



PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING Program students, faculty and families demonstrated their commitment to charitable giving by organizing a team of 38 runners and walkers for the Komen Race for the Cure on Oct. 1 in Lubbock. Team member Aldo Castaneda placed 2nd overall out of more than 9,000 participants. This year was the third the team participated, and they raised \$2,300. They ranked as the 14th highest fundraising team for the race. This annual tradition will continue to be sponsored by the Personal Financial Planning Association.

FOUR STUDENTS FROM the Atmospheric Science Group (Department of Geosciences) and the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center attended in the annual Hispanic Engineering, Science and Technology (HESTEC) Week in Edinburg, Texas. Participating were **JENNIFER DANIEL**, **SCOTT GUNTER** and **NATALIE GUSACK** of the Atmospheric Science Group, and **RICHARD KRUPAR III** of the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center. Over the course of four days last fall, these students represented the University in the "Middle School Challenge" where approximately 1000 grade-schoolers had the ability to see demonstrations of cutting-edge atmospheric observation technology developed at Texas Tech.

GEOSCIENCES DOCTORAL STUDENT **JEREMY DEANS** participated as a shipboard scientist on the "Super Fast" Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) Expedition 335 to the East Pacific Rise, equatorial Pacific Ocean. This expedition was carried out during April-June 2011 to drill 15 million year old oceanic crust formed along the East Pacific Rise. The scientific objectives were to penetrate through the upper oceanic crust and into the lower crust, where igneous rocks crystallized from a subvolcanic magma chamber beneath the divergent plate boundary. Along with over 20 other scientists from around the world, Deans participated in describing and analyzing the core that was extracted from the oceanic crust. He will work on these samples as part of his doctoral thesis.

FOR THE SECOND straight year, a Texas Tech University School of Law negotiation team has earned a second-place finish at the Entertainment Law Negotiation Competition, hosted by Southwestern Law School in October in Los Angeles, Calif. The team of second-year (2L) students **THOMASON BUSH** and **MISCHEKA NICHOLSON**, coached by professors Nancy Soonpaa and Wendy Humphrey, placed second among the 24 teams in the 2011 competition.

TEXAS TECH'S LIVESTOCK judging team won first place at the Tulsa State Fair and the State Fair of Texas, both in October. At the Tulsa State Fair, **KODY LUCHERK** won high individual honors. **JORDAN CLEM** placed second second place individual finish. At the State Fair of Texas, the team had eight of the top ten individuals. Clem won the tiebreaker with **CLAYTON GARDNER** for first place honors, while **BRADY RAGLAND** placed third.

**MATT HARDMAN**, a student in Spring 2011 ENGL 5383, Grants and Proposals, won \$10,000 for a nonprofit grant he wrote for a class assignment. The proposal asked for support for the Vesper Concert Series at First United Methodist Church of Lubbock. The **CH** Foundation has awarded FUMC \$10,000 as partial underwriting of the visit of the Vienna Boys Choir to Lubbock. FUMC gives these concerts to the community for free.

Other team members are **CLAY BURSON**, **BRANDI CAPPS**, **TANNER KIESCHNICK**, **KATIE ROSE MCCULLOUGH**, **MARKUS MILLER**, **CLAY MORRISON**, **NATHAN POND**, **LOGAN PRITCHETT**, **NATHAN REEVES**, **JOEL RIEDEL** and **LONI WOOLLEY**.

**RICHIE ERICKSON**, an EPA STAR Graduate Fellow and a doctoral student in the Department of Environmental Toxicology at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH), was selected to present his research poster, "Quantifying the impacts of toxicants on ecological communities," at a reception in the Rayburn Building on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., in September.

IN NOVEMBER, THE National Parliamentary Debate Association ranked Texas Tech the top debate school in the nation. The team of **JOEY DONAGHY** and **ADAM TESTERMAN** won 10 straight debates without a loss at Lewis and Clark College, defeating the top team from Oregon in the final round to claim the title. They became only the second non-Northwest team in the last ten years to win the Lewis and Clark championship. The two also won the Al Johnson Invitational at The Colorado College. They won 11 debates and lost only one at the invitational. Donaghy and Testerman won three out of the four tournaments they competed at this year, something no other team in the country accomplished. 