AFTER 45 YEARS, MYRLAN COLEMAN SEES NO END TO HER FAMILY BOND AT WC
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A new semester is underway at Weatherford College, and we are already celebrating new accomplishments and honors earned by our faculty, staff and community donors.

Our cover features Myrlan Coleman, the Program Director of Visual Arts, who has dedicated 45 years to Weatherford College. Her art can be seen around campus and across the country, and her students long remember the appreciation of art she instills in them. We also feature Bob McKinley this month and congratulate him on his induction into the NJCAA Women’s Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame. With more than 860 wins, 14 conference championships and 11 Coach of the Year awards there is no one better suited for this honor. Bob will be inducted on July 24 in Niceville, Florida.

At the Weatherford College Wise County campus we recently held a dedication ceremony for the Roy and Jeannine Eaton Library and Research Center. Roy and Jeannine were instrumental in the creation of a Wise County campus. Roy served on the steering committee that investigated the need for a branch campus and is a longtime member of the WC Foundation Board of Directors, and, together, the Eatons have donated more than $50,000 for scholarships.

We would also like to thank all of those who made contributions to the WC Foundation in 2014. It’s contributions from our alumni, community members and local businesses that enable Weatherford College to continue the tradition of supporting our students and providing them a pathway to success.

In closing, I would like to once again invite all of you to tour our beautiful campus. I am amazed every day at the changes that have taken place on our campus over the past few years. I would truly enjoy giving you a personal tour. Your continued support of Weatherford College is always appreciated.

Kevin J. Eaton, Ed.D.
President

BY THE NUMBERS

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED BY THE WC FOUNDATION

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have been able to steadily increase the amount of scholarships the WC Foundation awards to deserving students.

* As of Feb. 1, 2015

Readers may send comments, story ideas or letters to:
THE HILLTOP
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Weatherford, TX 76086
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After graduating from the University of Texas in 1963 with a degree in advertising art, Myrlan Coleman had dreams of working for a big Dallas agency, but she fell in love with a man who was bound for Weatherford. It wasn’t long before she fell for Weatherford College as well.

“I’ve seen it with other people, I’ve seen it in my own life, but there is something about it that makes it more than just a place to work,” she said. “It’s a place to grow. It’s a place to find people you love and friends that are just beyond compare. Those things are hard to put in words, but the feelings are there. This isn’t just a place of employment. When I came to work here I felt that almost immediately.”

It wasn’t long after making her move to Weatherford that Coleman was offered a job at WC. She had been picking up freelance work creating advertising art for Monnig’s and Stripling’s, large Fort Worth department stores of the time. Then one of her former professors landed her a one-woman show at an art gallery in Fort Worth. That’s where the head of the art department at Weatherford College saw Coleman’s work and asked her to teach.

Having just graduated with her bachelor’s degree, Coleman wasn’t qualified to teach full-time. So, starting in 1968, she taught part-time under the condition that she would return to school to complete a master’s degree. Coleman was also tasked with the job of scheduling and creating all of the advertising for the college.

Coleman assembled the ads with archetype, a manual way of setting type. She was also known to hand-draw transparencies for instructors to use during lectures.

“At that time you didn’t have the computer to do ads and that sort of thing,” Coleman said with a smile.

Coleman completed her Masters of Arts in Drawing from Texas Woman’s University in just a year and became a full-time faculty member in 1969. She then went straight back to TWU to earn her Masters of Fine Arts in Drawing and Painting plus another...
Memories

According to the fall 1984 yearbook, the large copper composition, reflecting all areas of Weatherford College, was created by the 1984 spring design class of the WC Art Department, under the instruction of Myrlan Coleman, Art Director of the college.

The finished work was presented to the college during the 1984 Spring Art Exhibition in the library in memory of Devonna Jo “Missy” Peacock. Peacock, a life long victim of Cystic Fibrosis, the disease which claimed her life in the spring of 1984, attended WC from 1982-1984 and was a dedicated art student.

Each year, beginning in the spring of 1985, the WC Art Department has presented the DeVonna Peacock Spirit Award to a student who displays ability, improvement, willingness to learn, and, most of all, enthusiasm.

The copper composition is on display in a study room on the second floor of the WC Library.

Do You Know...

If you have any information about this photo, please send a note to Katie Edwards at 225 College Park Drive, Weatherford, TX, 76086, or an email to kedwards@wc.edu.

