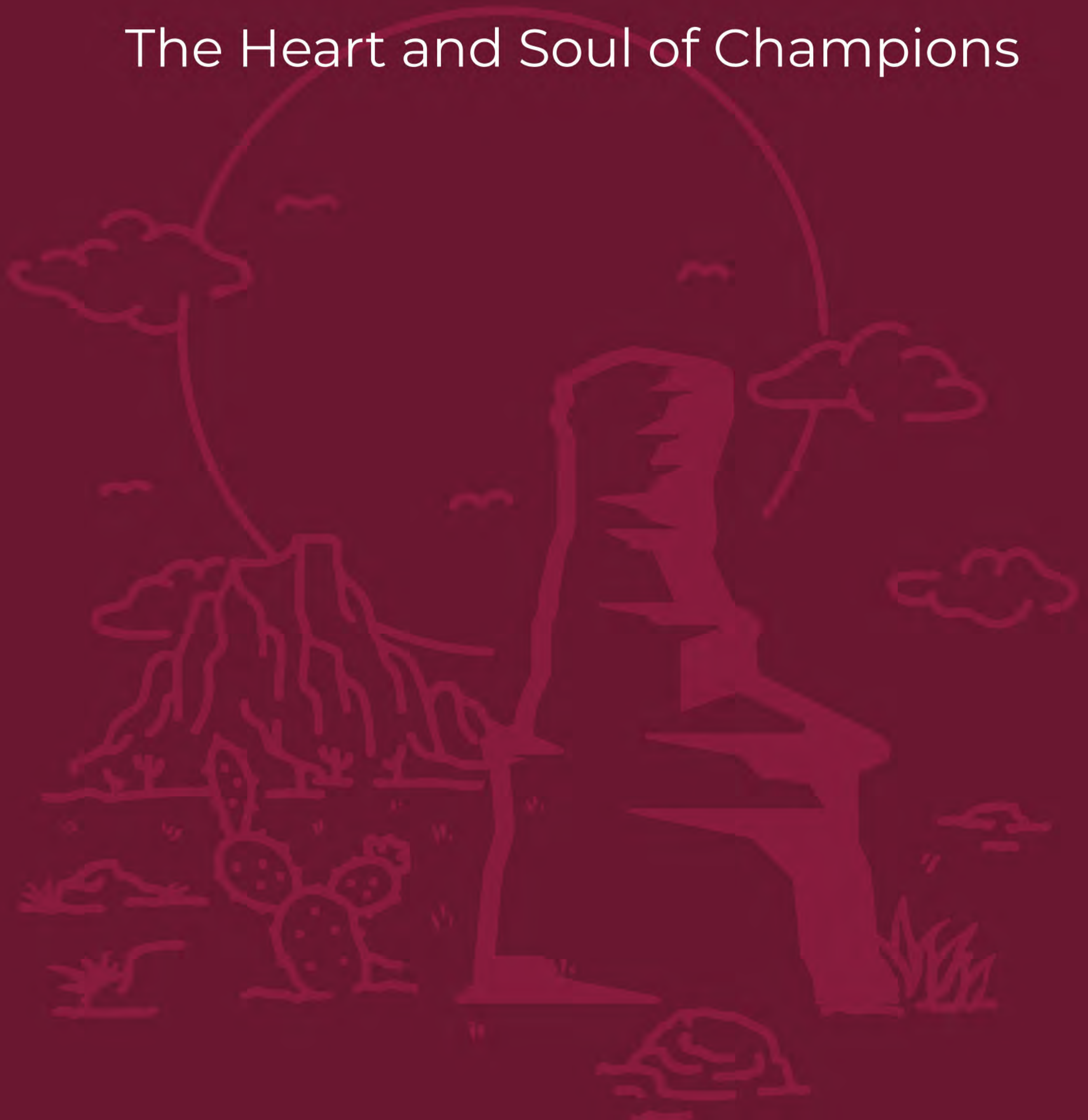


Pahonville Values

The Heart and Soul of Champions





Dear WT Family;

The Christmas and holiday season brings about a festive spirit. The hustle and bustle of shopping malls, carols being sung, the consumption of baked goods, the togetherness of people, and most importantly, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ all make Christmas so special. In the Texas Panhandle, folks celebrate the season through different faith communities while having a regard for others. We trust that families will be giving during this time of year while contributing to economic prosperity in the community. Panhandle people have great virtue, patriotism for one's country and work hard in their daily endeavors. This rugged individualism is celebrated this time of year by the giving of gifts, recognizing a performance culture of those who excel. All of this to say that during this season of reflection, it is important to recognize the personal responsibility of others.

"Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all." James 1:17

In 1914, on Christmas Eve, a soccer game brought two opposing groups together. The "Christmas Truce" is storied to be one of the oddest moments of the First World War. On that December night, German and British troops put their differences aside and took part in a soccer game. Some would call that "a Christmas miracle." I believe this story is a tremendous example of how athletics can link people together to create something magical.

*"The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds."
2 Corinthians 10:4*

At West Texas A&M University, we combine the power of Texas Panhandle values with personal values we bring with us. This one-two punch creates excellence inside and outside of the classroom. WT is blessed with talented students, dedicated faculty, exceptional staff, and generous donors. We are grateful for those in the WT Family Community.

WT, the Panhandle's University, is committed to serving the Panhandle first, then the world, as detailed in the long-range plan WT 125: From the Panhandle to World. We are making progress every day through rigorous academic programs, regional responsive research, and excelling in athletics.

"The very nature of intercollegiate athletic competition unites a university with the broader community it serves. Athletics brings students, local citizens, parents and alumni together in a way that no other entity on campus can do."
wtamu.edu/wt125athletics

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, Mary and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season. The Texas Panhandle is the best place to be and we're thankful every day to call it home.

*"And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.'"
Luke 10:27*

May God Bless each of you and West Texas A&M University.
On, On Buffaloes!

Walter and Mary Waudler

Hard Work



More than an Athlete

WT student-athletes have more talents than you see on the field, court, or track—they excel inside the classroom. This past year, the intercollegiate athletic program boasted a cumulative grade point average of 3.11. This great achievement is because of the hard work these students put in every day.

Additionally, student-athlete graduation rates have increased 35% over the past fifteen years—an all-time institutional high. Our goal as a University is to graduate students and the athletics program is doing just that.

We cheer for these student-athletes and celebrate when they win a game or championship. However, it's vital to support their success in the classroom and on the graduation stage.

*Scan to
learn more*





Performance



On the National Stage

Nationally, WT is making waves. For each of the past ten years, WT has been in the top five status in Division II. Just last December, the Lady Buff Volleyball team won the NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball National Championship. The team won the title for the first time in 25 years. For the first time in school history, WT was recognized at the Nation's Capital when the Lady Buff Volleyball Team accepted an official invitation to the White House for College Athlete Day. The trip was made possible thanks to the support of Chancellor John Sharp and the Chancellor's Century Council. The title and recognition is something these athletes will never forget.

*Scan to
learn more*



Culture

Additionally, the Lady Buff track team claimed the 2022 NCAA DII Outdoor National Championship and the Lady Buff softball team won the NCAA DII National Championship in 2021. The men's basketball was National Runner-Up in 2021 after a game winning buzzer three point shot. In the 2023 outdoor track season, the Buffs were named the NCAA DII Outdoor National Championship Runner-Ups and the Lady Buffs brought home third place at the national competition. Excellence on a national stage that shows a performance culture at WT.



Christmas Quiz:

West Texas A&M University has won three national championships, in three different sports in the past three years. Only one other public university in Texas has accomplished this achievement. What university has also earned this recognition?

- A. Texas Tech
- B. University of Texas
- C. Texas A&M University

*Scan to
learn more*



Personal Responsibility



Lasting Legacy

Student-athletes take pride in wearing their institutions colors, mascot, and number on their chest. Perhaps one of the most recognizable Buff basketball numbers is the #10. Maurice Cheeks played for West Texas State from 1974-1978. He went on to earn all-conference honors, was inducted into the WT Athletic Hall of Champions, played 15 years in the National Basketball Association, won the NBA championship in 1983, coached NBA teams and been inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. The legacy of Cheeks would not be possible without personal responsibility.

WT's student-athletes of today learn from those who wore the maroon and white before them. They take the grit, determination, and Panhandle values to heart and lead with excellence. West Texas is perhaps the best Texas there is.

