STAY CONNECTED:

- Blinn recognizes donors of six new endowed scholarships
- Blinn strengthens engagement with students, community through social media
- Blinn claims championship at American Royal livestock judging competition
Blinn Connection is a newsletter for the faculty and staff of Blinn College published monthly by the Office of Blinn College Marketing and Communications.

FROM THE TOP

This month marked a major milestone for Blinn College as we completed a successful on-site visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Of the 97 items reviewed by the on-site team, only two recommendations were made, both of which we anticipated and will be easily remedied for our final report.

This reaffirmation effort has been a significant challenge, requiring personnel from all four campuses, from every division and every department, to pull together and take on myriad projects under unrelenting deadlines. It required painstaking research, documentation and thoroughness, and in the end, it did what this process was always intended to do – make Blinn a better college for our students.

I speak for the entire Board of Trustees when I say that we have been incredibly impressed by your dedication to the process and to our students. Even the SACSCOC on-site team made special note of the years of coordination and effort involved in making certain that this process has been a successful one.

We all know that this process is one that never ends – even as we pass this milestone, we begin preparing documentation for the next review. Nonetheless, this is a good opportunity to congratulate everyone who made this possible, including District President Dr. Harold Nolte, the Executive Council, Director of Institutional Effectiveness & Enrollment Management Joe Baumann, Quality Enhancement Plan Co-Directors Dr. Mary Barnes-Tilley and Jeremy Thomas, and interim QEP co-director Dr. Patricia Westergaard. I am afraid that if I tried to thank everyone who contributed to this process, there would be no room for any other stories in this issue, but we as a board understand that it took the efforts of everyone at Blinn College to accomplish a feat of this complexity and sheer magnitude.

On behalf of the board and, more importantly, the students we all serve, thank you.

Sincerely,

Douglas R. Borchardt
President, Blinn College Board of Trustees

The Blinn College Board of Trustees
Arwood Kenjura - Vice President, Douglas Borchardt - President, David Sommer - Secretary
Teddy Boehm, Leon Toubin, Carolyn D. Miller, C.P. A., Richard Powell

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Blinn strengthens engagement with students, community through social media
Assessment Council celebrates five years of dedication to student learning
Blinn claims championship at American Royal livestock judging competition
Brenham, Bryan campus theatre programs garner award nominations
Blinn seeks applicants for inaugural FutureWorks Academy

Homecoming royalty proud to support Boys & Girls Club
Alumnus finds career inspiration through student organization
Captain Malcolm Carter does his part to keep students and faculty safe

AROUND THE CAMPUSES
- Anthropology students uncover artifacts at World War II prisoner-of-war camp
- Blinn inducts 23 students into Sigma Kappa Delta
- Blinn inducts 32 students into Phi Theta Kappa honor society

AROUND THE CAMPUSES
- Physical Therapist Assistant program garners award nominations
- Blinn seeks applicants for inaugural FutureWorks Academy

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- Buccaneers Volleyball wins back-to-back NJCAA titles

COLLEGE EVENTS
- Student Center, Brenham Campus
- Student Center, Bryan Campus

NEW HIRES

PERSONAL NOTES
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Buccaneer volleyball captures NCAA championship.

Happy Holidays 2014

Blinn College District President Harold Nolte invites you and your guest to attend an Employee Holiday Reception

Wednesday, December 17, 2014
Student Center, Brenham Campus
Thursday, December 18, 2014
Student Center, Bryan Campus

11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

Please attend the campus most convenient for you. RSVP by Dec. 10 to Mrs. Becky Krebs – 979-830-4112 – bkrebs@blinn.edu

I hope to see you at one of the receptions and wish you a Happy Holiday Season.
Blinn recognizes donors of six new endowed scholarships

Blinn College recently recognized the donors who established six new endowed scholarships totaling approximately $14 million. Including those created during the past year, the Blinn College Foundation has established 226 scholarships totaling approximately $14 million.

"Every year, this luncheon demonstrates our community’s commitment both to the importance of higher education and to the students we serve," said Dr. Harold Nolte, Blinn College district president. "In establishing these scholarships, the donors give our students the opportunity for a brighter future."

