



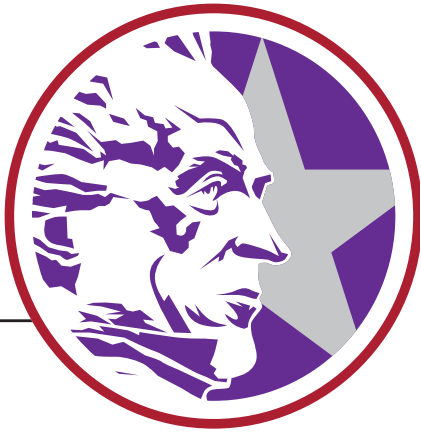
Homecoming King and Queen

■ The 2019 Homecoming King and Queen were named at the SFA vs. McNeese game on Saturday. Larrian Menifee, senior music education major from Galveston, was named king, and Margaret Flanagan, senior mass communication major from Houston, was named queen. The two were crowned by SFA President Dr. Scott Gordon. **Photo by LaShauna Bell / The Pine Log**

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The Independent Voice of Stephen F. Austin State University



INSIDE:

- College Diabetes Network plans World Diabetes Day celebration, **Page 2**
- History of Mays contributes to residence hall's spooky vibe, **Page 4**
- Column discusses Chester the University ghost, **Page 5**
- International student athletes conquer tennis together, **Page 6**

Jolt holds immigrants day panel

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

Jolt held a National Immigrants Day panel on Monday, which featured five international students from SFA campus.

Emmanuella Adegbola, senior biology major from Nigeria, Joice Acosta, senior speech pathology major from Mexico, David Ajiga, senior business economics major from Nigeria, Opeyemi Mulero, junior biology major from Nigeria and Maria Cruz, junior social work major from Mexico, were all part of the immigrant panel.

To open the panel, Dr. Aaron Moulton, assistant professor of history, provided insight on the history of immigration.

"There was not an established immigration system before the late 1800s. Immigration was pretty loose. There was never a fear of us running out of space or out of jobs. It was just assumed, if you were healthy, if you lived here long enough, we were going to make you a U.S. citizen. Our industrial system welcomed them," Moulton said.

Moulton explained the laws and history of immigration up to the 2000s, and after the lesson on immigration, the students answered questions

See JOLT on Page 3

Latinx Caucus created to bring Latinx community together



Photo courtesy of Tegan Mingo / Latinx Caucus

By Meredith Janning
News Editor

The Latinx Caucus is a new group on campus that advocates for the Latinx community at SFA, as well as in the Nacogdoches community. The group started last April. But, this semester the leadership board was officially named.

"We're supposed to be a uniting force for the Latinx SFA community and the Nacogdoches community," executive director of the Latinx Caucus, Andrea Flores, a junior social work major

from Mission, said. "Because we see that there's a lot of separation of the Latinx community within SFA and within Nacogdoches, so we just want to bring everybody together. That's our main purpose."

Earlier in October, the caucus hosted its first open Town Hall meeting but plans to host more events in the future.

"This semester, we've planned a social and a fundraiser that we have coming up in the next month, so both of those are Latinx-centered events that will promote different cultures within the Latinx community," Flores said. "And for the social,

basically, we're trying to create several socials throughout the semester. But, this social serves the purpose of uniting all the Latinx students on campus because we're also kind of separated amongst ourselves."

Organization Student Outreach Coordinator Judy Torres, a junior political science major from Fort Worth, said the town hall meetings help the leadership board give information to students, but also receive information back.

See CAUCUS on Page 3

East Austin to be completed March 2020

By Amanda Hope
Contributing Writer

East Austin Street is set to be completed in March 2020, but students are complaining because the shutdown has affected their commute to school. In January, construction started a \$2.9 million project that will change the once two-lane road to a four-lane road with the addition of sidewalks. There will also be a new traffic signal installed at the intersection of Raguet and East Austin streets.

"Since this project has been underway during an incredibly wet year, there have been more delays and non-work days than would normally have occurred during a normal weather year," Main Street Communications Director Amy Mehaffey said.

Some students have heard rumors about Austin Street opening up and closing back down, but this is not true.

"The road has not opened back up to be quickly shut down again," Mehaffey said. "However, the residents who live on the street are provided a path in and out, so someone could have witnessed local

See AUSTIN on Page 3

SFA hires assistant dean of student affairs for equity, diversity and inclusion

By Ryan Eubanks
Contributing Writer

Dr. Michara Fields, the new assistant dean of student affairs for equity, diversity and inclusion at SFA, started in the position on Oct. 21.

Her role in student affairs is to create a network of care responses to the diverse student body at SFA.

"This is enacted by ensuring critical services and programs are accessible to all students at all times," Fields said.

"We want to make sure we are building this inclusive community, that we are making sure that our students are getting the resources that are available to them here on campus and that they are utilizing them."

Fields explained that part of her job is making sure that academic affairs is informed about the provided programs, so that faculty members can relay that information to students as well.

"The different areas that I have are, of course, counseling services," Field said.

"I have disability services, veterans' affairs, multicultural affairs and community standards. So, with those students that may be having those difficulties in judicial areas or may be having difficulties in counseling or disability, we want to make sure that they are a part and that they are getting the resources available to them. That is where that 'equity' comes in. We don't want to make them feel like they are an

outcast. We want to make them feel like they are a part of the institution as well and that they are using the resources available to them."

Fields also said that she will be teaching graduate students in the student affairs program. The responsibilities of Fields' position align with her many years of experience. Fields has been a higher education professional for more than 11 years. She held various positions with progressive responsibility at Albany State University in Georgia. Most recently, she served as assistant vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. She also served as interim vice president for student affairs and interim dean of students at Albany State.

Fields became a licensed teacher initially but eventually made the transition to higher education. She described any opportunity to teach as her passion, but her drive to work in higher education is what attracted her to SFA.



Photo by LaShauna Bell / The Pine Log

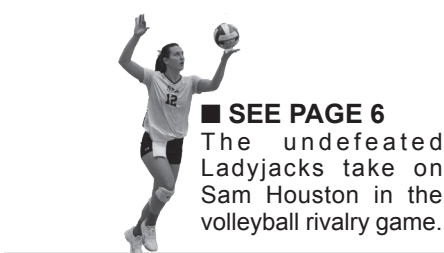
"Once I transitioned into higher education, there was no going back," Fields said. "I really liked the atmosphere. I liked the dialogue. I liked the intellectual conversations with the students, and getting that feeling of being a part of their experience is what really attracted me."

The position of assistant dean of student affairs for equity, diversity and inclusion replaces the position of assistant dean of students for support services that was previously held by

Dr. Michael Walker. Walker recently returned to teaching full time.

