. I was good at it, but it wasn’t conducive to home life,” said Pennington who at times struggles with trying to reconcile what he did as a sniper with his Christian faith. “I don’t know if I have ever really forgiven myself. I don’t know how any of that is justified.”

The couple soon had a second son, Dominic, who was also born premature. His time in the hospital was considerably less than that of his older brother. Yet while Maria was struggling to raise the kids, Pennington was busy with covert operations in the jungles of Central and South America.

Life as a sniper was living on the edge for Pennington. He can’t elaborate on what he did as he was part of a covert unit. But he said the feeling he got from it was like nothing he had ever experienced before.

“I was getting very addicted to the rush,” he said. “There is nothing like hunting a man.”

He was so addicted to the rush that he said he started taking unnecessary chances – seeing how close he could get to the enemy without them noticing. Pennington said on one assignment he was tracking a line of soldiers marching through the jungle. He got so close that when one individual broke ranks to relieve himself, he ended up urinating on Pennington.

“The adrenaline rush was way up there,” he said. “I thought he could hear my heartbeat.”

But while he was taking risks in the jungle, things were slipping away at home. Pennington said other people in their lives began feeding him and Maria information with rumors of infidelity in their relationship. It became a strain on the couple, forcing them to separate and eventually file for divorce.

“But I missed the kids,” Pennington said.

Pennington and Maria stayed together for the sake of the children and he even re-enlisted for a change of jobs in order to stay closer to his kids. But things still weren’t right with their marriage.

“We didn’t have God there,” he said. “When we got back together, it was more about the kids than our relationship. … Affairs happened and continued to happen throughout the career.”

Both he and Maria found themselves guilty of letting their marriage drift apart. Pennington was also under tremendous stress from the military. He had worked odd jobs repairing electronics, laser guidance systems and tanks, but finally found a home in recruiting. He went to recruiting school where he met a graduate of the school. This girl’s aunt, however, was connected to the military and when she found out what was going on, Pennington was issued an Article 15. In military law, it is illegal for married members of the military to have an affair. Due to his record, however, Pennington wasn’t punished severely, but far greater damage had been done.

“At this point, my wife was so hurt,” he said. “As you can see, I’m getting farther and farther away from God. That is when the suicidal tendencies came up. I realized what was going on. I didn’t want to be like my dad.”

“I took out a gun, put it to my chest and asked her to squeeze it ...”

She didn’t.

Pennington began looking for help. He got counseling and asked for a compassionate reassignment from the Army in order to be closer to his family. After the suicide incident, Maria, moved the kids to Texas to be near her family. When Pennington was transferred to Texas, the couple began counseling. But just as things started to turn around, Pennington was transferred to Las Vegas and then Hawaii. He became one of the Army’s most successful recruiters and as the U.S. became embroiled in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, he spent his time recruiting medical personnel to help save the lives of injured soldiers.

While stationed in Hawaii, Pennington took up extreme sports, diving, swimming, triathlons and such to keep himself busy. It was during this time, however, that he suffered what would become a debilitating injury. While jumping as a paratrooper in 2007, he landed wrong and injured his back, damaging the nerves that controlled his bowels and bladder.

“My legs started going numb,” Pennington said. “I got hurt and the Army didn’t do much about it. They gave me injections for about nine months. They said it was no big deal and it would go away. They hadn’t tested me for the nerve damage that continued on Page 21
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was going on with my bowels and I didn’t think to ask them.”

He thought the problems with his bowels and bladder were a result of getting older. In 2008, Pennington finally saw a spinal cord specialist who scheduled him for immediate surgery. Two surgeries later, they ended up fusing his back. Things continued to get progressively worse, however. He was transferred to Lubbock where there was no military medical treatment available and no civilian doctor would touch him. He finally found a pain management doctor who installed a computer in his hip to help control his bladder and bowel functions. The surgery didn’t work. He then found an urologist who installed another computer in his other hip. This time, the surgery was successful, but Pennington was still in a lot of pain and had lost feeling in one of his legs.

Finally, Pennington was introduced to the Wounded Warriors program in San Antonio. He spent time there in extensive rehab and was fitted for braces that allowed him to walk and become active once again. His doctor introduced him to activities such as cycling and swimming. Pennington moved back to Petersburg in March of 2012 and on April 27, he officially retired from military service.

Finally, things were starting to turn around for Pennington, his wife and family. But it wasn’t until his 14-year-old daughter, Desiree, surrendered to Christ that he truly found what he had been missing for so many years.

“My daughter had been going to the youth group. My boys enjoyed going on Wednesday nights. I think it was more of a social thing for them,” he said.

But Desiree took it seriously. She surrendered her life to Christ and was baptized at First Baptist Church in Petersburg. She became an active member of the youth group and participated in a True Love Waits program. It was there that Pennington found himself drawn back to God.

As part of the final ceremony for True Love Waits, the fathers are asked to participate.

“It was a very emotional time for me,” Pennington said. His daughter’s influence was strong enough to help him reconnect with God.

He was invited to church and once again started praying. Soon Pennington committed his life to Christian service. He recalled that when his mother would take him to church as a child he occasionally preached Wednesday night sermons to the youth group. It was the height of the Cold War for the U.S. at the time and he often dreamed of going to Afghanistan and preaching to the Russians.

Now as an adult who had turned back to God, he said the call was immediate.

“I woke up and it was like, Boom! You need to go into Christian ministry,” Pennington said. He is currently enrolled at Wayland, completing his bachelor’s degree and will soon start his master’s degree program.

Last Christmas, he and his family visited his sons. James is now 21 and a combat medic in the military and Domonic, 19, is an X-Ray technician for the Army. Together they shared the Christmas story. Then Pennington pulled his sons aside and shared the gospel with them. He said they both accepted Christ. Soon after, Maria was saved and was baptized a few weeks ago.

It’s been 23 long years of marriage for Dwight and Maria, but he says things are better now than they have ever been. He is honestly amazed that they things have turned out this way.

“Based on everything that happened, I should be in a wheelchair or dead,” Pennington said. “The things I did when I was younger. The abuse I put myself through. God protected me and protected my family. My family is better now than when we first got married.”
Alesha Robertson tends to take everything in stride, so she handled one of the biggest moments of her life – being hired as head coach of the Wayland Baptist University Flying Queens – by participating in one of her other great loves besides basketball.

She went fishing.

But after spending a couple of days on the water in New Mexico, Robertson was back in the gyms of West Texas, where she was formally introduced as head coach of the winningest women’s basketball program in the nation.

“This is definitely something new and exciting for me,” said Robertson. “I wanted to coach at the college level, I just didn’t realize that I would be doing it this quickly.”

WBU Athletics Director Dr. Greg Feris said Robertson fits Wayland’s philosophies perfectly.

“Alesha brings great excitement and enthusiasm to the Flying Queens program,” Feris said. “She is a young woman whose faith and high principles are her signature. Her integrity and character make her a perfect fit for the university. I have no doubt that she will be a strong, positive role model for our student athletes as well as the young women she recruits.”

Feris went on to say that Robertson has been a success in many areas.

“She has proven herself as an exemplary high school and college player, coached and won a state championship, and displayed her entrepreneurial spirit by spearheading and organizing Hoop55,” a basketball league based in Lubbock.

