



THE

The official newsletter of PCC

BEAVER

BUZZ

May 2024

Maximum Student Learning

Individual & Workforce Development

High Quality Instruction & Service

Community Enrichment

Pratt Community College Monthly Newsletter

Contents

Re-dedication of Stanion Field 1
Important Dates 2
New Faces 3
36th Annual Scholarship Auction 4
Commencement Ceremony 5
Beaver Building Days 6
Tips During Finals Week 7
Art Feature 8
WOO Annual Trip 9
Student Spotlight 10
Staff Spotlight 11
Faculty Spotlight 12
Student Honors 13-16
Let's Celebrate 17
Student Life 18
Student Leadership Council 19
College Health Hints 19
Keller Family Sports Complex Dedication 20
Beaver Track & Field 21
Beaver Softball 22
Beaver Baseball 22

Call for upcoming newsletter content

If you have information or ideas for new content, fun facts, or PCC trivia, send them to Marketing for inclusion in the next newsletter >>> marketing@prattcc.edu

Contributors

Thank you to all of our contributors.

- Dr. Kwanna King, Leah Patterson, Dr. Jason Ratcliffe, Tyler Dallis, Charles Keefer, Kenny McCartney, Rocky Robinson, Barry & Stacey Fisher

RE-DEDICATION OF STANION FIELD

On a cloudy Saturday, April 20, a ceremony was held on the newly laid Stanion Field turf to pay tribute to Bill and Cindy Keller for their recent contribution to Pratt Community College athletics.

This achievement was made possible by the unwavering generosity of Stanion Wholesale Electric Company and the Keller family. The Kellers were honored with a special award at a ceremony held at the pitcher's mound of Stanion Field. A custom-made frame showcased a turf background with a glass overlay featuring an architectural drawing of the field and a message of gratitude to the Keller family. These generous donations, including those from many others, have not only enhanced Pratt Community College but have also instilled a sense of pride within the entire community for the new facilities now available.



Quote of the Month

"You are never too old to set a new goal or to dream a new dream." - CS LEWIS

# May 2024

## Important dates

**Performing Arts - Choir & Jazz Band Concert**  
May 5th

**Cap & Gown Pick-up - Upper Commons**  
May 7-8 - 1-4pm

**Final Exams**  
May 7, 8, & 9th

**Commencement Ceremonies**  
May 10th - 1pm & 3pm

**Residence Hall Move Out**  
Non-graduates: May 10th at 5PM  
Graduates: May 11th @ Noon

**Final Grade Entry**  
May 14th

**Beaver Building Day**  
May 14th

**Beaver Building Day**  
May 23rd

**Memorial Day - Campus Closed**  
May 27th

**First Summer Mini-Session & Full Session**  
May 29th

## June 2024 - A look ahead

**Beaver Building Day**  
June 12th

**Beaver Building Day**  
June 26th

**Second Summer Mini-Session**  
June 27th



# NEW FACES ACROSS CAMPUS

Hayden



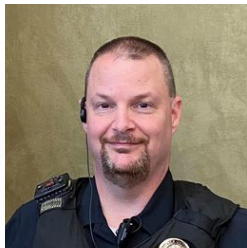
Oklahoma native, Hayden McBride joined PCC on April 29 as our Men's Basketball Assistant Coach and Residence Hall Supervisor. We are glad to have him join us and look forward to his efforts on and off the court. We are confident that he will be a valuable asset to our community.

Evan Camperell joined us on April 30 as our Head Women's Soccer Coach. The 2024 fall season will mark his eighteenth intercollegiate soccer season overall. Evan is very excited about joining the athletics program at Pratt CC and for the opportunity to move the program forward.



Evan

Mike



Mike McAbee started with us on May 1st as our Evening Security Officer. We are thankful to have him join us and anticipate ongoing success with him as a valuable member of our security team. McAbee may be recognized by individuals in the Pratt area as he has prior experience with the Pratt Police Department.

