



## MTV 'True Life' features PJC student

*Adair opens up and shares her story about living with neurofibromatosis*

**STEPHANIE NORMAN**  
Editor

Just like any typical 19-year-old, Amber Adair wants to wear the latest fashions. That's why she was thrilled to get a surgery that would finally allow her to put on a pair of skinny jeans.

Adair, a freshman from Wolfe City, is a student at the Paris Junior College Greenville campus. For the first time ever, she was able to put on a pair of skinny jeans after her latest surgery Dec. 18, 2009, at which time, a 3-pound tumor was removed from her lower backside.

Adair has had nine surgeries since she was diagnosed with F1 neurofibromatosis at a young age and is preparing for her tenth one scheduled for May 17.

"I couldn't believe it was gone, all that mass was just gone," Adair said. "I want to fit in with people, but I want to be an individual too. I feel great because I can wear skinny jeans now."

Adair was one of three young adults with neurofibromatosis featured on MTV's "True Life." The show entitled "I Have Neurofibromatosis" aired April 12.

For months before the show, MTV crews followed Adair around getting video footage of her everyday life, at home, at school (on the PJC Greenville Campus), and even at the hospital.

Neurofibromatosis can be genetically inherited by newborn babies. If one parent has neurofibromatosis, their children have a 50 percent chance of developing the condition.

Adair's father also has neurofi-

bromatosis and his mother passed away from neurofibromatosis. He had tumors on his face, which had been there for years and he finally found a doctor, at Medical City Dallas, who was willing to perform surgery, and remove the tumors from both father and daughter in December of last year.

Adair said having her father's tumors removed the week before hers by the same doctor, made her feel better about going into surgery.

"I got to bond with my dad," Adair said. "It made me feel a lot better."

After the removal of her tumor, Adair said she is more confident and outgoing.

"I didn't like my tumor," she explained. "I wanted to wear jeans that were comfortable. It's amazing to make some friends. Most people don't understand."

Since the surgery, she has lost over 10 pounds.

"I've lost weight," she said. "I think because I can do a little bit more than I could do before."

Adair still has multiple tumors on her body, some small and some large. Her next surgery, in three weeks, is to remove another tumor covering her thigh.

"I've been through so many surgeries and it's never easy to go into another one," Adair said. She said however, she does have a "friend" who helps get her through.

When she was 10 years old, one of her mother's co-workers gave her a bright multi-colored Lisa Frank Cat, which she named Hunter. Ever since then, Adair has



Office of Public Information/Courtesy Photo

**Mike Krentzman with Gigantic/MTV, PJC student Amber Adair and Sierra Lindsey with Gigantic/MTV during filming for the MTV documentary series "True Life: I have neurofibromatosis." This episode with Adair aired first April 12. Check cable listings for future air times.**

had Hunter with her in bed during every surgery.

"That's my surgery cat," she said. "One time when I came out of a surgery, he had a bandage in the same spot I did. The doctor said his could come off when mine did."

Sometimes, opening up to people can be tough. Adair has a few close friends she turns to, but it can still be difficult.

"Neurofibromatosis is something I deal with on a daily basis," she said. "One of my legs is bigger than the other."

She also has a microscope,

which she carries with her to help her read in classes since her sight in one eye is impaired. She has to have her teachers make her tests with larger font than the rest of the class due to her poor eyesight.

"I like my teachers," Adair said. "Math is my favorite. I love the way she (Nicole Baucom) breaks it down."

Adair hopes to go into early childhood development.

"I want to work with kids and animals," she said. "They bring me joy."

F1 neurofibromatosis can turn

cancerous. There is a lot about neurofibromatosis most people don't know, Adair said. They can visit [www.NF.org](http://www.NF.org).

"I hope they find a cure," Adair said. Visit [www.MTV.com](http://www.MTV.com) for more information about the episode, which continues to air.

"In 2001, my lung collapsed. They had a machine breathing for me," she explained. "From that, I learned I could do anything I want to. I had to be really strong. It's 2010 now and I'm still here and still kicking. I write my own book."