The 28-year-old Robertson is the 13th head coach in the history of the Flying Queens program, replacing Tory Bryant who recently resigned after six seasons. Like Bryant, Robertson also is a native of Plainview, having moved here from Carlsbad, N.M., when she was 2 years old.

“(Wayland) has been a part of my life forever,” Robertson said. “It’s nice to be able to come back.”

And while her father recently retired as longtime pastor of College Heights Baptist Church and her parents moved over the weekend to Lubbock to be closer to grandchildren, Robertson said she’s excited to make the move from Lubbock back to Plainview, where her grandmother lives.
“God placed (Wayland) in my life for a reason,” she said. Robertson said her father told her that timing is everything, explaining that he made his decision to retire and move before she was hired as Flying Queens coach.

“He said if I was hired (at Wayland) earlier, he wouldn’t have retired, and he said he needed to,” she said. “God had a lot to do with that.”

As a player, Robertson became a legend in Plainview by helping the PHS Lady Bulldogs to three consecutive Class 4A state championships from 2001-03 and earning all-state honors four times. She went on to play four seasons for the Texas Tech University Lady Raiders, the first three under head coach Marsha Sharp, a WBU alum, and her senior season under current Lady Raider coach Kristy Curry.

Robertson earned both All-Big 12 and Academic All-Big 12 honors, and her senior season she averaged a team-high 13.2 points and 8.7 rebounds. She holds Lady Raider records for most 3-pointers in a game (9) and second-most points in a game by a sophomore (37).

Feris is confident Robertson has what it takes to make the Flying Queens even more competitive in the SAC. The Flying Queens – with no seniors on their roster – were 15-16 last season, including 7-9 in the SAC, and lost in the first round of the conference tournament.

“Alesha comes to Wayland with the knowledge that the Sooner Athletic Conference is one of the toughest NAIA basketball leagues in the country,” he said. “Those who have watched her play or coach know that she is intensely competitive and driven to succeed. It is our belief that she will bring that same intensity, skill and work ethic to the Wayland Baptist University Flying Queens.”

Robertson said her ultimate goal for the Flying Queens is to return the team to the NAIA National Tournament, for which Wayland has qualified only once in the past nine years.

“I want to get them to have a winning season and continue to keep getting better,” she said of her immediate plans, “but the goal is always to go all the way. I don’t want my players to go into any season thinking we can’t go all the way. Otherwise, you might as well not play.”

Robertson spent the past two years as head girls’ basketball coach at Lubbock Christian High School, guiding the Lady Eagles to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Class 3A state championship. She also was a head coach and teacher at the Sharp Academy in Lubbock, working with children with learning disorders.

Robertson said she’s thrilled about being the Flying Queens head coach and is excited about getting started.

“It’s a good opportunity, one that God placed in my life for a reason, and I’m going to run with it,” she said. “It’s exciting. I’m a little bit nervous, but we’ll run with it.”
As the spring semester draws to a close, athletes and teams at Wayland Baptist University have a lot to be proud of. Whether it is the school announcing the addition of competitive swimming and diving to its list of sports, athletes setting personal bests or garnering national recognition or teams rising to the occasion, it has been a successful spring for the university’s student athletes.

Excerpts from this spring’s competition are:

**Track:**
Texas Tech Open: While competing at the Texas Tech Open recently wasn’t a home meet for the Wayland Baptist track and field athletes, it’s about as close as they’re going to get . . . and they made the best of it.

In just the third weekend of the 2013 outdoor season, head coach Rohan Thompson liked what he saw from his team.

Pierre Banks set the tone early for the Pioneers, finishing second with a 14.02 in the 110 meter hurdles. Soon after, teammate Gortia Ferguson took second in the women’s 100 meter dash with an 11.79. Ferguson also earned a first place finish in the 200 meters with a blistering 24.09, which was a new personal record for the freshman.

Pioneer Gregory Turner turned in a scorching performance in the men’s 100 meters, clocking in at 10.44 for second place and was third in the 200 meters after finishing with a 20.82. Shevaun Marsh finished fifth in the men’s 800 meters with a 1:52.46.

On the distance side, Edward Taragon earned the top finish for Wayland, taking first place in the 5000 meter run with a 15:16.91, followed by teammate Jordan Valle in third with a 15:25.86. Sarah Jeroitch had the best finish for the WBU distance women, coming in fourth in the 1500 meters with a 4:45.79.
Within two weeks of becoming Wayland Baptist’s first swimming and diving head coach, Alyson Hannan packed up her home in Conway, Ark., made the 600-mile trip west to Plainview and reported to her first day of work. The 12-time collegiate all-American swimmer spent the past four years as an assistant and interim head coach at Hendrix College and worked with high school and junior swimmers in her home state of California before that. Now, Hannan has been given the reigns to her own collegiate program, the formation of which was announced in early January.

Hannan is already working to build Wayland’s budding program, focusing on recruiting and meeting with aquatics center personnel in Lubbock and Amarillo. With the high school season having wrapped up in late February, Wayland’s new coach knows she’s got a lot of work to do to bring in a first-year team.

“I’m looking for kids who are good students and have the will and desire to continue their careers for four more years,” she said. “We want to be competitive right off the bat and be able to provide a good dual meet or invitational event.”

And as much work as she knows her job will be, Hannan is looking to recruit athletes who know how to put in an effort as well.

“I want kids who are willing to put in the time and the hard work,” she said. “There’s something really special about being the first athletes at a school to launch a new program. Everybody has a chance to be a record holder, and that’s cool, I think.”

While high school swimming isn’t offered in Plainview, athletes from the general West Texas area are on Hannan’s radar.

“The guys were second out of over 100 teams, and the girls were eighth. That’s quite an achievement,” he added. “At the end of the day it’s not what we wanted, but life doesn’t always go like you want.”

The Pioneer men finished with 70 points, 16½ behind OBU’s 86½ points. Indiana Tech was third with 68. It is the third time in four years the Pioneers finished as runners-up.

“We had a lot of mishaps, but you have to give it to OBU,” Thompson said. “They came here to compete and came here with the right mindset. They reminded me of us last year, how dominant we were.”
The WBU women, hoping to return to the podium with at least a third-place finish like last season, instead finished in a tie for eighth with Hastings (Neb.), each with 23 points. OBU won with 113.


The WBU men, who entered the championships ranked No. 8, were one-upped by the Sooners, who scored 113 and Wayland finished second with 112.

Wrestling:

Tamyra Mensah, a sophomore from Katy, finished second at the meet held at Oklahoma City University’s Abe Lemons Arena.

“Tams is the highest finisher we’ve ever had (at a national meet),” Wayland coach Johnny Cobb said.

It’s one place better than Mensah and teammate Angela Vyborny finished at the WCWA National Championships held in late January in Bristol, Tenn. The second-place showing matched the runner-up performance turned in by Jose “Chino” Alvarez for the WBU men at the NAIA National Championships earlier this month in Des Moines, Iowa. Alvarez was Wayland’s first-ever national finalist, and now he has some company following Mensah’s stellar showing.