The six endowed scholarships established this year were the:

- Jane Boehmnnann Nursing Scholarship for Brenham campus
- Jan & Jerry Calvert Technical Education Scholarship for technical education students.
- Dr. James I. Durham Scholarship for chemistry students.
- Ellie Carter Vanderwerth Scholarship for general scholarship, with a preference for students studying education.
- Theodore M. Vanderwerth, Jr. Technical Education Scholarship for technical education students.
- President Donald E. Voelter Scholarship for general scholarship.

The Foundation supports programs and activities that enhance the quality of education for Blinn College students and expand the educational opportunities for the entire community. While raising funds is an important function, the Foundation also seeks to heighten educational opportunities for the entire community. While raising funds is an important function, the Foundation also seeks to heighten educational opportunities for the entire community.

Dr. Greg Phillips, Blinn College’s vice president for academic affairs, said, "These endowed scholarships enable us to recognize and support donors who have made a significant financial commitment to our College and the students we serve. We are grateful to everyone who supports Blinn College in so many ways, and especially to those who have contributed to these scholarships.

Blinn strengthens engagement with students, community through social media

College recognized by Texas Social Media Research Institute for top-10 Twitter account

With countless social media options available these days, Blinn College has never had a better opportunity to communicate directly with its students and the community. Its Marketing & Communications Department has determined to make the most of it.

The Texas Social Media Research Institute recently named Blinn one of the top 10 Texas community colleges on Twitter based on its almost 2,200 followers. Blinn, which ranks 11th in the state in enrollment, ranks eighth in Twitter followers, and will be honored at the 4th Annual Social Media Conference in Fort Worth on Nov. 7 at the Tarleton State University Southwest Metropolitan Center.

Blinn’s Twitter page at www.twitter.com/BlinnCollege is just a part of its overall social media presence, which includes a Facebook page with almost 8,700 followers and a LinkedIn page with more than 12,000 followers. The College recently added an Instagram account.

"We really enjoy the opportunity to communicate directly with our students, their families and the communities we serve," said Jeff Tilley, director of Marketing & Communications. "Social media is a great communication platform that allows us to tell the stories taking place at Blinn College every day in a way we simply couldn’t have even five years ago."

Blinn uses its social media pages to inform students of upcoming campus events, share news of recent accomplishments and answer student questions. The College also shares photos from events like the crowning of the Homecoming king and queen earlier this month.

Prior to the College’s Hall of Honor reception Oct. 25, Blinn social media posted photos and biographies of all five new inductees and thanked them for their service to the College and the community. This week Blinn posted daily photos from last year’s Night at Star of the Republic Museum to promote this year’s Nov. 1 event.

During Homecoming weekend, Blinn’s Marketing & Communications Department asked community leaders and Blinn alumni what advice they would offer today’s college students, and took their photos with their words of wisdom written on a whiteboard. The College plans to post those photos under the hashtag #BlinnAdvice in the coming weeks, and encourage others share their advice for students.

"It’s all about finding creative and fun ways to interact with our students, alumni and community, and giving prospective students an insight into our personality and the many programs Blinn has to offer," Tilley said.

Blinn’s social media pages include daily photos and advice from community leaders, alumni.

Assessment Council celebrates five years of dedication to student learning

Improved structure and faculty training implementation lead to effective assessment

Blinn College’s Assessment Council is celebrating five years of dedication to the student learning experience. Founded in 2010, the Assessment Council provides support and develops and examines best practices to shape assessment at Blinn. Through assessment, faculty, administrators, trustees and others are provided with evidence from which they can develop useful information about their students, institutions, programs and courses. This information can help in effective decision-making about student learning and development, professional effectiveness and program quality.

Since its inception, the Assessment Council has developed an assessment manual as a resource guide for faculty, implemented regular faculty training modules and is working to establish training in which Council members act as consultants for program facilitators to assist in the College’s continuous improvement efforts.

“Our goal is to help faculty and administration better evaluate what is going on in the classroom to improve students’ learning experiences,” said Council Co-Chair Thomas Born. “Our emphasis is not on grades or faculty evaluations, but on identifying areas for improvement in the classroom.”

The Assessment Council also serves as a tool to facilitate cross-campus communication.

“We’re not silos,” said Tony Adam, ex-officio Council member and Blinn’s director of institutional assessment. “We encourage everyone across the College’s four campuses to communicate about student learning outcomes and about what has and hasn’t worked in terms of teaching strategies and assessment.”

With the recent visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), the Assessment Council reminds faculty and staff that assessment extends past the requirements for the degree-granting agency.

