


## International SFA students affected by ban

 This article is part of a multi-part series regarding the effects of President Donald Trump's travel ban on the Nacogdoches community and SFA students.

By Parastoo Nikravesh  
Managing Editor

Imagine traveling to a different country to pursue an education. A person must leave behind family, friends and the home country they were born and raised in. While such a journey could be an opportunity for self-discovery and adventure, some international students face unique hardships due to their countries of origin.

The revised executive order on immigration is now goes into

effect Monday and attempts to alleviate some of the restrictions in the previous travel ban. It now excludes Iraq from the list of banned nations, creates more exemptions for foreign entrance and makes some compromises for refugees.

"One of the controversies of Mr. Trump's original order was that it swept too broadly, initially including green-card holders, people who already had valid visas and refugees whose travel to the United States had already been approved," according to the New York Times.

"His new order specifically exempts numerous such categories of travelers. It also includes a potentially huge exception for everyone else: consular officials are empowered to permit new applicants to travel immediately

on case by case."

However, the questions remain on how this affects international students at SFA and how the implementation of the executive order will potentially impact Muslim or Middle Eastern SFA students.

"We do have immigrants here. We have people, probably mostly because of the university, that have family members from all over the country," Dr. Heather Olson Beal, associate professor in secondary education and educational leadership, said. "There's ways maybe that people aren't aware of, and they didn't anticipate that they are affected by. Not everyone who lives in this town was born in Texas, and people go to different countries for research."

University president Dr. Baker Pattillo addressed the situation in

an email to SFA staff and students Tuesday, clarifying the new version of the order.

"The university will continue to monitor this situation and will provide updates as information becomes available," he said in the email. "Students with concerns should contact the Office of International Programs at (936) 468-6631; employees with concerns should contact the Department of Human Resources at (936) 468-2304."

Some of the current international students have already faced disheartening realizations after the first executive order went into effect, according to Heather Catton, director of the SFA Office of International Programs, said.

"While the number of SFA students directly affected is relatively small, it has impacted

them in a big way," Catton said.

"One will be graduating this summer and now the student is not sure if family members will be able to come for the graduation ceremony. Also, international students are typically allowed to apply for a one-year work permit after graduation, and the student is hesitant about being able to get this, as well. It has really thrown a lot of plans into chaos.

"I know that there are already some current SFA students who were planning to go home during the summer who probably won't now because of the fear that they won't be able to come back. There is also a student who has a sick relative at home, but the family decided that it was best not to travel to visit the relative for fear

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## SFA ends Rivalry Week with wins over Sam Houston



Photos by Hannah Russell/ The Pine Log

**Left:** Taylor Ross goes up for a shot against the Sam Houston Bearkats. The Ladyjacks went on to beat the Bearkats in their final regular season game, 64-49, with Ross scoring 26 points. **Above:** Leon Gilmore protects the ball from a Bearkat. Gilmore scored 16 of SFA's points, beating Sam Houston 64-56. SFA secured the No. 3 seed for the upcoming SLC tournament.

## Students consider many factors when searching for apartments

By Shannon Poe  
Staff Writer

Now that it's March, many SFA students are looking for and signing leases for apartments near campus. There are many different complexes to choose from, but four of the most popular among students are Legends, Lofts, the Taliesin and the Verge. Each apartment complex offers a different experience, and students get to choose which one suits them best.

Apartment complexes have a different number of room set ups, ranging from one bedroom and one bathroom to four bedrooms and four bathrooms. The complexes also have furnished and non-furnished options. These options affect the monthly cost of rent for each apartment.

"[The Taliesin] is pretty cheap, and I wanted to bring my own furniture because that brings the price down a lot if you provide your own furniture," SFA student Stephanie Roselle said.

Roselle has a two-bedroom and two-bathroom apartment at the Taliesin and pays \$545 monthly.

"I know there are a lot of apartments that will only allow a certain number of people

in their apartments, but the Taliesin will let however many people in," Roselle said. "We could have five people in [the room] and for each additional person, it's \$100 extra, but you split it three ways."

Many apartment complexes near the SFA campus are owned by the same company. Lofts and Legends are sister complexes, meaning that residents can use all of the amenities from each complex when living in the other.

