

## Day with a Disability

### Event raises awareness for challenges students with disabilities face on campus

By Taylor Antwine  
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association hosted a Disability Awareness event Tuesday to find out about the challenges students with disabilities face.

Dr. Adam Peck, dean of student affairs spent the day “experiencing SFA through the lens of students with disabilities,” he said. This included some time spent learning American Sign Language and navigating SFA in a wheelchair, Peck said. Peck hosted a lunch for students with disabilities in order to learn about any struggles they may be having.

According to the website of the National Council on Disability, in 2015, approximately 11 percent of undergraduates had a disability. SFA is no exception.

SFA student Teyhana Overman is one person who represents that statistic.

“I have Osteogenesis Imperfecta, also known as the glass bone disease, so my bones are extremely fragile; and because of the number of times I have broken a bone, mainly my legs, I am unable to walk,” Overman said. “My disability affects my personal life in many ways. One being that to get to places that seem normal for most people is slightly harder for me. Then there are times that I am just so used to my wheelchair that I tend to not notice the differences in what I can/can’t do compared to everyone else.”

Overman has faced her own unique obstacles on the SFA campus.

“One of the main experiences I have had was when I am going to or from class,” Overman said. “Because of the hills on campus, it can be either extremely easy to get to class or extremely hard.”

“I remember one time, when it was raining, I was trying to get to the student center from the library. The rain made both the ground and my wheels really slippery, making it even more difficult than usual. On the hill I got about a quarter of the way up before I started slipping back down. Usually I am too stubborn to accept help, but I knew that this time the hill would be too difficult for me to get up on my own, so the first person to offer me help, I gladly accepted.”

SFA student Marcella Cook is another student that

represents that 11 percent.

“I tell people that I’m an overachiever,” Cook said. “I have three rare diseases and an incomplete spinal cord injury. Most of these combine to help ‘put’ me in the wheelchair.”

Cook shared an experience of hers at SFA.

“I always seem to get forgotten when I am with a group of people. I know they don’t mean it, but they tend to walk and sometimes forget that I’m there when I have to go further down the sidewalk to go up the ramp,” Cook said.

“And one experience that comes to mind is the Take Back the Night Event that was held a couple years ago. There was one part where it was a walk to the Spirit Rock; however, that area is not accessible at all. I had to go off-roading and was one of the last to get there. Then at the end of the event, they planned to walk across the grass to get back to, I believe, Surfin’ Steve. Again, I had to take a different route and miss a lot of the event. Even though I participated, I didn’t really feel like a participant because of not being able to do what others were doing.”

Cook also has Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, a learning disability that makes it hard for people diagnosed with it to concentrate. Because of this, Cook receives accommodations from the Office of Disability Services.

“I receive extra time with my exams. I am allowed to take my notes on computer because I’m much better at typing than writing,” Cook said. “I also record my classes with a livescribe pen because it’s hard to keep up when taking notes when my hands go numb. I also have 90 percent of my books on e-book so that I don’t have to carry too much weight on my wheelchair.”



Courtesy Photos

- Dr. Adam Peck, dean of student affairs, spent Tuesday “experiencing SFA through the lens of students with disabilities.” He is pictured with SFA student Marcella Cook in the lower photo.

DISABILITIES, PAGE 3

## Spirit teams take first at championships



Photo courtesy of Hardy Meredith/ SFA Marketing Communications

SFA’s spirit teams competed in the 2017 National Cheerleaders Association and National Dance Alliance Collegiate Championships. SFA placed first in team performance dance while the all-girl cheer pom squads also took first.

## SFA student runs for city council

By Joanna Armstrong  
Editor-in-chief

Having served in both SGA and NAACP, 23-year-old Houston native and SFA student Savian Nugent is now setting his sights on Nacogdoches city government. A political science major with an international studies minor, Nugent is running for city councilman of the northwest ward.

“The reason why I decided to run for Nacogdoches city council was mainly because I saw things in this city that I felt could easily be changed for the better simply because I feel like I have the vision,” Nugent said.

As city councilman, Nugent would be over a ward of roughly 8,000 to 9,000 people, he said, setting agendas for the city manager to carry out.

“You get your agenda approved and the city manager acts as a CEO for the city, and he works on getting everything established to the best of his abilities,” Nugent said, “and if he’s not doing a good job, the city council has the power to fire him. If he’s doing a great job, you keep him on.”

Nacogdoches resident Karmen White said he supports Nugent because of his regard for people.

“His transparency has attached me to him,” White said. “He is for everyone and not just those close to him. I feel that he will be a servant to all, big or small.”

According to Nugent, his time in SGA and the NAACP at SFA gave him the experience he needed to run for city councilman.

“I thank SFA for everything. This is my school. I’ve never really been in leadership, and it wasn’t until last year when I became the head of the [NAACP] political action committee,” Nugent said. “I didn’t know if I was a leader. I didn’t think I was capable. I didn’t think that anyone would be willing to listen to me.”

Through his time in the organizations, Nugent said he decided he was right for a leadership position.

“We’ve done a lot in the NAACP, and that’s when I thought to myself, maybe this is my calling,” Nugent said.

COUNCIL, PAGE 3

# News

@thepinelog

## SFA hosts annual track and field invitational



Photos by Bastian York/  
The Pine Log

SFA's track and field teams held the annual Sketchers Performance Carl Kight Invitational from April 6-8 at the Fletcher Garner Track inside the Homer Bryce Stadium. The meet is held for three days and is the only track and field event hosted on campus. The first day SFA earned 15 personal bests. On the second day, the teams received six individual titles and broke six personal records. The final day SFA received four individual titles.

