



New Stephenville construction brings big city retailers to area

BY ELIZABETH BLACK
Managing Editor

In the beginning of 2020, the city of Stephenville started working on a construction project near Walmart. The Stephenville Economic Development Authority (SEDA) announced in February of 2020 that the construction plan is for a new shopping center known as Washington Commons.

According to Jeff K Sandford, the executive director for the SEDA, the stores coming to Stephenville include Hobby Lobby, TJ Maxx, Ross, Old Navy, Five Below, Ulta, James Avery and Buckle.

The developers are working on filling the empty store spaces and



Left to right- Hobby Lobby, TJ Maxx, Ross, Old Navy and Five Below.

will be able to provide a full line up soon. They are looking for two or three more stores.

The Washington Commons development is the largest development in Stephenville in the last two decades. Project costs are around \$26

million and includes both small and large retail spaces.

The development has had some setbacks due to the COVID-19 outbreak, but construction is on schedule to open during the first quarter of 2022.

Sophomore Kinesiology major Ruth

Caddell said, "I am so excited about the new stores coming to town. TJ Maxx is my favorite and I won't have to drive an hour out of town to get new clothes."

Sanford mentioned

Continued on pg 3

Professional sports on a college budget

BY CODY VANNOY
Sports Editor

Tickets, parking, food and more are costs to consider when attending a professional sports game. Some may wonder, as a college student is the cost even worth it to go? I have decided to personally test out this theory by attending a professional sports game in order to show you how to get the most bang for your buck. I will share with you my firsthand experience of the entire process of attending a professional Dallas Cowboys football game.

I choose to attend the Dallas Cowboy game on Oct. 3 versus the Carolina Panthers. I

paid \$34 for my ticket through an app called SeatGeek. The listing price for the tickets was \$22, but there was an additional \$12 in fees that bumped up the price to a total of \$34 for a standing room only ticket.

AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, is located just under 100 miles from Stephenville. The drive took just over three hours, and gas for the trip cost me roughly \$20 in my 2015 Toyota Tacoma.

When you arrive at the stadium, do not pay for

Continued on pg 3

Pre-BOO of Halloween events in the area

BY NICHOLAS RATCLIFF
Multimedia Journalist

Fall is in the air here in Stephenville, Texas, and the surrounding area has quite a few events to celebrate the season. Whether you're into fall festivals, scary movies or Halloween activities this list will have something for everyone to enjoy.

1. Safe Trick'r Treat

The city of Stephenville will host a safe trick or event in the downtown Square and Plaza. This event will take place on Oct. 28 and will start at 5 p.m. and will continue through 7 p.m.

At the event, families are encouraged to come

out and check out the booths that will be handing out candy, as well as enjoy the wide range of games and activities that will be hosted in the kid zone. On top of this, the event will host a costume party where they will hand out five awards per age group based off multiple categories.

These categories include funniest, cutest, scariest, most creative and best homemade costume. Age groups will range between zero to one, two to three, four through seven, eight through 12 and 12 through 16. Some of this year's biggest sponsors include Borges Media, Taco Casa, Cheerful Hearts Gifts

and Boutiques.

Paradigm student ministries will also be taking part in this event as they host a Trunk or Treat event in the parking lot of the First Baptist church. During this event, volunteers will be in charge of game booth scattered around the church while passing out candy to all who participate. If you would like to volunteer, please email kallen@fbcestephenville.org.

2. Tarleton Halloween Carnival

The student organizations at Tarleton will be hosting a Halloween Carnival in front of the administration building. These organizations will be hosting booths filled

with games, candy and other fun trinkets for the students of Tarleton and the local community to enjoy.

At the event, tickets will be sold to those looking to participate in the games with all of the proceeds going directly to the student organizations. This event will take place on Oct. 26, and will start at 6 p.m. and end around 9 p.m.

3. Red Barrel Bar and Grill Costume Party

The Red Barrel Bar and Grill, in Dublin will host a costume party on Oct. 28 from 7 p.m. to 11:45 p.m. They will be handing out a \$100 prize for the best costume. This contest will be voted on a by the

DOWNTOWN STEPHENVILLE

October 28th

5PM-7PM

FUN ZONE

PHOTO BOOTH **Corn Hole**

PRIZES **GAMES** **treats**

Costume Contest

FOOD DRINKS

TRUNK'R TREAT

AND MUCH MORE!

The activities available for the community to enjoy at the Safe Trick or Treat in Stephenville.

