

**Silver anniversary**

The Cronkite School celebrates 25 years of excellence.

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**Welcome home**

ASU's English Department welcomes its alumni home with a variety of lectures and events.

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Find out key locations for the 2008 Block Party.

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# ASU<sup>®</sup> Insight

## ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

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November 7, 2008

**Homecoming 2008****Homecoming Block Party and Parade**

ASU's Block Party and Homecoming parade are the premier events at the Tempe campus. The Block Party, the biggest party of the year, will provide food, giveaways and lots of activities for adults and kids on the Old Main Lawn after the parade down University Drive.

The parade and party begin at 11:30 a.m. before the Sun Devils take on the Washington State Cougars at 3:30 p.m. Nov. 15.

The series of events at the Tempe campus include a concert at Gammage, a lantern walk up 'A' Mountain and the Homecoming Gala. For a complete list of Homecoming events on the Tempe campus, visit [www.asu.edu/homecoming](http://www.asu.edu/homecoming).

**Polytechnic 'Homecoming Fest' celebrates ASU's 50th anniversary**

By Chris Lambrakis

Students and the student-led Planning and Activities Board (PAB) are gearing up for the annual Homecoming Fest at the Polytechnic campus from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Student Union on Nov. 13.

"We are putting Homecoming Fest together to get students pumped for the game and have fun," says Derek Upayokin, PAB traditions chair and nutrition major.

At Homecoming Fest, students can get their own game on by climbing a rock wall, enjoying cotton candy and popcorn, practicing their football throw and punting, and playing Xbox 360 with Rockband and Wii Sports. Thanks to local businesses, gift cards and other giveaways will be provided.

After students work up a sweat, they can get something to eat, too, while The Edge radio station deejays for the event.

"We will have free food like hot dogs, burgers, potato salad, fruit bowl and two large cakes in celebration of ASU's 50th anniversary," says Upayokin.

Something a little different to spice up the festival is a demonstration by history students from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences of a mangonel, a medieval siege weapon, which will be flinging pumpkins following Homecoming Fest. The history students collaborated with Polytechnic engineering faculty and students to build the antique catapult. The demonstration's location will be announced at Homecoming Fest.

The Morrison School of Management and Agribusiness students are hosting a few things this year, too. The Pre-Vet Club is holding its annual "Kiss the Pig" contest at Homecoming Fest to raise money for the club, and

students living in the new Morrison House are planning to make a float for the parade.

After a brief hiatus, the ASU Homecoming Office Decorating Contest is returning to Poly. The contest will be judged by a committee made up of students, faculty and staff from the campus on Nov. 14. Those interested in being a judge to help promote the "Maroon and Golden Anniversary" this year can contact Upayokin at (480) 727-1699.

"We know staff and faculty want to show their Sun Devil pride as much as students, so start brainstorming on how to give your department office an 'extreme makeover' that will impress the judges," says Mike Mader, assistant dean of Student Life at the Polytechnic campus. "There will be prizes, but mostly bragging rights are at stake."

On game day, a shuttle service for students, faculty and staff will depart from the Student Union, heading to the Homecoming parade, Block Party and football game in Tempe. The shuttle also will be available to return attendees to the Polytechnic campus after the game. Beverages and snacks will be provided on both bus rides. A sign-up sheet for the shuttle will be at the front desk of the Student Union.

In addition, each of the academic units and PAB from the Polytechnic campus will be entertaining alumni and guests under the Polytechnic tent at the Block Party. There will be giveaways, children's activities and demonstrations of ASU student projects such as the Baja vehicle.

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**What's in a name?**

Arizona State University got its name 50 years ago when Proposition 200 passed in 1958. Advertising was used to help get the vote out for the college in Tempe.



The campaign used many ways to advertise Proposition 200, including bumper stickers.



Army ROTC students prepared to take boxes with petitions from the campus in Tempe to the Arizona State Capitol.



Students went door to door in a grass roots campaign for support.



Crammed into the command center, a rowdy crowd of students reacted as they received word that Proposition 200 had passed.