## CAs guide SFA residents



Photo illustration by Cori Kallenberger/ The Pine Log

**Brian Villalba**, a junior pre-vet major from Katy, Texas, is a CA at Hall 16. CAs are student employees at SFA who oversee students living in the community residence halls. CAs have responsibilities such as holding programs, working the front desk and checking out students before the holidays. However, CAs also enjoy perks such as free room and board.

By Shannon Poe  
Staff Writer

The start of each academic year brings new and confused students to different residence halls around campus. However, the residents living in the dorms are part of a community that seeks to help adjust them to their new lives. Students hired the semester before are responsible for the well-being of the residents but live and learn alongside them.

SFA Community Assistants, or CAs, are paid residential hall employees who work to give residents a good experience in the dorms. However, some residents don't know the perks and responsibilities of being a CA.

According to the SFA website, CAs enforce hall policies and provide personal development for students.

"As a CA, I am responsible for a certain amount of residents, and I try to build a community with them. I am a resource for them with pretty much any aspect of life," Kerr CA Lindsey McCowan said. "I answer questions about stuff going on on campus, school and basically anything going on in life. I perform desk duties weekly and overnight duties periodically throughout the semester."

The CAs also work closely with SFA residents in their area of the dorm.

"Our job is to create a community in each hall, and I feel like we do a pretty good job at it," Kerr CA Jessica Martin said.

In return for the work they do throughout the semester, CAs get free room and board through scholarship and \$7.25 a month, according to the residence life website.

"A huge benefit of being a CA is not having to pay for a room or a meal plan," McCowan said. "That alleviates a good chunk of what I would normally have to pay for living on campus."

Although the CAs get free room and board and a monthly pay, the cost of living can still be high.

"I'm allowed to have a job, but it's really hard to have another job on top of this job and on top of school," Martin said. "I feel like I do a lot more work than just deserving free room and board."

In addition to working, CAs also plan events throughout the semester for the residents to enjoy.

"I hold programs in the residence hall and try to get residents involved where they live and on campus," McCowan said.

According to Martin, CAs must go through the hall business supervisor in order to make hall events happen.

"[Planning events] is a lot fun, but sometimes it's hard," Martin said.

CAs have other commitments to the hall they work for other than events and working the desk, McCowan said.

"[Being a CA] is really demanding and time consuming. There is a lot of paperwork you have to do with the various requirements of the job. [CAs] also have to stay a little longer or come early when opening or closing the halls for breaks," McCowan said.

Even though it may be a lot of work, being a CA benefits students in the future with skill sets that will help them in their career fields, Martin said.

"I get good leadership skills [from being a CA] because I was never a leader before, and now I have to be," Martin said. "It kind of puts me in that position."

CAs also develop close relationships with not only the staff but also the residents in the dorm.

"The relationships that you form with your residents makes all the extra work worth it," McCowan said. "When you can help someone adjust to college and respond to their needs, it's the greatest joy of my job."

## SFA professor receives award for practicing sustainability

Dr. Jared Barnes, assistant professor of horticulture for Stephen F. Austin State University's Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, received the 2017 Sustainability Award from Keep Nacogdoches Beautiful during the SFA Earth Day Celebration, April 1.

The award recognizes community members who make a concerted effort to promote the role of sustainability throughout the Nacogdoches community.

Since joining SFA in 2014, Barnes has made great strides in reaching his goal of doubling the enrollment of SFA's horticulture program. Two years into his five-year time frame, the program lacks only two students to achieve this goal.

"I focused on developing programs with edibles and reinvigorating the gardens around the Agriculture Building that would make the horticulture program more attractive and relevant to potential

students," Barnes said.

The expanded-and-redesigned garden, dubbed Sprout at SFA, provides student-grown produce for a weekly market located behind the Agriculture Building.

Through this endeavor, Barnes also has increased the visibility of SFA's horticulture students. These students have been featured on the covers of Sawdust, SFA's alumni magazine, and Nursery Management, a national trade publication.

In addition to having taught more than 400 students in nine separate courses, Barnes currently serves as a major professor for two graduate students, as the faculty advisor for SFA's Horticulture Club, and he conducts his own academic research.

"I have always been a very curious person and strive to answer questions about the natural world," Barnes said. "I bring that curiosity into my research program at SFA."

# NOW HIRING

at The Pine Log for Fall Staff

News

Illustration

Yearbook

Photography

Advertising

Writing

Editing

Journalism

Web

Design

Videography

Have a passion for any of these? Come join the Fall 2017 newspaper or yearbook staff! Gain real-world experience, get paid and get published on a flexible schedule.

## Available Positions

- Editor-in-Chief
- Managing Editor
- Opinions Editor
- Sports Editor
- Features Editor
- Social Media Manager
- Staff Writer
- Contributing Writer

- Copy Editor
- Cartoonist/Illustrator
- Advertising Manager
- Advertising Sales Rep
- Ad Representative
- Photographer
- Entertainment
- Yearbook Section Editor

Fill out an application online at [www.thepinelog.com/site/forms](http://www.thepinelog.com/site/forms)

Applications are due Friday, April 14\*

\*Deadline will be extended if positions are still available.

# BANITA CREEK

## MANAGEMENT

(936) 560-4768 ~ 327 W. College St Nacogdoches, Texas 75965

*Banita Creek*  
327 West College St.

*Ponderosa Pines*  
528 Tangleberry Drive

# Disabilities: Event raises awareness about challenges

From Page 1

The Office of Disability Services is made up of people whose job is “to be the liaison between a student with any type of disability and their academic career here at SFA” and “assist them to be as successful as possible in obtaining their college degree,” according to Denise Douglas, Office of Disability Services exam coordinator.

Students can come to the office for various purposes to either receive information or direct assistance.

“If the client meets the approval, we offer a wide facet of accommodations that meets each person individually,” Douglas said. “The majority of our clients utilize their accommodations as a quiet testing area for extended time to take an exam, reader/scribe accommodations. We serve the visually impaired and deaf and hard of hearing community. We have an outstanding American Sign Language team. These are the most used accommodations that students have.”

