



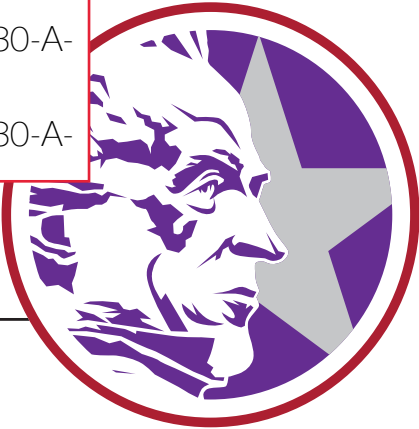
THE PINE LOG  
welcomes the  
**Class of 2025** and  
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WELCOME EDITION 2021

# the PINE LOG

The Independent Voice of Stephen F. Austin State University

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Friday, July 30, 2021

## INSIDE:

- Campus recreation offers different student involvement opportunities **Page 1B**
- School of Theatre MainStage features 'something for everyone' **Page 1C**
- Horticulture program recovers losses from winter storms **Page 1D**

## Construction continues

Griffith Fine Arts expanding to better accommodate students and staff



Courtesy Photo

The Griffith Fine Arts Building expansion bordering North and East College streets is ongoing. This expansion will include several branches of the Fine Arts program, including filmmaking, theatre, dance, music and musical theatre. Also, several classroom will be added, along with faculty offices, including a new office for the Dean of Fine Arts.

Despite the obstacles created by Mother Nature and a worldwide pandemic, construction and renovation work at Griffith Fine Arts Building on the Stephen F. Austin State University campus continues to move forward.

This summer, those passing the building situated on the corner of North and East College streets will see “a building rise from underground and new life be given to the existing structure,” according to Jessica DeWitt, project manager and assistant director of projects and construction at SFA.

The Fine Arts Expansion Initiative will extend the Griffith building along North Street. The project will include renovations to W.M. Turner Auditorium, and the state-of-the-art building will also feature two dance studios, two new theatres, recording

studio, sound stage, audio and video editing rooms, an art gallery, multiple classrooms, rehearsal facilities, faculty offices and the offices of the College of Fine Arts dean. The facilities will house the CFA's sound recording technology, filmmaking, theatre, dance and musical theatre programs.

“This new, fantastic facility is going to be a beehive of activity for decades to come,” Gary Wurtz, interim dean of the College of Fine Arts, said. “Watching the progress from a window or through a chain-link fence is both exciting and a test of our patience. The opportunities it will offer for teaching, learning, performing and exhibiting are endless, and we simply can't wait to move in.”

Building design is by Kirksey Architecture and construction is by KDW. The project, which was designed to take place in two

major phases including renovation of the existing building and construction of a new addition, is in various stages of work, Dewitt explained.

“In the renovation of the existing building, there is a lot of above-ceiling rough-in work for plumbing, electrical, internet and air distribution,” Dewitt said. “These activities are going to take care of the building's deferred maintenance needs and bring those systems back online more efficiently.”

“The construction of the new addition is in the critical stage of pouring the foundation and underground structure,” Dewitt said. “This has been quite the feat, given we are building down instead of up. We're having to adapt to the slope of the site and maintain the overall relationship to the existing building.”

Adding to the anticipated challenges of

a project like this, major winter storms and recent rains, along with a wide range of delays relating to materials and labor as a result of the global pandemic and overall changes in the world have created additional trials, DeWitt explained.

“Thankfully, KDW has picked up some 'lessons learned' from the construction of SFA's new basketball facility to keep work on track,” Dewitt said. “As a project management team, it is our job to watch the market, stay in contact with sources, and keep things flexible at all times. To say a project is going 'as planned,' or not, is an unfair assessment to the process; the plan is always moving, but our target is clear.”

See GRIFFITH on Page 3A

## SFA recognized as 'College of Distinction' for second year

For the second year in a row, Stephen F. Austin State University has been named a College of Distinction for supporting undergraduate experiences grounded in a philosophy of well-rounded, individualized engagement, with graduates entering the workforce ready to adapt in an ever-changing society.

Already honored in 2020 for its high-impact approach to education, SFA has again been recognized for business, education, nursing, engineering and career development, with new honors for military support and equity and inclusion.

SFA President Scott Gordon said he was pleased with the College of Distinction recognition, but not surprised by it.

“The faculty and staff at SFA are focused on giving students the programs and support they need to craft a college experience that prepares them for a career after they graduate,” Gordon said. “Experiential learning is a big part of what we do at SFA, and it's good that it's being recognized nationally.”

The new accolades were borne out of a need

for college curricula that are comprehensive not only in course material, but also in practical- and soft-skills development, Gordon said.

“SFA has met these needs with a blend of liberal arts education, program-specific training and abundant opportunities for hands-on, real-world application,” Gordon said.

Elements that go into the evaluation include accelerated programs, distance learning, independent study and internships, student-designed majors and study abroad opportunities. Colleges of Distinction doesn't rank schools, but rather the degree to which universities embrace the complexities of the student experience, giving graduates the ability to become lifelong learners, according to Tyson Schritter, chief operating officer for Colleges of Distinction.

“We complete a thorough review of the programs in question before giving the awards,” Schritter said.

See DISTINCTION on Page 3A

## New provost, executive VP to lead academic affairs

Dr. Lorenzo M. Smith, former professor and dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at California State University, Sacramento,

is SFA's new provost and executive vice president.

Smith, who joined the administration June 1, earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; a master's from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan; and a doctorate in engineering mechanics from Michigan State University.

He succeeded the former provost, Dr. Steve Bullard, who recently retired from the university.

“Dr. Smith is a visionary, proven

leader with a passion for advancing student, staff and faculty success,” said Dr. Scott Gordon, SFA president. “He has thrived as a faculty member and as a dean, and we look forward to the leadership he will provide as provost and executive vice president at SFA.”

Prior to his service at Sacramento State, Smith was a faculty member at Oakland University from 2000 through 2011 and taught courses ranging from the mechanics of metal forming to the theory of plasticity. He served as associate dean from 2011 through 2014.

See PROVOST on Page 3A



Dr. Lorenzo M. Smith



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ThePineLog.com

Volume 104  
Issue 1

Stay  
informed

The Pine Log is SFA's independent, student-run newspaper. Visit thepine.log.com and follow us on social media for the latest campus news.



# Alumni Association offers savings program for rings

The SFA Alumni Association offers an exciting program to help undergraduate students save for their official SFA class ring now. Students who have completed 60 or more credit hours are eligible to purchase their SFA ring and participate in the Big Dip, which is one of the first steps to graduation and one of the best-loved Lumberjack traditions. Students can sign up for the ring-savings program beginning their freshman year to save up for their ring early and not have to pay for the cost of their ring in one large amount.

To sign up for the program a student should log into their mySFA account and select a savings amount of either \$75 or \$150 to be applied to their bill each fall and spring semester. By visiting [www.sfaring.com](http://www.sfaring.com) students and parents can get an idea of the type of ring their student might like and the estimated cost of the ring. Accounts will be billed each semester and saved for the student until their either

complete 60 semester credit hours or is ready to purchase his/her ring. If you have Federal Aid, you must approve this charge with the Business Office.

In 2002, the SFA Alumni Association began a tradition called the Big Dip where students who had purchased rings dipped one hand in a large bowl of purple, grape-scented dye. Students then received their rings from then-SFA President Dr. Baker Pattillo. The students' hands remained purple for several days — showcasing their Lumberjack pride and achievement. This unique tradition has grown tremendously with an average of more than 350 participants each semester and now three ceremonies throughout each Big Dip day.

“During the past several years, the cost of rings has escalated, and purchasing a ring is becoming harder for students and their parents to do in one lump sum,” said Craig Turnage, executive director of the SFA Alumni Association. The Alumni

Association recognized there was a need to help remedy this situation and began working with several SFA departments and Balfour, the official SFA ring partner, to create an online program to help students start saving for their rings.

Visit [www.sfaring.com](http://www.sfaring.com) to view SFA class ring prices, sizes, estimated prices and styles. The Alumni Association also has samples of each ring available for students to see in person. Students can visit the Alumni Association's office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Tracie D. Pearman Alumni Center, located on the SFA campus. Call (936) 468-3407 if you have questions, or students may visit their mySFA account to view a list of frequently asked questions concerning the ring-savings program.

To learn about other traditions, events and ways students and their parents can get involved at SFA and with the Alumni Association, visit [www.sfaalumni.com](http://www.sfaalumni.com).

THE



RING SAVINGS PROGRAM

FAQs



Enrolling in the SFA ring savings is as easy as

1. Log in to your SFA account.

2. Go to the billing tab.

3. Enroll today!



# Chartwells Higher Education replaces Aramark as food service provider

Chartwells Higher Education, a food-service company providing dining options to 300 higher education institutions around the country, began preparing and serving meals to Lumberjacks July 1, replacing Aramark.

Chartwells is also the food service provider for several Texas universities, including Texas State University, the University of Texas at Dallas and Texas A&M University at College Station.

The decision for SFA to transition to Chartwells came after a request for proposal and a thorough selection process that included input from students, faculty, staff and administrators.

SFA's Board of Regents reviewed feedback submitted by the RFP evaluation committee during its quarterly meeting in April and selected Chartwells as its preferred partner. The partnership will provide added meal plan flexibility, greater menu variety and an innovative retail dining experience. SFA's contract with Chartwells will last seven years.

“Cooked-from-scratch menus developed by supporting farmers by locally, and offering vegetarian and allergen-friendly options are all trademarks of Chartwells,” said Carrie Charley, SFA director of auxiliary services. “The new dining program will be rebranded as Lumberjack Eats, representing a fresh, student-centric approach to campus dining. Lumberjacks can look forward to a refreshed dining experience with new dining stations in the Baker Pattillo Student Center and East College Dining Hall.”

“The G8 station will be a fresh addition to both dining halls,” Charley said. “It will offer menu selections prepared without the eight major allergens, including wheat. Throughout the dining halls, Chartwells’ menu and nutrition

foods, season, sourcing vegan, labeling system will help guests make safe and healthy choices.”

For fall, students can expect to see their favorite national brands, including Chick-fil-A, Starbucks and Einstein Bros. Bagels. New additions to retail dining include Jax Burger, serving burgers, tots and shakes, and Above the Board,

featuring customizable, made-to-order salads and sandwiches.

All meal plans will remain the same in structure through June 2022. SFA and Chartwells will work collaboratively to develop future meal plan options that provide the best value and flexibility for SFA students, faculty and staff.

SFA will continue to have its own registered dietitian, whose services are free to students, and a new executive chef employed by Chartwells will work with SFA stakeholders to develop new menu items and dining options across campus.

“The SFA community can look forward to a culinary experience that emphasizes quality, made-to-order food, menu customization and value,” said Shannon Mariani, regional vice president for Texas, Chartwells Higher Education. “With ongoing

feedback from students and the SFA community, our chefs will create menus Lumberjacks will crave. Diverse and authentic flavors will be infused into stations, and scratch cooking will define the foundation of the dining program. Beyond the plate, we look forward to engaging guests with culinary education through our Teaching Kitchen program and creating memorable experiences through innovative dining events.”

Students are encouraged to apply for campus dining positions. Additionally, Chartwells will launch a Student Success internship program, which provides student access to hands-on work in community health and wellness, hospitality management, marketing, social responsibility and sustainability.

Chartwells also will explore partnerships with departments across campus to build greater opportunities for career exploration with Chartwells and Compass Group, Chartwells' parent company.

*“Lumberjacks can look forward to a refreshed dining experience with new dining stations in the Baker Pattillo Student Center and East College Dining Hall,” said Carrie Charley, SFA director of auxiliary services.*

# SFA Information Technology Services aims to help new students succeed

The Information Technology Services department at SFA provides many services to help students succeed in their journey to graduation. Information about these services is available at [help.sfasu.edu](http://help.sfasu.edu) by clicking on the “Information for New Students” link.

MySFA, SFA's primary web portal, can be found at <http://mysfa.sfasu.edu>. Course listings, campus announcements, financial aid, and other tools and resources can be found there. Students having trouble accessing mySFA or need other assistance may call (936) 468-HELP or visit the Help Desk in the Ralph W. Steen Library.

Brightspace by D2L is SFA's online learning management system and can be accessed via mySFA by clicking on the “Brightspace by D2L” button on the home screen. There, students will find course information, study materials, exams and other resources provided by instructors. Support for Brightspace by D2L can be accessed from the mySFA home screen or by calling (936) 468-1919.

Students' @jacks.sfasu.edu email accounts are their primary means of communication with the university, and this e-mail can be accessed from the mySFA home screen. Information regarding registration, financial aid, admissions, advising and other processes are delivered via SFA email, so it is important students check their email frequently to stay on top of their SFA responsibilities.

Office 365 is the online version of Microsoft Office and can be accessed through a link on the mySFA home screen. All the standard MS Office programs are provided, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more. Also included is OneDrive, the cloud storage service from Microsoft that allows students to store documents safely and securely on the internet.

Zoom is the web conferencing tool used by SFA instructors to deliver courses remotely in real time or via recording. Zoom makes live, multimedia-rich, online collaboration possible, and it provides faculty members virtual classrooms for conferencing, lectures and office hours. All SFA faculty members, students and staff members can access Zoom via the mySFA home screen.

Wpa is SFA's cloud-based printing solution that allows students to print at over a dozen kiosks located around campus. The Wpa system allows for printing from a computer, phone, cloud storage solution and Brightspace by D2L. Additional information on the Wpa system can be found at [help.sfasu.edu](http://help.sfasu.edu).

JackAlerts is the service used by University Police Department to inform students of emergency situations on the SFA campus. JackText is a service that allows for billing, grades and other updates to be sent to students via text message. Students can sign up for both services on the mySFA home screen.

WELCOME TO THE

LUMBERJACK

FAMILY











We're so happy to have you!

- The SFA Office of Admissions





**GRIFFITH:** Expansion expected to be available for use in two years

**From Page 1A**  
 While it is still too early to narrow down a completion date, DeWitt said the project management team has “strong expectations” that the building will be available for occupancy in mid 2023.  
 To view design plans and artists’ renderings, and for up-to-date construction progress, visit [finearts.sfasu.edu/expansion](https://finearts.sfasu.edu/expansion).



Courtesy Rendering  
 The artist rendering (above) for the updated Griffith Fine Arts building serves as a visual aid to picture the upcoming changes under construction. This is not an exact representation of the new building when finished.

**PROVOST:** Smith started as new provost in early June

**From Page 1A**  
 Under his leadership, four of the college’s programs advanced from unranked categories and are now highly ranked, and a multi-faceted student success center was created to facilitate academic advising, tutoring, student internships and career services. During the COVID crisis, Smith implemented the delivery of take-home learning kits to facilitate off-campus learning for students.  
 Smith has authored approximately 60 publications and secured \$7 million in external funding to support his research and scholarly activity. Additionally, he collaborated with students, staff and faculty to create and execute two college-level strategic plans that led to successful fundraising efforts totaling \$5.6 million for the institution.  
 In 2019, Smith became the founding chair of the CSU Engineering Deans Council, which was formed to advocate collectively for 20 engineering deans across the university system. That same year, he received the American Society of Civil Engineering – Sacramento Chapter Jonathan Burdette Brown Education Award.  
 He has served as president of the board of directors of the Oakland Youth Orchestra and the Sacramento Youth Symphony and has been a member of the Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce and a Little League Baseball coach.

**DISTINCTION:** Award-worthy qualities of SFA recognized

**From Page 1A**  
 “We’re looking for such qualities as accreditation, breadth of program, advising and mentoring, integration of career services, and successful outcomes for students,” Schritter said. “It’s wonderful to see how SFA really exemplifies these qualities.”  
 Since 2000, the Colleges of Distinction website and guidebook have honored schools throughout the U.S. for excellence in undergraduate-focused higher education. The schools in the Colleges of Distinction consortium distinguish themselves through a focus on the undergraduate experience. The website and guidebooks provide dynamic college profiles, customized tools and resources for students, parents and high school counselors.



Photos by Lizeth Rodriguez/ The Pine Log

Greek Week is an SFA tradition that takes place every spring semester. Events are planned for sororities and fraternities to partake in, such as flag football (left). Greek organizations show their pride and support fellow organizations with flags, facepaint, coordinating outfits and other accessories (right). Each fraternity and sorority compete against each other and win prizes. This past year, Greek Week took place from April 5-9.

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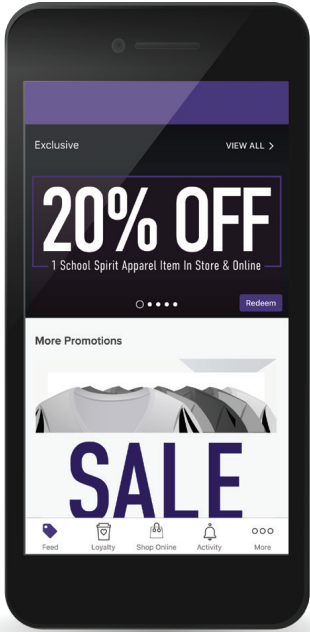
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# Office of Multicultural Affairs offers diversity volunteer group

Individuals Making a Path Across Campus Towards Unity (IMPACT-U) is a volunteer program through the Office of Multicultural Affairs that is designed for students who are passionate about equality, diversity, social justice and desire to become more involved on campus.

These social justice advocates will be required to attend trainings held by the OMA professional staff, and as a result, they will be able to challenge and motivate students, faculty members and staff members to get involved and engage in conversations about various situations that affect marginalized groups. IMPACT-U students will also be able to present and participate in programs along with OMA student ambassadors, and they will be able to step-in in the absence of an OMA student ambassador.

OMA's mission is to create a campus environment in which all students, staff and faculty feel welcome and included, according to Director of Multicultural Affairs Veronica Beavers. OMA creates networks of support for students, staff and faculty, providing opportunities for meaningful cross-cultural interactions and learning experiences that promote respect for diversity. In addition, the office staff works with student organizations to host cultural celebrations and activities that are educational and that work to enhance students' abilities to succeed in a global community.

OMA is much more than a physical location

on campus; it hosts a spirit of family support and unity among the SFA community, she said. Those students who take advantage of the OMA resources will find mentors and lifelong friendships that will challenge and support their development as young adults.

OMA hosts student organizations such as the Lumberjack Cultural Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Organization of Latin Americans and LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus, just to name a few. Many of the cultural events throughout SFA's campus are developed through the OMA.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs' AXcel Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program exists to help first-year students get and stay connected to available resources, services and programs at SFA, easing their transition to college life.

The program emphasizes academic excellence, leadership, diversity and personal growth, Beavers said.

"First-year students are paired with current student leaders who exhibit a balance between academics and involvement. In addition, each student is also paired with an SFA faculty or staff mentor," she said.

For more information about OMA, visit [www.sfasu.edu/oma](http://www.sfasu.edu/oma), call (936) 468-1073 or email [oma@sfasu.edu](mailto:oma@sfasu.edu). New SFA students also are encouraged to follow OMA on Twitter @SFAOMA and "friend" OMA on Facebook to stay informed about upcoming events and activities.

# UPD introduces new campus vehicles



Caitlyn Hutson / The Pine Log

The University Police Department recently acquired new compact recreation vehicles equipped with tools to improve campus such as fire extinguishers and lockout and jump start kits. The vehicles will help navigate campus in cases of emergency. The new vehicles can be seen around campus, and UPD officials said they hope the uniqueness of the vehicles will serve as an ice breaker to get conversations started.

# Geologic Association of Students volunteers to clean Lake Nacogdoches

By Sandra Carranza  
News Editor

The Geologic Association of Students met to clean up Lake Nacogdoches at in March and welcomed other students who would like to join.

President Emmie Schubert, junior geology major from Tomball, said the Lake Nacogdoches cleanup will most likely turn into a regular event for the club.

"We wanted to do this because, as a geology club, we feel like it's our responsibility to make sure the environment is clean," Schubert said. "We use it daily for our studies, so this is a nice way to give back."

Many geology major students, she said, go to the lake to study rocks or to kayak, so she would like to keep the natural environment clean.

Vice President Hiba Kunwer, senior geology major from Karachi, Pakistan, agreed with Schubert.

"As someone who chose to come to SFA partly because of the beautiful campus and nature trails in Nacogdoches, I think it's unfair to reap the benefits of the beauty and not take care of it," Kunwer said.

Nature has been one of the only safe places for COVID-19 social distancing, she said, and it's only right to look after it.

Jacqui Murguia, sophomore environmental science major from Dallas, is also a member of the club and will be one of the volunteers at the cleanup.

"I feel like I am doing something to repair the wellness of the lake's environment and appearance," Murguia said. "I go to the lake often with my friends and see a lot of trash. It makes me upset that people don't bother cleaning up their mess and [do] not think of the impact it has on the environment."

Murguia said he hopes more organizations take initiative to clean up the lake regularly.

Kunwer said Nacogdoches is the "home away from home" for students, and she believes students should take the opportunity to do community service at a beautiful location.


# PURPLE IS PART OF OUR RAINBOW


Join the Office of Multicultural Affairs in the new Allied Space, created for members of SFA's LGBTQ+ community and allies.



**OMA**  
Office of Multicultural Affairs  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY  
NACOGDOCHES, TX

**Main office:** Baker Pattillo Student Center, Room 3.101  
**Allied Space:** Baker Pattillo Student Center, Room 3.206  
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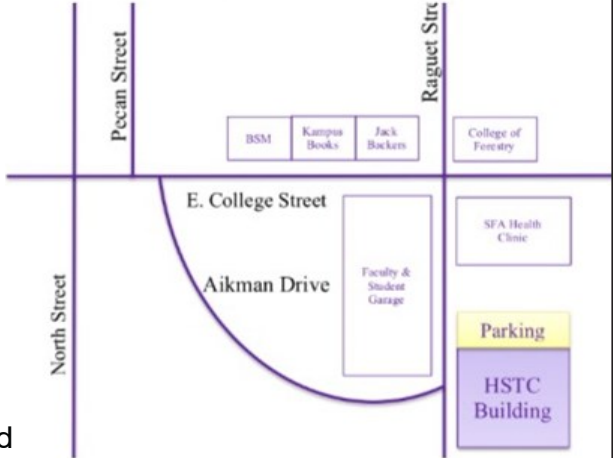


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- Parent and Child
- Career Planning and Development

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Map showing the location of the Counseling Clinic at 2100 N Raguet Street, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. The map highlights the intersection of Pecan Street and Raguet Street, with the clinic located near the intersection of E. College Street and Raguet Street. Other nearby locations include BSM, Campus Books, Jack Books, College of Forestry, SFA Health Clinic, Faculty & Student Garage, Aikman Drive, Parking, and HSTC Building.