Grady Gammage, president of the new university, greeted students from the Memorial Union Starlight balcony with the news of the election.

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**Homecoming events abound downtown**

By Marshall Terrill

Beads, pom-poms, banners, balloons, footballs, floats and a sea of maroon and gold will fill out the downtown landscape as students prepare for ASU Homecoming 2008. This year's extravaganza will have special significance as the university prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

"Students, faculty and staff on the ASU Phoenix Downtown campus are looking forward to a week filled with homecoming traditions that reflect ASU pride and spirit," says Cassandra Aska, the Department of Student Engagement director. "These activities build excitement leading itself towards Saturday's homecoming."

Scheduled activities for Home-

coming 2008 week include:

- Hearts of Gold Service Project, 4 p.m., Monday, Nov. 10 at Taylor Place, First and Taylor streets. Students will serve dinner to families from St. Vincent De Paul in the Taylor Place Shade Garden.
- Sparky's Challenge, 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 11 at University Park, 1002 W. Van Buren St. This year's event will feature a kickback event.
- Office Decorating Contest, Wednesday, Nov. 12, all ASU Downtown Phoenix campus buildings. All offices must register by Friday, Nov. 7.
- Night of Gold Homecoming Celebration, Hyatt Regency, 122 N. Second St.
- Float Building Event, 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 14, Cronkite School parking lot.

- ASU Homecoming 2008

Block Party, parade and game, Saturday, Nov. 15, Sun Devil Stadium, Tempe. Join the university-wide festivities on the Tempe campus before the Sun Devils take on the Washington State Cougars.

Throughout the week, ASU will conduct a week-long food drive for St. Vincent De Paul and collect nonperishable items on their behalf. Boxes will be distributed throughout the Downtown Phoenix campus.

To register or RSVP for homecoming activities, e-mail [Traditions@asu.edu](mailto:Traditions@asu.edu) or visit [www.asu.edu/homecoming](http://www.asu.edu/homecoming).

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**West campus marks historic Homecoming with series of events**

By Matt Crum

A talent search, a career fair, dance, carnival and showcase of scholarly activities on campus are among the events planned at the university's West campus as part of the 2008 Homecoming celebration Nov. 10-15. Events are free and open to the public.

"This is an historic Homecoming, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of ASU attaining university status," says Kevin Cook, dean of student affairs at the West campus. "Students, faculty, staff and alumni are looking forward to showing their Sun Devil spirit at Homecoming events, both on our campus throughout the week and during the big celebration on Satur-

day in Tempe."

The schedule of festivities is:

**Monday, Nov. 10**

- Homecoming Academic Expo. West campus faculty, students and staff will present posters and exhibits detailing their research interests and findings. Light refreshments will be served. 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., University Center Building, La Sala ballroom.

- Spirit Night. Food, games, contests, a deejay and plenty of school spirit will be featured during this Homecoming kickoff event from 4 to 6 p.m., Multipurpose Field west of Sands

Building.

- Second Annual Sparky's Star Search. ASU students, faculty, staff and alumni will showcase their talents in music, dance, theater and comedy for the chance to win a \$500 Best Buy gift certificate and numerous other prizes from 6 to 9 p.m. Members of the university community from all campuses are eligible to participate. Contestants will be judged on categories including creativity and audience response. Light refreshments will be served. University Center Building, La Sala ballroom. For more information, visit <http://www.west.asu.edu/ose/sparkys>

(See WEST CAMPUS on page H2)

# West campus marks historic Homecoming with events

(Continued from page H1)

starsearch/.

## Wednesday, Nov. 12

- Devils Decorate West. Teams representing student groups and West campus offices will compete for prizes as they decorate the central campus courtyard area between the University Center Building and Faculty/Administration Building. Light refreshments will be served. Event is from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with judging beginning at 1:30 p.m.

- Sparky's Big Top. The chance to dunk their favorite professors in the dunk tank should persuade West campus students to attend this carnival, which will feature food, entertainment, games, a DJ and a rock climbing wall from 3 to 7 p.m., Multipurpose Field by Sands Building.