“We’re focused on classroom assessment because students are our first priority,” Born said. “We’re excited to celebrate our anniversary and we look forward to what the future holds for the Council.”
Blinn claimed championship at American Royal livestock judging competition

The Blinn College livestock judging team recently defeated 26 other colleges to capture the 51st national championship at the first national competition of the season in Kansas City, Mo.

The victory marked Blinn’s first-ever championship at the American Royal competition, though Blinn has captured victories at national competitions in seven of the last eight years.

A first-place finish in the reasons portion as well as top scores in sheep/goat judging, third place in swine and fifth in cattle propelled Blinn to the championship.

“The team was real excited to win that competition,” said Joe Rathmann, who coaches the team alongside Brice Mund. “This is an intelligent group of kids and they have a good background and a great work ethic.”

In the competition, the teams evaluate 12 classes of cattle, hogs, sheep and goats. The judging competition is scored based on contestants ranking the animals within the classes and on an oral presentation of their reasoning. Fifty-one other schools competed in the competition, including 26 in Blinn’s division.

“We were pretty confident because of all the hard work we put in and the coaches pushing us hard leading up to the event,” said Brody Halfmann, a sophomore from Garden City. Payton Wimsatt (Brenham) finished first in swine, chid in sheep/goats and seventh in the individual overall. Quest Newberry (George West) placed eighth in sheep and 10th overall. Brantley Bondovsky (Port Lavaca) was fourth in cattle and 12th overall.

The team still has a full slate of events ahead as it travels to Louisville, Ky., in two weeks and Denver, Colo., in January. The team will also have in-state competitions in Fort Worth, San Antonio and Houston.

Brenham, Bryan campus theatre programs garner award nominations

Brenham campus recognized for ‘Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde,’ Bryan campus for ‘Antigone’

The Brenham and Bryan campus theatre programs each drew rave reviews from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival for their October performances as Brenham’s production of “Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde” and Bryan’s production of “Antigone” each drew rave reviews.

On the Brenham campus, Christopher Frey (Hempstead), Collene Dougan (Brenham) and Kayla Kelly (Humble) were nominated for Irene Ryan Acting Awards and Jericka Gaskamp (Brenham) was nominated for the Meritorious Achievement Award for Stage Management. Frey portrayed Henry Jekyll/Edward Hyde, Dougan played Agnes Carew and Kelly played Rebecca Moore.

The Blinn – Brenham campus Theatre Program produced “Antigone” Oct. 16-18, drawing approximately 550 students and community patrons over three performances. The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) is a national theatre program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide that has served as a catalyst in improving the quality of college theatre in the United States. KCACTF has grown into a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, where theatre departments and student artists showcase their work and receive outside assessment by KCACTF respondents.

Irene Ryan Acting Nominations provide recognition and honor to outstanding student performers wishing to further their theater education. Meritorious Achievement Awards are for students who go beyond and above in the collaborative process.

Blinn seeks applicants for inaugural FutureWorks Academy

Blinn College is inviting full-time administrators, faculty and staff from all its campuses to participate in its inaugural FutureWorks Academy, a program designed to develop a shared vision for Blinn’s future and a culture of trust, creativity and strategic thinking.

A competitive selection process will identify the first cohort of 20 diverse individuals from the College’s four campuses. The program will seek potential leaders at all levels of the organization and is designed to:

• strengthen trust among and between faculty, staff and administrators.
• create a culture of creative and strategic thinking.
• develop a shared vision of Blinn’s future.
• assure that all constituencies maintain focus on Blinn’s mission and purpose.
• provide opportunities for personal development.

“Fuschen Yuan said that there are three essentials to leadership—humility, clarity and courage,” said Sylvia McMullen, president of Brazos County campuses. “Leadership development is not leadership training. We lead from wherever we are in the organization. Leadership development calls upon us to collaborate, to be contextual, to change the status quo and be actionable.”

“I’ve heard many people say that Blinn has so much potential. Let’s turn that potential into action.”

Through an initiation retreat and monthly facilitated sessions, participants will gain the self- and institutional knowledge to create and implement capstone projects that align with Blinn’s mission as a comprehensive community college committed to educational excellence and to individual and community enhancement.

The initial retreat is scheduled for Feb. 5-6 at Camp Allen and will include communication, trust-building and selfreflective exercises.