### Issues addressed include:

time management, career counseling, social skills, couples/marriage counseling, substance abuse, managing stress, test anxiety, employment seeking skills, parenting, life adjustment, divorce, grief, anger management, anxiety, depression, eating disorders, problem solving, and other personal issues that present challenges to the joy of living and life success.

### Fees:

The cost of counseling services for members of the community is determined by a variable fee scale based on gross family income and family size (\$5—\$20 maximum per service). SFA students pay a flat \$5 after the first five sessions.

For appointments, call:  
**936-468-1041**



### Hours of operation:

<b>Monday</b>	11am—9pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	11am—9pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	11am—5pm
<b>Thursday</b>	11am—9pm

# LUMBERJACKS!

## Have you been hired by SFA to work on campus?



If so, congratulations! Human Resources is the place to go for help so you can be ready for your first day on the job.

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# Rodeo Team alumni present SFA students with plaque, equipment donations



Photos by Meaghan Morton, Contributing Photographer

**SFA Rodeo Team alumni speak** to current team members after presenting donations to the team that included roughstock practice equipment and scholarship donations.

**By Meredith Janning**  
*Contributing Writer*

A group of Rodeo Team alumni met current Rodeo Team members at the Walter C. Todd Agricultural Research Facility equine center to present them with two pieces of equipment and a plaque to commemorate the donors to the program.

The first piece of equipment presented to the Rodeo Team was a spurring board, which is used by both bareback and saddle bronc riders.

"The equipment that was donated today, is called a spurring board where the student athletes, bareback riders or saddle bronc riders, where they can learn to spur and how to make their lick," David Gregory, Rodeo Team member from 1970 to 1972, said. "And it's muscle memory, so the more you spur the better you get... It's a dual thing, so bareback riders will do it because they have a knee jerking motion. I rode saddle broncs, and that was a spurring motion from the front of the point of the shoulders to the rear of the cantle. It's called a lick."

The second piece of equipment was a mechanical bucking machine.

"And now the other device is called a bucking machine," Gregory said. "It's good for bull riders, it's good for bareback riders and saddle bronc riders. And so, we purchased a used machine; it has all the safety cushions, air cushions with it and it has safety devices, so it has automatic emergency shutoff. So the student athletes can use it, it's not a toy. It's used to work a certain motion, and you work it on a horse, turning out of a chute or a bull."

Gregory said this equipment, along with another bucking machine donated a few years prior, is three pieces of equipment to help the rough stock riders develop their skills. He said the alumni plan to make more donations in the future.

"The next item [that's] down on the shopping list is bucking horses," Gregory said. "So, horses that normally just buck are utilized in rodeo. We have a couple of those already located, and we're going to try to get them to donate. We're trying to build our rough stock riders and our timed event, for men and women athletes."

Destiney Williams, senior health science major from Paris, Texas, and president of the Rodeo Team, said just having the support sets SFA's team apart from others.

"It means a lot," Williams said. "Just to see that we have the social support from alumni and people who used to rodeo means a lot to us because it's really going to help us get down the road. That's a great blessing because a lot of teams don't have that support, and we do. And that's what makes us a great team, that's what makes SFA home."

The alumni also spoke with the Rodeo

Team about scholarship opportunities. Stony York, Rodeo Team member from 1971, said there are three available scholarships for Rodeo Team members.

"We started an alumni association quite a few years back," York said. "Essentially, all of us get together, have a little reunion and start raising money to give us something for our Rodeo Club to actually have real team scholarships. We've seen that you can't compete and get the competitors in here without being able to offer some scholarship money. Up to that point, scholarship money had been very small. When I was in college, you'd get a couple hundred bucks. We wanted to get it to where they got books, tuition, and so we developed three different scholarships."

Two of the scholarships are named for former Rodeo Team members, but all three are memorial scholarships.

"There's about \$78 thousand we raised in scholarships between all three of those, and we still have that up there somewhere at SFA," York said.

York said the gathering of Rodeo Team members, past and present, was refreshing and hopes to start doing events with Rodeo Team alumni more in the future.

"It's just refreshing to see that it's still alive," York said. "Rodeo Club has been here since 1943, I think, so it's a very old organization on campus. We've always been one of the biggest clubs on campus, and just to see a lot of the old timers here that are all old mostly ex-presidents of the Rodeo Club. And there's many more of us. We are over 400 and something strong that is on my mailing list, where we would send out every year and do a big dance and a big team roping. We'd like to revive that, get it going again."

Gregory said he was glad that he and his former teammates were able to give back to the Rodeo Team because he knew what it was like to be in their shoes.

"It's giving back because most of us now are in our late-60s and 70 years-old, and we are financially more stable than the days that we didn't have, and we have some extra funds that we can give back," Gregory said. "It's giving back to the people and trying to get to our community because we knew what it was like when Mr. Robinson, [another Rodeo Team alumnus] and I rode in that truck with just gas money."

Head Rodeo Coach Rachel Clark said the team is grateful for the donations, as well as the support from team alumni.

"Our program is blessed to receive this donation from former SFA rodeo team coaches and members," Clark said. "We are grateful for their support as we continue to reestablish our rodeo program on campus and in the region. Team members who compete in rough stock events will be able to utilize this equipment regularly to better prepare for upcoming competitions."

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## SGA partners with Nacogdoches Animal Shelter for donation drive



SGA set up at the main entrance to the student center for donations. In addition to the money SGA donated, members accepted toys, fleece blankets, Lysol wipes, collars, leashes, halters, puppy training pads, litter boxes, litter, treats, nail trimmers, grooming brushes, Dawn dish soap, pet beds and dog clothes.

By Renee Handy Fain  
News Editor

Student Government Association accepts donation for the Nacogdoches Animal Shelter, including pet items and a monetary donation.

"I wrote a legislation to do the tabling event and to donate \$300 of our own money to the animal shelter," said SGA Chair of Civil Affairs Cayenne Alexander.

In addition to the money SGA donated, members said they hope to gather toys, fleece blankets, Lysol wipes, collars, leashes, halters, puppy training pads, litter boxes, litter, treats, nail trimmers, grooming

brushes, Dawn dish soap, pet beds and dog clothes.

They are also offering service hours for donations, varying from 30 minutes to an hour for each donation.

Angelica Rocha, liberal arts senator in SGA, said, "The Nacogdoches Animal Shelter is currently in need of many supplies, and as an organization we decided to table to help gather supplies and later donate to help them. We want the animals to feel love before they have a new home."

According to SGA Business Senator Wester Couch, SGA and other students care about the animals in the Nacogdoches area, and that is what fueled the decision to gather supplies to donate to the local animal shelter.

## SFA offers vaccine clinic in the past year on campus for faculty, students



Several COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics were held in the Student Recreation Center for employees and students who met federal and state eligibility requirements, giving students, faculty and staff the opportunity to receive their vaccination.

## Remembrance: Guest speaker shares experiences from Holocaust



Caitlyn Hutson / The Pine Log

Dr. Zsuzsanna Ozsváth speaks of the historical timeline of the Hungarian Holocaust to an audience of around 170 students, staff and community members on April 8 in the Baker Pattillo Grand Ballroom and on Zoom.

From 7A

"Taking it way beyond Jews and anti-Semitism, I think this event, at large, to me symbolizes not shoving the dirty past under the rug," Faragó said. "Whether we are talking about slavery, anti-Black racism, homophobia, misogyny and sexism, all of these issues, including anti-Semitism, have existed in the U.S., and in the world, really for centuries and for millennia."

Faragó also said that these discriminatory

issues are not only prevalent in history but currently.

"An event like this symbolizes in 2021 that these issues of social justice, issues of genocide and people being targeted for their identities are very timely and relevant topics," Faragó said. "If you look at the U.S., whether that's anti-immigrant sentiments, police brutality targeting communities of color, social justice issues are ongoing and ever present."

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## OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

creates a campus environment  
where all SFA students feel welcome,  
participate in meaningful  
cross-cultural interactions  
and engage in learning experiences  
that promote respect for diversity.

### A FEW OF OUR EVENTS

- Noche De Gala
- Tunnel of Oppression
- MLK Day of Service
- Women's Empowerment Summit
- OMA Graduation Celebration
- Homecoming Step Show
- Diversity Week
- Diversity Conference

### RESOURCES

- Axcel Mentoring Program
- Meeting and Study Room
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- and More!



Visit [sfasu.edu/oma](https://sfasu.edu/oma)  
to learn more.

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## Quality Enhancement Plan designed to help students reduce debt, graduate *faster*



SFA's Quality Enhancement Plan is designed to reduce student debt by helping Lumberjacks earn their degrees faster.

The plan was developed during the university's recent reaffirmation of accreditation process with broad-based input and support from across campus. Its five main strategies include: creating ideal degree sequences; continually analyzing course demand; creating student-centric schedules; providing informed, proactive advising; and actively monitoring registration.

"An extra full year in college costs around \$69,000 in tuition, books, lodging, meals and lost wages," said John Calahan, director of the SFA Office of Institutional Effectiveness. "Our plan, which has been called 'cutting edge' by members of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges visiting committee, is laser focused on reducing student loan debt by helping students graduate in four years or less."

SFA's "15 to Finish" campaign encourages students to take at least 15 credits per term or 30 credits per year to ensure they graduate on time. Taking just three fewer credits per semester puts students on a five-year plan for a bachelor's degree. Taking summer courses also can help students stay on target for a timely graduation.

"The sooner students graduate, the sooner they can begin work and start moving up in their careers," Calahan said. "Parents can

help by encouraging their students to follow their degree map, take at least 15 hours per semester and take advantage of SFA's flat-rate tuition program, which allows them to take up to 21 credit hours at the cost of 12."

Recommended course sequences for each degree are available to help students plan their semesters and ensure required courses are offered when they are needed. SFA's academic advisers are available to help students address concerns and clear away roadblocks that threaten to interfere with their plan.

"Graduating early from SFA did assist me both financially and in starting my career much earlier than anticipated," said Vanessa Huynh, who graduated in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in food and nutrition. "I was able to reduce the number of years owed on my student loan debt, which of course helped to decrease the amount owed upon graduation."

To schedule an advising appointment:

- Log into mySFA
- Click the "Advising" tab
- Locate your assigned advisor in the "My Advisor" portal
- Click on "Schedule an advising appointment with your advisor"
- Select a time that works best for your schedule

For more information about reducing debt and staying on track, visit <https://www.sfasu.edu/stayontrack>.

## Holocaust survivor shares experiences in Holocaust Remembrance Day event

By Alyssa Coker  
Editor-in-Chief

A Holocaust survivor from Hungary spoke in the Holocaust

Remembrance Day event created by the SFA Hillel April 8 in the Baker Pattillo Student Center.

Dr. Zsuzsanna Ozsváth has a Ph.D. in German Language and Literature and is a professor emerita of literature and history. She was also a concert pianist. However, she said all of her accomplishments are nothing compared to spreading awareness of the history of the Holocaust.

"We selected [Ozsváth] as our speaker because she is a very influential person," Jade Gordon, a junior political science major from Wylie and president of SFA Hillel, said. "Not only is she a survivor of the Hungarian Holocaust, but she also started the Holocaust Studies program at the University of Texas at Dallas and has written many books and articles, including her personal memoir, 'When the Danube Ran Red.'"

At the event, Ozsváth spoke on the general history of the Hungarian Holocaust, addressed anti-Semitism in the United States and told her personal experience living through the Holocaust.

"What we have to learn from [the Holocaust] is that we have to study the details, so that we understand what can happen if we are not terribly cautious and know that we can't hate people for their religion, or their blood, or their looks, or their hair or their whatever," Ozsváth said during the question-and-answer portion of the event. "If you don't like someone's behavior, then don't be a friend of his or her. But, certainly, don't speculate on that person's behalf."

This event is the first of its kind in SFA history, according to Dr. Flóra Faragó, associate professor in the School of Human Sciences.

"We have not had an official SFA-wide Holocaust Remembrance Day, which some other names for it are 'commemoration'

or 'Yom HaShoah,'" Faragó said. "'Yom' means 'day' in Hebrew; 'HaShoah' is the Hebrew word for 'Holocaust.' Yom HaShoah or Holocaust Remembrance Day is one and the same thing. We've never had a university-wide, sort of like memorial, commemoration, and we've never had a Holocaust speaker come to campus who spoke to the entire university."

Along with Ozsváth speaking at the event, the audience members were also asked to decorate butterflies to commemorate the children murdered during the Holocaust and to use them as a reminder of the historical event. These paper butterflies will be placed near the Chick-fil-a in the Baker Pattillo Student Center.

"Holocaust Remembrance Day is important to me because, as a Jew, I share a collective history with all the Jews before and after me," Gordon said. "It was the Jewish people, my people, that went through the Holocaust and I personally feel that it is my responsibility to pass on that story."

Ozsváth said she is "not sure there is a lesson" to learn from this story exactly but, instead, a reminder.

"I think that what I try to tell is that there were these things taking place that were unimaginable for us today," Ozsváth said. "However, people were accumulated and badly treated in the camps."

Ozsváth said that what took place at the camps makes the Holocaust different then other more recent discrimination.

"Whichever minority group [is] badly treated or horribly treated, it is not compared to Auschwitz, to gas, to six million people, to put every single newborn into the gas chamber, to put every single pregnant woman into the gas chamber [or] to put everyone who is over 55 in the gas chamber," Ozsváth said.

This event is significant to Faragó "as a descendant of Holocaust survivors," an advocate for anti-Semitism and in a global sense as well.

See Remembrance on Page 6A



# CELEBRATING *Every* LUMBERJACK



## THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION



### DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

At SFA, our commitment to diversity and inclusion is more than words—it is actions. We believe diversity and inclusion are keys to promoting more engaged individuals locally and globally. We at SFA are committed to amplifying a campus culture that nurtures belonging and embraces similarities while celebrating that every Lumberjack will be different. Those differences are valued, acknowledged and supported purposefully.

SFA was awarded Colleges of Distinction's badge for Equity and Inclusion in 2020. The badge is awarded to institutions that “enliven their curriculum with high-impact practices, but they also make these practices accessible in a welcoming community. Beyond diversity, these schools pursue equity by catering to the unique needs of their students regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, gender or ability.”

### OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Multicultural Affairs strives to create a campus climate in which the benefits of multiculturalism, diversity and social justice can be appreciated. In addition, we work with student organizations to host cultural celebrations and activities that are educational and that work to enhance our students' abilities to succeed in a global community.

**Baker Pattillo Student Center, Room 3.101**  
**Phone: 936.468.1073**  
**oma@sfasu.edu**



### DISABILITY SERVICES

SFA is committed to providing equal opportunities for all students. The office of Disability Services works collaboratively with students and faculty to facilitate specialized support services and accommodations that meet individual needs. Students who experience temporary limiting conditions as a result of injuries, surgeries or short-term disabilities may also visit this office for access to resources throughout the duration of the condition. For more information, please visit:

**Human Services Building, Room 325**  
**Voice: 936.468.3004; Video Phone: 936.205.1944**  
**disabilityservices@sfasu.edu**  
**sfasu.edu/disabilityservices**



### TITLE IX

SFA is dedicated to providing an inclusive working and learning environment that affirms the rights and dignity of every Lumberjack. With this goal in mind, discrimination on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression is prohibited on our campus. The Title IX office supports the University's commitment by offering training, programs and processes that promote an inclusive, diverse and supportive environment consistent with the SFA Way. All incoming students are required to complete an online training covering Title IX and substance use on campus to aid the University in stopping sex and gender-based discrimination, remedying its effects and preventing its reoccurrence.

**McKibben Education Building, Suite 304**  
**Phone: 936.468.8292**  
**titleix@sfasu.edu**

### VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER

The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) at SFA provides a space for veterans, dependents of veterans, and ROTC members to gather, socialize and form relationships with others that can provide networks of support that lead to feelings of inclusion at SFA. This space is a hub for veterans programming efforts that can include connections with veteran faculty members and access to veterans' resources provided by SFA and outside agencies.

**Baker Pattillo Student Center, Room 1.102**  
**Phone: 936.468.6494**  
**sfaveterans@sfasu.edu**



**CONTACT US:**

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- Services offered under the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Accessibility services
  - Testing accommodations
  - Diverse programming
  - Sexual discrimination and assault reporting resources
  - Student, faculty and staff trainings





## A welcome from the VPSA



**Dr. Brandon Frye**  
Vice President  
for Student Affairs

and engagement opportunities we provide were created specifically with you, our students, in mind. Please know that supporting your academic, career and personal-wellness goals are what we enjoy most.

By now, you've probably read and heard more about how to succeed in college than you ever thought you wanted to know. However, I want to take this opportunity to share with you "Frye's Five Tips" for getting the most out of your time at SFA.

**Go to class and get to know your professors.** College-level work is rigorous, and there are going to be bumps along your academic road. Make sure they don't become insurmountable by attending class regularly and maintaining communication with your faculty members. SFA's award-winning Academic Assistance and Resource Center provides free peer tutoring for many entry-level and some upper-level courses. Taking advantage of the AARC, as well as professors' office hours, will help you stay on track.

**Ask for help when you need it.** We offer numerous essential resources to help with a wide range of challenges impacting college students outside the classroom, as well. For example, we provide confidential counseling services for students struggling with anxiety, depression or other mental health issues. At some point in your college career, you may also need help from our health clinic, food pantry, student emergency aid fund, career center, student recreation center, registered dietician or all of the above. When you find yourself in need of support, I encourage you to utilize the programs and services available to you. If you are not sure what help is available or where to find the assistance you need, ask a faculty or staff member for guidance or review a complete listing of our "Lumberjack Essentials" at [sfasu.edu/vpsa/472.asp](http://sfasu.edu/vpsa/472.asp).

**Strive to do things "The SFA Way."** Lumberjacks strive for excellence in everything we do, and we expect the best from ourselves and each other. "The SFA Way" is grounded in the five root principles of Respect, Caring, Responsibility, Unity and Integrity, and when Lumberjacks fail to meet these expectations, we hold each other accountable. Doing things "The SFA Way" doesn't mean never making a mistake or needing help, but it does mean trusting each other to act honorably in all circumstances.

**Engage in activities that support your success.** There are countless ways college students can occupy their time, but you already know not all of them will help you reach your goals. In fact, some can seriously hamper your academic success, or worse, place your health and well-being at risk. I encourage you to support the Lumberjacks and Ladyjacks at athletic events, attend concerts and dramatic performances, hear guest speakers and participate in other special activities on campus. SFA's more than 200 clubs and organizations include a rodeo club, coffee club, sustainability club and geography club, just to name a few. Many of the networking, service, educational and leadership opportunities these groups offer not only foster your academic success but also help you land a job after graduation. I encourage you to attend an involvement fair or visit the Involvement Center soon, and make it a goal to get involved in at least one activity during your first semester.

**Take care of yourself.** For many of you, this fall will be the first time in your life when you will serve as your own primary caregiver. Don't take this responsibility lightly. Be sure to eat healthy food, get enough rest and do something active every day. Prioritize academics, of course, but also take time to explore your new home, get to know your peers and try new activities on campus and in the community that stretch your abilities and challenge your perceptions.

The next four years are going to fly by quickly. Please take time to appreciate the experience for what it will be — a truly unique and exciting time of personal growth, enlightenment and transformation. We are grateful for the opportunity to help you along this journey, and we look forward to seeing you on campus soon. Axe 'em!



Photo by Danielle Sanchez/ The Pine Log

**The Campus Recreation Center** is open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. The hours change from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Saturday, and again to noon - 8 p.m. on Sunday. The facilities include basketball courts, an indoor track, several different types of gym equipment, a rock climbing wall, racketball courts and a swimming pool.

## Campus Recreation offers involvement opportunities

If you attended SFA orientation during the summer, you probably experienced a sneak peek of the SFA Rec Center during the evening hours. Yes, it's a gym. It's BIG gym that boasts a weight room and cardio floor, indoor track, 39-foot Climbing Wall and 13-foot Bouldering Cave, two indoor basketball courts, and two racketball courts. You can't miss the beautiful outdoor pool with a lazy river, hot tub and three lap lanes. However, the SFA Rec Center it is so much more than just a gym and a pool.

The Campus Recreation department is housed within the SFA Rec Center and offers several ways to get involved on campus through fitness and wellness programming, outdoor pursuits, intramurals, sport clubs, internships and employment.

Group Axe fitness classes run throughout each semester and include yoga, Zumba and kickboxing. Classes often develop a following, with students attending throughout the entire semester and creating a bond through group exercise. Students interested in careers related to fitness and wellness might want to look into certification prep courses for personal trainers and group fitness instructors.

The Outdoor Pursuits team provides a great escape for SFA students, or rather, several great escapes, through planned outdoor excursions to local, statewide and national outdoor destinations. Explore local lakes and hiking trails during day trips throughout the Nacogdoches area, and escape during overnight adventures to Tyler State Park, Ratcliff Lake and even the Grand Canyon. In addition, students can find outdoor excitement right on the SFA campus through the Experiential Learning Center, a high- and low -ropes course featuring a zip line and climbing options.

Intramurals and Sport Clubs gives students a competitive sports option outside of official collegiate athletics teams. Through intramurals, groups of students can form teams and play other SFA students throughout the semester in sports like soccer, sand volleyball, basketball and flag football. Students can also participate in one-day tournaments like dodgeball, pickle ball, table tennis and capture the flag. While intramural leagues consist of teams of SFA students, sport clubs offer students the opportunity to join a team and compete against sport clubs from other universities.

With over 150 student employees, Campus Recreation is one of the largest student employers on campus. You don't have to be an expert in fitness to apply for a job at the SFA Rec Center; there are jobs available in administration, fitness, facility operations, wellness, graphic design and marketing, safety, lifeguarding, sports programming, referring and officiating, summer youth camps, and more. Campus Recreation also offers a flexible internship program. Find more information on how to apply for jobs and internships at [www.sfasu.edu/sfarecjobs](http://www.sfasu.edu/sfarecjobs).

For brevity, each area of the facility is broken down into specific details below:

**Our Facility:** The SFA Student Recreation Center opened in 2007 and offers the following:

**Indoor Recreation Space:** 80,910 sq/ft

- Main Gym with 2 basketball courts
- Weight room and cardio floor
- 2 multipurpose rooms
- Indoor track
- 39-foot Climbing Wall and 13-foot Bouldering Cave
- 2 Racketball court

**Outdoor Recreation Space:** 72,430 sq/ft

- 4 Intramural fields
- 300 sq/ft padded artificial turf outdoor workout area
- Military spec obstacle course with 10 elements
- Schlieff Tennis Complex with 16 courts
- Outdoor Courtyard
- 2 basketball courts
- 2 sand volleyball courts
- 5 miles of multi-use trails
- Low and high element challenge course

**Outdoor Pool:** 6,958 sq/ft

**Outdoor Pool Deck:** 15,738 sq/ft

- Lazy River
- 3 lap lanes
- Diving well
- Hot tub spa with seating for 43
- Multi-use area with basketball hoop and volleyball net

**Programing Highlights:**

■ **Outdoor Pursuits** - The Outdoor Center offers students the chance to experience the outdoors through day and overnight trips and learn skills that enable them to enjoy being outside. Along with various clinics, patrons have access to rent outdoor equipment like kayaks, tents, paddle boards, and bikes. The Outdoor Pursuits team also oversees the rock wall, an indoor/outdoor challenge course, and local walking/biking trails.