WELCOME  
TO  
BEAVER  
NATION



# 36<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

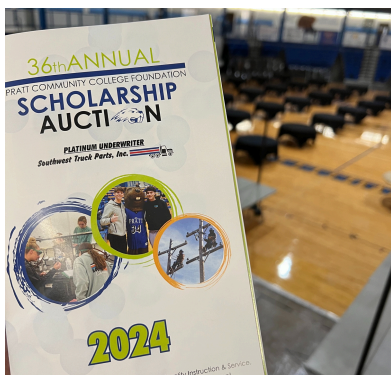
# SCHOLARSHIP AUCTION



The Pratt Community College Foundation is thrilled to announce that the 36th Annual Scholarship Auction exceeded expectations and a new record for the event by raising \$114,000 for student scholarships.

Taking place on May 3, 2024, the annual scholarship auction saw generous contributions from local businesses and individuals in Pratt, KS, and nearby communities. These contributions enhance opportunities and support student accessibility through scholarships. The unwavering dedication of numerous volunteers played a pivotal role in the success of the auction. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone involved!

The PCC Foundation's 36th Annual Scholarship Auction, sponsored by Southwest Truck Parts, was a delightful event filled with delicious food, enjoyable activities, and fantastic items up for bids. We express immense gratitude to our sponsors, attendees, and buyers who contributed to the event's success. Most importantly, we extend our gratitude for the steadfast support provided to our students. All proceeds from the auction will go towards benefitting PCC students through academic and technical scholarships!



# COMMENCEMENT *Ceremony*

**PRATT**  
Community College

## MAY 10, 2024

**DENNIS LESH SPORTS ARENA**  
IN THE BENSON EDUCATION CENTER  
348 NE SR 61  
PRATT, KS 67124

**1 PM - AAS GRADUATES & CERTIFICATES**

**3 PM - AA, AS, AGS GRADUATES**



**CAP & GOWN  
PICK UP**

May 7-8 in the  
Benson Commons Area  
1:00 - 4:00pm



**ADDITIONAL  
QUESTIONS?**

Contact Registrar's Office  
620-450-2221



**CEREMONY  
LIVE STREAM**

[gobeaversports.com/links/LiveBroadcasts](https://gobeaversports.com/links/LiveBroadcasts)



**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Official photos available  
for purchase at  
[gradimages.com](https://gradimages.com)

**WHERE DO I GO?**

Graduates should report to  
Carpenter Auditorium at 12:30pm  
for the 1:00pm ceremony;  
2:30pm for the 3:00pm ceremony.  
Graduation regalia  
is required.

\*Information subject to change

# PRATT COMMUNITY COLLEGE **BEAVER**



PREPARE FOR FALL 2024  
& Choose your session

<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>
23rd	14th	12th	18th
26th-EPT	23rd	26th	

LEARN ABOUT  
STUDENT SERVICES,  
MEET WITH ADVISORS

*and* **REGISTER FOR CLASSES**



**SIGN UP NOW!!**

# Tips for Success During Finals Week

1.

**Start preparing for exams right away**

2.

**Don't just study hard, study smart**

3.

**Meet with your professors or tutors if you have questions**

4.

**Find a good place to focus on your schoolwork**

5.

**Don't rely on all-night study sessions right before the test**

6.

**Don't forget to take care of yourself while you study**



**Resources:**

**The Student Success Center is here to help you!**

**Where you can find us:**

Office 55 in Dennis Lesh Arena  
ssc@prattcc.edu  
620-450-2156



**PRATT**   
Community College

**FREE ONLINE TUTORING  
FOR PCC STUDENTS**

Access tutor.com via Canvas

# ART FEATURE

The Art Department is excited to welcome a new instructor this school year. Tyler L. Dallis came to PCC in July 2023 and has been working hard to improve and grow the art department. Tyler offers a many studio classes including, Ceramics I & II, Painting, Drawing, and Digital Photography, as well as Art Appreciation. If you have any interest in an art class, contact Tyler at tylerd@prattcc.edu.

This semester the ceramics classes hosted visiting artist, Dylan Seeney. Seeney is a ceramics instructor at Heights High School in Wichita, Kansas. He is currently in the Master of Fine Arts program at Fort Hays State University. Seeney exhibited his art work in the Delmar Riney Art Gallery with a closing reception on April 12th. His exhibition was called Beyond the Board: Reflections of Personal Identity Through Clay, it explored Seeney's views on nature, spirituality, and skateboard culture and how the three intertwine. He also taught a workshop to the ceramic students, demonstrating personified animal masks.

