



# THE CATTLE CALL

Newsletter for Alumni of the  
TCU Ranch Management Program

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**FROM THE PRESIDENT  
CHAD MCCORMICK 2006**

I hope all of you are receiving this wonderful blessing of summer rain. It is such a mysterious thing one summer none and the next we get a system per week. For those in Oklahoma and Kansas, I hope you have gotten the moisture and missed the bad stuff. Our prayers go out to those who were affected by severe weather.

For those of you who attended the summer roping thank you. What a close knit bunch of folks from all over. A BIG thank you from all alumni to Ross Angell for putting on a great event at the Lazy E in Guthrie, OK. I know first hand the work that goes in to putting on one of these events, and Ross did a standout job with the help of his brother Bill and the OK crew.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to promote recruiting. Summer is here and some High School graduates are making big plans on what to do. I am sure a few don't have a clue that there is a program that could jump start their careers in the ranching industry the way RM can.

For those of you who use day help this age, make sure to let them know about the program. These young men and women will be leaders in the industry one day with a little help.

Also let the professors know if you can help out some of the less seasoned of the applicants. Sometimes there are applicants who don't have the hands on experience to be accepted into the program. One young man spent a year with us at Producers before he went through the program. After he graduated, he spent another year with an alum as a ranch hand, and he is now helping run an operation in central Texas where he is the only tie to Ranch Management. I know he is as thankful as I am that the Ranch Management network is so strong and so willing to help out. Now he is a part of that network, and I am sure that he will not hesitate to help out a young person when the time comes.

There are folks out there with "try" that don't always fit the mold. We cannot shuffle them to the side just because they did not grow up on a ranch. Some have a lot to offer our industry.

God Bless,  
Chad McCormick  
325-450-0401  
chad@cargileranches.com



## B U D G E T 1 0 1

Samuel Clemens (alias *Mark Twain*) said, “*Figures don't lie, but liars figure.*” While I’m quick to follow up and say that I am not calling anyone a liar, we all know that the familiar quote means that calculations can scarcely be argued, but the people that might wish to mislead can manipulate their calculations in an effort to support their interest.

With all of that said, this session of “Budget 101” is to briefly clarify the calculation of the percentage of weaned calves produced by a set of cows. We don’t live in a perfect world, so we know that 100% weaned calf crop (%WCC) is not realistic. But the numbers that we plug into our formula may determine the difference between knowing where the cow-calf enterprise is financially, and blindly losing financial equity. The true calculation that you were undoubtedly taught at TCU Ranch Management is the number of weaned calves divided by the number of breeding females that were initially exposed to bulls, as much as 18 months prior to the weaning date.

$$\%WCC = \frac{\text{Number of weaned calves}}{\text{Number of cows exposed}}$$

While the number of weaned calves is fairly concrete as we can tangibly count them in a pen or on a truck, the divisor (cow number) in the equation is a bit foggy. Some formulas might suggest we plug in the number of cows that were diagnosed pregnant, or even the number of cows that successfully gave birth. As a manager, we need reliable information that will give us the exact financial position of the enterprise. By plugging in a smaller number of cows as the divisor, we end up with a higher %WCC. While this makes great coffee shop talk, it is dangerous information upon which to base our bottom line.

Just like a stocker operation must calculate death loss, the %WCC allows managers to spread the input “cow-cost” of non-productive cows over the merchantable calves produced. If our calculation plugs in a smaller cow number, the input costs of the non-productive cows don’t get accounted for.

Of course, one can certainly mention that our cull cow values have been very strong of late, but that should be another line item in the cow budget and another session of Budget 101.



## HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE RANCH MANAGEMENT PROFESSORS?

Starting in the Fall issue, the Ranch Management professors will be answering ranching questions that you may have.

You can submit questions to our e-mail address: [ranching@tcu.edu](mailto:ranching@tcu.edu)

We will select a few of these questions to feature in each new issue of Cattle Call.



**INSTITUTE OF RANCH MANAGEMENT  
PANAMA DELEGATION VISIT TO TEXAS**

Submitted by Jesse Womack, III '02  
Photos by Linda Ryan

The TCU Institute of Ranch Management recently hosted a group of Panamanian cattle producers for a week-long visit here in Texas. The group, members of the National Cattlemen's Association of Panama (ANAGAN), arrived into Houston on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The TCU Ranch Management program professors picked them up from the airport, and we wasted no time in starting a busy week. We immediately drove down to Galveston where the Sullivan family gave us a tour of the marine terminal and the harbor. Monday morning, we began making our way to Victoria, by way of the V-8 and JD Hudgins ranches. Panamanian producers purchase a lot of Brahman genetics from these two renowned producers, so it was a productive day. Tuesday, we toured three ranches in the Victoria area, the Welder, McCan, and Womack ranches, where we discussed cross breeding, forage management, government support, and conservation easements. On Wednesday we made our way to Austin, visiting Graham Land and Cattle on the way north. For many in the group, the operation in Gonzales was the first feedlot they had ever seen. In Austin we met with Mr. Drew Deberry and other in the TDA to speak about trade relations, government involvement in agriculture, and opportunities created by the recent bi-lateral trade agreement for producers in both countries. Thursday, we visited Mr. John Taggart and his grass fed beef operation just south of Ft. Worth. This visit was especially pertinent to the Panamanian group, as their beef is all grass fed and they are currently analyzing alternative marketing avenues in order to increase their net operating incomes. We arrived in Ft. Worth that afternoon, and wrapped up the day with a fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of BRIT, the Botanical Research Institute of Texas. We ended the week long tour at the Ranch Management building for a day discussing this trip, plans for the future, and the curriculum of the Program.