■ **Intramural Sports** - SFA's intramural basketball team, "The Takeover," won the Men's Intramural Division 2019 NIRSA National Championship.

■ **Sport Clubs** - SFA is home to over 20 sport clubs including rock climbing, rodeo, wake boarding and bass fishing. The Bass Fishing Club won the Abu Garcia College Fishing National Championship. An esports Club was formed during the spring 2020 semester along with the development of a new esports Lab that houses 12 computers.

■ **Aquatics and Safety** - The aquatics and safety staff offer a variety of America Red Cross certification courses including CPR/AED and First Aid for Professional Rescuer, CPR Instructor, Lifeguard, and Lifeguard Instructor.

■ **Fitness** - Beginning in Spring 2021, we started to host Group Fitness Instructor and Certified Personal Trainer certification preparation courses. In partnership with NASM/AFAA, these hybrid courses will provide students with the tools and skills needed to successfully obtain their certification. Upon completion, newly certified fitness professionals will have the ability to interview for employment with the Student Recreation Center and will be further equipped with a nationally accredited certification that can be used outside of the university setting after graduation.

**Fun Facts:**

■ As part of our outdoor facility, we house a military spec obstacle course with 10 different elements.

■ SFA Campus Rec holds weekly "Group AXE" classes that are free group exercise classes for all members. Classes include yoga, cycling, Zumba and more!

■ SFA Campus Rec is committed to bring fitness and wellness to every student, even online. We hold online options of our some of our Group AXE classes and special events to keep students moving at home.

For more information about the SFA Rec Center and Campus Recreation, visit [www.sfasu.edu/campusrec](http://www.sfasu.edu/campusrec).

## Students encouraged to transition résumé from high school to college



Courtesy Photo

**The Center for Career and Professional Development** hosts job fairs, closet cleanouts and SFA's career program help.

While students arrive at college with a variety of experience, it is important for all students to begin working on their résumé early in their time at SFA. The Center for Career and Professional Development offers assistance in a variety of ways to help students transition their documents into what employers are looking for in the application process.

If students do not have a résumé yet, Jamie Bouldin, CCPD director, encourages them to get one started.

"Even if it feels light on experience and they don't have much to add yet, students will be a step ahead by simply creating a foundation," she said. "Once they start getting involved on campus, working at a part-time job, volunteering, or taking part in research projects, students will find they have a lot to add to their résumé."

CCPD offers a wide variety of resources online ([www.sfasu.edu/ccpd](http://www.sfasu.edu/ccpd)) to help students get started. Students can browse resources online, or visit the CCPD offices on the third floor of the Rusk Building for assistance.

Once the student has created a draft of their résumé, there are a few ways they can request a critique. First, they can submit it online for a virtual critique. A CCPD team member will

review the document and provide written feedback within five to seven business days. Students can also request in-person appointments for one-on-one critiques, or utilize walk-in hours for assistance.

CCPD uses Handshake, the online career management platform, to provide access to services for students and alumni. Students can visit <http://sfasu.edu/handshake>, click on "Login With SFA Credentials" and then use their mySFA username and password to access their account. Once in the system, students should click on "Career Center" and then "Resources" to find information related to document critiques, or "Appointments" to book a one-on-one critique.

While utilizing a résumé template can be tempting, Bouldin encourages students to instead browse the CCPD resources and make a fresh start on their document.

"Templates can be troublesome for a few reasons," Bouldin said. "First, recruiters can spot a template a mile away, and students can be viewed as unoriginal because their document may look exactly like five others they've received."

See **RÉSUMÉ** on Page 3B



# CCPD holds on-campus career fairs

Students seeking volunteer opportunities, an internship, or a part-time job off or on campus are able to attend the Center for Career and Professional Development's career fairs.

"This is a convenient opportunity for students to engage with employers and non-profits to find work and involvement opportunities at SFA or within the Nacogdoches and Lufkin communities," Jamie Bouldin, CCPD Director, said.

Bouldin encouraged all students to bring a resume to the fair. CCPD offers virtual and in-person options for professional document development and critiques via Handshake, its career management platform. Students can also view a list of all employers attending the fair through Handshake.

"The CCPD offers a getting-started guide for resumes, and can provide feedback to students at multiple stages of document development," she added. "We know it can be challenging to get a resume started, but students have a lot of resources available through the career center to assist with this process."

Students must be dressed professionally in order to attend any CCPD career fair. The minimum dress standard is business casual, and no jeans are allowed. If a student does not have professional clothing, they are encouraged to utilize the CCPD Career Closet prior to the day of the fairs. Students who are not dressed appropriately will not be allowed admittance into the event.

"Our Career Closet offers a wide range of business casual and business professional clothing that is appropriate to wear for any interview or career fair," Bouldin said. "Students can borrow clothing for free, and our closet sponsor, VIP Cleaners, takes care of all the dry cleaning in between each use."

More information about all of CCPD's fall events can be found on its Upcoming Events page: <https://www.sfasu.edu/ccpd/upcoming-events>

# Review: Rice Queen food truck brings new, fun flavors to ‘The Oldest Town in Texas’



A chicken rice bowl, pajeon, a fried tofu skewer and a Korean iced coffee from the Rice Queen Food Truck, which goes to various locations in Nacogdoches, sits on a picnic table.

**By John Martin**  
*Contributing Writer*

It's a long way to Asia, but the Rice Queen food truck brings Nacogdoches the kind of cuisine one might find on the streets of Korea.

Their most popular dish is a rice bowl with a choice of chicken, beef, tofu or fried spam. The menu is abundant in vegetarian options and also includes a small selection of drinks and side items.

I ordered a chicken rice bowl, pajeon, a fried tofu skewer and a Korean iced coffee. All four items ran

a little over \$20 after tax.

Much of the menu was a new experience for me, so while I can't speak to its authenticity, I can certainly speak for its flavor.

Now let's get into the individual dishes. I ordered white rice and my egg sunny side up with my chicken dish. The white rice was standard sticky rice, and the egg was seasoned with Korean red pepper flakes called gochutgaru. The peppers weren't overpowering, and both were cooked in a basic fashion, but cooked well. The chicken was made with peanut

oil, garnished with sesame seeds and accompanied by a pineapple-based sauce, which gave it a mild sweetness along with the saltiness of soy sauce. I enjoyed the sauce, but the flavor was a bit too subtle in my opinion. There were dressings of green onions, green cabbage, and my favorite, a blend of pickled radish and carrots, which helped add a bit more to the mild flavor.

I have never tried fried tofu before, but as many times as it was featured on the menu, I had to give it a shot. I was met by a skewer of three very delectable cubes of tofu dressed in

gochujang sauce and sesame seeds. It had a nice soft texture and a light, crispy exterior that made for a very tender and savory snack. It was a very nice introduction to the world of tofu.

All in all, I had a great experience at Rice Queen. The staff was very helpful and willing to answer any questions I had about the dishes and got my food out quickly.

Rice Queen can often be found at the Red House Winery, but their location, menu and hours vary week-to-week. Their updated schedule can be found on Instagram @ricequeensf.

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RÉSUMÉ: CCPD gives career advice, feedback to students

From Page 1B

Second, templates often are not reflective of all the experience that students are gaining in college, and students often struggle to fit in study abroad experiences, internships, leadership roles,

or other categories which may not be present in the template."

In addition to critiquing résumés, CCPD will also provide feedback to students on cover letters, reference sheets and personal statements.



Courtesy Photo

Job fairs are held several times throughout the school year by the CCPD. These fairs are used to help college students get their name out in their respective work force with local and national companies or organizations.

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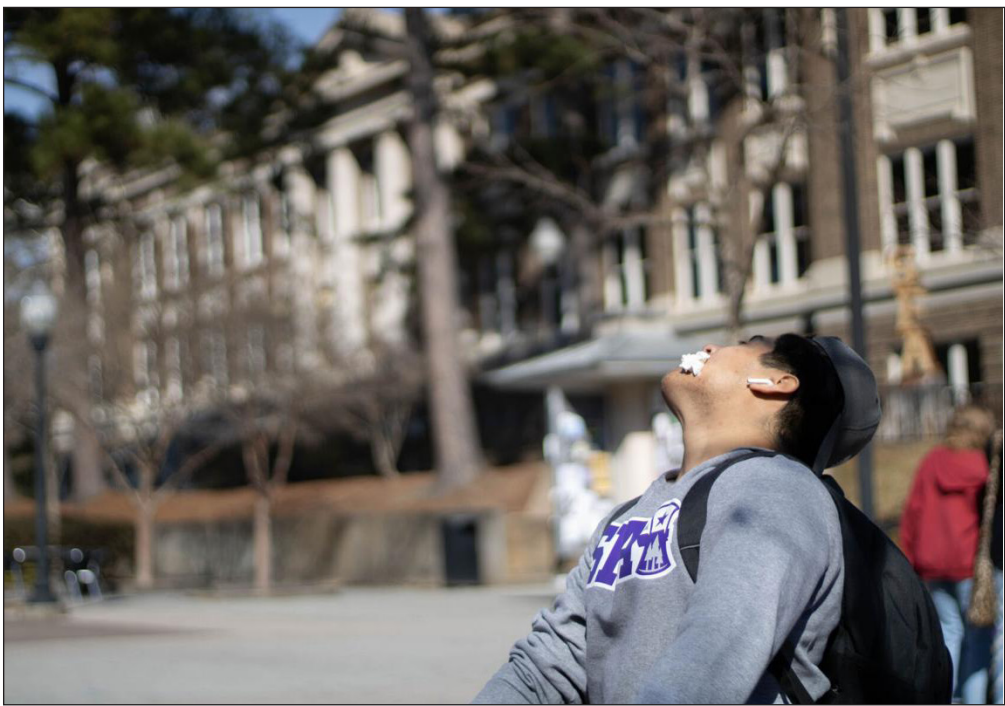
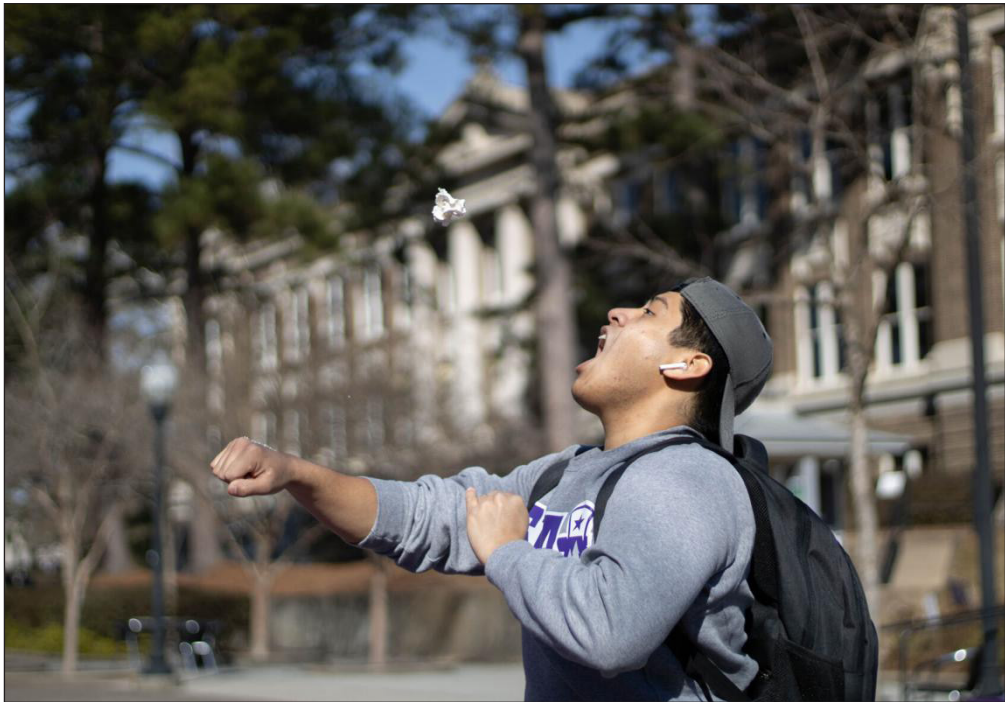
How?

In person at the voter registrar's office, 203 West Main Street.  
Or see the SFA College Democrats on campus!  
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Paid for by the Nacogdoches County Democratic Party  
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SAA hosts TikTok event



Photos by John Martin / The Pine Log

Students participate for a chance to win a gift package with items for social media influencers, such as a ring light, a phone grip, skin care face masks and other smaller items that are trending on the app. The event was free to enter and included many stations, including the flying whipped cream and cup flip challenges above. The event was coordinated by Edgardo Sandoval, a senior kinesiology major from Houston, and inspired by a previous SAA event, Vine and Dine, which was also inspired by a now-defunct video sharing app.

ENTREPRENEURS: Students with small businesses sell wares, network with SFA, Nacogdoches community

From Page 7B

Locke said the idea for Trader Jacks was proposed by Cathleen Young, former student body vice president.  
"[Young] explained the need for an event like this, and I agree," Locke

said. "This is a chance for Student Government Association to support our fellow Lumberjacks and promote entrepreneurship."  
Locke said she is excited to see Trader Jacks is coming to fruition at this magnitude.



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# Honors project to published paper

Students advocate for Asian awareness

By Alyssa Coker  
Editor-in-Chief

It all started as an honors contract. Seniors Amy Kitzman, interdisciplinary studies major from Coppell, and Sarah Shingler, elementary education major from Magnolia, collaborated on their contract to fulfill yet another upcoming due date. However, upon reading their contract, Dr. Sarah Straub, assistant professor of education studies, had another idea for this paper: publish it.

Shingler and Kitzman co-authored a paper titled “Opportunities and Rationale for Asian American Representation in 4th Grade Social Studies TEKS.” Straub decided to push the students to publish it in the spring issue of the “Journal of Social Studies and History Education.”

“In my personal experience, I never heard of anything Asian in all of my time in school,” Kitzman said. “So, [Shingler and I] just did a couple of Google searches, and we found that there is actually a lot of Asian representation in Texas history that doesn’t get talked about. We ended up doing a whole research project about the World War II internment camps in Texas.”

One of these internment camps was in Corpus Christi and gave Kitzman and Shingler the “focus” of their paper.

“We focused on trying to figure out where there was room for growth in the TEKS to literally write in Asian representation,” Kitzman said. “You hear about other influential figures, but you never hear about the Asians in Texas history, or U.S. history for that. That kind of overall summarizes [our paper.] We wrote a lesson plan at the end, and then Dr. Straub decided to put it up for publication.”

Straub said the subject is “super timely” and an important topic in the current social climate of our country.

“There is a lot going on in terms of Asian hate recently,” Straub said. “[Shingler, Kitzman, and I] talked about this, and we wrote about it in the full, published article. Culturally responsive pedagogy is a huge deal to me, and representation really, really matters.”



John Martin / The Pine Log  
Sarah Shingler (left) and Amy Kitzman (right) together by a wood-carved statue in the Baker Pattillo Student Center plaza.

This is also important to Kitzman as “a lot of her family,” including her mom, are from Japan. To Shingler, she wanted to write this paper firstly “because of Amy.”

“She’s been a huge advocate for Asian American representation and rights from the entire time we’ve been in college,” Shingler said. “My role, as someone who isn’t an Asian American, is to just listen, learn and then, in turn, advocate, so I thought this project would be a good platform to learn more.”

The paper consists of research, implementation and a lesson plan at the end to give potential readers a way to use the information presented.

“The earlier part talks about how they were able to find

ways to subvert the system and take something that exists, like how we have a white Euro-centric curriculum, but these students have found ways to get around that and add these stories,” Straub said. “They wrote about that method. I think it’s something that educators that are currently practicing can read that and be like, ‘Okay, that’s my permission. I can take that and go.’”

Making the paper something that educators can benefit from was a major goal for the co-authors.

“Like we said before, Asian American representation isn’t a well-known topic or isn’t talked about a lot,” Shingler said. “It meant a lot not only that we got to do it, but that other people

# Career coaching appointments can provide guidance and direction

While a student’s college graduation date may seem far away, it will arrive much sooner than it seems possible.

Students often feel they can postpone conversations about their career development until later in college, but utilizing the services provided by the Center for Career and Professional Development early and often can help students feel confident and be prepared for post-graduate life.

“Preparations for a student’s post-graduate experience should begin in their first year at SFA,” Director Jamie Bouldin said. “During their first year on campus, whether they are a first-year student or a transfer student, students should begin exploring their

options for a major and find opportunities for involvement on campus.”

Many students utilize TypeFocus, an online career assessment tool, to provide guidance in this process. Using a combination of assessments, TypeFocus assists students in identifying occupations and majors that align with their personality, values, skills and interests. Students can explore suggested majors and navigate potential options to begin to make informed decisions about their academic and career plans. Once the assessments are complete, students are encouraged to set up a career coaching consultation appointment with a CCPD team member through Handshake to further

discuss the results and begin developing an action plan.

CCPD uses Handshake, the online career management platform, to allow students to schedule appointments online. Students can visit <http://sfasu.edu/handshake>, click on “Login With SFA Credentials” and then use their mySFA username and password to access their account. Once in the system, students should click on “Career Center” and then “Appointments” to book a one-on-one meeting. Appointments can take place virtually via Zoom, or in person on the third floor of the Rusk Building.

The CCPD focuses its services around the skills employers report they are seeking

in their new hires, based on research conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

“We aim to assist students with professional development as well as searching for a job or internship,” Bouldin said. “The development of the skills that employers are looking for cannot happen in a single semester. It’s a process which will involve each year of a student’s time in college, and career coaching can help students fill in those gaps and articulate the skills employers are seeking.”

For more information, contact CCPD at [ccpd@sfasu.edu](mailto:ccpd@sfasu.edu) or visit the third floor of the Rusk Building during normal business hours.



## Student Engagement

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Office of Student Engagement Programs

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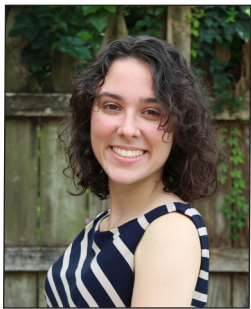


# OPINIONS

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The Pine Log

Page 5B



**Emma Hill**  
News Editor

## First-year students should rely on AARC sooner

Whether you're a transfer from a different college or an incoming freshman, everything's new for that first week at SFA. Each class is an unknown variable. The person sitting next to you might be your future best friend. True to Piney Woods form, the trees on campus are blazing emerald, and the squirrels frolic like cheerful attendees to a Disney fairy tale. It's all perfect.

And then grades come in.

Especially for students who are used to excelling in high school, struggling in college classes can create significant stress. Oftentimes, it's more than just an adjustment shock; financial aid depends on GPA, and future education opportunities might hinge on what classes students ace. With your entire future looming ahead, a bad grade that first week can feel like the end of the world.

So, the week's up. The world's ended. Now what?

My advice, as someone who had that rude awakening in my first college courses, is to be honest with yourself and ask for help. Sometimes, bad grades come from poor time management. For a lot of us, though, there are just some subjects that come easily and some subjects that evoke doomsday vibes in our souls.

If you're getting doomsday vibes, SFA has an incredible resource for students willing to ask for help: the Academic Assistance and Resource Center (AARC). Located on the

first floor of the Ralph W. Steen Library and available on various virtual platforms, the AARC consists of student tutors who have demonstrated expertise in a particular field and now prepare other students for difficult courses. Tutors can help students edit essays, work through math problems or prepare for history tests at the AARC Walk-In Tables, which are available on Zoom or in-person. If a student desires consistent help in an English course with the same tutor, they can also sign up for 1:1 tutoring and attend weekly 50-minute sessions. This is only a service offered with English courses.

Additionally, the Writing Lab has a resource called the Online Writing Lab (OWL) located on D2L. Students submit a paper and within two days a tutor returns the paper with detailed suggestions for improvement. Alongside these resources, the AARC provides Supplemental Instruction (SI) for select courses. These tutors have already completed the course they're helping and received an A, but they "retake" the course and work together with the professor to help students with specific assignments.

The AARC is a fantastic resource, but tutors won't be around when you're applying for that dream job or writing graduate school letters of intent. A tutor's primary purpose is to equip students to become self-sufficient. Although I'm sure you will make many friends visiting the AARC (I have!), and the doors are always open, a successful tutor will leave you so confident in your own abilities that tutoring is no longer necessary. There's no better time to start that journey to self-sufficiency than your first week at SFA. And there's no better way to prepare for your amazing future as a Lumberjack!

## Organizations offer variety for students

When entering a new environment, it is imperative to get involved. But with a university with nearly 12,000 students and over 200 clubs, it can be hard to find a starting point. Luckily, SFA offers a wide assortment of clubs and classes to help new students enter in as smoothly as possible. Here are a few of our amazing options in order to get involved and make the best of your first year at Stephen F. Austin!

A great place to start on your journey to involvement is attending our Involvement Fairs. These usually take place at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters and are where our clubs gather to showcase each of their distinctive qualities. However, as stated before, with over 200 clubs, it can be a bit overwhelming to find which club is your perfect match. Here are some of my recommendations for some great clubs to get started in for your first year at SFA.

If you want to make a change and be part of important changes on the SFA campus, the Student Government Association (SGA) is the place for you. Composed of three branches with a mixture of class and college senators, these students are representative of the student body. If government isn't your thing but you still want to be an active member of campus life, Student Activities Association (SAA) is perfect for you. This club creates special, fun events for the students on campus including music festivals, drive in movies, and garage sales to name a few. To learn more about SFA's rich history and traditions, look no further than the Traditions Council. These students truly bleed purple and are well versed in everything SFA including the origins of the axe handle, Ole Cotton and the Stone Fort Museum.

If you want to build a camaraderie between peers, a great place to start is greek life. At SFA, we have fourteen

Interfraternity Council (IFC) fraternities and five Panhellenic Council (NPC) sororities. Each of these organizations have a unique blend of students who have a passion for philanthropic service and are leaders for the Nacogdoches community.

Despite being in east Texas, SFA has taken great strides to be as diverse as possible. If you are interested in greek life but want a more culturally inclusive experience, we offer organizations like the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) which is composed of historically African-American fraternities and sororities as well as the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC).