Photo Courtesy of the Stephenville Chamber of Commerce

encouraged to enter a costume contest and

Continued on pg 6

Purple Poo return for 100-year celebration

BY SIERRA WELLS
Multimedia Journalist

Following the end of their interim suspension, the Purple Poo student spirit organization is once again active at Tarleton State University in time to complete their centennial celebration.

Joining together to form what is now known as the Purple Poo, the Ten Tarleton Peppers were founded in 1921, and the Ten Tarleton Sisters were founded in 1923, marking 2021 as the organization's 100-year anniversary.

Serving as the oldest spirit organization in Texas, the Purple Poo



The Purple Poo posing at the beginning of Homecoming week.

Photo By: Sierra Wells

have been generating Texan pride for many years.

According to the Purple Book, members of the organization keep their identities a secret until they either unmask themselves at the Leadership and Service Awards Ceremony or have themselves pictured in the "Grassburr" yearbook before graduating.

The Purple Poo are known for their festive, creative signs which can be seen on Tuesday mornings on campus.

Freshman Allysen Cox is glad the Purple Poo are back to continue

carrying out their traditions.

Cox said, "I think it's great that they're back on campus. I'm glad they could come back for their 100-year anniversary. It's significant because of how much spirit they bring and how we need to celebrate their beginning and return. I love all of the Purple Poo traditions."

After being suspended on March 31, the festivities surrounding the organization's 100-years on campus

Continued on pg 6

How can students better prepare for finals?

BY KYLEY WILHITE
Multimedia Journalist

Final exams can be a very stressful time for college students. Tarleton State University finals are set to begin Dec. 2 and grades are due Dec. 13. They are based on specific classes/majors and are split up throughout the week according to class times.

Tarleton has set up a specific day known as reading day Dec. 1 in order for students to study for their finals without having to worry about any university events interfering with their cram time.

Shorelight, a website dedicated to student success, recommends, "Making the most of your class time, creating flashcards, taking advantage of office hours and attending review sessions."

"Finals can be super stressful for students, considering that in some cases, their final grade hinges on their performance on their final," states the Dean of Communications Christopher Gearhart.

How can these exams cause added anxiety?

Oxford learning states, "Test anxiety can already be present in students.

With large tests coming up, however, this can only increase to where students don't end up getting enough sleep or eat enough due to studying for long periods of time."

Many people say that you should try switching it up when it comes to studying. By that I mean, taking 30 minutes to study each topic so your brain isn't overloaded with information because it needs time in between to absorb, synthesize and understand the new content.

Studies say that making acronyms for harder classes helps you memorize better. When trying to remember things like all of the muscles in a human body, making a graph with the acronyms in order may help you remember things better.

According to Andrew Smith, a nutritional scientist at PubMed, "Chewing gum increases alertness. This means that gum can help with memory tasks like studying, so it's a good idea to chew gum while you study and before you take your test."

For me, I write down deadlines in my planner and use different colored pens for each assignment or class. Using specific colors can help you

remember the specific assignments that are due for different classes.

"One of the study tips that I suggest to students is to go back and re-write your class lecture notes," Gearhart said.

Freshman Sports Management major Taylor Clarkson said, "I make notecards for the questions on the test and then quiz myself with those questions. It helps me to better remember the unit we are going over."

When asked about their study tips throughout the years several senior students on campus said they take advantage of office hours because professors want students to succeed just as much as the students want to.

Be open with them and always ask questions because the more honest you are, the more they will be willing to work with you.

When you try to study, make sure that you are staying focused and finding a groove for your classes. Ask your professors for help while needed. And don't be afraid to switch up how you study for each different class.



Tarleton students studying in the library.

Photo By: Kyley Wilhite

FINAL EXAMS BEGIN

16 week	December 2	May 5
1st 8 week	October 7	March 21
2nd 8 week	November 30	May 11
3 week "Winter Mini"		January 7

FINAL GRADES

1st 8 week grades due	October 8 by 5 pm	March 21 by 5 pm
Graduating student grades	December 9 by 12 pm Noon	May 12 by 12 pm Noon
All remaining grades due	December 13 by 12 pm Noon	May 16 by 12 pm Noon

Finals schedule outline.

Photo Courtesy of Tarleton State University Calendar



Town Hall Student Leader

Be a part of the Texan Town Hall program as a Student Leader in either Federal Government or Texas Government classes!

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

- Lead discussion labs
- Maintain records
- Grade assignments
- Assist with Town Hall Event

REQUIREMENTS

Grade of A in GOVT 2305 (Federal Government) and GOVT 2306 (Texas Government)

Grade of B in either course may be considered in totality with other skills.