- Sun Devils Recruiting Sun Devils. This event, from 5 to 7:30 p.m., is designed to give current ASU students the chance to network with Sun Devil alumni representing diverse professions, and to gather information about a variety of organizations and professions as they plot their career paths. La Sala ballroom. RSVP at [www.west.asu.edu/career/sundeilsvsp/](http://www.west.asu.edu/career/sundeilsvsp/). For more information, call the West campus Career Services office, (602) 543-8124.

## Thursday, Nov. 13

- Homecoming Float Building. During this first day of a two-day process, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., participants will gather in room 320 of the University Center Building to begin construction of the West campus float for the Homecoming parade. The process will conclude outdoors on Friday. The float theme is "Maroon + Gold = Green" in support of sustainability efforts within the ASU community.

- Pep Rally/Point of Pride Celebration/Ice Cream Social. The spirit rally at 1 p.m. aims to get fans charged up for the football game against Washington State. At 3 p.m., the community is invited to witness the installation of a sign recognizing the West campus's recent designation as a Point of Pride by the Phoenix Pride Commission. The honor recognizes landmarks and attractions unique to and located within the city that evoke a sense of pride among area residents. Festivities wrap up with an ice cream social starting at 3:30 p.m. Central campus courtyard area between the University Center Building and Faculty/Administration Building.

- Flag Football Tournament and Barbecue. This third annual co-ed, four-on-four tournament is open to all students, faculty and staff from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Las Casas lawn.

## Friday, Nov. 14

- Homecoming Float Building. Construction of the West campus float moves outdoors to Parking Lot 13, west of the University Center Building. Starts at 9 a.m.

- Devil's Ball Homecoming Dance. A deejay, lights, decorations and food. Semi-formal attire is recommended, although not required. Admission is one clean recyclable item (such as paper, aluminum cans, glass or bottles). Event is from 9 p.m. to midnight, University Center Building, La Sala ballroom.

## Saturday, Nov. 15

- Free Shuttle to Tempe. No need to worry about traffic and parking; a free shuttle will make the trip between the West and Tempe campuses every two hours. The day's activities include the Homecoming parade and Block Party, followed by the showdown with Washington State at Sun Devil Stadium. Shuttle picks up/drops off at Meter Lot 6, west of Fletcher Library on the West campus, at 10:30 a.m. for the football game.

To view a podcast with details about Homecoming at the West campus, visit <http://lib.asu.edu/librarychannel/2008/10/30/homecoming-2008-west-campus-events/>.

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## Homecoming sets stage for battle of bands

By Natasha Karaczan

Bands across campus are gearing up to play in the annual Battle of the Bands competition that is part of Arizona State University's 2008 Homecoming festivities.

This year's competition will take place November 10-14 and will feature around 12 bands playing different genres of music.

"Three bands per day will be competing, which is making this year a little more competitive than in the past," says Andrew Nees, director of the Battle of the Bands competition event.

Students will be judging the competition, but they must bring their ASU identification cards for their vote to count. The votes will be tallied each day, and the winners of each of the four days will compete at the Homecoming Block Party on Nov. 15.

One of the bands vying for the ultimate prize of landing a slot at this year's Tempe Music Festival is Ringleader. Drummer Jeph Harris describes the band's sound as "chill-turnative funk rock."

"We blend a lot of different aspects of the bands we love, and through covers we play we have developed our own sound," says Harris.

Last year's performance was their first live performance ever as a band, and they enjoyed being on stage and connecting with the crowd. And the exposure they received didn't hurt either.

This time, Ringleader is in it to win the chance to take their music to the next level.

"The festival would be huge for us," Harris says. "A lot of people would dig our sound, and it would be a great way to meet people."

Harris says that his band's motto has been about taking it day by day and having fun. The members are not in it for the money, but just for their love of music and being able to share it with the world.

"We passionately love playing music and if something does come of it that would be great," says Harris.