"You can use all the amenities for both [Lofts and Legends]," SFA student Hunter Riley said. "That's part of what got me. It's the benefits of two complexes, and you're only paying for one. You can't beat it. I definitely would [recommend Lofts] if you have roommates that you're wanting to move in with because it is really nice, and you have all access to Legends, as well."

Riley has a four-bedroom and four-bathroom apartment at Lofts and pays \$505 monthly.

If a resident does not know who to room with, many apartments will choose a roommate at random. Legends, along with other apartments, distribute roommates at random if they are not chosen by the residents.

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## In full bloom



Photo by Hannah Russell/ The Pine Log

Azaleas bloom in front of the Rusk Building. The Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden on the SFA campus is open to the public for guided tours until April 15.

# News

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## Students win scholarships



Photo by Ronnie Chapman/ The Pine Log

Two SFA students were the winners of a raffle held by the SFA Financial Aid office for two \$500 scholarships. Halea Mosby is a sophomore art education major from Timpson, Texas, and Sarah Robinson is a junior studying middle school education with an emphasis in mathematics from Dallas, Texas. The Financial Aid office participated in Showcase Saturday Feb. 18 to give prospective students a chance to ask questions about financial aid and financial literacy. Students who registered were entered into the raffle.

## Students: Apartment residents provide insight



Photos by Cori Kallenberger/ The Pine Log

Students can choose to live off campus after they have earned 60 credit hours or if they are 21 years old by the 12th day of the semester or get approved for an off-campus permit. The apartment options in Nacogdoches vary in size, price, location and number of roommates.

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"I don't like that they don't tell you who is moving into your apartment if you are getting new roommates. [It] was a bit frustrating," SFA student Marisa Wood said.

Wood, a Legend's resident, lives in a four-bedroom and four-bathroom apartment and pays \$479. Although there were a few issues with roommates, Wood still recommends it.

"I would recommend it," Wood said. "Overall I have not had major issues with management."

A resident of another complex near campus reported having a negative residential experience. D'Andre Roach, a resident at the Verge, lives in a three-bedroom and three-bathroom apartment and pays \$586 monthly.

"The apartments are alright, but it's mainly the maintenance. [The Verge] had a switch over to new maintenance and management, so [we were] dealing with that whole situation," Roach said. "I really wouldn't recommend [the Verge]. I feel

like the apartments are overpriced. To pay almost \$600 a month for an apartment when I could go pay \$500 somewhere else, there's more options than just the Verge."

The apartments offer more than just living spaces. All four of the major apartments have prize opportunities and events for the residents.

"Every month, [Legend's staff] puts a calendar of events under the door of every apartment," Wood said. "Sometimes it's something small like free pop tarts in the morning. Sometimes it's a game of grocery bingo. It just depends. [Legend's staff] also try to tie it into the seasonal theme."

Lofts hosts similar events. "[Lofts] always have events happening, like grocery bingo," said Riley. The Taliesin and the Verge also host events for the residents to enjoy.

Students interested in living off campus must be upperclassmen who have earned at least 60 semester hours, be at least 21 years old by the 12th day of the starting semester, or be able to get an off-campus permit, according to the SFASU website.

## Ban: SFA students feel the effects of Trump's executive order

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that the student wouldn't be able to re-enter the U.S. I have heard from international office representatives at other universities that some prospective students are applying elsewhere because of the uncertainty of being able to get a student visa to come to the U.S."

Elaine Lambright, English language institute coordinator of International Programs, shared some of her own students' negative experiences after the travel ban was established.

"I'm not speaking for this office; I'm only speaking for myself. In terms of students that I know personally, some of them are worried that they can't count on being able to continue their studies and I know of some students who are looking into, for example, schools in Canada," Lambright said. "I know some students who have said, 'I don't feel welcome here, and I want to finish up and leave.' So I don't have statistics. I just have anecdotal. I've had students ask me if this country doesn't want them here."

"It upsets me because I know them personally and I know what kind of people they are and I feel they are the very people that we are lucky to have here that have overcome incredible obstacles to study in another country in another culture and to pursue their education," she said. "And they have big dreams and many of them have had to overcome language barriers, and when you know them and their personal stories it's not just an abstract question anymore."

Lambright expressed concerns that the travel ban's attitude, in addition to the already heavy burden international students carry, might steer them away from the United States.