Prefer applicants with Junior or Senior classification

HOURS PER WEEK

Average about 15 hours per week

APPLY NOW

Submit applications in Handshake

For more information call 254-918-7609

Vaccine mandates no longer permitted in Texas

BY SIERRA WELLS
Multimedia Journalist

On Oct. 11, Gov. Greg Abbott issued an executive order that prohibited all vaccine mandates from any establishment in Texas.

The executive order states, “No entity in Texas can compel receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine by any individual, including an employee or a consumer, who objects to such vaccination for any reason of personal conscience, based on a religious belief, or for medical reasons, including prior recovery from COVID-19. I hereby suspend all relevant statutes to the extent necessary to enforce this prohibition.”

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki

criticized Abbott’s decision during a White House press briefing on Oct. 12.

“Gov. Abbott’s executive order banning mandates, and I would also note the announcement by Gov. DeSantis this morning essentially banning the implementation of mandates, fit a familiar pattern that we’ve seen of putting politics ahead of public health. Over 700,000 American lives have been lost due to COVID-19, including more than 56,000 in Florida and over 68,000 in Texas. And every leader should be focused on supporting efforts to save lives and end the pandemic. Why would you be taking steps that prevent the saving of lives, that make it more difficult to save lives



White House press secretary Jen Psaki discussing Abbot’s executive order at a White House press briefing.

Photo Courtesy of AP News

across the country or in any state?” Paski said.

Abbott’s order directly contradicts federal vaccine mandates currently in effect.

On Sept. 9, President Joe Biden announced

that all federal employees would be required to receive the vaccination. In addition, all workers at companies with more than 100 employees would either need to be vaccinated or receive a weekly test for the virus.

Currently, there will be consequences for Texas entities that do not adhere to the rules set out in Abbott’s order, including a fine that can reach up to \$1,000. However, there will be no required jail time.

According to the Texas Department of State Health Services, 17,522,644 people in Texas have gotten at least one dose of the vaccine, and 15,174,908 people have already

been fully vaccinated as of Oct. 15.

Abbott’s executive order has also impacted the students at Tarleton State University, who have strong opinions about this decision.

When asked what she thought about the ban on vaccine mandates, President of the Tarleton State University College of Business Law Society Cameron Dyer said, “As a Texan, I agree with what Gov. Abbott is doing with this particular executive order. While the ‘vaccine is safe, effective and our best defense against the virus, it should remain voluntary and never forced’ [Abbott, 10/11/21]. As stated in the Equal Protection

Clause in the 14th amendment, ‘no state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property’ meaning that we, as American citizens, have the right to make decisions concerning our own livelihood. For some people, this may include taking the vaccination, while for others it may not, but I believe in medical freedom and the right to refuse treatment.”

Controversy surrounding COVID-19 and the vaccines have continued to grow in Texas, and there is no sign of this tension ending any time soon. Texan News Service will keep you up to date as the story develops.



Vials of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine.

Photo Courtesy of AP News

New construction

Continued from pg 1

that the growth and stability of Tarleton and the stable economy of the city through the COVID-19 pandemic helped provide the environment for this development to take place.

Sanford then

connected the retail businesses coming to Stephenville to college life further stating, “The cool thing about retail in general, and you will see this in a lot of college towns, is that they really like, they almost enjoy the college atmosphere and the college vibe because there is an available work force, as much as they do for the spending.”

The SEDA and the

city of Stephenville are working together to help the city develop as a community grows in the future.

“I’m excited that there will be a more variety of retail to choose from. My favorites would be TJ Maxx, or Ulta I can’t decide,” Senior Nursing major Caroline DeGrendale said. “It will be nice to not have to drive to Weatherford to go to TJ Maxx or

Ulta, which is part of my routine.”

Sanford explained further how having a large retail development will help the community.

“We have done extensive research into the leakage of dollars spent in other communities and aggressively recruited businesses that will add to local economy,” Sanford said.



Entrance to Washington Commons behind Allsup's.