Dr. Adam Peck, assistant vice president for university affairs and dean of student affairs, described a long-standing desire to create the position and his excitement for Fields to occupy it.

"For some time, I've dreamed of hiring an assistant dean for equity, diversity and inclusion," Peck Tweeted last week. "Yesterday, that dream became a reality."



■ **SEE PAGE 6**
The undefeated Ladyjacks take on Sam Houston in the volleyball rivalry game.

NEWS

Organization of Latin Americans holds conference to encourage first-generation students to go to college

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

The Organization of Latin Americans held a conference to bring Lufkin and Nacogdoches high school students to SFA campus. The event invited minority students of the surrounding areas to inform them on the college application process and encourage them to go to college. With about 90 students in attendance, 45 from Lufkin and 45 from Nacogdoches, the event focused on the importance of going to college. Leaders of both organizations spoke on their experiences as first-generation college students,

as most minorities are first-generation students.

Areli Rodriguez, senior kinesiology major from Dallas, explained that the high school conference's primary purpose was to prepare the students for an idea of college and to take away what they see in the media.

"They can actually come here and ask real college students who live off and on campus to show them what is a real college experience," Rodriguez said.

The students had the chance to speak to people from financial aid and admissions.

"I feel like this is necessary for high schools to keep in mind. And also, not really come to universities first, but at least maybe community college is in their route and to kind of give them that opportunity," Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said that the event taught the students that college isn't just about getting a degree. It's about growing up as well.

Samuel Servin, international and intercultural communication major from Nacogdoches, said that most of the kids who attended have parents who come from other countries and have different struggles than students who have parents that are from the United States.

"We gear a lot of this conference towards using those struggles and that ethnic background,"

Servin said. "Sometimes, they are so shy about [their struggles], or sometimes that they become embarrassed of because they're here and they don't speak the language.

"We used all of that to empower them and to embrace it and to use it as a motivation for them to branch out and go for the dreams they want to pursue. When you really want something, it doesn't matter where you're coming from, what your status is, if you speak the language or not. You can do anything that you put yourself to."

Two high school students who attended gave their perspective on the event and what it meant for them. Verania Martinez, a senior at Lufkin High School, said the event gave her insight on the possibility of coming to SFA.

"I learned the opportunities at SFA," Martinez said. "Often, it's seen as a smaller school, but they still have the same opportunities as any big college. I think it's giving me

a push to come here because I have two schools in mind, and one of them is here. I love my family, and we're really close. A good school that is close makes me really want to come here."

Martinez said that as a minority, she feels that people don't talk to Hispanics about college like they do other people.

"For some colleges, they choose minorities more because they're starting to realize that having minorities is a good thing," Martinez said.

"In the past, when my older siblings were applying, they would give more information to the white students because

they were like, 'Well, your parents went to college, your grandfather went to college. You're going to do well in college.'"

However, Martinez said that Latinx people are starting to show that they can go to college and do well, too. She plans to become a lawyer in the future. Devin Garcia, a sophomore, is part of the Early College High School group that offers dual credit classes.

"There's multiple people here to help you through whatever crisis you're going through and that you can make it through college no matter what's happening," Garcia said.

Garcia appreciated the conference because she said that at her high school, students are still confused on applying to college and how to get scholarships.

"It's a really good program to come into, to know that it's easier than what they think."

Garcia plans on studying social work or psychology when she goes to college.

Representatives of Jolt were also in attendance to help register high school students to vote. According to its website, Jolt is the largest Latino progressive organization in Texas focused on building the political power and influence of young Latinos.



Photo by Kayleigh East / The Pine Log

High school students from Lufkin and Nacogdoches came to SFA to learn about the college application process. The event aimed to encourage minority students to go to college.

Crime Log:

10/23/19

An officer was dispatched to the Wilson Parking Garage in reference to a hit and run. Upon arrival, the officer made contact with the complainant, who advised that between Oct. 22 and 23, his unattended vehicle was damaged in the Wilson Parking Garage. There are no suspects.

An officer was dispatched to Lot 21 in reference to a hit and run. Upon arrival, the officer made contact with the complainant, who advised that on Oct. 23, his unattended vehicle was damaged in Lot 21. There is one suspect.

An officer was dispatched to the Wright Music building in reference to theft. Upon arrival, the officer made contact with the complainant, who advised between Sept. 18 and Oct. 11 money was stolen from her unattended wallet on numerous occasions in the Music building. There are no suspects.

10/26/19

An officer was dispatched to UPD to meet with a complainant in reference to a hit and run. The complainant advised that on Oct. 26, her unattended vehicle was damaged while it was parked in the Village Parking Garage. There are no suspects.

An officer was dispatched to the field house to meet with a complainant in reference to a theft. The complainant advised that on Oct. 26, someone removed his unsecured property from the field house locker room without his consent. There are no suspects.

10/27/19

An officer was dispatched to Hall 16 to meet with a complainant in reference to a sexual assault. Upon arrival, the officer met with the complainant who advised that on Oct. 27, she was sexually assaulted by a known subject in Hall 16. There is one suspect.

To contact UPD in an emergency, call 9-1-1.

For non-emergencies, call (936) 468-2608.

By Jocelyn Bradford
Contributing Writer

The Lumberjack Cultural Association will host its 12th annual Tunnel of Oppression, a series of interactive scenes depicting real life-scenes of oppression, from 6 to 9 p.m. Nov. 4-5 in the Baker Pattillo Student Center. The goal of the event is to educate students and the community on the realities of oppression and learn ways to avoid being the oppressor. The free event will be open to the public and take place in 14 different rooms throughout the student center, starting in the BPSC Theater.

"The purpose of the tunnel has remained the same, which is to show diversity in different marginalized groups that are oppressed," Elda Echeverry, president of LCA and senior political science major from

Houston, said. "Every year, the topics change because we try to do it based on what's relevant."

The topics that will be portrayed and discussed are things that have happened and continue to happen every day, all around the world.

"[The tunnel] takes you through the mindset of people who go through oppression to see from their viewpoint," DaQuan Allen, a sophomore creative writing major and OMA student ambassador from Dallas, said. "Racial profiling, suicide, genocide—things that can happen with oppression and that can happen because of oppression."

While seeing from a different standpoint is part of the goal of the Tunnel of Oppression, leaving with a different perspective is the hoped-for end result.

"When you come out of it, [you

can say] let me watch myself to make sure I'm not being somebody who oppresses somebody else. Or if I notice it, I can say something," Allen said. "Nobody wants to be oppressed, and hopefully nobody wants to be the oppressor."

Partnering with different organizations that are affiliated with the Office of Multicultural Affairs, many different perspectives are perceived from people of all backgrounds when it comes to the different themes within the tunnel. According to Echeverry, the experience is "all-inclusive."