• Wayland Baptist wrestler Chino Alvarez just keeps making history for the Pioneers, having become the program’s first all-American last season and the first-ever finalist at the NAIA Wrestling National Championships. He wrapped up the national tournament as a silver medalist, falling 5-2 in the championship match.

The Pioneers finished tied for 16th place with 24.5 points in the team standings in a field of 34 schools.

After Alvarez finished fifth at nationals in 2012 to earn Wayland’s first-ever all-American honors, the program picked up two all-American honors this year, courtesy of Alvarez’s silver medal and teammate Chris Hart’s seventh place finish. Hart went 4-2 on the weekend, also earning a spot on the podium in the 141-lb. weight class.

The Wayland Baptist men’s wrestling team finished the season tied for 16th in the postseason NAIA Wrestling Coaches’ Top 20 Poll.

Grand View (Iowa) sits at the top of the postseason poll after earning its second-straight national championship. The team was ranked No. 1 in eight-of-nine polls throughout the season and had eight wrestlers earn all-American honors. Southern Oregon was No. 2, followed by Montana State-Northern, Dickinson State (N.D) and Lindsey Wilson (Ky.), rounding out the top five.

No. 11 Simpson (Calif.) and Wayland were the only two teams to jump into the top 20 after being off the list in previous weeks.

A Texas state runner-up has joined the Wayland Baptist wrestling program. Chris Thompson finished second in the state in Class 4A’s 145-pound class last season while competing for Canyon Randall High School. Thompson helped the Raiders claim the UIL 4A state championship.

Golf:

Wayland’s women, ranked No. 11 in the first regular-season poll, shot a 301 on the Primm Valley Golf Club’s Lakes Course. That’s the lowest round ever turned in by a WBU women’s team, coach Jim Giacomazzi said.

Morgan Matchett captured the individual title while helping the Wayland Baptist women’s golf team to a second-place finish as the Battle of Primm concluded. The WBU men came away in sixth place.

After opening with a brilliant 4-under-par 68, Matchett finished with a 74 for a 142 total. That was five strokes better than the second-place finisher, Megan Woodland of Victoria, British Columbia.

A sophomore from Miramichi, New Brunswick, Matchett came out on top of a 146-player field and won the Battle at Primm in Primm Valley, Nev., by five strokes. The tournament was hosted by Grand View (Iowa) at The Lakes Course at Primm Valley Golf Resort where Matchett shot an opening round 4-under 68 — which tied the lowest round in school history — followed by a 74. Her 142 total led the 11th-ranked Pioneers to a second-place team finish, just one shot behind Cal State San Marcos.

It was the first individual title for a WBU women’s golfer in two years, since Ayne Magombe won the Bluebonnet Classic. Before this week, only three other golfers had won tournaments for the Pioneer women: Magombe, current Pioneer Nathalia Valencia and All-American Charlotte Guilleux.

Dance Team:

The Wayland Baptist dance team set its collective sights on finishing in the top three in their division at the American Collegiate Championships recently. They did just
that, taking third place in a division featuring eight other small colleges, all NCAA Division II schools. Wayland then competed at the NDA national competition, showing incredible poise in finishing third despite the music stopping midway through their routine.

**Football:**
Besides a couple of hiccups with the weather, spring football practices rocked along smoothly for the Wayland Baptist Pioneers.

“I think we’re farther along coming out of spring training than we were in the fall,” Pioneer head coach Butch Henderson said. “All of them continued to get better through the spring. That has given us a good jump.”

The Pioneers got in 15 in-pad practices over a five-week stretch, with the final workout coming at the end of March. The time span was stretched out a bit due to a couple of snow days as well as some windy, dirty, typical West Texas spring weather.

“We were shooting to get through before Spring Break, but we weren’t going to go out and force a day when we didn’t have to (because of bad weather),” Henderson explained.

Most of the players on last year’s squad – the first at Wayland in 72 years – were underclassmen and are back on the roster for 2013. Because of that, Henderson said his staff has been able to advance beyond basic coaching principles.

After playing as an independent last year, Wayland is one of six teams in the Central States Football League this season, joined by Bacone College, Langston University, Oklahoma Baptist University, Southwestern Assemblies of God University and Texas College.

Close to 85 players participated in spring drills, but Henderson aims to have at least twice that number by the time football season begins in the fall. Since National Signing Day in early February, WBU coaches have been busy signing players; to date, 59 have joined the program. Many of those recruits are linemen, something the Pioneers — and most other college programs — desperately need.

The Pioneers open the season Sept. 6 in Alamo- sa, Colo., against Adams State University.

**Queens featured in Texas Monthly**

The Wayland Baptist Flying Queens are the subject of a feature article detailing the history of the illustrious program in the April issue of Texas Monthly.

Written by Skip Hollandsworth, the article includes 13 pages of photos and copy in the monthly magazine that features a cover story entitled “Who Killed the Dixie Chicks?” A teaser on the cover of the magazine reads: “The Greatest College Basketball Team You’ve Never Heard Of.”

The title of the article is “Hoop Queens” and shares the story of “how a tiny Baptist school in the Panhandle created the most dominant team in the history of women’s college basketball.”

Hollandsworth and a photographer were in Plainview when a Flying Queens reunion was held last Sept. 28. Some of the photos accompanying the article were taken that day in Hutcherson Center and feature seven players – Georgia Buttram Bryant, Cookie Barron, Carla Lowry, Mona Poff Biscoe, Oma Gean Capps, Rita Alexander Colman and Judy Bugher – who were members of the Flying Queens teams that won 131 straight games, a record that still stands today.
Board of trustees approve budget, grant promotions

Story by Jonathan Petty

In action taken March 21, the Wayland Baptist University Board of Trustees approved a $75.6 million budget for the 2013-14 academic year. In their regular spring board meeting, trustees participated in committee meetings that morning before gathering in the afternoon to discuss action items that needed consent of the full board. Among those was a proposed budget that showed a 9.8 percent increase, or an additional $6.7 million, over the previous year’s budget.

Although the budget shows an increase, Wayland administrators have been cautious in trying to predict incoming revenue for the academic year. Approximately 35% of Wayland’s student body is made up of military personnel. The military tuition assistance (TA) grants were a topic of discussion during sequestration on Capitol Hill. Without the TA funding, Wayland could experience as much as a 25% loss of revenue at its external campuses. Fortunately, trustees received news that both the House of Representatives and the Senate passed a resolution reinstating TA for military students.

The proposed budget takes into account a projected increase in revenue due to increased enrollment as well as a tuition increase to help offset the rise in administrative costs and expenditures. Tuition will increase from $455 to $480 per semester hour for undergraduate students on the Plainview campus. Graduate students tuition will rise from $410 to $455 an hour. Students on Wayland’s external campuses will pay $254 a semester hour for undergraduate courses, an increase of $12 an hour, and $296 per hour for graduate courses, a $14 per hour increase. Online tuition in Wayland’s virtual campus will increase from $322 to $338 per semester hour for undergraduate courses and from $376 to $395 per hour for graduate courses.

In other business, the Board approved a sabbatical for Dr. Jose Rubio. An assistant professor of Spanish, Dr. Rubio asked for a sabbatical to complete a novel he is writing on Mexico, his country of origin. Mexico is currently suffering a period of violence that is worse than the revolutionary wars of 1910 to 1928. Rubio is hoping his novel will help bring hope and encouragement to Mexican citizen on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Rubio grew up in Jalisco, Mexico, and worked as a national political advisor for the Mexican conservative political party from 1970-78.