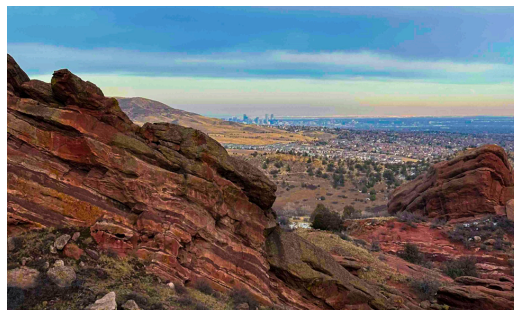
There was a student and faculty showcase in the Delmar Art Gallery through April 22nd-26th. This included all students taking a studio class as well as Dallis. The students have been working so hard honing their skills to create wonderful works of art.

The projects the art students work on vary per class. The drawing and painting classes focus on studies to develop their understanding of two-dimensional perspective. The digital photography class takes a look at photography through a contemporary lens. Learning how to take photos through a cell phone and how to edit them to be exhibition ready. The ceramic classes focus on identity through clay. The students make work that they personally identify with, items that represent them.

Tyler L Dallis is excited to be part of Pratt Community College and hopes to continue to assist in the growth of the art department. The classes offered in fall 24 include, Art Appreciation (2 on campus and 1 online), Ceramics I & II, Painting, and a Community Ceramics Workshop. If you have any questions about any of the classes or the program, please reach out to Tyler.



Somber Skies- Brayson Bird



Red Rock Dreams - Mariah Wood



Lily - Orlando Carter



# WOO ANNUAL TRIP

The sophomore Wildlife Outfitting and Operations class, Guiding in the Outdoors completed their annual backcountry hunting trip. This year, the class chose to chase the Merriam's Wild Turkey in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

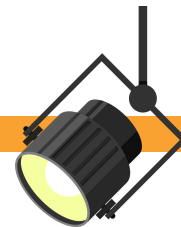
In class, students researched the 1.2 million acre National Forests, selecting camping grounds, researching possibly dangerous animals and electronic scouting potential turkey habitat. The students selected a very good area in the national forest and were on birds from day one. On the first day they were legally able to hunt, one of the students missed a bird and another student had one come into 20 yards, but the new growth pines were too thick to get a shot. After many miles and more close encounters, one of the students harvested a bird on day three. He was the only student to fill their tag on the trip.

The students did have some other highlights. Finding shed antlers, including a large elk shed, catching trout, and talking with a lot of other hunters in the area.

This trip helps students learn a western style of hunting. They must learn how the out of state tag lottery works, purify their own drinking water, how to stay warm at night: it was in the 20s with rain or snow most nights, and how to pack for the backcountry.



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



## Hew Brown



Hometown: Liss, England  
Field of Study: Sport Administration

### Why did you choose to attend PCC?

"PCC Soccer had won Regionals the year before, so I was interested and during the admissions process everyone was friendly and had quick responses."

### What have you been involved in while here at PCC?

"I play soccer, was the mascot for a year with PCC Cheer, I participated in Track for a semester and am a Resident Assistant currently and work with admissions alot doing new student tours."

### What makes PCC special?

"The people who work here and the ability to get to know your professors by name."

### What was your favorite class and why?

"I really enjoyed being in my English classes with Instructor, Stephanie Wiese. Her attitude towards the classes made me want to write."

### What is your major and how does it fit in your life's plan?

"My major is sports administration. I do plan to stay in America and coach, but my dream is to coach and own a soccer club."

### What are your plans after graduation at PCC?

"I will be attending Oklahoma Panhandle State University in the Fall to get my Bachelors Degree and play soccer and golf. One long term goal would be to come back to PCC and coach."

### What would people be surprised to know about you?

"I am actually an introvert. I enjoy being by myself and having my own space."