# Graduate student, alumna named Innovators of the Year

Lannette Burlingame, a Stephen F. Austin State University special education graduate student, and orientation and mobility alumna Kimberly Bittick have been named Whitehouse Independent School District Innovators of the Year for their “Learning in Three Dimensions” project.

“There are so many wonderful educators in our district, and I am very humbled to be selected for this award,” Burlingame said.

“Most of all, I am ecstatic to have the opportunity to provide the innovative teaching materials that a 3-D printer can provide to our students.”

During the fall, Burlingame and Bittick, who is a contract orientation and mobility instructor, completed a grant and project proposal for their “Learning in Three Dimensions” initiative, which seeks to find creative ways to transform 2-D into 3-D learning for students with visual impairments.

In their grant proposal to the Whitehouse Education Foundation, the educators explained that a 3-D printer would provide them with better opportunities to directly teach abstract concepts to students, as well as support teachers and parents of students with visual impairments.

The foundation awarded the pair the grant.

“The 3-D printer has opened up new ways of delivering instruction to our visually impaired students. We can now think about the various instructional

materials needed to teach concepts in new and innovative ways because the sky is the limit with 3-D printing,” Burlingame said. “If we can imagine it and design it on the computer, the 3-D printer can make it a reality.”

Burlingame, who has been a special education teacher for more than 20 years and teaches students with visual impairments from birth to age 22, is pursuing a master’s degree in special education with a specialization in visual impairment at SFA.

Through the grant, Burlingame was granted additional funding to help purchase a 3-D scanner to accompany the printer.

Using this technology, Burlingame and Bittick are able to print 3-D models to help students with body, environmental and spatial concepts, perceptual, sensory, mobility, orientation and decision-making skills, organization and time management.

An especially impressive function of the technology is its ability to create tactile maps.

“The detail and portability of the tactile maps we can produce rival other forms,” Bittick said.

“One of our most exciting projects involves helping students prepare for a trip to Washington D.C. with the band. We produced a map of the National Mall that fits in the palms of their hands. I am going to use this map to project the route of the monument tour.”

# Council: Student runs for local government position



Courtesy Photo

SFA student Savian Nugent is running for Nacogdoches city councilman. A 23-year old political science major from Houston, Nugent advocates for students to get involved with local government.

From Page 1

“Maybe I can be a leader... So when it was time to run for Nacogdoches city council, I wasn’t afraid because I feel like I got my feet wet. I was diving in, and I said that I’m not in the slightest afraid. I’m a little nervous because I’ve never done this before, but when I made that decision, I knew I was ready enough to do it, and I think that’s what the city needs.”

After the election on May 6, Nugent plans to graduate in December of 2017 and attend graduate school. Later, Nugent wants to work as a foreign service officer and work for the state department and later serve as a U.S. ambassador.

“If you want me on a board or a commission, I’ll be happy to assist,” Nugent said. “If my help is needed, I’ll be happy to assist and whoever wins, I will be in their ear, making sure that they hold their end of the bargain.”

Whether in a public position or not, Nugent encourages students to participate in politics in whatever way they can.

“You’ll be surprised, when you do stuff

like this, there is always overwhelming support. There is always someone in your corner that will make sure that you have the means to succeed,” Nugent said. “Either run or advocate or get involved in some type of political practice like donating to a campaign or writing a newsletter or creating a blog, even starting your own podcast where you speak on key issues and you give your solution... There are so many ways to get involved more so than just running, but find your niche and roll with it.”

SFA student Brigette Kozash similarly encouraged students to participate in local government.

“Local legislation effects the SFA student population and local politicians make decisions in Nacogdoches that will determine whether or not Nacogdoches prospers or falls behind,” Kozash said.

Nugent has one piece of advice for students considering participating in local government.

“Run,” Nugent said, “and you just might win.”



# ROGUE ONE

A STAR WARS STORY

Following the Spring Football Game  
Spring Game starts at 6 p.m. | Homer Bryce Stadium

ON THE VIDEO BOARD

MOVIE NIGHT  
APRIL 22

@SFA\_Athletics



## M.S. in Biotechnology

Laboratory-based, hands-on experience on a university medical center campus. Professors are NIH-funded biomedical research faculty. High faculty/student ratio.

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Bio-Pharm & Drug Development
- Medical Diagnostics
- Clinical Research & Medicine
- Biomedical Research
- Forensic Science
- Bio-Engineering
- Advanced Degrees (MD or PhD)

[www.uthct.edu/biotech](http://www.uthct.edu/biotech)  
biotech@uthct.edu  
(903) 877-7593

## Become Part of a Cause GREATER THAN YOURSELF!

Apply Now for Fall 2017



## Master in Public Health (MPH)

A theory-to-practice applied program and one-on-one faculty interaction with world-class scientists. Work with local/regional public health professionals. Exceptional value!

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Epidemiologist, Scientist, or Biostatistician
- Public Health Planner or Public Policy Maker
- Local Health Department Administrator
- Occupational Health/Safety Professional
- Health Educator or Nutritionist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Global Health, Disaster and Preparedness Professional

[www.uthct.edu/publichealth](http://www.uthct.edu/publichealth)  
mph@uthct.edu  
(903) 877-7000

# Entertainment

@thepinelog 

## Review: Adaptation of Ashers' book worth watching

By Andrea Nelson  
Staff Writer

Netflix recently released a series called "13 Reasons Why," based on a novel of the same title by Jay Asher. The show follows protagonist Clay Jensen and his classmates in the aftermath of the suicide of Hannah Baker, who was previously a student at the school. Hannah left behind a series of tapes to circulate between several of classmates detailing the reasons why she did what she did.