"When you think about what an enormous undertaking it is to study in another country, financially, emotionally, time wise, and leaving your family, anything that is perceived as threatening that, whether it's an actual threat or not, I think that affects them," Lambright said.

Requests to interview the aforementioned students were denied or were unanswered.

"They just didn't feel safe, not only because of the situation here, but because of the situation in the home country," Lambright said. "And of course, we don't want students to speak if it's going to make them feel uneasy."

SFA student Natalie Haddad felt comfortable speaking out about her experiences as the daughter of Mexican and Israeli immigrants while growing up in East Texas.

"This isn't something that I've really sat down and thought about, to be completely honest. I grew up around friendly people who, at least to my face, never made me feel different,"

Haddad said. "It's not like I was oblivious to the fact that I had darker skin or hair, or even a bigger nose, than some of the other kids or that, instead of chicken-fried steak for dinner, I was having something that my friends might think looked gross just because it was different and was called a name they couldn't pronounce. But I was very fortunate to not experience any hardship because of my different ethnicities. Being raised in Texas doesn't seem like it was different for me than it was for any other kid."

According to Haddad, her father immigrated to the United States about 40 years ago where he married, established a business and had four children. Haddad was raised in Jacksonville, Texas, about an hour north of Nacogdoches. Her experiences from her hometown haven't differed much from her experiences at SFA.

"The amount of times I have been asked about my ethnicity from fellow students here can be counted on one hand," Haddad said. "College, period, has been welcoming to me. It's always exciting to meet someone else here who comes from a Middle Eastern background, but that's about it. No one really cares that much anymore, do they? I guess even if they do, it's likely I can sense that vibe off of you and wouldn't be caught around you anyway, to be blunt."

Although Israel and Mexico were not on the travel ban, Haddad said she found the passing of the executive order to be offensive but also found hope in recent large-scale protests.

"My first reaction was definitely sadness. To sum it up for you: in my heart and in my mind, this wasn't morally right. It was unconstitutional," Haddad said. "However, I felt my heart stitch together when I kept track of up-to-date news and tweets from reporters from all over the U.S. covering protests, especially in JFK airport. That was exciting and exhilarating to me to know that there are others out there who, too, feel the injustice, and I wanted so badly to already have my degree and be on the scene reporting, too, or better yet, protesting as well."

"One of my very favorite photos surfaced

from those protests, actually. It was a picture of a Jewish father holding his son on his shoulders and a Muslim father holding his daughter on his shoulders—both little families holding signs, protesting for the same cause despite their obvious differences. I was beaming."

Haddad has found her time in the Nacogdoches community safe and welcoming, although she does reach out to those who do not feel safe.

"I love the Nacogdoches community. I meet most of the community while at work, considering I am a waitress and people from all over come to the restaurant, especially our local 'regulars,'" Haddad said. "I've worked in a few different cities, and Nacogdoches is by far the nicest when it comes to the

people."

Haddad has a message for those affected by the travel ban. "To those who are Muslim or Middle Eastern and living here, I'm not about to tell you that I understand how you feel, because I don't. I can empathize and even sympathize, but I will never really know what's happening in your heart and mind considering the fears you must have," Haddad said.

"But I will ask you to try and give the people of Nacogdoches a chance. I've met more smiling faces than bitter. Do not let fear overcome you and have faith that eventually everything is going to fall into place for the better."

"There are a significant number of us who will have open arms to you."



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# Entertainment

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## ‘Intimate Apparel’ brings audience to its feet



By Devin Hogue  
Entertainment Editor

The SFA School of Theatre’s performance of Lynn Nottage’s “Intimate Apparel” received a standing ovation from the audience.

“Intimate Apparel” centers around a black seamstress named Esther (Kiara Hawkins) that sews intimate apparel for a variety of people. Her customers range from a rich, white, unhappily married woman to a black, confident, single prostitute. Over her years of staying in the women’s boarding home, Esther watches other girls get married as she stays her in room sewing and saving up money for a beauty parlor.

Her landlady, Mrs. Dixon (Shandrekyia Simpson), convinces her to start looking for a man, and Esther starts getting letters from a man who is working in Panama named George Armstrong (Terrance Simon). Her customers, Mrs. Van Buren (Cecily Maucieri) and Mayme (Ga’Brielle Charlôt) persuade and help her to respond to the letters. Meanwhile, Esther and the man who owns the fabric store Mr. Marks (Tanner O’Neal) become closer. Although Esther bonds with Mr. Marks, she agrees to marry George. After marriage, Ester learns that being married to George is not what she imagined, and she learns that she was truly happy doing the one thing she loves the most, sewing and making clothes.

