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Photos by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

Drew Knowles, owner of Brick Street Sandwich Co., stands in front of his new shop. After 15 years of visiting the Olde Towne General Store, Knowles was sad to hear his favorite place was moving. He was worried someone would buy the place and not “do it right.” He took matters into his own hands and opened his own sandwich shop.

Local sandwich shop opens in downtown Nacogdoches

By **Raquel Torres**
Editor-in-Chief

In the past months, there has been an influx of businesses coming to the city of Nacogdoches. The newest business can be found on Main Street in downtown. Brick Street Sandwich Co. is a café that offers sandwiches, spuds, soups, salads and sweets.

When the Olde Towne General Store closed its doors to merge with Cowboy Jack’s Saloon in September, customers of 15 years, Drew and Cynthia Knowles, wondered what would be made of the place.

“For a few months, I would tell my wife, we ought to reopen that,” Knowles said. “Somebody needs to, and I was afraid somebody might not do it right. That’s when we finally just decided, you know, we could do it. It might be kind of fun.”

Knowles said that he visited the original store about three times a week for lunch for the past 15 years. While visiting the store frequently, he met Jaide Dodge, who worked at the Olde Towne General Store as a chef for four years.

The Knowles’ worked together with Dodge to make the menu, come up with daily specials

and gave her the restaurant to manage.

“I like the way that things were done here before, but we tried to change it to make it a little bit different,” Knowles said. “The menu is almost completely different, and the place looks real different than it did before. If you ever came in to Olde Towne, you’d realize the changes that had happened.”

What Knowles said he liked the most about Olde Town was that it was a comfortable place with good food that was reasonably priced.

“We changed the look, and it’s a little bit sleeker than it used to be,” Knowles said. “But, I wanted good food at a similar price than it was.”

Dodge, now manager of Brick Street Sandwich Co., said that she never expected Knowles to ask her to run their kitchen.

“I worked [for] four years at Olde Towne,” Dodge said. “It was my first job ever. I learned communication skills, working

with customers [and] how to be pleasant. I thank Dollie so much for the opportunity to learn everything that I’ve come to do now.



[Knowles] was a regular at Olde Towne, that’s how I met him. He messaged me one day on Facebook. I thought he was going to ask for cookies or something like that.”

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Regents approve \$5 green fee

By **Raquel Torres**
Editor-in-Chief

The \$5 per semester environmental service fee was approved by the Board of Regents at the meeting on Tuesday.

As previously reported by The Pine Log, after students voted “yes” and the regents approve the fee, it is expected to appear on students’ eBills in the fall of 2020.

Dr. Adam Peck, SGA adviser and dean of student affairs, said that the Board of Regents is responsible for the governance of the University.

“They do not take creating new fees lightly,” Peck said. “In my opinion, the board wanted to ensure that any fee money would be used judiciously and in a manner that provided meaningful improvement for the University before they authorized adding any additional cost to our students.”

SGA President Scarleth Lopez, senior psychology major from Dayton, said that the Board of Regents asked what initiatives and projects would come from the environmental service fee.

“Through our times in tabling, talking to students, educating them on what this fee is and what it would go to, I had heard all kinds of things like community gardens, water filling stations all over campus, solar-powered smoothie carts,” Lopez said. “That’s what I told the [Board of Regents]. We heard all kinds of things.

“The reason why they have those questions was \$100,000 is a good chunk of money,” Lopez said. “The biggest question they had was really, ‘How would this money be used?’”

Recently, the Board of Regents approved a new flat-rate tuition fee for students taking 12 or more credit hours.

“The fee will go into effect in the fall of 2020,” Peck said. “However, because the board also approved the new flat-rate tuition, fees like this will actually just become a part of tuition. Depending on how many credit hours students enroll in for next year, some students may actually see their bills go down, even with the addition of this new fee.”

The University plans to hire a coordinator to oversee the expenses and to approve or deny ideas that are brought by the student body.

“The next step is to have the policy for the actual structure of the whole fee, how it will be used [and] who will be the one granting the funds,” Lopez said. “We will have that policy introduced to the board in the April meeting.”

There will also be a voting board composed of students, faculty and staff.

Office of Multicultural Affairs to present sixth annual Diversity Conference in February

By **Kayley Frazee**
Staff Writer

The Office of Multicultural Affairs will be holding their sixth annual Diversity Conference Feb. 7 in the Baker Pattillo Student Center.

