Former NFL all-pro to speak at LCC

Former National Football League and Dallas Cowboys star Don Perkins will be a guest speaker at Luna Community College’s “A Conversation with the Community” during the spring semester, Jesse Gallegos, LCC Public Information Coordinator said.

Perkins and Gallegos are working out final details on three possible dates for the lecture.

“It’s always nice to have someone of Mr. Perkins’ caliber to come and speak to our students, staff, faculty and community,” said Gallegos. “Many people think that having a sports figure as a guest lecturer that they will talk just on athletics, but that is not the case. Mr. Perkins knows the value outside the playing field. When it’s all said and done, being a football star is just a small piece of his life. Mr. Perkins is more than just about football.”

Perkins is a six-time all pro player and in 1961 was the NFL Rookie of the Year. He was the first player in franchise history to reach 6,000 yards rushing. He is also a member of the team’s Ring of Honor, where he is joined by the likes of Roger Staubach, Tony Dorsett, Emmitt Smith, Michael Irvin and Troy Aikman.

Perkins played under legendary coach Tom Landry.

Don Perkins gets a huge gain against the Minnesota Vikings. Perkins rushed 6,217 yards and 22 touchdowns during an eight-year career with the Dallas Cowboys. (photo furnished by the Dallas Cowboys)

Max Jimenez, a nursing student from Las Vegas, receives advisement from ACESS Center employee Renee Maestas. Classes at LCC begin on Monday, Jan. 12. The last day to register is Friday, Jan. 23.
High School seniors, juniors, and their families, and other potential students are invited to learn about college opportunities at the 10th Annual College Night from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 27 at the Abe Montoya Recreation Center.

Sponsored jointly by Luna Community College and New Mexico Highlands University, College Night 2009 provides potential students with information about a variety of resources, including admissions, academic programs, financing college, transfer of credits, the New Mexico Lottery and other scholarship opportunities, internships and cooperative agreements, career decision making, dual credit enrollment, campus housing, distance education, childcare, and other topics.

Faculty, staff and students from both schools will be on hand to answer questions and assist with applications, financial aid, advising, community and continuing education, campus tours, and information on course offerings.

Interim Director of Recruitment & Admissions Director Moses Marquez at Luna Community College said College Night has grown every year and he expects more this year.

“College Night opens at 5 p.m. to accommodate parents who want to stop by after work and also for students who may have activities later in the evening,” he said.

Representatives from the New Mexico Student Loan Guarantee Corporation, Armed Forces representatives, and the Department of Labor will also be available with information about education services.

Refreshments, door prizes and giveaways will be part of the fun. Students who preregister for College Night 2009 will receive a free commemorative t-shirt. More than 400 people attended last year, so early registration is encouraged. To register, call LCC at 454-2550 or 1-800-588-7232 or NMHU at 454-3593 or 1-800-338-6648.
All smiles

Blast from the past
Can you guess which LCC employee’s baby picture this is? The first person to give the right answer will get a free meal from the LCC Rough Rider Grill. You may enter the contest by e-mailing your answer to jgallegos@luna.edu or calling extension 1200. LCC employees are encouraged to turn in a baby photo of themselves to Jesse Gallegos at the LCC Student Services Building.

Last week’s winner: Donna Flores-Medina
Last week’s picture: Tom Herrera

Pictured clockwise are: Fiscal office employees Urszula Abeyta and Georgia Baca prepare for registration; Title V staff members John Tiernan, Larry Paiz and Rick Roybal share a laugh during break; fiscal office employees Terri Mares and Francina Martinez show some LCC spirit as they pass out literature of the college and Jennifer Dominguez and Vincent Ruiz work on team building.
LCC Allied Health Department planning, moving forward

By Conni Reichert
LCC Allied Health Sciences Director

Lots of activity is occurring in the Allied Health Department. Accreditation gets closer everyday for the three programs that are presently training students for the roles of nurse, dental assistant and dental hygienist.

Our current plan is to have a cohort of five students ready to begin dental hygiene studies in fall of 2009. A partnership is underway with Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell to have didactic materials beamed ITT from Roswell and UNM to LCC to allow students to become prepared for an associate’s degree of applied science dental hygienist role. Discussion are in full swing and LCC has hired Denise Fox, BS Dental Hygiene, RDH, BA English as a dental hygiene clinical coordinator to work in conjunction with Roswell in these pursuits. A site visit with CODA (Commission of Dental Accreditation) is planned for the spring.

The LCC Dental Assisting program is going strong with 12 students. Davina Ortega, CDA, has been hired to accompany Gloria Pacheco, CDA, in her hard work efforts in the dental assisting department. Bringing on the second employee in this department is essential as CODA accreditation is also being pursued this semester. The dental assisting program will continue to be a LCC program.

The LCC Nursing Program still remains viable and keeps everyone on their toes. This program has 78 students currently enrolled. A new curriculum has recently been approved by the N.M. State Board of Nursing that will strengthen both the medical surgical components of the program as well as include pharmacology content every semester. LCC is still awaiting the National League of Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) report for candidacy status of the nursing program to continue in the pursuit of national accreditation.

As a department, we are very pleased to have nursing faculty member Jackie Romero-Arguello receive the Outstanding Collegiate Drive Award from United Blood Services, honored for her coordination and participation in this very meaningful community service. She will receive her award on Jan. 28, at the Albuquerque Marriott Pyramid Hotel. Heartfelt congratulations go out to her.

Video game development courses offered

By Francisco Romero/SMET Instructor

You can now get an associates in applied science in video game development at Luna CC, and if you are planning to major in the field you can receive financial aid!

There are two new course offerings this spring at LCC in the video game development program “VGD106 Script Writing for Video Games” and “VGD130 Art and Computer Animation.” Please see the LCC Website for current dates and times.

Also, I would like to welcome Brandie Carlson to the team she will be instructing VGD130 art and computer animation for the spring semester and will bring new ideas and insight to the program.

Please keep an eye on the LCC Website where soon you will be able to download and play games created by our fall semester students.

For more information, call Francisco Romero at 505/454-2554.

Quote of the Week

“It is noble to teach oneself; it is still nobler to teach others,— Mark Twain.

LCC: “The People’s College”