"It was really eye opening because it does bring awareness to things that you didn't know were happening," Breanna Moore, vice president of LCA and junior human development and family studies major from Dickinson, said.

Moore also foreshadowed what is to come at this year's tunnel, hoping that it will shed light on a topic not many people realize happens on SFA's campus.

"This semester we're talking about rape culture, which I noticed has played a big part on campus currently so it's important to bring up," said Moore. "It helps you become more aware and lets you learn where you can take action and help."

Due to the severity of certain scenes, parents are urged not to bring younger children. Because certain scenes will have trigger warnings, campus counselors will be available throughout the tunnel for anyone to speak to. To register early for this event, students and community members can come to the OMA in advance. Visitors can also register at the door.

College Diabetes Network plans World Diabetes Day celebration

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

The College Diabetes Network chapter at SFA, Lumberbetics, will be celebrating World Diabetes Month on Nov. 14, World Diabetes Day, with a game event at Surfin' Steve. The game will imitate Cranium, a trivia board game. The game will educate students on diabetes. Students are encouraged to register to join the game. Students may join in groups of four to six. A team is \$15 per group. The game will begin at 6 p.m.

"This is an invisible illness," the president of CDN, Kacey Creel, senior food nutrition major from Madisonville, said.

"It's an invisible disability. You don't really look at a person and know that they have diabetes. Type two, you can get it from just genetics. You don't have to be overweight. That's what this month is shining on."

As a person with diabetes, Creel said the month is special to her, especially to raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. JDRF uses the month of November to raise as much money as possible. The proceeds of the donations go to finding a cure for type one diabetes specifically. According to the JDRF website, "We know an equal amount of children and adults are diagnosed every day—approximately 110 people per day" and "nearly 85% of people living with the disease are over age 18."

"Whenever I post on Facebook, my fundraiser page, I get so many people commenting about just



Photo by Cameron Sweet / The Pine Log

The College Diabetes Network hopes to use an upcoming game night to educate students about diabetes and what it's like to be diabetic. Groups can find out more information about the event at the open meeting on Nov. 6.

admiring what I go through," Creel said. "It's a good month to get that refresher to keep going."

Mikayla Dohmann, vice president of Lumberbetics and sophomore nursing major from Allen, was diagnosed with type one diabetes when she was 10 years old.

"That really affected me, just being a kid and going through puberty," Dohmann said. "That was really hard. A lot of it is predicting how your blood sugars will act when you work out, when you eat, when you're stressed, when you're sick, when you're on your period."

Although in the past few years, Dohmann has been able to keep her blood sugars down, the

struggle of dealing with type one diabetes still follows. Dohmann said her goal this month is to help educate people on diabetes and what it's like living with diabetes.

"Depression and anxiety comes with diabetes," Dohmann said. "Being in class [with] your sugar being off and your pump going off, getting funny looks, going to airports and going through security. It affects every part of my life."

Jennifer Janovsky, sophomore math major from Rockwall, is a member of the organization and has type one diabetes.

"People think take a pill and you're fine, but you have to constantly watch your blood sugar and constantly interact to make sure you don't die," Janovsky said. "It's life threatening."

Creel, president of Lumberbetics, said that the University has a lot of health care majors.

"Learning in class about diabetes is completely different than actually having it," Creel said. "We are not a textbook disease. I feel that the only way for our future healthcare providers to actually learn what it is to have type one, type two, is to know someone with it and to hear what they go through. I would love to teach [others] what it is to have it and raise awareness."

At 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 6, The College Diabetes Network at SFA will meet at the Student Recreation Center. The meeting will be open to the public.

As of press time, three groups have signed up to the game night at Surfin' Steve. To sign up to attend the game night, students can email Kacey Creel at sfasu@collegediabetesnetwork.org.

ATHLETES: Ladyjacks continue their tennis careers away from home countries

From Page 6

sports business major from France, found SFA through a recruiting firm.

“My best friend started to play tennis, and I didn't know what sport I should try,” Bleicher said. “So, I just played with my best friend for one year. She quit, but I continued because my coach was really nice, and I really loved to play tennis,” Bleicher said.

Bleicher said she loves the spirit her team has. “We support each other and practice hard every day and practice hard many times a week.”

Gabriella Guilarte, senior international business major from Barquisimeto, Venezuela, said she has a passion for tennis because it's individual. Guilarte led the tennis team with a 9-10 record in doubles play which included a 4-7 showing in Southland Conference doubles matches this season.

“It's not like soccer-- I don't

like that,” Guilarte said. “If I play good, I win. If I play bad, I lose.”

The hardest part about playing tennis for the university for her is to be far from her family.

“All of my family lives in Venezuela,” Guilarte said. “My parents and my two little sisters come visit me here. I see them in the summers, and that's it. Last Christmas, I couldn't go to Venezuela because there weren't any plane tickets, so I had to stay here. I miss them a lot. It hits hard.”

Ai Noa Fabre, sophomore kinesiology major from Vilvoorde, Belgium, began to play tennis at about 5 years old.

“My parents wanted me to play sports, so I tried a little bit of everything,” Fabre said. “But, my dad played tennis

for his entire life.”

Fabre credits her tennis coach for coming to SFA.

“It's fun coming to practice,” Fabre said. “We're working hard as a team. We're trying to give our best. I like the spirit.”

“We talk about culture all the time. I think that is important where they come from and their culture.”

– Head coach Erin Scott

She said that being a part of a diverse team is educational.

“We get to learn about each other,” Fabre said.

Annie Walker, junior liberal studies major from Las Vegas, Nevada, is the only non-international student on the team.

“Nacogdoches is a small college town, which I really like,” Walker said. “That's the

main difference. It's more humid here.”

At Montana State, Walker matched her performance in wins from the previous year with an 8-10 record in doubles. Walker just transferred to SFA from Montana State. The main reason being Scott.

“A lot of tennis teams are [diverse],” Walker said. “My freshman year, it was cool seeing the different cultures. The food... They're all really good cooks.”

Scott said it's common to have a lot of international girls on a tennis team.

“This is my second year here,” Scott said. “All of them but two are girls that I did not recruit. We talk about culture all the time. I think that is important where they come from and their culture. It's great to all get together, and

we all can share stories and talk about that. I think it's a good recruiting tool. I show them that we hang flags [in the locker room].”

Scott explained the U.S. is the only country that offers sport and university combined.

“There's not very many international students at SFA,” Scott said. “Maybe they don't offer English as second language courses. Because most of these girls, all of them, English is not their first language. So, they're coming over here, having to learn and study in English. There isn't a big international population.”

The Ladyjack tennis team practices 20 hours a week and do an hour of fitness.