Scan to learn more



Rugged Individualism



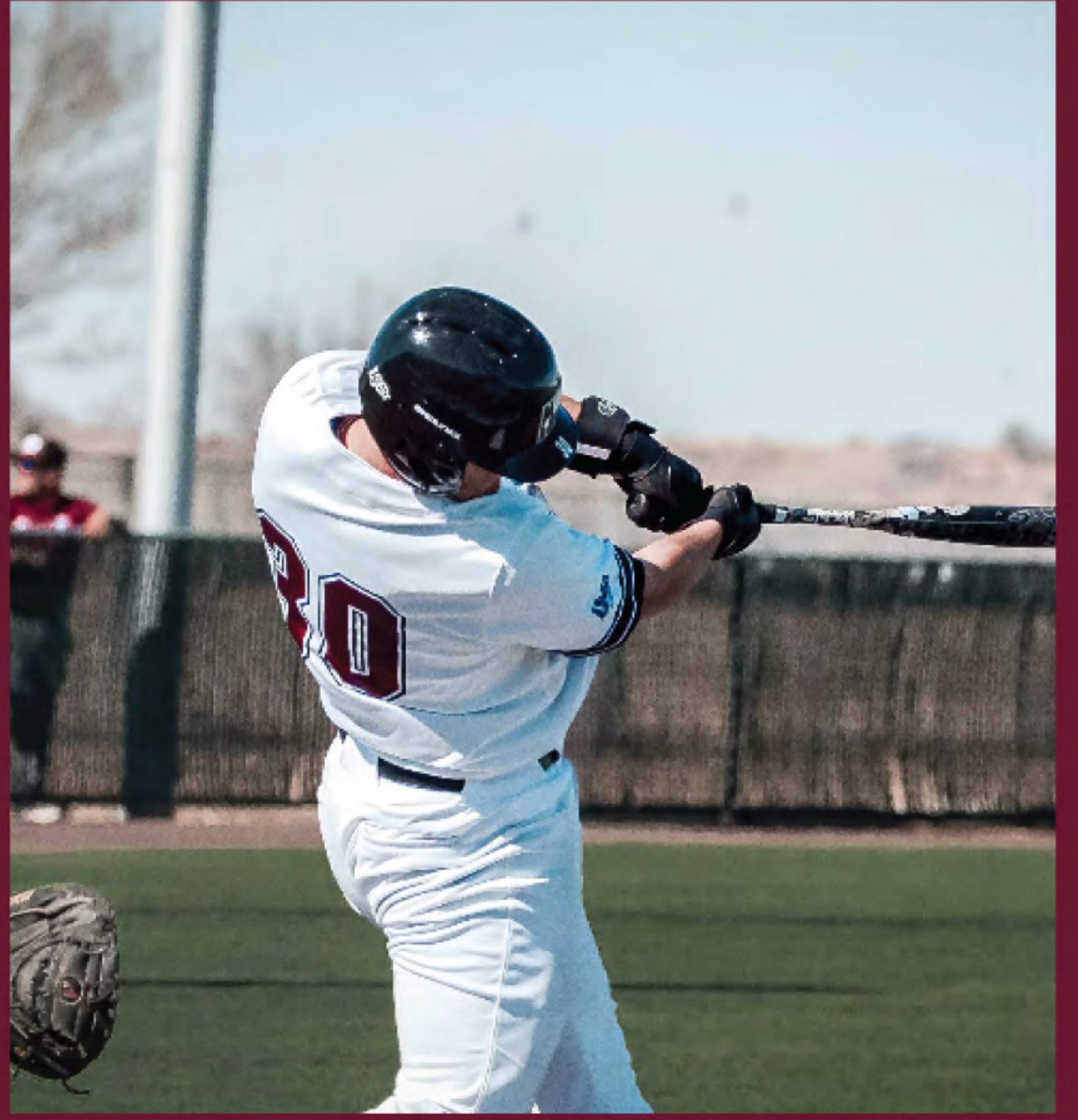
Trailblazing the Way

Before the passing of Title IX in 1972, Lady Buff athletes displayed rugged individualism through their determination to play. Former WT athlete, Judy Fugate and her team had to buy their own uniforms, carpool to games, and find their own opponents. This type of “pioneering spirit” paved the way to the women’s athletic programs we have today.

Additionally, Fugate established the “Judy Fugate Lady Buff Scholarship endowment, a \$1.85 million legacy gift to provide scholarship assistance to women student-athletes. Lady Buff athletics would not be what it is today if it weren’t for women like Fugate.

Scan to learn more







The faculty, staff and students of West Texas A&M University
wish you a blessed Christmas, happy holidays and a prosperous New Year.
On, On Buffaloes!



WT Foundation
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY™

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