

Dodge City Community College Foundation
Dodge City, Kansas
For Release on May 1, 2018
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PRESS RELEASE

Dodge City Community College Foundation Receives Generous Donation for Student Activities Center

Dodge City Community College Foundation announced today that they have received a generous donation for the Dodge City Community College Student Activities Center from the Harshberger Family.

Lifetime residents of Ford County, the Harshberger Family is a three generation family here at Dodge City Community College. George Harshberger, his son, and grandson have all attended DC3 and were all active members of our sports community at the college.

"As we go through life, we reflect on our lives and it is clear to see the areas in which we have been truly blessed," said the family. "Dodge City Community College has played a very important role in our family and in who we are today. It is truly an honor to be able to show our appreciation for what the college has meant for us."

"When the Foundation was looking for donors to name our Activities Center entryway after," reflected Foundation Director, Christina Haselhorst, "we were certain that we wanted the honorees to be alumni of DC3. I have known the family for several years and knew they had a strong legacy with the college. The Harshberger Family has had three generations attend DC3 as students and all three generations not only participated in Conquistador football, but helped their teams earn conference championships as well. It just made sense to showcase such a dedicated family that returns to DC3 generation after generation. Because of their generous donation, the front entryway of the Activities Center has been completed with sturdy, long-lasting flooring, better lighting, and, in the very near future, a wall mural to honor our students, faculty, Hall of Fame honorees, and campus history, both past and present."

George Harshberger lettered in both basketball and football for the Conquistadors in the late 1950s and helped them achieve their first conference title in football in 1958. After graduating DC3 with honors he accepted a football scholarship to Wichita State University and went on to graduate with honors in 1960 with a mathematics degree. George was also drafted by the Pittsburg Steelers and the Denver Broncos during this time however, he opted to stay in college at WSU to finish his degree. George was a highly respected Math-Science professor at Dodge City Community College for twelve years, beginning in 1962. He was proud to play an important role in developing a part of the current campus as head of the Math-Science Department at DC3 before leaving teaching to work the family farm full time.

George's son, Gary, was a member of the 1982 & 1983 football squads. He would be a member of the first Conquistador team to make it to a bowl game and win the second conference football championship in school history. After graduating from DC3, Gary went on to play football at Kansas State University, graduating with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1987. Gary now operates Double H Farms, Harshberger Enterprises, and Harshberger Land. He serves on many boards including the Kansas Water Authority, Dodge City Community College Board of Trustees, Conestoga Energy Partners, and American Ag Credit.

George Harshberger's grandson, Jacob, a Dodge City High School graduate, attended DC3 as well and was a member of the 2014 & 2015 Conquistador football squads, where he earned honorable mention All-Jayhawk Conference honors and helped the Conquistadors earn their third conference championship. Jacob transferred to Kansas State University to play football for the Wildcats, and is working towards a Bachelor's degree in Business Finance.

In an interview with Jacob in 2015, here is what he had to say about being a Conquistador and about his family legacy. "My grandfather was here, my father was here, and so it's cool for me to come here and be a third generation Conquistador," Jacob said. "Hopefully, I can continue my path as well as they did. They led successful lives after being here so I'm hoping to continue that."

"Though football played a large part in all three Harshberger's early lives, obtaining an education was even more important," said Haselhorst. "I am grateful for the generosity of their family and for their willingness to invest in the future of the DC3 Foundation,

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especially because all three generations have invested so much of themselves in Dodge City Community College. The Foundation is looking forward to a long relationship with the entire family." She added, "I've said it before and I'll say it again: We are forever grateful to all of our donors and our future is bright when generous people such as these step forward to help the Foundation help our DC3 students succeed. The Harshberger Family is solid example of giving back to their community both through the Foundation and through other community avenues and we cannot thank them enough."

Haselhorst commented, "There are many, many options to explore to help grow Dodge City Community College and the Foundation. The 8th Annual DC3 Foundation Golf Classic will be on August 17, 2018 at Mariah Hills Golf Course. And the DC3 Foundation Auction will be held on November 2, 2018 at the Dodge City Community College Student Activities Center. Don't forget to please remember the DC3 Foundation in your will and trusts as well."

"The Foundation's sole purpose is to support DC3 through donations for scholarships, programs, and projects. We are looking for those heroes who have the passion and dedication to continue the Conquistador Legacy for years to come," concluded Haselhorst.

To be somebody's hero and become part of the DC3 Foundation Family, donate to the Foundation at www.dc3.edu/foundation-alumni/ via PayPal. Alumni updates and sign up for the DC3 Foundation newsletter is on the website as well. Follow the Foundation on Facebook (@DC3Foundation), Twitter (@DC3_Foundation), and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/dodge-city-community-college-foundation>). Want more information? Please contact Christina Haselhorst at the DC3 Foundation office at foundation@dc3.edu or 620-225-9541.