“The girls work hard,” Scott said. “They're students before they're athletes. All of them do very well in school, so they have a very well-rounded student athlete experience.”

While it's normal for the girls to get homesick, Scott said she picks up on their

emotions and talk about it with them.

“Usually when you're having a bad day, anybody, they miss home,” Scott said. “That's their comfort. I think to have that open line of communication with all of them and to validate their feelings that it is okay to be homesick. I think it helps nowadays with FaceTime and Skype because you're able to see and speak.”

In the collegiate level, tennis is played as a spring sport. In the fall, the team plays singles and doubles matches without a team outcome.

“I wish more people would come out and support and watch tennis,” Scott said. “We get a few fans. But just to get to know them, I think they like when people come out and watch. They like to get to know people. They like the fans here, they love Nacogdoches, they love SFA. They love being a part of this athletic family.”

AUSTIN: Students excited to have road re-opened

From Page 1

on East Austin at the Raguet intersection.”

Even though students are excited to have a new road, they are ready for it to be finished. Students living near Austin street had to change their regular morning routines to avoid getting trapped in their apartment and missing class.

“Besides the fact that the noises go on from 8 a.m. to 3 or 4 p.m., I've been affected because of the parking at my apartment,” Madelynn Menke, a junior psychology major from Sugar Land said. “If I have to park at the other building, I have to get out the door within a certain time in the morning, if I need to get across to my car across Austin Street.”

The street being shut down is not

the only thing affecting students' commute to school. They have also been complaining about the issues that the temporary street signs at the intersection of North and Austin have caused.

“It being shut down has been aggravating, not only because it cuts off the flow of traffic from the West side of town to the East,” Draven Shean, a junior business administration major from Woodlands said. “But, when they put up the temporary street signs a large majority of drivers here in [Nacogdoches] either ignore them to start, or didn't even realize that if they pulled up all the way that they couldn't see the actual light change.”

Mehaffey encourages students to

have an open mind about the project.

“We are thankful for the road upgrade due to the need for larger thoroughfares that run east and west in the city limits,” Mehaffey said. “It is difficult to wait until these items are complete, but it is a great project for the community and SFA students alike. A large majority of the work done prior to the very visible parts of the road construction are utility relocations. When a road is widened each utility entity must relocate their infrastructure out of the new footprint. As a growing community, we support projects such as this and work closely with TxDOT, who maintain many roads in our community, to ensure improvements are being made to best serve our citizens.”

RIVALRY: Ladyjacks play SHSU, HBU to continue winning streak

From Page 6

team has an attacking percentage of .213 while allowing opponents a .190 attacking percentage. The Bearkats average 12.2 assists per set, 15.7 digs per set and 1.9 blocks per set.

Junior outside hitter Ashley Lewis leads the Bearkats offense with 309 kills this season, averaging 3.59 kills per set and a .203 hitting percentage. On defense, she has a total of 220 digs and 2.56 digs per set. Lewis also has 35 blocks and averages 0.41 block per set. Defensive setter and libero Addison Miller has 409 digs this season, averaging 4.76 digs per set.

HBU is ranked fifth in the SLC with a 6-4 conference record, 14-11 overall record and a .560 winning percentage. The Huskies have a .193 attacking percentage and allow opponents a .179 attacking percentage. The team averages 12.4 kills per set, 11.5 assists per set, 17.4 digs per set and two blocks per set.

Junior outside hitter Mikayla Vivens has a total of 297 kills, averaging 3.3 kills per set and a .182 hitting percentage.

JOLT: Immigrants work hard to overcome stereotypes, be successful in college

From Page 1

All panel members agreed that they came to the U.S. to get a better education, except Acosta.

“I didn't have a choice. My parents brought me here. I was three years old. I think it was a better life because my parents were really poor,” she said.

Adegbola, Mulero, and Ajiga are here on an F1 student visa, where they have to file a visa application from their home country, go through an interview process and ultimately be approved to enter the U.S. to attend a university or college.

Adegbola, Mulero and Ajiga gave the audience insight on what it's like having to be a college student on the F1 visa.

“The hardest part is the interview for your visa because it's really tough. They ask you questions, you have to know a lot about the U.S. and the education system. They deny a lot of people. If you're not confident or if you kind of stutter, they can deny you. I remember I was at the embassy and they were denying a lot of people. That's the toughest part coming here as a student,” Ajiga said.

According to the rules of the F1 visa, international students cannot have a job off campus.

“As international students, we pay three, four times more what you pay for tuition. I'm sure a lot of you get to work off campus, so you can get jobs that will pay you better. As international students, we don't get to work off campus. I'm stuck with a \$7.25 pay. I have to get my ring from that and pay whatever I have to pay from that. It's been difficult,” Adegbola said.

The students said that when they initially came to SFA, they felt different and didn't feel comfortable identifying as immigrant students.

“When I moved here, it was hard because in most of my classes, I was the only foreigner. SFA isn't really diverse so it was hard, but I'm more comfortable with it because it's my identity,” Ajiga said.

“At the beginning for me, it was hard because nobody knew anything about international students. Because of my accents, people found it hard to relate to me. When I came to SFA, it was easier. Some people don't know about Nigera, so gradually it has gotten easier for me to put myself out there and talk about Nigeria. Now, I can identify as an international student in

particular,” Mulero said.

“I'm an illegal immigrant, but sometimes I'm like, why should I say yes or no, because there's so much racism at SFA,” Acosta said.

Acosta recalls a time she was in a class on campus when a student made a comment about illegal immigrants.

“I just went off but I started crying because I cry when I'm mad. Now, I use it to speak up. I have DACA and I feel like a lot of people don't want to speak about it. I'd rather do something good and advocate for more people,” she said.

The next question asked was if students felt any privileges or benefits for being immigrants.

“As an immigrant, you work harder. You have to be a perfect citizen. You can't have any bad records, you have to be perfect to have it [DACA]. If I mess up, it's taken away from me. It gives us a benefit to have that and I feel like I am privileged in the fact that my skin color, I'm not as dark as other people. There's still so many people that, ‘Oh, she's darker. She's going to get bullied,’” Acosta said.

Mulero said that during her experience as an immigrant at SFA, people have asked her if people in Nigeria live in huts and that students have asked her when she started wearing clothes.

“In Nigeria, it's just like here. We have an airport. Some people are really surprised

when I tell them about it, which is why I like telling people about Africa, Nigeria, because people really don't know the real Africa,” Mulero said.

Once the international students graduate from SFA, they have 60 days to return back to their country. If they find employment here, they have to file for another visa to stay.

Caucus: establishing open dialogue

From Page 1

conversation in front between different people to try to get more information on how we want to move forward,” Torres said.

According to Torres, the caucus offers Latinx students a place of organization and unity.