### Who has influenced you the most in life?

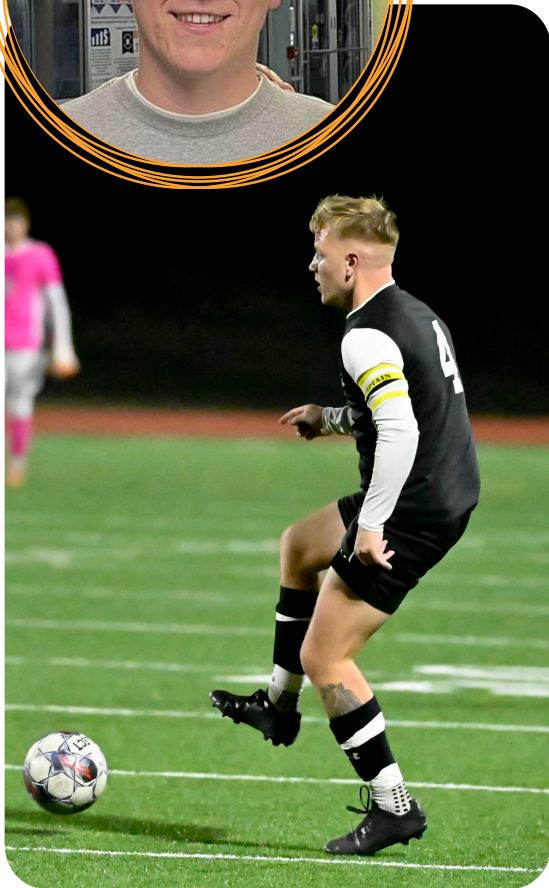
"My mum, she was my calm and let me make my own decisions in life."

### What are your interests/hobbies for your free time?

"I like to golf, play video games and watch construction videos."

### What advice do you have for future students?

"Especially for international students, accept the differences and meet new people and get involved."





# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## Lisa Kolm

Lisa has dedicated more than 30 years to Pratt Community College. She began her journey at PCC in the Registrar position and has since embraced various roles. Currently, Lisa serves as the Coordinator of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. She hails from Nebraska and is a graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As a result, being a Husker fan was inevitable – GO BIG RED! She and her spouse relocated to Pratt three decades ago and have been blessed with four children.

### **What project, responsibility, and/or aspect of your position do you enjoy the most?**

"I enjoy working with staff and faculty to provide accurate and relevant data sets that may enhance efficiency to operations or assist with making data-informed decisions to the benefit of the college"

### **What do you consider your biggest accomplishment to date?**

"Raising four children alongside my husband has been a blessed and rewarding journey."

### **Before joining the PCC community, what was the most unusual or interesting job/position you have had?**

"While in college, I had a job in the cafeteria as a baker and made dozens upon dozens of muffins. It was an early morning—'time to make the donuts'—clock-in time."

### **What do you do for fun/relaxation outside of the PCC Community?**

"I enjoy spending time with family, reading, planting flowers, and being outdoors. I'm also active in my church serving as the newsletter editor and webmaster."

### **What is an interesting fact about yourself that you believe fellow employees would be surprised about?**

"I was a four-year starter on my high school basketball team. Do I need to mention that I went to a very small school and there were only five players out for the team my freshman year?? If you're wondering if I ever fouled out and they had to play with four players, yes, more than once. 😊"

### **Growing up, what did you want to be?**

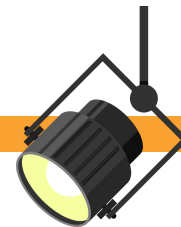
"Honestly, have no idea/memory of what I wanted to be."

### **Do you have a motto, personal mantra, or favorite quote to share?**

'Hope is cultivated in the soil of gratitude.' –  
Craig Groeschel



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



## Dave "Kip" Chambers

Kip Chambers has been a PCC Biology Instructor for 21 years, he hails from Pratt, Kansas, and started teaching biology at PCC in 2003. Having earned a MS degree with a focus on Environmental Management from Pittsburg State University in 2002, he was notified of an available biology teaching role at the college by former instructor Mike Westerhaus. Applying for the position in late summer 2003, and later offered and gladly accepted the job.

### What is your favorite part of your job?

"My favorite part of teaching at PCC is the students in the classroom. The energy and enthusiasm that students bring with them into the classroom rejuvenates me and reminds me of why I have chosen to stay in the field of education for almost 30 years. I believe education provides students with the opportunity to empower themselves in a way that will enable them to improve the quality of their lives and through that process make the world a better place.