Last Issue’s Do You Know...

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Friends We’ll Miss

Charles “Charlie” Wayne Ballenger passed away November 25. He was 43.

Bennie Sewell Barnett of Weatherford passed away October 1. She was 88.

Bradley Clayton Bettis of Azle passed away December 21. He was 40.

Thomas E. Bowen of Fallbrook, Calif., passed away March 4. He was 73.

Christy Diane Brewton passed away December 23. She was 49.

Mildred Fern Cantrell of Sterling City passed away October 28. She was 90.

Charles “Chris” Edwards passed away November 14. He was 67.

Jefferson Fletcher Isbell III passed away December 15. He was 71.

Alma Reldon Smith McClendon of Weatherford passed away January 6. She was 97.

Nolan Queen of Weatherford passed away October 1. He was 87 and a WC Distinguished Alumnus in 2007.

Jerry Don Tanner of Weatherford passed away November 8. He was 74.

Calvin Rex Walters passed away October 12. He was 71.

Lynette Morris Warburton of San Antonio passed away October 7. She was 74.

Martha Elizabeth Williams of Lake Jackson passed away June 25. She was 94.

Mary Jo Couger Williams of Mineral Wells passed away December 16. She was 86.

Robert Earl (Bob) Wright Jr. of Weatherford passed away November 9. He was 73.

C. Wayne Wyler Sr. passed away December 14. He was 81.
POETRY, ACCORDING TO BILLIE LOVELADY

Guest article by Ennis R.S. Trimble

In 1973, I was a two-semester student at your institution.

While there, the late Billie Lovelady taught me English with her special talent. She encouraged my efforts to write poetry which she recognized was an instrument of healing, for I was a struggling, disabled veteran trying to cope with deep scars left by my military service. Because of her influence, I have written many poems since those days that have touched the lives of millions of others via the Internet.

Having once been an aviator, my efforts led me to become the Pioneer Poet Laureate of Aviation Poetry in 1977. I made sure that on Aviation Poetry’s Hall of Fame Honor Roll web page at www.aviationpoetry.org, Billie Lovelady’s definition of poetry appeared as a standard that the world has seen more than a million times since.

Thus, I wrote the following verse as a simple tribute to her influence.

"Poetry," Billie Lovelady said,
"Is imaginative literature
Made incarnate," and pleasant when read.

"It is the best words to say the best things,
Artfully arranged for sound and sense,
Music of the heart that softly sings."

"But sometimes it is just an allegory,
Oft times a dramatic metaphor,
For thoughts that are not transitory."

All poems may mean something different
To an individual reader,
But as she taught, "Each is referent."

And though Billie Lovelady is deceased,
Her words about poetry live on
With the authority she released.

To her, let this monument be,
That her insight was universal
Her life a poem that was set free.

I am now an 81-year-old grandfather, and the cycle of life has turned over several times since those days at Weatherford College so long ago. My lights, though dimming, were made to shine more brightly throughout the years because of Billy Lovelady’s influence, and for that I am eternally grateful.

STAFF MEMBER
OF THE YEAR

Gini Chesney was named 2014 Staff Member of the Year at the Employee Awards Dinner held in December. Chesney is a long-time WC employee who works as a service desk administrator in the Technology Services Department. The accolade includes a plaque, $1,000 cash and round-trip airfare for two to anywhere in the continental United States provided by the WC Foundation.

Thursday, May 14
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

At
Canyon West
Golf Club

$35 in advance, $40 at the door
Buy tickets online at:
www.tasteofparkercounty.com
1, 2, & 3. In addition to WC’s traditional Veterans Day ceremony, members of 1st Lt. Jack L. Knight’s family along with members of the 124th Cavalry Regiment with the Texas National Guard attended the dedication ceremony of the newly renovated building on the campus’ far north side in honor of Knight, the only WC graduate awarded the Medal of Honor.

4. Weatherford College Wise County dedicated the Roy and Jeannine Eaton Library and Research Center Thursday, Jan. 29. Roy was a member of the steering committee which investigated the need for a branch campus in Wise County and then supported and pushed for construction of the WCWC facility. Also, the Eatons have donated more than $50,000 for scholarships, and Roy is a longtime member of the WC Foundation Board of Directors.