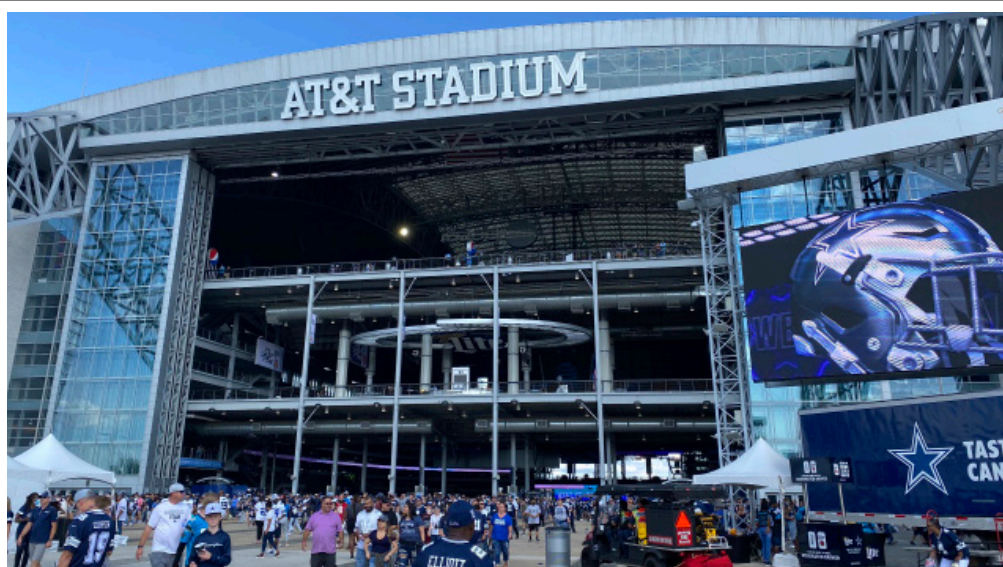
Photo By: Elizabeth Black

NFL game on a budget

Continued from pg 1

the closest parking spot you can get, it costs too much, and the traffic is worse the closer you are to the stadium when the game ends. My recommendation is to find a spot that costs \$10 or less. This will mean that you will have a walk 10 to 20 minutes to get to the stadium. On this particular day, I was able to find a free parking spot and my walk took about 15 minutes.

If you want to eat inside the stadium, plan on paying as much as you did for your seat. Not a single food item is cheap, so my recommendation is to eat before you go in the stadium or after the game. You can save money by buying fast food or going to



Outside view of AT&T Stadium.

Photo By: Cody Vannoy

a restaurant instead of buying something inside the stadium. Do not make the mistake I did, where I bought a jumbo Cowboys cheesesteak that cost \$22 and a water that cost \$5.50.

Another tip is to not sit in the seat you paid for, I bought the cheapest ticket available. My ticket was for standing room. The only problem with that was that there was no standing room

available when I arrived at the stadium two hours before the game even began because they were all full.

After walking around the entire stadium for over an hour looking for a place to watch the game, I asked myself this question, “Why don’t I just sit in an unsold ticket seat?”

SeatGeek allows you to look up tickets and seats at any time.

I opened the app and found a ticket that I knew was not going to sell and sat in that seat. I could tell it was not going to sell because the price was not dropping as it got closer to game time. The seat was on the top level and cost over \$130, nobody in their right mind was going to pay for those seats when tickets on the bottom level were now going for \$50. Vendors

were lowering the costs of those tickets because it was 15 minutes before game time.

At many sports events, top level seats do not have an attendant checking for a ticket. If you sit on the first three levels, however, someone checks your tickets. My recommendation is to buy the cheapest ticket available, go inside the stadium and wait until the ticket prices drop, if you want a lower level seat buy those tickets and, if not, enjoy the upper level seats.

Overall, for the Dallas Cowboys game, I spent a total of \$84 on my trip. My day started at 8 a.m. that Sunday and I got back home at 6 p.m. For a total of ten hours, the Cowboys game cost me \$8.40 per hour. You can be the judge for yourself; however, I personally believe an NFL game is worth the \$84 and if I had not eaten inside the stadium, it would have been even cheaper. Attending an NFL game on a college budget is 100% doable.

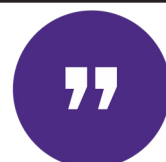


Inside look of AT&T Stadium after a Cowboys win.

Photo By: Cody Vannoy



OPINION!



Students discuss the updated food options

BY MADISON REED
Executive Producer

Over the last several weeks, the new food truck court and the updates made to the existing Chick-fil-A have been a topic of controversy for the Tarleton State University student body. Most students have enjoyed the new improvements, however, there are a few who think the changes have caused more problems than before, including making the wait time longer.

Junior Computer Science major Gavin McIntosh has enjoyed all the changes and additional alternatives for food.

“The new additions to campus have been amazing,” McIntosh said. “The full menu [at] Chick-fil-A [was] something I had personally been looking forward to all

summer and so far it [does] not disappoint. The food trucks were a very welcome surprise and are a regular stop throughout my school week.”

In regard to his wait time McIntosh explained that though the lines can get long, which can cause the wait for his food to be significant, he has learned to work around it.

