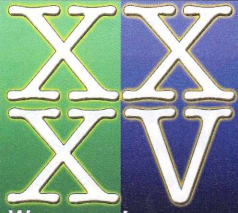


1971 - 2006



Western
Texas
College

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The Tumbleweed

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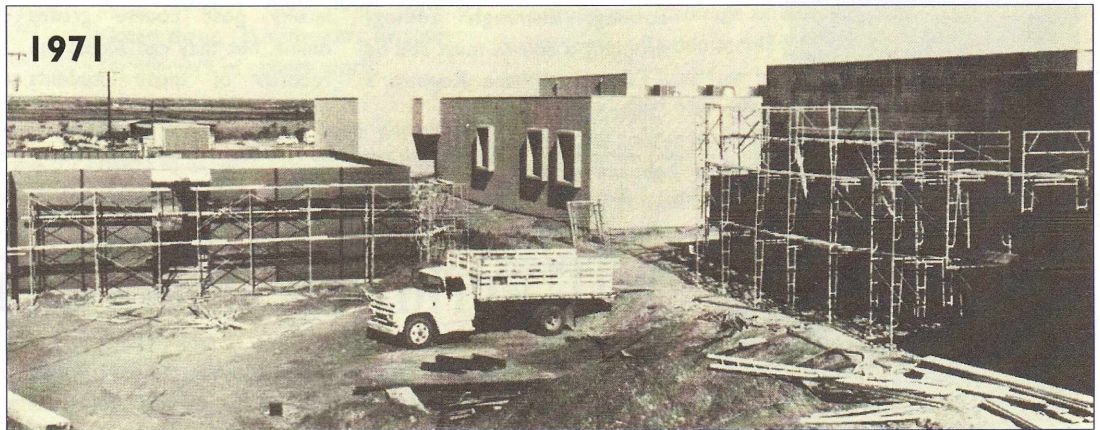
WTC Celebrates 35 Years

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Student e-mail available
- Check grades online
- Welcome Coach Moore
- HPE Building Remodeling

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1971

The buildings surrounding the WTC Central Courtyard then...and now



2006

In the year 1971, two Apollo 14 astronauts walked on the moon for the third U.S. lunar landing, "Knock Three Times" by Dawn was at the top of the music charts and the US government ban on TV Cigarette ads went into effect. Also, Western Texas College became the first institution of higher education in the Scurry County area.

The 2006 fall semester marks the thirty-five year anniversary of Western Texas College. The college began with the efforts of a few community residents that saw a need for secondary education that was affordable and accessible to the area's residents.

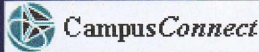
Dr. Gregory Williams, WTC President

for the last five years, is glad to be a part of the history of WTC. "I am proud to be a part of the story of Western Texas College. Over thirty-five years ago, many forward thinking and progressive community members decided to invest in the educational futures of their fellow citizens by making a college education more available and more affordable. The results of their investment have been tremendous. Over the last thirty-five years, thousands of community members have earned a college education, many individuals have gained training and knowledge that has been used in their particular workplace, and many, many millions of dollars have been brought into the local economy. Even though there is still much to be done, the story of Western Texas College, to this point, has been a grand success. I am honored

that the Board of Western Texas College and this community have given me the opportunity to have played a small role in these first thirty-five years."

There are still four original faculty and/or staff members that are still with the college; Dr. Jim Palmer, Dean of Instruction; Sam Walker, Associate Professor of Welding; Gerald Corkran, Associate Dean of Academic Instruction; and Ed Barkowsky, Professor of English.

Though much has changed over the last thirty-five years, the college's focus of educating students will always be the same.



- View current class schedule
- View unofficial transcript
- View financial aid status
- View degree plan



"WTC Worldwide, a name that reflects the college's commitment to reach out to students not only in our own community, but all over the globe."



Check Your Grades Online!

Students can go online and check course grades, view degree plans, check available courses for their program of study, and print out unofficial transcripts (official transcripts must be sent from WTC directly to another academic institution).

Online registration is also coming, although adding/dropping a course must still be done through the Registrar's Office.

Students must first sign up before using CampusConnect. Online access to student records is secure, requiring each student to have a unique login ID and password which is only provided hard-copy, either in-person or via snail-mail.

WTC faculty also benefit from CampusConnect. Not only can faculty post course grades online, but they can access the records of those students

assigned to their courses, enabling easy advising, based upon up-to-date records and degree plans.

