

Enrollment
goes
down
1.6%
from Spring 2019 – Spring 2020

Student credit hours
DOWN 1.9%

Classifications by the numbers

Freshmen	11,846
Sophomores	11,846
Juniors	11,846
Seniors	11,846
Master's program	11,846
Doctoral	<100

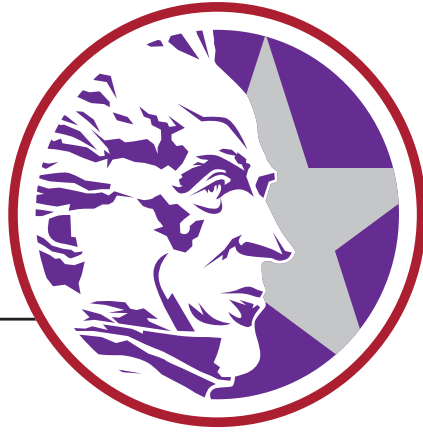
Statistics from the Office of Institutional Research

Infographic by Meaghan Morton / The Pine Log

500 students

the PINE LOG

The Independent Voice of Stephen F. Austin State University



Wednesday, February 12, 2020

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Jacks prove themselves in comeback season



Photo by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

Head coach Kyle Keller draws a play for players during a time out on Wednesday's match against Nicholls State University. The Lumberjacks are on an eighth-game winning streak after coming off an 81-74 win against the University of New Orleans. "Last year, we lost about 131 games to player injury and suspension," Keller said. "You learn from them. And I think these guys don't ever want to experience something like that. We've had so much success around here and the program has." SFA holds the No. 1 seed in the conference

with a 12-1 conference record, a 21-3 overall record and a .875 winning percentage. The Jacks will play Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in Corpus Christi. The Islanders are the only team in the conference who have beaten the Lumberjacks and hold the No. 9 seed in the conference with a 10-14 overall record, 6-7 SLC and a .462 winning percentage.

Women's rugby team to start back up

By Amanda Hope
Staff Writer

The women's rugby team will have an interest meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Baker Pattillo Student Center tiered meeting room.

The team started in 2016 but ended because there were not enough team members. This semester, the Women's Rugby team President Cara Bailey, a sophomore psychology major from Splendor, took an initiative to start the team back up.

"I played it in high school and was very disappointed when I came to SFA to find they didn't have a team anymore," Bailey said. "At first, I accepted this, but later joined Rugby Little Sis on campus. A requirement of this club is to attend the men's rugby practices, yet to my surprise the guys at the rugby field were more than welcome to let me practice with them. This started a spark for me to recruit other women interested and play again."

Bailey said she started the team up from scratch in two weeks, and it was something she could never imagine doing. The process of starting the club involved what she said was "a lot of paperwork" and writing a constitution for the club. Next, the club assigned positions such as vice president, secretary and treasurer.

"I grew up in South Africa where rugby is really big," Vice President Ellie Naudé, a junior animal science major

See RUGBY on Page 3

International student presents Costa Rica at The Cultural Experience

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

The Office of International Programs sponsored The Cultural Experience. For the first presentation of the semester, freshman biology major, Aaron Diaz, presented on his home country, Costa Rica.

A few of the points presented by Diaz ranged from food, common slang and

history. Diaz said that when it came to deciding what to present to students, he had a strategy.

"I wanted to show something that I have experienced and that I can... awake something in them. Just to know that you don't have to go far away to experience things. Those are some strategic points that I used in order to do my presentation," Diaz said.



Photo by Andrew Delph / The Pine Log

Aaron Diaz, freshman biology major from Costa Rica, presents the first Cultural Experience on his country. The presentation educated students about life, common slangs, food and more.

During his presentation, Diaz mentioned that he attended University in Costa Rica. There, he studied translation. He wasn't happy with his degree, so he came to the United States to study biology.

"I was doing really good but I was not enjoying what I was doing, so that's why I came here and tried to do something different. From the 76 credit hours I got done in Costa Rica, six have transferred to SFA. It's fine because I know that those hours were not in vain, because that has helped me with my English and with my understanding and stuff," Diaz said.

While his time in Costa Rica, Diaz worked on mission trips as a translator with the indigenous cultures of Maleku and Brunca.

"I worked with two different indigenous cultures. That's something that's really big. Costa Rica is not trying to put them away, just bring them, but not to delete their traditions. They don't have an ID, they don't have a social security number because that is not a part of who they are. The government has tried to bring them but if they do that, they're just brought into the cities and they're not going to keep their cultures, because otherwise they'll be eradicated really quick," Diaz said.

Heather Catton, director of international programs, said that the Cultural Experience is held as an opportunity for international students to introduce themselves to the SFA and Nacogdoches community.

"You see Aaron, you might not know he's from Costa Rica. You might think he's from Houston. It's an opportunity for students to

See EXPERIENCE on Page 3



Women's and Gender Studies Symposium to feature keynote speaker, student research presentations

By Meredith Janning
Managing Editor

The Division of Multidisciplinary Programs is hosting the fourth annual Women's and Gender Studies Symposium, an event that will focus on student research. It will be held on Feb. 28, starting with a keynote speaker at noon in the Liberal Arts North building. Presentations will take place afterward in classrooms on the fourth floor of the Ferguson building.

According to Dr. Linda Levitt, communication studies professor and coordinator of the women's and gender studies minor and symposium, women's and gender studies is an interdisciplinary minor open to all students, so the symposium allows students to present their research and engage a broad spectrum of perspectives.

"[Dr. Joyce Johnston] has long taken a leadership role in organizing meaningful events for students, as well as the Pre-Law Academy that SFA hosts for high school students each summer," Levitt said. "Seeing the kind of student response to other events, it seemed a natural next step to put together a symposium for women's and gender studies. Faculty members don't always get to see how research is applied holistically in interdisciplinary programs, but students are

clearly synthesizing these approaches. This is a way to share that with the University community."