The play was enticing to the audience. It had all the elements of a good story, with twists and turns, acts of betrayal and hints

of humor that made the play an enjoyable to watch. The SFA School of Theatre executed “Intimate Apparel” very well, and the actors were exceptional in their roles.

Hawkins made Esther believable and invoked empathy from the audience throughout the play. Her character experienced many emotions that were relatable. But for her to be in her 30s, she was a little too naïve at times. It was hard to see her getting used by her husband because we learned that this is really the first time she was ever intimate with a man. She had low self-esteem, and he did nothing to better it. In fact, he made it worse. Seeing her being betrayed by most of the people she had a relationship with made me feel what she was feeling.

An actor/actress’ job is to provoke the audience to feel what their character is feeling, and the actors in “Intimate Apparel” did just that. There was not one time when I thought that the actors broke character, even in the awkward scenes where they had to be in each other’s personal space.

The design of the set was beautiful. Each part of the stage was designed to fit the character who occupied it the most. Mayme’s area had a big, extravagant bed that had bright curtains all over it. Her bedroom was seductive, with a hint of sass, just like her character. The only problem I saw was that the stage seemed a bit crowded because they have to fit over five scenes in one area. Otherwise, it was beautiful.

For more information about upcoming productions, visit [www.theatre.sfasu.edu](http://www.theatre.sfasu.edu).



Photos courtesy of Lane Davidson

SFA School of Theatre recently performed Lynn Nottage’s “Intimate Apparel.” The photo above is a scene that features Kiara Hawkins’ character Esther at Mr. Marks’, played by Tanner O’Neal, looking at the expensive, one-of-a-kind Japanese fabric.



Photo by Yared Jasso/ The Pine Log

## Review: Student begins the weekend with bowling

By Tyler Johnson  
Staff Writer

In college, Thursday is the start of the weekend. There might be class on Friday, but as long as there isn’t an exam, Thursday night means it’s time to get down. What better way to get the night started than with tequila and bowling?

It’s a strange but exciting combination. Your bowling score may be affected, but when the tequila is only \$1, you don’t seem to care as much.

Every Thursday night, Headliners Sports Bar, 3801 North St. No. 10, has \$1 tequila shots, and when you mix that with Texas Pro Bowl located right next door, it makes for an eventful evening.

The bar itself needs some updating. The TVs are outdated, and the picture is a bit fuzzy. Two billiards tables occupy the back room of Headliners, but it could use some new pool cues. A few don’t have the rubber end and have worn-down tips.

There’s a unique aspect to Headliners as well. There’s brick wall across from the bar, and if a person attends for 30 days consecutively and orders something each time they are there, their name gets etched into one of the bricks on the wall, a fitting honor for having to spend a month straight at a bar.

But, who wouldn’t want their name on a sports bar wall? That will make the parents proud!

Getting hungry? Don’t worry. Texas Pro Bowl has an underrated kitchen. There’s no need to rush your game and go eat elsewhere. The burger is delicious. They also have nachos, which go hand-in-hand with tequila.

I played two games. The first game, I played before I had tequila and bowled a score of 86—not a good score even the slightest bit. However, once I threw back a few shots of tequila, I bowled a score of 107 in the second.

I’m not saying the tequila helped me bowl better, but it definitely didn’t hurt.

All in all, Thursday night Headliners Sports Bar and Texas Pro Bowl was a great experience. The staff was friendly and helpful. Just be sure to bowl more than you drink.

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# Opinions

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Illustration by Olivia Boan/ The Pine Log

## Academic dishonesty policy remains unclear

The students and faculty involved with SFA are expected to promote and honor the university's academic policies. It is our responsibility to uphold the standard of academic integrity implemented by SFA officials. SFA defines academic dishonesty as both cheating and plagiarism.

Not only are those who cheat responsible for their actions, but also those who attempted to help in an act of cheating or plagiarism. The short-term stress of college may lead to a blind decision with long-term negative consequences.

People tend to believe dishonest people exhibit dishonest behaviors. If you cheat, then we must assume you are a bad student.