The WBU Board also approved promotions for several faculty members. Being promoted from Associate Professor to Professor were Dr. Eric Ash, behavioral and social sciences; Dr. Bill Ballard, business; Dr. Leah Cole, mathematics and sciences; Dr. Tod Outlaw, business; Dr. Charles Starnes, business; Dr. David Unfred, business; Dr. George Valentine, business; Dr. Sammy Van Hoose, business; and Dr. Tim Walsh in mathematics and sciences.

Receiving a promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor were Dr. Kimberly Brown, music; Dr. Barry Evans, business; Dr. Richard Fountain, music; Mr. Mark Hilliard, fine arts; Dr. Cynthia Holubik, business; Dr. Janet Jones, business; Dr. Richard Shaw, religion and philosophy; and Dr. Yahui Zhang in fine arts.
I was struck by a couple of things recently while reading “proof” on the March Board of Trustees report that my wife Carolyn, executive assistant to President Dr. Paul Armes, compiles and also while sending out a request for nominees for Freshmen of the Year honors.

First, we have more than 350 administration, faculty, staff and general employees on the Plainview campus – plus 30 more in the maintenance and custodial staff.

While we are very proud of being the No. 4 employer in Plainview and making such a positive impact on the economic and social fabric of the city, we’re sad that Wayland’s ranking rose a notch recently with the closing of our community’s No. 1 employer, the Cargill beefpacking plant, which employed about 2,200 people.

Obviously, that closing will have an adverse impact on all businesses and entities in Plainview, though the greater extent may not be known for a while.

I’m proud that most of our 350 folks – a good number of them Wayland alumni – are involved in all sorts of activities in Plainview and the area including churches, booster clubs, PTAs, service clubs, youth organizations and various and sundry charitable events. Many of them are in leadership roles.

Second, I was amazed as I read through the report to trustees how many projects and activities are under way, on the drawing board or ongoing – many in the academic area the general public doesn’t see. Books are being written, research papers published or presented at academic meetings by faculty and students, and fascinating experiments conducted. Awards and accolades are being received in diverse areas...some of which are chronicled in this issue of Footprints.

Save the Dates: Please mark Oct. 11-12 on your calendars for Homecoming 2013. We’ll be honoring the Golden Anniversary Class of 1963 as well as all classes ending in 3. Several outstanding alumni will be honored at chapel and we invite your nominations for Outstanding Alumnus, the highest honor, as well as Service, Leadership, Young Alumni and Benefactor awards to andrewsd@wbu.edu...give us as much information as you can.

The Athletic Hall of Honor will introduce new members; the Legacy Luncheon will recognize graduates of 50 years or more; a Homecoming banquet will feature great entertainment; new endowed scholarships will be recognized at the Alumni Luncheon and the Pioneers host Southwestern Assemblies of God in football with the Homecoming Queen to be announced.

If you’re interested in helping Wayland financially, have we got some ways for you? Here are a few:

- Endowed scholarships in the name of yourself, your family or loved one – you may want to consider such a scholarship in your estate planning if you are unable to start one now or endow one quickly.
- The ongoing Steinway Initiative that has received some very generous gifts in the last few months in a campaign to provide those excellent pianos in our School of Music.
- Contributions to the Flores Religion Building that will include classrooms, chapel for worship, meetings and weddings and a mission center. We hope to complete that campaign later this year or early 2014.

Just call us at 806-291-3431 and we’ll help you help one of the greatest universities in America. 🎶
Mission teams on the move this spring/summer

The Wayland Mission Center has enjoyed excitement and enthusiasm during the Spring semester, both on campus and off. Our three local student mission groups are doing excellent work as they minister to high school students, children, and Barrio neighborhood residents, in collaboration with local schools and churches.

Now in its fifth year of ministry, Apostolos, serves youth at risk in Plainview. This mentoring program, now in cooperation with the Big Brother/Big Sister Program, sees WBU students partnered one-on-one with students at Plainview High School, in tutoring, counseling, encouraging, and witnessing to the love of Jesus Christ. Two student co-directors, Daniel James Garza of Petersburg, Texas, and Lauren Ashley Diener, of Waxahachie, Texas, both junior intercultural missions majors, provide sound leadership and organizational skills.

The second group, in its first year of ministry, Diakonia, provides backpacks of food for children at the Thunderbird Elementary School. Diakonia student co-directors Zaca Tyrell Wilson, freshman intercultural missions major from Fritch, Texas, and Nicole Adams, sophomore elementary education major from Amarillo, Texas, work with WBU graduate Rachel Bartel, in coordinating the packing of the food backpacks and their distribution each Friday afternoon. At times, additional items are packed, including toys and Gospel books.

Kerygma, a student missions group launched through the Introduction to Christian Missions course, works strategically in the Barrio neighborhood on Plainview’s east side. Student co-directors Mich Napier, freshman intercultural missions major from Rio Rancho, N.M., and Tabetha Karp, sophomore religion major of Bayfield, Colo., organized a community service day of prayer and clean up on March 2. Wayland students and employees worked side by side with Primera Iglesia Bautista’s pastor Raymond Gonzales and many members of the congregation in prayer walking and community clean up.

The Spring Break 2013 mission was focused on collaborative partnerships with the Greater Detroit Baptist Association and an evangelistic ministry located in Dearborn, Mich. This is Wayland Mission Center’s second year in mission to Michigan. Sixteen team members preached, led worship services, evangelized door-to-door, interpreted worship services for the deaf, taught ESL and American citizenship and Bible stories and truths to Muslim immigrants, cooked and distributed food to the homeless, organized the food closet of one congregation, and renovated classrooms and bathrooms of another congregation.

Summer 2013 will see three Wayland Mission Center teams “go forth” to three continents. The Wayland Brazil mission team, composed of members of Primera Iglesia Bautista of Plainview, Emanuel Community Church of Lubbock, and WBU students, will be on mission May 15-25. The Wayland Kenya team, composed of members of the youth choir of FBC of Plainview, other area churches, and WBU students, will be on mission July 4-21. The Youth Choir will lead a mass youth rally in Kakamega under the direction of WBU Kenya graduate Pastor Obadiah Alubisia. We will also work in Kijabe, Mwingi, and among the Maasai.

The Wayland Balkan team, composed of members from FBC of Plainview, FBC of Flomot, and WBU students, will be on mission in Macedonia, Kosova, and Greece, July 29 through Aug. 10.
BSM students busy during spring semester

What a semester it has been at the BSM. Kicking off this year with a trip to Haiti for a week was a great start for our students. School started not long after returning from Haiti and we were off and running. We began our weekly worship service with a call to missions on our campus and around the world. We also began training for Beach Reach, our mission trip to South Padre Island on Spring Break. The last weekend in January, eight students attended a statewide prayer retreat called Abide where students from all over Texas gather and pray for their campus, our nation, and the world.

In February, Michael Johnson from Future Marriage University spoke to students about dating. His talks included the “Top 10 Dumbest Reasons to Date” and “Purpose-Driven Dating” with breakout sessions and times for Q & A. Students really enjoyed Michael and hearing what he had to say on such a tricky subject for college students.