As a long-time fan of the book, I was thrilled to see an adaptation for the screen. I'm also a really huge fan of the way it was given a series rather than a film, as I think this is a better format for telling Hannah's story between the two. The book

is divided into chapters based on the tapes, and the show has a similar division with the episodes.

As usual, the screen adaptation has several differences from the novel, but overall many of them seem to be positive changes. There are a few things that don't make a lot of sense, like changing a character's name from Jenny to Sheri or presenting a couple of the tapes in a different order, but the content of the stories Hannah tells remain relatively unchanged.

The biggest difference is the timeline. If you've read the book, you know that Clay listens to all of Hannah's tapes in one night, whereas the show spreads it over several days.

This is in order to expand the universe

and give watchers time with the background characters, which are also heavily expanded upon in the show.

In the original novel, we never meet any of the people Hannah mentions other than Clay. This is another difference, and it could be a deal breaker for people who enjoy the format of Asher's original novel. I think the expansion of the universe is a really interesting direction for the show to take.

With this expansion, we get to see a lot more of how Hannah's suicide affected the people around her, meeting all the people listed in her tapes and watching each one of them react to what's going on while Clay is in possession of the tapes.

This leads to a lot of original content outside of Hannah's recording that allows

for an examination of how a tragedy like a student's suicide affects schools, and how badly it can be handled by other students.

The one possible draw back is how graphic some of the scenes are. There are very detailed depictions of both the suicide and sexual assault. While this may seem cringe worthy, and you may want to leave the room for these scenes if you have a weak stomach, I do actually think it's very important that these situations are made uncomfortable for the viewers. It's a bold move.

You definitely shouldn't be comfortable watching these scenes because these are seriously uncomfortable situations that shouldn't be swept under the rug, so I definitely recommend it. Just make sure you're prepared to sit through, or look down during the more graphic scenes.

## Column: Fashion Tip: how to dress 'in season'

By Devin Hogue  
Entertainment Editor

April is in the middle of the spring season, which means it is time to put away those winter clothes. Yes, there are certain items and colors of clothing that are suggested for people to wear in the spring.

I am all for being comfortable in the clothes that show off someone's personality. But there is a thing as being "in season." Being in season can be hard for most people to understand. It means that your clothes are appropriate to wear as of now. For example, in the spring someone can have on pastel colors, which are light pink, light green, baby blue, etc.

When thinking of spring, a person usually thinks about something parallel to being sunny, peaceful or bright, or sometimes all three. It would not make sense to wear dark colors in the spring.

When I think about what's in season, I think about wedding colors. I know you are probably thinking that it is weird for someone to think this way, but it helps me out. There are different shades of colors for a reason.

There is one color that is considered acceptable every season. I feel like black can be worn all year round. It just depends. You can wear all black from head to toe in the fall and winter when it is usually cold. But in the spring and summer, someone can wear a black shirt, shorts, etc.

I am not saying these are everyone's fashion rules, but some people live by

being in season. If you live in southern states like Texas, it can be kind of hard to dress in season, since Texas thinks it is summer all year. That may be the case, but nobody, and I mean nobody, should be wearing jean shorts in December.

Shorts are made for spring or summer time. I feel the only acceptable time to wear shorts in the winter is when you are going to bed or have on basketball shorts. Think of it this way, you do not have to shave your legs that well in the fall and winter since shorts are not in season.

Even though black is a universal color, white is not. I still believe in the old saying that white should not be worn after Labor Day. Yes, you can still wear white T-Shirts and white tennis shoes, but that is about it.

White pants and white dress-up shoes are out of season until the beginning of March or when spring starts.

I'm not saying that dark colors are strictly banned from being worn in the spring; it just will not be in season. Being in season gives people a chance to try different styles and colors in their clothes. There is nothing wrong with trying a new style. Who knows, maybe there is a shirt that catches your eye with a color that you are not used to wearing.

At the end of the day, wear what makes you comfortable. Not caring about seasons shows that you are marching to the beat of your own drum (even though that beat is off beat with fashion). Having clothes in season helps someone guide their fashion into a different lane.

## Review: 'Boss Baby' holds number-one spot in America

By Brooke Mosley  
Staff Writer

If you're older than your siblings, then you probably know what it was like to be your parents' only child at one point: you received all the attention, care and love. However, once your siblings were born, all of that changed. Your relationship with your parents had to be shared, and the time they spent paying attention to you was then focused on the newest member of the family.

Whether you have experienced this before or not all, "The Boss Baby" explores how 7-year-old Tim Templeton's

life is altered when his parents bring home a new baby. However, this isn't your average baby. He is the Boss Baby.

"The Boss Baby" is DreamWorks' latest animated movie that was inspired by the 2010 children's book by Marla Frazee. Other than highlighting (in a subtle way) the feelings of resentment an only child might feel toward a new baby, the film also plays with the idea of how a newborn can practically become the "boss" of its parents.

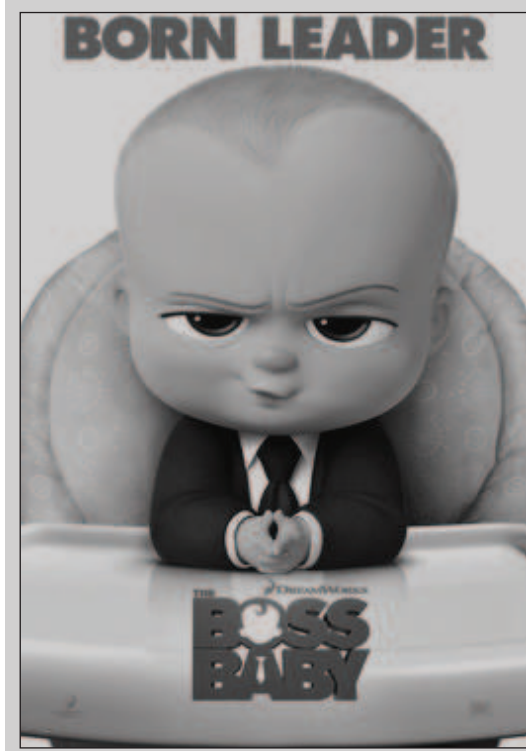
Out of sight of his parents, the Boss Baby (Alec Baldwin) is as intelligent and arrogant as any adult can be. And like any businessman, he wears a black suit and tie while carrying a briefcase. His convincing baby gestures seem to win over and convince everyone, except his older brother Tim.