If greek life isn't for you but you still want to be involved in diversity affairs, look no further than The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) whose mission at SFA is to create an atmosphere on campus where all faculty, staff and students feel welcomed, respected and heard. Another great resource is the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus which is dedicated to serving the community and creating a space for LGBTQ+ individuals in Nacogdoches.

As a junior here, I can honestly say getting involved in clubs helped me tremendously during my first year of college. I came to SFA knowing no one and through joining organizations like SGA, Delta Zeta and our debate team I have seen myself evolve into a more confident version of myself.



**Ella Bolton**  
News Editor



**Alyssa Coker**  
Editor-in-chief

## Overcoming failure can bring new opportunities

I'm a senior. A whole senior. I just want you to keep that in mind while I tell you this.

I took some online classes this past summer, and I ended up having some questions for my professor. I'd been pretty busy with work and family and doing school at the same time was just a lot on my plate. I got the job done, but I wasn't able to communicate as well as I should

have with my professor. So, I thought to clear everything up, we could have a little Zoom meeting.

I want to preface that I went into this meeting confidently, thinking that everything would be ironed out in my favor, and I didn't do anything that bad. The main issue that I thought was affecting me in this class was that my discussion post videos kept uploading upside down. I thought that was the entire problem.

But, during the Zoom call, I learned I was wrong. There was a whole other issue that I had no clue about because I missed two crucial videos my professor posted on our class discussion board. My professor went on to tell me that continuing what I was doing (which was completely the wrong thing to do on my part by the way) made him think that I was openly disrespecting him in front of the entire class.

So, this was a punch to the gut. That was not my intention at all. But, instead of apologizing calmly like

an adult, I cried. CRIED. As a senior in college, I cried in a one-on-one meeting with my professor over Zoom. That was a humbling experience.

And a learning experience. I've been in college for years now, and I obviously still have a lot of work to do on myself.

In college, things that don't necessarily reflect your best self will happen. You may be late to class on your first day (like I was), you may make your first C (like I did), and you may even only have a total of one friend for your entire first year (like I did). All of those things seem like such a waste of potential and may seem to ruin your college experience, but they don't. Good things take time.

I encourage you to take your failures in stride and know that a failure doesn't have to be a complete failure. You don't have to give up completely and run back home, feeling terrible about yourself.

My freshman year, I thought I was supposed to have everything together. I needed to be the perfect student, employee, girlfriend, friend and family member all the time, and I needed to be those things immediately. Don't get me wrong striving for those things should always happen. But, when you fail at something, it's not going to be the end of the world. You can recover; believe me.

By the way, the professor I literally poured out my feelings to is a professor and a dean that I'm going to need to keep in contact with for the rest of my college career. So, if I can show my face after crying into this poor man's web camera, you can overcome any obstacle college or whatever throws at you.



**Carlie Massey**  
News Editor

## How to find your second home here at SFA

College life can be scary. It's completely different from high school. You follow your own time management rules, you decide how many classes to take, you choose your class schedule, the list goes on. And then there's the biggest change of all: moving away from home.

Some students move out of their parents' house, and some don't. It can be overwhelming, especially to incoming college

freshmen. Whether you are living in a dorm or living off campus, moving away from home can be intimidating. It was for me, anyway.

However, it doesn't have to be completely terrifying. You can find solace in accepting that this is new to you and embracing the change instead.

For me, I attended Tyler Junior College before transferring to SFA for my last two years of college. At TJC, most of my classes were online due to COVID-19. I was not able to be on campus to meet people or get involved in typical college activities. In other words, it wasn't the full college experience like I had hoped. So, in a way this year at SFA will be a brand new start for me.

It's nerve racking to start over on a new campus in a new town, but I'm striving to put myself out there. You can do that as well by getting involved in some of the

various organizations or clubs, or attending any of the events SFA puts on. You may not know anyone going to these events, but it is a perfect time to step out of your comfort zone in order to find a second home at SFA.

Another tip is to go home on the weekends. Yes, I have easy access to public washers and dryers. However, I'm going to use laundry as an excuse to come home and see my parents most weekends. I'm a sentimental person; and if you are too, you might just have to come home every weekend or so in order to maintain your dose of family time.

Additionally, if you have roommates, take advantage of those people. They are potentially your first friends at SFA and together you can attend all of those events or join any club without fear that you'll be alone or not know anyone there.

Another tip is remembering that we live in the modern age. If you miss your family, friends, significant other, etc, they are just a phone call away. It's not exactly the same, but take time to call and catch up with one another.

Lastly, remember that college is supposed to be fun. Yes, with school work - and a job if you have one - it can be stressful at times. However, college is a unique life experience, so embrace going to SFA events, even if you are alone at first. Join clubs, organizations and make memories. Have faith that you will find your Lumberjack pack. Get into the school spirit and don't waste your time here at SFA; because in the end, four years go by quickly, but you'll make memories that will last a lifetime.

## Dorm essentials you shouldn't forget

When getting advice from most people about packing for college, you will probably hear that less is best. Pack only what you know you will wear, only bring the essential items, or my favorite - if you can't fit it in one car, don't bring it. My freshman year of college occurred during a pandemic. Most of my classes were over Zoom or completely online, meaning I was spending lots of time in my dorm. I quickly came across issues that made me uncomfortable with dorm life. These are the items that made me, and could possibly make you, perfectly happy with living in a dorm.

The first big issue I encountered was that everyone recommended a handheld vacuum. But when I first started my freshman year, I lived in Hall 14 where the floors are tile. Vacuuming wasn't as effective as sweeping and mopping. Then later in the year I moved to Kerr, and while the vacuum worked with the carpet it was hard to effectively vacuum with such a tiny thing. So, this year I bought a vacuum that works as a handheld and a normal vacuum. That way vacuuming my floors won't be such a pain.

The second thing I found to bother me was that I had a shower caddy but nothing to carry my oral hygiene products with. Since I was used to having everything right there on my bathroom counter, I hadn't considered it before I moved to campus. Carrying the products back and forth quickly became a pain. I didn't want to put them in my shower caddy because I always brought that in the shower with me, and I also didn't want to bring my whole shower caddy whenever I wanted to brush my teeth. My solution? A smaller caddy that could hold all my oral hygiene products. Now, I had something to carry the products for when I wanted

to just brush my teeth, and I could just leave the smaller caddy outside of the shower for when I wanted to shower and brush my teeth on the same visit.

On the topic of hygienic routines, let's talk about showering. One thing I never see people mention about showering is a bath rug. Bath rugs help keep you from getting water all over your dorm floor after you shower; and if you live in Hall 14, you will really want one. Mopping every time after you shower is almost as bad as an 8 AM class.

You are desperately going to want a Brita or some water filter of some sort. Some residence halls have their own; but in buildings like Kerr, it's only on certain floors. There are also ice machines; but again, they're only on certain floors in some buildings, so you'll want to have an ice cube tray. Of course, this isn't necessary, but the trips get old pretty fast.

Remember that campus is supposed to be your home away from home. When shopping for your dorm, it's important to consider every possible thing that could make your life easier. Examine your everyday life right now and find a way to transfer it to dorm life. College can be a big adjustment, but dorm life doesn't have to be. Ignore all the talk about bringing too much, because at the end of the day you, and maybe your roommate, are the one dealing with it.



**Renee Handy-Fain**  
News Editor



**Sandra Carranza**  
News Editor

the best of intentions, they will push you to join or apply to as many as possible because "It will be so much fun!", "You will make so many friends!" and how could you possibly not want that?

Well, you are an introvert, and all this talk

about college social life on top of getting ready for classes is making you quite queasy. You come to the conclusion that college is not for you.

That is where you are wrong. Do not let the college craze intimidate you. As an introvert myself, I want to share a few things I wish I knew my freshman year that would have made things so much easier.

First of all, be aware that it is OK to say no. During my first few weeks, I got involved with many groups and clubs because every new person I met would invite me to something different. It is OK to say yes and try new things, but at your own pace. All I did was overwhelm myself by trying to play the "extrovert" and do everything. Set your own limits and acknowledge how much socialization you can handle mentally before you

need to stop and recharge.

And make sure you put recharge on your daily to-do list. Everyone benefits from a moment during a long day to wind down and catch a breath. But, these moments are essential for the wellbeing of an introvert, so schedule it in if you need to. Personally, the best moments for me to recharge are before going to bed or the early morning. I drink a warm cup of coffee, journal my thoughts and spend time alone. But of course, every person will find their own activity to de-stress and relax.

Lastly, do not be afraid of the dining halls. Yes, this might sound silly, I know, but it is a real fear of introverts. The dining hall brings back memories of our freshman year of high school when you felt slightly out of place in the crowded room, did not

know where to sit and were convinced you could not sit alone. But this is college, and, honestly, no one cares. No one cares if you sit alone or with a group of ten, if you arrive in your pajamas or in a business suit. Everyone is too busy doing their own thing, so allow yourself to let that fear go because this is not high school anymore.

This is college, but do not let it intimidate you. If you are socially awkward, shy or quiet, this is your chance to embrace it or reinvent yourself. Let yourself say yes to social outings but say no if you have to. From one introvert to another, I want to remind you to take the necessary time alone to regain energy for your physical and mental wellbeing. And definitely do not let silly high school fears follow you into adulthood.



### Fall 2021 Editorial Board

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Letters to the editor should be typed and should include the student's hometown, classification,

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We reserve the right to edit letters for space, spelling, grammar and potentially libelous material. Letters to the editor can be submitted on The Pine Log's website, thepinelog.com, using the submission form.



# SFA Big Jacks, Bubbles and Ducktails host fundraiser for student with cancer

**By Renee Fain**  
*News Editor*

SFA Big Jacks and Bubbles and Ducktails partnered to host a fundraiser event for former Big Jacks officer Tristen Adams.

Big Jacks is an organization that helps mentor the youth of Nacogdoches County. Adams stepped down from her officer position after being diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma larynx, a form of laryngeal cancer. She travels from Lufkin to Dallas for every treatment to save her voice box. Adams dreams of being a middle school math teacher and said without her voice it would be very difficult to achieve that.

"I cannot explain in words how thankful I am for everyone's support and help," Adams said. "Both my family and I deeply appreciate the community coming together to help us during such a hard time. Without it, I would not be able to afford to get treatment to try and save my voice box."

Adams struggled to afford the ENT specialist that gave her the diagnosis, and the cost of all her medical bills plus the surgery to save her voice

box will only be much more.

Big Jacks President Megan Banfield said the hearts of all the members broke when they heard the news of Adams' health. She said they wanted to help in whatever way they could.

"After discussing some with her, we decided that a fundraiser at Bubbles and Ducktails was a good decision. We know that her family is having a tremendous amount of medical bills that they were unable to plan for, and we hope that this fundraiser helps take some of the stress off of their plate," Banfield said.

Adams also has a GoFundMe set up, where she has a goal of \$60,000. As of April, she has \$1,000 donated, but with the fundraiser from Bubbles and Ducktails, that number could increase dramatically.

Bubbles and Ducktails Co-General Manager Erin Cuevas said the business is grateful to have the opportunity to support Adams.

"We hope she knows that she doesn't need her voice to share her message of strength and hope to the Nacogdoches



Caitlyn Hutson / The Pine Log

SFA Big Jacks members sit in Bubbles and Ducktails, a boba tea and chicken strip restaurant on College Street, helping raise money to help a student in need. The student, a former Big Jacks officer, was diagnosed with laryngeal cancer.

# ROTC raises thousands in Lieutenant Kile West Memorial 5k fundraiser

**By Renee Fain**  
*News Editor*

ROTC hosts an annual 5k run to honor Lieutenant Kile West.

"[First] Lieutenant Kile G. West is the only SFA Commissioned Army Officer that has been Killed in Action," Captain Ryan Hunke, assistant professor of military science, said. "We call families that have lost their

sons and daughters in war 'Gold Star Families,' and it's the fallen servicemember's units' obligation to honor their memory and take care of the surviving families."

One year, 170 people participated in the race and over \$17,000 was raised for the scholarship.

"A fun run is an easy way to get people together for a specific purpose," Lieutenant Colonel James Attaway,

a professor of military science, said. "Many folks like the challenge of a run and enjoy doing it for a good purpose. Obviously, this run is to honor Lt. Kile G. West and the proceeds will go towards an endowed scholarship in Kile's name."

As well as being a run to honor Lieutenant West, the run serves as an opportunity for students to plan an event.

"It was a good learning

experience to balance classwork, ROTC work and managing the race all at the same time," John Skinner, the cadet coordinator of the run, said. "In all honesty, it can be done. If someone wants to work for a righteous cause, time can always be found. And ultimately, it's about the small sacrifices the ROTC program makes to honor Kile G. West, who made the ultimate sacrifice."

According to a write up in the "House of Representatives," West transferred to SFA from Blinn Junior College his freshman year. He joined the ROTC as a junior and because a sergeant in the National Guard in Lufkin. After graduating college in 2005, West was assigned to Fort Hood and was deployed for Iraq in 2006. West died in Iraq "while attempting to rescue

the flight crew of a downed aircraft."

West, because of his actions, was awarded the Army Bronze for Heroism and the Purple Heart. He was survived by his mother, who is still close to the Lumberjack Battalion.

West's mother and the Lumberjack Battalion do their best to keep Lieutenant West's memory alive. The race will take place again next year.





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Caitlyn Hutson / The Pine Log

Students showcase their businesses, products and more at the Trader Jacks event on April 15 in the HPE Complex. There were over 20 student vendors at this event, according to SGA.

# Student entrepreneurs, artists set up shop at SGA’s Trader Jacks event

By Sandra Carranza  
News Editor

SGA organized the Trader Jacks event for students to sell homemade goods and crafts on April 15 in the HPE Complex. Student Body Vice President Breanna Locke said Trader Jacks has happened before but on a smaller scale. She said 27 students signed up to sell this time around. One of those students was Jordan Butts, a junior political science major from Kilgore. Butts sold stickers she designed at the event. She said she decided to participate because she loved to draw and wanted to make some extra cash. “I thought this would be a good opportunity to sell what I can make,” Butts said. “I had to make like 26 designs. I designed them, I had to print them all out and I cut them all out. A lot of preparation

went into this.” She said the feedback from students of her stickers and designs was awesome. Another student entrepreneur at Trader Jacks was JT Cooke, a freshman marketing major from Justin representing his own business, DNCA Apparel. Cooke was selling t-shirts and hoodies with his custom designs. “I design these and everything on the website,” Cooke said. “It’s kind of hard. It’s a one-person team, but I make it work.” In preparation for the event, he said he had to gather marketing items like his t-shirts, business cards and stickers to show off his brand. The crafts sold by the students ranged from clothing, jewelry, skincare, books to art.

See ENTREPRENEURS on Page 3B

# Grow friends

## Forestry student launches mobile plant shop, RootMates offers package deals

By Sandra Carranza  
News Editor

RootMates is a plant adoption program started by Abby Dixon, senior forestry major from Flower Mound, at the beginning of April. Through a pay-what-you-want system, the program allows adopters to choose the plant they want at minimal cost. As the seed sprouts and the seedling begins to grow, picture updates are sent to the adopter. For local adopters, the plant is delivered once it is stable. Adopters in other parts of the country will have seeds, a biodegradable pot and a small bag of soil mailed to them. Dixon said she chose plants to bring awareness to mental health because she has seen how plants can change a person’s life. “Mental illness is something that is impacting society on a huge level – one that I don’t think gets enough attention whatsoever,” Dixon said. “I thought starting this initiative would help bring these issues to light, while offering someone something that takes little mental and physical capacity.” The initiative began on Instagram through the circulation of ads and tags. With help from her partner, Dixon said she has been able to manage and communicate through social media. Her friends have helped her with plants and local deliveries. Dorothy Jackson-Tubbs, a graduate student in the counseling program from Nacogdoches, said it was through one of RootMates’ sponsored Instagram posts that she first heard about them. “It was so professional that at first, I thought it was a massive company that shipped all over the country,” Jackson-Tubbs said. “When I realized it was a startup company actually based in Nacogdoches, I knew I had to support it!”

She said her package included not only her plants in decomposable pots but also an info-graphic with care tips. RootMates is great for anyone just getting into gardening, Jackson-Tubbs said. Maddie Rosenbalm, sophomore geology major from Garland, also reached out to RootMates through Instagram. She said the process was simple: she messaged them on Instagram, sent RootMates\$5 on Venmo and she received three plants on her doorstep two weeks later. “It’s been really nice to have some[thing] to brighten up the apartment while I’m in the trenches for finals this semester,” Rosenbalm said. “My roommate liked them so much she’s also going to be contacting RootMates for her own seedlings.” In addition to improving the adopter’s mental health, Dixon said RootMates is going a step further by donating 90% of the funds received to a mental health nonprofit. Right now, it is the Denton County LOSS Team. Dixon said she was able to sponsor the program through personal connections but said she is working on sponsoring non-profit, mental health organizations in Nacogdoches. And while 90% of funds received are donated, she said the rest of the money goes right back into RootMates. “As far as a profit goes, there really isn’t any going into our pockets as that is not the point,” Dixon said. “We get enough donations for our 10% to cover what we need, and that’s all that matters.” Now that more people are looking to adopt plants, she said volunteers are welcome to join the RootMates team. As of right now, RootMates offers about 50 species of plants; but soon, Dixon said, they will have many more. If you would like to adopt a plant, give a donation or volunteer with RootMates, you can reach out to them through their Instagram @root.mates.

# Orientation Leaders prepare for 2021 sessions

(Top) Orientation Leaders Garrick Hague (left), freshman music education major, and Brendan Lardie, junior marketing major, participate in an icebreaker game to meet other new Orientation Leaders. (Middle) Sitting at tables on the third floor of the Baker Pattillo Student Center, Chris Morris (far right), La-Meria Seriale (left) and others begin the process of learning how to be an orientation leader. These students spend months learning, practicing their new skills and getting to know each other. (Bottom) Student Coordinators Hailey Melton (left), junior pre-nursing major, and Sydnee Seeton, junior psychology major, welcome new and returning Orientation Leaders for 2021.

Photos by Caitlyn Hutson / The Pine Log



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The Lumberjack Family Connection is an e-newsletter sent twice each semester to keep Lumberjack family members in the know about life at Stephen F. Austin State University.

This newsletter will include information from areas across campus, such as the Center for Career and Professional Development, Office of Development, Residence Life, and campus events listed on the university calendar.



To sign up for this e-newsletter, scan the QR code with your smartphone and fill out the form.

For questions, contact Orientation and Transition Programs by emailing [orientation@sfasu.edu](mailto:orientation@sfasu.edu), calling (936) 468-6641 or following us on social media.

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SFA's Weeks of Welcome offers a full slate of events that introduces new students to campus life. For returning students, WoW is a way to become involved and interact with other Lumberjacks and campus organizations.

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Undergrad research is focal point of SFA Honors College

The SFA School of Honors promotes the intellectual curiosity of the University's most capable students, enabling them to confront complex issues. The program offers small classes specifically designed to develop critical thinking skills, expand the scope of investigation of a topic and explore issues in greater depth than can be done in conventional classes.

"All students in the School of Honors engage in research, which is a major focal point," said Dr. Michael Tkacik, director of the School of Honors. "Research improves resumes, provides opportunities such as internships and conference attendance, and increases engagement in college leading to improved understanding of material in class as well as increased networking with professors and peers."

Many Honors students have presented their work at professional or academic conferences across the nation, as well as at the annual Undergraduate Research Conference at SFA.

The program endeavors to develop students who are prepared to become active and thoughtful members of the University community by involving faculty working together with honors students on challenging topics. The program features small class sections that provide many opportunities for collaboration with professors. A wide variety of intellectually stimulating activities is offered, including Honors study abroad trips.

"While many of our students have directly entered the work world, others have gone on to attend medical school, law school and graduate school at a variety of internationally recognized universities," he said. "Whatever the Honors students' goal, we strive to prepare them for success while sharpening those attributes that make each student an individual."

There are many advantages to School of Honors membership. Honors students have the opportunity to take Honors-only courses and earn the University Scholar diploma. The program has a computer lab and other services, including free printing, reserved exclusively for honors students.

"These quiet spaces facilitate good study habits, which is a cornerstone of successful college students," Tkacik said. "Not everyone who is in Honors uses the facilities, but those who do also find camaraderie amongst their peers and support from the office staff that can serve them later in college and after graduation."

For more information about the SFA School of Honors, visit [sfasu.edu/honors](https://sfasu.edu/honors) or call (936) 468-2813.



Courtesy Photo

From classics to comedies, the 2021-22 School of Theatre Mainstage Series will feature something for everyone. Pictured is a scene from the 2019 presentation of William Shakespeare's "Titus Andronicus."

School of Theatre to present wide variety of shows in upcoming season

For unique, live-theatre experiences in an intimate setting, the Stephen F. Austin State University School of Theatre offers its 2021-22 Mainstage Series featuring four outstanding plays presented in Kennedy Auditorium on the SFA campus.

From comedies to classics, this year's selection includes something for everyone, according to Cleo House Jr., director of the School of Theatre.

"To say that I am excited about this season is an understatement," House said. "We are producing a diverse range of plays that will be speak to people with a variety of tastes. I am particularly excited about our joint collaboration on 'Ajax in Iraq' with Panola College's theatre department. It's an idea I had to go beyond articulation agreements and really put collaboration with our community partners into action."

"Griffith Fine Arts Building is still under renovation, so we'll be in Kennedy Auditorium again this year," he added, "but students, staff and faculty have continued to display outstanding ingenuity and adaptability that has resulted in great experiences for our audiences."

This season's shows include "Bootycandy" by Robert O'Hara; "Ajax In Iraq" by Ellen McLaughlin; "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder; and "The Taming of the Shrew" by William Shakespeare.

Based on the author's own experiences, "Bootycandy" is a satiric portrait of American life told through the lens of Sutter, a gay black man on an outrageous odyssey through his childhood home, his church, dive bars, motel rooms and even nursing homes. O'Hara weaves together scenes, sermons, sketches and daring meta-theatrics to create a kaleidoscopic portrayal of growing up gay and black. The play is suggested for Ages 17+ because of its strong language and mature themes. The play runs Oct. 12 through 16.

Past and present collide in McLaughlin's mash-up of Sophocles' classic tragedy "Ajax" with the modern-day war in Iraq. The play follows the parallel narratives of Ajax, an ancient Greek military hero, and A.J., a modern female

American soldier, both undone by the betrayal of a commanding officer. Athena, goddess of war, coolly presides over the whole. Inspired by material collected from interviews with Iraq war veterans and their families, "Ajax in Iraq" explores the timeless struggle soldiers face in trying to make sense of war. The play contains adult language and content. The show runs Nov. 9 through 13.

Pulitzer Prize-winning drama of everyday life in a small town at the dawn of the 20th century, "Our Town" is an American classic. In it, a "stage manager" guides us through the lives of two families: their daily activities, first love, marriage, death and its aftermath. Young lovers Emily and George, their parents, siblings and colorful neighbors use humor and powerful storytelling in place of traditional scenery and costumes to explore the universal question of what it means to be human. "Our Town" runs Feb. 22 through 26.

In Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," Lucentio loves Bianca but cannot court her until her shrewish older sister Katherina marries. The eccentric Petruchio marries the reluctant Katherina and uses a number of tactics to make her an obedient wife. Lucentio marries Bianca and, in a contest at the end, Katherina appears to prove that she is the most loyal wife. The play runs April 5 through 9.

Plans are already in place for the School of Theatre's 2022 Summer Stage Festival, which will feature the musical "The Cat in the Hat," adapted for stage by Katie Mitchell from the book by Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel), along with "Women Who Weave" by J.S. Puller.

Mainstage Series general ticket prices are: adult, \$15; senior (62+), \$10; non-SFA student, \$10; SFA faculty/staff, \$7.50; youth, \$7.50; SFA student, \$5; virtual access, \$15. Live virtual access is available for most performances. Performances are generally at 7:30 nightly. Purchase tickets/access at [boxoffice.sfasu.edu](https://boxoffice.sfasu.edu) or call (936) 468-6407. For questions about play content, contact the School of Theatre at (936) 468-4003.



Photo by Lizeth Rodriguez/ The Pine Log

According to SFA's AARC webpage, the center has over 150 trained and certified peer tutors, over 4,000 students attend annually and a success rate of 83% from students using the AARC over five times.

Award-winning campus resource helps students realize potential

SFA's award-winning Academic Assistance and Resource Center offers free peer tutoring for many entry-level classes, and students don't have to be struggling academically in order to benefit from these targeted services.

Located on the first floor of Steen Library, the AARC makes getting help easy through walk-in services, Supplemental Instruction groups and learning teams, one-on-one assistance, and online academic support. All of the AARC's tutors are SFA students who have successfully completed the course for which they provide tutoring.

The AARC has been in existence at SFA since 1983 and has received many prestigious recognitions, including the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's Star Award and the Distinguished Program Award from the Texas Association of Developmental Education. In the past year, the AARC logged about 50,000 individual visits, helping about 6,000 SFA students achieve their academic goals.

"The AARC presents an array of opportunities for students to maximize their full potential," said M.E. McWilliams, director of the AARC. "We have data that prove that coming to the AARC regularly

during the first semester of college can significantly impact grades and GPA."

To learn more about the AARC's services, including descriptions of the types of help available and a list of SFA courses paired with SI groups, visit [www.sfasu.edu/aarc](https://www.sfasu.edu/aarc). The website is updated regularly and is easy to navigate on any smartphone.

"If you don't see the specific help you need, remember that your professor is your No. 1 resource for success," McWilliams said. "The AARC is a proud No. 2!"



Courtesy Photo

In the DeWitt School of Nursing, only 80 applicants are accepted into the program each semester. This program provides students with hands-on experiences to prepare them for the workforce.

DeWitt School of Nursing ranked in top 10 by online program guide

Stephen F. Austin State University's DeWitt School of Nursing was recently ranked No. 8 in Texas by RN Careers, an online program guide.

RN Careers ranks programs based on tuition costs and national licensure exam pass rates, among other criteria.

The DeWitt School of Nursing received a 97% first-time pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination in 2020 and prepares students for success with personal attention from faculty.

"Our nursing faculty are engaged and focused on student success," said Dr. Tamara Harris, director of the School of Nursing. "We have testing procedures that mimic the NCLEX testing and faculty that accompany students to clinicals for the purpose of reinforcing concepts from lecture content."

With advanced simulation labs and rigorous coursework, students are equipped to provide exceptional patient care in a variety of nursing fields.

"Our students graduate with job offers," Harris said. "SFA's School of Nursing has a reputation across the state of providing a great education for nurses."

To learn more about the School of Nursing, visit [sfasu.edu/nursing](https://sfasu.edu/nursing).



# Art gives peace

Art education students, Boys and Girls Club present first art show

The first Boys and Girls Club Art Show was presented at The Cole Art Center @ The Old Opera House in downtown Nacogdoches in June.

The show was part of an ongoing collaboration between art education students at SFA and the Nacogdoches membership of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Deep East Texas. Artwork created as a result of art education student-lead art lessons presented at the Boys and Girls Club since March was displayed.

“SFA art education students have been providing art lessons continuously since the summer of 2020,” said Dr.

Maggie Leysath, professor of art education at SFA. “The art lessons are part of an initiative by the art education department to help the BGC build an after-school art program by providing art lessons taught by SFA art education students.

Lessons were initially provided virtually because of the pandemic. But in March, art education students were able to resume face-to-face art lessons at the club facilities and develop a body of work that was on display in the art show and is representative of the ongoing collaboration, according to Leysath.

“BGC members as well



Photo courtesy of University Marketing Communications

Members of the Boys and Girls Club and art education students collaborate on an art piece to show at their first art show.

as interested community members are invited to join us to share the artwork created by BGC members after school and during the Summer 2021 session,” Leysath said.

For more information about the show, contact Leysath at leysathmn@sfasu.edu or 936-468-4262. For more information about summer programs with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Deep East Texas, visit bgcdet.org. For more information about the School of Art, visit art.sfasu.edu.



Photo courtesy of University Marketing Communications

Zachary Hutchens was recently awarded the Student Field Natural History Award by the Southwestern Association of Naturalists for his work studying the Sabine shiner in the Lanana Creek watershed.

## Biology student wins award

For over nine months, an SFA biology student has ignored unforeseen weather extremes and other hurdles to wade into the waters of Banita and Lanana creeks in search of a threatened fish – the Sabine shiner. The Southwestern Association of Naturalists recently recognized his efforts with the Student Field Natural History Award.

Zachary Hutchens, a senior from Nacogdoches, is conducting research to assess the status and habitat conditions of local populations of Sabine shiner in the Lanana Creek watershed.

“In winter and summer sampling trips, we face extreme conditions, such as freezing and scorching temperatures,” Hutchens said. “Regardless of the weather, we maintain a consistent sampling schedule in order to standardize our data collection.”

The Sabine shiner is a small fish found in clear, shallow streams and is currently classified as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Texas, necessitating a need for tracking its geographic distribution in East Texas waterways.

Using a seine, Hutchens and his faculty mentor, Dr. Carmen Montaña, assistant professor in the Department of Biology, collect the fish and mark them with visual implant elastomer tags to study their movements in the creeks.

“It is a species lacking research into their movement patterns,” Hutchens said. “My project has shown that there is an isolated population of the Sabine shiner in Banita Creek, and it does not move very far from the tagging location.”

Because the last study on the fish was conducted 20 years ago, Hutchens’ research will provide a much-needed update.

“That study reported a much higher abundance and stable populations of Sabine shiner compared to what we are finding today,” he said. “This presented a great opportunity to investigate exactly how much this population has changed and search for reasons as to why.”

Once collected, results from Hutchens’ study will be compared to the previous study.

“As a faculty member and a mentor, I am proud of our students,” Montaña said. “They work very hard in the field and lab settings to produce quality scientific data and increase their involvement with scientific research.”

Hutchens recently presented his research to judges, students and other scientists at the 68th annual meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists where he was recognized for his outstanding oral presentation and the strong field component in his research.

“This conference gave students a platform to present their research to a diverse group of scientists and graduate and undergraduate students working in the fields of ecology and conservation,” Montaña said. “Their participation in this meeting allowed our students to grow as scientists.”

To learn more about the Department of Biology, visit sfasu.edu/biology.

## SFA professors contribute to first nationwide mammal survey

Have you ever felt as though you were being watched? If so and you were a mammal roaming the 2,560-acre Stephen F. Austin Experimental Forest during fall 2019, your suspicions likely were correct.

Dr. Christopher Schalk, Stephen F. Austin State University assistant professor of forest wildlife management, and Dr. Daniel Scognamiglio, SFA adjunct professor of forest wildlife management, are two of more than 150 researchers from across the continental U.S. to participate in the first nationwide survey of mammals initiated by the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute.

The survey, known as Snapshot USA, comprises 1,509 motion-activated camera traps throughout 110 sites in the U.S.

“Our goal was to provide a space for researchers from all 50 states to contribute a subset of their data to a broader initiative to maximize our coverage of the country and better understand drivers of mammal distributions to best inform conservation as rapidly as possible,” said Michael Cove, curator of mammalogy at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.

Schalk and Scognamiglio deployed 19 camera traps throughout the SFA Experimental Forest during September and October 2019 and recorded observations of

more than 10 mammal species, including white-tailed deer, Southern flying squirrel, bobcat, coyote and nine-banded armadillo.

“These data are really valuable because they allow researchers to address questions and problems on the ecology and conservation of mammals at broader spatial scales,” Schalk said.

The results of Snapshot USA were featured in Ecology, a peer-reviewed journal published by the Ecological Society of America. The 2019 survey data also is publicly available at emammal.si.edu/snapshot-usa.



Pictured is a common raccoon documented at the Stephen F. Austin Experimental Forest during the survey.

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# Colorful downtown murals depict historic Nacogdoches figures



Photo by Jordan Butts / The Pine Log

With stoic expressions on their faces, portraits of Nacogdoches historic figures line the side of a building on the square in downtown. The portraits, painted by local artist and Nacogdoches native, Dixie Rose Daniels, are (from left to right) Antonio Gil Y'Barbo, a pioneering settler of Nacogdoches and creator of the Old Stone Fort; Stephen F. Austin, SFA's namesake; Sam Houston, first and third president of the republic of Texas and American general; and Adolphus Sterne, an elected representative of Nacogdoches to the House of Representatives for the Second Legislature in 1847 and followed in the Third Legislature. Rose Daniels has several other bright paintings and murals across town. The individualistic style sets her art apart from other paintings and murals around the city.

## Creative writing program receives top ranking

Online learning platform Study.com has ranked Stephen F. Austin State University among its 2021 Best Bachelor's Degrees in Creative Writing.

Over 40 million visitors per month use Study.com to research potential schools, degrees and careers. The Best Bachelor's Degrees list helps users learn about universities and top programs like those offered at SFA.

Study.com compiled the list by considering hundreds of universities across the country and selected SFA based on academic and career resources, the quality of education, faculty, and more.

SFA's creative writing program, housed in the Department of English and Creative Writing, is the only creative writing program in Texas and one of just a handful in the nation to offer a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

"We create a positive environment where students have an opportunity to write in a variety of genres," said Dr. John McDermott, program coordinator and professor of creative writing at SFA. "We strive to work individually with students, especially during the two semesters of their senior thesis. We have a small, vibrant literary community where the

students and professors get to know each other."

Students within the program take courses in poetry, fiction and nonfiction before completing their thesis during their senior year. Additionally, students complete a literature minor to help ensure they have achieved a well-rounded library of knowledge.

SFA offers a Bachelor of Fine Arts in creative writing, and both an undergraduate and graduate minor in creative writing.

For more information on the program, visit [sfasu.edu/English](https://sfasu.edu/English).



## WELCOME SFA CLASS of 2025

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- Construction Management
- Dance
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- Dietetics and Nutritional Sciences
- Elementary Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Food and Nutrition
- Health Science
- Hospitality Administration
- Human Development and Family Studies
- Human Services
- Interior Design
- Kinesiology
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- Pre-Audiology
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## SFA awarded \$1.4M National Science Foundation grant

Students pursuing a career in science or mathematics teaching will benefit from a \$1.4 million collaborative grant from the National Science Foundation for SFA's Talented Teachers in Training for Texas program.

Through the program, offered through the SFA College of Sciences and Mathematics, students considering a career in science or mathematics teaching shadow specially trained master teachers in a math or science classroom during a workweek. Students selected receive a stipend of \$450 per week and can participate in a variety of mentoring and recruiting activities.

More than 100 SFA students

have already benefitted from the program since its inception in 2011, said Dr. Keith Hubbard, T4 project director and professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Though SFA alumna Sarah Boon was ready for her own classroom after graduation, the time she spent in the program focusing on STEM education helped further prepare her for her current career as a math teacher.

"Our mentors in the program would model different teaching strategies by teaching a mini lesson during our meetings," Boon said. "Participating in these lessons as a future teacher rather than just as a student opened my eyes to how effective

these methods could be."

Boon now teaches algebra at a charter school in Round Rock that focuses on inquiry-based learning and a global context. The support system she built through the program has been integral during her first year of teaching.

"Coming in as a first-year teacher, creating lessons that incorporate these ideas can be overwhelming; however, I graduated from SFA with the tools to create authentic and engaging learning experiences for my students," she said. "I also have a huge support system, thanks to the T4 program."

To learn more about T4 or to apply, visit [sfasu.edu/jackteach/t4](https://sfasu.edu/jackteach/t4).



Ashley Wahlberg



Lenora Perkins

### BEST: Research explores Brown Widow spider, local spider community

#### From Page 1C

"It is a true talent and necessary skill to be able to convey our research to other people and for them to understand us."

#### Best Poster

Ashley Wahlberg, a Houston native and student in the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, won best poster for her dissertation, "Mechanisms of Establishment of the Non-Native Brown Widow Spider (*Latrodectus geometricus*) into a Native Spider Community." Her advisor was Dr.

Christopher M. Schalk, assistant professor of forest wildlife management.

"Winning this award has given me satisfaction in knowing that my hard work is paying off," Wahlberg said. "I have a full-time job on top of my research and classes, and it gets to be overwhelming at times."

Wahlberg's dissertation and the poster she created for it discusses how the non-native brown widow spider fits into the local spider community. Specifically, she explores the mechanisms that allowed the brown widow to establish

itself in East Texas and how its presence affects native species.

"The GRC is a great place for faculty members from all across the university to see what research is being done in other departments," Wahlberg said. "It also provides students a place to practice presenting in a formal setting and receiving feedback from students and advisors, which is very helpful when preparing to attend larger conferences."

To view all 2021 GRC presentations, visit [sfasu.edu/grc2021](https://sfasu.edu/grc2021).



# SSSSSSSSSnake entanglement

Biology student selected to represent SFA at 2021 Texas Undergraduate Research Day

**By Sandra Carranza**  
*News Editor*

Kasey Jobe, senior biology major and forestry minor from Chester, will represent SFA at the 2021 Texas Undergraduate Research Day event held virtually on Feb. 23.

Jobe said the research he worked on focused on snake entanglements in erosion control blankets, which are used often during road construction to stabilize the soil.

"Snakes and other species of animals have been known to get entangled because it's like fishing line—barely visible even to the human eye," Jobe said. "We ran the experiment to see: If we change up these installation methods, how does that affect possible entanglement?"

Jobe said the experiments were successful in supporting the hypothesis, and no snakes were entangled.

While Jobe is the only current undergraduate student that worked on this project, he also worked with Christopher Schalk, assistant professor of forest wildlife management, Daniel Saenz, research scientist from the U.S. Forest Service, Krista Ward, a former undergraduate student, and Nick Schiowitz, another former undergraduate student.

Schalk said Jobe has been working with him since the summer of 2018.

"Kasey's desire to develop new skills and work on different projects makes him an invaluable collaborator on all our research projects. He is one of the most hardworking and dependable

students I've ever had the pleasure of working with," Schalk said.

Ward said Jobe is enthusiastic about his work and has no fear of grabbing snakes or getting bit by them, making him the best person to present the research.

"I am so happy that Kasey is representing this project because he has been involved with the project from the very beginning," Ward said. "He knows all the background info plus the experimental design, results, and implications of the research that will be presented. So, no better person to represent our research or SFA undergraduate research projects!"

However, Jobe said this is not the first time he has presented this research. He previously presented with Schalk at a national conference in Utah.

"It's brought our project to the public eye, and I think that is what this type of project [needs] when it has real life implications," Jobe said. "It's something that we could implement here in Texas, in SFA."

Snakes are not the only animals Jobe wants to help with his research. He is currently working on a project over birds that he will present at the SFA Undergraduate Research Conference in April.

"I feel like my career path is going to be something along the lines of research. I wanted to do research, and it just so happened that this was the project that hired me, but I do have a huge love for snakes," Jobe said.

The public can view Jobe's presentation here, along with research presentations of students from other universities.



Kasey Jobe's research was one of only 100 projects from across the state selected to participate in the Texas Undergraduate Research Day.



Dr. Tamey Angley

## Director of SFA bands appointed

Dr. Tamey Angley has been appointed director of bands for the Stephen F. Austin State University School of Music.

Angley will succeed Dr. David Campo following his announced retirement effective June 30 following this year's summer band camps at SFA. Angley said she is looking forward to "continuing the legacy and great reputation of the SFA School of Music and band program."

"We are known throughout the state for our outstanding artist educators, and I look forward to continuing to contribute to this, albeit in a new role," she said.

Angley has been the associate director of bands and director of The Lumberjack Marching Band at SFA since 2018. Additionally, she conducts the Wind Symphony and serves as instructor of undergraduate instrumental conducting among other music education courses. Prior to becoming associate director of bands, she was assistant director of bands for seven years. In that position, she was the associate director of The Lumberjack Marching Band, conducted the Symphonic Band, directed the Basketball Band, and taught music education courses.

"I am thrilled that Dr. Angley has been named as the new director of bands in the SFA School of Music," said Dr. Nathan Nabb, interim director of the School of Music. "She is admired by her colleagues and students alike for her musicianship, her dedication to our students, and her willingness to perform various service roles at the school, college and university levels. She is a marvelous colleague..."

Angley said some of her most memorable moments so far at SFA have been of traveling with the Lumberjack Marching Band

to perform in London, New York and Ireland.

"Many of our students never travel out of the state, much less the country, and getting to experience those trips with them was very rewarding," she said.

Prior to coming to SFA, Angley was director of bands at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, where she oversaw the winds/brass/percussion department including concert, athletic and jazz bands and all instrumental music education courses. From 2006 to 2009, Angley was a doctoral conducting teaching assistant at Texas Tech University where she studied with Dr. Sarah McKoin. While at Texas Tech, Angley worked with the four university bands including the Goin' Band from Raiderland and the basketball pep bands. She was also awarded the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant award for the School of Music in 2009. From 2003 to 2006, she was associate director of bands at Cooper High School in Abilene where she conducted the second and fourth bands and taught at the two feeder middle schools. Angley is an active honor band conductor and band clinician throughout Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.

"Being at the end of my 10th year at SFA, it is obvious that I love my students, my colleagues and SFA," she said. "Our students here are very special – kind, respectful, and people I simply love to be around. They are what makes SFA home."

"I also have the best colleagues who are not only outstanding musicians, but also just great people who always make me feel supported," she added. "I count myself lucky to get to continue to work with them."



## AARC helps all

A student utilizes one-on-one tutoring services offered at the Academic Assistance and Resource Center. The AARC offers free tutoring for SFA students and other free resources like scantrons and pencils.

Photo by Lizeth Rodriguez / The Pine Log

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# Documenting history



(Above) Holding an audio recording, Alexandra Schutz, the East Texas Research Center's university archivist walks through the stacks in the Ralph W. Steen Library. (Left to right) A student models a "T" cardigan. This cardigan was given to lettermen in the early years when SFA was known as the Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College. A decades-old homecoming queen crown sits on one of the tables in the Ralph W. Steen Library. Rolls of archived material are held on the second floor of the Ralph W. Steen Library on the SFA campus. Known as the oldest town in Texas, Nacogdoches is filled with history, lending its culture to the campus students reside on.

Photos by Lizeth Rodriguez / From the Stone Fort yearbook







Photo courtesy of University Marketing Communications

Forestry students take time during class to observe trees and their natural surroundings.

## ‘Diversity Champions’ earn certification in new OMA program

A certification program started by Stephen F. Austin State University’s Office of Multicultural Affairs in fall 2019 recognized its first 81 graduates during a campus luncheon in April.

Held in the Baker Pattillo Student Center’s Twilight Ballroom, the luncheon recognized faculty and staff graduates from three semesters of the OMA’s Diversity and Inclusion Certification Program. Each graduate was awarded a certificate and a “Diversity Champion” miniature axe handle.

“Our goal was to recognize the 2019-20 graduates in April 2020, which of course is right when COVID-19 hit,” said Veronica Beavers, OMA director. “Therefore, we had to cancel the luncheon and cancel all the late spring 2020 sessions to give us time to rethink the program.”

By the late summer and into the fall, all

program sessions had transitioned into virtual formats.

“We decided to keep the program virtual for the 2020-21 academic year, and with the help of the COVID-19 vaccines, the on-campus mask and distancing mandates, and subsequent decrease in the spread of the virus, we were finally able to conduct our first luncheon for the program’s graduates,” said Jalon Berry, OMA assistant director. “Some of our graduates had been waiting a year and a half for the luncheon.”

The OMA’s Diversity and Inclusion Certification Program was developed with the intention of exposing faculty and staff to critical issues in diversity, multicultural education and social justice.

## Forestry department earns top state ranking

In its 2021 Global Rankings, education technology firm Plexuss has recognized Stephen F. Austin State University as having the top forestry program in Texas.

“I believe this ranking is a testament to the passion our faculty members share for the profession of forestry, as well as their dedication to ensuring our students succeed,” said Dr. Hans Williams, dean of SFA’s Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture. “The recognition is especially meaningful as we

celebrate the 75-year anniversary of the forestry program at SFA.”

More than six million students utilize the Plexuss online platform to connect with their peers, build professional networks, and research colleges and universities. In 2018, Microsoft recognized the company as one of the top 26 startup companies to contribute to machine learning and data science.

Plexuss determines university and program rankings through extensive input from education

partners, data scientists, employers, parents and high school counselors.

SFA’s Bachelor of Science in Forestry offers six areas of emphasis, including agroforestry, fire management, forest management, forest wildlife management, human dimensions in natural resources and urban forestry.

To learn more about the forestry program and other majors offered by SFA’s Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, visit [atcofa.sfasu.edu](http://atcofa.sfasu.edu).



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# SFA JacksTeach

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**Physical Location:**  
Bush Mathematical Sciences Building, Room 103

**Phone:**  
936.468.3960

**Email:**  
jacksteach@sfasu.edu

**Web:**  
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### STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

JacksTeach

## Best paper, poster receive awards

Stephen F. Austin State University's Office of Research and Graduate Studies have announced the recipients of its 2021 Graduate Research Conference awards.

"We were very proud at the quality of work presented during this year's Graduate Research Conference," said Dr. Pauline Sampson, dean of SFA's Office of Research and Graduate Studies. "All participants worked so hard, in especially trying times, to create thoughtful pieces that add much to their respective fields."

Forty-eight graduate students presented during this year's GRC, which was held virtually. The conference began in 2013 as an event sponsored by the College of Liberal and Applied Arts. In 2016, it became a university-wide conference open to all SFA graduate students.