With the coming emphasis on distance education, CampusConnect provides off-campus students with easy access to registration and status. CampusConnect is accessible through any Internet-connected computer.

WTC Worldwide Offers Online Learning

The new distance education initiative at Western Texas College is called *WTC Worldwide*, a name that reflects the college's commitment to reach out to students not only in our own community, but all over the globe.

WTC already offers a few courses online via the Virtual College of Texas, but over the next two years will be greatly

expanding the online course offering to include classes in almost every program of study.

This fall WTC is offering a new opportunity in continuing education. The **Medical Coding Specialist** certification program offers students an opportunity to train for an exciting career in the medical field. Clinics, hospitals, doctor's offices, and medical supply

firms all need trained medical coding specialists to process and submit claims to insurance companies.

Call the office of Continuing Education to learn more and watch for more great news about WTC Worldwide.

Traditional college—non-traditional opportunities!

WTC Student E-mail Coming Soon

Beginning later this Fall, each WTC student will have an individual network login.

For the past several years, WTC has used a generic network login for students. Now each student will be able to use his/her own login to access the WTC Intranet.

One of the biggest benefits of individual logins is student e-mail. Each student will now have his/her own WTC e-mail address.

To reach a student via e-mail, enter the student first name—dot—the student last name @wtc.edu (joy.smith@wtc.edu).

Students can access their WTC e-mail at any Internet-connected computer, on or off campus, by going to: <https://mail.wtc.edu/exchange> and entering their given login and password.

What a great way to stay connected at WTC!

Academic All American Athletes

Athletics are important at Western Texas College.

In 2006, the college is adding four new sports programs: Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Men's Golf, and Women's Golf. We have well over 200 student athletes on campus, ready to do their best for WTC.

But playing the sport itself is just part of student life at WTC. Athletes are also competing in the academic arena. Many will go on to a four-year school after WTC, so grades are important.

For 2005/2006, WTC had six indi-

vidual athletes achieve Academic All-American status and had two teams qualify as well.

In order to qualify for this honor, the NJCAA has established the following criteria:

Each nominee must have completed three (3) semesters or four (4) quarters of college work.

Each nominee must have participated in at least one season at the varsity level at the college from which he/she is nominated.

Academic All-Americans By Sport must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.60 or better on a 4.0 scale for 45 semester hours or 60 quarter hours. **Distinguished Academic All-Americans** must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.80 or better on a 4.0 scale for 45 semester hours or 60 quarter hours. In computing the final grade point average, all course hours attempted must be included, with the exception of remedial/development coursework, which cannot be used to meet the requirements for this award.

Julie Sebastian (Softball): Academic All-American and Distinguished Academic All-American

Ashley Eckerman (Softball): Academic All-American and Distinguished Academic All-American

Laci Langford (Volleyball): Academic All-American

Geraldo Rendon (Baseball): Academic All-American

Matt Stovall (Baseball): Academic All-American

Tim Kelleher (Baseball): Texas All-Academic Team; Finalist for National All-Academic Team

Softball Team: Nationally ranked for the 4th time in five years as an All-American Academic Team with a team GPA of 3.34.

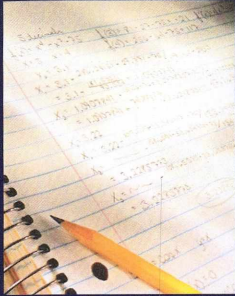
Baseball Team: 54 team members with a cumulative GPA of 3.21 (not submitted for All-American Academic consideration, otherwise would have placed 5th in the country)

PTK Members on Athletic Scholarship: 16 out of **28 inductees** for the 2005-2006 school year



WTC SALUTES YOU!!

Student Work



“When we stepped out onto the field, it was like being in the Grand Canyon. The bleachers appeared to rise into the clouds. The field didn’t feel like a hundred yards, but seemed to stretch a mile long.”

Last Second Save

I’ll never forget the time I scored the game winning touchdown. It was the first round of the playoffs. It was our first time in the playoffs in five years, so making it into the second round, and it being because I scored the game winning touchdown, this was the most memorable moment in my sports career.

I am assuming you are wondering, “What happened that made this so memorable?” This was my sophomore year, 2000, in high school, and I was starting tight-end on varsity. I was the youngest player on the team. All year long I had been scoring touchdowns and making good plays. Our last few games were tough, but we battled into that glorious land of high school playoffs. All of my coaches told me that I was one of the key players in getting us into the playoffs. So you can imagine, that when we were losing by three, and I scored a touchdown that brought us victory, why this game was so memorable.

