FEBRUARY 2017

Opening day ceremony at new softball complex is Feb. 3

It’s been seven months since Kilgore College broke ground on a new softball complex, and Friday will be the inaugural home games and the first opportunity for the public to get a glimpse of the new field in Kilgore.

A ribbon-cutting opening day ceremony is set for 10:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at the new softball field, called The Ballpark at KC Commons.

Following the ceremony, the Rangers will play Crowder College at 11 a.m. and McLennan Community College at 1 p.m. to open the two-day 2017 KC Invitational.

Spearheaded by a $25,000 donation from Energy Weldfab president Mike Clements, more than $100,000 was raised by the athletic department through donations to begin construction of the new complex.

The ballpark also features a new scoreboard thanks to a $10,000 donation from Herring Bank.

“It’ll be amazing to have our own field and facilities, and will be a landmark facility that will instill a sense of immense pride in the college and the Kilgore community,” said head softball coach Leslie Messina.

Construction of the new field by local company K-K Mobbs Construction, Inc., who provided significant donations of labor and material in the completion of the project, was unanimously approved in June of 2016 by the KC Board of Trustees.

The Kilgore College Rangers are in their fifth season of play and will have their own field to play on this season. Coached by Leslie Messina, the Rangers will play their first games on the new diamond Friday, Feb. 3. Photo by Jamie Maldonado/KC

Applications accepted for KC board seats

Kilgore College will host three regular elections May 6 for expiring board terms.

Applications to run for the KC Board of Trustees will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 17 (excluding weekends).

Forms for application for a place on the ballot can be picked up in the Assistant to the President’s Office on the first floor of the McLaurin Administration Building on the Kilgore campus.

Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 7:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Fridays.

To receive forms by mail call 903-983-8101. For more information visit www.kilgore.edu/board.

The regular election will include three expiring board terms:

Larry A. Woodfin (Gladewater), Voting Unit No. 2, Place 5, North Zone
Scott Andrews (West Rusk), Voting Unit No. 1, Place 4, South Zone
Lon Ford (Kilgore), Voting Unit No. 3, Place 6, Central Zone

The voting units:
- Voting Unit No. 1 consists of Overton, Leverett’s Chapel & West Rusk County Consolidated independent school districts.
- Voting Unit No. 2 consists of Gladewater, White Oak and Sabine independent school districts.
- Voting Unit No. 3 consists of Kilgore Independent School District.

Ranger Preview Day set for Saturday, Feb. 25

Kilgore College will host its annual Ranger Preview Day Saturday, Feb. 25, to give potential students an opportunity to learn more about the educational opportunities KC offers.

“We are excited to have prospective students on campus,” said Chris Gore, director of admissions and registrar.

“The day will be a great opportunity for potential students to learn more about the college and to experience what being a Kilgore College student is all about.”

Participants can also take guided campus tours and learn about on-campus extracurricular activities.

Instructors will be on hand to answer questions potential students may have, and workshops will be presented on financial aid, scholarships, admissions, testing and residential life.

The event is free and open to anyone interested in learning more about KC.

If you are in charge of a department, program or club/organization, you should have received an e-mail from Alex Knox with a form attached to reserve a table at Preview Day.

Your participation in the academic and organizations fair will give prospective students and their parents a glimpse of what KC has to offer.

If you would like to participate with Preview Day, call Alex Knox at (903) 988-8216.

MORE INFO
Celebrating Valentine's Day at KC... by FALLING IN LOVE WITH STUDENT DATA!

On Jan. 23, Dr. Staci Martin sent out a special invitation to all employees. The invitation requested your presence at our inaugural Kilgore College Data Summit. The summit is scheduled for Valentine’s Day (Feb. 14) from 2-4 p.m. in the Devall Student Center Ballroom. Fortunately, and due to great planning by the Student Success Council, we will get to mix business with decadent pleasure that day!

I hope that you have already marked your calendar to attend. Remember, this event is for all employees. It doesn’t matter what your job title is at KC—we are all in the business of helping our students to achieve success. It is critical that every employee understand, from a data perspective, just how well we are doing in helping our students move through the completion pathway.

The process of gathering student data, turning that data into information and then using that information to help all learners is a core activity of the Student Success Council. However, the council also wants to share what they have learned with you. In order to move forward with our Guided Pathways journey (that you heard about at convocation) we must all be grounded in our student data.