Or should we assume you are unaware of the school's policy toward cheating? SFA's academic policy was revised as of January 2017, but penalties for academic dishonesty are still unclear to many students.

Policy 4.1 of the University policy manual states, "Penalties may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, no credit for the assignment or exam, resubmission of the work, make-up exam, failure of the course, or expulsion from the university."

The manual also states that if the first offense is severe enough then

the student could be removed from the university, but does not clarify what is viewed as severe.

According to the University of Georgia's student newspaper, Red and Black, Google translate and working on online quizzes with peers is defined as cheating in their academic policy.

The vagueness of SFA's academic policy has created an umbrella where actions that may not be deemed cheating to some are considered cheating by others. SFA's policy also reads, "Cheating includes, but is not limited to: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignments or exam; helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism."

According to Texas State University's student newspaper, The University Star, students who use the popular studying network Quizlet could face consequences under Texas State's Honor Code.

Quizlet could be viewed as an unauthorized collaboration between students and use of university materials. And without the consent of faculty members, it is therefore a breach of code.

Teachers are responsible for ensuring their students know if it is acceptable to post notes from their class in order for other students to

use as study material.

Take into account the 2012 Harvard cheating scandal where 125 students were accused of working in groups on a take-home final exam in which the teacher specified they could not discuss the test with one another, while instructions also stated the exam was completely open book, open note and open Internet.

Many students also said the way course assistants laid out information led to many of their answers being the same.

Using other students for help does not show you know the information, so it is understandable why the professor would not allow that. But neither does the internet or the course assistants.

That disconnect of what falls under the umbrella of cheating led to a contradiction of class and university policy.

SFA's policy needs to be readdressed to specify what falls under that umbrella. Students need to know whether they are putting their academic futures in jeopardy when attempting to use different resources available to them.

If a university is going to strictly enforce rules for academic dishonesty, then the policies should at least be clear enough to prevent confusion.

## Health craze creates unsafe body image



By Andrea NELSON

Being "in shape" has become a cultural obsession. With the introduction of media sites like Pinterest or Instagram, the idea of becoming the happiest, healthiest version of yourself is a growing fad.

This is good news! There are a lot of movements now for body positivity, and people wanting to emphasize the happy in "happy and healthy." However, there's a sharp downfall when this concept is taken too seriously.

Let's talk health culture—things like diets and workouts, discounted waist-training systems on Instagram or Pinterest's weight-loss smoothie tag and the like.

There's nothing wrong with wanting to work out and achieve a body you feel comfortable in, but there is a problem with the way weight loss and health culture are presented in the media.

The underlying issues don't spring from the idea of exercise or a healthier diet, but from the way diet and exercise are talked about. There's a crazy frequency of conversations, of dialogue, about getting "healthy."

I can't get on Pinterest without being bombarded with "belly-fat buster work out tips" or "six smoothies to drink for FAST ACTING weight loss" and all kinds of other posts geared toward women's fitness.

Now, granted, some of these work out pins are related to my yoga pins. The smoothies, on the other hand, link back to a board I created when I had a broken jaw over the summer and needed ideas for bulky additions to a liquid diet to keep up my calorie count.

But now, I get daily suggestions for the Victoria's Secret Angels'

*"There's nothing wrong with wanting to work out and achieve a body you feel comfortable in, but there is a problem with the way weight loss and health culture are presented in the media."*

weight loss smoothie recipe, or links to articles detailing the wonders of kale. If I turn my attention to Instagram, I get a lot of advertisements for workout gear, while Facebook is filled with my friends sharing posts about getting in shape.

What this creates is a little health-craze bubble. Well, okay, it's a pretty big bubble.

With the sheer number of posts and articles and statuses about this kind of content, the idea that a carefully planned diet and exercise routine becomes the right way to live.

If you're not exercising or if you're not actively trying to lose weight, you're doing something wrong. At least, that's the impression obsessive health culture is starting to make. This isn't a new concept, though.

Advertisements for diets and weight loss systems for women are an archaic form of media, and while there's nothing wrong with trying a fad diet or looking out for your health and happiness, we just need to maintain a certain awareness of our relationships with our bodies, and how those relationships are affected and maintained in the journey to a healthier, happier you.