5. Jennifer Miller, Biology instructor at the Weatherford College Education Center at Granbury, recently provided a hands-on lab experience for her environmental biology students with a visit to Jennifer Bauer-Krueger’s local goat ranch. Students learned about organic and sustainable production, different types of agriculture and developing a closed loop system, where all waste products are used. They also helped build two raised beds using waste from around the farm.

6. Cook Children’s Medical Center donated a digital radiographic mobile X-ray system to Weatherford College’s Radiologic Technology Program. WC Rad Tech graduates apply their craft in hospitals, outpatient clinics and physician offices in a variety of applications. Pictured are Cathy Ross, Diagnostic Imaging Manager for Cook Children’s, and Barbara Baker-Morrison, WC’s Radiologic Technology Program Director.
7. Andrew Bachelder, a WC wounded warrior student, is also a warrior on the golf course. Bachelder recently competed in the Warrior Open hosted by former President George W. Bush for the second year and took home The Warrior Cup.

8. Celebrating its 19th year, the Jack Harvey Academy of Exemplary Teachers honors teachers in the memory of Professor Emeritus Jack Harvey, who taught at WC for 23 years and was considered among his peers as a “master teacher.”
He’s compiled more than 860 wins, 14 conference championships and 11 Coach of the Year awards, and now Weatherford College’s Bob McKinley is a national hall of famer.

The National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) office has announced the longtime coach has been selected for induction into the NJCAA Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. McKinley will be inducted along with two other honorees during a July 24 banquet at the Women’s Basketball All-Star Weekend in Niceville, Florida.

Currently in his 50th season coaching basketball and his 38th at Weatherford College, McKinley is the winningest active NJCAA basketball coach in the nation with 865 victories as of Jan. 17. He is third in all-time wins, just 106 shy of Central Arizona’s Lin Laursen.

“It’s great that Bob is finally receiving the recognition that he has rightfully earned,” said Dr. Kevin Eaton, WC President. “Bob isn’t just an incredible coach, he’s also a wonderful person. It’s an honor to say that I work with Coach Bob McKinley.”

In his time as Head Women’s Basketball Coach at WC, the Lady Coyotes have earned 14 conference championships, three regional championships, four national tournament berths and one NJCAA Final Four appearance. So far, 17 All-America selections and 16 Academic All-America honorees have played for McKinley.

“This is really an awesome honor,” McKinley said. “I’m just thankful that Weatherford College has allowed me to be here for 38 years. It’s really special.”

McKinley was quick to deflect the credit to others.

“Without the players, recognition like this doesn’t happen, and we’ve been very fortunate to have the level of players we’ve had here,” he said. “And my wife, Dee, has just been awesome. She couldn’t have been more supportive and caring than she’s been through the years.”

McKinley launched his coaching career at Pasadena High School in 1964 before moving on to Houston Baptist University where he was Head Coach of the men’s team for the 1975-76 and 1976-77 seasons. At WC, McKinley coached the men’s team for 18 seasons and spent six years coaching both squads.

“A lot of coaches see the ‘juco route’ as a stepping stone to a D-1 job, but I’m so glad I’ve stayed at Weatherford College all these years,” McKinley said. “Weatherford has been so good to my entire family.”

A star player at Bowie High School, McKinley led his team to the state finals in 1959 and earned a spot in the Texas High School Basketball Hall of Fame. McKinley played college ball at TCU where he lettered for three years and served as a team captain.

Ricky Gene Ford of Northeast Mississippi Community College and Denny Jerome of Waldorf College in Iowa will also be inducted July 24.

McKinley will be the second WC coach inducted into the NJCAA Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Betty Jo Graber, who coached at WC for more than 35 years, was inducted in 1998 in the hall’s inaugural class. Graber currently serves on the WC Board of Trustees.

The NJCAA governs more than 500 member schools with nearly 60,000 student-athletes in 28 different sports.
Clarin Gniffke graduated from Regent University with a master’s degree in Government with a concentration in International Politics. Part of her studies were completed at Oxford University. Clarin graduated with a 3.84 GPA and earned membership into the Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society.

Stephanie Sawyer graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas with Highest Honors in December. Currently an adjunct instructor for WC’s Business Computer Information Systems Department, Stephanie will continue to work on her master’s degree.