Submissions for students or faculty to present research in the symposium will be open through Friday. The form can be found on the Multidisciplinary Programs web page, and a faculty sponsor is not needed.

"This year we have a number of submissions from outside of the disciplines in the women's and gender studies minor," Levitt said. "I'm hoping that the conference will show that gender is an important aspect of identity across our everyday lives and experiences and is therefore part of everything we study here. The presentations will be as varied as a multidisciplinary program should be. We'll have students critiquing music videos and films, discussing the importance of Girl Scouts, analyzing masculinity in Japanese manga, sharing their artwork and so much more. The symposium is always interesting and engaging because of the variety of topics."

Dr. Joyce Johnston, assistant dean of the College of Liberal and Applied Arts and director of Division of Multidisciplinary Programs, said the symposium allows students to discuss a wide variety of topics that can be tied back to women's and gender studies.

"It's conceived as an opportunity for

students from all disciplines across campus to be able to present their research or to engage in discussions all related to women's studies, gender studies, questions of LGBTQ+, so it's designed to be an afternoon of exchanging ideas," Johnston said.

According to Johnston, presentations will range from traditional research presentations, PowerPoints and posters, to fine arts presentations.

"Even artists who are producing sculptures or paintings, or whatever the case may be, have the opportunity to display their work, so long as it's related to women's or gender studies," Johnston said.

This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Sydney Kroll, a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in the treatment of trauma and psychological assessment.

Kroll said she is glad SFA offers this event for the community and was honored to be invited to speak at the symposium.

"I sometimes get so busy in private practice that it begins to feel somewhat isolated, so the prospect of collaborating with the University and other professionals is exciting," Kroll said. "I worked a lot in women and gender studies when I was at UT-Austin, and I've missed this part of my work. I have spoken at numerous state and national conventions on various topics, though this tends to be with other

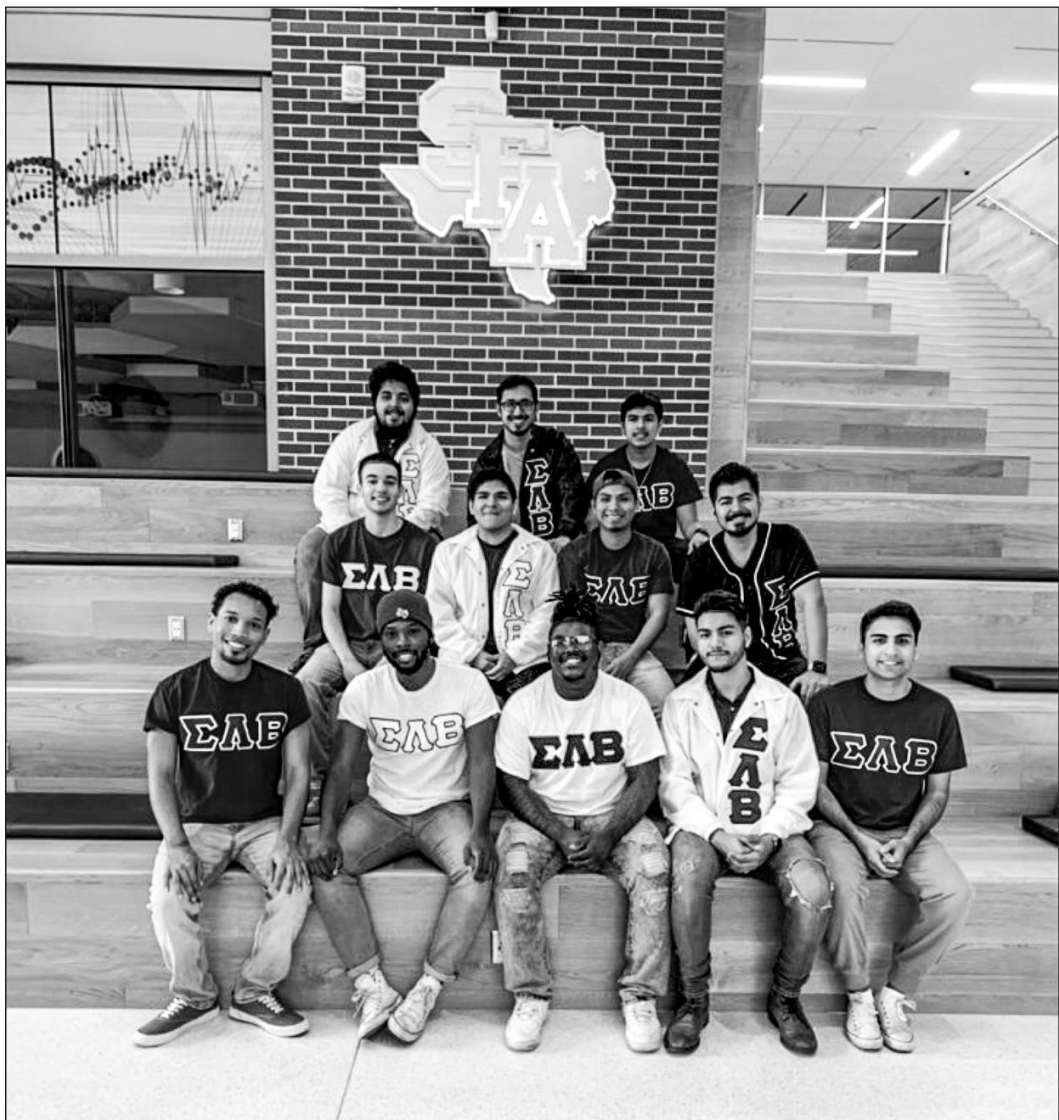
psychologists. It will be fun for me to speak with students and professionals outside my field."

For her talk, Kroll said she will discuss secondary impact of news stories about sexual harassment and assault and hopes to stay for student presentations as well.

"I'm looking forward to hearing from students and learning about the new theories and issues surrounding these topics," Kroll said. "I grew up on the SFA campus, and spent many years at UT, but I've been outside university settings for the past few years. I miss the energy and passion on college campuses. I'm definitely trying to hold that afternoon open, so I can check out some of the other presentations."