## Final Exam Schedule

Spring semester examinations will begin Monday, May 10, through Friday, May 14. Exams will be one hour and 15 minutes in length. They will be given in the classrooms in which the class regularly meets, unless the instructor tells students otherwise.

### MONDAY, MAY 10

Exams are to be given for all Monday-Wednesday classes regularly meeting at these periods:  
8:25 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. All Monday evening classes

### TUESDAY, MAY 11

Exams are to be given for all Tuesday-Thursday classes regularly meeting at these periods:  
8:25 a.m. - 9:40 a.m.  
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. All Tuesday evening classes

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

Exams are to be given for all Monday-Wednesday classes regularly meeting at these periods:  
9:50 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.  
1 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. All Wednesday evening classes

### THURSDAY, MAY 13

Exams are to be given for all Tuesday-Thursday classes regularly meeting at these periods:  
9:50 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.  
1 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m. All Thursday evening classes

### FRIDAY, MAY 14

Exams are to be given for all Friday classes during regular meeting time.



# Opinion / Features



Office of Public Information/Margaret Ruff

The Creative and Academic Awards occurred April 14. A list of the winners and a selection of the compositions is published in *Swingers of Birches* and the winning art is still on display in the Student Center lobby. From left, front, Stephanie Norman, Journalism Student of the Year; Viviana Van Deaver, Outstanding Student in English as a Second Language; Alejandra Santana, Owens Scholarship; Back, Andy Pickles, Outstanding Student in English; Maria Rosas, Rebecca Fitch Award; Quentin Carpenter, *The Paris News* Scholarship; Klarissa Wilson, Outstanding Student in Foreign Language.

## Scholarship deadlines approach fast

### PJC Journalism Scholarship

Applications for the PJC Journalism Scholarship for the Fall 2010 semester are due April 30. To be eligible, a student must be a full time student by the 2010 fall semester; enroll in Comm 2311 and be a member of The Bat, the student newspaper staff, by enrolling in Comm 1129, for the fall 2010 semester; remain in good academic standing with the college; and include a transcript of all college work with his or her application. Scholarships will be awarded based on available funds. Applications can be picked up from the Communications Division Office in the Administration Building on the main campus or one will be e-mailed to you. For more information, e-mail Sharon Dennehy, PJC journalism instructor, at [sdennehy@parisjc.edu](mailto:sdennehy@parisjc.edu)

### English Department Scholarship

Applications for the PJC English Department Scholarship are due April 30. The \$1,000 scholarship is for the 2010-2011 school year. To be eligible, a student must meet the following criteria: be a sophomore for the 2010-2011 school year; have a declared English or education major and be a fulltime student. An applying student must; be enrolled in an English course each semester; have a 2.5 GPA overall and a 3.0 GPA for English classes; and participate in the annual creative writing contest. Applications can be picked up at Communications Division, AD 134, Writing Center, AD 125, Dean of Arts and Sciences, Natural Sciences Building, 101 and at the main offices of the Greenville and Sulphur Springs campuses. For more information, please contact Dean Chaney, extension 338.

## Graduation registration information

The graduation ceremony is set for 8 p.m. Friday, May 14, in the Noyes stadium, Paris campus. Students must fill out and submit the Request for Graduation form to the Student Records Office by May 6 to participate in the ceremony. Registration forms will continue to be accepted after that date for those who do not wish to participate in the ceremony.

There will not be a rehearsal for the ceremony. Graduates need to arrive at the Learning Center at 7 p.m. so important instructions can be provided. A reception for graduates

and guests is to be held on the tennis courts following the ceremony. Caps and gowns are provided at no cost to the students.

For further information go to the PJC homepage and click the "Graduating this Spring" link. If special accommodations are needed during the commencement exercises, or if there are questions concerning graduation, please contact Rita Tapp or Scott Branum in the Records Office at (903) 782-0212 or (903) 782-0302.

## Dragon



## Puffs

### Encore! Show Choir Presents

Encore! Show Choir presents *Encore Evolution* at PJC's Ray Karrer Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 30; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 1; and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, May 2.