Christopher “Brian” Scott (’13) has been accepted into the University of North Texas-Health Science Center School of Pharmacy. He will begin working toward his Doctorate in Pharmacy in August.

Former WC basketball player Itiana Taylor (’14) is performing well in her first season at East Carolina University. At press time, Taylor had four “double-doubles” in American Athletic Conference play: 11 points and 15 rebounds at Memphis on Jan. 4, 23 pts. and 19 reb. against Tulane Jan. 7, 16 pts. and 10 reb. at SMU on Jan. 21 and 20 pts. and 18 reb. against Tulsa on Jan. 24. Taylor was a two-time NJCAA All-American at WC.

The following former students are now working in the field after earning certification from WC’s Substance Abuse Counseling Program: Mike Carter is now working at Stonegate Center in Azle, Jennifer Golden is employed at the Children’s Trauma Initiative at MHMR-Tarrant in Fort Worth; Danny Hughes works at Addiction Behavioral Services in Decatur; Sharon Neeves is employed in the Billy Gregory Detoxification Unit at MHMR-Tarrant in Fort Worth; and Crystalle Palmer is at SAGE in Weatherford.

Aden Bubeck was a featured guitarist in Miranda Lambert’s Grammy performance of Little Red Wagon in early February. Bubeck is a former WC student and also taught bass guitar at WC as an adjunct music instructor until Lambert called on him to tour with her.
Affiliates ($100 to $499)

Debbie Alexander, Jolene Applegate, Angie Atkins, Linda Bagwell, Barbara Baker-Morrison, Christel Brenner, Terry Brock, Mike and Sheryl Brown, Becki Byrd, Dr. Shirley and Edwin Chenault, Rebecca Ciolek, Myrlan and Jim Coleman, Sue Coody, Tiare Edmundson, Johnny Emmons, Carol Eppright, Sharlyn Fagan, Stephenie Fields, Adam Finley, Joseph Flanagan, Cyrus Fletcher, Fort Worth Community Credit Union, Beverly and Jay Gibbs, Go4 Him Ministries, Inc., Dot Guess, Kyle and Imogene Hahn, Nikki Harless, Dr. Molly and Mark Harris, Sandra Hartnitt, Jeannie and Gary Hobbs, Loretta Huddleston, Theresa and Andy Hutchison, Janetta Kruse, Lonna and Derek Leach, Joseph Lewis, Lone Star Ag Credit, Dr. Pat McLeod, Gaylyn Mendoza, Casey Mitchell, Julie Moeller, Mary Morgan, Janice Odom, Carol Patak, Evelyn and Leon Payne, Carol Quimby, Sara Reaves, Rep. Phil King, Joanne Richardson, Dr. William and Paula Roddy, Steven Sandidge, Lisa D. Simons, Diane Slocum, Angela Smith, Charlsa Smith, Kathy Smith, Teresa Smith, Marilyn St. Clair, Stanley Stough, Dr. Scott Tarnowieckyi, The Bill Coody Family, Phyllis Tiffin, Frances Trussell, Jon and Dottie Vandagriff, WC A.D.N. Class, Weatherford Democrat, Jo Ellen Welborn, Lisa Welch, Kathy Williams, Kathy P. Williams, James Wood, Linda Wynn

Supporters (up to $99)

Jared Abraham, Justin Allen, Glenda Aslin, JoAnn Barnhart, Mildred Beard, Marilee Bennett, Angela Berry, Beth Brock, Ellie Broughton, Tracy Butler, Dr. Sue Casey, Judge Don Chrestman, Bernadane Connell, Donna K. Cox, Donna R. Cox, Rachel Crockett, Pam Davis, Jennifer Dempsey, Judd Duncan, Diane Elliott, Linda Frye, Brandon Garrett, Earl and Gary Lou Geddes, Ashton Gill, Michelle Gist, Amberly Griffin, Andrew Ha, Jim Handy, Heather Horne, Seth Huddleston, Joy Hudson, Suzanne Jary, Corrina Kaltenrieder, Lindsey Kennimer, Rick Kline, Marnita Langford, Jenny London, Michael McGough, Tom McKelvey, Carlynny Messer, Jenny Miller, Vanessa Mueller, Carrie Noll, Veronica Ormand, Dr. Joyce Pages, Amy Patton, Susan Randall, Brenda Ridge, Dr. Linda Robinson, Tami Russell, Debbie Sears, Elizabeth Stewart, Ashley Strauss, Martha Tandy, Stephen Tuttle, Weatherford High School Class of 1953, Dinah Wren

Coleman

from page 3.

