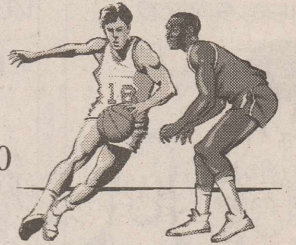




SGA OUTSIDER'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT APRIL 4-5

WTC Gym
For more information, call Patty Kuhl at 573-8511 ext 360
Proceeds to benefit Student Government Association



Sunday, March 2, 2003

Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549

Vocational Nursing Program holds Graduation



Graduates

Front row, left to right: Jina Miller, Snyder; Kelli Pritchard, Hamlin; Jennifer Short, Snyder; Teri Presley, Snyder
Back row, left to right: Eddie Tenorio, Colorado City; Sherri Budnaitis, Snyder; Tammy Nowlin, Rotan; Shanna Block Snyder; Ashton Weatherly, Colorado City



Pinning

Front row, left to right: Trina Chandler, Hermleigh; Sherrie Edwards, Colorado City; Melisa Lopez, Lamesa; Sonia Garrett, Colorado City. Back row, left to right: Tosha Wilbert, Big Spring; DeAnn Fahrtrapp, Snyder; Bill Guynes, Snyder; Mandi Hunt, Sagerton; Tida Collins, Lamesa

The Vocational Nursing Program at Western Texas College held its spring graduation and pinning ceremony at the First United Methodist Church at 7pm February 20 with a reception following in Wesley Hall.

Members of the graduating class are eligible to go and take the State Board examination. Pinning recognizes the students that have completed 6 months, or half, of their program.

Nursing is one of the career opportunities currently suffering a shortage, and it is predicted that the trend will continue for another 10 years. That is why the Vocational Nursing Program at Western Texas College is a wise choice and one that pays great dividends.

Instructors Diane Beard and Carol Watkins bring a laid-back, relaxed attitude to their work area. They both agree that a relaxed atmosphere is conducive to learning.

The nursing program has been a part of WTC since the college opened, having been moved from the Cogdell Hospital in Snyder. Cogdell continues as a partner, which has worked out very well since the students do their clinical work at the hospital.

They cover all areas within the hospital, which gives them a working knowledge of the duties expected of them when they graduate. Along with their association with the hospital, they also work with the Snyder

Day Care to further their hands-on experience.

Satisfactory completion of the 12-month course of training entitles a student to a certificate from the college. The certificate qualifies the student to take the examination given by the State Board of Vocational Nurse Examiners.

Those passing the state examination will be issued a license qualifying them to practice as a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN). The computerized CAT-PN examination that is administered at the end of the 12-month program will be considered the Capstone experience.

According to the instructors at WTC, "they are then ready to function as a beginning vocational nurse which is a good base to build on. This is a good program to start in because of the good patient care training, and they can work in hospitals, doctor's offices, prison infirmaries, schools, etc." They further added that, "If the students decide to go into an accelerated program, most schools will credit them for the year at WTC."

The Program has two admissions a year, one in March and the other in August. Special admissions requirements exist for this program. A selection committee screens all applicants for admission, and only the most qualified applicants are accepted. Enrollment is limited to 12 stu-

dents per class. Requirements for admission must be completed by early January for the March class, and by early July for the August term. Applicants must have a high school diploma or a G.E.D.

Diane Beard has been an instructor in the program since 1975, and says that, "my goal is to train the students so that I would feel comfortable to have them care for my family."

Her co-worker, Carol Watkins, trained under her in the program at WTC, worked for seven years as a LVN, and went on to get her RN. Carol worked for three years as an RN and then came back to teach at WTC. They work very well together and both agreed that, "they are more like sisters, than co-workers" and it is evident in how well they interact.

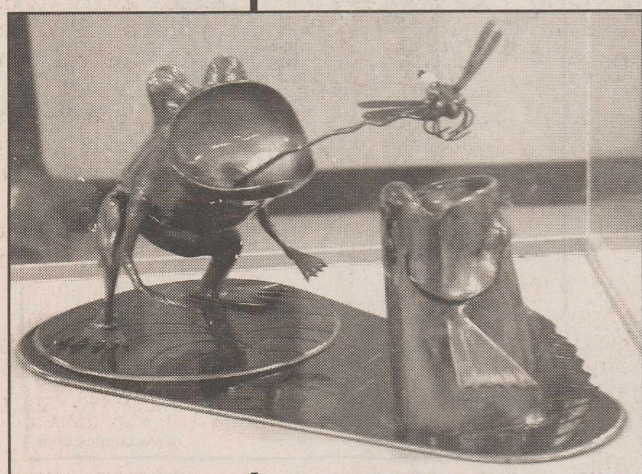
The instructors pointed out that, "this is a very intensive program that runs for a full year and covers 13 courses per year and each student must complete each course with at least an 80% grade. Nursing students have to have the 'nursing desire', and the dedication that goes with it in order to excel." "We only accept 12 students per quarter," they added, "so we screen applicants with that in mind."