"We aim for this event to celebrate our graduate students' research and creative work," said Dr. Sarah Savoy, an associate professor in SFA's Department of Psychology and GRC co-coordinator. "Most importantly, it builds students' confidence in public speaking and thinking on their feet."

**Best Paper**

Lenora Perkins, a Corpus Christi native and student in the College of Sciences and Mathematics' Department of Geology, won best paper for her piece, "Using Electrical Methods and Traditional Survey Techniques to Delineate Potential Karst Features Along FM 2185, Culberson County, Texas."

The paper was an excerpt from her master's thesis. Her Department of Geology advisors were Dr. Wesley Brown, chair; and Dr. Kevin Stafford, associate professor.

"I frequently struggle with imposter syndrome," Perkins said. "So, all the doubts that I have about my talent as a scientist, as a researcher, and my skills as a writer are all silenced by this award."

In her research, Perkins used electrical resistivity methods, as well as traditional survey techniques, to search for karst features that have the potential to become problematic geohazards along the proposed route of FM 2185 in Culberson County, Texas. Examples of such karst features include sinkholes, solution-widened fractures and caves. The data she collected can prove essential in geohazard mitigation along FM 2185 and the improvement of roadway design.

"I have always believed that presenting research at conferences is beneficial to students because it allows us to work on our presentation skills, provides an opportunity to grow our network and allows us to share our research with those not in our field," Perkins said.

See BEST on Page 3C

# STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

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# STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY



## Freshman’s Guide to the Office of the Registrar

*Welcome to Stephen F. Austin State University. The next four to five years will be some of the most exciting and challenging years of your life to date, and the registrar’s office wants to help you make the most of them! Here is a quick guide to familiarize you with the services our office provides:*

### FERPA Forms

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act states your parent’s rights to your educational records ceased when you enrolled at SFA. You may, however, have a parent who pays your bills or makes calls on your behalf. If this is true for you, then you need a student information release authorization form, which allows our office to work with your parents and to share your educational record. Authorization forms can be completed on the student’s Academic tab of mySFA. If you have questions about the form, contact the Registrar’s Office.

### Registration

Registering for classes can sometimes be a very confusing process for new students, so we have tips to help. First, pay attention to registration dates, which will include when registration starts and ends. You’ll also want to learn how to register online. To find your registration dates and for an online registration tutorial, visit us at [sfasu.edu/registrar/registration-information/how-to-register](https://sfasu.edu/registrar/registration-information/how-to-register). If you need further assistance in registering, then you may call our Registration Help Desk at (936) 468-1370, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Classes Dropped for Non-Payment

Be sure that *some form* of payment has been submitted to the Business Office before your first class day. A partial payment will secure your spot in class and ensure that you don’t log on to mySFA to find a blank schedule of classes.

### Dropping Classes

If you are feeling bogged down and are considering dropping a course, keep in mind that you are not permitted to drop more than six courses during your *entire* undergraduate career, including transfer courses. Dropping courses also may cause you to lose your financial aid, affect your medical and/or other insurance, and affect your academic status. Deadlines for dropping classes are found at [sfasu.edu/registrar/registrar/registration-information/dates-deadlines](https://sfasu.edu/registrar/registrar/registration-information/dates-deadlines).

### Requesting Transcripts

The easiest way for freshmen to request a transcript is by visiting the registrar’s office in person. All that is required is a photo ID and about four minutes of your time.

### Registration/Transcript Holds

Sometimes you will notice that you aren’t able to register or receive a transcript because of holds on your account. Registration holds must be cleared before you are able to register. If you need help understanding your holds, call our office at (936) 468-2501, or check mySFA for hold information.

### Proving Good Grades for Insurance Purposes

You may qualify for a Good Student discount if you have commendable grades. Your transcript will reflect those good grades. Contact your insurance agent for further details to see if they carry such a policy.

### VA Benefits Certification

Need someone to certify your VA benefits? The registrar’s office houses SFA’s School Certifying Official. Stop by the Rusk Building, Room 202 or visit our website at [sfasu.edu/registrar/registration-information/va-benefits](https://sfasu.edu/registrar/registration-information/va-benefits).

### Verifications for Insurance Purposes

Students often need to prove they are enrolled in college in order to stay on their parent’s insurance policy. This is why you might need a verification of enrollment. You can get a verification of enrollment through mySFA, call the Verification Department at (936) 468-2379, or stop by the Rusk Building, Room 202, with a picture ID during normal business hours.

The registrar’s office hopes this guide was presented in a fun and easy-to-read format. It is our desire to serve you the best way possible and to reduce any stress you may experience during your first year at SFA. All fun aside, we will now close our guide with some legal information that you need to know.

### ANNUAL NOTIFICATION TO STUDENTS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the university receives a request for access. Students should submit to the registrar, dean or head of the academic department [or appropriate official] written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The university official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the university official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the university to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the university official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the university decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the university will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERP A authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is defined as a person employed by the university in an administrative, supervisory, academic, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit and health staff); a person or company with whom the university has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the university discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the university to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

U.S. Department of Education  
Student Privacy Policy Office  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-8520  
Available for download at [studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint](https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint)

The following items are considered **DIRECTORY INFORMATION** by the university and the university may disclose any of these items without prior written consent, unless the student notifies the registrar by completing a Request to Prevent Disclosure of Directory Information form in the registrar’s office, located in Room 201 of the Rusk Building.

- A. name
- B. all addresses, including university issued email address
- C. all telephone numbers
- D. major field of study
- E. academic classification
- F. participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- G. weight and height of members of athletic teams
- H. dates of attendance and enrollment status
- I. degrees and awards received
- J. previous schools attended
- K. photograph
- L. class roster (not the student’s class schedule)

For additional information regarding the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, contact the registrar’s office, or access the web at [sfasu.edu/registrar](https://sfasu.edu/registrar).

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday  
Location: Rusk Building, second floor  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 13050, SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962  
Phone: (936) 468-2501 • Fax: (936) 468-2261 or (936) 468-7638  
Email: [registrar@sfasu.edu](mailto:registrar@sfasu.edu)





Dr. A.C. "Buddy" Himes

Goodbye ‘Buddy!’

Dr. A.C. ‘Buddy’ Himes retires as dean of SFA College of Fine Arts

**By John Martin**  
*News Editor*

After 47 years in education and 13 years of serving as the dean of the College of Fine Arts, Dr. A.C. “Buddy” Himes retired from the University on May 31. Himes was born and raised in Hampton, Virginia, and has been pursuing a career in music since he first picked up an instrument. His father worked as an artist, self-taught musician and as a model maker, making designs for planes used in World War 2.

“I remember my father playing piano and writing arrangements when I was little,” Himes said. “Once I got into that and started writing my own arrangements, I knew exactly what he was doing.”

Himes started playing a trombone in the seventh grade and said was too big for him. It was so big he couldn’t play all the notes, but as passions generally go, Himes eventually grew into it and graduated from North Carolina State College. Later, he went to graduate school at the University of North Texas, where he earned his master’s and eventually

his doctorate degree in the field of music. Although Himes has since established himself in the field of higher education, he was not always as studious as he is now.

“That’s what makes me a good teacher and a good dean. I understand students who come here without realizing what it’s all about and if they’re going to make it,” Himes said. “I went from academic probation to the dean’s list in a matter of one year.”

While enrolled in Elon College, Himes was a part of a folk group with a couple of his friends called the White Oak Trio. “I had a group with a tape recorder, and we thought we were really great, and we probably were for what we were doing,” Himes said.

Although the trio fell apart soon after its formation, looking back on the equipment they were working with allowed Himes to have a great appreciation for all the advancements in technology in the field of music featured at SFA, including state-of-the-art recording software, microphones, live sound, video game sound design and much more.

He has since published over 40 works

and brought over \$1.5 million in grants to the institutions he has served.

Himes attributed this switch in his life to maturation, but also to a professor by the name of Jack O. White, who modeled to him the importance of instilling passion in young students in a personal connection.

“The attention I got from Jack O. White is the same personal attention all the faculty give the students here so that they feel engaged; they feel they are a part of something and actually growing. They’re not just taking a class. They’re not just a number,” Himes said.

Gary Wurtz, the director of the School of Music, said that “A unique characteristic of his is that Dr. Himes has a mantra in which he firmly believes, and it is that the college of fine arts be seen as team players who are willing to meet all of the expectations placed upon us.”

This spark influenced Himes to not only graduate with his bachelor’s but pursue his career at UNT as well.

See BUDDY on Page 3D



SFA Gardens suffered plant and structural damage in a snow storm in early 2021. The outdoor plants were iced over and the supporting beams were bent from the weight of the snow.

SFA repairs trails after harsh winter storms

**By John Martin**  
*News Editor*

The SFA Arboretum trails temporarily closed as chainsaw crews and volunteers work to clean up the debris from the winter storms and protect walkers from dangerous falling branches.

The SFA Gardens and greenhouses are operational, but plant life has been damaged at levels Nacogdoches has never seen.

“We have a lot of genetics here that have never really been tested like this before,” said Dr. David Creech, who has taught in SFA’s horticulture

programs since 1979. “I have 30-year-old plants that have gone through everything, but this could’ve damaged many of them.”

Many of the damaged plants were meant to be sold at a bi-annual plant sale. Creech and his colleagues have submitted a preliminary estimate of over \$50,000 in losses. The revenue from the plant sales contributes to the agriculture faculty’s salaries, so a request for money from the University to restore the plant life has been made.

Sales aside, much of the damage affected the horticulture program’s curriculum. Summer Pritchett, junior horticulture major from Cushing, Oklahoma, and the student assistant for the Piney Woods Native Plant Center and SFA Gardens said professors are making needed adjustments.

“The winter storm took our power at work, leaving the greenhouses with many dollars of plant sale material left to fend for itself,” Pritchett said. “My professors had no choice but to push back due dates, most of them pushed back about two weeks.”

The trails in the Arboretum will remain closed until the fallen debris and hanging branches are fully removed, according to Abby Dixon, a senior forestry major from Dallas, and a Garden technician assistant working on cleaning up the trails.

“We’re probably a little under 50 percent done,” Dixon said. “Branches are piled up everywhere, but we want to get the trails back open.”

Although the damages have set the department back, the winter storm allowed the horticulture department to collect new data on the durability of plant life to unforeseen temperatures.

“I’m really excited about the data. We already have all the plants mapped in databases,” Creech said. “We’re going to go out in March and observe effects of the storm.”

Former theatre camp attendee returns to direct Junior Jacks



Courtesy Photo

Caitlyn Kirchman (left) and CC Con (right) reunited when Kirchman returned to Junior Jacks, a theatre camp for younger students, to be director. SFA hosts a variety of children’s camps from cheer and choir to basketball and band camp.

Caitlyn Kirchman was a shy second grader when she first came to Junior Jacks theatre camp on the Stephen F. Austin State University campus. It was there that she discovered a love for theatre and performing that helped her overcome her shyness and develop friendships that continue to this day.

Her positive experiences over subsequent years as a Junior Jacks camper and in the theatre program at Nacogdoches High School influenced Caitlyn’s decision to come to SFA to major in theatre with an emphasis in teacher certification. This summer, the Nacogdoches junior theatre student will come full circle with Junior Jacks to become one of its directors.

“I’m excited to be able to help children discover a love for theatre in a program that inspired me,” she said.

Junior Jacks is a two-week, half-day theatre camp for children entering third through ninth grades. It began in 2009 as a partnership between Unity Church of Christianity and the School of Theatre to offer service learning for theatre teacher certification students and as a community outreach throughout East Texas. In the first 12 years of the program, Junior Jacks has served approximately 230 individual children representing all Nacogdoches County as well as some surrounding counties. The program even managed to continue through the pandemic and offered a virtual (online) camp in summer of 2020. Children participate in theatre activities, read and rehearse a script, memorize and work on character role and perform for their families at the end of the camp.

“It is excellent for building reading skills, speaking skills, teamwork, verbal skills, interpersonal skills and friendships,” said CC Conn, professor of theatre at SFA and Junior Jacks camp coordinator.

The School of Theatre will offer both in-person and online options for the Junior Jacks theatre camp planned for Aug. 2 through 6 and Aug. 9 through 13. Registration information and pricing can be accessed at [theatre.sfasu.edu/programs.php](http://theatre.sfasu.edu/programs.php).

The goal of Junior Jacks is two-fold, according to Conn.

“First, it is an activity that combines entertainment and learning for children,” she said. “Participants have two weeks of activities that build their reading, speaking and communication skills, and the camp culminates in a project of which they are all very proud and get to share with the community.”

“Second, it provides an opportunity for the SFA teacher certification students to direct a younger set of children than their typical student teaching appointments offer,” she added. “For students who will get certified to teach kindergarten through 12th grades, it’s imperative that they get the opportunity to work with these younger ages.”

Some of Kirchman’s fondest memories of Junior Jacks revolve around the “sense of community” that was created through campers’ interaction with each other.

“When I was younger, I was super shy and had a hard time making friends,” she said. “This program helped me find something in common with others. We were able to bond over theatre. Performing alongside my friends and feeling proud of them and myself was one of my favorite feelings. I loved cheering on my peers. Even today, I get emotional during curtain calls, whether I’m participating in them or not.

I’ve teared up during many of them, knowing how hard everyone has worked to create a show.”

Kirchman participated in UIL One-Act play competition as a middle school student and continued to perform on stage as a student at Nacogdoches High School. She credits NHS theatre teacher Victoria Perry as inspiring her to follow her passion and turn it into a career.

“Whenever I first got to direct at SFA, it truly felt like I was doing what I was meant to do,” Kirchman said. “I really love being able to take words from a script and put it onto the stage for everyone to enjoy. I’ll be directing children for the first time in Junior Jacks, which makes me a little nervous, since it will be different from directing people my age. But I have the help of my wonderful partner and friend Johana Lenington to co-direct with me.

“I’ve been interested in getting involved in children’s theatre or high school theatre once I become a teacher, so this will be a great opportunity to experience teaching elementary children,” she said. “I’m excited to be able to help children discover a love for theatre by working in a program that inspired me.”

Junior Jacks helped Kirchman to discover her passion for theatre, and as a Junior Jacks director this summer, she is excited to do the same for the upcoming group of camp participants.

“Theatre is what led me to make the most amazing friends and participate in the most fulfilling opportunities,” she said. “I hope to be able to spark the same joy for theatre in others with this opportunity.”

See DIRECTOR on Page 3D





Photos by John Martin/ The Pine Log  
Candles are lit as residents mourn the passing of loved ones. Over 100 people in Nacogdoches County died due to COVID-19.

## Candlelight Vigil held to honor, remember lives lost due to COVID-19

By John Martin  
News Editor

A candlelight vigil was held by the 21/7 Association to honor the deaths of over 100 Nacogdoches residents due to COVID-19 at the Brown Family Health Center on Tuesday evening. President Joe Biden hosted a vigil in Washington D.C., which sparked an inspiration for local communities across the country to host their own, including Nacogdoches. Gary Roberts, co-chair of 21/7, hosted the vigil along with Chairman Pamela Graham.

"It is important that we honor those who have died and come together to end a pandemic and rebuild our nation," Roberts said.

The program opened by honoring all essential workers who have continued to serve the Nacogdoches community during the pandemic. A national magazine known as The Texas Observer provided masks, sanitizer, candles and socially distanced seating to participants.

Pastor Terrence Hicks with Power of the Word Ministries led a portion of the event as well, calling for a continued effort among the community to help manage the spread of COVID-19.

## Dr. Hans Williams elected president of Texas Forestry Association

By John Martin  
News Editor

Dr. Hans Williams grew up in Northern Indiana in the early 60s fishing, hunting and playing out in the fields. Williams has since kept his childhood fascination with the outdoors, serving as dean of SFA's Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture since 2015.

Williams has continued to move up within his field since graduating from Purdue University with a degree in forestry in 1980. He earned a doctorate from Auburn University in 1989 and has been elected to serve as president of the Texas Forestry Association for the 2021 term.

The Texas Forestry Association has served as a voice for the state's forestry industry for over 100 years.

"They do a lot working with the legislature on forest policy, forestry education, and they also help support a lot of forestry related activities," Williams said.

Williams' interest in forestry was cemented when he spent a summer during high school with his grandparents. His grandfather was a retired burgermeister, or city planner, in Germany.

"He put me in contact with a man named Herr Janisch," Williams said. "He was impressive. He would walk through the town and people would bow and tip their hats to him. He was the forest meister."

Herr Janisch would take Williams to the forest two or three times a week that summer and teach him everything he was doing.

"He had a profound influence on me," Williams said. "He knew every tree, every bird, every deer that was in that forest. After that summer I just said 'That's what I want to be.'"

Herr Janisch, along with Williams' father, played a large role in his love for forests and the outdoors.

Janisch showed Williams that there's more to forestry than cutting down trees.

"What foresters try to do is conserve the forest resources and work to manage them in order to provide services to increase our standard of living," Williams said. "What many people don't realize is that we have more land in the United States today in forests than we had 100 or so years ago. It's because of forest management and the growth of forest management as a science and profession."

As the population increases, so do the demand for paper products as well as lumber,



Dr. Hans Williams

fuel, furniture and many other products. Forest management is vital for maintaining air and water quality and protects the living conditions of wildlife within the forest. Without the forestry industry, the world would be a very different place.

"I can't think of anything that wouldn't bear that out more than what we're going through right now with the COVID pandemic. What people are realizing is just how valuable paper resources really are because they weren't on the shelves," Williams said.

While the COVID pandemic has caused problems for every industry, Williams and the rest of the department have been able to maintain classes. Dr. Kenneth Farrish is the director of the environmental science program and is moving into his 26th year at SFA.

"He's a very good manager and a fun person to work with," Farrish said.

See WILLIAMS on Page 3D

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BUDDY: Retiring dean discusses the importance of Fine Arts

From Page 1D

“The ink wasn’t even dry on the master’s degree. I graduated on a Saturday and went to work on a Monday,” Himes said.

His first job was a high school band director. He earned his doctorate while continuing to pursue music education, and eventually began teaching at colleges and found his way to the position of dean of the College of Fine Arts at SFA in 2007.

“When I came [to SFA], I saw a college that had nothing really wrong with it that was broken and needed to be fixed, but maybe on a plateau. If we had just a few more resources, we could really do something spectacular. I made it my goal to take it from that plateau up to the next level, and I believe it has been taken to the next level several times over,” Himes said.

Himes and his team have worked on upgrading the facilities of the fine arts department to accommodate the ever-growing student interest in the fine arts at SFA. Now, those plans are coming to fruition.

“It felt very rewarding to have this idea and take it this far. It had been talked about for 10-20 years, but never really got the momentum because the money wasn’t there or it was needed for something else until October of 2019 when we finally got the approval,” Himes said.

Although Himes would have liked to be able to

finish the project he started, he decided now was as good of a time as any to retire, as the University has been restructuring much of its staff in recent years.

Florence Lunsford is the assistant to the dean in the college of Fine Arts and has been working with Dr. Himes since 2009. “We all have worked together as a team to accomplish his goals and we aspire to follow those same goals and objectives after his retirement. Our success is a result of his leadership and we hope to continue to carry on his legacy for years to come,” Lunsford said.

“The Fine Arts are very important,” Himes said. “It is the one thing that connects us to what we are as human beings. ‘Fine arts’ is an expression of what it is like to be human. It is an expression of the human experience.”

Although he will be stepping down from the position of dean, Himes will be staying in Nacogdoches to continue to pursue his dreams as an artist and other passions, new and old.

His office is decorated with models of cars he has owned throughout the years and is actively involved in the rotary club here in Nacogdoches.

Himes has an extensive list of plans after retirement, including being heavily involved in car shows, skeet shooting, acquiring a pilot’s license and a private plane, flying camera drones and taking classes within the university’s art department to learn more about the newest software in editing technology.

BOOK: Author shares new style, East Texas culture

From Page 6D

While Hill is passionate about the message of Smelly Davis, a children’s novel is not something that she expected to write, as her usual style is much different.

“When I came [to SFA], I thought I was going to become a sci-fi writer. Now, my thesis is a collection of non-fiction essays about East Texas culture,” Hill said. “The program here has helped me write in a more powerful way that people can connect with more.”

Hill said she has a great amount of admiration for the professors in her department, but Dr. John McDermott has been especially influential to her growth at SFA.

“Every time I leave [his classroom], I feel movie-style inspired. The world is brighter now, like somebody changed the settings,” Hill said.

McDermott is the coordinator of creative writing

in the School of Fine Arts and has been working at SFA since 2004.

“She came in with a lot of talent, but she is so dedicated. Her work has definitely improved,” McDermott said. “She’s got a really great sense of character development.”

In the future, Hill said she is looking to a different genre.

“I want to have an impact on Christian literature that brings honesty and confidence in a way that it doesn’t have right now,” Hill said. “I used to work at a Christian bookstore, and I was consistently appalled by the young author literature that was there and even some of the adult literature.”

Hill said she wants to use her literature to pose the important questions in life, not to give definite answers.

“I think that’s literature’s purpose: To give people perspective with which to see the world.”

DIRECTOR: SFA theatre camp inspires full-circle moment

From Page 1D

Having the opportunity to watch Kirchman grow as a performer through the years and then to see her come to SFA as a theatre student has been especially rewarding for Conn.

“I am over the moon to have completed this cycle with Caitlyn,” Conn said. “She was this adorable little second grader when I first created the program (adjusted to 3rd grade later), and to have seen her grow through the years and then come to SFA to be a theatre student has been amazing.”

Conn watched Kirchman from a distance as she

excelled in theatre at NHS under the guidance of Perry, who is also an SFA School of Theatre graduate. Kirchman’s younger brother is now in Junior Jacks.

“When Caitlyn told me that she was directing this summer, it felt very rewarding to see this full-circle moment,” Conn said. “I am proud of what Junior Jacks has meant to the community and to the student teachers, and I hope it continues to build even bigger participation and support in the future.”

Contact Conn at [connncs@sfasu.edu](mailto:connncs@sfasu.edu) for additional information. The School of Theatre may be reached at (936) 468-4003.

WILLIAMS: New TFA president has excitement for the future

From Page 2D

“He’s got a good sense of humor, and that helps with some stressful times that we’re going through right now.”

As stressful as things may be, Williams said he enjoys being a leader.

“I thought I’d come to SFA and enjoy this opportunity for a while, but then I’d go somewhere else. Twenty-eight years later, here I am,” Williams said.

He and Farrish aren’t the only ones. Dr. Brian Oswald is the Joe C. Denman Distinguished Professor of Forestry at SFA, and, in the 26 years he has worked here, has since become close to Williams.

“I consider Hans my best friend here at SFA and in Nacogdoches. He has been a great friend, colleague and leader,” Oswald said.

When he’s not busy with work, Williams spends time with his wife, Jessica, who also holds a degree in forestry. He has two daughters who are both married and a grandson on the way. He has an ever-growing fascination with the founding fathers of the United States and has countless books about them around his office.