Another part of teaching at PCC that I find truly rewarding is the my fellow instructors at PCC. We are very fortunate have a stable faculty with little turnover in our area of the college. Because of this, I have had the opportunity to get to know many of the other teachers very well. My fellow instructors are always willing to help lift me up when I am having a tough day and willing to offer a helping hand when it is needed."

### What is the most challenging part of your job?

"In general, I believe one of the more challenging aspects of teaching at PCC is how to manage all the other responsibilities that come with teaching at Pratt Community College. Due to the size of the faculty at PCC, instructors have a myriad of other responsibilities that go along with their teaching load. At times these other responsibilities impact the amount of time instructors have to focus on developing curriculum, preparing for classes, grading and helping students. "

### Before joining the PCC community, what was an unusual or interesting job/position you have had?

"I worked for the National Marine Fisheries Service in the Bering Sea before coming to PCC. During that time, I worked as an Observer on commercial fishing vessels. My responsibilities included documenting the total catch of targeted fish species, by-catch, and observing and recording vessel interactions with marine mammals and birds. "

### What do you like most about mentoring students?

"At a community college you usually only have an opportunity to work with students for 2 years. The thing that I enjoy most about mentoring students during the time they are at PCC is seeing the academic and personal growth that can occur during that relatively short period of time."

### How do you like to spend your free time?

"I enjoy being outdoors and have a passion for nature. My favorite place to vacation is anywhere there is a clean, clear, cold flowing river with an opportunity to float, fish and swim."

### What is the most helpful advice you have ever received and words of advice you give others?

"Take responsibility for your actions. You usually get back from life what you put out there. You are in charge of your emotions and the decisions you make, do not allow other people to dictate how you feel or respond to a situation.

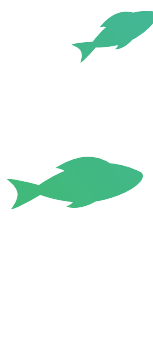
Don't waste time, there is a limited amount of it. It is ok to look back and learn from the difficult situations that life hands out sometimes, but ultimately if you want to grow and find peace and happiness you must find it in yourself. Keep moving forward, appreciate and be where your feet are. Find your own happiness!"

### Growing up, what did you want to be?

"A professional football player."

### If you won the lottery tomorrow, what would you do?

"Well, I wouldn't go to Disney World. I think I would give back to the people that are less fortunate than me. I would spend as much time and money as I could to help protect and preserve the world's coral reefs. I have always wanted a boat with a steering wheel and a cabin (think Jimmy Buffett). It would be handy on the ocean."



# STUDENT HONORS

## EPT Students Awarded Scholarships from ITC Great Plains

ITC Great Plains, a prominent utility company in Kansas, managing power transmission infrastructures in Kansas and Oklahoma. The company has long acknowledged the high-quality education and workforce readiness provided by Pratt CC's Electrical Power Technology (EPT) program. Annually, ITC Great Plains visits the Pratt campus to support the program by awarding scholarships to EPT students.

This year, Mallory Watson and Kyron Koehn were chosen as scholarship recipients, with the awards presented by ITC Great Plains representative Ernestor De La Rosa Rodriguez at a small reception. The scholarships are granted based on recommendations from PCC's EPT faculty, recognizing academic excellence and desirable workforce qualities.

During the visit, De La Rosa Rodriguez discussed the growing demands and trends in the industry, highlighting the promising career opportunities in electrical distribution with the EPT class.

Mallory expressed gratitude to ITC Great Plains, sharing, "I am very honored to be chosen as a recipient of the ITC scholarship. Receiving this scholarship motivates me to maintain my GPA, complete the EPT Program, and receive my Certificate and Associate's of Applied Science. Thank you for awarding me this scholarship and supporting me toward reaching my personal and professional goals."

Similarly, Kyron Koehn thanked ITC Great Plains, expressing, "It is an honor to receive your ICT scholarship, and I thank you for your hospitality. With your support, I can rest easy knowing that my financial burdens are lifted. Thank you again for your generosity and empathy."

Congratulations to Mallory and Kyron, and a big thank you to ITC Great Plains for their continued investment in shaping the future workforce trained at Pratt CC for over a decade.

For more information about the Electrical Power Technology (EPT) program offered at various locations in Kansas, including Coffeyville, Wichita, Dodge City, and Pratt, visit our website.