Beginning in March, monthly sessions will take place at each of the Blinn campuses, with the goals of building trust, increasing unity across campuses, departments and divisions; and increasing both personal and institutional knowledge. Graduation will take place in November 2015.

Applications are due by Dec. 31 and are available at www.blinn.edu/FutureWorks. For more information or to submit your application, email Joyce Langenegger, director of Professional Development, at joyce.langenegger@blinn.edu.
Homecoming royalty proud to support Boys & Girls Club

White, Gonzales led Homecoming court’s efforts to raise more than $3,600

At Blinn College, even Homecoming royalty quickly learns that it’s all about serving your community.

Kelsey White, a freshman from Alvin representing the Agriculture Club, was crowned queen and Brenham’s Dallas Gonzales, representing the Future Teachers Organization, was crowned king at Blinn’s recent Homecoming game.

Both White and Gonzales were nominated by their classmates, and raised money for the Washington County Boys & Girls Club as part of the Homecoming court. The king and queen raised more than $2,000 of the $3,665.89 that was donated to the Boys & Girls Club and presented at halftime of the football game.

“The whole experience was positive and I got to meet people who could help me in future studies,” White said.

Gonzales said that homeownership in college is much different than his experience in high school.

“Homecoming in high school is all about the popular vote,” Gonzales said. “Here is something that I was nominated for by my classmates, and it included responsibilities.”

As a member of Blinn’s Ag Club, White was already very familiar with community service. Last year, Blinn’s Ag Club totaled about 3,700 hours of community service at 127 events. The club partnered with organizations such as 4-H, Future Farmers of America, Coastal Conservation Association of Texas and Texas Parks & Wildlife in organizing and staffing events, and also volunteered at livestock shows, ag mechanics shows and county fairs. Last month, the Ag Club volunteered approximately 11,000 hours at Washington County Fair.

Following her time at Blinn, White plans on attending Texas Tech University studying agricultural business with a minor in finance with a hope of working in agricultural sales.

Gonzales was nominated by the Future Teachers Organization, a student organization that interests young men and women in the teaching profession and offers its members the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to become successful teachers.

“This was a chance to get our club names out there and serve the community,” Gonzales said. “Teachers are a service to the community and so this was great experience for me because this is what I want to do.”

Promote your events online for FREE, 24x7

Blinn’s online calendar works for you to draw attendance to your event, day and night, weekends, even during holidays. It’s your tool to use and your first step to host an event with a terrific turnout. Check it out. It’s easy to use, the price is right (FREE) and you decide how much or how little detail you want to add!

Alumnaus finds career inspiration through student organization

Chris Koehler accepted to cardiac perfusion technologist program in Cleveland

Chris Koehler was always drawn to medicine, but it wasn’t until he witnessed an open heart surgery at the Blinn College Medical Education Development Society (MEDS) Club that he discovered his niche.

Koehler entered the Navy in 1995 after graduating from Sealy High School. As a medic, he worked in the military medical training class of 55. He was granted his choice to work in intensive care.

“Training was amazing,” Koehler said. “I was doing things as an 18-year-old that you can’t do in the civilian world. Critical care nursing is typically for nurses who have been in the field for 10-plus years.”

After eight years of active duty and five reserve, Koehler left the military and returned to Sealy, where he enrolled at Blinn with the goal of returning to the Navy as a physician.

“If I wanted to stay in the medical field, I would have to start from scratch,” Koehler said. “My experience in the military was both a blessing and curse—there was no way to transfer my previous experience.”

But Koehler quickly realized that eight more years of school and military service wouldn’t be compatible with his impending nuptials. Just as he began to consider other options, he transferred to Blinn’s Brenham campus, where he discovered the MEDS Club.

The club connects students interested in health professions with networking opportunities and offers a glimpse into various professions with lectures from guest speakers. Students can visit the Texas Heart Institute in Houston each semester, where they tour the hospital’s Clinic, which he will begin in January.

“It’s such an exciting opportunity for me,” Koehler said. “It was a golden opportunity for me and for my wife,” Koehler said. “I’d still get to pursue my passion, but not in less than half the time.”

Cardiac perfusionists work alongside attending physicians and anesthesiologists to maintain blood flow during critical surgery. Perfusionists operate circulation equipment during any medical procedure in which it is necessary to artificially support or temporarily replace a patient’s circulatory or respiratory functions during open-heart surgery or other heart procedures.