After discovering that his new little brother could walk and talk, Tim sets out to expose him to their parents, but not with ease. The failure of Tim's plan leads to him helping Boss Baby do what he was sent to the Templeton home to do: stop puppies from receiving all the love in the world.

The film is packed with great, baby-centered action scenes along with subtle allusions to other popular films, such as Mary Poppins. There are laughable moments for the kids, of course, but most of the jokes were directed towards adults.

Despite the reluctant reviews from critics and a 52 percent approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes, "The Boss Baby" still remains number one at the box office. In its opening weekend alone, the movie grossed in \$50,198,902.

"The Boss Baby" is a fun movie, not just for kids but for everyone, that teaches the valuable lesson about loving your family and cherishing your childhood.



Want to work for The Pine Log?

**Apply now!**

[www.thepinelog.com](http://www.thepinelog.com)



**Low Cost Pet Wellness & Spay/Neuter Clinic**

**LUFKIN**

**Lufkin Mall**

**Tue., March 21 • 10a - 3p**

Vaccines • Heartworm Tests/Prevention • Microchips • Dentals • Bloodwork

**Must have appointment for surgery**

For more information visit:

[www.dehartvetservices.com](http://www.dehartvetservices.com) • 903.312.6422 • 903.590.7722



**Graduation Stoles**

Starting at \$17.95

Personalization Available

**JACK BACKERS**  
COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

315 E. College Street • [www.jackbackers.com](http://www.jackbackers.com)

**SFA's Only Alumni Owned Bookstore!**



**You Don't Have To Do It Alone!**

Free, confidential consultation for options you can live with including:

- Parenting Classes
- Prenatal Referrals
- Limited Obstetrical Ultrasounds
- Adoption Referrals

**Heartbeat**  
PREGNANCY CENTER

936-569-6288

621 Russell Blvd  
Nacogdoches, TX 75965

Fax 936-560-3864

M-TH: 9:00am-5pm

F: 9:00am-12pm

[www.heartbeat-of-nacogdoches.org](http://www.heartbeat-of-nacogdoches.org)

# Big Event brings students together to make lasting impact

By Brielle Thomas  
Staff Writer

SFA students, athletes and organizations all came together to help the Nacogdoches community for an entire day for The BIG Event Saturday.

This was the eighth annual BIG Event, according to Shelby Hearn, director of public relations for The BIG Event.

"The BIG Event is Nacogdoches' largest day of community service," Hearn said. "It's where the students of SFA go out into the community and serve the community that they're living in for nine months out of the year."

The event serves as a way for students to say thank you to the community for their support of SFA students, Chloe Canaan, director of internal relations for The BIG Event, said.

According to Hearn, she and the other crew members of The BIG Event planned this event for a year.

"This is the first year we actually had a full year to plan The BIG Event," Hearn said. "We have been planning since August 2016."

Many students in clubs and organizations on campus were involved in helping the event come together.

"Almost everyone from Greek Life participated, and almost all the leadership and service organizations participated," Hearn said. "Also, SFA Athletics participated, and Student Activities Association participated."

The Biology Club, American Medical Student Organization,

Student Government Association and many more clubs and organizations also participated, Canaan said.

Hearn said that students not involved in organizations or clubs on campus could have signed up and participated, as well.

For Hearn, seeing all the hard work that she and the other crew members put into planning The BIG Event pay off was rewarding.

"It was really cool just to see all of the residents helping," Hearn said. "Last year we helped 140 residents, and this year we helped 140 sites get things done that they just physically couldn't do or just needed extra hands to help do."

One of the many Greek organizations that participates every year is Zeta Tau Alpha.

This year, Kaylee Real, a member of Zeta, and seven other Zetas helped a woman who lives alone.

"Her gutters were overfilled with debris from the two large trees in her yard, and she just couldn't clean them without hurting her back," Real said. "We also trimmed and reshaped her hedges and a couple of trees."

According to Real, participating in The BIG Event is a great way to show appreciation to the Nacogdoches community.

"Seeing her [the woman they helped] gratitude through her big smile when we emptied three garbage bags full of debris from the gutters was awesome," Real said. "I think it's a great way to give back to a community that gives so much to us."



Photo by Audra Bridges/ The Pine Log

SFA hosts the eighth annual BIG Event. Students came together to participate in service projects all over Nacogdoches.

# Students earn statewide recognition at media conference

Students working for Stephen F. Austin State University's campus media outlets were recognized with a combined 46 awards for journalistic excellence at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association's annual convention and competition earlier this month in Dallas.

The Pine Log, SFA's student newspaper, earned 20 awards for content produced during the 2016 calendar year, while the Stone Fort yearbook received 17 separate honors for its 2016 edition. In addition, SFA TV-2 was recognized with four awards for previously published content, while KSAU radio received one award. In the previously published contests, SFA students compete against their peers at institutions with similar enrollment and program size.