“While the Chick-fil-A wait times have...gotten worse since the update it isn't the only option anymore,” McIntosh explained. “If I see there's a long line when I walk through the doors, I have considerably more alternatives than last year.”

McIntosh says he frequents the food trucks and Chick-fil-A around four to six times a week.

“They [the food trucks] actually have cut down on my wait time because I have learned to call in



At peak times, the line to Chick-fil-A can stretch all the way around the Student Center past the book store.

Photo By: Madison Reed

my orders ahead of time at the food trucks. So, I can make my order, pick it up and get to my next class within ten minutes,” McIntosh said. “The same can't be said for Chick-fil-A, and while I haven't been late to class, I have

been running behind on attending some meetings due to wait times.”

Sophomore Kinesiology major Allyson Black likes that there are more variations at the Chick-fil-A, including the salads and deluxe sandwiches.

She said she has not yet gone to the food trucks, but was excited to find out that they took TexanBucks.

Black usually eats at the D-hall throughout the week but explained that she liked to go to Chick-fil-A and T-Birds every once in a while. She does not like that the new updates to the Chick-fil-A because they have significantly added to her wait time.

“I have waited in that line for an hour,” Black said. “I've had to step out of line before in order to rush to a class, but I've never been late to class.”

Maddie Reed, a sophomore Communication Studies major said, “I like there being food on campus and available to me throughout the day. My favorite would have to be Chick-fil-A. If the line wasn't always so long, I would go there

more often.”

Though she likes all the additional options and availability of food, Reed admitted that she has been late to class waiting for a food truck.

Sophomore Wildlife, Ecosystem and Sustainability major Tristian Saxon has really enjoyed the new changes and updates to campus.

Saxon said, “I really enjoy the food trucks and Chick-fil-A a lot. I think they add a good food diversity especially since I don't have a meal plan.”

The food trucks can be found behind Wisdom Gym and include Barefoot Market, Crazy Hair Coffee, Petty's Limited Menu, Hot Mess Food Express and Grape Ape Shaved Ice. T-Birds and Chick-Fil-A are located in the Barry B. Student Center at the heart of the Stephenville campus.

Did Tarleton prioritize LGBTQ+ awareness over Breast Cancer awareness?

BY KYLEY WILHITE
Multimedia Journalist

There has been lots of speculation concerning the rainbow ribbons that have been hung around the trees on the Tarleton State University campus in Stephenville. This leads to the question, where are the pink ribbons for breast cancer awareness month?

Pride month is in June, so why is Tarleton flying ribbons for LGBTQ+ for the Month of October if there are other things to be celebrated?

According to the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, they were the ones who took the time to fly these flags around campus, however, Breast Cancer is something that impacts us all. Students on campus, family members of those

students and professors of those students have all been impacted by this disease. So, why is Tarleton not taking the time to acknowledge it?

According to cancer.net which is a blog funded by the American Society of Clinical Oncology, roughly 44,130 deaths happen per year from Breast Cancer with 530 of those being men and 43,600 being women.

They also state, “Breast Cancer is the second-highest cause of death for cancer in women.”

Breast Cancer typically has a five-year survival rate, but in most cases, people lose their battles. Along with chemotherapy, testing and waiting for results this disease can have

detrimental effects on a family, which is why it's so important that we remember these people throughout the month of October.

As for LGBTQ awareness, according to the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, “It was National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11, and to fully support those students on campus we wanted to make sure they [felt] welcome on that day.”

LGBTQ+ members are upset that they don't get as much representation; however, as far as I see our university invited a drag show to come on campus, but I've yet to see any football players wearing pink socks during games.

By putting up these rainbow ribbons on the trees by the Barry B. Thompson Student Center, the center upset many Tarleton students. As a result, many of the LGBTQ+ ribbons have been torn down.

The main concern isn't the fact that the ribbons were displayed, it was more so that there wasn't inclusion. So, how did those responsible make the decision to represent LGBTQ+ but not Breast Cancer Awareness?

Personally, I can understand why the students are upset. Breast Cancer runs in my family, and I am a firm believer that October should be reserved for those current fighters and those who have defeated this illness. I think Tarleton, as a

whole, should be doing more to represent this historic month.

By writing this Column, I have run into the question, “Is tearing down the ribbons okay?”

I think that over time the ribbons will be destroyed anyways by weather, squirrels on campus and rioters; however, I don't believe that we must tear one group down in order to build up another.

Senior Math Education major Briley Cantrell said, “We can use October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month because it does not get the recognition it deserves. Personally, my grandma just won her battle with breast cancer last month, so it upsets me that they aren't advocating for those hard fights.”