54 hours beyond that degree.

She is now the Program Director of the Department of Visual Arts.

Thinking back over all the times that faculty and staff have come together to carry one another through difficult times, Coleman tells the story of her brother’s sudden passing two years ago.

“It was some of the worst weather you can imagine and we were in the middle of Dallas for the funeral,” she said. “Traffic was horrible. All I had done was tell them I wasn’t going to be here. I get there and look up and there are Richard and Pat Bowers. They drove through that weather, that horrible weather. There were several of my Weatherford College colleagues who drove through that mess to get there, and we didn’t even have time to really let anyone know.”

Coleman and Bowers, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services, were recognized at the Employee Awards Dinner in December for their 45-year tenures at WC. Bowers said in all the time they have worked together, Coleman has “had a smile on her face that would light up the room.”

“She continues to be one of the most beloved faculty members of all time,” he said. “She is that unique kind of instructor that has students filling her classes to the maximum every semester. She is truly a Weatherford College treasure. She always quipped that she and I came to Weatherford College together and we would go out together.”

Over her 45 years at WC, Coleman has hosted 90 student art exhibitions. And it’s not uncommon for her to hear from students decades after she taught them.

“I still have students from the very first class come back to see me, and it’s great to sit and visit with them,” she said. And she plans to stick around for many more years making those long-lasting connections with art students.

“I don’t know what my plans are going to be,” Coleman said reflecting on the future. “I want to teach as long as I feel that I can make a difference, and I still believe that I do. I continue to study and learn. I’m happy here. I’m waiting for tomorrow to enjoy tomorrow.”

Outside the classroom, Coleman is responsible for numerous pieces of art found on the WC campus including the portrait of Majorie Black Alkek which hangs in Texas Hall of the Alkek Fine Arts Center, a portrait of WC’s first president D.S. Switzer, illustrations of Old Main, many logo and awards designs and original paintings for WC’s Christmas cards for the past 20 years.

In addition to teaching at WC, Coleman’s work continues to be on display across the country. Her work has also been featured in numerous national publications and she illustrated a children’s book.
SOFTBALL

Feb. 6       Rose State       2 & 4 p.m.
Feb. 13      Coyote Chillout   12 & 4 p.m.
Feb. 14      Coyote Chillout   4 & 6 p.m.
Feb. 20 & 21 Coyote Chillout   12 & 4 p.m.
Feb. 28      N. Central TX     12 & 2 p.m.
Mar. 11      *Grayson         1 & 3 p.m.
Mar. 14      *McLennan        1 & 3 p.m.
Mar. 25      *Cisco           1 & 3 p.m.
Mar. 28      *Temple          1 & 3 p.m.
Apr. 3       *Hill            1 & 3 p.m.
Apr. 18      *Ranger          1 & 3 p.m.
Apr. 22      *Vernon          1 & 3 p.m.

*Denotes conference games

BASEBALL

Feb. 3       Panola           3 p.m.
Feb. 6       Midland         5 p.m.
Feb. 7       Midland         1 p.m.
Feb. 10      Northeast TX     2 p.m.
Feb. 20      Navarro/New Mexico 12 & 6 p.m.
Feb. 21      New Mexico/Navarro 12 & 6 p.m.
Feb. 28      Tyler            1 p.m.
Mar. 4       *Vernon          2 p.m.
Mar. 14      *Hill            1 p.m.
Mar. 18      *Ranger          3 p.m.
Mar. 28      *Temple          2 p.m.
Mar. 31      UT Dallas        2 p.m.
Apr. 2       Texas Wesleyan   2 p.m.
Apr. 6       Brookhaven       2 p.m.
Apr. 11      *McLennan        1 p.m.
Apr. 18      *Grayson         3 p.m.
Apr. 25      *N. Central TX   1 p.m.
Apr. 29      *Cisco           2 p.m.

Home games played at Roger Williams Ballpark

*Denotes conference games

www.wcathletics.com
ALUMNI AWARDS LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, AT 11:30 A.M.
DOSS STUDENT CENTER

$15 TICKETS IN ADVANCE, $20 AT THE DOOR

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