Eleven SFA students attended the conference and participated in on-site contests where they competed head-to-head with journalism students from other TIPA member institutions, regardless of size. In these "live" events, four awards were presented to SFA students, including Tyler Fisher, Stone Fort yearbook editor-in-chief and The Pine Log ad manager, first place in yearbook design and third place in print advertising design; Joanna Armstrong, The Pine Log editor-in-chief, second place in feature writing; and Cynthia Cogan, The Pine Log webmaster and social media manager, honorable mention in public relations crisis management.

In addition, Parastoo Nikravesh, managing editor for The Pine Log, received TIPA's prestigious Jeff Henderson Scholarship for Journalism Excellence, which is awarded annually during the conference.

"The TIPA convention and competition is an opportunity to showcase the work our talented mass communication students produce throughout the

year as they are gaining real-world experience contributing to our on-campus media outlets," said Amy Roquemore, SFA director of student publications and divisional media

and adjunct faculty member in the mass communication department.

"As is their tradition, our students represented the university extremely well, not only with impressive submissions for the canned competition but also with award-winning work they produced under deadline pressure in the highly competitive live contests," Roquemore said. "These accolades are a testament to the skill and determination of SFA students preparing to enter the mass communication field, and it is a joy and privilege to work with them every day."

Fisher, a senior mass communication major from Spring, attended the conference for the second consecutive year, and said it was exciting to see SFA student media recognized as being among the best in Texas. Fisher will graduate in May and has been accepted into the university's Master of Business Administration program beginning this fall.

"I find a lot of joy being able to represent SFA and competing in something I love," Fisher said. "I am so proud of myself and my peers for all of the hard work we do to represent SFA in the best light possible. I think bringing home this many awards really shows how passionate we are about our jobs and making our school proud."

Established in 1909, TIPA is the largest and oldest collegiate press association in the U.S. The organization works to recognize excellence in campus media and open channels of communication and cooperation among student media programs at two- and four-year colleges and universities in Texas. More than 440 students representing 45 of TIPA's member institutions attended the 2017 conference.



Courtesy Photo

SFA students attended the recent Texas Intercollegiate Press Association's annual convention and competition in Dallas. Pictured, from left, are (back row) Devin Brooks, Juwan Lee, Cynthia Cogan, Bastian York, Ronnie Chapman, (front row) Delilah Gonzalez, Tyler Fisher, Brielle Thomas, Joanna Armstrong, Parastoo Nikravesh and Cara Campbell.

## Archie McDonald Speaker Series



# DOUGLAS BRINKLEY

AMERICAN HISTORIAN,  
BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AND  
CNN PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN



**Monday, April 24 ★ 7:30 p.m.**  
**SFA's Campus, Baker Pattillo Student Center, Grand Ballroom**  
(936) 468-5406 ★ [sfasu.edu/archie](http://sfasu.edu/archie)

**FREE event passes are available at SFA's information booth and Involvement Center, located in the Baker Pattillo Student Center, and at the downtown visitors center in Nacogdoches.**



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

# Taliesin

apartments

Here at the Taliesin  
we strive for 100%  
tenant satisfaction

Bring in this ad and  
pay no application  
fee! (\$35 Value)

**ALL BILLS PAID!**  
Water, Electric, Cable & Internet

The front entrance of SFA is right  
across the street.

We have customizable leasing  
options.

We're pet friendly with our dog trail and no breed restrictions!

We have Wired Internet so you  
don't have to share bandwidth.

We have 24-hour same-day  
maintenance.

One and Two Bedroom Units Available - Washers and Dryers Available in Select Units

[livetaliesin.com](http://livetaliesin.com)

LiveTaliNac



LiveTaliNac



LiveTaliesin

936.569.0032

# Opinions

The Pine Log Opinions Page regularly features the Axe 'Em Advice Column. The staff answers questions about everything from relationships to general life issues and everything in between. To submit your question, email [sfasupinelog@gmail.com](mailto:sfasupinelog@gmail.com).

@thepinelog

## Students' freedom to explore passions hit with price tag

Beginning spring 2018, Stephen F. Austin will no longer be awarding financial aid for courses that do not go toward a student's degree.

It should be understood that this was not a Board of Regents decision, but a federal regulation that has been applied in many other schools across the country. If SFA chose not to comply with this regulation, the university would risk losing all available funding for students attending SFA.

According to Rachele Garrett, director of financial aid, this decision "encourages students to know what is in their degree plan and encourages students to be more knowledge-based." Garrett also spoke on other positives, such as how this regulation could potentially reduce students' total loan debt.

A potential issue with the Title IV regulation is it puts many students at

risk of becoming trapped in a major they no longer feel is beneficial. The opinion that this ruling helps keep students on track and steers them away from taking "unnecessary" classes is not applicable to everyone. It is not far-fetched to believe an 18-year-old will change his or her mind on what career path to pursue while attending college. The goal of higher education is not only to become skillful in a profession. It also offers an opportunity for students to become more insightful and well-rounded citizens.

The main difference students will see in this regulation is how they will be able to reach full-time status. Before, you were able to add an elective to obtain 12 credit hours for the semester and still be awarded financial aid as a full-time student.

Carrienne Mance, assistant director of the office of student financial aid, said she does not see this impacting students as

most would think.

"If a student takes 12 hours on their degree plan and adds a class they want to take, then their financial aid is not going to be reduced," Mance said.

With all the attention focused on those students with majors who are encouraged to stick to their degree plans, how this will affect those who are undeclared may be overlooked.

Right now, officials are unable to answer the specifics of how this will affect those students, but students who are undeclared will be eligible to receive aid.

And if a decision will be made that students who are undeclared will still receive the same amount of aid as students with set degree plans, then would it not benefit students to enter college undeclared?

The goal of this regulation is to lower student debt while also keeping students

on track to graduate on time. But right now, it seems it would present a greater advantage to be undeclared until a student becomes confident in selecting a major.