Cantrell also expressed her concerns about Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

“This was supposed to be celebrated during the month of September, but it was yet again, something that the university refused to talk about,” Cantrell said. “Childhood cancer can be very detrimental to most families, and I wish that our university would take things like these into consideration.”

I can understand how we want to make sure everyone is included, but whenever I did my student interviews the underlying theme was if the university chooses to support one cause, they

must support the other cause.”

Whenever I talked to freshmen Kinesiology major Abigail Smith, however, she had a different opinion.

Smith believes, “National Coming Out Day is about being strong enough to tell your friends and family who you really are. I don't particularly believe that it deserves the whole month of October, but it does deserve recognition.”

Smith did say, “Tarleton should put up ribbons for Breast Cancer Awareness. [Although,] the tearing down of ribbons just shows that we don't respect and love others on campus enough to respect their opinion.”

I believe she does make a good argument with this statement.

In an online student poll, when asked the question about breast cancer ribbons, students said, “It just doesn't seem like the university is prioritizing correctly.”

As far as Breast Cancer Awareness goes, Tarleton did join the #LightUpMBC global campaign by illuminating the smokestack and campus buildings teal, green and pink, but how much did this actually do for students?

When I asked around my residence hall, most of them didn't know this event was happening due to no signs advertising for it. This again raises the question, where is



The rainbow-wrapped trees by the Student Center.

Photo By: Kyley Wilhite

the intentionality? On Thursday, Oct. 14, Tarleton had a volleyball game dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness called, “Spike-out breast cancer.” It was a beautiful attribute to their coach who is currently fighting stage four Colon Cancer.

I believe there is always room for improvement, no matter what topic you're referring to. If I were to guide Tarleton, I would say that next year they should do more events to emphasize the importance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

This can be done by putting up signs and sending announcements to our Tarleton emails.

We could also try and reach out to many of our helpful groups on campus like sororities, spirit organizations and The Center for Diversity and Inclusion to take up the cause of raising awareness.



Center for Diversity and Inclusion organizers of LGBTQ+ ribbons.

Photo By: Kyley Wilhite



SPORTS



Can Tarleton compete at the Division I level?

BY CHARLES HOUSTON
Sports Writer

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I (DI) provides the elite of elite athletes with a chance to try and achieve their professional sports dream.

The benefits to a college for being DI can range from new jerseys to new facilities and extra money for athletic scholarships for players. Not to mention all the extra national coverage for the games you play with partnered networks such as ESPN, ESPN + and ABC.

Those benefits explained previously are the reasons why a lot of Division II (DII) schools, as high as 42%, are sending in invitation letters in hopes of getting invited into a DI conference.

Tarleton recently moved to DI in 2021 and is currently in the first year of their four-year contract with the Western Athletic Conference



Tarleton striker gets ready to hit the ball.

(WAC). The university had previously been DII for nine years.

According to the NCAA website, for a school to be considered DI the student population must be higher than 8,000 and the campus must have ten out of the 12 major sports available, including football, softball and golf. When all those requirements are met, the school's athletic director can send a letter of recommendation to their

conference of choice.

The rate of DII schools getting accepted into a DI conference has gone up 36% since 2017. More colleges are following the trend to move up a division. The question must arise, is going to DI really that important?

Tarleton sports excelled in the DII arena. Tarleton's volleyball team in 2018 posting a 32-5 record and winning the regional tournament. The Texan football team in

2019 accumulated a 12-1 record going undefeated in their conference.

In regard to why Tarleton moved up to the DI conference, Athletic Director Lon Reisman had this to say, "In everything we do in the Tarleton athletic department, we strive to be the best. We proved that we can compete at the highest level when we were playing NCAA DII competition, and it was time for us to take

the next step. At the NCAA DI level, not only do we compete with the best of the best in collegiate athletics, we also increase our school's visibility on a national scale and enhance our talent further across the board from players to coaches to administrative staff. This transition has been great all-around for the university and we're thankful for our university leadership and the Texas A&M University System for all their support as we make this jump to NCAA DI."

DI sports have a higher level of competition that decreases the percentage of successful first year DI teams.

Regarding to how DI play compares to DII, Emma Holcomb, a defensive specialist for Tarleton volleyball team said, "Every team we play is very fast paced and talented. I haven't seen a DI team that hasn't been competitive. I have grown a lot of ways mentally and physically and it has shaped me into the person

I am today."

The casual fan would not understand how the transition from DII to DI is increasingly difficult for the athletes.