The Diversity Conference includes presenters sharing their experiences with diversity. Admission is free.

The conference will consist of more than 15 educational sessions, all only 50 minutes long. A new addition that has been added to the conference this year is 15 minute Jack Jargons, which are equivalent to Ted Talks. The theme is “Diversity vs. Diverse-I-See.”

“Diversity is an important issue because a lot of people are not culturally competent,” Jalon Berry, assistant director of

Multicultural Affairs, said. “Diversity has become a blanket term that many people use. Events like the Diversity Conference allows for attendees to learn and be educated by presenters on various topics.

“We often only look and think of race and ethnicity when it comes to diversity. However, to truly embrace diversity, we must be aware that religion, ability, marital status, sexual orientation, military experience and a host of other characteristics [are important.]”

- Jalon Berry, assistant director of Multicultural Affairs

The presenters are truly passionate about their topics and work hard to give those that attend their break-out session information that can assist them when it comes to working and interacting with diverse populations.”

Registration is open for the conference now, and lunch is being provided

for all those who pre-registered only. Same day registration is an option; however, lunch will not be provided. The first 100 students to register get a free t-shirt. OMA is also asking students submit artwork and/or writing pieces to be displayed at the Diversity Conference Art Gallery. First, second, third and Honorable Mention prizes will be given out during closing ceremonies. Applications are due on Friday at noon.

“The purpose of the conference is to showcase that diversity entails a variety of traits,” Berry said. “We often only look and think of race and ethnicity when it comes to diversity.

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Dr. Heather Olson Beal to host book study for ‘The Women’s Suffrage Movement’



Photo by Levi May / The Pine Log

Dr. Heather Olson Beal will be hosting the book study to educate others on the nation’s history because the 19 amendment granted women’s suffrage, but it only granted white women’s suffrage.

By **Hannah Meredith**
Contributing Writer

Professor of secondary education, Dr. Heather Olson Beal, will host a book study of “The Women’s Suffrage Movement” that will last throughout the semester. The book study group will meet from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesday and again on Feb. 12, Feb. 26, March 25, April 8 and April 29 in Steen

Library, Room 220.

“I think reading this book will benefit anyone,” Olson Beal said. “We all need to better educate ourselves on our nation’s history and on the ways in which it still impacts our lives today.”

Olson Beal herself will be reading the

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■ SEE PAGE 6
Men's basketball will play a doubleheader at home today against Abilene Christian.



NEWS

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The Pine Log

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Crime Log:

1/19/20

An officer was dispatched to Hall 20 in reference to a drug complaint. Upon arrival, the officer made contact with a subject who was found to be in possession of a controlled substance. The subject was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and transported to the Nacogdoches County Jail. There is one suspect.

1/22/20

An officer on routine patrol observed a suspicious vehicle at the Village Parking Garage. The officer made contact with the occupant of the vehicle who was found to be in possession of marijuana. The subject was arrested for possession of marijuana in a drug free zone and transported to the Nacogdoches County Jail. There is one suspect.

1/21/20

An officer was dispatched to UPD to meet with a complainant in reference to a hit and run. The complainant advised on Jan. 22 her unattended vehicle was damaged in Lot 46. There is one suspect.

To contact UPD in an emergency, call 9-1-1.
For non-emergencies, call (936) 468-2608.

School of Music alumni win Grammy with Houston Chamber Choir for choral album

By Hannah Meredith
Contributing Writer

School of Music alumni Kelli Mikeska Lawless, Kammi Mikeska Estelle and Joshua Chavira recently learned that the Houston Chamber Choir, of which they are all members, won a 2020 Grammy for Best Choral Performance.

This will be the first-ever Grammy nomination and win for the choir for its performance of "Durufle: Complete Choral Works." The ensemble is led by Robert Simpson, founder and artistic director for the Houston Chamber Choir.

"[The album] started out as a labor of love," Simpson said. "One thing led to another, and it became the recording now that we know has received this recognition."

The SFA alumni who are members of the choir were very excited about

their accomplishment.

"I am over the moon and so proud," Lawless said.

As for SFA, Chavira credits the music program for the education he received that brought him to the Houston Chamber Choir.

"I feel that SFA's music department is a diamond in the woods," Chavira said. "You get a quality education with basically private school-sized classes. I would recommend this program to anyone who is serious about music."