After Koehler and his wife Laura married, they moved to Cleveland so that Laura could pursue her dream job designing greeting cards. Shortly after the move, Koehler was accepted to the perfusionist program at the Cleveland Clinic, which he will begin in January.

“It’s such an exciting opportunity for me,” Koehler said. “MDDS Club and Blinn helped me identify the opportunity and channel my medical interest and experience from the Navy. Had I not come to Blinn, I might have never known about perfusion.”

The program requires an outstanding GPA and most of the prerequisite courses required for medical school admission. Upon completion of three semesters of coursework, which includes lectures and on-the-job training, Koehler will take a certification exam to officially become a cardiac perfusionist.

“Chris was a wonderful student,” said Dr. Kenneth French, MEDS Club advisor. “He stood out. He followed through diligently and was always serious and sincere. He’s one of those students professors really appreciate.”

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Captain Malcolm Carter does his part to keep students and faculty safe

Blinn has a family feeling that Carter enjoys on the job

As the new police captain at the Blinn College – Brenham campus, Malcolm Carter is committed to keeping students, faculty and staff safe each and every day.

Carter began his 27-year law enforcement career with the Houston Police Department and spent 10 years there, leaving with the rank of sergeant. He served as a Waller County constable for less than a year before going through that process right now and advancing to captain at the Blinn College – Brenham campus.

As captain, Carter’s new responsibilities include hiring and training the prospective officer has. Carter is going through that process right now and said that he likes to see what background and training the prospective officer has.

Carter has also helped the department advance their policies. “We have come a long way since I started five years ago,” Carter said. “We have all gotten policies and standards up to date here to keep up with the police departments through the years.”

As captain, Carter’s new responsibilities include hiring and training new. Carter is going through that process right now and said that he likes to see what background and training the prospective officer has.

Carter is also tasked with keeping the flow of Blinn College going smoothly without any interruptions. Although it is a busy job, Carter still feels close to the people at Blinn.

“Carter is just as useful to the department, and he works well with the officers and the people we serve.”

Although Carter lives in Waller County, he said Blinn feels like home after five years here. “I want everyone to have a good day on campus,” Carter said. “It’s just a good feeling to come into work and feel appreciated for what you do.”

Students see Texas appeals court in action

10th Court of Appeals session gives students a closer look at the legal system

Blinn College students got the unique opportunity to see the law in action recently when the Texas 10th Court of Appeals heard four cases on the College’s Bryan Campus.

The 10th Court, which consists of Chief Justice Tom Gray and Justices Rex Dow and Al Scoggins, is based in Waco and hears civil and criminal appeals from 15 counties in Central Texas, including Brazos County. This marked the third time the 10th Court has held session on Blinn’s Bryan campus.

The 10th Court, which hears roughly 400 criminal and civil appeals annually, began scheduling sessions outside of Waco to give the public an opportunity to glimpse the law in action. After hearing the first two cases Wednesday, the court took a recess and the justices answered questions from the public.

“It’s great to be here at Blinn to educate students and the public about what we do,” Chief Justice Tom Gray said. “For decades we couldn’t travel, but we’re thankful that the legislature has recognized the educational benefit.”

The hearings held particular interest for Brazos County president describes link between law, education for legal assistant students

As president of Brazos County campuses at Blinn College and a University of Houston law school graduate, Sylvia McMullen is uniquely positioned to understand the relationship between law and education. On Tuesday, she shared her insights before a class of 20 students as a guest lecturer for an Introduction to Law class at Blinn.

‘Blending With Blinn’ draws almost 100 students

“Blending With Blinn,” an event offering tips to help Blinn College students seamlessly transfer to Texas A&M University, drew almost 100 students this month.

Hosted by the First Generation College Student Organization, the first half of the event was an open house featuring key organizations and departments from both institutions, including the Texas A&M Office of Admissions and Financial Aid. The second half of the event featured a student panel, in which students answered questions about transferring to Texas A&M and life as an Aggie, and a university staff panel that answered questions about the process of transferring.
Physical Therapist Assistant students awarded first Auggie Darr Babbitt scholarship

At sporting events, parties or social gatherings of any kind, the best seat in the house was in front of Auggie Babbitt. “She was always giving out the best shoulder rubs,” said Dr. Smiley Flores, Blinn’s Dean of Health Sciences. “She had that healing touch. She was a kindred spirit and she had this smile and positive attitude that was infectious.”