Due to a change in band members they do not have an official CD, but are working on a demo CD that they could hopefully distribute at the Tempe Music Festival.

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## History students issue pumpkin warning

By Ashley Lange

Arizona State University History Peer Mentors have found an explosive way to show their school spirit while bringing history to life.

The undergraduate student group in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will build a replica of a mangonel, a catapult based on Roman designs that was used in Europe during the Middle Ages. Student will use the mangonel to launch pumpkins at a model of Butch the Cougar – ASU's Homecoming opponent from Washington State University.

The world of medieval siege weapons is not new to the History Peer Mentors. At last year's Homecoming, the group built a replica of a trebuchet, another siege weapon from the Middle Ages.

History Peer Mentors is a program that matches history major upperclassmen with incoming history freshmen and sophomores to create a sense of community. They offer help with everything from how to use the library and the Chicago Manual of Style to finding friends in college, says Paul Bergelin, a senior and project manager for the mangonel.

"We want to show that it's OK to be passionate about history," Bergelin says. "It's OK to be a dork. But we also want them to know there's a social side to being a history major."

The catapult is powered by torsion, says Bergelin. Torsion involves the twisting of a large bundle of rope to build up energy that is released when the catapult is fired. This energy can be so overwhelming that it can cause the entire catapult to "buck" its back-end. Because of this, another name for this catapult is onager, named after a type of wild donkey that is infamous for being untamable.

Robin Valencia, president of History Peer Mentors, says the mangonel should be less complicated than their trebuchet from last year. She says they're hoping to have everything built in two weeks time, once they find a build site.

Despite wanting to demonstrate a fascinating remnant from early his-



PHOTO BY ERICA VELASCO

**ASU history students (from left) Paul Bergelin, Bethany Harowitz, Robin Valencia and Natalie Wilcoxon hold a scale model of a mangonel, which they will build and launch during Homecoming Week.**

tory, the group doesn't plan on being totally true to life.

"We get all our materials from Home Depot," Valencia says. "We also use power tools, because we do want to finish on time."

Valencia says that while pumpkins are not exactly historically accurate ammo for the mangonel, she says they use them because "it's more explosive, and people like explosions."

The mangonel will be fired during the Homecoming celebration from 1 to 3 p.m. on Nov. 14 at the Student Recreation Complex (SRC) East Field on ASU's Tempe campus. The event is free and open to the public. More information at (480) 965-8364.

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## Cronkite School turns 25, honors its history at Homecoming

By Julie Newberg

Arizona State University's journalism program has experienced an amazing evolution during the past 25 years.

Technology changed the way that students work from the demise of the typewriter to the advent of video display terminals. Laptop computers, e-mail and the Internet are modern-day tools of the trade.

What hasn't changed are the basic tenants of journalism. As the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication celebrates its 25th anniversary, the school continues to teach professional journalism ethics while expanding its offerings to embrace the multimedia age.

Highlights throughout the years have been many. One of the biggest was naming the school after Walter Cronkite, the CBS news anchor who was an essential member of American's households during the 1960s.

"The landing of the Cronkite name - thanks to Tom Chauncey - in 1983 was, of course, huge," says Doug Anderson, who joined the school in 1979 as a professor and served as director from 1987 to 1999. Chauncey, the owner of the local CBS affiliate, contacted Cronkite and asked him to help the school.

Other milestones included broadcast students earning real-world experience when the school's weekly television newscast called "Southwinds" was launched in 1989. (Today's broadcast students host Cronkite NewsWatch three days a week from the school's new build-

ing downtown.)

Cronkite students also began dominating the William Randolph Hearst Foundation's Journalism Awards Program during the 1990s, elevating the school's reputation and showcasing the best work that budding journalists were turning out. Today's students continue to dominate the Hearst awards.

"That is a great measure of the quality of a journalism program," says Christopher Callahan, current dean of the Cronkite School.

Landing the sixth \$1.5 million Knight Chair from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in the 1990s was another milestone that took Cronkite from a nationally known program to a top school.