It was December of 2000, and we were entering the Dallas Cowboy Stadium in Irving, Texas, for our first game in the playoffs. We faced Wichita Falls Hirsch. We unloaded the buses and made our way to the locker rooms. We were greeted by representatives of the Dallas Cowboys. They began to lead us to our locker room. Man, oh man, was this place huge. We saw a few famous Cowboy football players. We met Michael Irvin, Emmitt Smith, and Roger Staubach. All of these men were willing to sign autographs and give a few words of encouragement. It was the words of the great Cowboy quarterback, Roger Staubach, that gave me inspiration going into the game. He said to me, “You don’t go out there just to play. You go out there to win. And like my dad always told me, a job worth doing, is worth doing well.” I took these words of inspiration into that game, and I still remember them today.

With our spirits high and full of inspiration, we made the final steps of our journey to the locker room. When we entered the locker room, the lockers were labeled with name

tags. We each got our own locker! This was exciting for me. These were the same lockers that some of the greatest football players had used. WOW! We had about an hour before the game was supposed to start. So we all suited up in our brand new equipment and uniforms, all of which had been tailored and fitted for each individual. My two best friends, Ryan Stanford and Billy Sexton, made our way to the field, which was no easy task. The long and winding corridors were like a never ending maze, but we finally made it to the field.

When we stepped out onto the field, it was like being in the Grand Canyon. The bleachers appeared to rise into the clouds. The field didn’t feel like a hundred yards, but seemed to stretch a mile long. You could smell the freshly mown grass mixed with the smell of freshly painted lines and numbers. It was surreal. The stadium was so immense that we appeared to be only specks on the field. A mere existence in the enormous world of football. We separated into offense and defense, and went through our normal warm-up drills. Then the offense and I went through some new offensive plays that we were going to be using. We were looking real good, almost perfect. Suddenly, we heard the buzzer, which signaled that we had fifteen minutes until the coin toss. We all circled up into a team huddle. Danny Howe, the pastor from First Baptist Church of Saginaw, was in the middle. He said, “Guys, you’ve made it this far. You’ve been through blood, sweat, tears. Have fun, but go out there and win.” He said a prayer of protection and inspiration. We broke the team huddle and headed for our sidelines. The Roswell Pioneers were united as a team and ready for battle.

David Fields, the quarterback, Isaiah Lincoln, the tailback, and I headed to centerfield for the coin toss. We were the chosen team captains for the playoffs. The opposing three team captains met us in the middle. We all

shook hands and then faced each other. We called the coin toss. David said, "Heads!" We won and elected to receive. The other team picked the side of the field they wanted to kick from. When they kicked the ball, we returned it to about the forty yard line. We battled for the whole first half. I had already scored one touchdown. When the second quarter ended, we headed back to the locker rooms. The score was 14-3, our way. I limped into the locker room, and headed straight for the trainer's room. I was in pain, sweaty, and covered in my own blood. My right knee was swollen to the size of a softball. The trainer put a needle into the top, then the side of my knee, and extracted a yellowish fluid. I later found out that I had torn the cartilage in my knee and the fluid was from the space between my two leg bones, right at the joint. Anyways, the trainer gave me a shot of pain killer. They asked if I still wanted to play. I said, "Hell yeah!" I stretched my body. Coach Hesse gave us a team speech. He said, "Keep it up. Stay strong on defense. And go score some more damn touchdowns! Let's go!!"

We headed back into that glorious battle. It was now dark outside, and the stadium lights were now shining brightly. The third quarter went horribly wrong for us. We started the fourth quarter 31-28. I had made some very vital catches that had set us up for the two touchdowns that we had scored. It seemed our defense had run out of steam in the third quarter. All throughout the fourth quarter, both defenses stayed strong. We just couldn't get close enough to the end zone to score. We ran the clock down to where we only had one minute left in the game. We needed to either score a touchdown, or get close enough to kick a field goal so we could tie it up. Coach Hesse signaled for a time out. Our offense headed to the sidelines. We reviewed one of our new plays. The idea was simple, but the results would be epic. The quarterback would pitch the ball to the tailback, who would swing right to the line of scrimmage.

By T. Jones, English Composition student

He would then throw the ball to the receiver, who was still behind the line of scrimmage. The receiver would then throw the ball to me in the end zone. My job was to pass block the defensive end, then haul ass to the end zone.