We also had two students attend GoNow Discovery Weekend. GoNow is a Texas Baptist organization that sends out hundreds of college students every year all over the world. During this weekend, students are given an opportunity to talk with several organizations and the missionaries that work for them. They spend the weekend in a group of students that they have never met before, learning from teachers and listening to God as they discern where God might be calling them for the summer. Students are interviewed and at the end of the weekend after everyone goes home, they are appointed to a mission field. Our two students accepted their assignments and are well on their way to preparing to go out on mission this summer.

March was a crazy month for the BSM. After weeks of training and preparing spiritually, we loaded up in two vans (18 students) and headed out for South Padre Island to participate in Beach Reach on Spring Break. At Beach Reach, more than 700 college students spend their week sharing the gospel with thousands of spring breakers from around the country.

The results of Beach Reach this year were 42 meaningful conversations, 12,564 riders, pancakes served to about 15,000 people, and 27 were baptized.

Coming off of Beach Reach, we had a week to get ready for Spring Revival which took place before the Easter holiday. Our speaker was Runks who was loud, energetic, and entertaining. He shared the gospel each night and there were a few students who were seekers who we have been able to follow up with.

As the semester winds down, the BSM will host a dance, the theme being “Life is hard, God is good, Let’s dance” to help students relax and have some fun in these tough weeks of school. We have also begun our semester fundraiser “Jar Wars” to raise money for GoNow Missions. Students are given a mason jar to collect money with and they choose an opponent to go against. During finals, we will gather and calculate how much we have raised and the students who lose to their opponent must go through a slip-and-slide full of nasty items. Our goal this year is $5,000 and we hope with this fundraiser we will reach that goal. We will finish out the year with our spring banquet celebrating all that God as done and acknowledge those graduating seniors who have been involved with BSM.
External student joins mission team

While she is not a traditional Wayland Baptist University college student, that did not stop Cynthia Humphrey from taking part in the university’s recent mission trip to Detroit and Dearborn, Mich.

Humphrey, who lives in Wichita Falls, is a senior, hoping to graduate from Wayland with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in general business, but she has never set foot on one of the school’s many campuses. She has done all of her classwork online.

“I am a 100 percent virtual student,” she said. “I’ve never been in a Wayland classroom.”

Humphrey said it was that online capability, in part, that attracted her to Wayland.

“I wanted online studies but I also wanted physical access to the university. When considering the two options for study here in Wichita Falls, Wayland was more appealing to me. As a Christian, I wanted at least the Old/New Testament courses and I liked the idea of having Christian professors,” she said, adding that the college credit from her work experience Wayland allowed her to claim factored into her decision, as well.

The trip was one of three the university conducted over spring break and was led by Dr. Richard Shaw, the director of the university’s Mission Center. He explained that for this particular trip, as was his custom, he sent out a mass email to inviting anyone who wanted to participate to contact him. Shaw said he always makes his trips open to anybody who wants to participate. He has only two criteria: That the individual have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ (they don’t have to be Baptist), and that they “love people.”

“Now, when I put out my original mass email about Detroit/Dearborn, Cynthia responded almost immediately,” Shaw said.

Humphrey explained that she had seen email notices about other trips but had not been interested in any of those. However, she continued, the Detroit trip “seemed perfect” for her.

“For several months I had been in prayer saying to God that I know he saved me for more than I was experiencing in my Christian life. The churches in my demographic area of worship don’t do a lot of outreach and I wanted the opportunity to be a foot soldier instead of just attending worship service, being preached to and attending more church pro-
grams,” she said.

One of the key elements to the trip to Detroit and Dearborn, the second one to that area for the university which has developed a partnership with the Greater Detroit Baptist Association, was door-to-door evangelism and that was exactly the type of thing Humphrey was wanting.

“I think the greatest part of the trip I enjoyed was the door-to-door part. The church that I attend, we don’t do that. We kind of have the mentality of, ‘If they come they will get the word,’ but we don’t go out,” she said.

Humphrey said that in particular it was exciting to see some of the people the team visited make decisions to become Christians, and, she continued, that wasn’t the only exiting part of the trip for her.

“I was really touched by working with the homeless,” she said, referring to a two-day period in which team members helped a local organization serve breakfast to the homeless. She worked the first day but let others go the second.

She also said she enjoyed helping refurbish a mission in the same general area as the homeless shelter, working alongside members of the local congregation.

From a professional standpoint, Humphrey — who is 50 and married to David Humphrey, a medical technician at North Texas State Hospital in Wichita Falls — said she enjoyed the opportunity the trip provided to work with women in the Detroit/Dearborn area who needed

see HUMPHREY on Page 41
Diakonia students fill packs with food for hungry children

Story by Richard Porter

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times $7,500 can seem like the world. It certainly did to a group of students at Wayland Baptist University recently when an anonymous donor gave them the money to buy food.

The food wasn’t for the students at Wayland, but it was for students — young elementary students at Plainview’s Thunderbird Elementary School. The generous gift made it possible for students involved in Wayland’s Diakonia group to implement a backpack program aimed at ministering to the families at the school.

According to Wayland sophomore Nicole Adams, the idea for the Diakonia program, in general, is based on the biblical passage in Matthew 25 where Jesus tells his followers in verse 40: “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ ”

“That actually came up in a Bible study Dr. (Richard) Shaw was doing,” she said. “We wanted to be able to connect students at Wayland with the community,” the psychology student from Amarillo said.

Shaw, who is the director of the Wayland Mission Center, explained that the term Diakonia means service or ministry and the Bible study to which Adams referred started about 18 months ago. As the students began to express an interest in serving, Shaw sent them out into the Plainview community to visit with agencies that were serving the needy. In particular, he explained, the students were interested in agencies that were ministering to the hungry.

As it turned out, he continued, the students discovered that there were many agencies targeting the hungry, but there was one segment of the community that seemed to lack any particular focus . . . the children.

As the Wayland students considered the results of their canvas of the community, they realized that in many instances children came from homes where the parent or parents were working on the weekends. In particular, that was true in the Thunderbird area and it exacerbated a situation in which the school already was seeing a significant part of its student population on the free-and-reduced-lunch program.

According to Thunderbird Principal Andrew Hannon, of the approximately 470 students attending the school, more than 90 percent are in the free-and-reduced-lunch program.

Adams was one of the students who visited with administrators at the school and learned firsthand of the need to help students in the Thunderbird neighborhood.

The idea, she said, was to put together a small backpack with food for hungry children. 

Wayland freshman Zaca Wilson, from Fritch, Texas, (left) is joined by junior Matt Evans from Marble Falls, Texas, as they get food ready to put in backpacks for children at Thunderbird Elementary School.

see PACKS on Page 40
Military, mold and endowed scholarships

WBU named Military Friendly University

Military Advanced Education (MAE) announces the inclusion of Wayland Baptist University in its 2013 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities, just released and available online at URL.

From community colleges to state universities, online universities and nationally known centers of higher learning, MAE’s 2013 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities provides potential students with information about institutions that go out of their way to implement military-friendly policies in support of our men and women in uniform.