According to Johnston, the symposium is not limited to just the feminine side of women's and gender studies.

"If you're only looking at women and women's empowerment, you're not really getting the whole picture," Johnston said. "Questions of masculinity come into play, [along with] LGBTQ+ and trans identities. This all falls under the idea of, 'How do we see ourselves? How does gender affect our lives?' So, it's not just women's studies. I think anyone who attends the symposium will see that it's really a diverse group from lots of different fields, which I think is a good thing."



Courtesy Photo by Mark Salazar

Multicultural fraternity earns 5 STAR recognition

By Faith Skodak
Contributing Writer

The Multicultural Greek Chapter Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity has been recognized as a 5 STAR Standards of Excellence Greek Organization for the 2019-2020 academic year. Out of the 10 that are being recognized as 5 STAR organizations this academic year, Sigma Lambda Beta is the only Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) organization to be recognized and is the first MGC Fraternity to be recognized since the STAR Standards of Excellence have been in place.

"I was in shock," said Bryan Gray, president and senior psychology major from Plano. "I was expecting three or four STARS, but to see five, I felt good. I was really, really proud."

Gray has been a member for three years, has previously been the fraternity's vice president and served on the MGC executive board. Since being a part of Sigma Lambda Beta, Gray feels that he has grown as an individual and as a leader.

"I knew that joining would help me develop myself as an individual," Gray said. "I don't see myself being the person I am without joining. It's like a life-long brotherhood."

After sharing the news of the rating, Gray said it gave members a sense of optimism, and he noticed that members' work ethic grew tremendously.

"I feel that it did serve as motivation for them because they did put in a lot of hard work, and I feel like their hard work finally paid off," Gray said.

The program is based on five categories of standards, which include the new member program, scholarship, involvement and leadership development, service and organizational management and member development.

Each category is performed through a point-based system in which chapters are expected to meet certain criteria. The more points a chapter receives, the higher STAR Standard and accreditation it will be given. Sigma Lambda Beta received seven new members, had the highest male GPA and utilized their members' involvement in other organizations to achieve the recognition, causing them to go from a 2 STAR rating to a 5 STAR rating.

With this recognition, Gray feels that he can use it as an opportunity to show the positive side of Greek Life and encourage other Greek Life organizations to work toward the same goals, but still pays homage to the other organizations within the council that inspired them.

"We looked at other organizations within our council because they were all doing better than us at one point," Gray said. "We learned from them, so hopefully they [can] learn from us now."

See GREEK on Page 3

Crime Log:

2/9/20

An officer was dispatched to UPD to meet with a complainant in reference to a sexual assault. The complainant advised on Feb. 7 that she was sexually assaulted at Lumberjack Lodge by a known subject. This incident is currently under investigation. There is one suspect.

2/10/20

An officer was dispatched to UPD to meet with a complainant in reference to a theft. The complainant advised on Feb. 10 that her laundry was removed from the Hall 14 laundry room without her permission. There are no suspects.

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

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

SGA prepares to host second annual Trader Jacks

By Raquel Torres
Editor-in-Chief

The Student Government Association will be hosting its second annual Trader Jacks event on March 18. The event will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. at Surfin' Steve. Students can sign up at the SGA office, located on the first floor of the student center.

The event is free and will allow students to showcase their businesses and sell their products to the SFA and Nacogdoches community. Students can sign up until March 7.

Scarleth Lopez, SGA president and senior psychology major from Dayton, said that Trader Jacks was started by current SGA Vice President Cathleen Young, senior multidisciplinary studies major from McKinney.

"It's just a really great way to showcase students' talents," Lopez said. "Small businesses, if they can cut hair or wash cars, stuff like that, we just want to make sure that they get that recognition and make it as a fun event where they don't have to pay anything."

Every year, the SGA puts on a garage sale. That is where the idea for Trader Jacks originated.

"Instead of making it a garage sale where everyone can showcase that or sell whatever it is that they have at the back of their closet, we wanted to make sure that students were given that opportunity to showcase their talents and their businesses," Lopez said. "I think it's a really great idea to bring together students and the community as well."

Young said that many students on campus are creative and should be provided encouragement.

"Last year, I loved how things were custom," Young said. "I'm most excited this



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TRADER JACKS
2020

- Advertise a Small Business
- Baked Goods
- Artwork
- Trade Skills
- Clothing

Showcase Your Skills to SFASU and the Nacogdoches Community

MARCH 18 6PM-8PM
At Surfin Steve

PRESENTED BY: STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

semester because we have a woodworker signed up, paintings, jewelry, nail service and more."

As of press time, SGA had 15 registered for the day. Students are encouraged to sign up in the SGA office as soon as possible to guarantee a table. The event will also host food trucks.

A student who participated in last year's Trader Jacks event will also be participating this year. Mickaila Stamp, junior horticulture major from Lumberton, will be selling bracelets.

"I went to the first Trader Jacks, and I really enjoyed it," Stamp said. "Trader Jacks helped me get more exposure to people at SFA. I've continued to do this every semester when it's being ran. This allows me to meet new people and see what people really like."

According to Stamp, she's been making bracelets for a while now.

"It's more of a hobby now than anything," Stamp said. "I also can also embroider and make the big hand knitted blankets, so I typically bring those items with me as well to show customers what I can do."

Stamp also mentioned that she will have a friend selling crunchies and candles.

The SGA president encourages the Nacogdoches community to support students' businesses.

"Come to the event with an open mind,"

Lopez said. "Students have all different sorts of talents, so if we're going to showcase that, we have to appreciate. A lot of times people have something that's maybe just of their culture or something that's special to them and to you it may not seem serious or whatever, but to them it may be their livelihood or something that they really care about. Come with an open mind and come to appreciate."

