Tom Cantrell, who has been Superintendent of Schools in Anadarko Public Schools in Anadarko, Oklahoma, for the past 15 years, is also an NMJC graduate who enjoys the distinction of having been part of the college’s first-ever national championship team. According to his former track coach and long-time friend, Ross Black, Tom anchored the mile relay team (now the 1600-meter relay) and played a critical role in that memorable championship in 1971. But Black remembers Tom for much more. “Tom stood out for more than just his athletic abilities and talents, considerable though those were. Just to be able to try out for the U.S. Olympic Trials like he did, for instance, you have to have a high level of proficiency. But Tom was more than just that. His attitude, his morals, and his dedication were equally impressive. Even as a young man, he was a great leader. To this day, he’s modest—and such a gentleman. Tom Cantrell has always been a quiet leader by example.”

Education: New Mexico Junior College—Associate in Arts Degree; University of Oklahoma—Bachelor of Science in Education Degree; University of Oklahoma—Master of Science Degree

Honors: NMJC Letterman, NMJC All-American, NMJC Track Captain, NMJC Outstanding Trackman; Oklahoma University Letterman, “O” Club member (service organization for Oklahoma University Letterman), United States Track & Field Federation All-Stars, U.S. Olympic Trials; Anadarko Optimist of the Year

When I came to New Mexico Junior College from high school in 1969, I was not the strongest student or athlete. Through the direction of Coach Ross Black, my academics improved as well as my performance athletically. Our track team won the first national championship for the junior college and went undefeated for two years. Coach Black influenced my desire to become an educator and coach. In 1980 I fulfilled my dream by coming back to New Mexico Junior College as an instructor and head track coach. Three of my four children were born in Lea General Hospital, and I made many friends during my seven and half years.

Now that I’m a year from retirement, I look back at the wonderful experience I had at New Mexico Junior College and the people who influenced my life. I could not have asked for a more positive experience or a better start to my college education.

Thank you, New Mexico Junior College. — Tom Cantrell
When Phillip Roybal, NMJC's Program Manager for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, received a call last year from “an inquisitive student” in Florida about enrolling in the college's nuclear energy technology program, he never imagined where that one phone conversation might lead.

It wasn’t until the end of the semester that Roybal discovered that the “student” was actually Dr. Michael Platt, a Human Performance Engineer with Lockheed Martin Global Training and Logistics and former Air Force Special Operations agent, whose considerable background in nuclear energy training had ultimately led him to NMJC.

Applying as “just an ordinary online student,” the Department-of-Defense-trained Platt was actually on a fact-finding mission to determine if there was a two-year college that could meet his and Lockheed Martin’s specific criteria for bringing training expertise to the civilian nuclear workforce. With over 50% of the civilian nuclear workforce nearing retirement age, Lockheed is aggressively seeking ways to bridge the gap between academia and real world needs in the nuclear industry. According to Platt, replacing the workforce in an industry where safety is paramount was a challenge that Lockheed Martin was actively seeking to meet—but only with the right players. It had been determined that Thomas Edison State College in Trenton, New Jersey, would be the ideal bachelor-level provider, but the immediate concern was finding a quality, affordable two-year program that could provide the “fundamentals” of online nuclear energy training.

“I discovered a number of schools across the nation that offer nuclear training,” he said, “but only three ultimately met the criteria we were looking for, such as curriculum, location and program history, and a specific area of specialty in nuclear education.” While Platt was unfamiliar with NMJC, he knew New Mexico very well due to the fact that Lockheed Martin currently operates Sandia Lab on behalf of the Department of Energy. Pretending to be a typical, interested student, he placed a call to Phillip Roybal, the contact person listed on the website, and enrolled in two online nuclear energy courses—all while carefully omitting his credentials and affiliation with Lockheed Martin.

Upon completion of the courses at the end of the semester, Platt made his final determination, which was based on a number of factors. He considered the ease with which an online student could enroll, reflected on the friendliness and professionalism of the personnel at NMJC, and then made an assessment of the entire experience from beginning to end based on a student's perspective. He also took into consideration the fact that NMJC’s program used Department of Energy source materials, which was certainly “a big plus.” Most importantly, though, when Platt went through the course as a student, he was struck with the genuine concern of NMJC’s staff—and especially the academic instructor—for the performance of their students after graduation. “In the NMJC program, students are learning the necessary fundamentals to set them apart from others in the industry,” he said. That was a vital ingredient to the success of the collaboration that Lockheed Martin sought. “With every conversation,” he said, “it just became more and more obvious that New Mexico Junior College was part of the solution.”

Acting on Platt's recommendation, Lockheed, NMJC, and Thomas Edison State College began a series of discussions and visits which recently led to the two schools entering into a formal agreement that allows NMJC students with associate degrees in energy technology to transfer to TESC with all credits accepted toward a bachelor or master degree in energy technology.

“Lockheed will also provide technology and expertise to NMJC and TESC that otherwise might not be available to the schools, such as 3-D virtual learning environments. Roybal said Lockheed could, for instance, build a 3-D simulation of a control room in a uranium enrichment plant for students to learn in, although there are numerous possibilities.

