

# The Luna Light



*“The People’s College”*

*Becoming The Premier Rural Community College in America*

Volume 2, Issue 29

August 24, 2012

**Luna Community College Assistant Softball Coach Marco Aragon introduces his players during “Meet Your Rough Riders Day” on Tuesday. Pictured (l-r) are: Stephanie Rose, Nicole Rivera, Veronica Holloman, Shannon Taraddei, Denise Otero, Celeste Paez, Kayla Roberts, Savannah Miller, Mary Medina, Mercediz Bileen, Gabie Negreiros, Yadi Carrasco, Coach Meredith Gilpin, mascot baby Marco and Aragon.**



## Focusing on a culture of completion



**Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director Dr. Rod Risley speaks to students and staff last Friday at LCC.**

**By Jesse Gallegos**

Last Friday, I along with several other Luna Community College students and employees, had the opportunity to attend a seminar led by Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director Dr. Rod Risley. Risley, by the way, has headed this organization since 1985.

His talk was focused on the importance of community colleges to do everything they possibly can to make sure that students complete their education and are able to enter the workforce or go on to a four-year institution.

Although he had many interesting insights on why many students don't complete their degree or certification program, one in particular stuck with me.

Although I am paraphrasing here, Dr. Risley said that sometimes the sim-

ple things that colleges do or don't do makes a dramatic impact on students—especially new students. Something as simple as an instructor not talking to a student when they meet up with one another in a hallway can be a deterrent. Basic simple human goodness does count after all.

Many students are intimidated by being in a higher education setting and little things to us could very well be big things to them.

He emphasized that community colleges need to push more into moving toward a culture that provides support. And support could mean anything from a classroom setting being comfortable to the college making sure a student has proper resources.

**Please see Monday's Luna Light to read the entire article**