## Opinion



By Juwan LEE

*"If a celebrity is generous enough to give from their heart without having something done for them, then we should be grateful those type of people exist."*

## Net worth should not determine value of respect given

Over the past week a video surfaced of Philadelphia rapper Meek Mill recording a homeless man doing push-ups, and in return, Meek Mill was to pay him \$20.

Many people across social media quickly took to the internet to share their opinion on the irresponsibility of the MMG prodigy. But as I looked at many people as they shared their disgust of Meek Mill, it brought to light a serious problem we as a community have.

We look at the vast amounts of money celebrities make and assume because they have great amounts of wealth they should be obligated to share it with the world. And they should do so without complaint.

It's as if because someone has allowed himself or herself to be in the public eye, then they no longer deserve the same respect as the

average person working an eight-hour shift.

Now if there is one thing I agree with the majority on, it is the fact that Meek Mill should not have recorded himself basically treating someone as a servant. It did give the impression Meek felt the homeless guy was beneath him.

But what I do not agree on is the fact that because Meek Mill has ample money, he should be willing to give away what he has worked for himself.

He asked the homeless man to do 10 push-ups for \$20. Is that so demeaning that Meek Mill deserves to be crucified in the court of public opinion? Look at the bigger picture. Imagine if eight people came to that guy that day and each gave him \$20.

If you still cannot put that into perspective, imagine how much

more money you would have if you started a job at \$20 an hour.

I cannot count how many cars I see constantly roll their windows up and drive past people asking for change on the side of the road, but when a celebrity does it, it has to trend on social media.

This all stems from this notion that it is justifiable to treat people who are "better off" than us as if they are doing a personal harm to us.

Thousands upon thousands of people use Twitter to mock, disrespect and throw malicious comments at various public figures, but as soon as a celebrity addresses one of his or her followers, he or she is considered a villain.

Meek Mill later deleted the video from his social media page once it went viral, but what for? He claimed he was not going to give out free

money, and I agree with that.

It is funny how Meek Mill gets slammed for making someone do a simple task for \$20, but no one mentioned the great amounts of resources he allocated toward the people in Flint, Michigan.

If a celebrity is generous enough to give from his heart without having something done for them, then we should be grateful those type of people exist.

Just because someone has more than others does not make them obligated to become a caregiver for the people.

*The Pine Log Opinions Page regularly features an advice column. To submit a question, email sfasupinelog@gmail.com.*

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## SFA Scoreboard

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** Jacks travel to Katy, battle for 5th-straight SLC title

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** Ladyjacks on way to Katy for SLC tourney

**TRACK & FIELD:** Men place third, women fourth in championship

**SOFTBALL:** Ladyjacks post 2-3 record during Mizzou Tournament

**BASEBALL:** Lumberjacks lose three-straight against Washington State

## Jacks axed by Cougars, win at home

SFA baseball team beats GSU after losing three-straight games to Washington State Cougars

By Nick Irene  
Staff Writer

SFA beat the Grambling State Tigers, 9-2, at Jaycees Field Tuesday after dropping a doubleheader, 10-5 in the first and 7-3 in the second, to the Pac-12's Washington State Cougars on Saturday, at Bailey-Brayton Field. The Lumberjacks lost, 4-2, to the Cougars in the opening game of the three-game series on Friday.

In game one of the doubleheader, SFA was able to keep the hit count nearly even at 10-9, but was unable to translate those hits into runs. SFA saw a third inning five-run spurt that gave the Jacks a 5-0 but was quickly eliminated by the bottom of the fifth after 10 unanswered runs sealed a Cougars comeback.

The hot start was led by designated hitter Stephen Stuart, center fielder Connor Fikes and second baseman Nick Ramos, all of whom had two hits. Erik Nouis started for the

Jacks, throwing 60 pitches and only allowing two runs in 2.2 innings of work. Trenton Dupre received the win for the Cougars after over two innings of shutout work in relief.

In game two, Washington State's pitching held SFA for a no-hitter. Even without hits, the Jacks were able to begin with another lead, capitalizing on the Cougars four errors. However, the lead did not last long. After two scoreless frames, Patrick Ledet found trouble in the third inning by allowing four runs, and Washington never looked back. Cougar's pitcher Cody Anderson provided a lights-out performance with six strikeouts through six innings. The Cougars were able to get 13 hits.