“We try to work with academic institutions . . . who have great educational programs in place,” Platt said. “I can easily see where graduates from the New Mexico Junior College nuclear program would be in a much better standing in the nuclear industry than someone who has not. At a technician level, they would be going to the head of the line.”
Registration is continuing for Summer Session II and Fall classes.

Hundreds of courses are available in general studies topics such as accounting, biology, chemistry, communication, computer science, education, English, foreign languages, history, math, physics, psychology, and sociology.

The majority of NMJC credit courses are fully transferable to four-year colleges and universities. Additionally, NMJC offers an array of career and technology programs in automotive technology, business, CDL program, cosmetology / barbering, criminal justice, early childhood education, energy technology, industrial technology, legal secretary, nursing, paralegal, and welding.

Summer Session II classes will run:
• July 5 - Aug 4: second 5-week session
• July 25 - Aug 12: 3-week AugustMester session

Fall classes will run:
• Aug 22 - Oct 13: first 8-week session
• Aug 22 - Dec 9: full-term 16-week session
• Oct 17 - Dec 9: second 8-week session
• Dec 8 - Jan 6: 4-week Winter break session

Register online through the T-BirdWeb Portal at www.nmjc.edu or in person at the Ben Alexander Student Learning Center on campus at 5317 Lovington Highway in Hobbs. Academic advisors are available to help with degree plans. For more information, call (575) 392-4510.

Pre-register now for Summer Session II through June 30th. Classes will begin July 5th. Fall semester is also right around the corner, so don’t forget to register and complete your FASFA by June 30th!

Know Someone Who Wants to Get a GED?

If you didn’t complete high school, if you’re at least 16 years old, and if you’re a New Mexico resident, then you should know that you can test at NMJC for your General Education Diploma, better known as GED. The GED costs $40 for the battery of five tests, and NMJC offers testing throughout the year. To find out more about getting your GED, contact GED Chief Examiner Jerry Hamm at (575) 492-2592 or jhamm@nmjc.edu, or come by the Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, room 147.

New Mexico Junior College has implemented a new enrollment process. Students who enroll for summer and/or fall classes will have 48 hours to pay their bill or set up a payment plan. Registration is now underway.

For your convenience, NMJC offers several payment options:
• In person by check, money order, cash or credit card (American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa) at the cashier’s window, Ben Alexander Student Learning Center. Hours 8 AM – 5 PM Monday – Friday.
• Pay by phone with credit card. Call (575) 392-5207.
• FACTS automatic payment plan. There is a non-refundable enrollment fee of $25 to use the monthly payment plan each semester unless students have pending financial aid. There is no interest. Tuition, fees, textbooks, and room and board may be applied to the plan. This service is available at nmjc.edu.

For information, contact Selma Granado at (575) 492-4707 or sgranado@nmjc.edu
Thank you Sponsors & Players for making our golf tournament a success.

NMJC Foundation Golf Tournament by Tina Kunko, Accountant / Controller New Mexico Junior College Foundation

The Foundation Golf Committee, comprised of David Shaw, chair, Ray Betzen, J.R. Black, Margo Garcia, Joseph Inman, Debra Hicks, David Pyeatt, Betty Rickman, Joyce Tolsma, Steve McCleery, Kim Latimer and Tina Kunko, worked hard to ensure the success of this year’s tournament. The primary focus of the committee was to provide direction for the event, solicit sponsorships in support of the event and recruit players to participate in the event. The success of this annual fundraiser would not have been possible without the generosity of the tournament’s one hundred sponsors and participation of sixty golfers who played during the tournament hosted June 4th and 5th. The Foundation Golf Committee wishes to thank the many donors and golfers who helped the Foundation achieve its goal of raising funds in support of scholarships for NMJC students and financial assistance for NMJC programs.

Summer II classes
- July 5 - Aug. 4: Second five-week session
- July 25 - Aug. 12: Three-week AugustMester session

Fall classes
- Aug. 22 - Oct. 13: First eight-week session
- Aug. 22 - Dec. 9: Full term sixteen-week session
- Oct. 17 - Dec. 9: Second eight-week session
- Dec. 8 - Jan. 6: Four-week Winter break session

Register online through the T-BirdWeb Portal at www.nmjc.edu, in person, or by calling (575) 492-2577.
New Mexico Junior College does not discriminate in its educational and employment policies and procedures with regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status.
When most people think of a community college, they usually think of a two-year school that offers associate degrees, certificates, and career or vocational training. They would be very surprised to learn that NMJC, as a comprehensive community college, offers a number of other programs and services as well.

The following services at NMJC are available to the community, some of which are free of charge.

**Adult Basic Education (ABE)** provides basic literacy, English as a Second Language, General Education Degree, and citizenship classes for the community. For more information, call 492-2629.

**The ACT Academy** provides career-training options for high school students in law enforcement, cosmetology, nursing assistant, First Responder/EMT, automotive, welding, and Renewable Energy. Students can earn credit for both high school and college at the same time—free of cost. For more information, call 492-2860.