In our Hispanic culture, we value family and familial bonds over everything, and I think this is a way to bring something like that onto campus,” Torres said.

Organization and Student Outreach Coordinator Ana Aguirre- Garcia, a junior international and intercultural communication major from Nacogdoches, aims to use the group to welcome students to campus.

“I'm looking forward to helping other students feel welcome on the SFA campus, especially the Latinx community, but not only reserved to the Latinx community,” Aguirre- Garcia said. “We like to be open, hearing other issues from other students, but I'm excited to help out.”

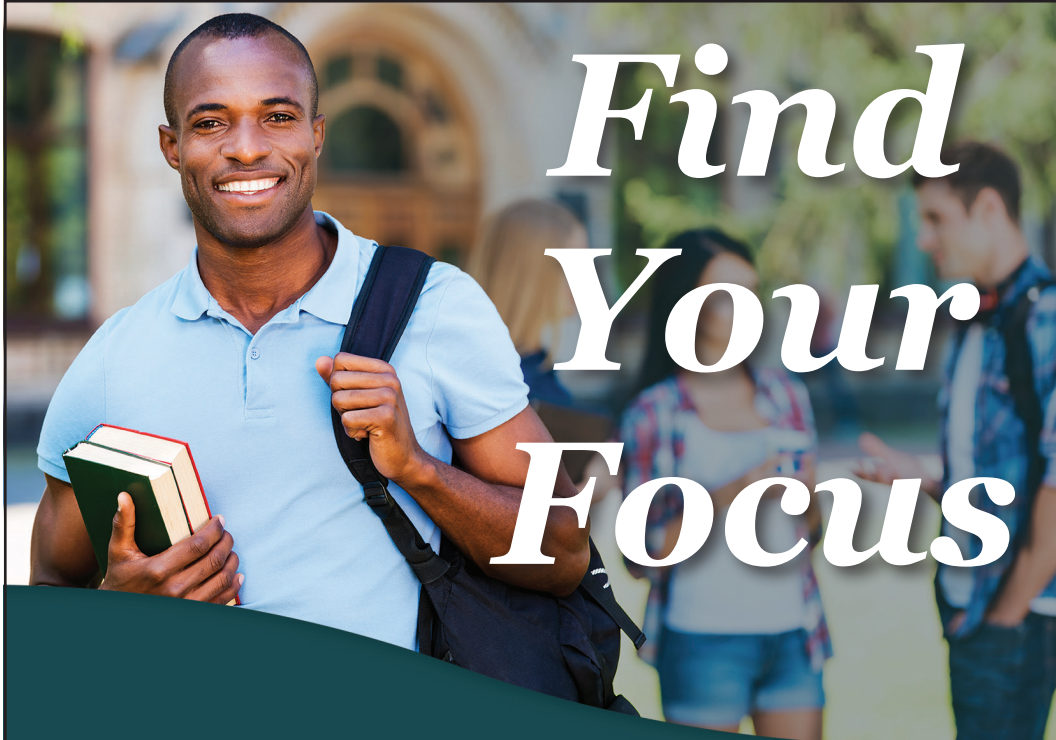
According to Aguirre-Garcia, the caucus will benefit students across campus by giving them a voice to make change, focusing not on one specific topic, but whatever people want to say.

“I definitely feel like it will make SFA

students feel more welcome and feel like they have a voice,” Aguirre- Garcia said. “Because, sometimes we feel as though being in these organizations we may have a voice, but it's not as outspoken. So, I definitely feel like it will help us reach out to actually getting things done. To me, [the caucus] means that we have a foundation. Somebody that's overhead of everything and bringing all the Latinx community organizations together, not only like one specific to a certain thing because there's different ones, like specifically about culture, specifically about politics. I feel like this brings it all together.”




For community outreach, Executive Director Flores said the caucus will promote Latinx-owned businesses and create communication between those businesses and SFA.


“I love seeing my people thrive, especially thrive together,” Flores said. “I think that's maybe the part that makes me the happiest about being part of this caucus, that we have the opportunity to actually make something like that happen. Because, individually, we all have our aspirations. As organizations, we also have our goals. I think we're going to be serving as something higher than we'll just make sure that we're doing all the things that we want to, but we're doing them as a team.”



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History of Mays contributes to residence hall’s spooky vibe



Photo by Andrew Delph / The Pine Log

Mays Hall is an all-male residence hall located on the north side of campus. As one of the oldest building on campus, it carries a great deal of history from its time as a hospital. This has given it a reputation for spooky occurrences in the halls of the building.

By Grayson Porter
Staff Writer

As one of the oldest buildings at SFA, it is no surprise that Mays Hall has an interesting and slightly spooky history. When it was first built, Mays Hall was used as a hospital. However, according to the East Texas Research Center, when SFA bought the building in 1950, the building was turned into a dormitory. Originally called Senior Women’s Dormitory, the building housed 108 residents until 1963 when the first floor was renovated, letting the building hold 175 students. The dorm was

also renamed to honor the first dean of women at SFA – Ruthe E. Mays. According to Dana Goolsby in a piece about haunted places on texasescapes.com, despite the remodeling, there was one place on the property that kept some of its 1940s persona—the basement. While the hospital was active, the basement was split into a morgue and deep bomb shelter. Goolsby goes on to say that at its prime, the basement area of the now dormitory housed dead bodies and lifesaving necessities in its small area, while also having the utensils necessary for cremating the bodies. Even

with the area being closed off and locked, some brave students say they are able to sneak their way down into the bowels of the building to see what the basement holds. Goolsby wrote that according to these students, the morgue was slightly remodeled to house some custodial equipment. But, for the most part, the room is vacant. After walking down the winding stairs, the appearance of the area may be underwhelming. The basement consists of a wide hallway with empty rooms coming off of the main hall with an old couch sitting right in the center as well as the custodian equipment and some random pieces of

miscellaneous supplies, such as a whiteboard in the corner of the room. Even after the cremation materials, old furniture and left-over trash is discovered, there is still an odd alluring detail about the space. According to Goolsby, some of the students who have made it to the old morgue have reportedly felt an extremely negative and heavy energy. The negative energy is said to be subtle at first as you wander the small area, but the feeling slowly builds as the students walk toward a false wall at the back of the morgue area. Some who have been down there do not share the sentiment. “Not at all. It was more the

idea of what it used to be that freaked me out,” said Jordyn Schmidt, a graduate student from Austin. “It was weird though because you could see the rooms where they clearly prepped and did everything.” Legend has it that that the closer you get to the wall—the heavier the negative energy seems to become. According to Goolsby, some Mays Hall residents believe that a ghost, maybe one of a former patient to the hospital, still haunts the sacred halls that they call home. Since the area is blocked off to the public, one way to view the hidden room is by walking down the steps

in the back-right side of the building. At the bottom, there is a locked door and a window that shows the inside of the forbidden room. In 2015, in a piece for Nac Edition by Victoria Bean, a student who was looking through the window said he witnessed a trash can move by itself. When it comes to the supernatural in the folk tales of SFA, graduate Fili Galindo from Houston said, “It’s cool to go along with a folk tale. Spooky doesn’t have to be just scary, it can also be fun.... spooky season is for everyone, believers and non believers. It allows suspension of belief... and we can have fun with it.”