We broke huddle and jogged back to the field. The referee blew his whistle. Everything from that moment on seemed to go in slow motion. The screams of the spectators, the cheers of the cheerleaders, and the trash talking between opposing team members, were like megaphones in my ears. I could distinguish every separate sound. We were running a shotgun offense, and I was lined up on the right side of the ball. I got down into my three point stance. Down! Set! Hut! Hut! Bam! I shot off the line with speed and power. I knocked the defensive end on the ground. Slam! I rammed the linebacker and spun off of him. I ran as fast as my legs would take me. I headed straight for the middle of the end zone. I looked back towards the receiver. The ball was already in the air, floating in and out of the stadium lights. I saw the ball coming down. I leapt into the air and dove towards the ball. It bounced off my hands I reached out and pulled the ball in. Slam! I landed on my stomach in the end zone! Touchdown! I jumped up in celebration, but was knocked back down by my fellow players. We had won!

There was thirty seconds left in the game. We kicked off, but Wichjta Falls could not score. We all shook hands and headed for the locker rooms. We advanced to the second and third rounds of the playoffs, but ended up losing to the Carroll Dragons in the third round. That moment that I landed in the end zone, was one of the highlights of my life. To see the eruption of fans in the stands, the joyous celebration of my team members on the sidelines, the awed looks of the opposing team, I will never forget that moment. That was not only the most memorable moment in my sports career, but also in my life.

East Hall—One Year Ago



It was just one year ago that construction began on the new East Hall. Construction was completed quickly and students first occupied the new residence hall in January of this year.

For Fall 2006, the new residence hall is filled to capacity. Realizing the need for more space, WTC spent the summer remodeling several wings of the West Hall to accommodate the influx of students.

WTC has in excess of 300 resident students this fall. Less than five years ago we had fewer than 100 resident students. With such growth, will *another* new residence hall be far away? Stay tuned for more!

Adjunct Instructors Receive Awards

Adjunct Anniversaries

5 Years

- Orand Carroll
- Emily Hataway
- Mike Hinton
- Deborah Jennings
- Brenda Rinewalt
- Lidia Rodriguez
- Cynthia Stroman
- Tondi Jeter
- Joan Tolle
- Mike Norrell
- Kay Haynes
- Dee Chasteen
- Mandie England

10 Years

- Charlene Akers
- Jim Durham
- Jennifer Jenkins
- Jack Price
- Cindy Davis



Adjunct Instructor Inservice was held on Saturday, August 19th in the Visitor Center on the WTC campus. Adjunct instructors took advantage of the time to learn about all of the exciting new programs WTC has for fall.

Included in the inservice schedule was time for celebrating the longevity of a few of the adjunct instructors as well as welcoming new instructors on board.



Shown Left to Right: Lidia Rodriguez, Orand Carroll, Jennifer Jenkins, Emily Hataway, Deborah Jennings, Jack Price, Jim Durham

WTC is proud to salute our Adjunct Instructors.

Reaffirmation Process Continues

Every decade Western Texas College must go through a reaffirmation of its accreditation.

Accreditation is what allows WTC to transfer coursework to other colleges. Other colleges must be accredited before WTC can accept incoming transcripted coursework as valid.

Accreditation also ensures WTC students of a certain standard of education. Students can be sure the education they receive at WTC

matches that of any other accredited college.

The Commission on Colleges (COC) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) is the accrediting agency for Western Texas College. Should you hear someone mention "sacs" they are not talking about "paper or plastic", but the very future of WTC.

Many faculty members have been hard at work for many months preparing for this process. As the work continues into 2007, you will be hearing more.



Every ten years the accreditation of WTC must be reaffirmed.

HPE Building Remodeling

The WTC Volleyball season hasn't started just yet, but there is a lot going on in the WTC gymnasium. The gym is getting a facelift in preparation for the volleyball and basketball seasons to come. For the last month the coaches have been painting the gym. "We were told if we wanted it done, we would have to do it ourselves because of all the other projects in the works at the time," says Head Women's Basketball Coach Tammy Davis, as she paints the north wall of the gym. The coaches were more than glad to do the painting while Johnson Controls took care of the heavier work.

The gym has received new backboards and rims, two new score boards, and two new

shot clocks that have been installed over the last month. The new gym floor will be put in beginning this week.

Other projects include four new air-conditioning units being installed on the roof of the gymnasium. Pictured is the crane being used to hoist the units to the roof. Head Volleyball Coach, Rick Hughes, spent the first part of his summer putting together new lockers for the players. The old lockers, to be used by the public, were moved to another area.

In the men's dressing room, the showers are being completely redone by Johnson Controls' workers. They will have new

tile, plumbing and ceiling installed. A few new walls were constructed to make room for a trainer room, with all the new athletes on campus that had to be expanded.