Caitlin Tucker, a major in elementary education said this, "I been watching baseball for two years now and I saw the transition from the two divisions. This spring the baseball team looked smaller than most schools we went up against and the other teams looked more prepared."

Tarleton sports at the DII level have posted positive records with the Tarleton volleyball team going 22-12 in 2019, and the baseball team going 35-17 in 2018. Since the move up to the WAC conference in 2021, this past season Tarleton's baseball team posted a 20-35 record, and the Tarleton football team has a 3-3 record.

This transition is going to be a process for the Texans who are just now getting their feet wet as a DI university.

Photo By: Charles Houston

A day in the life: Head coach Mary Schindler

BY CODY VANNOY
Sports Editor

Whether it is in-season or off-season, Tarleton Volleyball Coach Mary Schindler always starts her day off in the morning by dropping her son, Ethan, off at school. She then heads to her morning workout with her two assistant coaches.

Schindler said, "Whichever day of the week it is, we start with our workout at 7:45 a.m."

After their workout, Schindler and her assistants will head to her office to create a practice plan for the week and game plan for the upcoming games.

"Mondays we'll come in and watch film on both opponents that

we are going to play that week," Schindler explained. "[We] assess the difference between those two teams and how we might have to practice differently for each one."

Over Schindler's 17 years as the head coach of the Tarleton State University volleyball team, a lot has changed. One of the most beneficial changes is the introduction of film breakdown technology. This allows a coach to plug in a certain player or play and watch it right then.

"There was a time, where I had to watch the film five times to get all the information," Schindler said. "If I wanted to see the offense, then I watch that for the first time.

The next time through, I would watch the defense."

Not only does Schindler watch film of the opposing team, but she also watches her team's film. The coach talked about how she will go over the film with her players, so they can learn from what they did well and what they need to improve on.

"The film gives us a different picture than what it felt like," Schindler explained. "It felt like this, but this is what really happened."

After the week of preparing for their next opponent, it is finally game day. At 11 a.m. she meets with her girls and gives them some things to focus on for the game. When



In 2020, Coach Schindler led the Texans to a 13-11 record in their inaugural Division I season.

Photo Courtesy of Tarletonsports.com

the meeting is over, Schindler has about an hour before game time to have everything typed out in a scouting report to give to her girls. She will meet with her team

right before they go out and play their opponent.

Schindler is a four-time Lone Star Conference Coach of the Year and has 330 wins to her name for a reason. Even

in the midst of a crazy schedule she knows how to coach, and she knows how to gameplan for her next opponent.



TEXAN NEWS STAFF

- Sierra Dyson.....Editor-in-Chief
- Nicholas Ratcliff.....MMJ
- Madison Reed.....Executive Producer
- Sierra Wells.....MMJ
- Avery Jackins.....Art Director
- Kyley Wilhite.....MMJ
- Elizabeth Black.....Managing Editor
- Cody Vannoy.....Sports Editor
- Charles Houston.....Sports Writer

Faculty Adviser

Austin Lewter

Contact Us

Email: editor@texannews.net Mail: Box T-0230, Stephenville, TX 76402 Phone: (254) 968-0519
Opinions expressed in Texan News are not necessarily those of Tarleton State University or the student.

FOLLOW US!

@texannewstsu

@texannewstsu

/texannews

Purple Poo return

Continued from pg 1

came to a halt. The Purple Poo remained in suspension until they completed an eight-step action plan.

The final step of the action plan took place during National Hazing Prevention Week when the organization hosted a campaign against hazing.

The Purple Poo were granted permission to attend Tarleton's Official Class Ring Ceremony on Sept. 10 before their suspension concluded.

When asked what factors went into the decision to allow the Purple Poo to attend this event, Assistant Vice President of Marketing and Communications Cecilia Jacobs said, "Permission was based on the organization's

progress in completing its action plan. At the time permission was granted, the [Purple] Poo had completed 90% of its plan for organizational improvement."

All of Tarleton felt the impact of the Purple Poo's suspension.

Sophomore Laine Williams is hesitant about the Purple Poo being back on campus so soon after their indiscretions.

"I feel like even though the Purple Poo are a significant part of Tarleton's traditions, this does not mean they are exempt from punishment. I don't think they should've come back mainly because actions have consequences, especially for hazing," Williams said. "I feel like it being their 100-year anniversary should be a reflection back



The Purple Poo were celebrating Purple Thursday in the Student Center.

Photo By: Sierra Dyson

on past generations of [Purple] Poo and how they acted and treated their brothers and sisters and everyone on campus."