Among the attributes considered in evaluating this year’s institutions for inclusion in the Guide are the flexibility of online learning options, extent of transfer credits accepted by degree level, on-campus ROTC, Servicemember Opportunity Colleges (SOC) participation, on-campus active duty/veteran assistance, the support provided to the families of servicemembers, faculty trained in veteran reintegration issues, presence on military installations, and full-time counselors trained in veteran-specific mental health concerns, to name but a few.

Based in Plainview, Texas, Wayland operates campuses in Wichita Falls, San Antonio, Amarillo and Lubbock, Texas, as well as Altus, Okla., Clovis and Albuquerque, N.M., Phoenix and Sierra Vista, Ariz., Anchorage and Fairbanks, Ak., and Mililani, Hawaii, with many teaching sites located on military bases.

Residents moved to deal with mold issue

Wayland officials took the precautionary measure of moving residents located in an off-campus apartment building in order to deal with the presence of actively growing mold spores in two units.

A resident notified the school of concerns at the Llano apartment building, located at 7th and Oakland streets, on Monday, Feb. 11, prompting maintenance crews to investigate. Cleaning crews cleaned the area, but school officials felt it was in the best interest of the residents to further investigate. Wayland contacted the Environmental Services Agency out of Lubbock to conduct tests of the apartments. Samples were taken on Wednesday, Feb. 13, and sent to the lab for testing.

The Llano apartments consist of 12 units with a total of 25 residents. The university will provide moving assistance for all residents if desired.

Scholarship honors Dr. Sherman Neff

A goal 53 years in the making came to fruition for Wayland Baptist University alum Dr. Bob Frye and his wife, Alice, when the couple dedicated an endowed scholarship in honor of former Wayland professor Dr. Sherman Neff. The dedication was held in the Harley Redin Hall of Honor at Hutcherson Center and allowed Frye to simultaneously recognize another one his mentors, Coach Redin.

Frye graduated from Wayland in 1961 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and then went on to Purdue University to get his master’s degree. He received his doctoral degree from the University of Tennessee and served for more than 30 years as a faculty member in the English Department at Texas Christian University, where he now is Professor Emeritus.

Floydada couple endows scholarship

Two longtime Floydada residents were on the Wayland campus recently for the acknowledgement of a scholarship in honor of her parents.

The Robert and May Montague Garrett Endowed Scholarship was established by their daughter, Roberta Garrett Hardin, who attended Wayland from 1951-53, and her husband, William “Bill” Hardin “in grateful appreciation for her parents’ Christian ideals.”

Terrell scholarship to benefit non-traditional students

Wayland officials and special guests gathered recently to dedicate the newly endowed Dr. Benita Lou “Corky” Terrell Endowed Scholarship.

Joined by her husband, Donald Lee, and several of their children and grandchildren, Corky was recognized for her contributions to Wayland’s School of Behavioral and
Social Sciences, where she taught sociology.

The Terrell scholarship has been designated to benefit non-traditional female students at Wayland. Terrell explained the desire to help non-traditional women came to her after a conversation with one of her students. Dr. Terrell said the student asked if she could turn a paper in late, saying it was written and ready, but her husband had thrown out her computer the day before and she could not access it. Terrell said this student exhibited signs of abuse and she felt the loss of the computer was a result of an argument.

Jim Denison discusses culture at Willson Lectures

Dr. Jim Denison, founder of The Denison Forum on Truth and Culture, spoke at Wayland’s annual Willson Lecture Series. He broke his lectures into two parts to diagnose the problem with today’s culture and society, and then address change.

He said our society and culture is witnessing a time of increased aggression toward Christianity. While the spread of Christianity is booming in other cultures, it has come to a near standstill in the United States. Denison said there are many reasons for this, the main cause, however, is what he calls a “spiritual schizophrenia” in which today’s Christians have embraced Christianity as a “transactional religion.” This, he explained, was a religion in which people behave a certain way in order to receive blessings from God.

Denison pointed to the rapid growth of Christianity in other countries, and asked, “How can we join what is happening around the world?”

“In our culture,” he said. “God is a hobby.”

Denison said the answer to the question is four-fold. First, he said society must humble itself before God. Prayer is the second key. The third aspect of his answer is to truly seek God’s face. The fourth key is for society, including Christians, to turn from its wicked ways.

Stokes, Pedigo recognized at Leadership Summit

Leading with Civility was the topic for the High Plains Leadership Summit at Wayland in February. The annual summit is a forum to recognize leaders and the qualities that make them successful — challenging students, faculty, staff and administrators to exhibit those characteristics in their daily lives. This year’s theme was Leading with Civility.

Dr. Vernon Stokes and junior Aubrey Pedigo were recognized for their leadership roles.

Pedigo was recognized as the recipient of the Leroy Walker Champion of Character nominee for Wayland. The Leroy Walker Award is a national award that recognizes a student athlete of strong character each year. Pedigo was not only the Wayland nominee, but she also was recognized by the Sooner Athletic Conference. Stokes, a trustee of Wayland and longtime educator in West Texas, was recognized for his leadership during his 42-year career in education. He was presented with the Legacy Leadership Award by Dr. Claude Lusk, Vice President for Enrollment Management at Wayland.

Stokes shared a few of the things he learned during his time in leadership. He said it is important to remember that you are a leader only as long as people are willing to follow, and that people always reap what they sow.
Christian love and sympathy is extended to the family and friends of these members of the Wayland family.

Joe Cargile: Died Dec. 30, 2012, in Crosbyton, Texas, at age 78. He served as a Wayland trustee on three occasions for a total of 20 years and was a banker in Crosbyton for 58 years. Surviving are his wife, Milla Raye; three sons, a sister, nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Lois Jean Miller Cone: Died Dec. 19, 2012, in Albuquerque, N.M., at age 75. She was the wife of Dr. Claude Cone, BA’59, who served as a Wayland trustee for 21 years. A former elementary teacher in Texas and New Mexico, she also is survived by a daughter, Catherine “Cathy” Cone, BS’80, two brothers and two grandchildren. (Claude: 1534 Catron S.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87123; claudecone@aol.com; Cathy: 5750 State Highway 154, Marshall, TX 75670; jcone@etbu.edu)

Ona B. Foreman: Died Jan. 1, 2013, in Plainview, at age 89. She worked at K-Mart for many years. Surviving are two daughters, including Karen Foreman LaQuey, BSOE’99, MM’05, Director of Financial Aid; two sons, a brother, 14 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. (Karen: laqueyk@wbu.edu)

Lenard G. Henderson: Died Dec. 30, 2012, in Lubbock, at age 83. A resident of Artesia, N.M., he was the father of Wayland head football coach Butch Henderson. He was a high school football coach for three decades and was a member of the New Mexico Sports Hall of Fame. Also surviving are his wife, Fid; another son, a daughter, a brother, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. (Butch: Hendersonb@wbu.edu)

Mildred Holubik: Died March 23, 2013, in Saginaw, Mich., at age 95. A homemaker, she is survived by eight children, including a son, Tom Holubik, and his wife, Dr. Cynthia Holubik, assistant professor of management, and 15 grandchildren, including Michael Holubik, current president of the Wayland Student Body.