Enrollment numbers, credit hours decrease from spring 2019

By Kayley Frazee
Staff Writer

Currently, 11,846 students are enrolled at SFA, 189 fewer students than last spring. This is a 1.6% loss as compared to the 12,035 students enrolled in spring of 2019.

“Spring enrollment is always less than fall,” Erma Brecht, executive director of enrollment management in the Office of Admissions, said. “We just had a December graduation. So, we had a significant number of students graduate, but not a lot of students start college in spring. There are some, by all means, but not at that same level. That’s why you’re always going to see spring being less than where it was in the fall.”

a lot. The other pocket of students that contributed to that number was dual credit. The university has made a commitment to serving East Texas high schools.”

In Fall 2019, there were 12,969 students enrolled. 1,475 were graduate students, as compared to Fall 2018, when there were 1,746 graduate students enrolled. The largest number of students SFA has ever had was in Fall 2018. There were 13,144 students.

“This past May was one of the larger graduating classes SFA has seen,” Brecht said. “I think we’ll start continuing to see larger classes graduate. For different reasons, some students may not always return. So, to increase enrollment, we

list the graduate studies for each of the colleges.

“Another thing we did as far as recruitment [was realize] our website was not very student friendly,” Sampson said. “It had some faculty friendliness. But if you were a potential student, I don’t think it had a look that said, ‘Yeah, this is where I want to come.’ So, we had it redesigned, and it went live [Feb. 4]. We’re also trying to get a better sense of providing things that students need, in the manner that they need it. Not everyone can come to campus. They have jobs. They have families. They have commitments. They need the flexibility of online, or maybe shorter term tries at the programs. We’re starting to look at what parts of our

*“I think what SFA is looking for is to serve all of our students.”
-Erma Brecht, executive director of enrollment management*

According to the Census Report of the Office of Institutional Research, there are 2,547 freshmen, 2,177 sophomores, 2,699 juniors, 2,985 seniors, 105 Post-baccalaureate, 1,272 students getting master’s and 61 doctoral students.

“For enrollment numbers, we look at which groups make up that enrollment,” Brecht said. “Is it new freshman? Is it new transfers? Is it continuing undergrad? Is it continuing graduate? Is it new graduate? Is it Dual Credit? We really watch all of those trends. This past fall, we came in with a little under the enrollment from the previous fall, because there was a really large change in the market demand for graduate master’s students in educational leadership. In Fall 2018, the state of Texas required superintendents and principals to go back and get these particular graduate level courses, so our graduate masters was really high. After they completed what they needed for their professions in Fall 2019, the number dropped quite

have to replace the students who graduate, and those who weren’t able to return, as well as add.”

According to Tierney Twigg, assistant to the dean of the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, the total number of graduate applications for Spring 2020 are 397, 260 for Summer 2020 and 206 for Fall 2020.

“All of the graduate programs have a coordinator,” Dr. Pauline Sampson, dean of research and graduate studies, said. “There’s 39 different programs, so there’s 39 different coordinators. Weekly, we send out an email to them, and it lists any applicants that have applied for graduate school here. We encourage them to reach out to those potential students.”

In July, SFA graduate school did a campaign with five different online graduate programs to inform people the programs existed. They also now have brochures listing all the different programs, created six months ago, and are working on brochures that

programs could be more online or more flexible.”

Besides just looking at enrollment numbers, Brecht said the university wants to focus on student success as a whole.

“I think what SFA is looking for is to serve all of our students,” Brecht said. “Not just new freshman or new transfers, but [the] continuing students and graduates too. We have to really make sure we’re being mindful of the needs of every student. The university is committed, yes to growing the enrollment, but more importantly the focus is on students’ success. If we can make changes, enhance initiatives towards helping our students be successful, that in itself is going to enhance enrollment. We want to see our students graduate in a timely fashion, with less debt and successfully, in that they’re going to secure employment or get into graduate school.”

RUGBY: SFA team breaks stereotypes

From Page 1

from Pretoria, South Africa, said. “Both of my brothers played rugby all through high school, so I used to play with them in the backyard.”

Naudé and Bailey believe that there is a stereotype that rugby is a “man’s sport” and hope to remove that stigma by restarting the women’s rugby club.

“It’s comparable to football that some may say that girls aren’t tough enough to play it,” Bailey said. “Women aren’t seen as very physical human beings which gives the stereotype that sports that involve a lot of contact and tackling are deemed to

be more for men. This is a stereotype we hope to break on the SFA women’s rugby team by gaining women interested in rugby and playing it to our best extent. We also break this stereotype by practicing with the men’s rugby team to show that we are all capable of doing the same physical activity and sport activities no matter what gender or physical characteristics we have.”

The team’s coach Jaycee Park, a junior family consumer science major from Huntsville, hopes the team is successful. He wants the team to set goals for themselves and achieve those goals.

“The team is a bunch of hard working girls that are ready to make a statement in Texas rugby,” Park said. “With the way things are going, the team’s chemistry is building, and before long, I can see them being like sisters. I feel like women’s rugby can build character and change lives for some of the girls that are wanting to play. In a world full of doubters, this is a way to prove them wrong.”

There is no game schedule, but the club’s main goal this semester is to have some women’s teams come out to the men’s rugby tournament in April.

GREEK: Sigma Lambda Beta earns 5 STARS

From Page 2

MCG Adviser Clare Denhollem works to guarantee that the fraternity follows University and MCG procedures.

With Sigma Lambda Beta being the only MCG organization to be a 5 STAR, Denhollem is proud of their accomplishment.

“I am proud of the work they have done to achieve this, and it shows me and others that the leadership has successfully delegated, planned and organized itself to be successful,” Denhollem said.

Rhyllie Gachot, Sigma Lambda Beta’s Faculty staff advisor, has seen both

the hard work and their brotherhood flourish in the one semester she has been their adviser.

“It stands out to me just because they follow through with it a majority of the time in the sense of holding each other accountable with academics [and] supporting each other with events,” Gachot said. “They’re there. They’re supporting not only each other, but also the University.”