"The Cronkite School was among the first 10 journalism programs in the nation to receive the Hearst Foundation's Visiting Professionals Program endowment and was among the first nine to be selected for the Freedom Forum's Professional-in-Residence program," Anderson says. "Another of many highlights was having the privilege of being able to hire so many bright, talented and hard-working professors to make the school far more nationally formidable than anyone would have dreamed possible."

The Cronkite School took another leap forward in 2004 when ASU President Michael Crow announced that the school would become an independent unit and be an integral part of the new Downtown Phoenix campus.

Since arriving at ASU three years ago as dean of the Cronkite School, Callahan has

continued to raise the quality of the school with a new curriculum that emphasizes hands-on, multimedia training, star faculty who bring years of media experience to students, and a state-of-the-art journalism complex in the heart of the city.

The school's new 223,000 square foot, six-story building in the heart of downtown Phoenix offers students the chance to learn in a facility equipped with seven digital media laboratories, seven digital computer labs, five working newsrooms and two TV studios with adjoining digital control rooms for daily newscasts and satellite feeds.

The Cronkite School keeps traditional journalism values at the heart of its core mission - teaching students to write and broadcast objective, comprehensive stories under tight deadlines using digital skills that are increasingly in demand.

"This is one of the best journalism schools in the country today. Over the next three to five years, we'll take the Cronkite School to the top school in the country by focusing on the future and traditional journalism values," says Callahan.

Cronkite alumni in town for Homecoming can join a tour of the new Cronkite School downtown can sign up for a tour at 9 a.m., 3 or 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 14. For more information visit: [www.asu.edu/alumni/groups/08septcronkite.html](http://www.asu.edu/alumni/groups/08septcronkite.html)

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## Barrett commemorates 20 years of excellence in honors education

By Sarah Auffret

Barrett, the Honors College, will celebrate its 20th anniversary during ASU Homecoming this year with a festive event for alumni, current students and faculty, and some of the key people who brought the college into existence.

Former ASU President Lattie Coor, founding Barrett dean Ted Humphrey and current dean Mark Jacobs will speak at a celebration beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 14 in the Center Complex Courtyard. To commemorate 20 years of excellence in honors education, Barrett alumni will be recognized for their scholarly and professional achievements.

A 6 p.m. dinner also will feature a special message from Finland by U.S. Ambassador Barbara Barrett, followed by the traditional "Lantern Walk" up A Mountain.

It was in July of 1988 that the Arizona Board of Re-

gents authorized the creation of the "University Honors College," naming philosophy professor Ted Humphrey as founding dean. A month later the college opened its offices in McClintock Hall, as the first residential honors college in the United States.

Humphrey helped create a college from scratch that would fit within a large public university, offering a rigorous core curriculum, summer study abroad, undergraduate research and wide-ranging internship opportunities.

In 2000 the college received an endowment of \$10 million from Craig and Barbara Barrett, and it was named in their honor the following spring. In the years since its founding, the college has become a force that has shaped the student body, helping ASU enroll 583 National Merit Scholars in last year's student body, up from two dozen in 1991.

The college moved to the Center Complex of Irish, Best and Hayden Halls in 1996, and Jacobs joined the college in 2003 when Humphrey returned to the classroom.

A new nine-acre Barrett complex is scheduled to open for the fall of 2009, as the first four-year residential honors college within a public university in the nation. It will include a sustainable living and learning community, and will feature a dining hall, multi-use classrooms and meeting spaces, a fitness center and an outdoor amphitheater for teaching.

For more information or to RSVP please visit <http://honors.asu.edu>. The Barrett Homecoming festivities continue on Nov. 15, when the college will host a tent at the Block Party.

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## English Department welcomes its alumni home

By Erica Velasco

From art exhibits documenting history to honoring literary giants in costume, the Arizona State University Department of English is bound with spirit this Homecoming. The "Come Home to English" celebration will take place Nov. 10 and Nov. 12 to 15 on the ASU Tempe campus.