On the surface, it seems the Title IV regulation presents no drastic changes to students' ability to receive financial aid, but it takes away from a student's ability to explore their options. One of the attractive things about college is being able to learn about yourself and your passions.

A student may come in with a preconceived idea of what a certain career path will be until they dive deeper into it. Instead of constantly switching majors, a student may want to take a class or two outside his or her current field of study to get a feel for a separate career path.

With students being required to have 12 hours dedicated to their major, the opportunity to explore other options would be diminished.



Illustration by Olivia Boan/ The Pine Log

### COLUMN



By Parastoo NIKRAVESH

## Awareness of current events uncovers painful realities

I'm a student journalist, and I'm supposed to know about current events. That's kind of part of my job. But here is the thing that intellectual people don't like to talk about: current events are depressing.

Knowing the dark underbelly of anything is disheartening, so why should knowing about how the world works be any exception? Finding out what your chicken nuggets are made out of or how a card trick is done destroys the allure and can bum you out.

But learning that most of your possessions are probably made from bonded slaves and that people die from curable diseases every day... how can you even process that? How can you even process all the darkest, cruelest things that are

either caused by human neglect or direct human actions?

Well, most of the time, you don't. You don't consider the terrible things that happen in the world because it's overwhelming, and it's almost never close enough to home. Sometimes we don't even know about it because we don't keep up with current events.

However, our generation has to know about what

*"As hard as it may be, learn about what's happening in the world around you... It won't be as hard as the people who live through it."*

is going on in the world. Millennials get a lot of heat for being self-involved, but I know several people of my age group who try to spread awareness on pressing

issues. If we can all take our involvement from passively liking a few Facebook posts now and then to actively educating ourselves and spreading awareness, then we can change something.

A lot of what I've learned recently is because of my international human rights class on campus—which can also be very depressing. We learned that shame is a powerful tool in making a country change its stance on a human rights violation; although some might wish it was a genuine change of heart, shame will just have to do.

And we can't shame them if we close ourselves off to what's happening. As hard as it may be—as painful as it may be—learn about what's happening in the world around you, either on your own, through a friend or even in a class. It won't be as hard as the people who live through it.

As was said in "The Lorax" by Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."

### COLUMN



By Brooke MOSLEY

## Career passions present great reward beyond wealth

liberal arts or social science majors are considered useless due to their low salaries or difficulty to obtain a job.

I understand that the latter majors usually don't have a high demand in the world; however, I don't think they should be put down just because of this either.

*"...I learned that some people fail to realize that it's not always about the money."*

There would be no TV shows or movies without film or TV majors. Without the vision of a graphic designer or an artist, we would see no logos or designs. The soundtrack of your favorite movie couldn't be made without music majors.

There would be a shortage of authors without English or creative writing majors. All of that is to say

that these majors aren't as "useless" as they seem.

After one of my friends asked me why I was a mass communication major, I told them that I had always had a passion for all things media. They couldn't understand why I would pursue a field so "simple" and went on to say that although they didn't like their own major, they would rather suffer through it just for the high salary.

From this I learned that some people fail to realize that it's not always about the money.

Pursuing a major you're passionate about may not result in paying the bills after college, but it's a whole lot better than wasting time and paying tuition for a future career you won't even like. Money is great, but it doesn't guarantee happiness.

Before questioning someone's major, consider that they are pursuing this not just for the money, but because it is something they are passionate about or gifted at.

### Opinions Policy

Opinions expressed in columns on this page of The Pine Log are those of the individual writer. Unsigned editorials, as well as editorial cartoons, are the opinion of The Pine Log editors and do not necessarily reflect those of the university, its administrative officers or its Board of Regents.

Letters should be typed and should include the student's hometown, classification, campus identification number and phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for space, spelling, grammar and potentially libelous material.

### Spring 2017 Editorial Board

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
JOANNA ARMSTRONG

OPINIONS EDITOR  
JUWAN LEE

SPORTS EDITOR  
DEVIN BROOKS

ADVERTISING MANAGER  
TYLER FISHER

WEBMASTER/SOCIAL MEDIA  
CYNTHIA COGAN

MANAGING EDITOR  
PARASTOO NIKRAVESH



PHOTO EDITOR  
HANNAH RUSSELL

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
DEVIN HOGUE

COPY EDITOR  
EMILY BROWN

VIDEO EDITOR  
AUDRA BRIDGES

CIRCULATION MANAGER  
EMMA GREGERSON

### We're looking for your FEEDBACK

✓ Write a letter to Grinding the Ax. Follow the guidelines on the left. Sign your name, and your letter will likely appear on this very page.

✓ You can also use our website to submit a letter to Grinding the Ax. It'll save you a trip to the Baker Pattillo Student Center.

✓ Post feedback to our stories online. Hit the "Comments" button at the end of a story and let us have it. We can take it.

# Sports

SFA Athletics | Intramural Sports | Sport Clubs

@TPLSports



Photo courtesy of Bastian York/ The Pine Log

## SFA Scoreboard

- FOOTBALL:** SFA defense improves during scrimmage at Carthage
- TENNIS:** Ladyjacks blanked by TAMCC Lady Islanders 7-0
- TRACK & FIELD:** Jacks claim four individual titles during CKI
- SOFTBALL:** Ladyjacks go 1-2 in series versus UCA, play HBU next
- BASEBALL:** Team completes three-game sweep of NWSU Demons

# Bowling into Baton Rouge

SFA Ladyjacks to defend their national title in the 2017 NCAA Championships

By Devin Brooks  
Sports Editor

Nearly a year after its run to the national stage, the SFA Women's Bowling team will return to the NCAA National Bowling Championships for a chance to defend its national title.