Looking ahead, Williams said he is hopeful about the future of the forestry industry.

“I think the future of forestry is really bright,” Williams said. “The changes in technology in forest products use is really exciting.”



Photos by Cameron Keplinger/ The Pine Log  
The CVB, located on East Main Street, attracts visitors to Nacogdoches, promotes local businesses and hosts events for locals and tourists to attend.

Nacogdoches Convention & Visitor’s Bureau celebrates quarter century

By Renne Handy Fain  
News Editor

The Nacogdoches Convention and Visitors Bureau celebrates its 25th anniversary this month. To kick off the celebration, the CVB is launching the “#Nac4GivingBack” campaign, highlighting a local nonprofit each month.

The CVB chose to highlight the Humane Society of Nacogdoches County for February.

“Many people are unfamiliar with convention and visitor bureaus in general, but we are more widely recognized by our social media handle, ‘Visit Nac,’” Sherry Morgan, executive director of the CVB, said.

The CVB attracts visitors to Nacogdoches, promotes local businesses and hosts events for locals and tourists, according to CVB Creative Content Director Ashley Morgan. She said the CVB is funded primarily by hotel occupancy taxes, which leaves more room for Nacogdoches businesses to earn profit.

Tourism in Texas is second to oil and gas in revenue generated, and direct traveler spending made up \$2.7 million in local sales tax in 2019, according to Sherry Morgan.

“Working here [at the CVB] has been a joy,” Joanna Temple, director of sales at the CVB, said.


“Our work family is an amazing group of people who are top notch in their expertise. Being able to promote a town of such beauty, history and amazing people makes my job one of ease.”

This contribution to “the vitality of Nacogdoches” will include new types of events to draw in more out-of-town guests.

“Moving forward into our 25th year, Visit Nac will continue in our main mission of establishing and promoting Nacogdoches as a premier visitor destination but diversify into medium and large event planning such as concerts, festivals and other entertainment-driven events,” Morgan said.

[visitnacogdoches.org](http://visitnacogdoches.org)

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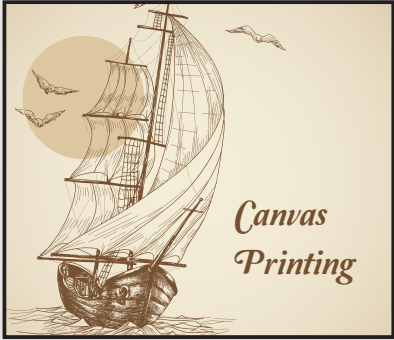


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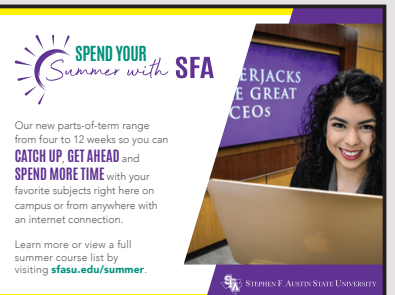
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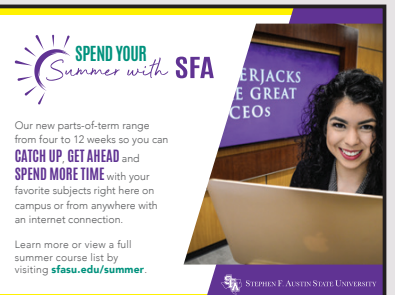
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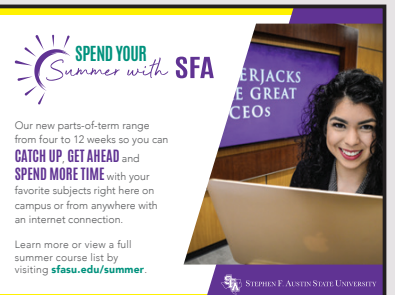
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# Judy B. McDonald Public Library holds annual How-to Festival

**By Sandra Carranza**  
*News Editor*

The Judy B. McDonald Public Library held its annual How-to Festival for people of all ages outside the library. Some of the demonstrations given were how to throw clay pots, how to make a pour painting, how to make yarn and how to make book cloth.

Crystal Hicks, assistant library director, has been organizing the event since 2013. She said this year about 20 volunteers from the Nacogdoches community participated in giving how-to demonstrations.

"We have some staff that are doing demos, but everyone else is just volunteers from the community," Hicks said.

Jessica Lackey, director at Millard's Crossing, was at the event showing people how to do punch needle embroidery. She said punch needle is fun

to do and was more than happy to show other people the process.

Elizabeth Barr, another volunteer from Nacogdoches, was showing people how to make book cloth, a cloth covering for books. While she mostly does it for her own business, she said it was nice to teach others.

"I think it's great for people to come out here and learn things," Barr said about the event.

The How-to Festival this year was smaller than it has been in previous years, Hicks said, mostly because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We didn't do it last year," she said. "This year we haven't been doing many in-person programs at all here. This is us just kind of getting back into the swing of it."

Hicks said she would like to remind SFA students they are always welcome to any events held by the library.



Photo by Sandra Carranza/ The Pine Log

**Volunteers do demonstrations on how to do and how to make certain things for attendees.** This year's festival was scaled back due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Assistant Library Director Crystal Hicks.

# Art professor featured in sculpture display at Indiana University East

Lauren Selden, professor of art at Stephen F. Austin State University, was the featured artist for April at Indiana University East in Richmond, Indiana.

Selden's public sculpture titled "Charlie" is currently on display in Richmond. In an interview with Selden, she shares a look into her work, inspiration, creative process, problem solving and teaching philosophy in a YouTube video accessed at [www.iue.edu/gallery](http://www.iue.edu/gallery).

"Your amazing energy, words and work will have a great impact on our students and

community," Nate Kuznia, IUE studio and gallery coordinator, wrote.

Selden also discussed the challenges of 2020 and how the pandemic's restrictions affected her approach to making her own art, which was previously inspired significantly by travel. Current work is especially inspired by time spent with her daughter and her interactions with her students. "Artists are so good at adapting," she said. "We kept rolling with the punches."

Selden's work may also be accessed at <https://seldenart.com>.



Courtesy Photo

# SFA Timbersports earn accolades in the Louisiana Forest Festival

Following more than a year hiatus in competing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Stephen F. Austin State University timbersports team, the Sylvans, made a triumphant return during the Louisiana Forest Festival, winning the collegiate portion of the event's timbersports competition.

"Our team did a great job representing SFA and our programs," said Dr. Jeremy Stovall, professor of forestry and Sylvans faculty

advisor.

The team took first-place in the Jack and Jill crosscut, ax throwing, log chopping and single buck crosscutting events. The team earned second place in men's crosscut, women's bowsawing and men's bowsawing.

Established in 1979, the Louisiana Forest Festival takes place in Winnfield, Louisiana, and celebrates the timber industry's contributions to the state.



Courtesy Photo



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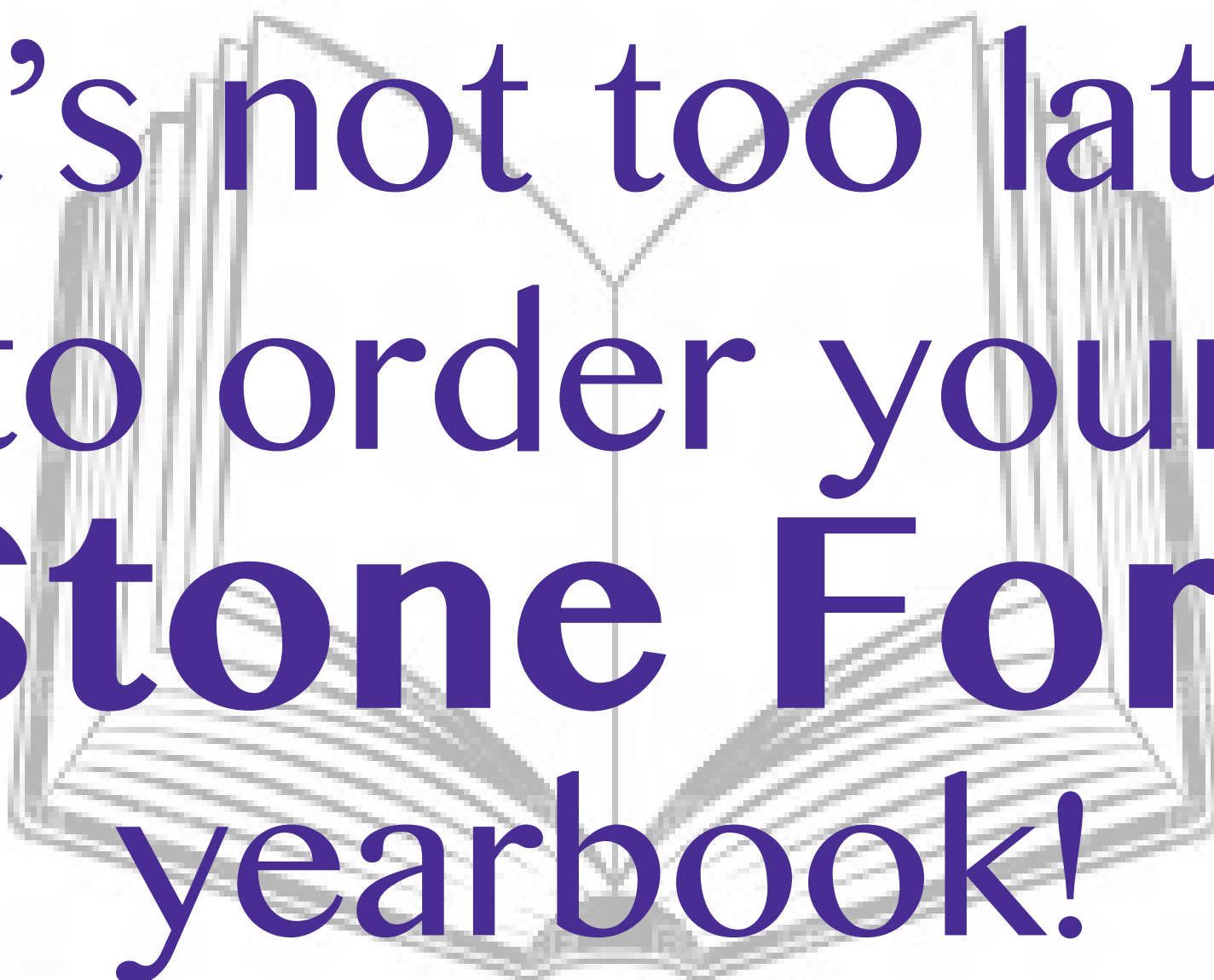
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## WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

■ Flip to page 2E for coverage of the transition from the Southland Conference to the Western Athletic Conference.

## NAME, IMAGE & LIKENESS

■ As a result of the legislation decision on NIL (Name, Image & Likeness), SFA Athletics has announced the formation of the AXE'EM Experience program, designed to help provide student-athletes with the tools and resources needed to assist with their NIL opportunities.

## 100% CAPACITY

■ SFA Director of Athletics Ryan Ivey announced that all SFA athletic venues are to return to 100% capacity for athletic events this fall.

## SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE HONOR ROLL

■ Over 200 SFA student-athletes were recognized for being on the Southland Commissioner's Honor Roll.

## GUEST COLUMN

## Get to know SFA student-athletes



Margarita Corona  
Athletics Grad Assistant

This summer, I have had the opportunity to intern with the SFA Athletic Department. As a former softball student-athlete, I thought I knew everything there was to know about athletics, but getting an opportunity to see behind the scenes has forever changed my vantage point. It has made me realize that there are often so many misconceptions

about student-athletes, and I wanted to provide some insight.

We see you on campus, we sit by you in class and we eat alongside you in the dining halls. We want you to get to know us because we are just like you. We are students. We believe that who you are is more important than what you do and that success is merely a result. We live by five core values: accountability, excellence, integrity, innovative and teamwork. The brand worn across our chest represents a commitment to this university, a department, a team and to you. It is a badge of honor worn by those who have come before us and by those who will come after us. Our journey as Lumberjacks is guided by success in three pillars: the classroom, competition and the community.

From a competition standpoint, in the final year as a member of the Southland Conference, we earned eight titles, with regular-season championships in women's basketball, volleyball, soccer, softball, and women's outdoor track and field, along with men's indoor and outdoor track and field trophies. We were the winner of the Southland Conference Commissioner's Cup, as well as the Women's All-Sports Trophy. On top of all the team accomplishments, there were 129 all-conference selections, 15 major Southland Conference honors, 11 Southland Conference All-Academic selections, 15 All-Americans and five Coach-of-the-Year award recipients.

We strive for success in the classroom and to be a valuable campus and community partner. This year 232 student-athletes were named to the Southland Conference Commissioner's Honor Roll, and the average GPA for the department was a 3.0. Giving back to the community and leading with a heart of service is at the forefront for each of our teams with an annual department goal of 4,500 hours of community service. This year, several of our teams led the nation in community service hours, and we volunteered more than 400 hours to cleaning up campus after the unexpected winter storm.

The student-athlete population is comprised of nearly 450 student-athletes who have come from more than 20 states and across 16 countries. Most of us are a long way from home. We represent much of the minority population on campus, and diversity is very much a part of the reason we are successful. We are a family, and we want you to be part of our family, too. Like you, we came to college to learn, make friends, grow, have fun and graduate. A lot of us would not have had the opportunity to come to college without playing sports, and, contrary to popular belief, not every athlete has a full scholarship. In fact, most of us pay for school because the department provides 197 scholarships for the entire student-athlete population, and as such, only 26.8% of student-athletes are on a full scholarship. This leaves 329 (or 73.2% of) student-athletes who pay some portion of their costs to attend SFA.

I say all of this because we want you to be involved and to know who we are. We want you to know that you are needed. YOU are our home advantage. We cannot be successful without you. If you are interested in getting to know more about our department or working game days or just want to know how you or your organization can partner with us, our door is always open. Our department offers internships and job opportunities to students. Please help us continue to #RaiseTheAxe.

# Athletics upgrades venues



Above is an artists rendering of the new turf for the Homer Bryce Stadium. The field will be named after Jimmy W. Murphy, a 1956 graduate of SFA who served on the SFA Board of Regents from 1995-2001.

## Changes to be made in Shelton Gym, soccer field, football field, others

Over the course of the summer, many of SFA's athletic teams announced plans for upgrades to their respective facilities.

Shelton Gym, home to SFA Ladyjacks volleyball team, was updated with a new paint job on the court to coincide with the release of the new SFA Athletics logos. Unveiled on Lady Volleyball's Twitter page in July, the center court features the secondary Ladyjacks logo, and both ends of the court feature the new SFA tertiary logo. In addition, the wordmark "Axe 'Em" is included on one end of the sideline while the other end has the wordmark "Jacks."

SFA Soccer also announced upgrades to its home turf set to be completed by the end of the summer. Funded by private donations, the facility will include suite seating, reserved chair-back seating, general admission seating and standing-room-only areas. The existing seats will be placed at the goal lines. The new seating capacity will hold up to 1,200 fans.

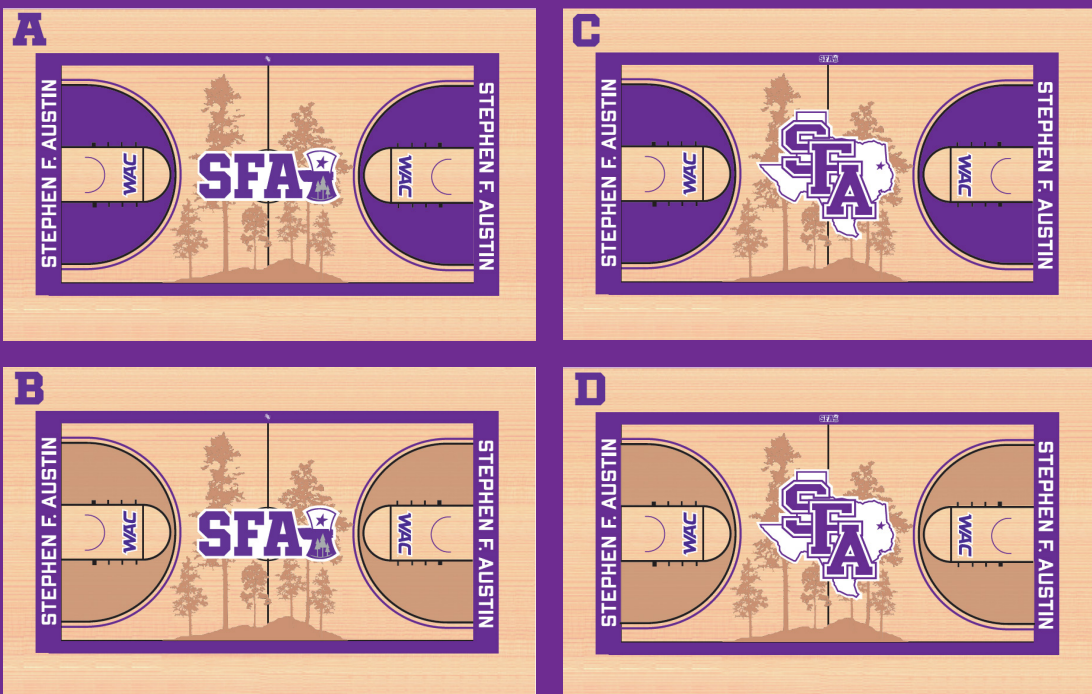
"We are extremely excited about the opportunity to enhance our facility and provide a better representation of the success our soccer program has achieved over the last decade," Director of Athletics

*"We are extremely excited about the opportunity to enhance our facility and provide a better representation of the success our soccer program has achieved over the last decade."*

- Director of Athletics, Ryan Ivey

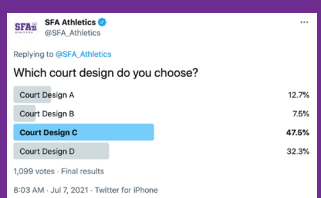
See **UPGRADE** on Page 3E

## Fans vote on William R. Johnson Coliseum court design for Western Athletic Conference



The SFA athletics Twitter account posted a poll asking fans to choose their favorite court design for the William R. Johnson Coliseum. The change came after the university transitioned to the Western Athletic Conference. The Southland Conference logos will be removed from the court. The voting results will be part of the process to decide the new design, among other steps that will be taken. Out of the options on the left, court design C was the fan favorite.

Photos from SFA athletics Twitter



## The home of CHAMPIONS

Members of the bowling team celebrate and give each other high-fives after a match. SFA's bowling team, along with many other athletics teams have won championships and have gone on to compete to tryout for the US Olympic team.

See Page 4E for more.

Photo courtesy of SFA Athletics





# Feeling WACky

Athletics leaves Southland Conference, moves to Western Athletic Conference

Stephen F. Austin State University and the SFA Athletic department made a bold statement for its future with the official announcement this week that it will join the Western Athletic Conference for the 2021-2022 academic year and beyond. SFA will be joined by three other departing Southland Conference programs—Abilene Christian, Lamar and Sam Houston State—as well as Southern Utah of the Big Sky Conference in assimilating to the WAC.

The expansion announcement was made Thursday inside NRG Center in Houston by contributing conference and university officials, including SFA president Dr. Scott Gordon and Director of Athletics Ryan Ivey.

The additions will create a 13-member, two-division WAC with prospects of adding another member that is in line with raising the conference's all-sports status. The new contingent of programs joining the WAC bring in a strong track record of athletic success and seek to raise the profile of the WAC across the board as well as revive the league's sponsorship of football, which has been dormant since 2012.

With a submitted departure date of June 30, 2022, the remaining Southland Conference members exercised their ability to speed up the exit of the "Texas 4", effective June 30, 2021, one-year ahead of the previously planned time. As such, the "Texas 4" institutions are petitioning the WAC Board of Directors for entry into the conference beginning on July 1, 2021. At this time, Southern Utah is still expected to move into the WAC at the original July 1, 2022 date.

With six Texas members and three Utah members, the majority of the WAC will be housed in the nation's two fastest growing states since 2010. The expansion also will mean that the WAC has members located in or near five of the nation's top 13 media markets. Being in those areas and rapidly growing Utah will enhance university exposure, increase recruiting territory and draw more recruiting attention to Phoenix-area high school student-athletes, including for the conference's seven Football Championship Subdivision programs.

Building on the basketball success of a conference that has sent two teams to the NCAA Tournament in 28 of the past 45 years, the new additions to the WAC represent five of the past six NCAA Tournament qualifiers out of the Southland in men's basketball. The new schools will also breathe life back into the WAC's rich football tradition, which at its heyday contained successful programs such as Boise State, TCU, Fresno State, Hawaii and Louisiana Tech, among others.

"What an exciting day to be a Lumberjack", said Ivey. "This move to the WAC will allow us to take a step forward in achieving our vision of becoming the leading mid-major athletic department in the Nation. Having the opportunity to join a strong conference alongside like-minded institutions is paramount to our future growth. This move will allow us to elevate our athletic department and provide an opportunity to grow our institutional profile through our athletic department."

"Joining the WAC is a tremendous opportunity to elevate our athletic program and competition", said SFA president Dr. Scott Gordon. "This move will increase our institutional profile, increase our exposure in some of the fastest growing population areas in the country and at the same time enhance our revenue. The strong commitment of the WAC to academics and athletics as well as our ability to keep our natural rivalries and start new ones is exciting."

"Moving to the WAC is an important next step in the progression and elevation of the SFA brand", said SFA board of regents' chair Alton Frailley.