Babbitt was instrumental in establishing the Blinn College Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) Program and earning its initial accreditation. She devoted herself to transferring invaluable knowledge from the classroom to the clinical setting to improve patient care and assist students in preparing for the state licensure exam.

“She made such a difference in the lives of students and her patients,” said Anne Rathke, Babbitt’s sister and Blinn nursing instructor. “It’s been really hard living without her, but I know she would want us to go on living life and helping others the best we can.”

Babbitt left her hometown of Hallettsville to attend Blinn and later transferred to Texas Woman’s University to study physical therapy. Babbitt practiced as a physical therapist in Brenham and the Bryan-College Station area throughout her career and poured her passion and wealth of knowledge into making Blinn’s PTA program a success.

Just over two years ago, Babbitt lost her fight with ovarian cancer. To honor her legacy, Babbitt’s family, friends and colleagues established a $22,000 endowed scholarship through the Blinn College Foundation, which provides support for programs and activities that enhance the quality of education at Blinn. The scholarship is intended for outstanding second-year PTA students demonstrating financial need. For the first time since the endowment, two exemplary PTA students were each awarded a $550 Auggie Darr Babbitt scholarship.

“I am so grateful for this opportunity,” said Shelly Acree, a scholarship recipient from Snook. “I will continue to work very hard in the program and I hope I can be as much of an inspiration as Auggie was with her patient care.”

“It’s such a great honor,” said Jodi Thornton, a scholarship recipient from Wortham. “The presence she had and the hope she inspired—I can only hope to be that for my patients one day.”

Blinn’s PTA program, inceptioned in 1997, instructs students in the use of specialized equipment and personalized patient care. First-year PTA students spend most of their time in a classroom setting and in the lab, while second-year students participate in clinical rotations in area physical therapy facilities.

Once a student is admitted to the PTA program, he or she becomes part of the Student Physical Therapy Assistant Association (SPTAA), the official student club of PTA. Over the course of the two-year program, students lead and participate in a number of charitable fundraisers and activities.

The family of Auggie Babbitt present Blinn PTA students Jodi Thornton (Wortham) and Shelly Acree (Snook) with the first awards from the $22,000 endowed scholarship that Babbitt family and friends established in 2012. From left: Jodi Thornton, Shelly Acree and Blinn PTA students Jodi Thornton (Wortham) and Shelly Acree (Snook) with the first awards from the $22,000 endowed scholarship that Babbitt family and friends established in 2012.
BUCCANEER ATHLETICS

BUCCANEERS CROWNED NATIONAL CHAMPS AFTER BEATING MIAMI DADE, 3-1

CASPER, Wyo. – When it came down to it, Blinn College volleyball stuck together and overcame a talented Miami Dade squad to win the NJCAA Division I national title with a 3-1 victory in Casper, Wyo.

“Obviously this is an incredible moment but it didn’t come without it’s challenges,” said Blinn coach Erin Mellinger. “But they got to push through and feel the way that they feel right now.”

Rebecca Reeve supplied the championship-clinching kill to seal the 3-1 victory by the score 33-31, 25-16, 20-25 and 25-18 at the Casper Events Center. The 2014 championship is the second consecutive championship for Blinn College and its third in four years, and the Buccaneers finish the year with an astonishing 40-1 record.

The first set was a classic. It looked as though Blinn would make it look easy as it jumped out to a 13-7 lead with a kill from Jordyn Keamo, who had 52 assists in the match. But Miami-Dade didn’t go away quietly as it charged back to take a 25-24 lead. The Buccanerats controlled the second set as it jumped out to an 11-4 lead with back to back blocks from Luafalemana. Blinn went on to grab a 2-0 lead after a block from Onipede to win the second 25-16.

The third set was a forgettable one for Blinn as Miami-Dade won 25-20 to force a fourth set. It was a lot of back and forth in the fourth set but it was Blinn College coming up with the big points in the end. Reeve came up with the biggest point with the championship-winning kill to win the fourth 25-18 and win 3-1.

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Reeve not only delivered the championship-winning kill but was named the most valuable player of the national tournament. She finished with 25 kills and a .388 hitting percentage and 10 digs.