The annual Homecoming festivity showcases the artistic talent and spirit of the department with an art gallery, book debut and alumni picnic. This year's ASU Homecoming will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passage of Proposition 200, the ballot initiative that renamed Arizona State College to Arizona State University. All events are free and open to the public.

"Comprised of highly accomplished researchers, faculty members and active community members, the department searches always for new ways to approach thought, expression and to experience language and culture," says Professor Neal Lester, English chair in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Art and Archives Gallery will feature visual arts in a variety of media created by students, faculty members, staff and alumni on Nov. 10 and from Nov. 12-14 in the Language and Literature Building, room 316. The exhibit will include photographs and memorabilia from the department's past.

A "Meet the Artists" reception is set for 3:15 p.m. on Nov. 10 in the gallery. It is hosted by Bradley Ryner and Heather Maring, assistant professors of English at ASU.

Returning alumni include Bill Konigsberg, who received a master of fine arts degree in 2005. Konigsberg will debut his first novel "Out of Pocket" at a reading and book signing at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 10 at the College of Design north auditorium, room 060. His book explores a young man's struggle with coming out in the spotlight of high school sports.

Alumni and faculty members will take part in "(A)Wake for Milton" celebrating the life of John Milton, a 17th century English poet best known for his epic poem "Paradise Lost." The event will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Nov. 12 in the Memorial Union Gold Room and is co-sponsored by the English Club and Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

A panel discussion on the works of Milton opens the event and includes William Gentrup, assistant director of the medieval and renaissance center; Jesse Swan, professor of English at the University of Northern Iowa; Gary Hatch, associate professor of English at Brigham Young University; moderator Robert Bjork, professor of English and director of the medieval and renaissance center; and guest of honor John X. Evans, professor



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

**The Department of English is celebrating the 50th anniversary of the passage of Proposition 200, the ballot initiative that renamed Arizona State College.**

emeritus of English. The "wake" will follow with a eulogy by David Hawkes, ASU professor of English, and readings from Milton's work by students.

The Distinguished Lecture in Medieval Studies will be presented by Alastair Minnis, professor of English at Yale University. His lecture "Medieval Edens: Sex, Death, and Power in Paradise" will be held at 7 p.m. on Nov. 13 in the Memorial Union Pima Room. Co-sponsored by the Department of English and the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow the lecture.

The weeklong celebration is highlighted by the annual Friday night social event, this year themed "Midnight in the Garden." It will include a silent auction, drawing for gift baskets, music and dancing, literary character costume contest, and readings by winners of the Randel and Susan McCraw Helms Homecoming Writing Contest. The party will take place from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on Nov. 14 at the ASU University Club.

Capping the festivities is the Homecoming Block Party and picnic Nov. 15 at the Virginia G. Piper Writers House. Activities include alumni readings, a giant crossword puzzle created by Regents' Professor of English Alberto Ríos, and story time for children ages 3 to 8 led by English professor Alleen Nilsen and ASU students.

More information is at [www.asu.edu/clas/english/homecoming](http://www.asu.edu/clas/english/homecoming).

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## Glassblowers heat up university's Block Party

By Jenny Green

Glass is so common and essential to our daily lives that most people take it for granted until they see a glassblower in action, and then they are perplexed by the glassblowing itself.

What is scientific glassblowing? It is the process of making glass forms – sometimes, highly complicated forms – by heating glass pieces until soft and then shaping them, often by pressure from the inside ("blowing") and joining them.

The glassblower uses a plastic tube to blow into the glass piece being formed so that it expands where it is softest, and then cooling it until it can hold its shape. The glass is then annealed (heated to a temperature high enough to let strains go away and low enough that it can't flow any longer), and then allowed to cool slowly to room temperature.

Artistic glassblowers are often shaping solid glass objects (not "blowing" them), but rather using amazing powers of observation and manual dexterity to catch and shape forms in time as well as in space.

Many famous experiments that have changed our world understanding would not have been possible without the aid of scientific glassblowers and the apparatus they have created. Some prominent examples include Thomson's discovery of the electron, Faraday's work on electricity



ASU PHOTO

**Christine Roeger, a scientific glassware designer, is one of six women in the country working in a university setting.**

and Newton's splitting of white light into its component colors with a prism.

