

# *The Moment We've All Been Waiting For!*

By: Linda Krueger

Hold onto your textbooks, Vikings! It's that time of year again – the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Review (SAP) is coming soon. You may have forgotten about it (because who wouldn't want to forget about an all-seeing academic eye?), but fear not: it's here to remind you that yes, someone is definitely checking if

you've been keeping up with your studies.

Now, let's be real. For most of us, the SAP review feels like the academic equivalent of a surprise pop quiz, except the quiz is on your entire life's progress. It's as though your entire educational journey gets boiled down to a few scores and it's not just about your grades. Oh no, it's also

about how many credits you've been magically accumulating in between that well-deserved Netflix binge and \*cough\* that nap that just had to happen.

Is your GPA still above the ominous "danger zone"? And, did you drift off of your degree plan?

Remember, in the eyes of Financial Aid SAP, progress is more than just attending

classes. At Grayson, the place to be vibing is with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher, cumulative Pace (completion rate) 67% or higher, and completing your degree within the 150% timeframe.

So, keep an eye on your student email after the semester grades are officially posted and good luck.

## *Vikings Vote!*

Applications have been finalized and voting begins this week for student government! Student's that applied will be allowed to campaign the entire week and the election results will be announced April 28.

Every student should receive an

e-mail in their viking inbox on April 21 that will allow them to vote.

The positions that students will be able to vote on are as follows: president, vice president, director of public relations, and south campus representative.

# Meet Your Pep Band Members

As Basketball Season ends, let me introduce you to some people who added to my basketball experience; musicians who played in a band during every time out and played wonderful and intriguing music in the stands. What makes this band stand out among my own band experience is that there is only one member of each section who plays in Pep Band. What is even more novel about the Pep Band is the fact that it involves the Band classes' string-playing students which I seem to enjoy a lot, especially since they favor fast-paced music. Interviewing the Pep Band members is also an opportunity for me to recognize these people more and who they are beyond their Pep Band (and even) general musical habits.

## Ian Creswell



Ian Creswell began playing instruments at the age of 12. Skilled in guitar, percussion, and bass guitar, he is currently a music major at Grayson

College and plans to continue his studies at the University of Texas at Arlington. His journey into the Basketball Pep Band started when Dr. Wright visited his school, introducing the opportunity and discussing a scholarship, which piqued Ian's interest due to his love for basketball. While performing in the stands, he particularly enjoys playing "Carry On, My Wayward Son." Outside of the Pep Band, Ian gravitates toward music with a strong groove, favoring jazz and mellow genres when listening for enjoyment.

## Brayden Calhoun

Brayden Calhoun is a full-on low brass player who started playing in the band since his time at B.MacDaniel Intermediate School, yet does not exactly know his age when he started playing. He is currently taking classes for his General Education degree but will soon take Psychology classes and is possibly set on attending University of North Texas after his graduation from Grayson College. As with Aaron and Brisa, Brayden's love for playing music is the only reason why he joined the Basketball Pep Band and he specifically loves to play "Jungle Boogie" in the

stands. Despite being a low brass player, Brayden favors 80s or 90s rock as music to listen to while not playing in the Pep Band.

Brayden Calhoun plays all kinds low brass instruments, including the tuba, trombone, and euphonium. While he does not recall the exact age at which he began playing, he remembers starting his musical journey at B. MacDaniel Intermediate School. In the pep band, he especially enjoys playing "Jungle Boogie" in the stands. Currently, he is studying General Education but plans to pursue a degree in Psychology. After graduating from Grayson College, he is considering transferring to the University of North Texas. Outside of band, Brayden enjoys listening to 80s and 90s rock music.

## Brisa Dougan



Brisa Dougan plays the bass drum, having started her musical journey in sixth grade, though she doesn't recall her exact age at the time. She participates in the Pep Band purely for the joy of playing and the fun experience it brings. One of her favorite

songs is Carry On, Wayward Son. Unlike some musicians, Brisa focuses solely on one instrument rather than playing multiple. Outside of music, she aspires to become a Child Life Specialist and plans to continue her education at Southeastern Oklahoma State University after attending Grayson. She enjoys listening to all kinds of music, embracing a diverse range of sounds and genres.

## Oliver Mosely

Oliver Mosely plays the euphonium and has been involved in music since they were around 12 or 13, though they don't recall the exact age they started. They truly enjoy performing in Pep Band, enjoying the experience in order to play their instrument. Their favorite stand tunes include "Jungle Boogie" and "Brick House." In addition to the euphonium, Oliver has experience playing bass guitar and piano, having taken prior music classes. Currently, they are studying music and preparing to transfer to Southeastern Oklahoma State University to further their education and passion for the field.