The purpose of this visit was to further our relationship and educational outreach program with ANAGAN and Panama. I believe we accomplished our goal with flying colors. Due to the dedication of the Ranch Management professors, support from alumni, incredible hospitality from our hosts, and the commitment to the Institute from TCU itself, the week was a huge success. Craig Cowden and his wife, Jessica, are planning on going to Panama for a two week long information gathering trip for the Institute's fellowship program. We will then compile all of the production information that they collect and present it in a short course in Panama later this year or early next.

This outreach program, as well as others in Brazil and Ghana, is helping to expand opportunities for alumni of the program, provide professional development for its staff, diversify the applicant pool for the program, and increase visibility of TCU itself. On a macro level, the Institute is dedicated to increasing education and knowledge in sustainable natural resource management in order to help feed a world of 7 billion people and counting.









The graduation ceremony for the Class of 2013 was held on May 9, 2013 in the Ballroom of the Brown Lupton University Union. Family and friends from around the country joined in the celebration. It was a pleasure and honor to work with this group of young people for the past nine months. We want to commend them on their accomplishments and welcome them into the TCU Ranch Management Alumni.

First Row (L to R): Chris Farley; **Kelly Campbell** (Olney, TX); **Jessen Tucker** (Fort Sumner, NM); **Elizabeth Nessler** (Sherman, IL); Dr. Nowell Donovan; Dr. Bonnie Melhart; **Kailey Bullock** (Granbury, TX); **Martha Santos** (Laredo, TX); **Emma Mathis** (Aubrey, TX); Jeff Geider

Second Row (L to R): Kerry Cornelius; Jason Faubion; **Colton Woodward** (Alpine, TX); **Michael Craine** (Fort Worth, TX); **Cole Donelson** (Amarilo, TX); **Shaun Strickland** (Hominy, OK); **David Wynne** (Fort Worth, TX); **Brendon Johnson** (Wamic, OR); **Blake Johnson** (Brownwood, TX); **Brazos Peacock** (Fort Stockton, TX); **Aaron McCarty** (Walburg, TX); **Jeff Davis** (Fort Worth, TX); **Philip Grigsby, Jr.** (Lake Placid, FL); Kevin Johnson

Third Row (L to R): **Albert Morris** (Austin, TX); **Drew Collier** (Homeland, FL); **Evan Myers** (Ingalls, OK), **Chris Gosnell** (Justin, TX); **Tanner Duwe** (Krum, TX); **Jonathan Graber** (Yoakum, TX); **Jordan Gossett** (Fort Worth, TX); **Justin Ratliff** (Likely, CA); **Trey Milhoan** (Eagle, CO); **Chasen Brown** (Findlay, OH); **Ford Edwards** (Fort Worth, TX)



Saddle Winner—Mack Newman '94

## ALUMNI ROPING RESULTS

### Calf Roping

- 1st- Waylon Davis
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- David Mayfield

### Ribbon Roping

- 1<sup>st</sup> Chad McCormick
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Jarosz
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ryan Ediger

### Class Roping

- 1<sup>st</sup> Steven Kirkland/Waylon Davis
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ken Jarosz/Steven Mafrige
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Chad McCormick/Ryan Ediger
- 4<sup>th</sup> David Mayfield/Bob Payne

We would like to thank the sponsors of the 2013 Summer Alumni Roping:

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Craig Buford                      | Protocol Technologies               |
| Missy Bonds                       | Lone Star Ag Credit- Julie Mayfield |
| Wayne Hallett                     | John Lessor                         |
| Tom Schwartz                      | Cargile Cattle Co                   |
| John Phelan                       | Jamie Donnell                       |
| Bayer Animal Health-Lunch         | Angelo Pellets                      |
| Animal Health International-Lunch | Teskey's                            |
| AgriLabs-Lunch                    | Grogan's Farm and Ranch             |
| Hargrove Ranch Insurance          | Merck                               |
| Paul Hicks                        | Angell Ranch Co                     |



For additional roping pictures, check out the website: [ranch.tcu.edu](http://ranch.tcu.edu) or our [Facebook page!](#)



**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Second Annual TCU Ranch Management Alumni Tailgate*

Sponsored by



Saturday, October 12, 2013

TCU Horned Frogs vs. Kansas

To get on the list for tickets, please e-mail Mrs. Pound at [k.l.pound@tcu.edu](mailto:k.l.pound@tcu.edu)

Ticket prices will be approximately \$50 each

**WHO DID WHAT:**

Send NEWS to BOX 297420, Fort Worth, TX 76129 or call it in to 817-257-7145.

Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

**MOVING . . . . .**

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

**JOB CHANGE . . . . .**

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

**WEDDING . . . . .**

Date Married \_\_\_\_\_

Where \_\_\_\_\_

**BIRTH . . . . . Boy, Girl, Twins**

Date Born \_\_\_\_\_

Weighed \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ ozs.

**Hats Off to You!!!**

We are pleased that so many of you take advantage of this form to indicate change of address, marriage, or birth. You are helping us keep up with you and that's what we want to do. It helps your classmates and us. **Thanks!**