C.C. Kelley: Died April 9, 2013, in Plano at age 87. A resident of White Deer, the U.S. Navy veteran was a longtime farmer. He served as a Wayland trustee from 1990-1999, 2001-2009 and 2011-2013 and served two years as president of the Texas Baptist Brotherhood and served on the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation board since 1996. The Shirley Evans Kelley Endowed Scholarship is named in memory of his late wife of 56 years. Survivors include a son, a daughter, a brother, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Othella Jean McDonald: Died March 13, 2013, in Plainview at age 85. A homemaker, she is survived by four sons, including David McDonald and his wife, Clorene McDonald, BSOE’2011, Office Manager for Financial Aid; two daughters, 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren. (Clorene: Clorene@wbu.edu)

Elizabeth “Libby” Michael: Died March 6, 2013, in Plainview, at age 80. Former manager of Christian Manor Apartments, she had taught business ethics at Wayland. Surviving are her husband, Dr. Steve Michael, professor of English at Wayland; a son and three brothers. (smichael@wbu.edu)

Elizabeth Moore: Died Dec. 21, 2012, in Amarillo, at age 91. She served as a Wayland trustee for 13 years. Fluent in speaking and writing in Korean, she taught English as a Second Language for several decades. Surviving are her husband of 71 years, Dr. Winfred Moore, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church in Amarillo; two daughters, a son, six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

James A. “Doc” Potts: Died Feb. 3, 2013, in Dallas at age 89. Former president of First National Bank of Plainview and a leader in the reorganization of United Way in Plainview, he and his wife, the late Mel Potts, endowed a presidential scholarship at Wayland. A U.S. Army veteran, he is survived by three daughters, a son, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Pearl Thompson: Died March 7, 2013, in Wichita Falls, Texas, at age 77. She was a medical social worker for 19 years at Wichita Falls State Hospital. Surviving are her husband of 53 years, Dr. Jo-
SELYN “JOSH” THOMPSON, professor of Business Administration and Education at the Wichita Falls campus, two daughters, a sister and two grandchildren.

George E. “Val” Valentine: Died Feb. 23, 2013, in Corpus Christi at age 85. The father of DR. GEORGE VALENTINE, professor of Business, he was a retired U.S. Army veteran and retired Realtor. He founded the Walk with Pride Foundation, a community service program of the Corpus Christi Realtors Assn. to provide shoes for needy youngsters. Surviving are another son, two daughters, a brother, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. (valentineg@wbu.edu)

1940s

1950s

1960s

1970s

1980s

1990s

2000s

2010s
MATTHEWS, BA’62, died last year. Surviving are three daughters, a son and 13 grandchildren.

1970s
JIMMIE DAN SPRUILL, EX’71: Died Feb. 6, 2013, in Plainview at age 63. He was owner of Rent America. Surviving are his wife of 42 years, Lonella; a son, a daughter, his mother, and a brother.

Howard Wayne Wright: Died Feb. 27, 2013, in Cleburne, Texas, at age 83. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he taught, coached and was an administrator in the Roswell, N.M. school district for many years. Surviving are a daughter, VALERIE WRIGHT RITCHIE, BA’76, a son, two brothers, two sisters, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. (bobvaleries@texas.gov)

HEATHER ABEL, database administrator in Information Technology, and her husband, Tim welcomed their first child, Joseph William, born April 10, 2013, in Lubbock weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measuring 21 ½ inches. (abelh@wbu.edu)

1980s
ROSEY ISBELL, CERTB’80: Died Dec. 29, 2012, in Plainview, at age 77. She was a homemaker. Surviving are five daughters, three sons, two sisters, 18 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren.

2000s
Zakkerey Parker Scales: Died Jan. 21, 2013, in Lubbock at almost 2 years of age. He is survived by his parents, CHRISTOPHER SCALES, BSOE’06, and his wife, Jennifer, and three siblings – Trystan, Cassidy and Matthew – two grandmothers, a great-grandfather and a great-grandmother. (2342 78th Street Unit #2, Lubbock, TX 79423)

RONALD G. WILSON, BSOE’03 from the Wichita Falls campus: Died March 17, 2013, in Iowa Park, Texas, at age 66. A 20-year U.S. Air Force veteran, he served three tours of duty in Vietnam. He then worked in aircraft maintenance for many years and was Program Manager for the implementation of the Aircraft Maintenance program at the Vernon College Skills Training Center in Wichita Falls. Surviving are his wife of 36 years, Mary; a daughter, his mother, a brother and two grandchildren. (P.O. Box 446, Iowa Park, TX 76367)

HEATHER ABEL, database administrator in Information Technology, and her husband, Tim welcomed their first child, Joseph William, born April 10, 2013, in Lubbock weighing 7 pounds, 9 ounces and measuring 21 ½ inches. (abelh@wbu.edu)

1990s
PATRICIA SMITH WILLIAMS, BS’53, a retired teacher who has attended many Wayland functions during her time in Plainview, has moved to Lubbock. She was a manager for the Flying Queens. Her new address is 6202 W. 4th, Lubbock, TX 79416

2010s
Dr. Monique Chism is the Director for the Student Achievement and School Accountability (SASA) program in the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. She is the daughter of EUGENE “GENE” CHISM, BA’72, a former Pioneer basketballer, and his wife Elane. SASA administers more than $15.6 billion annually in federal program funds. These programs provide financial assistance to states, school districts, and schools to meet the educational needs of children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet academic standards established by states. Dr. Chism has held a series of positions in the field of education as a teacher, researcher, and state administrator. She is former assistant superintendent of the Illinois State Board of Education. Gene is Juvenile Court Liaison and Behavioral Health Interventionist for the Davenport, Iowa, Community Schools and Elane is a dental assistant. They have two other daughters and a son is deceased. (Gene: eechism@peoplepc.com)

1950s
TOM JOHNSON, BA’74, and his wife, PEGGY BATES JOHNSON, BA’73, work for Creative Education Insti-
tute, an educational software company in Waco. He spent 30 years in public education as a teacher, coach and administrator and Peggy as a teacher in Kress, Ropesville, Friona, Three Way, Whiteface, Monahans and Alvord. They have two married children and three grandchildren. (POB 8482, Waco, TX 76714; tpjohnson@yahoo.com)

MATT CHAFFIN, EX’97, spent four years touring with the Grammy-winning gospel group Ernie Couch and Revival (2006-2010). “I had the privilege of recording with Boots Randolph, Mary Wilson (one of the original Supremes), Greg X Volz, Bob Harriman and John Lawry of Petra, Patti Page and George Beverly Shea,” Matt writes. During that time, he met and married his wife, Jill Rebert, who is outpatient scheduler for Howard County General Hospital. After spending four years in Nashville, they accepted the call to Bethel Baptist Church in Ellicott City, Maryland, where he is currently serving as Worship Arts and Christian Education Pastor. (matt.bethelworship@yahoo.com)

ANGELA CLEMENTS, BS’90, who also received her teaching certificate from Wayland in 1999, is to be married on June 22. She has been teaching second grade in Dumas for 13 years and would love to hear from Wayland friends. (angela.clement1356@sbcglobal.net)

JACOB BURKE, BS’05, has joined the Raleigh, N.C. architectural firm of Frank Harmon Architect PA as a full-time project engineer. After receiving his degree in psychology, Burke moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where he discovered his passion for architecture. He received his master’s degree in that field from North Carolina State University’s College of Design. The firm was ranked 21st out of the top 50 firms in the nation by Architect magazine.