Their 5 STAR recognition, a goal the organization was set out to achieve, did not go unnoticed to Gachot.

“They are following through with the goals they have set in the beginning,

which means they can set an even higher goal this time around to take it a step further,” Gachot said.

As president, Gray hopes to focus more on external events that will allow them to give back to both the SFA and Nacogdoches communities together.

“We really do try to give back, and I feel like a lot of other Greek organizations [on campus] actually do that too,” Gray said.

Jocelyn Bradford, Life and Arts Editor, contributed to this article.

EXPERIENCE: Event inspires sharing cultures

From Page 1

meet each other.”

One thing that Catton didn’t know before the presentation was that there are mountains in Costa Rica.

“Sharing cultures is important,” Catton said. “Each culture has really interesting differences, but to see the similarities and be able to understand each other a little better and learn fun things from different countries.”

Catton is also the advisor of the International Student Association.

“It was originally created to give

international students a voice at the University,” Catton said.” If they had concerns that they wanted to bring to the administration so they could meet together and discuss. But, it’s developed into a social and activities club where international students and American students can do events together.”

The organization has done fashion shows, food events and have taken trips to international festivals.

Some concerns that Catton has heard from International students include adapting to the University.

“They do have trouble connecting with local students sometimes, just

because maybe the way that friendships form in their own countries is a little bit different, so they sometimes have some difficulty getting a group of friends,” Catton said. “Having students from different countries together makes it a little bit easier, so they don’t feel as isolated.”

There are about 120 international students on campus. Catton said that she hopes to make them more visible through The Cultural Experience.

The next The Cultural Experience will be held on 4 p.m. Feb 25 in the Ferguson building in room 371 and will be over Nigeria.



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BASKETBALL: SFA’s basketball teams prepare to play Wednesday

From Page 6

Ladyjacks in scoring with 14 and 12 points respectively. As a unit, SFA recorded 15 assists, 36 rebounds and forced 27 turnovers. As of Feb. 4, SFA has received votes in the collegeinsider.com Women’s Mid-Major Top 25 poll.

Wednesday night’s game will be a pivotal matchup as TAMUCC stands as the second-place team in the conferee with a 16-6 overall record with a 10-2 SLC record. In addition, the Ladyjacks were the last team to defeat the Islanders as they won 66-44 in last month’s matchup before TAMUCC began their seven-game win streak.

The Islanders enter Wednesday’s game after defeating McNeese State 73-59 on the road last week. In that contest, the Islanders had four players record double digit points, and it was their first win in Lake Charles since 2007.

The Islanders average 63.4 points per game and possess a .441 field goal percentage, which is third in the league. Defensively, they are first in both defensive rebounding by averaging 31.3 per game and in blocked shots with 103. The Islanders have also received votes in the collegeinider.com Women’s Mid-Major Top 25 poll.

Alexes Bryant, a senior forward and preseason first team All-SLC player, is the Islanders’ leading scorer with 291 points averaging 13.2 per game and holds a .494 field goal percentage. She has recorded 46 assists and leads the team in rebounds and blocked shots with 150 and 33.

Dalesia Booth, a senior guard and a preseason first team All-SLC member, is the second leading scorer with 264 points, averaging 12 per game. Her 114 rebounds, 44 assists and 30 steals all rank second on the team.

Emma Young, senior guard/forward, leads the Islanders with 45 assists and senior guard Dae Dae Evans has recorded the most steals with 34. Both players named preseason second team All-SLC.

ESPN+ will broadcast the matchup with TAMUCC and KSFA-860 will provide the radio broadcast.

Lumberjacks

The SFA Lumberjacks men’s basketball team will face Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Corpus Christi.

The Jacks, who are first place in the SLC, hold a 21-3 overall record and a 12-1 SLC mark. In Saturday’s game against the University of New Orleans, SFA extended its win streak to eight games by defeating the Privateers 81-74. During the contest, the entire Lumberjack starting lineup recorded at least 10 points.

As of Feb. 4, the Jacks are ranked eighth in the collegeinsider.com Men’s Mid Major Top 25 Poll and are receiving votes in the AP Top 25 Poll.

The last time the Lumberjacks lost was to the Islanders when the teams first played each other last month. TAMUCC etched out a 73-72 win over SFA in the Sawmill.

The Islanders hold a 10-14 record and are 6-7 in the SLC. They enter Wednesday’s contest coming off a 69-62 win over the McNeese State Cowboys.

They average 64.2 points per game and a .362 field goal percentage, which is fourth in the league and rank third in rebounding defense with 791 rebounds.

Junior guard Myles Smith is the Islanders’ leading scorer with 307 points. He leads the team in assists and steals with 72 and 27. The Klein native holds a .413 field goal percentage and has recorded 110 rebounds.

Jashawn Talton-Thomas, a senior guard, is the team’s second leading scorer with 249 points. He leads the Islanders in rebounds with 144 and has recorded 64 assists, 20 steals and 10 blocked shots.

Elijah Schmidt, a senior forward, has the most blocked shots on the team with 18 and has recorded 121 rebounds, 15 assists and 17 steals.

SFA’s contest with the Islanders can be viewed on Islanders Digital Network.



Courtesy photo

End of Evergreen brings rock 'n' roll to the Piney Woods

By Luis Ruperto-Osorio
Staff Videographer

Nacogdoches is known for both its beautiful pines and scenic trails, but it's also known for its hidden local talent. One of those hidden talents is End of Evergreen, a local Rock/Metal band that originated here in Nacogdoches by former student Chance Hill from Round Rock and current student Jonah Long, a sophomore business major from Hallsville.

The pair both went to the same high school together in Hallsville. Throughout

their time in high school, Hill and Long were a part of many punk rock cover bands. Throughout these experiences, the two friends had always had the dream of writing their own music and playing on their own.

The idea of forming a band came from Long. After coming to SFA and meeting bassist Reid Lewis, a sophomore computer science major and high school friend from Longview, and lead guitarist, Jakeb Copeland from Henderson, End of Evergreen was born.