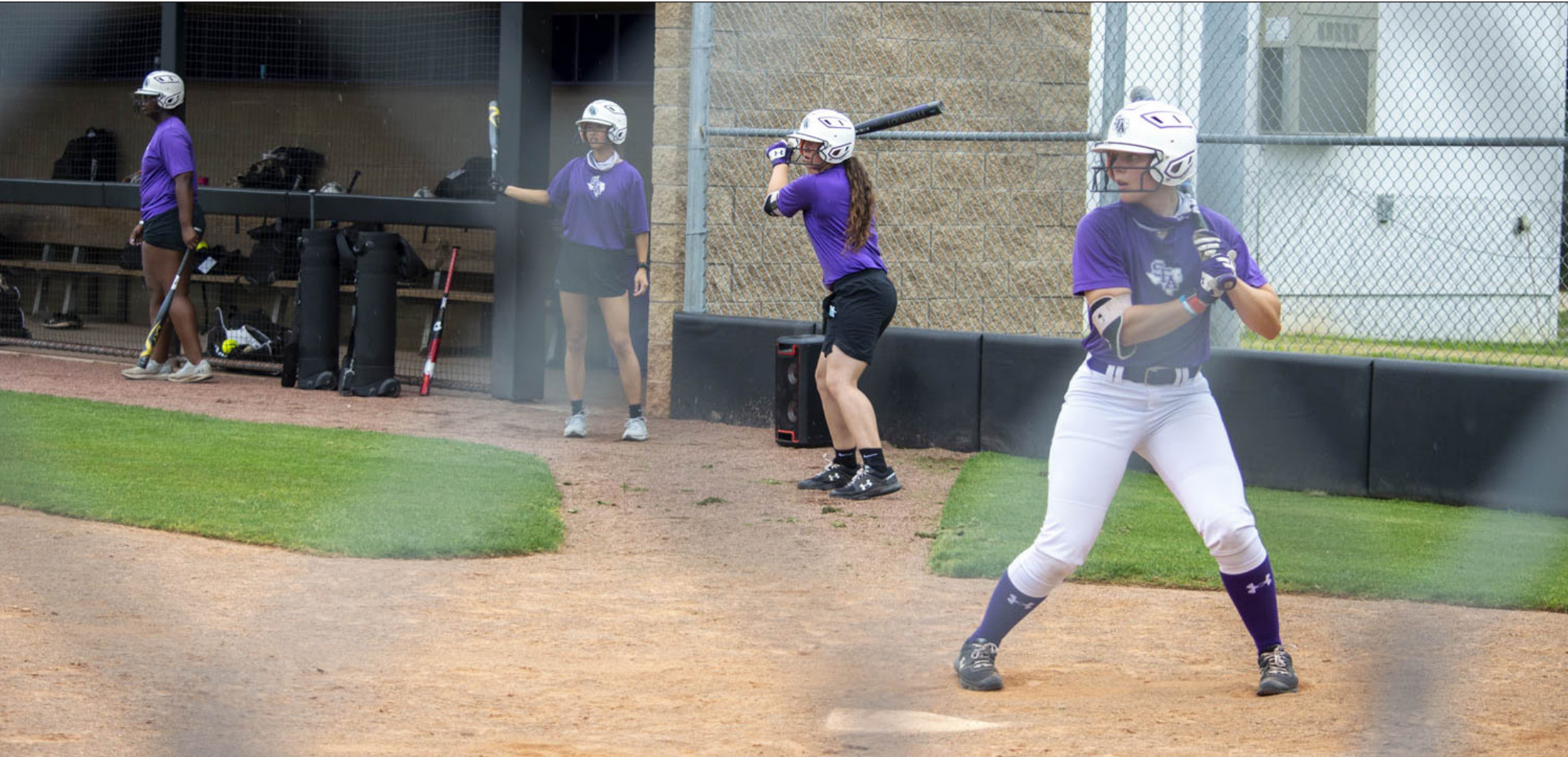
Photo courtesy of SFA Athletics  
(Left to right) Head SFA football coach Colby Carthel, SFA athletic director Ryan Ivey and SFA president Dr. Scott Gordon meet with Western Athletic Conference representatives to solidify the conference transfer from the Southland Conference to the WAC.

**SFA and three other Southland Conference** athletic programs - Abilene Christian University, Lamar University and Sam Houston State University, will join the Western Athletic Conference for the 2021-22 seasons and beyond. The Wac, which was established in 1962, hosts many institutions along the western coast and Chicago State University in Chicago, Illinois.

## WHO'S WHO in the WAC?

- ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY Abilene, Texas
  - CALIFORNIA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY Riverside, California
  - CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY Chicago, Illinois
  - DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY St. George, Utah
  - GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY Phoenix, Arizona
  - LAMAR UNIVERSITY Beaumont, Texas
  - NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY Las Cruces, New Mexico
- SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY Huntsville, Texas
  - SEATTLE UNIVERSITY Seattle, Washington
  - STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY Nacogdoches, Texas
  - TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY Stephenville, Texas
  - THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY Edinburg, Texas
  - UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY Orem, Utah





Photos by Lizeth Rodriguez / The Pine Log



Practicing through the rain, head coach Nicole Dickson swings her pitching arm behind her to send the ball over home plate.

Ladyjacks wait their turn to bat at a softball practice. The women practice through the incimate weather in order to hone their skills for any upcoming games and tournaments.

UPGRADE: Conference changes inspire upgrades

From Page 1E

Ryan Ivey said in a statement. “This facility enhancement will provide a great fan experience, allow us to increase revenue by being able to sell robust ticketing plans for our soccer matches and allow us to be able to host more outside events, such as the conference tournament and other marquee matches, while at the same time allowing us to move closer to achieving our vision of being the leading mid-major athletics department in the nation.”

“Our program as a whole is incredibly excited to be adding the grandstands to our field this year,” said SFA head soccer coach Tony Minatta. “The playing surface and setting is already the best in the conference, and now we will be able to provide the incredible fans of SFA women’s soccer with seating that will be able to accommodate more people and create an incredible game day atmosphere.”

The SFA Baseball facility will see the addition of an indoor pitching lab for the 2021 season. It’s a 4,800-square-foot indoor space to be used for Lumberjack pitchers.

“We are excited to get this project completed for our baseball program,” said Ivey. “This pitching lab will provide our coaches and program the opportunity to focus in on an extremely important aspect of the game.”

Like SFA’s soccer upgrades, this project was funded by private donations. The facility will have room for two bullpen cages and comes with a Rapsodo pitching unit to provide analytical data. Also included will be a Edgertonic slow motion camera that will help pitchers find small errors and to correct pitch development.

“With the advent of all the new technology in our sport, we felt it was imperative for us to give our athletes as much of an advantage as we could,” said SFA Baseball head coach Johnny Cardenas. “Through the generosity of a private gift, we have been afforded the ability to do just that and to put our players on the cutting edge of sports technology.”

Homer Bryce Stadium will get new turf and voting on the design for the court in the William R. Johnson Coliseum is underway at time of publication.

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Tour our property and sign within 48 hours to save \$285.00 in signing fees!

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- Covered Arbor with Grills
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Student-athletes  
qualify for U.S. Track  
& Field Olympic  
team trials

Four SFA student-athletes qualified for the U.S. Track & Field Olympic Team Trials at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon. The tryout period lasted 11 days.

Branson Ellis, Nissi Kabongo, Kaylee Bizzell and Cord Neal represented SFA at the trials, which took place at the same track in which the NCAA National Championship was held.

Stephen F. Austin lead the Southland Conference with four participants, including men's pole vault national champion Ellis. He was joined by Honorable Mention All-Americans Bizzell (pole vault) and Neal (javelin), along with Kabongo in the high jump.

Ellis, who secured SFA's second National championship in pole vault, is a junior and will continue to compete at SFA.

Entering the competition seeded within the Top 5 nationally, Ellis still had to contend with a loaded field of competitors, including Clayton Fritsch (Sam Houston), Zach Bradford (Kansas), Husain Al Hiram (Kansas) and Ethan Bray (South Dakota).

Ellis began his claim to the title at the 5.45m bar, then cleared 5.55m on his second try, and 5.65 and 5.70m on his first attempts. After Kentucky's Keaton Daniels was unable to clear 5.70, the win was Ellis', who continued on to try and clear 5.82m. Despite missing on three attempts at that height, the day still belonged to Ellis and his signature cowboy hat he wore to accept his championship trophy.

Branson Ellis runs and prepares himself to leap over the pole in the air as a judge watches.  
Photo courtesy of SFA Athletics

# The RIGHT FIT for Lumberjacks

*If you're looking for a doctor who fits your active Lumberjack lifestyle, look no further!*

Located just down the street from SFA, we provide accessible one-stop primary care.

- + Walk-ins Welcome
- + Cash Labs
- + Annual Check-ups
- + Sutures & Splinting

From annual check-ups to preventive care, and a wide range of in-office services, our goal is to build caring relationships and true partnerships that promote a healthier community.



Bryan Davis, MD

Jennings Naranjo, FNP



## Bryan Davis, M.D.

FAMILY MEDICINE

936.205.5949 + [BryanDavisMD.com](http://BryanDavisMD.com)

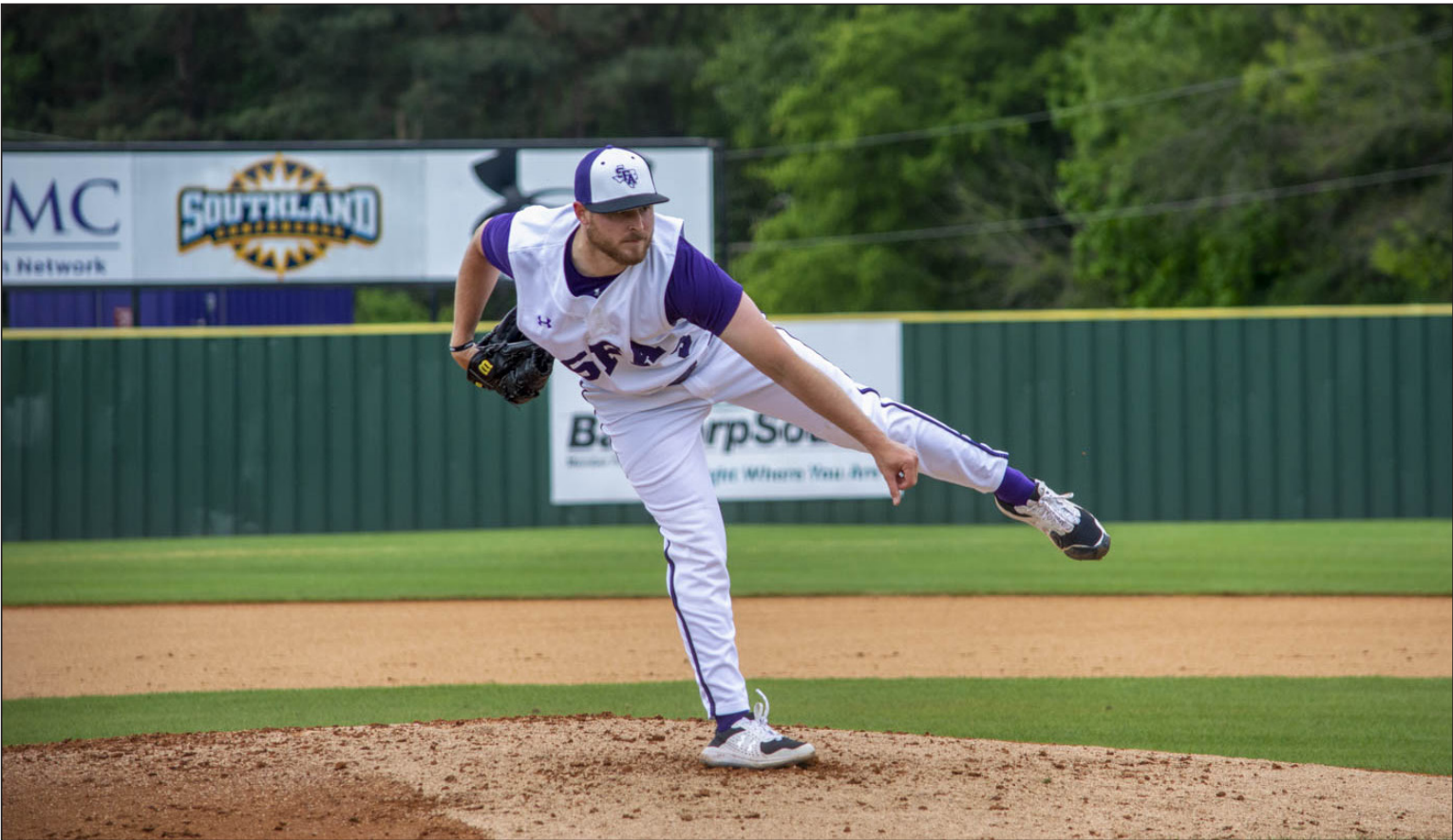
129 Creekbend Boulevard, Nacogdoches, Texas 75965





# The ins and outs of baseball

(Left) A coach talks to catcher Skylar Black while an opponent discusses a play with an umpire in Nacogdoches.  
(Bottom left) Stepping off first base, Garrett Goetz watches the batter and prepares to run to second base. Goetz looks closely to see if there will be a chance to steal second.  
(Below) A Lumberjack pitcher uses all of his strength to ensure the baseball flies over home plate and the opposing batter misses the ball.  
Photos by Lizeth Rodriguez / The Pine Log



# Serious Care delivered.

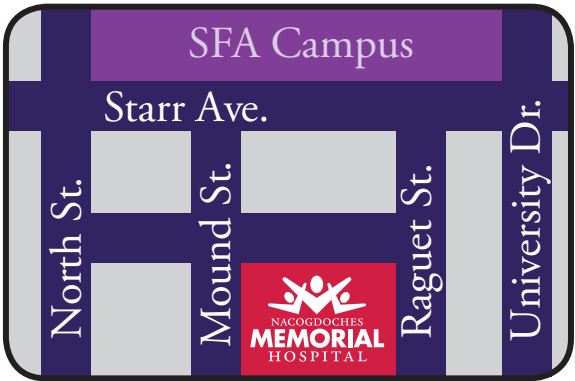


If a serious fall turns into a serious fracture, you need immediate access to the best care available – the level of care found only at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital, just one block from campus.

Unlike freestanding emergency rooms, our Level III Trauma Center is backed by the resources of an entire health system, including a full spectrum of diagnostic imaging capabilities, orthopaedic specialists and a 30,000-square-foot world-class surgery center right on site, should you need them.

In fact, our ER team is better equipped than ever before to provide exceptional patient care to every generation of every Lumberjack family.

We're Nacogdoches Memorial Health. **Where people come first.**





# Banfield beats record



Photo by Nick Andrews / From the Stone Fort yearbook

**Concentrating on her goal, Marissa Banfield goes up for a 3-point shot. Banfield is known among fans for taking the initiative to put up successful 3-points goals, helping the Ladyjack basketball team advance.**

Point guard makes SFA history with 212 3-point shots

By John Martin  
Contributing Writer

SFA's women's basketball team swept the Southland conference this year with 14 wins and 0 losses and finished the season in the NCAA with an overall 24-3 record. This is the first time the Ladyjacks have made it to the NCAA courts since 2008.

Basketball is a team game; but a team is made up of individuals, one of which is a starting point guard ending her career at SFA with the third most scored 3-point goals in SFA history at 212. This is SFA's point guard. This is Marissa Banfield. Banfield grew up in Friendswood, Texas and went to Westbury Christian before coming to SFA and joining the basketball team. Four years later, she is now a senior graduating in May with a bachelor's degree in sports business.

Athletics have been a part of Banfield's life. She started dancing at two-years-old and left the stage for the basketball courts at eight. While her talent for basketball was evident to those around her, Banfield only realized she loved the sport when she was about to give it up.

"I was probably 12-years-old," Banfield said. "I always thought my dad was so hard on me; and at that point, I didn't really like basketball and thought I was going to quit. He had my coach come out and talk to me and she told me that I had

*"She's one of the harder working kids, if not the hardest working, and always has been."*

- Head women's basketball coach Mark Kellogg

so much potential and that I'm the hardest worker she's been around. She made me realize that I'd regret it if I didn't see it through."

While Marissa has been praised by coaches past and present for her shooting, game knowledge and teamwork, her work ethic has been repeatedly recognized. Mark Kellogg just finished his sixth season as head coach of SFA's Ladyjack basketball team.

"She's one of the harder working kids, if not the hardest working, and always has been," Kellogg said. "At the end of her sophomore and junior year, she had two injuries, and it became obvious how much she meant to our team."

Banfield has always been a point guard. She has always been a shooter. Third place in SFA history is not achieved by luck; but even four shots away from second, Banfield had no idea she was so close to the record. She was just playing basketball.

"I've always thought she was

a good shooter, now she's turned herself into an elite shooter," Kellogg said. "What this team has done in this league is a direct reflection is where we came from and it wasn't easy."

Banfield achieved one of her biggest goals this year by getting into the NCAA tournament, but she didn't do it alone. She credits her family as her biggest supporters throughout her career, but her team isn't far behind.

"The best part was having a team who was like a family to me," Banfield said. "The coaches are like family and my teammates I'll always consider sisters. I've had a great experience, and we've worked really hard all four years I've been here."

After graduating college, she would like to pursue a master's degree and a grad assistant job with a college team. If not coaching, she's considering a job in sports marketing, never straying too far from the basketball court.

# Passing rivals



The Pine Log

**Avoiding her opponents and longtime rivals, Sam Houston State University, Zya Nugent looks for someone to assist her in making a shot for the Ladyjacks.**

#RAISETHEAXE

SFA

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

VS TARLETON STATE | SEPT 4

AT TEXAS TECH | SEPT 11

VS MVSU | SEPT 18

VS LINCOLN UNIVERSITY | SEPT 25

VS SAM HOUSTON STATE | OCT 2

AT JACKSONVILLE STATE | OCT 9

AT DIXIE STATE | OCT 23

VS ABILENE CHRISTIAN | OCT 30

VS EASTERN KENTUCKY | NOV 6

AT CENTRAL ARKANSAS | NOV 13

AT LAMAR | NOV 20

AXE 'EM

SFA

HOME SOCCER SCHEDULE

PURPLE VS. WHITE GAME | 8/17 | 6 PM

VS. LSU (EXHIBITION) | 8/14 | 3 PM

VS. TCU | 8/19 | 7 PM

VS. TEXAS STATE | 8/29 | 1 PM

VS. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M | 9/12 | 1 PM

VS. SAM HOUSTON\* | 9/24 | 7 PM

VS. ACU\* | 10/8 | 7 PM

VS. CHICAGO STATE\* | 10/10 | 1 PM

VS. UTRGV\* | 10/15 | 7 PM

VS. LAMAR\* | 10/17 | 1 PM

Home games only

\* Denotes WAC conference game

'JACKS

SFA

HOME VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

VS. UTA (EXHIBITION) | 8/20 | 6 PM

VS. NORTHERN ARIZONA # | 9/2 | 6:30 PM

VS. ULL # | 9/3 | 6:30 AM

VS. CORPUS # | 9/4 | 1:30 PM

VS. UMBC | 9/4 | 1:30 PM

VS. GRAMBLING \$ | 9/17 | 11 AM

VS. HBU \$ | 9/17 | 7 PM

VS. ULM \$ | 9/18 | 1:30 PM

VS. PRAIRIE VIEW A&M | 9/21 | 6:30 PM

VS. ACU\* | 9/30 | 6:30 PM

VS. TARLETON STATE\* | 10/2 | 12 PM

VS. LAMAR\* | 10/28 | 6:30 PM

VS. UTRGV\* | 10/30 | 12 PM

VS. SAM HOUSTON\* | 11/13 | 3 PM

# Denotes SFA Tournament #1

\$ Denotes SFA Tournament #2

CMYK





Meaghan Morton / From the Stone Fort yearbook

# PURPLE HAZE ASSOCIATION

Just as much a part of athletics, the Purple Haze Association is a student organization that attends every home athletic event in order to cheer on the Lumberjacks.  
(Left) **Purple Haze Association officer Megan Dudgeon** celebrates a Lumberjack football win with her friend by throwing up their axes.  
(Below) **Students, family and friends** sit outside on the hill underneath the score board in the Homer Bryce Stadium during a football game. Fans sat on the hill after changes made in order to comply with COVID-19 restrictions.



Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

## DON'T FORGET TO DRESS...

Help celebrate and promote the traditions and spirit that make SFA's college experience so special. We encourage all students and faculty and staff members to show their pride for SFA's educational mission and colorful history by wearing apparel bearing the colors and insignias of the university each and every Friday!

FOR  
**SFA**  
*Spirit Fridays*™





# RESIDENCE LIFE

Stephen F. Austin State University



## WHAT TO EXPECT FOR FALL 2021

### WHAT IS RESIDENCE LIFE ?

The Residence Life Department is here to support students living on campus. It's our mission to provide a learning-centered residential environment, which is conducive to the academic success and personal development of our students. Residence Life, sponsors the Residence Hall Association, which provides activities for on campus students to help them become involved on campus.

### WHEN CAN I MOVE IN?

Fall 2021 move-in begins Friday, August 20 and ends Sunday, August 22 @ 6 P.M. -- In order to move-in each student must select move-in time/date via their mySFA account starting Wednesday, August 4 @ noon.

### HOW CAN I SIGN-UP FOR A MOVE-IN TIME?

To select a move-in time log-in to your mySFA account and navigate to the Campus Life tab located along the top of the webpage. Once on the Campus Life tab, then locate the Schedule Move-In link. After you access the link, you must provide two emergency contacts (their names and phone numbers) and select an appropriate date/time (August 20-22) that best fits your schedule. Once the date/time has been submitted, you can update it as needed until 24 hours before your move-in date/time.



#Lumberjacks4Life



Spring 2021

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

#### What happens if a student contracts COVID-19 on campus?

To guard against the spread COVID-19, the university has enacted a quarantine/isolation protocol for suspected and confirmed cases of the virus. Should individuals be placed in mandatory isolation, they will receive ongoing support from the university. This includes medical and mental health services, food and mail delivery, and daily trash removal.

#### Can I change rooms/residence halls after move-in?

Yes, depending on availability! For students wanting to change rooms, but stay in the same residence hall, contact the hall staff/hall director. For those wanting to change residence halls, contact the Residence Life Department.

#### Do I have to wear a mask?

Individuals may choose to wear masks, but they cannot be mandated to, per the Texas Government as of May 21, 2021.

#### Can I still receive a private room after move-in?

Yes, depending on availability! Students wishing to obtain a private room will need to contact the hall staff in their residence hall.

#### Is there a list of things students can and cannot bring?

Yes, there is a list of things we recommend students bring and things that are not allowed. This list can be found through our website or this direct link: <https://www.sfasu.edu/life-at-sfa/housing-dining/housing/faq>

#### Are pets allowed?

Pets are not allowed, except small birds in cages and fish in aquariums no larger than 10 gallons. Emotional Support Animals must be approved through the special accommodation process.



SFA MOVE-IN

### RESIDENCE HALL FRONT DESK PHONE NUMBERS

First-Year Halls	
Lumberjack Lodge.....	936.468.2400
Lumberjack Landing.....	936.468.5404
Steen.....	936.468.5201
Hall 14.....	936.468.4609
Kerr.....	936.468.5301
Non-First Year Halls	
Griffith.....	936.468.4909
Hall 16.....	936.468.5109
Hall 10.....	936.468.3200
Hall 20.....	936.468.2595
Lumberjack Lodge.....	936.468.2400
Lumberjack Village.....	936.468.4300
Kerr.....	936.468.5301
Wisely.....	936.468.2600

### RESIDENCE LIFE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

**Location:** Baker Pattillo Student Center 1.301  
**Website:** [www.sfasu.edu/reslife](http://www.sfasu.edu/reslife)  
**Email:** [reslife@sfasu.edu](mailto:reslife@sfasu.edu)  
**Phone Number:** 936.468.2601



#AxeEm