Becoming grounded in our student data is a first step for joining the ongoing data-informed conversations surrounding student success strategies at the college. Yet, before we can be a part of a meaningful conversation, we first need to be exposed to the data. For example, if I were to meet you in the hallway and ask you what is the percentage of first-time students at KC who earn zero credit hours during their first term with the college…. would you know the answer? Would you guess 2%, 52% or some percentage in-between? I’m not going to give you the answer today. Instead, you will need to come to the KC Data Summit to find out that piece of information. However, I will promise you this….be the first person to come up to me at the summit, with the correct answer, and I will reward your effort.

If I haven’t convinced you yet to attend the Valentine’s Day Data Summit, let me also share with you that there will be dessert, door prizes and the opportunity to receive one hour of professional development credit! I have even heard rumors about a “chocolate fountain” and life just doesn’t get much better than that, does it? (Note: I have learned that drinking from the fountain will unfortunately be frowned upon).

Until next month,

FOLLOW DR. KAYS ON Twitter! @KCBrendaKays

Welcome New Employees!

Robert Butts: Interim history instructor
Katie Chase: Interim government instructor
Dane Deen: Corrosion instructor
Charles Hanks: Professional support assistant, financial aid
Ryan Jones: Police officer, KCPD
Meghan Potter: Interim technical/theatre instructor
Wade Skinner: interim English instructor

Good News:

Congratulations to Matthew and Meaghan Simpson, Texas Shakespeare Festival, on the birth Jan. 1 of their son, Vincent Simpson. Vincent was quite the celebrity, being the first baby born in Longview in 2017. Several media outlets covered the story. KETK interviewed the proud new couple.

Items still needed for student food pantry

Due to employees’ generosity, the Kilgore College student food pantry opened with the beginning of the spring semester. To date, 11 individuals have accessed the food pantry with 16 visits during January. Unfortunately, its supply and options have quickly dwindled.

To drop off items on the Kilgore campus, bring them by Dr. Mike Jenkins’ office in the Devall Student Center (across the hall, at an angle, from the bookstore). On the Longview campus, drop them off to Will Massey in the Hendrix building.

Currently, we do not need any additional canned vegetables, boxes of macaroni and cheese or ramen-type noodles. For more information, call Mike Jenkins at 903-983-8189 or email him.

Items needed:
- Canned chili, soups
- Tuna
- Spaghetti (pasta) and sauce
- Hamburger Helper type items
- Package pasta & rice-type items
- Breakfast type items (Pop Tarts, instant oatmeal, boxed cereal, pancake mix, etc.)
- Baking mixes (Bisquick, Pioneer, etc.) and packaged muffin, biscuit or cornbread mixes
- Canned fruit
- Rice
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Peanut butter
- Cake, cookie or brownie mixes
- Personal hygiene items (bar soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc.)

Congratulations to Jamie Maldonado, KC’s graphic designer/photographer. Fifteen photographs by Maldonado were selected from submissions worldwide to be included on the website, L’Oeil de la Photographie (The Eye of Photography), based in Paris, France. His portfolio, “Magic Hours,” depicts the crossroads of American cultures that exist in the eastern region of Texas. View photos

Jason Graves, Language Development department chair, writes a home and family humor blog called What’s Wrong with Daddy? His blog was recently picked up by The Longview News-Journal and East Texas Magazine. Read the blog

News & Reminders:

FACULTY & STAFF REPORTS
News & Reminders:

Jamerson retiring after 26 years of service to KC

Paula Jamerson, alumni relations coordinator, will retire Feb. 28 after 26 years of service to Kilgore College. She will be at home with her husband, Stan, until her retirement.

She would love to hear from her KC family, so please send any well wishes and thoughts to her at:

Paula Jamerson
43 Rim Road
Kilgore, TX 75662

KC Print Shop relocates to KC Commons building

The KC Print Shop has moved to the KC Commons classroom building (701 Houston Street, corner of Houston & Martin streets). The business hours remain the same: 7:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 7:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Fridays. For more information, call 903-983-8855.

Help fight cancer: Sign up for Relay Rangers!