This concert season is dedicated to Patricia Fowzer. For more information call (903) 782-0343.

### Final Book Club Meeting

"The Time Traveler's Wife" is to be the last book discussed by the book club. The meeting is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday, April 29, in the library. Dessert will be provided.

### Library hours and goodies for exam week

8 a.m. to midnight Wednesday, May 5. Cookies and punch will be provided.

8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, May 6.

8 a.m. to midnight Friday, May 7.

5 p.m. to midnight Sunday, May 9. Pizza and soft drinks will be provided.

8 a.m. to midnight Monday, May 10. Punch will be provided. Bring your own snacks provided free by the cafeteria.

8 a.m. to midnight Tuesday, May 11. Sandwiches and drinks will be provided.

8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 12. Brownies will be provided.

The library will return to the regular hours of 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Thursday, May 13.

### Blood Drive

Carter Blood Care is scheduled to take blood donations from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, April 29, in the upstairs Student Center.

### Student Organizations Award Luncheon

All organizations are invited to the awards banquet hosted by SGA at noon Wednesday, May 5, in the Student Center Ballroom.

### Library Student Survey

The library is conducting a student satisfaction survey. Candy is available to participants. You can complete the survey online or in the library.

### Dragon Camp

Come one, come all to the first ever PJC Dragon Camp, hosted by SGA. It will be an all day event, Thursday, May 6, on the football field.

## The Bat

The Paris Junior College student newspaper

Comments and views in *The Bat*, the student newspaper of Paris Junior College, reflect thoughts and opinions of individual writers and are not necessarily the views of other students, staff members, faculty, administrative offices, or the PJC Board of Regents.

EDITOR  
SPORTS EDITOR

STAFF WRITERS

ADVISER

STEPHANIE NORMAN  
QUENTIN CARPENTER

CHRISTINA GUNLOCK  
CARMEN MARTIN

SHARON DENNEHY

### LETTERS POLICY

*The Bat* welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, signed, and include a telephone number. Mail letters to *The Bat*, 2400 Clarksville St., Paris, TX 75460. Letters will be edited for spelling, grammar, and libelous statements.

To reach staffers: 903-782-0321  
[sdennehy@parisjc.edu](mailto:sdennehy@parisjc.edu)



## Sports

## PJC brings golfers from afar

CARMEN MARTIN  
Staff Writer

The Paris Junior College golf team has a total of nine players on the team and nearly half are from foreign countries. The number of international golfers is not unusual; many colleges seek foreign students, according to PJC golf coach David Johnson.

“The maturity level of foreign students is much higher,” he said. They are leaving their home country to play over here in the states in order to play golf at a four-year school.

Foreign students involved in sports have two processes they must go through to be recruited. International students can either go through an agency or send in their own papers and videos.

Going through the agency is easier but athletes are charged a fee to have resumes created. College coaches then look at these agency websites and choose, after previewing videos and scores, golfers they wish to recruit.

Foreign golfers look for certain things when applying to a college. For example, warm weather most of the year is a huge plus. Also, when looking up schools they check to see how well the school has done with golf students by seeing how well their turn out rate is.

The two Canadians on the team this year are Alex McKee and Kevin Giesbrecht, each from a different part of Canada. McKee from



Carmen Martin/The Bat

**PJC's International golf players of 2009-2010 from left Tung-nan Lin of South Africa, Kevin Giesbrecht and Alex McKee of Canada, and Tom Bourne of England.**

Newmarket, Ontario and Giesbrecht, from Carman, Manitoba, share some of the same things they miss from home. One thing out of all that they missed was *poutine*, a dish in Canada made up of cheese, gravy and fries.

In Canada, things are a bit different than they are here. For example, the legal drinking age here is 21; there it's 18. That took some getting used to for the Canadians and so did the culture.

“I miss my own room; getting

up when ever I want to,” said McKee. Giesbrecht misses playing hockey and watching his favorite hockey teams.

Another international player this year is Tom Bourne from Stoke-on-Trent, England. The way he found out about Paris Junior College was through his friend Jason Timmus, a previous PJC golfer. Timmus was attending here at the time and told Bourne about the program; Bourne proceeded to check the school out and applied.