“It really is a once in a lifetime opportunity and for us to get it back to back is unreal,” Reeve said following the match. “I am never going to forget this moment and that’s for sure.”

Alyssa LaMont and Abolanle Onipede were both named to the all-tournament team. Onipede had six kills in the championship match and LaMont turned in an impressive effort on defense with 16 digs in the win.

Trinity Alualu and Tawnee Luafalemana each had 11 kills while Rachel Sharp finished with nine kills.

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NEW HIRES
October New Hires
Brenham Campus, Full-time
Jose Espinoza, police officer; and Indi Williams, resident hall director.
Brenham Campus, Part-time
Tracey Curlee, library technical assistant.
Bryan Campus, Full-time
Virgil Sanderson, network technician.
Bryan Campus, Part-time
Tommy Roberts, Instructor; Jennifer Templeton, tutor; and Alma Tuck, instructor.

PERSONAL NOTES
Social Sciences Professor
Michelle Raisor’s mother
Jo Ann passed away Nov. 1 at the age of 84. Condolences can be left at: www.callawayjones.com/joann-raisor.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY BLINN COLLEGE STUDENTS

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Mark your Calendars

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014
2 - 4 p.m. ............... Bryan - Destination: Success (QEP) Come-and-Go Info session

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014
8:30 - 10:30 a.m. ....... Sealy - Destination: Success (QEP) Come-and-Go Info Session
2 - 4 p.m. ............... Brenham - Destination: Success (QEP) Come-and-Go Info Session
7 - 9 p.m. ............... Brenham - Blinn College Percussion Ensemble
7 - 9 p.m. ............... Brenham - Men’s Basketball vs. Concordia University JV

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2014
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ............ Bryan - SGA/ Blood Drive
2 - 4 p.m. ............... Schulenburg - Destination: Success (QEP) Come-and-Go Info Session
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. ....... Brenham - Women’s Basketball vs. Kilgore College
5:30 - 7 p.m. ............ Bryan - Associate Degree Nursing Program Information Session
7 - 9 p.m. ............... Brenham - Men’s Basketball vs. Concordia University JV

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2014
9 a.m. - 4 p.m. ............ Bryan - SGA/ Blood Drive
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. ......... Brenham - Sam Houston Advisor on campus
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. ......... Brenham - Texas A&M Advisors on campus

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2014
8 a.m. - 2 p.m. ............ Bryan - College and Career Summit
2 - 3 p.m. ............... Bryan - Retirement Reception for Dr. Jane Haggard
2 - 3 p.m. ............... Bryan - SGA/General Assembly Performance
7 - 8:30 p.m. ............ Brenham - Jazz Ensemble Performance

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2014
7:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. .... Bryan - SAT Testing
7 - 9 p.m. ............... Brenham - Blinn College Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014
noon - 1 p.m. .............. Bryan - Immaculate Conception Mass
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. ....... Brenham - Women’s Basketball vs. Southwest Christian College
5:30 - 8:30 p.m. ....... Bryan - Choral Union Choir Concert Rehearsal

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. ......... Brenham - University of Houston Advisor on campus
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ...... Bryan - Choral Union Winter Concert: ‘The Sacred and Profane’

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. ....... Brenham - Men’s Basketball vs. Panola College

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2014
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. ......... Bryan - Dr. Jimmy Byrd Meet & Greet
6 - 9 p.m. ............... Bryan - Annual Early Childhood Intervention Christmas Program

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. ... Brenham - Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professionals

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2014
6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. .... Bryan - Blinn Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2014
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m... Brenham - President’s Holiday Reception
noon - 1 p.m. ............ Bryan - Veterinary Technology Informational
5 p.m. .................... Brenham College Graduate Grades Due

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. ...... Bryan - Brazos County Advisory Committee
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. ... Bryan - President’s Holiday Reception
5 p.m. .................... Fall 2014 Grades Due

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2014
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. ...... Brenham - Women’s Basketball vs. LSU-Eunice
6:30 p.m. ............... December Graduation
All Day .................. Winter Minimester Classes Begin & Information

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2014
3 - 5 p.m. ............... Brenham - Men’s Basketball vs. LSC - Tomball

As part of its commitment to student success, Blinn is implementing a Quality Enhancement Plan titled, “Destination Success: First-Year Focus,” which utilizes learning communities to support first-year college students. Find out more at www.blinn.edu/QEP.