One of the last projects will be "The Westerner Room." This will be a place where the newly-formed booster clubs can meet in a relaxing atmosphere with "Westerner" décor.

Currently, the WTC Lady Westerners Volleyball Team are practicing at the Snyder High School Gym until the renovations are complete. Their first home game will be held on September 6 at 7 pm.



Welcome Coach Craig Moore



WTC Baseball
Coach Craig Moore

Craig Moore joined the WTC faculty this summer as the new Head Baseball Coach.

Coach Moore attended the University of Nebraska on a four-year baseball scholarship, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. He has a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Lake Erie College.

Coach Moore comes to WTC from Tennessee Tech, where he served as the top Assistant Baseball Coach for three years. The opportunity to become the Head Baseball Coach at Western Texas College brought him to Snyder. Coach Moore likes Texas because there are a lot of

talented baseball players to choose from in the state.

When asked about his plans for the baseball program at WTC, Coach Moore responded that his focus is not just on winning, but on the team getting better. He is looking for progress on a day-to-day basis. He says it is the chemistry that makes the collective whole important. No selfish players or individual players, but emphasis on a team approach.

As for his approach to the game, Coach Moore will not sit back and wait for something to happen. He plans for the Westerners to put pressure on the other team's de-

fense and not let them dictate what we do. Have a good offense, and pitch and play defense.

Thinking of the future for the WTC baseball program, Coach Moore will be recruiting nationally starting with Texas. Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio will be key areas, but he plans to recruit local talent whenever possible. Coach Moore says, "We must show success this year in order to attract top players next year."

Join WTC in welcoming Coach Moore by coming out and supporting the baseball team at every opportunity.

Student Work

Red Sky At Morning

Digital photograph by Bianca Guajardo, Dual-Credit Student



Fall Showcase Coming In September

Even though summer is still with us, it's time to start thinking about Fall Activities at WTC. Each year, WTC hosts a variety of sports activities. Faculty, staff, students, and members of the community participate in and reap the rewards of the fun. The Fall 2006 Showcase is scheduled for the weekend of **September 22nd and 23rd**. Mark your calendars!



Shown here are photos from the Fall Showcase in 2005.



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Stand up! Stand out!

From the Editor

In my opinion...

We all have opinions, and for most of us, our own opinion is right on target and everyone else's opinion is idiotic... unless of course their opinion agrees with our own opinion.

Merriam-Webster defines opinion as a view, judgment, or appraisal formed in the mind about a particular matter; a belief stronger than impression and less strong than positive knowledge.

Some opinions are formed based upon likes and dislikes. If you don't like the color orange, for example, your opinion of people who wear orange clothing is likely to be swayed by the fact that they wear orange.

Some opinions have a legal basis. Judges and Attorneys General, for example, issue opinions. These opinions can impact the way businesses and customers interact, the impact of an individual vote, or the allowability of an action that skirts legality.

Some opinions are formed based upon the words, actions, and opinions of oth-

ers. If we admire an individual, for whatever reason, their opinions about certain subjects will likely become our opinions as well.

We use our opinions as a basis for many of our actions. For example, our opinion of a political figure can drive us to vote either for or against that individual. Our opinion of a preacher can either draw us into a congregation or drive us to seek another place of worship. Our opinion of an instructor can impact the amount of effort we put forth in a course.

But are our opinions *informed*? An informed opinion is based upon some research into a particular topic, or upon information obtained from a variety of sources.

If we form our opinion based upon only one news source, for example, our opinion is likely not an informed opinion because we have not considered both sides of the issue. If we form our opinion based upon what one or two people tell us, our opinion is likely not an informed opinion because we did not find out for ourselves.

In a recent article in a national newspaper, a college student was asked her opinion of the president. She offered blanket approval, but when asked to name which of his actions as president she liked most, she was hard pressed to answer. "I'm not sure of anything he's done," she said, "but I like that he's religious—that's really important." Would you consider this an *informed* opinion? At the very least, this student should have an opinion based upon the president's war on terror, his economic policies, his stance on foreign relations, or any other issue that truly impacts this country.

This being said, do we not owe it to our country to have informed opinions? We all want what is best for our families, friends, and loved ones. If we form an opinion based upon misinformation and uninformed hatred of a lifestyle, skin color, or culture then are we not spreading that hatred to those who form their opinions based upon ours?

Opinions matter. Make yours count.

Just my opinion, of course.

Roy Bartels