After the win over Grambling State, the Lumberjacks are now 5-10. The Lumberjacks will welcome the Trojans of University of Arkansas at Little Rock for a three-game series between Friday and Sunday. Game one of that series will begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Jaycees Field in Nacogdoches.

## Playing with the big dogs on the diamond



Photos by Hannah Russell/ The Pine Log

The SFA Softball team traveled to Columbia, Missouri, to compete in the annual Mizzou Softball Tournament. They were fresh off a 10-1 win versus Texas Southern before they embarked on a journey to the "Show Me State." SFA played teams from some of the best divisions that the NCAA has to offer, the SEC, the Pac-12, the ACC and the Big East. They lost to Butler 3-2, and Mizzou 14-6 on Friday night. On Saturday, they turned the tide and defeated Butler 3-2 and defeated the Maryland Lady Terrapins 5-4. On Sunday, the last day of the tournament, they were downed by the Oregon Lady Ducks 8-2, which capped off a five-game stretch over three days. SFA will travel to Texas A&M Corpus Christi on Friday to battle in a three-game series with the Lady Islanders. SFA was scheduled to play against Texas Southern on Wednesday, but the game was postponed due to weather concerns.

## Nontraditional start to a traditional season

Despite slow start, SFA still primed for magical end to the season



Nick Irene  
STAFF WRITER

The recent success that most members of the Lumberjack nation have grown accustomed to. The Jacks had not even lost double-digit games since the 2011-12 season, when former SFA head coach Brad Underwood wasn't even on campus yet.

A tough schedule early on and inexperience have been detrimental. To quickly denounce Keller as a suitable replacement is a little unfair. Underwood was a legend here in Nacogdoches, and it would probably take an NCAA title and maybe a little more to overshadow him. A tough non-conference schedule has seen battles with Arkansas, Rice, UAB, Tulsa, Utah and even the current No. 9 ranked team in the country, Kentucky. The only non-conference Division I

The Lumberjacks might have been experiencing some uncharacteristic losing this season, but there is still no need to panic.

So far, the Kyle Keller era has been off to a rather uninspiring start. The Lumberjacks finished the regular season with a 17-13 record and a 12-6 SLC record. Although they finished third in the SLC for the first time in five seasons, their record does not reflect

win came from a tight, 67-64, matchup with Southern Miss in Hawaii.

Keller is dealing with a completely new team. From last year's magical season, only five players remain. Dallas Cameron is the lone senior. This is meant to be a rebuilding year. Most colleges or other programs usually have to deal with rebuilding at some time. This is the year to develop some of the fresh new faces that step onto the coliseum floor.

Ivan Canete is a junior transfer from Palm Beach State

*"However, there is a first time for everything, and it will still be an honor for SFA to make the NCAA tournament for the fourth-straight season."*

College. In his first season for SFA, Canete has averaged 11.3 points and has developed a nasty three-point shot that he makes 41 percent of the time.

Kevon Harris is a freshman out of Ellenwood, Georgia. Harris has proven to be a very effective sixth man for the Jacks. The 6-foot-6-inch forward has averaged 8.3 points per

game and looks to insert himself into the starting lineup by next season.

You can also contribute SFA's success to the lack of any dominant teams in the SLC. Usually SFA just runs away with the conference crown. This year is different. Now, there's a logjam that could be anyone's chance. Keep in mind, though, that the best conference record is held by SLC champions and number one seeded New Orleans were only 13-5. If SFA can get hot at the right time, then it will be back in the March Madness.

Don't let one season determine your faith in the Lumberjacks. The best-case scenario is more than likely becoming the dreaded No. 16 seed in the NCAA Tournament (dreaded because no No. 16 has ever won one game) and getting stomped by Kansas, Gonzaga or whoever gets the top seeds. However, there is a first time for everything, and it will still be an honor for SFA to make the tournament for the fourth straight season. The Jacks will only get better.

SFA closed out the season at the William Johnson Coliseum with a special week of rivalries. They lost a heartbreaker to the Northwestern State Demons 73-67, but defeated the Sam Houston State Bearkats 64-56, clinching a three seed in the SLC tournament.

SFA will travel to Katy and play the winner of the Lamar Cardinals and the Southeastern Louisiana Lions in the second round of the SLC tournament at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Leonard E. Merrell Center in Katy.