It’s time once again to register for Kilgore College’s Relay for Life team, KC Relay Rangers. The KC Relay Rangers and the American Cancer Society need KC employees to help with the fight against cancer. Please visit www.relayforlife.org and type in Kilgore’s zip code (75662) and register for our event. Much more information was sent to you via email from Jennifer Quine. For questions, please call Jennifer at 903-983-8285 or email her.

Blalock finalist for women’s basketball HOF

Legendary former Kilgore College women’s basketball coach Evelyn Blalock was announced Jan. 16 as one of 12 finalists for induction into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame. The Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Directors will vote Feb. 12 to select the final six candidates for induction.

If selected, Blalock, a native of Hallsville (TX), will be inducted posthumously June 9-10 at the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tenn.

Blalock, who died at age 72 in 2011, began the Lady Rangers’ basketball program in 1979 and won three national championships as head coach at KC for 18 seasons.


Under Blalock’s leadership, the Lady Rangers won six Region XIV conference championships and qualified for the national tournament three other times in 1986, 1987 and 1993.

She was inducted into the NJCAA Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1999, inducted into the KC Hall of Fame in 2002 and named the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association Junior/Community College National Coach of the Year in 1989 and 1990.

The other 11 finalists for the 2017 Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame include Sheryl Swoopes, Yelena Baranova, Rose Marie Battaglia, Sally Bell, Joan Bonvicini, Nora Lynn Finch, Christine Grant, Rick Insell, Louise O’Neal, Crystal Robinson and Kara Wolters.

For more information visit www.wbhof.com.

Use the Red Alert system to help at-risk students

The Student Success department reminds all faculty that it is very important to take advantage of using the Red Alert System in myKC for students you feel might be at-risk. The students will be directed to additional resources to help them be successful. Please take the time to identify students with any of the following problems so that Student Success can contact them:

• Have not attended or have missed class
• Have behavior problems
• Have failed to complete work
• Have poor grades
• Have other issues (Please email Kasey Nisbett more information about the individual student so she can address the issue)

Data Summit Feb. 14 in Devall Ballroom

The KC Student Success Council will host a Data Summit Tuesday, Feb. 14, in the Devall Ballroom. The come-and-go summit from 2 to 4 p.m. is open to all KC employees who wish to learn more about student data and discuss/share important ideas. For more information email Kasey Nisbett.

Employees should have received new insurance cards

For KC employees enrolled in HealthSelect or Consumer Directed HealthSelect, you should have received a new ID card to use for medical appointments and at the pharmacy. Please begin showing your new ID card to your medical providers and network pharmacies. If you have not received your ID card yet, please contact OptumRx at (866) 336-9371 (TTY: 711.) Earlier this year, the Employees Retirement System of Texas selected OptumRx, an affiliate of UnitedHealthcare, to administer the prescription drug programs for employees and their families enrolled in HealthSelect and Consumer Directed HealthSelect. View new claims and other personal information by visiting HealthSelectRx.com.

KC mourns deaths of former employees

Wallace C. “Wally” Read, longtime KC band director, passed away Jan. 16 at the age of 93.

Read was a very well-known East Texas band director who directed the Ranger Band for 23 years from 1960 to 1983. Under Read’s tenure, he enlarged the Ranger Band’s activities to include halftime marching drills, an award-winning stage band and formal concerts each year as well as playing at all halftime performances for the Rangerettes.

Katherine Yvonne Fortson passed away on Jan. 15 after a brief illness.

She worked at Kilgore College many years ago in one of the college dormitories. While working at the college she became known as “Bubbles” because of her infectious smile and vibrant personality. She also attended KC as a business student and later worked as a film librarian for Region VII Service Center where she retired after 25 years of dedicated service.

LouAnn Parrott Procell, retired professional support assistant for the KC Fire Academy and the East Texas Police Academy, passed away Dec. 22 after a short illness. LouAnn worked for Region VII for several years before her 20-year career at KC.