The championships will be held Thursday-Saturday, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Ladyjacks were one of the eight teams who qualified for the 2017 National Bowling Championships, qualifying for the national bowling tournament for the third-straight time. In 2015, SFA was runner-up in the national tournament before having the Cinderella run in 2016 that resulted in the win of their first outright national title in SFA sports history.

SFA is no stranger to this tournament. The last two years combined, the Ladyjacks recorded a 16-7 record. In 2015, SFA went 9-3 overall and 6-1 in pool play before their eventual loss to the Nebraska Lady Cornhuskers. The next

year, SFA racked up six-straight wins over the final days after starting the championship match 1-4. Their six-game run turned into their first national title after they defeated the 2015 champs Nebraska by two games.

Head coach Amber Lemke will lead SFA into the tournament. Lemke marked the third straight year that her team eclipsed 80 victories in a single-season with a 82-47 record, helping SFA finish top 10 in each of their 10 events this season.

For the tournament, SFA will come in as the seventh seed. Nebraska is the No. 1 seed, McKendree the No. 2 seed, Arkansas State the No. 3 seed, Sam Houston State the No. 4 seed, Vanderbilt the No. 5 seed, Fairleigh Dickinson the No. 6 seed and Maryland-Eastern Shore the No. 8 seed. SFA has gone head-to-head against each of the championship participants.

They've won four times against Vanderbilt and Maryland each and have three victories against Arkansas State and Fairleigh Dickinson.

This is the third-straight year that the championship field has comprised Southland Bowling League members. The field includes SFA, Arkansas State, Sam Houston State and Vanderbilt.

The Ladyjacks will look to get off to a fast start this year and hope to use their momentum to get them back into the championship match. They want to put themselves in a position to win back-to-back national titles, which is something that has never been done in NCAA Division I, or SFA sports, history.

The 2017 NCAA Championships will be played at the Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge with Southland Bowling League member, Tulane University, hosting the championships. Pool play will begin Thursday and will conclude Friday. Following pool play, the double elimination bracket will start for the right to become the next NCAA Division I National Champion.

The championship match will be televised on ESPNU at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday.



Photo by Hannah Russell/ The Pine Log



Courtesy photo

This time last year the SFA Women's Bowling team clinched its first-ever national championship title when the women defeated the Nebraska Lady Cornhuskers in the final match of the National Bowling Championships. This season, the Ladyjacks have a chance to repeat as champions for the first time in SFA program history.

# Taylor Ross named 2017 Player of the Year

By Laython Washington  
Contributing Writer

SFA Ladyjack Taylor Ross recently won the 2017 Player of the Year award for women's basketball.

Last season, Ross earned First Team All-Southland Conference also averaging a career high 16.5 points per game in her junior season, a huge improvement from her freshman year averaging 6 points per game as the starting point guard.

Ross earned MVP of the conference, scoring 1,000 points (1,125), leading her team to one of the best records in Ladyjacks basketball history with a record of 25-8. Ross was named to the 2016 First Team All-SLC and SLC All-Defensive Team after being named to 2015 Second Team All-SLC.

"I definitely wasn't expecting it," Ross said. "I just wanted to come in and play my role."

Ross said her mindset hasn't changed going from her freshman to sophomore year.

"Same mindset," Ross said. "And now it's a little more important because I'm kind of understanding it so it was definitely work hard to win conference."

Ross helped the Ladyjacks win the 16th and 17th SLC as starting point guard her freshman and sophomore year. During her sophomore season, Ross was named to Second Team All-Southland conference and led the team in assists (1450 and steals (68) increasing her average of points per game to 14. Teammate Adrienne Lewis said having Ross as her floor general made life easier for her.

"The fact I had her by my side for four years was probably the best thing ever because I couldn't ask for a better point guard for four years," Lewis said.

Ross increased her career highs for a season to 16.5 points, four assists, 3.1 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game; leading the team in scoring, assists, and steals. In a game against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, Ross hit a milestone late in this past basketball season, reaching the 1,000 point club scoring 25 points.

Coming in her freshman year, Ross said she knew she would have to work hard and that attitude has carried her through her successful career.

"I didn't even expect to play," Ross said. "I was going to come in and work hard and if I got to play, I got to play, and if I didn't I needed to work harder."

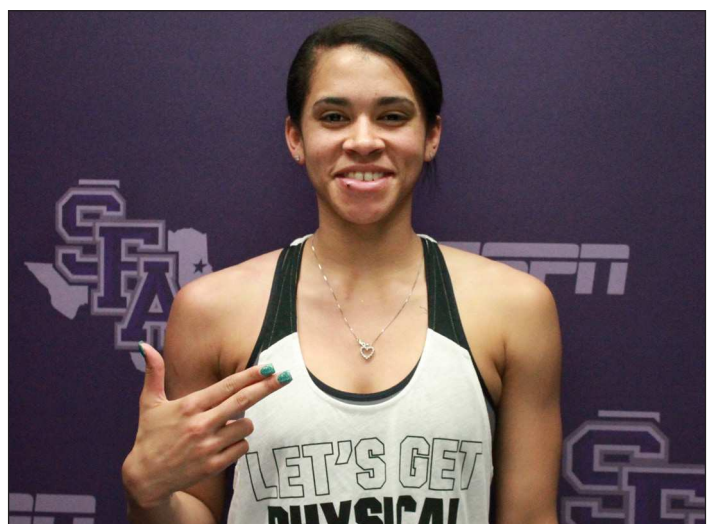



Photo by Hannah Russell/ The Pine Log

Ladyjack guard Taylor Ross puts up the axe one last time.



**Lighten your load next semester by taking a class at TJC over the break!**

**MAY TERM**  
Classes begin May 15


**SUMMER I**  
Classes begin June 5

**MID-SUMMER**  
Classes begin June 19

**SUMMER II**  
Classes begin July 10

**TJC.edu/register**

**REGISTER NOW**



**TJC**