# STUDENT HONORS

## PCC Students Named All-Kansas Scholars for 2023-2024

On April 12, 2024, Pratt Community College students Bella Crowell and Blake Jouret were honored as All-Kansas Scholars by state legislators, college presidents, and other Kansas leaders at an award ceremony and luncheon in Junction City, Kansas.

Students are selected based on outstanding academic achievement as well as accomplishments and services rendered outside the classroom.

Phi Theta Kappa members apply for the honor, and are chosen by faculty at their respective institutions. The All-Kansas Scholars from each of the 19 community colleges in Kansas make up the All State Academic Team for Kansas.

Also in attendance were members of the students' families, Phi Theta Kappa sponsor Dr. Jason Ratcliffe, Vice President of Finance and Operations Kent Adams, Vice President of Student Services Dr. Kwanna King, and Trustee Eric Scott Killough.

Dr. Jason Ratcliffe, the sponsor of Phi Theta Kappa, expressed, "These two are wonderful students, scholars, and athletes; they deserve this award and all other success that comes to them!"



# STUDENT HONORS

## PTK and KBD Honor Societies Induct New Members for 2023-2024

Pratt Community College held a ceremony April 1, 2024, to induct its newest members to honor societies Phi Theta Kappa and Kappa Beta Delta. 25 new members joined Phi Theta Kappa and 6 new members joined Kappa Beta Delta in the Spring 2024 ceremony held in the Riney Student Conference Center on campus. Congratulations to all!

The ceremony included a welcome and introduction address from PCC President Dr. Michael Calvert. PTK sponsor Jason Ratcliffe and KBD sponsor John Patton presented an overview of the honor societies with student leadership from both honor societies also speaking. Dave Krueger served as guest speaker and a candlelight ceremony took place before the presentation of new members.



# STUDENT HONORS

## PCC Students Recognized at Annual Awards & Recognition Ceremony

As the current school year wraps up, we celebrated our students at the annual Awards & Recognition Ceremony held on April 23.

During the lively event in Carpenter Auditorium, our dedicated staff and faculty acknowledged students for their exceptional academic and athletic accomplishments. To add to the festive spirit, this year we introduced an ice cream sundae bar for students to enjoy.

Congratulations to all our students; we are truly proud of your achievements. It's a great day to be a beaver! [#BeaverNation](#)





# LET'S CELEBRATE

## Mental Health Awareness Month

**1 in 5**  
**U.S. adults**  
experience mental illness  
each year

**and only  
half**  
of them receive treatment.



The average delay  
between onset of mental illness  
symptoms and treatment is

**11 years**



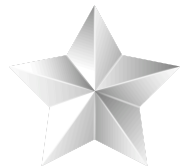
May marks Mental Health Awareness Month, which has been pivotal since its establishment in 1949, in acknowledging the struggles encountered by numerous Americans living with mental health issues. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) engages actively in this nationwide initiative throughout the month, committed to eliminating stigma, providing support, promoting public education, and advocating for policies that prioritize the welfare of individuals and families impacted by mental illness.

This year, NAMI is celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month with the Take the Moment campaign. This campaign champions the importance of destigmatizing mental health by normalizing the practice of taking moments to prioritize mental health care without guilt or shame. We encourage joining by fostering open dialogues, cultivating empathy and understanding.

You are not alone! If you are struggling with your mental health, there are helplines and outreach available. Here at PCC, please visit with the student success office or anyone you feel comfortable with.

Source: <https://www.nami.org/>

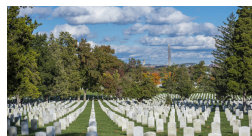
**Small steps  
can lead to  
big progress  
in mental health.**



Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, honors those who died in U.S. service. Originating after the Civil War, it was officially proclaimed in 1868. Initially honoring Civil War soldiers, it expanded to all Americans who died in wars. The holiday is now observed on the last Monday in May, providing a three-day weekend.

In 1915, Moina Michael was inspired by "In Flanders Fields" to start wearing red poppies on Memorial Day to honor fallen soldiers. Madam Guerin from France later made artificial poppies to raise funds for war victims, spreading the tradition internationally. The VFW began selling poppies in 1922, with disabled veterans making them by 1924.