In ASU's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are two adept female glassblowers. Christine Roeger, a scientific glassware designer and supervisor of the glassblowing facility, and Janice Kyle, a scientific glassware designer, are two of six women working as scientific glassblowers in a university setting in the country.

Roeger is a third-generation glassblower. Her father Mike Wheeler worked in the department for 30 years sharing his artistry, knowledge, commitment and generosity with the ASU community. His father Joe Wheeler was a

glassblower in university laboratories for nearly 60 years. Roeger and Kyle learned scientific glassblowing from Mike Wheeler.

"Glassblowing has always been a significant part of my life," says Roeger. "It is a very rewarding, fun career and I cannot imagine my life without it."

Kyle and Roeger not only expertly make sophisticated glassware for faculty and students all over campus, but they also teach a class mainly for chemistry and engineering graduate students to help them with their research. They also participate in several well-received outreach activities during the school year.

"Another highlight of my profession here are the outreach programs in which Christi and I actively participate," says Kyle. "Allowing the public to visualize and further comprehend the vital role that glass plays in everyday research throughout the university and throughout the world is personally satisfying."

On occasion, high school students come to the campus facility to watch demonstrations and learn how to make scientific equipment, such as a barometer in the shape of a swan.

Kyle and Roeger will be at the Nov. 15 Homecoming Block Party.

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## Snakes alive!

While winding down Homecoming's memory lane be sure to include a visit to a certain hallway in Life Sciences A-wing – the one that houses the "Living Collection."

"Living" is not the only feature that distinguishes this reptilian collection from other natural history exhibits that are normally pickled, dried or stuffed. The reptiles are also special because they are all of known origin, making them valuable for education, outreach and study. The 18 species of rattlesnakes along the north wall cover all of the species and subspecies found in Arizona.

Interestingly, no one seems to know exactly how long the collection has been in place, though most believe its origins extend from the 1960s when the School of Life Sciences was the Department of Zoology. At that time Herbert Stahnke headed the department, and the treatment of bites from scorpions, rattlesnakes and Gila monsters generated enormous interest and anti-venin.

Venomous animals were the *Stahnke forte*. His expertise was such that he was once featured on the television show, "What's My Line?" An anti-venin for scorpion stings was still being manufactured in the Life Sciences building into the 1990s. To see a relict of those days one only has to look up at the façade on the right side of the main entrance to the A wing at 451 E. Tyler, better known as Palm Walk, where an art deco motif contains a scorpion.

Today, the creatures on exhibit serve both educational and scientific functions by helping to develop an appreciation of the diversity of the venomous reptiles that exist throughout Arizona. The Living Collection has become one of the favored stops on the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences "Points of Pride" tour, and part of the Barrett Honors College program for middle school students last July. Their favorite: the albino.

Western diamondback rattlesnakes, *Crotalus atrox* are the most common venomous species in the state. However, true albinos are very rare, with uniformly pale scales, pink eyes and only a hint of orange scale patterning near its rattle-adorned tail.