**CDL Training / Transportation** is designed to help individuals earn their Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) in only three weeks. In addition to safety-oriented, behind-the-wheel training, students are also prepared for the written test. This program also offers Driver’s Education, Defensive Driving, and DWI court-ordered courses. For more information, call 392-5544.

**Continuing Education** provides fun, flexible, short-term classes for personal enrichment and enjoyment. These include such topics as dancing, personal finance, childbirth, exercise, and healthy cooking, to name just a few. For more information, call 492-4707.

**Cosmetology** has two programs that are focused solely on helping others. The **Locks of Love** program helps disadvantaged children suffering from medical hair loss. The **Look Good, Feel Better** program is designed to help women with cancer by teaching beauty techniques to help manage the appearance-related changes caused by treatment. For more information about either program, call 492-2580.

**The Counseling Office** provides one-on-one career planning assistance, followed by course and program selection that will help individuals meet their educational goals. Counseling also provides Special Needs services. For more information, call 492-2577.

**Customized / Workforce Training** is designed to offer online or on-site career training, professional development, or the unique flexibility of customized training in a variety of industries. For more information, call 492-4712.

**Del Norte Fitness Center**, located at 1503 W. Calle Sur, has long provided a variety of health and fitness options for the community, including swimming, racquetball, workout classes, free weights, exercise equipment, sauna, spa, and other options. For more information, call 392-6476.

**Facility Scheduling** allows community members to rent a wide range of rooms and locations on campus for their events, whether it’s a multi-purpose room for a shower or party, a conference room, a computer lab, or even a state-of-the-art Smart Classroom. There’s even catering for events located here on campus. For more information, call 492-4717.

**The Financial Aid Office**, located in the Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, provides assistance with loans, grants, work-study programs, and scholarships to help individuals meet their educational goals. For more information, call 492-2562.

**The GED program** is designed to provide the necessary support for community members who want to earn their high school equivalency diploma. For more information, call 492-2592.

**Pannell Library**, newly renovated last year, offers the community and college a variety of resources that meet educational, informational, and entertainment needs, including books, magazines, DVDs, government and legal information, and e-resources. For more information, call 492-2872.

**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**

The New Mexico Junior College campus will be closed on Monday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Enjoy a fun and safe holiday.
SUMMER & FALL REGISTRATION IN PROGRESS
www.nmjc.edu • (575) 492-2577

JULY 4 (CAMPUS CLOSED)

SUMMER SESSION II
July 5 - August 4

AUGUSTMESTER
July 25 - August 12

LEA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO-HALL OF FAME BOOTH
August 5-13 • 100 years Ranches exhibit
Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Stacy Allen, (575) 492-2675, sallen@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

FALL SEMESTER & FIRST 8-WEEK SESSION
August 22 - December 9

LECHUGUILLA CAVE EXHIBIT
September 1 - October 9
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

LABOR DAY (CAMPUS CLOSED)
September 5

CONSTITUTION DAY
September 15

STAKED PLAINS ROUNDUP
September 15, 16 @ 9 am - 3 pm • Chuckwagon Meal $12, 11 am - 1 pm
Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Stacy Allen, (575) 492-2675, sallen@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT
October 8
Del Norte Fitness Center
Contact: Linda Hall, (575) 392-6476, lhall@nmjc.edu

FIRST 8-WEEK SESSION ENDS
October 13

COPPER CANYON & THE TARAHUMARA INDIANS EXHIBIT
October 13 - November 22
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

CUT-A-THON
October 15
Cosmetology Department
Contact: Maria Vick, (575) 492-2850, mvick@nmjc.edu

SECOND 8-WEEK SESSION BEGINS
October 17

DISCOVERY DAY FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
October 21

MORAN LECTURE SERIES
November 3

NJCAA CROSS COUNTRY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
November 12
Contact: Don Worth, (575) 492-2741, dworth@nmjc.edu

PTK INDUCTION
November 15, 7 pm
Watson Hall, Room 102
Contact: Maria Vick, (575) 492-2850, mvick@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

ANNUAL BRONZE COWBOY BANQUET
November 17
Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Stacy Allen, (575) 492-2675, sallen@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY (CAMPUS CLOSED)
November 23-25

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD
December 1, 7 pm
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

LEA COUNTY FOSTER KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY (PTK)
December 5 @ 7 pm
Lea County Event Center
Contact: Maria Vick, (575) 492-2850, mvick@nmjc.edu

WINTER BREAK TERM BEGINS
December 8

FALL SEMESTER & SECOND 8-WEEK SESSION ENDS
December 9

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY (CAMPUS CLOSED)
December 22 - January 4
WINTER BREAK TERM ENDS
January 6

EYES ON EARTH
February 1
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu
westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

JUNE & JULY
Foreign Film Festival - Tuesday nights at 6:30
Travel Films - Sundays afternoons at 2:00
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame

Media Breakfast, April 28, 2011