The significance of Memorial Day and its history would not be fully understood without acknowledging the creation of the "National Moment of Remembrance." This resolution was passed in December 2000, urging all Americans to take a moment at 3 p.m. local time to remember and show respect in their own way.



Source: <https://www.usmemorialday.org/>

# STUDENT LIFE

Students had a few different activities throughout the month of April. From karaoke, more snow cones, kickball and indoor cornhole due to some much needed rain. May has a couple of final activities during finals week, that we hope everyone enjoys. As students finish up the semester student life won't be quite the same in the summer but we can't wait to see all the students return next fall for the new year.



## May 2024 Student Life Activities

Tuesday, May 7

Late Night  
Breakfast

Riney  
9:00 pm



Tuesday, May 7

Snow Cones for ALL

Front Parking  
Lot  
1-3 pm



# STUDENT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Representing many aspects of the student population for the month of April, the group met with Cabinet members as the monthly student leaders. Areas represented included Resident Assistants, Baseball, Flag football, Women's Basketball, Soccer, International students, Performing Arts, Rodeo, Welding, and Automotive. Resident life, Student life, classes, technology, and future plans were all topics of discussion at the monthly meeting. The Student Leadership Council is held monthly with a different group represented each month and is a great way our students can have a voice and help improve the college as a whole.

## COLLEGE HEALTH HINTS

### Transition from being a PCC Student

Graduating from college is a significant achievement and transition. Recent college graduates experience changes in their daily environments, schedules, and may need to shift their mindset from student life to working adulthood or to a larger college or University. These adjustments can disrupt routines, so it's important to be patient while adapting to a new normal.

Moreover, establishing and maintaining social connections with friends and peers post-graduation can be more challenging. Expectations regarding the frequency of interactions and social circles may need adjustment.

Navigating the uncertainty of this new phase may evoke feelings of sadness or a mourning process for the college experience left behind. It's common to experience symptoms of depression, such as: Feelings of loneliness or sadness, Decreased motivation or difficulty completing tasks, Loss of interest in previously enjoyed activities, Disorganization or struggling to stay on track, A prevailing sense of hopelessness.

Seven Ways to Support Your Mental Health Post-graduation:

- Be mindful of available resources post-graduation
- Stay connected with friends and make new connections
- Plan ahead for managing stressors
- Learn about your state's insurance process
- Find local healthcare practitioners and mental health support
- Explore career opportunities or further education
- Create a daily schedule to work towards post-graduation goals.



Source: <https://hub.hindscc.edu/blog/conquering-the-end-of-semester-blues>

**PCC College Health**  
620-450-2150 - Riney Student Center  
Monday - Thursday: 8:30am - 3:00pm & Friday: 8:30am - 12:30pm

# DEDICATION

## Bill Keller Family Sports Complex Dedication

On Saturday, May 4, 2024, a dedication ceremony started with the Donor Wall, featuring stainless steel plates engraved with the names of those who financially supported the facility's construction. This donor wall is an expression of heartfelt gratitude to the generous individuals and organizations who made this sports complex a reality. Collaboration between Pratt Community College, the City of Pratt, Pratt USD #382, and Skyline USD #438 makes this a valuable community asset. These contributions will have a lasting impact on generations to come.



Next, the new name of the complex was unveiled. The now Bill Keller Family Sports Complex. Bill and Cindy Keller, accompanied by their family, were honored during the ceremony. They were presented with a shadow box keepsake containing turf from the field and a piece of the track surface.

Barry Fisher, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement & Alumni Relations remarked, "The establishment of this complex is a testament to the Keller family's commitment to enriching the lives of others and their dedication to sports and community development. Their charitable leadership has been instrumental in bringing this project to fruition, and we are honored to forever link their name with this exceptional facility. We eagerly anticipate the positive impact the Bill Keller Family Sports Complex will have on our community in the years to come."



# BEAVER TRACK & FIELD



## Beavers Pick up Two More National Qualifiers at the Region VI Meet

The Pratt Community College track and field team hosted and competed in the NJCAA Region VI/KJCCC Outdoor Track and Field Championships on May 2-4 at the Bill Keller Family Sports Complex in Pratt, Kansas. The team finished with four top-five finishers and nine top-ten finishers. The men's team finished in eleventh place in the team standings while the women finished in twelfth place.