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# Women Rock Fundraiser

By: Shelly Waller

Last fall during breast cancer awareness month, the MLT association held a fundraiser on the South campus for the Women Rock foundation. Breast cancer hits close to home for many of us. Approximately 1 in 8 women (13.1%) in the U.S. will be diagnosed with

invasive breast cancer in their lifetime, and 1 in 43 will die from the disease. The funds raised will help provide one free mammogram for a woman. In mid-February 2025, Women Rock experienced a significant setback when an electrical fire severely damaged their facility. Christopher Adams, our MLT

association vice president was happy to hand deliver the funds to Luann Daniel to help encourage the good work Women Rock foundation does for our Texoma community. If you would like to help donate to Women Rock, attached is a go fund me account. Any help is appreciated. [Go fund me link!](#)

# Pep Band Cont.

Aaron Marceau



Aaron Marceau plays the snare drum and has experience with various other percussion instruments, as well as a bit of piano. His musical journey began when he joined a school program in third grade. Over time, his passion for music grew, leading him to become a member of the jazz band before joining the pep band to play even more music. Among the many songs he performs, “Land of 1000 Dances” is his favorite to play in the stands. Outside of performing, Aaron enjoys listening to jazz and progressive rock. While music is a big part of his life, he is also focused on his academic career, currently studying accounting at Grayson College with plans to transfer to Southeastern Oklahoma State University after graduation.

# Fellowship in Action

By: Mary Hernandez

This March, Omicron Psi, Grayson’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter, made our annual trip to the Texas Regional Conference. We traveled over five hours to Houston to join over forty other PTK chapters (over four hundred attendees), all gathered to celebrate the past year’s accomplishments. Among the workshops, competitions, acclaimed speakers, and fancy dinners, Texas’ Phi Theta Kappans witnessed the excellence of members that we pride ourselves on, especially the excellence of the regional officers and the candidates to replace them.

Over the weekend, as farewells for the 2024-25 Regional Officers commenced, bittersweetness entered the ballrooms as we said goodbye to the six officers, including Ethan Hall, then District II Vice President and officer of Omicron Psi. While many tears fell as farewells were made, they were replaced with cheers when the new regional officers were announced on Saturday. For District II, which our chapter is part of, Rho Chi of Tarrant County College (South) replaced Omicron Psi as the chapter in office. Yet the highlight of the

weekend were the much anticipated awards. When it comes to awards, you can’t win them all — but, as Omicron Psi proved at TRC, you can win a lot. Over ten awards for the chapter and individual members were given to us. We proved ourselves once again with Continued Excellence Chapter and Texas Top Chapter awards as well as Five Star Chapter recognition. Then we won the Honors in Action Award of Merit for Theme 4, the College Project Award of Merit, and 1st Place Poster Competition (Membership Recruitment). Our Chapter President, Alex Ramos, and Vice President of Membership, Ethan Hall, were granted the Hall of Honor for Chapter Officers Awards while Lavada Burse, Social Media Director for the Texas Region, won the Hall of Honor for Outstanding Alumni Award. Warren Mullens won the Tejas Awards for his endless service to Omicron Psi. Our chapter advisors won their credit as well: Dr. Molly Harris and Pr. Mary Linder both won the Continued Excellence Advisors award. Then they, along with Shantee Seibuhr, won the Outstanding Advisor Team Award. Lastly, Ayden Sulley, John Navarro, and myself were recognized into the District II Hall of Honor.

Overall, it was an

amazing weekend — because not only did 2025’s Texas Regional Conference recognize the chapters and members for their leadership, service, and scholarship, but it fulfilled the fourth hallmark of fellowship. Beyond being a society of intelligent, ambitious students and wise, hardworking mentors, Phi Theta Kappa is a community of friends, even family. TRC is over, but Catalyst, our annual international convention, is on the horizon. I look forward to creating more memories (and winning more awards) with my fellow Phi Theta Kappans, and I hope more Vikings will join us as we continue to strive towards excellence.

Vikings can learn more about Phi Theta Kappa at [ptk.org](http://ptk.org) or you can join us on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM in the Viking Room in the Student Life Center.