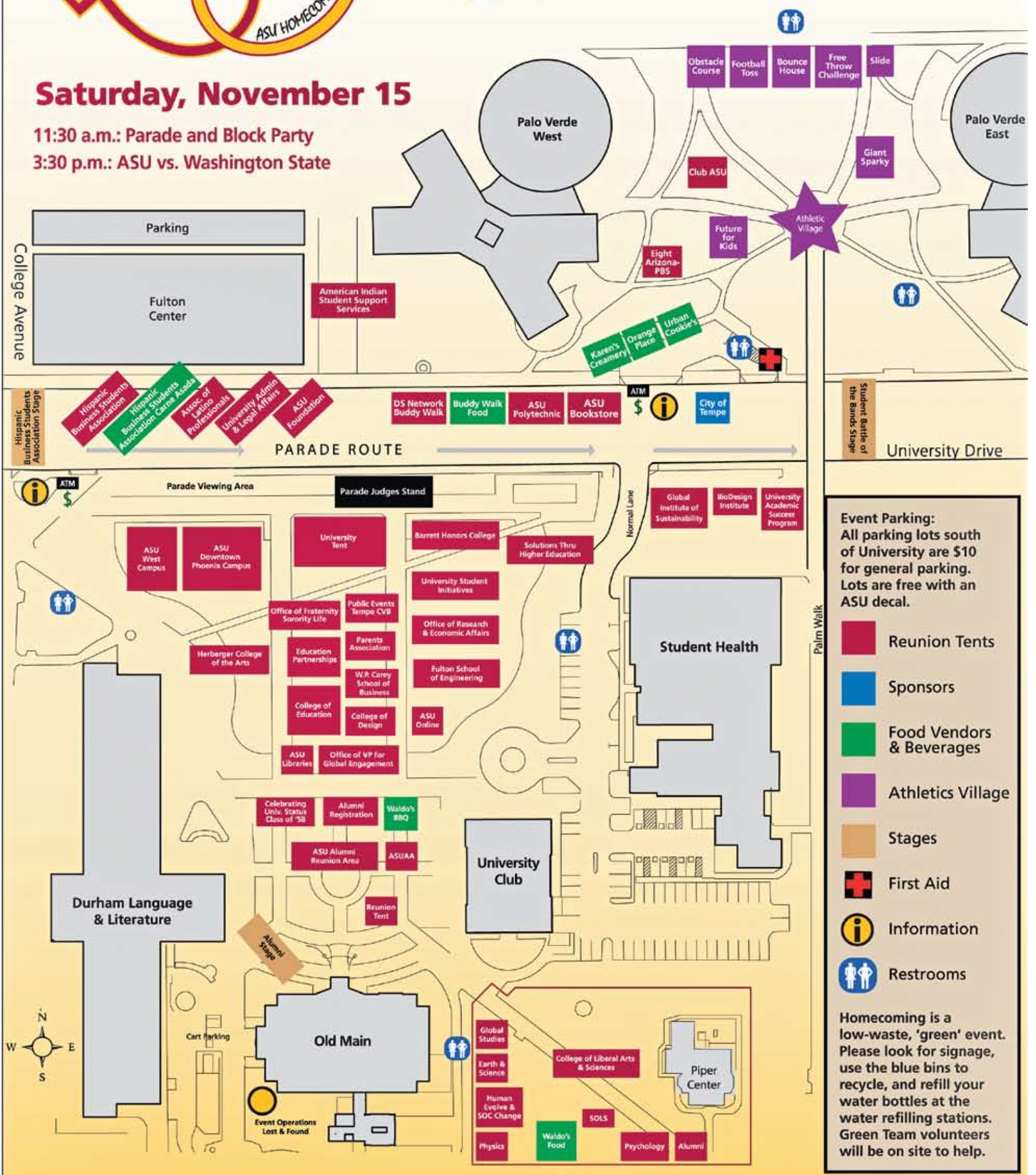
Come see (and touch!) some of ASU's oldest and scaliest friends at the School of Life Sciences booth during Homecoming, and reconnect and discover the latest in alternative fuels, biomedical discovery and science education outreach. Remember what created that spark, the one that jumpstarted your future, sneaking up on you like a sidewinder on a daily basis in that hallway back in the day.



# BLOCK PARTY

**Saturday, November 15**

11:30 a.m.: Parade and Block Party  
3:30 p.m.: ASU vs. Washington State



**Event Parking:**  
All parking lots south of University are \$10 for general parking. Lots are free with an ASU decal.

- Reunion Tents
- Sponsors
- Food Vendors & Beverages
- Athletics Village
- Stages
- + First Aid
- i Information
- ♂ ♀ Restrooms

Homecoming is a low-waste, 'green' event. Please look for signage, use the blue bins to recycle, and refill your water bottles at the water refilling stations. Green Team volunteers will be on site to help.

[www.asu.edu/homecoming](http://www.asu.edu/homecoming)

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