The meet started off with the men's decathlon with Aiden Skiles representing the Beavers. Skiles finished top five in four of the decathlon events. Overall Skiles finished ninth in the men's decathlon. Skiles throw in the javelin qualified him for the NJCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in two weeks. In addition, Skiles competed in the regular javelin throw with a sixth-place finish.

On the men's side, Joseph Michel and Kareem Small both finished fourth and sixth respectively in the 100m dash final. Sebastian Gilbreath finished ninth in the 400m dash while both the 4x100m relay (Sapalo, Sawyers, Vann, Michel) and the 4x400m relay (Brooks-Davis, Amparan, Gilbreath, Baker) both finished in the top ten. The 4x400m relay team qualified for the NJCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships with a time of 3:14.76. In field events, Davion Smith finished sixth in the high jump; Mason Pfaff finished ninth in the pole vault while Dillon Pikes finished tenth in the long jump and eighth in the triple jump.

Finally, for the women, Serenity Jackson finished seventh in the 200m dash and third in the 400m dash. The women's 4x100m relay team consisting of Serenity Jackson, Tashia Bell, Naomi Vagher, and Mikayla Henry finished fourth with a time of 47.65.



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# BEAVER BASEBALL

## Beavers Set For NJCAA Plains District Opening Round Series

The Pratt Community College baseball team wrapped up their 2024 regular season this past week with a four-game series against Seward County Community College. The Beavers won the second game of the series 10-3 but lost the series 3-1 against the Saints. Pratt finished their season with an overall record of 22-33 and a 7-25 conference record. They finished eighth in the Jayhawk West conference.

For the third straight season, the Beavers under the helm of head baseball coach Todd Reller have advanced to the opening round of the 2024 Plains District Baseball Tournament. The Beavers enter the tournament as the sixteenth seed and will face the first seeded Johnson County Community College in a three-game series starting on Thursday, May 9, in Overland Park, Kansas. The series will be a best of three with game two taking place on Friday, May 10, and if needed, game three taking place on Saturday, May 11. All three games will begin at 1:00 p.m.

The Johnson County Cavaliers are ranked No. two in the nation with a 46-10 overall record and a 28-4 conference record. Johnson County's four conference losses came against Fort Scott, Allen County, Cowley, and Kansas City Kansas. The Beavers faced both Fort Scott and Allen County earlier in the season and split the series against Allen County and lost 3-1 against Fort Scott.



Sophomore Dagen Brewer leads the team with a .431 batting average with 64 hits, 55 runs, and 17 home runs. Projected starters for the three-game series include Brandon Stone (3.23 ERA), Josiah Golden (3.83 ERA), and Ryan Borberg (4.06 ERA) while the entire pitching staff averages 11 strikeouts per nine innings.



# BEAVER SOFTBALL

## Beavers Finish Season in NJCAA Region VI Tournament

The Pratt Community College softball team ended their season with two games at the NJCAA Region VI D1 Softball Championships on Friday, May 3 in Dodge City, Kansas. The Beavers opened the tournament with the No. one seed Butler Community College and lost with a final score of 14-3. Later that afternoon, Pratt played Colby Community College in a win or go home game. The Beavers ended their season with an 8-1 loss against the Trojans.

The Beavers ended their season with an 11-43 overall record and a 7-25 conference record. Freshman Jaxin Louge finished the year with a .397 batting average with 52 hits, 36 runs, and 32 RBIs. On the mound, Gabbi Everitt led the team with a 6.75 earned run average with 80 strikeouts.

### Game One (vs. Butler)

The game started with Butler taking an early 7-0 lead through the first two innings. The Beavers tried to mount a comeback in the fourth inning with Yolanda Aguirre hitting a home run to drive in three runs. However, Butler responded strongly with seven more runs in the bottom of the fourth inning to pull ahead with the 14-3 win.

### Game Two (vs. Colby)

In the consolation round, Pratt faced Colby who emerged victorious with a final score of 8-1. The Beavers only run came in the first inning with a hit from Lucy Davis as Pratt struggled offensively with only four hits in the game. On the other side, the Trojans scored 8 runs on 12 hits in three innings.



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