In conclusion, Diane and Carol pointed out that, "we are here to provide quality instruction, and prepare our students to provide quality care for their patients."

'Creating a Better Life' Exhibit on display at Scurry County Museum



The Scurry County Museum will host a reception for the opening of a new exhibit entitled "Creating a Better Life" on Sunday, March 2 from 1-3pm. The exhibit addresses the vital role of the Hispanic Workforce in West Texas. Also on display are paintings by former WTC student, Eber Suarez. Suarez was killed in an automobile accident in December of 2001.



GLT Students prepare North Park for use as Westerner Practice Field

Monday, February 17 was a busy day for GLT students. Under the supervision of instructor Sam Fare, students from the sophomore class worked to prepare a baseball practice field at the city's North Park facility.

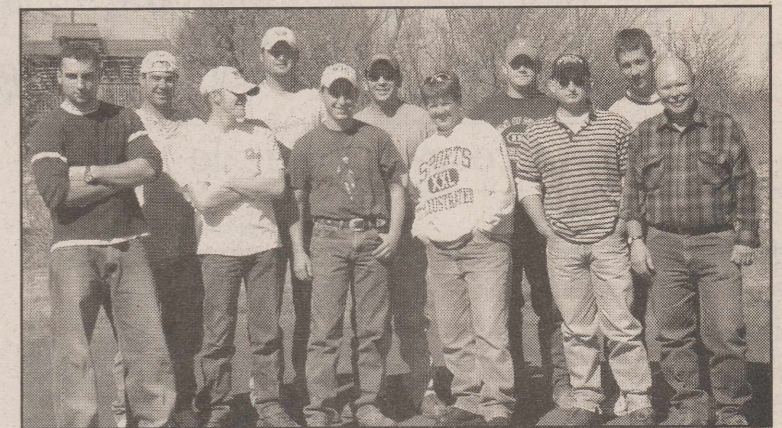
"With the upcoming construction on the WTC fields, the team needed a place to practice," explained Fare. "The field at North Park was available and with a little work it will suffice until the WTC field is ready." Taking what was originally a softball field, the crew pushed the infield back to the proper dimensions for baseball.

Blake Ward operated the skid-steer loader for the project. "We had to remove about 30 feet of grass to make room for the larger infield," he said, "First, the area was tilled, then the loose grass was dragged out with a box blade." At the same time other students worked to loosen and drag the existing infield.

Once the field was at the correct dimensions, a pitcher's mound was built using soil provided by the County. "We had a great time working on the field," said Jeremy Eaton, "Some of us gained valuable experience using equipment." Also, two practice mounds were built in an area off the field.

Other students worked with string trimmers and other tools to remove weeds and trash on and around the field. "We filled up a dumpster and then some" explained Luke Mauter.

Students from the GLT program who participated in the



GLT students, left to right: Braden Doolittle, Steven Rivera, Ryan Minchew, Bradley Atkinson, William Osburn, Brandon Hackfeld, Ramona Embry, Blake Ward, Ryan Branch, Luke Mauter, and instructor, Sam Fare.

afternoon's work were Oscar Hackfeld, Luke Mauter, Ryan Amaya, Bradley Atkinson, Beau Minchew, Tony Navarrette, William Doolittle, Ryan Branch, Braden Osburn, Cole Shook, William Tinkler, Jeremy Eaton, Ramona Tinkler, Blake Ward, and Brandon Embry, Daniel Fish, Brandon Wyatt.



An opportunity to see, and to donate \$10 for a chance to win the 2003 Ford Focus pictured above can be taken this weekend at Old Mill Trade Days in Post from 9-5 each day. (NOTE: Only 300 chances donated as of press time!) The vehicle will also be displayed this week at Barbee Medical Supply, 3801 College Ave. Donations for a chance to win are being received at Barbee Medical and also at First American Bank, 3011 College Ave., Texas Finance, 1400 25th, Bullard's Computer Solutions, 3405 College Ave., and at the President's office, 6200 S. College Ave.