Review: ‘Texas Chainsaw Massacre’ scarier second time around

By Meredith Janning
News Editor

Recently, I revisited a film that I swore I would never watch again. Why I chose to rewatch it, I don’t know. But, it fits in with October and Texas, making it that much more terrifying. The first time I watched, “Texas Chainsaw Massacre” was about a year ago. I watched it with my dad in broad daylight, so I hadn’t thought much about the weight of the horror attached to it. Because of that, I shared it with my friends, home alone, in the middle of the night. I’m not sure if they’ve forgiven me for that yet. I’ve been too afraid to watch it since then. Well, until now. However, this time I paid more attention to the aspects of the film that made it the horror masterpiece that it is. The film follows five young people—Jerry, Kirk, Pam, Sally and her brother, Franklin—as they take a road trip through Texas to visit the grave of Sally and Franklin’s grandfather after a string of grave robberies. After visiting the grave, the group heads toward their grandfather’s house, picking up a hitchhiker along the way who talks with Franklin about the nearby slaughterhouse. The hitchhiker makes things pretty weird, pretty fast. He uses Franklin’s knife to cut his hand, takes a picture of Franklin and burns it. They, of course, kick him out of the van, and he marks it with his blood before being left behind. After arriving at the house and looking around, Kirk and Pam split off from the group to find the swimming pond. Instead, they find a house strangely decorated with bones and leather hides. Abruptly, the audience is introduced to the killer, Leatherface, as Kirk and Pam meet their fate. One by one, the characters all get killed. Only Sally seems to escape. But, instead of finding help, she’s met with Leatherface’s dad and the hitchhiker, his brother. She is held hostage at their family dinner, where she realizes that they are a

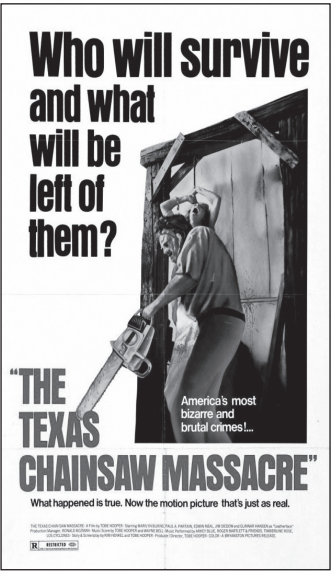


Photo courtesy of IMDb

family of cannibals. “Texas Chainsaw Massacre” is a marvel of modern horror for a few reasons. The first is that the majority of the killings take place in broad daylight. Instead of hiding in the dark,

everything that is intended to scare the audience, except for the dinner sequence of scenes, happens out in the open. Even Leatherface’s first appearance is unusual for a horror movie. On top of being in the middle of the day, his first appearance is almost unprompted. While Kirk walking through the house is a suspenseful scene, Leatherface stepping into the doorway is still unexpected—all of his appearances are—and that’s what makes him so terrifying. Another side of what makes the movie so scary, more than just the element of surprise, is that with all of the violence, there is very little shown on screen. Without the gory bits of a regular horror movie, the audience is left to conjure up whatever nightmare scares them the most. It’s the idea of the violence that scares people more than actually

seeing it. But, perhaps the most influential aspect of this movie is the idea of a final girl, which is when a female character fights her way through the events of the movie and outlives everyone else. “Texas Chainsaw Massacre,” released in 1974, was the first example of a final girl, or at least the first

big one. This idea leads to other big horror movies of the 1970s, like “Halloween.” To me, “Texas Chainsaw Massacre” is one of the scariest films ever made, and the fact that it starts with a cautionary message and was filmed at real places in Texas doesn’t help. It has the feel of a found footage film. But, despite all the signs that say

it’s a true story, it isn’t. (Well, except that Leatherface was based on a real Wisconsin serial killer, but we don’t need to talk about that.) As good of a film as this is, I think I can say for real this time that I will never watch, “Texas Chainsaw Massacre” again.

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Ever popular, Chester still reigns as University’s first ghost



By Isabell Tenorio
Opinions Editor

Everyone loves ghost stories, especially when the stories originate from somewhere familiar. In honor of this spooky week, let’s share the infamous tale of Chester, SFA’s resident ghost. And, maybe we’ll uncover the truth that ghosts are real.

Like most ghost stories, Chester’s is one that is told repeatedly to new generations who will carry on his name. I first heard about him during my freshman year. I went with someone who was my friend at the time to Turner Auditorium, so we could see if she made it onto the cast list. Walking through the entrance, there was a logo on the floor like the one in the front of the Baker Pattillo Student Center, and I was about to make another step forward when my friend told me to stop. She proceeded to tell me about Chester and that if someone steps on the logo, they would be cursed by him. I figured she was just messing with me. But while she warned me about Chester, her face expression told me she was not joking. Now, granted, that was almost two years ago when this happened, and the details of what was told to me may not be accurate, but I still think about the longtime resident of the school.

His story is shared on the Traditions Council website. It states that Chester was the architect for the Griffith Fine Arts Building. He came one day to check on the progress and noticed that the foundation was poured backwards, which explains why it is the only building that isn’t facing the center of campus. He was so shocked that he had a heart attack, leading to his death. His first appearance in his ghostly form was back in 1967, where he can be seen in a photo for the production, “Tiny Alice.” Since then, he is known to watch the plays that go on in the building.

Cole Muske, member relations officer for Traditions Council, learned that one building that University Police do not go to alone is the Fine Arts Building. “They open and close all the



buildings. They clear them every morning and clear them every night,” said Muske. “And that building takes two of them to do it, cause they have weird things like radios going on and off, stuff like that. Just weird stuff happening in there.” If that’s the case, that means Chester isn’t such a friendly ghost after all.

Sadly, that is just a story. Assistant Chief of Police Craig Goodman confirmed that no officer had encountered any sort of paranormal incidents. However, the SFA Department of Computer Science replied under the Pine Log’s poll of the week

that “Ada Lovelace and Grace Hopper are definitely in the Cole STEM Building! Don’t worry, they’re friendly.” Yet the STEM building is brand new, and I’m not an expert on ghosts, but does this mean someone already lost their life? Most likely not but it is something to think about. So far there is only our good friend Chester making his presence known to the students of SFA, or is it just a story made up for history of the campus? Hard to tell, but be careful trying to find the truth, and watch out for some unwanted guests.