Though they are no longer suspended, the Purple Poo will

remain on disciplinary probation for the duration of spring 2022.

Detailing what probation will mean for the organization, Jacobs said, "Disciplinary probation is a warning that any further violation may result in more

serious consequences, including suspension or expulsion."

Despite the hardships they faced this past year, the Purple Poo will continue spreading spirit to the Tarleton community.

Texan News Service

contacted the President of the Purple Poo Alumni Association Tim Wells and Purple Poo Faculty Advisor Kristy O'Keefe for comment and did not receive a response from either party.

Halloween events

Continued from pg 1

out at the door, and free refreshments will be offered to all that come.

5. The Granbury Ghost and Legends Tour

For those looking for a real-life spooky ghost experience, check out the Granbury Ghost's and Legend's tour where participants are taken around Granbury's historic Downtown Square by tour guides. During the tour, participants



Last year's Trunk or Treat event at First Baptist Church.

Photo Courtesy of Sierra Dyson

are encouraged to take pictures and listen to the legends of Granbury.

Reservation can be made at granburyghosttours.com and ticket prices are set at \$10 for adults and \$7 for children ages 12 and under.

Tours are offered at 7 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. every Friday and Saturday night year-round. On top of this, during the month of October, a special 10:30 p.m. tour is offered for those looking for a late-night scare.

6. Cutting Edge Haunted House

For those looking for the scare of their life, check out the Cutting-Edge Haunted house located in Fort Worth Texas. This haunted house has won a wide range of awards including USA today's best haunted house in the nation.

Ticket prices range from \$48-\$65 which gives you full access to the haunted house. The average guests take about 55 minutes to tour the property, and one look at the reviews online will confirm just how scary this haunted house can be.

Transgender sports bill expected to pass soon

BY SIERRA WELLS Multimedia Journalist

House Bill No. 25, which requires school students to compete against members of their biological sex in interscholastic sports, has been passed by

the Texas House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill is now awaiting Gov. Abbott's final approval.

Introduced by Rep. Valoree Swanson, this bill intends to create an equal playing field for female students in

athletics. Swanson said, "Biological males, in addition to having much higher testosterone levels, have many other physiological advantages that girls just cannot overcome."

Many are concerned

with how transgender children in Texas will be impacted if this bill is signed into law. State Rep. Jessica Gonzalez criticized the morality of the bill in relation to transgender youth.

Gonzalez said, "Here we are again, debating their lives, debating their dignity, letting them know that they are second class, that they are the other, and that's not the kind of Texas that we want to be."

According to the Trans Athlete website, Texas is not the first state to present this type of legislation. In fact, over 30 other states have introduced bills to prevent transgender individuals from participating in sports based on their chosen gender, including Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama and more. Holding the final say



Protestors show their opposition to Texas transgender legislation.

Photo Courtesy of The Texas Tribune

on the matter, Abbott is expected to sign the bill into law, due to declarations he has made regarding the situation.

Abbott released a statement on Oct. 19 saying, "Both chambers also passed legislation to protect the integrity of Texas high school sports, strengthen higher education, protect dogs from cruelty and abuse, and expand access to education grants for

children of fallen first responders. These dynamic achievements would not have been possible without the men and women of the Texas House and Senate who worked tirelessly through the third Special Session to ensure these priorities made it across the finish line. Because of their efforts, the future of Texas is stronger, safer, and freer."



A sign opposing transgender legislation displayed inside the capitol.

Photo Courtesy of KXAN

CHECK US OUT ON

TEXANNEWS.NET

FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS FROM TARLETON AND STEPHENVILLE

Tarleton Homecoming Photo Gallery: Fall 2021



CONTROL THE WAVES...

BECOME A DJ ON 100.7 THE PLANET

Host Your Own Show
Gain Real World Experience
Use Top of the Line Equipment



theplanet100.7

theplanet100.7

Tarleton Radio

..... Listen Live at KXTR.com

Rock & Hip Hop Hits

Linking *our* community.

- High-speed Internet – Up to 24 Mbps*
- Digital TV – With FREE TV Everywhere*
- Unlimited long distance & local calling
- Bundle & get Roku® + HD DVR included FREE*

*Bundle
and Save!*



Call us today! (254) 968-4189
975 North Lillian in Stephenville



getnorthland.com/stephenville

*Speeds are approximate. Must subscribe to Northland Internet to lease a Roku®. TV Everywhere requires a Northland Television subscription. May require credit check, deposit and/or payment by credit card. Unlimited calling limited to direct-dialed domestic calls. May not be available in all areas. See getnorthland.com/offers for full terms and conditions.