When asked about the differences between England and America, Bourne explained that in the U.S they give more food and free refills, which was a happy surprise.

“And of course you drive on the different side of the road,” he said.

The newest member to the team is Tung-nan Lin from Ladybrand, South Africa, across the equator.

His godfather has a job in America where he helps foreigners from Fiji and Africa gets scholar-

ships in America. Therefore, when the colleges he originally applied to were full, his godfather found him a scholarship to PJC.

Since being here, Lin has found out, like the other golfers, that the food and the people and also the driving are very different. Being a vegetarian in Texas has proven to be a little difficult, more so than expected. He misses the home cooking.

“Just hard to find food,” said Lin.

Two of the golfers of 2009-2010, sophomores Bourne and Giesbrecht, will be leaving this year from PJC.

Giesbrecht will be transferring to the University of Texas in El Paso, and Bourne will be returning home to England.

As for McKee and Lin, who are freshmen, they will be attending here next year. “Unless I'd get offered to go somewhere else, I'd take it,” said Lin with a laugh.

Most foreign players are drawn to this area for the warm weather to be able to play all year round. A reason for wanting to play in the states is to be able to play at a competitive level explains Johnson.

Though it seems like PJC has a high number of foreign players, Johnson said many colleges get ten to 15 international players.

PJC has had 12 players go professional since 1929 when the golf program was started here at PJC. Of those 12, Ben Montgomery is one Johnson has coached in his five years of coaching here at PJC.

## Ladies clinch second place in conference



Quentin Carpenter/The Bat

**PJC's Megan Brigance attempts to get a hit during game two of the double header against Navarro, April 14.**

QUENTIN CARPENTER  
Sports Editor

The Lady Dragons are in second place and chasing Navarro in the conference standings. The teams met Wednesday, April 21 at Navarro and split a double header. PJC won the first game 2-1 and lost the second 9-1.

Kasey Carlock picked up the win in game one with the help of a Megan Brigance go-ahead home run in the 6th inning during game one. The victory allowed the Ladies to clinch second place in the conference and split the season series versus Navarro.

The last time the teams faced off was at PJC April 14. The Lady Dragons gave the fans a reason

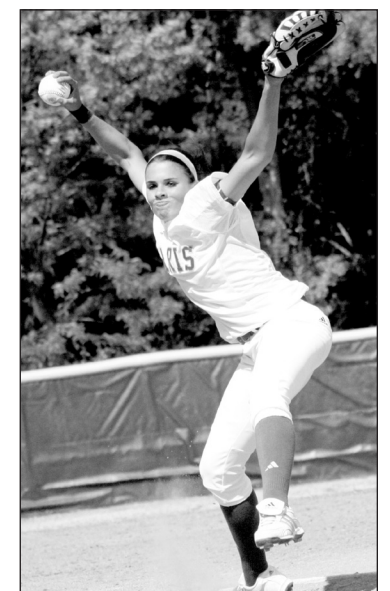
to cheer; after losing their first game 2-1, the Ladies bounced back with a 5-1 win. This win marked Navarro's first conference loss of the season.

PJC's first points of the game came off a three-run homer by Taylor Russell in the fourth inning, which give PJC the lead 3-1.

Navarro then went to a relief pitcher, and PJC's Kayla Sears and Ashley Endsley scored off a Tiffany Kenney single.

After holding Navarro to one score all game, pitcher Cheyenne Stewart was replaced by Kasey Carlock who pitched in the first game of the double header.

Navarro was on the verge of scoring but Carlock got the final batter to hit a pop-up.