There should not be an age limit on trick-or-treating



By Aaliyah Overshown
Contributing Writer

Trick-or-treating after childhood is considered by some to be a taboo activity for college students. Trick-or-treating is customarily viewed as something that only children partake in, and it should not be that way. There are many reasons to consider why college students and other adults would want to join in on Halloween festivities, just as they did as a kid.

First off, there is no age limit on who is allowed to enjoy free candy. The majority of people, including young children, college kids and even the parents of trick-or-treaters, would love sweet treats that are free of charge, regardless of their age. Even here in the Lumberjack community, college students have proven time and time again that they will show up in large numbers if there is

any kind of food involved, and they are even more inclined if the food or candy is free. With that being said, free candy is obviously a clear rationale for why financially struggling college kids want to trick-or-treat.

It is also important to consider the non-traditional students who may want to trick-or-treat. Many people who attend SFA in their late teens or early twenties. There are also older students in our midst who have returned or found their way to higher education. These types of students should not be asked to give up the fun festivities that take place on Halloween either. Some non-traditional students may have children who they want to dress up with for a night of trick-or-treating. Even if they do not have kids, there is no problem with these college students wearing costumes and getting candy.

It is surprising to see how much disdain is shown toward college students who simply choose to dress up in costumes and seek out candy with friends. It is also saddening that the expectation for college students is to attend wild parties and engage in reckless activities or pranks,

when there are some young adult trick-or-treaters who just want to join in on harmless fun without being looked down upon. People often utter the common phrase: “Don’t judge a book by its cover.” Maybe people should take one day out of the year to attempt to not judge creatures by their costumes.

Maybe, it is the misinterpreted connotation of the name trick-or-treat that triggers candy givers’ dislike for older people knocking on their door during the night. But truth be told, other than a brief disguise of one’s persona for the night, there are usually no tricks involved and only treats. Although, there is much to ponder when it comes to investigating the historical context of Halloween. Halloween typically does not have any religious or emotional sentiment for people, like most holidays such as Christmas, Thanksgiving and Valentine’s Day. However, Oct. 31 is still a day that has been a tradition for many people since a very young age. Should society really ask people to break tradition just because some do not like what others choose to do?

Let people listen to Christmas music when they want



By Kayley Frazee
Contributing Writer

It’s the end of Halloween night. Costumes are being taken off, candy is being sorted and people are taking down their spider webs. Some people go to bed sad, knowing that spooky season is over. Some people, like myself, are sad that spooky season is over, but can’t contain their excitement because their absolute favorite time of year is only beginning.

As soon as November starts, I will be listening to Christmas music non-stop. “Little Drummer Boy,” “All I Want for Christmas is You” and “Jingle Bells” will be on a constant loop throughout my headphones. You might roll your eyes. You might gag. You might even try to argue with me, telling me that what I’m doing is wrong. But, guess what? I don’t care.

People are going to put up Christmas trees, watch “Elf” and eat candy canes whenever they feel like it. They aren’t trying to hurt you. They aren’t disturbing your peace. They aren’t disrespecting Thanksgiving. They are choosing to do what makes them happy.

Let people enjoy things. Life is hard sometimes. If another person can feel a little bit of joy by cranking up “Mary Did You Know,” I don’t think there is anything wrong with that. They aren’t bothering you. You’re actually trying to bother them by infringing upon something that makes them happy. There’s already enough negativity in the world. If your best friend is

trying to make them feel bad about doing something that they love, and maybe focus more on living your own life.

Nobody is skipping Thanksgiving, which, by the way, is only celebrated in about 10 countries. None of those land on the same day as the American holiday. So, please, go right ahead and tweet that Canadian person, telling him to wait until after Thanksgiving to listen to Christmas music. Canada’s Thanksgiving was on Oct. 14.

I love Thanksgiving; I do. It’s one of the few times a year my whole family is together, and I get to talk and laugh with my cousin while enjoying my Grandma’s amazing cooking. Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, Michael Bublé and Pentatonix don’t have amazing Thanksgiving albums. They do, however, have a plethora of Christmas albums and songs that I adore. I promise you, the minute any of them drops a new single called “Hark! The Herald Turkeys Gobble,” I will bump it all the way until Nov. 28 this year. Until that happens, I’ll stick to “Last Christmas,” and enjoy it thoroughly.

So, go on, naysayer. Continue to fight your noble fight against people listening to Christmas music because they feel like it. You might have freedom of speech, but I have the freedom to crank up my music to drown you out, ignore you and continue to “Have Myself A Merry Little Christmas.”

“The people who choose to listen to Christmas music aren’t trying to force you to change how you live.”

excited because her favorite artist just released a new Christmas album, why would you want to ruin that for her?

You might have a strict belief that you shouldn’t listen to Christmas music until December. If you want to wait that long, that is entirely up to you. Personally, Christmas is very important to me, so I like to enjoy the season for as long as possible. The people who choose to listen to Christmas music aren’t trying to force you to change how you live. They’re in their own happy little bubble, waiting for you to get back to yours. You can stop



Occasionally, The Pine Log’s Opinions Page features an advice column. The staff will be answering questions about anything from relationships to general life issues, and everything in between. To submit your questions, email The Pine Log at sfasupinelog@gmail.com.

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GOLF

■ The women's golf team competed at the Little Rock Women's Golf Classic Sunday through Tuesday and finished 14th out of 17 teams. Both men and women's teams will not compete again until February.

BASKETBALL

■ The men's team will begin its preseason games at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 6 in William R. Johnson Coliseum while the women's team begins their preseason against the University of Tulsa at 7 p.m. on Tuesday in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

FOOTBALL

■ The Lumberjacks will play Southeastern Louisiana University at 4 p.m. Saturday in Hammond, Louisiana. The game will be live streamed on YouTube through the Southeastern Sports Network or can be heard on Q107.7.

SOCCER

■ SFA will play its last SLC game against Sam Houston State University at 6:30 p.m. Friday in Huntsville. The outcome will determine whether SFA will play in the conference tournament as the Ladyjacks hold the eighth seed.

International student athletes conquer tennis together

Athletes relate to one another sharing what its like to be away from their home countries

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

The Ladyjack tennis team features seven students, including six international student-athletes and one Las Vegas native. While they're not all from Texas, they can all agree on one thing—tennis brings them together.

Nida Kamal, senior international business major from Mumbai, India, transferred to SFA from Winthrop University in the fall of 2017. Kamal is also the vice president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. She explained that coming from a crowded country to a small town in Texas was a big change for her.