According to Hill, "Evergreen" is a reference to the

famed Nacogdoches pines. The name as a whole is a metaphor for when they are successful and moving on from Nacogdoches. It symbolizes them "leaving the pine curtain."

Being in a band while managing school and work can be hard, especially for the two members who are SFA students, but that is where the other band members come in to take some of the load off.

"The two of us who are not [students] are able to work on our own time and make up for what the other two cannot," Hill said. "Then, we all come together, and we are still able to collaborate just as

efficiently as if we were all in school or all not."

Lewis, who is a full-time student, also has to face his own set of challenges. While he may have to worry about rent and other expenses, one of the biggest issues he faces is finding a balance between his academics and being in the band.

"Sometimes I may spend too much time on the band, so I do need to come back and balance my academics," Lewis said.

The challenges may be different for the band members, but one thing that remains the same is their love and joy for

music and what they do.

Hill described it as a form of expression, and playing music was his opportunity to be his true self.

"I feel more myself when I am behind a mic, and I have a guitar in my hands," Hill said. "I would not trade that feeling for the world, honestly."

Hill also said that being in a band is not about being big, it is about having as much fun as you possibly can. Of course, any band hopes and dreams to be popular and make it to the big stage, and End of Evergreen is no different.

"I think it would be amazing if we got big and went on a

tour with a big band even as an opener," Lewis said. "But, that will take a while."

The band has currently played at a couple local spots in Nacogdoches such as Purple Haze Vapes and Lugnutz Bar & Grill. They have also played outside of town in San Marcos.

According to Hill, they have plans to play in Austin at the end of March and are also planning a tour toward the end of summer where they will play in different cities around Texas and part of Louisiana. It is safe to say we have not heard the end of End of Evergreen any time soon.

Can Skoller make you a better scholar?

Student reviews new education-friendly app, finds improved productivity in classwork

By Cameron Keplinger
Photo Editor

Skoller is an app designed to help students be more organized and stay on top of their schoolwork. For people like me, this is very important and could potentially change my school life for the better. When seeing the app advertised on Instagram, I jumped on the chance to download it. I wondered to myself if this was the thing that could squash my forgetfulness, and after using it for about a week, I think it might have.

The way Skoller works is simple. The first thing I did was pick my school and select my class from the list. This enables people in the same class to be able to collaborate and talk about the class they are in. Since few people around campus use the app right now, there was only one class that I could pick right off the bat. The rest of the classes I had to enter in myself. However, Skoller makes this part very easy, and it is by far my favorite part about the app.

Skoller lets you send in your syllabus and enters it in the app for you. At first, I was skeptical about this and was worried that it would either put in my syllabi wrong or



Photo illustration by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

take a long time to put them in. To my surprise, it only took one night to have all my syllabi entered in, and they were all correct. This enables me to check my schedule for all my classes at once, very quickly and easily.

It is as simple as checking the assignment off when I am done with it. Some people have asked me, "Why don't you just write it down in a planner?" I would reply that Skoller is much easier. Part of my problem, and I'm sure

many other people's, is that they don't want to sit down and write down everything for every class in a planner. Skoller solves this problem and makes organization for people like me, a reality.

Another great feature that Skoller has is that you can input your grades and see your grades real time. This is extremely helpful because most professors don't have your grade available to see.

Although I have just recently started to use Skoller, I have realized that it could be a great tool for me to use throughout the school year. Because I struggle with organization, having an app like Skoller to help me is a great thing to have access to.

I would recommend anyone who wants to stay on top of their classes and grades to download this app. It checks all the boxes in terms of it being a functional yet easy to use app, and best of all, it is free.

With the use of Skoller, my grades have gone up, and I haven't missed any assignment yet. I hope to keep using this app, and I am excited to see the app grow across campus so more and more people can work together and communicate using the app.



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Illustration by Simone Rodriguez / The Pine Log

Letter to the Editor: Counseling Services replies

Dear Editor,

I would like to expand upon the editorial in the Jan. 29 edition of The Pine Log, “Counseling services not meeting student needs.” The Counseling Services staff appreciates the fact that the columnist recognizes the value that mental health services provides to the campus. We are in complete agreement! We also recognize that students would like more of these services, and we are continuously assessing ways to adjust our service delivery to benefit the largest number of students in the best and most efficient way. It may be of interest to your readers to hear that the phenomenon of an increased demand outpacing resources is not an issue restricted to the SFA campus. University counseling centers across the country are experiencing a similar surge in demand and are developing various ways of adapting to the need.

Two consistent items of feedback that Counseling Services receives are: 1) students want access to more individual sessions, and 2) students want shorter wait times to access those appointments. However, the more sessions we provide to each student, the longer a student scheduling a new appointment will need to wait before being able to see a counselor. In order to provide more services to more students, each student is currently limited to up to four individual sessions a semester, but they may attend a weekly group on an ongoing basis in order to have counseling support throughout the semester. This gives students the ability to schedule appointments within a reasonable time, while giving all students the opportunity to receive ongoing counseling. (Often, students find small group counseling to be their preferred mode of treatment!) For students who anticipate needing services that will exceed the ability

of Counseling Services to accommodate, our counselors will discuss referral options and assist them to secure resources that better match their needs. However, a majority of our clients found that by planning their sessions with their counselor and attending a small weekly group, the four-session standard works

well for them and affords a larger number of students the opportunity to access services.

Two years ago, Counseling Services was very excited to add two counselors to our staff thanks to funding from Student Service fees. This enabled us to increase the number of attended individual and group appointments from 3,582 in 2017 to 4,818 in 2019. Of course, we would like to offer more; however, additional staff comes at a cost, which could ultimately affect students at a time when the university is very sensitive to students’ financial obligations.