Quentin Carpenter/The Bat

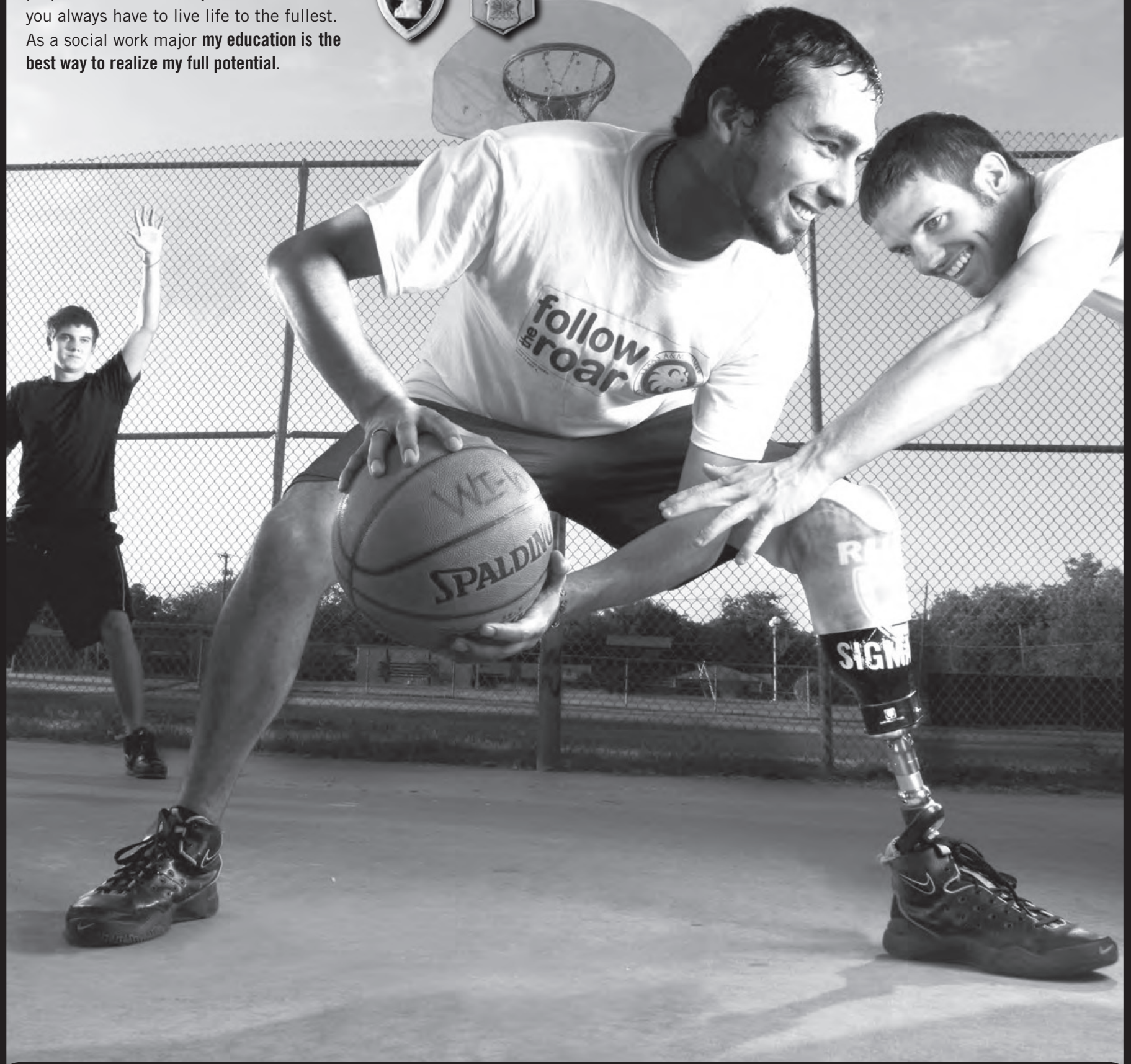
**Cheyenne Stewart pitches in game two against Navarro.**



# Scott, Class of 2010

(former Air Force Senior Airman 1st Class)

Being in the military taught me to always be prepared and to **never quit**. I've learned that you always have to live life to the fullest. As a social work major **my education is the best way to realize my full potential**.



# NEVER QUIT

[tamu-commerce.edu](http://tamu-commerce.edu) | 903.886.5000

TEXAS A&M  
UNIVERSITY  
COMMERCE