"[Mumbai] is a lot different than Nacogdoches," Kamal said. "We are a combination of LA and New York because we are the financial capital of our country. It's very crowded. People are always

helpful, and there's just people everywhere."

Kamal found tennis because her brother played cricket.

"He played for the country at one point, and I wanted to play a sport, too, after watching him," Kamal said.

Kamal was 10 years old when she decided to start playing sports.

"I just wanted to play a sport, so I decided to get into cricket," Kamal said. "But, then, they told me no because I was a girl. Now, that same academy has girls' cricket, but years ago, they didn't."

Since Kamal was not accepted into the cricket academy, her parents encouraged her to join the tennis academy, which was located right next to the cricket academy.

"I ended up joining tennis just to play for fun," Kamal said. "I picked it up really fast. In two years, I

started competing in state tournaments. In four years, I was top 20 nationally. By the time I was 17, I started playing international tournaments, traveling around non-stop."

Having been to 16 countries and speaking four different languages, Kamal now finds herself on the Ladyjack tennis team. She said head coach Erin Scott has taught her what a tennis coach should be. Kamal is overcoming anxiety and depression and said Scott tries to understand her the best she can.

"She's very understanding," Kamal said. "I think it comes from her experience. I think she, herself, was a college tennis player. So, I feel like she understands how it is to be at an environment, being competitive, being with a group of girls and the fact that we're all international."

Armelle Cerdan, senior kinesiology major from Issoire, France, is also part

of the team. Cerdan began to play when she was about 4 years old.

"[Tennis in France was] very cultural and very competitive," Cerdan said.

Tennis has always been a passion for Cerdan. But, when she was 14, she suffered an injury and had to take a six-month break from the sport. When she came back, Cerdan said she felt more encouraged and dedicated. Now that

she's playing tennis for the University, she describes her experience as positive.

"It's intense," Cerdan said. "You have a lot of stuff to do. You're never bored. It's really physical, and I like it."

Darinka Tiboldi, senior IT and Spanish major from London, England, began to play tennis when she was 3. Tiboldi arrived at SFA in 2016.

"I liked Texas because one of my friends told me that

people are really nice here, so I was trying to come to Texas," Tiboldi said. "I really like competing, playing the matches."

Tiboldi ended the 2019 season as the leader in the team's singles wins and Southland Conference singles wins by going 9-9 overall and 5-5 in league action.

Elena Bleicher, freshman sports business

See **ATHLETES** on Page 3



Photo by Cameron Sweet / The Pine Log

From left, senior Nida Kamal, junior Annie Walker, senior Gabriella Guilarte, freshman Elena Bleicher, senior Armelle Cerdan, senior Darinka Tiboldi and sophomore Ai Noa Fabre make up the SFA Tennis Team. The Ladyjacks will play at the SFA Duals on Friday through Sunday at the SFA tennis courts.

SFA volleyball team prepares for rival match against Bearkats

Ladyjacks come off a 3-1 win against second-ranked Nicholls to face third-ranked Sam Houston, HBU

By Deanna Swindell
Sports Editor

It's rivalry week for the Ladyjacks as the volleyball team prepares to take on the Sam Houston State Bearkats at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday in Shelton Gym. They will also play Houston Baptist University at 1 p.m. on Saturday in Houston.

The Ladyjacks have a 22-1 overall record, a 10-0 conference record and a .957 winning percentage. SFA continues its 15-game winning streak after defeating the University of Central Arkansas 3-0 and second ranked Northwestern State University 3-1. Against the Sugar Bears, the Ladyjacks had a .300

attacking percentage while UCA had a .120 attacking percentage.

On Saturday in the match against NSU, the Lady Demons won the first set 25-23, breaking the Ladyjacks'



Photos by LaShauna Bell / The Pine Log
Junior middle blocker Taya Mitchell jumps for a kill during the match against Nicholls. The Ladyjacks have a 15-game winning streak and are the only undefeated team in the conference.

nation's longest set streak. SFA was able to take the third and fourth sets easily, going on a 9-2 run at the beginning of the third and an 11-2 run at the beginning of the fourth.

They also did not allow them to reach over 15 points in both sets. SFA had an attacking percentage of .301 in the game with a total of 12 blocks and 33 kills while NSU had a .174 attacking percentage.

"You earn the opportunity to play in big matches," head coach Debbie Humphreys said. "That [game] was a championship type match for us, and we have the same thing going on."

Sam Houston is third in the conference, right behind NSU, with an 8-2 conference record, a 12-10 overall record and a .545 winning percentage. The Bearkats are coming off a 3-2 loss against McNeese

See **RIVALRY** on Page 3

SFA men's and women's cross-country teams to compete at SLC tournament

By Alec Reyes
Staff Writer

The SFA men's and women's cross-country teams will compete in the 2019 Southland Conference Championships Friday at Beaver Fork Lake in Conway, Arkansas, hosted by the University of Central Arkansas.

The women will run a 6K race at 8:15 a.m., which will be followed by the men's 8K race at 9:15 a.m. Central Arkansas' men's team will enter as the reigning conference champion, while Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi holds the 2018 title on the women's side.

For athletes who qualify, the 2019 NCAA South Central Regional qualifying race will be held on Nov. 15 at the Agri-Park in Fayetteville, Arkansas. From there, the 2019 NCAA Cross Country National Championships will occur on Nov. 23 at the LaVern Gibson

Championship Course in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Last season, the Ladyjacks finished in third place with a total of 74 points, and the men ranked fourth with a total of 102 points at the 2018 Southland Conference Championships in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

This will be SFA's fourth race of the season and the first since the conclusion of the regular season at the Arturo Barrios Invitational at Texas A&M University where the Lumberjacks finished 21st overall as a team with a total of 463 points. The Ladyjacks finished 11th overall, marking the best finish by any of the five Southland schools who were there.

Redshirt junior Kelsey Ramirez was the top finisher for the Ladyjacks as she finished 11th out of 242 runners in the 6K run with a time of 20:45.3. As a result of her performance,

she received Southland Conference's Women's Cross Country Athlete of the Week honors.

Also bringing in points for SFA were Claire Crone(60), Taryn Surratt(67), Madison Compass(96), Merideth Clayton (98), Isabel Borrego(110) and Rachel Taylor(111).

Sophomore Titus Kiplagat was the top finisher for the Lumberjacks in the 8K race as he placed 45th out of 391 with 43 points, finishing with a time of 24:47.4. To go along with his performance, the Kenya native was an Honorable Mention for the Southland Conference Men's Cross-Country Athlete of the Week.

Six other Lumberjack runners brought in points. They were Michael Urbina (87), Parker Jones(94), Yoel Yoel(98), Maxwell Murphy (141), Pedro Flores(153) and Ben Murphy(157).

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