

# LANDMEN IN ACTION

## First 'Sara Williams Memorial Scholarship' Awarded

The inaugural Sara Williams Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Lauren Edwards of the University of Oklahoma.

"Sara Williams, the namesake for this award and scholarship, was a daughter, a mother, a sister, a best friend, an athlete, a colleague, an Oklahoman and a landman. As a landman is how most people came to meet and know her, but it was the other titles that made us love her," the Sara Williams Memorial Scholarship Committee said in a statement. "Her beauty and winning smile were the first attributes that most people noticed, but after getting to know Sara, her inner beauty was what shined the brightest."

Edwards was chosen as the scholarship's first recipient because her stamina and drive reminded committee members of Williams. "The decision was difficult, but after agonizing over the final list, one special person appeared to have captured the fighting spirit of Sara," the committee reported.

The idea for the Sara Williams Memorial Scholarship came from a January 2008 AAPL NAPE lunch meeting when 12 female landmen were exploring ideas on how to honor Williams' memory and celebrate her life. They decided to raise money for an endowed scholarship at the University of Oklahoma, with the intended recipient to be a female energy management student. The first three donations totaling \$2,225 were received on Feb. 20, 2008, and more than \$54,000 had been raised by NAPE 2009. A Dallas landman who never met Williams was so inspired by her story, that he completed an Ironman Triathlon to help raise funds.



Pictured from left to right: Lauren Edwards and Sara Williams' sisters Cathy Wedman and Jaimie Pivnisk.

Williams passed away in October 2007 after a courageous battle with leukemia. She was 51. "Sara had grit and fought every minute of every day to live," the committee said. "This award and scholarship is about overcoming obstacles, Sara's spirit of life and helping the next generation of female landmen."

Though Williams was an Oklahoma State University graduate, committee members said she would approve of a scholarship in her memory at the alma mater of her daughter and friend Meredith — her "pride and joy."



Patrick Waddle, 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason, with Benjamin Joseph Taylor, scholarship recipient, and Sabco Oil and Gas representative, Roger Motley, RPL

## Scottish Rite Scholar

On behalf of Sabco Oil and Gas Corp., Roger Motley, RPL, presented a scholarship to Benjamin Joseph Taylor of Kennedale, Texas, at the June 6 Fort Worth Scottish Rite Grand Banquet. Taylor will attend Texas Christian University in Fort Worth this fall.

The Scottish Rite Foundation's commitment to student education grew from a promise to provide tuition assistance to students for the Masonic Home and School of Texas. Over the years, that commitment has evolved to become a significant effort now awarding upwards of \$50,000 in scholarships each year to merit students throughout North Texas' 35-county area with more than \$1 million since 1976. To date, the foundation has touched the lives of hundreds of people who are able to explore, discover and better understand the world and their place in it, thanks to the assistance they received as students.

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## DAPL Awards Scholarships

After receiving more than 60 applications from universities with AAPL-approved PLM/EM/EC programs, the Dallas Association of Petroleum Landmen announced six 2009-2010 DAPL Scholarship Award recipients — two each from Texas Tech University, the University of Oklahoma and the University of Tulsa.



Eric Barnett of Texas Tech University decided on an energy commerce major after talking to his college counselor and a family friend who

worked for a Houston oil company. "Ever since my first PLM class, I have been fascinated with the many different aspects and skills that are used in becoming a successful landman," he said. Barnett interned with EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. in Denver this summer.



Kirby Foster, a senior at Texas Tech University, graduates in December with a degree in energy commerce. Foster is internal vice president for the Energy Commerce Association and has interned with Devon Energy in Oklahoma City and Houston, and interned with EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. this summer.



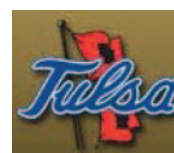
Neda Navabha is majoring in energy management and finance at the University of Oklahoma.

"Energy, whether it be oil, natural gas or the purest form that comes from within ourselves, drives our world, and I want to be part of the journey," said Navabha, who is active in the Energy Management Student Association, the Student Alumni Association, the Student Business Association and the JCPenney Leadership Program.



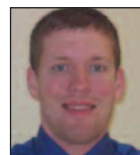
Lyric Phillips, a senior at the University of Oklahoma, graduates in December with a major in energy management and a minor in finance.

"I was first introduced to energy management by an alumnus of the OU Energy Management Program who exhibited a tremendous passion for the program. Now as I am about to graduate, I have the same passion as my friend," she said.



Megan Elias is pursuing a second bachelor's degree and majoring in energy management at the University of Tulsa. She has interned with Devon

Energy Corp., Penn Virginia MC Energy LLC and ConocoPhillips. She graduates in May 2010. "Becoming a landman means joining a dynamic industry that educates the public about the importance of energy development while embracing a career that is essential to meeting the energy needs of people around the world," she said.



Cole Carter also is working toward his second degree and majoring in energy management at the University of Tulsa.

"Upon learning about energy management, I knew that I wanted to be a part of an industry that is challenging but also presents the opportunity to have fun with your work," he said.

## Contract Land Staff Named "Employer of the Year"

Contract Land Staff LLC, an independent land management and right of way consultant based in Stafford, Texas, received the 2008 Employer of the Year Award from the International Right of Way Association. The award recognizes a member company that actively supports their employees as IRWA members demonstrating strong employee support and commitment at chapter, regional and international levels of the association in terms of participation, financing, time allowance, facilities, service, etc.

"CLS has embodied the values and professionalism that

IRWA promotes through its actions and service to the organization for over 25 years," said Laurie Markoe, CLS president, who is currently serving as chapter president for IRWA Gulf Coast Chapter 8 for the Houston area. "We encourage and support our employees' involvement in IRWA, and I am so proud of our company and our staff for their professionalism and commitment to the right-of-way industry. Receiving this award validates our dedication and hard work."



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## International Perspectives

Taking their studies global, students from the University of Oklahoma Energy Management program attended a study abroad program in London and Scotland. Students participated in a petroleum engineering course at The University of Aberdeen.



Steve Long, director of the OU Energy Management program, unwinds at a local pub in Europe — de Landman, established 1762.

## NMLA Spring Things

In May the New Mexico Landmen's Association hosted its Spring Seminar at the Daniels Leadership Center and 12th Annual E.J. "Gene" Wentworth Memorial Golf Tournament at the Spring River Golf Course. William Carr, an attorney with Holland & Hart Law Firm, spoke on current issues with the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission. Timothy Z. Jennings, senate president pro tempore, covered the New Mexico Legislature, while Michael H. Feldewert discussed New Mexico surface access issues. Peggy Worthington of Bold Energy explored future trends, and Pamela Feist, AAPL director, representing the Permian Basin Landmen's Association, addressed licensing in Texas.



Attendees discuss surface access issues with speaker, Michael H. Feldewert.

Ronnie Miles visits with NM Commissioner of Public Lands Patrick Lyons and Marita Noon, executive director of Citizens' Alliance for Responsible Energy.