# Club Meetings

**Phi Theta Kappa**

Every Tuesday  
12:30pm-1:00pm  
Viking Room

**Anime Club**

Every Wednesday  
4:00pm-6:00pm  
Student Life TV Room

**Criminal Justice Club**

May 1  
May 8  
12:15pm-1:00pm  
CIS 205

**Summit**

Every Thursday  
7:00pm-8:30pm  
Babtist Student Center

**True Crime & Crafts**

Every Tuesday  
3:00pm-5:00pm  
Student Life TV Room

**Gamers Guild**

Every Thursday  
3:00pm-5:00pm  
Viking Room

**Writers Unlited**

Every Wednesday  
12:00pm-1:00pm  
LA 201

**Lunch Bible Study**

Every Monday & Tuesday  
12:15pm-12:45pm  
Babtist Student Center

**Pride Alliance**

Every Tuesday  
3:30pm-4:30pm  
Viking Room

**Art**

April 24  
12:15pm-1:00pm  
AC105

## New Club Alert!

Do you enjoy playing chess and want to find a group to play with?

Then consider joining the chess club! Fill out the link to join! [Join Now!](#)

## 84 West

By: Candace Kosakofsky

Hello Vikings, My name is Yaffa, Candace Kosakofsky. At 41 years old, I feel young at heart. I have been visiting Denison every three days for a year now. Currently, I am a student pursuing my passions and aiming high in my aspirations. I strive for excellence and do not favor poor grades or failure.

I have a deep appreciation for the arts and, a few years ago, I created artwork using pastel crayons that resembled paintings. As someone with Jewish heritage and a rich history, I aspire to make a significant impact in America or leave my mark in history. Despite starting later in life, I am determined to achieve

my goals.

During my visits to Denison from Mesquite, I discovered some great spots to enjoy a meal or a drink. One such place is the Grill at 84 W on 5216 FM 84. With summer approaching, it is an excellent time to partake in outdoor activities and enjoy refreshing beverages. This restaurant and bar offer a wide range of drinks and various outdoor activities, including tennis, four-wheeling, and fishing.

I often sit outside at this establishment, appreciating the beautiful flowers, sunsets, and birds. Balancing fun and relaxation with academic and career pursuits is important. While we are on our educational journeys, it is essential to take breaks, laugh with friends, and responsibly enjoy social gatherings.

One of my favourite

drinks is Prickly Pear or Napa Cut Cabernet Red Wine because it reminds me of Napa, California. Where I once lived and was mesmerised by the stunning vineyards' sunsets and sunrises. Driving through the picturesque hills of Napa, you would witness the enchanting sunset on the horizon with vineyards flanking both sides of the road. To me, this felt like Heaven. The air is filled with the scent of ripe grapes ready for harvest, and the sky's colours blend into the rich shades of the vineyards, creating a breathtaking view that stays with you forever.

At the restaurant, I often opt for Grilled Atlantic salmon with vegetables because it's healthy. Maintaining health is essential for keeping a sharp mind and achieving goals. Taking care of your body and keeping a healthy

mind provides clarity to tackle any challenge! Also, the taste of perfectly grilled salmon paired with fresh vegetables is not only delicious but also supplies vital nutrients that rejuvenate and energise the body. Regularly consuming such wholesome meals has greatly improved my productivity and mental well-being, enabling me to stay focused on my tasks and reach new heights.

If you wish to meet, I frequently visit this restaurant at least once a week. Pursue your passions and career paths while allowing yourself to unwind and have fun occasionally. Have a wonderful week, Vikings!

# Interested in Writing for the Viking?

The Viking Staff wants to expand its coverage and the best way to do that is through teamwork!

As much fun as the newspaper is, designing, writing, and editing such a big project can become

a big task for one person.

We appreciate all of your contributions and look at all of them, but we also want to feature more cover stories.

If you enjoy writing, taking pictures, and

engaging in interviews don't be afraid to reach out and become a Viking Writer! You can reach us at:

[theviking@grayson.edu](mailto:theviking@grayson.edu)

# WE NEED YOU!

The Viking is currently run by a freshman on campus and, the only way we can get information is if it's public or sent to us directly.

We want to be able to show of the diversity of both of our campuses, Including sports, fine arts, campus events, local events group and induvidual rewards.

If a student or organization wants to be featured in the next issue they can email us at: [theviking@grayson.edu](mailto:theviking@grayson.edu)

We welome personal submissions, including but not limited to: poems, photos of art that was personally made, reviews over any kind of media (albums, movies, books, etc.), editorials.

If there's a new club or an old club that wants advertisement don't be afraid to email us.

Follow Us!  
📷 [@the\\_viking\\_voice](https://www.instagram.com/the_viking_voice)

# Upcoming Concerts

**April  
24**

**Adam Larson: Saxophone**  
7:30 p.m. - Fine Arts Band Hall (AC 100)

**April  
28**

**Greater Texoma Jazz Orchestra**  
7:30 p.m. - Cruce Stark Auditorium

**May  
1**

**Mucic Department Recital**  
7:30 p.m. - Cruce Stark Auditorium