SFA Counseling Services hears you! We continue to discuss ways to increase the services we offer. In the meantime, we are gratified to receive overwhelming feedback that students are benefiting from the counseling they receive here. We encourage students who need our services to contact us for an initial consultation. And, as always, in an emergency, we encourage you to walk in. A counselor will meet with you to assess the crisis and discuss interventions with you.

Counseling Services appreciates your advocacy for mental health. I speak for my staff and myself when I say we wholeheartedly agree, and we remain committed to providing excellent care and support for all of our students.

Sincerely,

Jill Milem, M.Ed., LPC-S
Director, Counseling Services

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Opinion and feedback policy

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

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

Keep up with student publications

Student news publications are very important and deserve attention. Not only do they provide a lot of information to the students about what they need to know in the upcoming weeks, but it also helps those on staff to get experience working on a paper every week. Of course, there is social media to help find stories fast, but there is depth in each news story that is written to be printed every week.

Seeing people with a copy of the paper makes working each week worth it. Knowing that people out there read what we as the staff worked hard on, making sure the information is right and cohesive, makes the work pay off. It’s not an easy job, as there are people who will claim not everything is covered in the publication. But, take into consideration the people behind those articles. Each one is a student who is dealing with schoolwork while trying to track down the people needed to complete the stories. There will be times where some events slip our fingers, but we promise that we are doing our very best to make sure everything and everyone has their turn on the front page. According to our mission statement for SFA

Student Publications, we are “committed to producing for the university community professional quality print publications-a weekly newspaper and a yearbook-as well as timely and engaging digital content, which meet the campus’ needs for information and provide a forum for discussion of relevant issues. By maintaining an entirely student staff, the department strives to provide transformative educational experiences consistent with the mission of the university.” We will never deliberately try and keep any news out of the spotlight.

Campus news is important now more than ever, with ongoing construction, meetings dealing with changes for the students and social events to help benefit the many organizations the campus hosts. We don’t mean to be whiny when it comes to asking more students to read our publication or to give us a chance to do our best. We just hope that more students put faith in their fellow peers and support not only us but others who do their best to provide to the campus. News is everywhere, so why limit to just what shows up on an app? The Pine Log is right here!

“Campus news is important now more than ever...”

Love not meant to be celebrated just once a year

It’s that time of year again. The holiday that every person has a love-hate relationship with, depending if you’re single or not. Every Walmart is filled with assortments of reds and pinks, different heart-shaped chocolate boxes in every size imaginable, roses and the largest stuffed animals you can find. The list could go on.

All to try and prove to your significant other that you love them. But, why just Feb. 14? Why do we not make the same efforts on a random Tuesday? Valentine’s Day isn’t an excuse to show your love. You should show affection daily.

I’m not just talking about gifts for your significant other, but for anyone of significance in your life like your best friend,



By Christy Murray
Contributing Photographer

roommate, parents or anyone. We should show the ones we love daily how much they mean to us. Make constant gestures, big or small, to express our endless love and appreciation toward them. A holiday made to show someone you love them is overrated in my opinion. You should want to show that special person in your life that they mean the world to you every day.

It’s not about the expensive chocolates or the bouquet of flowers. It’s about your time together, being content in each other’s presence. You don’t have to spend big bucks on exotic gifts to keep your significant other happy. It should be about the little things in life. Your love for someone isn’t measured out by how much you shower them in gifts, but it’s about how you treat them, value and love them with everything you have. So, to all of my people who are in a relationship, currently stressing about whether the gifts you’re getting for your significant other are good enough, they are. And to the people who are single this Valentine’s Day, you’re still loved.

Homemade gifts hold the most sentimental value

Valentine’s Day is the day you show that special someone how much they mean to you. You might run to the store and buy them that brand new James Avery charm or Rolex and call yourself a romantic. However, if you are anything like me, you wouldn’t want anything expensive. Is the thought very much appreciated? Of course, but it does not show me how much you care for me. It shows me that you have money that you are willing to spend on me and, to be honest, makes me feel kind of bad. If someone gives me an expensive gift, I am going to feel as if I need to do the same in return. Last week, I only had \$17 in my bank account. I didn’t have enough money to buy someone a gift if I wanted to. I wouldn’t be rude if someone bought me something expensive, but I would appreciate homemade gifts more.

Homemade gifts show me that you put time and effort into making the gift. It is something I can cherish and show my future grandchildren. I remember when I was just



By Amanda Hope
Staff Writer

a little girl, my grandma would show me the handwritten letters and homemade gifts my grandpa would make her. It showed me what love means and what I should look for in a partner. Every year for Valentine’s Day or some other holiday, my grandpa would make sure my grandma would receive at least one homemade gift, and those were always her favorite.

Homemade gifts also show that special someone you put a lot of thought and consideration in what you made. You had to sit down and think about what your partner likes and how you can express that through crafts. You probably even downloaded Pinterest and made a whole board dedicated to them. You had to go through a planning process and take some extra time out of your day to gather the supplies. There might be extra steps compared to going to the store, but it will be worth it when your partner opens their gift.

Homemade gifts are something unique. No one else in the world is going to have that gift but that special someone. You will eventually run into someone with the same Michael Kors purse or Huckberry coat as you, but nothing says, “I love you” more than something that truly came from the heart.

“Homemade gifts also show that special someone you put a lot of thought and consideration in what you made.”



TRACK & FIELD

■ SFA's men's and women's track and field teams will be competing at the Tyson Invitational Friday and Saturday in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

GOLF

■ The Lumberjacks golf team will be competing at the LaTour Intercollegiate Invitational tournament Monday and Tuesday in Patterson, Louisiana.

TENNIS

■ The Ladyjacks tennis team will play Prairie View A&M University at 1 p.m. Friday in Prairie View and will play the University of Houston at 2 p.m. Saturday in Houston.

SOFTBALL

■ The Ladyjacks softball team will play in the Maverick Classic Friday-Sunday in Arlington. Their first match will be against the University of Missouri - Kansas City at 2 p.m. on Friday.