DOUG SHELTON, BA’05 and his wife MEG MANSDOERFER SHELTON, BSIS’05 welcome the birth of their second child, Avery Kate Shelton on Jan. 11, 2013. Avery Kate weighed 6 lbs, 11 oz and was 20 inches long. She also has a big brother, Ryan.

SHANNON ROLAND, BA’02, graduated in 2001 from University of North Texas with a masters in Library and Information Sciences. She recently had a story published and it can be found at http://sbpra.com/ShannonMRoland/ (futurama2525@yahoo.com)

T. SGT. TROY MORTON, BAS’12 in Education and Training Management from the Virtual Campus, is serving as Lead Deployment Manager for all personnel under Air Force Leadership at the Pentagon, Department of Energy, and the Air Force Military Support Personnel at the White House (2,400-plus personnel). He is working on his MBA through the Virtual Campus and will be retiring from the Air Force this spring. He and his wife Chrystal have four children: Devon 16, Madison 14, Troy Jr. 13, and Angelina 10. Troy writes: “My education through WBU has helped me with securing a job post-military. Now that I have the education to match my experience level in my specific field, my resume is standing out above others vying for the same position.” (15296 Barnabas Trail, Woodbridge, VA 22193; troymorton1@gmail.com)

BRADLEY SELL, BA’11, and ALLISON VETTER SELL, BM’11, welcomed their first child, Adilynn Jubilee Sell, on Jan. 26, 2013. She was born in Lubbock, weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 ¼ inches long. Brad is an employee of the Broadway Brew in Plainview.
that could be prepared by a child, without adult supervision, that was nutritious. The packs contain cereal, fruit wraps, non-perishable milk, and canned stew with pull-up tops, among other things. Once assembled, the packs would be given to students at the end of the day on Friday to take home for the weekend. Then if the parents were out of the home over the weekend working, the children would be able to prepare their own meals.

The program was one that fellow student Rachel Bartel was familiar with from her hometown of Pampa. She and Adams took the lead roles in getting the project going, although Bartel has since graduated and now works for Wayland.

Hannon explained that once the plan was developed, school administrators sent notes home to the parents encouraging them to allow their children to participate in the backpack program. He pointed out that backpacks only would be sent with children whose parents approved and initially a few responses began to trickle in.

Then the unexpected happened. A local company, Cargill Meat Solutions, announced that it was going to close its facility, throwing more than 2,000 employees out of work. While there is no way to confirm the correlation, when Adams met with her fellow students the week after the announcement to prepare the bags, she had news for them. The request for backpacks had jumped from around 20 the week before to more than 80 that night.

Shaw saw a connection in the ability of the program to meet the unexpected need. Of the closing of the plant and subsequent uncertainty that sent through the community he was specific: “The Lord knew that (was going to happen). We had no clue.”

Hannon said he is glad the university students have chosen to partner with his campus and he said the program has been well received.

“You can see it in the way the kids are responding to it. They enjoy the food,” he said, adding that his elementary students are really good about bringing back the backpacks.

From the university students’ perspective, the whole project has been a thrill to be a part of. Adams explained that once word got out about what her group was wanting to do, others in the community stepped up to make it happen.

“Nancy Keith at Wayland Housing heard about it and she used the money from the fines from the students in the dorms (to purchase backpacks for the project),” Adams said.

Northside Baptist Church, which is located across the street from Thunderbird Elementary, donated a room for the students to use to store the food and prepare the backpacks.

Then, there was the monetary donation.

“For me ($7,500) is a lot of money. That’s more money than I can imagine,” she said. “It’s a breath of fresh air to find someone who has that kind of a heart, and to do it anonymously proves they’re not just doing it to get recognition for themselves. It lets me know that they believe in our cause and that there is a big God backing our cause.”

Zaca Wilson, a freshman religion major from Fritch, is helping Adams spearhead the project. He sees it as a way to hopefully open the door for a greater relationship with the families in the Thunderbird neighborhood.

“I’m praying that when the kids see this they will see Jesus behind it. I’m also praying that it will spread to the families, not just the kids. I’m hoping that the relationships we start will extend beyond the school,” he said.

He and Adams also are hoping the program will expand beyond Thunderbird Elementary to other schools in Plainview.
assistance.

That, after all, is her passion. Currently, Humphrey works as a customer service associate for Magicaire, a manufacturer of commercial heating and air conditioning equipment. Before that, she explained, she had been a Section 8 Housing Counselor with the City of Wichita Falls. It was there that she saw the need and developed the passion for working with women.

Humphrey explained that in that capacity she regularly saw women who had been stay-at-home moms but suddenly found themselves divorced with no concept of how to apply for a job or get along in a business environment. Since she had experience in the professional world, Humphrey said she felt the calling to help. The mission trip to Detroit/Dearborn firmed up that conviction, she said.

While the trip was a good experience for Humphrey, she acknowledged that it wasn’t always easy. After all, she was 30 years older than the students who were on the trip and had not met any of them until the actual trip got underway. At the same time, she continued, while she realized that part of the function of the trip was to serve as an education and training tool for those students she would like to see Wayland design a trip specifically for non-traditional students centered around “human service” needs.

“I care most where people are going to spend eternity but I also care about how they are going to spend their day,” she said.

When posed with that notion, Shaw said that while such a trip would present some logistical challenges as far as training went, those would not be insurmountable. In fact, he said, a trip to Brazil a few years ago could provide the template. The team for that trip was made up almost entirely of students who were participating in the university’s nursing program at its San Antonio campus and Shaw said that they had to use the ITV capabilities of the university to conduct the training and orientation meetings.

“So, it does present challenges, for sure, but it is very possible and I would use, that first mission trip to Brazil, as the key model for that,” Shaw said.

Ultimately, this spring’s mission trip to Detroit/Dearborn was what Humphrey hoped it would be, a week that would help her move forward in her own Christian life as she sought out ways to advance the calling she has felt from God.

“The trip was invigorating, exhilarating and spiritually fulfilling,” she said. “I have a renewed commitment to finding ways to serve Christ by serving others right here at home and especially spending more time at Faith Refuge women’s mission center.”

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Spouse’s occupation
Children (birthdates)
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Photographs may appear in magazine, depending on photo quality and/or available space. Photos are not returned. If sending digital photo files, please send at least 300 dpi resolution at regular size. Smaller sizes may not reproduce well.

The editor reserves the right to edit all information submitted.
Wayland’s Office of Communications and Public Relations won a prestigious Gold Award in design at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education District IV conference and contest in March. CASE District IV consists of schools, colleges and universities in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico. The football poster, designed by Jonathan Petty, commemorates Wayland’s first football game in more than 70 years, when the Pioneers traveled to Heroes Stadium in San Antonio to take on Monterrey Tech on Sept. 1, 2012.

Stay in touch with Wayland!

The Association of Former Students of Wayland Baptist University

- Call us at 806-291-3603
- Contact us by e-mail at andrewsd@wbu.edu or pettyj@wbu.edu for Class Notes, address changes, chapter information