Legends weekend is almost here, ROONATION! Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of great ‘Roos on and off the field.

Friday Night, July 8, will feature a ‘Roos Reception in memory of Danny Gilstrap ’67, with music from the Bent Creek band featuring Claude Webb ’77 and Brent Hollensed ’81.

On Saturday, July 9, the dinner and awards presentation will honor 2016 inductees Mark Burtner ’72, Tresy Ross Capelle ’04, Kenneth Hillyard ’94, John Leonard ’76, Keith Powell ’76, Chris Sanders ’95, and John Womack ’93. The Coach Joe Spencer Award for Meritorious Service and Lifetime Achievement in Coaching will be presented to David Norman ’83. Two outstanding coaches, Ross Reedy ’04 and Kirk Thor ’91, will be honored with the Kedric Couch Alumni Coach of the Year Award.

The 34th Annual Slats McCord Golf Tournament will get underway Sunday, July 10, at 8:30 a.m.
On June 20th, students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Oscar Page Atrium of the IDEA Center to mark the local solar "high noon." At exactly 1:28 p.m., the beam of sunlight coming through the gnomon hole in the roof of the IDEA Center highlighted the summer solstice marker. Solstice, which means "sun-stopping," marks the date when the sun stops traveling north and starts heading south.

"This event gives us a sense of progress," said Baker. "We don't pay attention to the Earth's rotation in our everyday lives, but the Earth keeps on moving." Watching the sunlight align with the Earth is a truly fantastic experience for Dr. Baker. "Within seconds, the sunlight is there and gone," he said. "It's mesmerizing, almost magical."

The idea of a solstice calendar in the IDEA Center began with physics faculty member Dr. Don Salisbury. After visiting an unfinished solar observatory with students on a trip to Florence, Italy, during a January Term, he became inspired to propose a similar project for the soon-to-be-constructed IDEA Center. A few years ago when the building was constructed, students and faculty took precise measurements in order to properly place the gnomon hole opening in the building's roof to let the sunlight into the atrium. The careful measurements also were used to inscribe the calendar markings into the terrazzo floor of the building.

End of Year Giving was a Success!!!
We've had a June for the records book ROONATION! We can't thank you enough for your dedication, generosity, and support over the last few weeks. The month started out strong with a $500,000 dollar matching gift from David Easterly '65 that supported need-based scholarships and we were overwhelmed with the positive response! Other notable fundraising efforts came from former Roo athletes as they gear up for Legends, 2015 and 2016 reunion classes (particularly our '67 Golden ‘Roos), the TEDxAustinCollege initiative, and a final giving push last week on #Roonation's Social Media! This means so much for the future of Austin College. Your support helps us provide meaningful impacts in the lives of students over the next year, through scholarships, athletics, and expanded learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Alumni giving participation is also an important metric used by College guidebooks, grant committees, and prospective students. Your renewed support means we can seek top students and win funding for cutting edge classroom experiences. Thank you again #Roonation, and look for a more detailed update on our June campaign next month.

Spotlight on ’Roo Accolades

Madison Ross Named SCAC Man of the Year
Madison Ross ’16 has been selected as the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Man of the Year for the 2015-2016 academic year, the league office has announced. This is the highest individual honor given annually by the SCAC.

This marks the first time an Austin College student-athlete has been named the SCAC Man of the Year in the four-year history of the award.

A four-year letter-winner for the Kangaroo football team, Ross was named the SCAC Newcomer of the Year as a freshman and went on to become a two-time First Team All-SCAC selection at running back in 2014 and 2015. Last season he also led the conference in rushing yards and became the first Austin College player to surpass 1,000 rushing yards in a season since 2000.

Ross graduated in December with a grade-point-average of 3.93, and was on the Dean's List every semester during his time at Austin College. This year he was the male recipient of the Charles "Bo" Miller Scholar-Athlete Award, given annually to the top male and female graduating student-athletes with the highest cumulative GPAs, and is a four-time SCAC Academic Honor Roll member.

In addition to his outstanding performances both in the classroom and on the gridiron, Ross has also served as a tutor to children, and provided service to the elderly, as well as boxing gifts for the needy and underprivileged. He has worked as a volunteer at the food bank, and this year he was honored by the SCAC as a Character & Community recipient for his efforts in giving back to the community through volunteer and service work.

David Baker named Minnie Stevens Piper Professor

David Baker, Austin College professor of physics, is one of 10 Minnie Stevens Piper Professors announced this spring in recognition of superior teaching. The award recognizes Texas College and university educators for dedication to the teaching profession and their outstanding academic, scientific, and scholarly achievement.

Austin College's nomination of Baker for the Piper Professorship said that Baker "exemplifies all that we strive to find in faculty. He is committed to student engagement; developing and implementing pedagogies that enhance student learning; mentoring his faculty colleagues; and infusing enthusiasm for learning in the college community."

Baker was recently named a "Global Hero in Education" by Microsoft's Partners in Learning and one of the "Most Creative Teachers in the South" by Oxford American magazine.

Baker's award-winning book The 50 Most Extreme Places in Our Solar System has been published in English, German, Korean, and Japanese. Baker gives numerous "extreme" presentations and book signings, from local elementary schools to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C. He also has appeared on public radio KERA's "Think" program and The Discovery Channel's "The Year the Earth Went Wild."
Nan Davis receives the TACAC Lifetime Membership Award

Nan Davis, Austin College vice president for Institutional Enrollment, received the Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC) Honorary Lifetime Membership Award at the group's annual conference this spring in recognition of "inspired leadership and extraordinary service to students in the college admission process."

Announcing the award, Carol Wasden, past president of TACAC and director of college counseling at The Hockaday School, said that Davis had "accumulated what our profession would recognize as a requisite, sterling resume of professional leadership, service, and excellence." Davis, vice president at Austin College since 1999, has served on a host of national boards, including TACAC (of which she is a founding member) and The College Board.

Happening on Campus

- **Legends Weekend** - Friday, July 8 - Sunday, July 10, 2016
- **TEDxAustinCollege** - September 22, 2016

For more information on news and events of Austin College, follow us on social media.