SFA basketball teams to play Islanders



Photo by Cameron Kepling / The Pine Log

Junior guard David Kachelries drives to the basket during the match against the University of New Orleans on Feb. 5. The Jacks hold the No. 1 seed in the Southland Conference as they look to play Texas A&M - Corpus Christi at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in Corpus Christi.

Lumberjacks, Ladyjacks continue fight for No.1 seed in SLC

By Alec Reyes
Staff Writer

With seven regular-season games remaining for both the SFA Lumberjacks and Ladyjacks basketball teams, both teams look to continue their winning ways in order to reach the Southland Conference

tournament and possibly punch a ticket to the NCAA tournament. Before thinking about the postseason, both teams will face Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi Wednesday.

Ladyjacks
The SFA Ladyjacks basketball team will face

Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi at 6:30 p.m. in William R. Johnson Coliseum.

Standing in first place in the SLC, the Ladyjacks come off a home win over the University of New Orleans Privateers 59-47 Saturday in the first game of the "Cram the Coliseum"

doubleheader. The victory gives them an 18-4 overall record and a 11-2 SLC record. Junior guard Alyssa Mayfield and junior center Aaliyah Johnson led the

See BASKETBALL
on Page 3

Baseball to begin nonconference play this week against Arkansas State

Lumberjacks baseball stands at No.11 for 2020 Southland Conference Preseason Poll

By Faith Skodak
Contributing Writer

The SFA baseball team is up to bat for the 2020 season as they play the Arkansas State University Red Wolves to begin a slate of non conference games at 6 p.m. Friday in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Head coach Johnny Cardenas returns for his 12th season with the SFA baseball team. The Lumberjacks finished No. 6 last season with a 16-14 record in the SLC and an overall 25-33 season record. At the season's end, SFA had a .533 win percentage in the SLC, along with a .431 overall win percentage. The Sam Houston State University Bearcats had the highest amount of wins in the SLC with the Southeastern Louisiana University Lions behind them.

Out of the 35-member roster, the Lumberjacks welcome 14 returning players and 21 new recruits. Along with the new players, the Lumberjacks also welcome Dylan Belanger, who will serve as the new volunteer assistant head coach and camp coordinator for the team. Prior to arriving at SFA, Belanger was the assistant coach for the University of New Orleans Privateers, where he served as a first base and outfield coach. Belanger has also been on the baseball coaching staff for the Holmes Community College, Hinds Community College and Mississippi Delta Community College.

Among the returning players is senior infielder Sean Moore from Waxahachie. Moore previously played for the Fort Scott Community College Greyhounds and transferred to SFA for the 2019



Photo by Christy Murray / The Pine Log

Junior catcher Jake Zarrello swings at bat during the teams baseball practice. The Lumberjacks will play a three-game series against Arkansas State University this weekend in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

season. In his first season as a Lumberjack, Moore had a batting average of .245. Moore also had 47 put outs and a fielding percentage of .986.

Senior catcher Skylar Black from Chico transferred to SFA from Eastfield Community College in 2018. Last season, Black had a total of 149 putouts and a .988 fielding percentage. Black also ended the season with a .136 batting average.

Sophomore infielder Carson Clowers from West Monroe, Louisiana, had the highest amount of assists last season with 111. In putouts, Clowers had a total of 62. He also had a .956 fielding percentage.

Transfer recruits include sophomore infielder Kanen Dodge from Carencro, Louisiana, and junior right-handed pitcher Reece Easterling from College Station. Freshman recruits include outfielder Martin Rodriguez from Houston and right-handed pitcher Easton

Turnage from Granbury. SFA enters the season with eight senior athletes.

The previous SLC Champions were the McNeese State University Cowboys, who beat the University of Central Arkansas Bears in a 4-2 win. However, it is the Bearcats that have won the favor of the 2020 Southland Conference Baseball Preseason Poll. The Lumberjacks are placed at No. 11 for the preseason poll.

Along with Arkansas State, the teams that SFA plans to play in non conference matchups are the Texas A&M University Aggies and the Texas Christian University Horned Frogs.

The Lumberjacks will continue to play the Arkansas State Red Wolves until Sunday in their three-game series. SFA's first home game will take place on Feb. 21 at Jaycees Field against the University of Texas - Arlington Mavericks.



Photo by Will Green / The Pine Log

The SFA Rugby Club won its match against Southern Methodist University 70-7 on Saturday at the Intramural Fields. They will play Abilene Christian University on Friday in Abilene.

SFA's Rugby Club looks to continue winning

By Denon Blasey
Contributing Writer

The SFA Lumberjacks Rugby Club beat Southern Methodist University 70-7 during Saturday's home match. The Jacks were able to maintain their perfect record for 2019-2020 season going 6-0.

For the first half of the game, the Jacks were unstoppable, scoring try after try. A try is the rugby equivalent of a touchdown, worth 5 points. After a try is completed, the team that scored gets to attempt a conversion, which is worth two points.

At the end of the first half, the Jacks were up 21-0. SFA once again dominated SMU in the second half while SMU tried to hold off the onslaught from the Lumberjacks' offense. SMU holds the lowest record in the league, sitting 0-6 and averaging 15 points per game.

The Jacks sit at the top of the standings. If they win the next two games, they will be going to the playoffs. They are in a

comeback from their last season when they won two games, going 2-4.

"We're feeling great," said Ian Loper, captain, freshman and psychology major from Austin. "Our toughest game will be this upcoming weekend against ACU. But overall we have a lot of good guys, a lot of fundamentally sound guys."

The Jacks will be playing against ACU on Friday where they hope to once again come out on top. ACU holds a 5-1 record. The game will be in Abilene and will be the SFA's last away game for the regular season.

"We're looking for another win this upcoming weekend," Loper said. "If we beat them, we're going to the playoffs. Hopefully, we'll go pretty deep in the playoffs."

Sophomore Seth Arizona, accounting major from Arlington, ended the game as the lead scorer with 15 points. Four other Jacks tied for the second highest scorer, including Loper, who all scored 10 points apiece.

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