Employees who wish to learn more about student data and discuss/share important ideas can attend the Data Summit from 2 to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 14, in the Devall Ballroom.
3. Secondary Art Symposium, Kilgore campus, 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Softball Opening Day, Ballpark at KC Commons, 10:30 a.m.  
Softball vs. Crowder College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 11 a.m.  
Softball vs. McLennan College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1 p.m.
4. A Touch of Fame & Fashion, Dodson Auditorium, 6 p.m.  
Softball vs. E. Oklahoma A&M College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1 p.m.  
Softball vs. Grayson College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 3 p.m.  
Basketball (W) vs. Coastal Bend College, Masters Gymnasium, 2 p.m.  
Basketball (M) at Navarro College, Corsicana, TX, 4 p.m.
5. Kilgore Community Concert: Kubecca, Dodson Auditorium, 7 p.m.
6. Dallas County Sheriff’s Dept. Recruiter, Devall Hallway, 10 a.m.
Carter Blood Care, Science Bldg, Parking Lot, 9 a.m.
7. KCEOPA Meeting, TBA  
Softball vs. Weatherford College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1/3 p.m.  
Basketball (W) vs. Louisiana College, Masters Gymnasium, 5:30 p.m.  
Basketball (M) vs. Trinity Valley CC, Masters Gymnasium, 7:30 p.m.
8. TWC Check Presentation to WD-CE, McLaurin Building, 2nd floor, 11 a.m.
American Honors Prof. Development, Devall Ballroom, 1:30 p.m.
9. Softball at McLennan Community College, Waco, TX, 1/3 p.m.  
Basketball (W) vs. Jacksonville College, Masters Gymnasium, 2 p.m.  
ACT Testing, Old Main Building, 8 a.m.
10. LeTourneau University Recruiter, Devall Hallway, 10 a.m.  
KC Retirees Valentine’s Day Luncheon, Devall Ballroom, 11 a.m.
11. PTK Valentine’s Carnation Flower Sale, Devall Hallway
12. Happy Valentine’s Day  
Student Success Council Data Summit, Devall Ballroom, 2 p.m.
13. Basketball (M/W) vs. TJC, Masters Gymnasium, 5:30/7:30 p.m.
14. Gussie Nell Davis Classic, Multiple Areas  
Softball vs. Murray State College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 9 a.m.  
Softball vs. Independence College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 1 p.m.
Basketball (M/W) at Bossier Parish CC, Bossier City, La, 2/4 p.m.
15. Softball vs. Paris Junior College, Ballpark at KC Commons, 3 p.m.
16. Basketball (M/W) vs. Paris, Masters Gymnasium, 5:30/7:30 p.m.
17. Softball at Region XIV Tournament, Beaumont, TX
18. Ranger Preview Day, Kilgore Campus, 8 a.m. to Noon  
Basketball (M&W) at Panola College, Carthage, TX, 2/4 p.m.
19. KC Board of Trustees Meeting, McLaurin Building, 2nd floor, 6:30 p.m.
20. Mardi Gras Lunch, Ranger Café (Kilgore)

**Nominate deserving students to be honored by board**

The KC Board of Trustees recognizes an outstanding student at each of its board meetings. Please consider nominating a deserving student. To be considered for this recognition, students must be nominated by a KC faculty or staff member and should exemplify excellence in learning, leadership abilities and co-curricular activity. Selected students will be expected to attend the first part of the board meeting in which she/he will be recognized. The faculty or staff member making the nomination will also be expected to attend the first part of that meeting in order to introduce themselves and the student to the board and present a brief description of the accomplishments of the student while at KC. The board’s next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27. To nominate a student, contact Dr. Mike Jenkins.

**February birthdays**

02-01 Mary Heiden  
02-02 Kathy Knighton  
02-02 Cindy Thurman  
02-03 Katie Chase  
02-05 Brandon Belken  
02-05 Bennie Brown  
02-08 Manny Almanza  
02-08 Pam Davis  
02-08 Staci Martin  
02-11 Brandon Walker  
02-12 Jennifer Quine  
02-14 Molly Reavis  
02-14 Michelle Wilder  
02-15 Jody Bush  
02-16 Melanie Sullivan  
02-17 Susan Wilson  
02-19 Susan Waite  
02-20 Rufus Lovett  
02-24 Randy Lewellen  
02-25 Sarah Booker  
02-25 Karen Tutt  
02-26 Ken Medlin

**Data: Did you know?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment by Location</th>
<th>FALL 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kilgore Campus</td>
<td>3,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longview Campus</td>
<td>1,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance Learning</td>
<td>1,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual Credit (High Schools)</td>
<td>1,504</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Some students are enrolled at more than one location. Category totals will sum to more than the total number of unduplicated students enrolled. Percentages are based on duplicated totals.

Data provided by the KC Office of Research and Institutional Effectiveness