Estelle feels similarly to Chavira regarding the music department at SFA.

"I owe everything to SFA's music department," Estelle said. "I learned so much about myself as a singer and about myself as a person during my time at SFA. I would encourage anyone to come to SFA. I feel that strongly about it."

SFA's music program encouraged

Chavira to become the person he is today as a member of a now-Grammy award winning choir.

"Without my time at SFA, I would have never been nurtured musically and led on the path that I am now," Chavira said.

"I learned so much in my time at SFA that I do not believe would have been possible if I hadn't gone."

The professors at SFA encouraged and nurtured Estelle as well and helped her to become the performer she is now.

"I loved my time at SFA," Estelle said.

"Debbie Berry, my voice teacher, taught me how to love my voice and how to sing in a healthy and supported way. Dr. Tim King taught me what it really means to blend and sing in a choir and to feel like a part of my choral family."

The skills that Estelle and Chavira

learned at SFA helped to further their careers and continue their learning as they became members of the Houston Chamber Choir.

"[The Houston Chamber Choir helped me to] learn how to really refine my art form," Estelle said. "I have had so many opportunities and have worked with so many amazing people. This recent nomination, and now win, has reminded me that I really can do anything with hard work and perseverance."

As for those who are still in college at SFA, Chavira has some advice.

"Current students, no matter what your path is, always remember to do what makes you happy," Chavira said. "Follow your dreams but remember to also not beat yourself up if things end up changing. Adapt to your situation and find ways to be happy in all areas of your life, and that will take you far."



Photos by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

Physical Plant workers saw parts of a tree that fell on top of four vehicles, including an SUV from Chireno ISD, on Vista Drive last Friday. Craig Goodman, assistant chief of police of the University Police Department, confirmed there were no injuries. The tree fell, taking down another tree and an SFA banner pole.



Photos by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

Evangelicals from The Campus Ministries USA, spread their message in the Baker Pattillo Student Center Plaza while toting signs stating, "Ask me why you deserve Hell." The group stood in the plaza for hours while hundreds of students either passed by or engaged with the group. The group spent two days on campus and will be back on Thursday,

New degree programs available in College of Liberal and Applied Arts

By Meredith Janning
Managing Editor

The College of Liberal and Applied Arts introduced new degree programs, including bachelor's degrees in medical humanities, international and intercultural communication and a master of arts national security.

Dr. Joyce Johnston, assistant dean of the College of Liberal and Applied Arts and director of division of multidisciplinary programs, helped coordinate the creation of the new programs.

According to Johnston, instead of a more traditional degree program where each course has the same prefix, these multidisciplinary programs allow students to take courses from different areas of study and put them toward one degree.

"For example, in the medical humanities degree, the B.A. and the B.S., that one really speaks to a holistic understanding of health and wellness," Johnston said. "So, the students are required to take a combined science major; they have to know the sciences to understand these things, of course. Then, they also have a core of required courses that range from our intro to medical humanities class, a philosophy class in medical ethics, psychology classes, some anthropology classes because we're looking at the whole human. It's to help prepare people to work in the health industry. It's a fabulous degree for anybody who wants to go on, maybe go to law school and specialize in medical law, which is a booming field."

Johnston also said that medical humanities is a growing degree program, and the only other state schools that offer it are UTSA and Baylor University.

"We're really unique," Johnston said. "Medical humanities programs are growing, and it's because all aspects of health and wellness are becoming very much of interest."

The Department of Government also introduced a new program, a master's of arts in national security.

"The national security program was one of the things you find out that things are changing," Dr. Kwame Antwi-Boasiako, chair of the Department of Government, said. "These days you don't just need a degree, but you need a degree that is applicable, that you can apply to the changing world. Security is really important, not only for domestic purposes but internationally also. So about three years ago, there was a meeting and dean of the College of Liberal and Applied Arts, Dr. Brian Murphy, asked that we should come out with a niche master's program. And, the department of government proposed this program, which is national security."

The program went through the approval process

by the Texas Board of Higher Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools last fall, so the program started this semester.

"One of the things you find in the Department of Government is that we have two master's [degrees], the MPA, which is master's in Public Administration," Antwi-Boasiako said. And this new one, we call it the fresh one, but it was the whole department that put all these things together. [Then,] we got the final approval. And so, our hope is that, being a new program, it's not just master's in political science, but with national security, worldwide. It helps our students who are interested in working in public affairs. There are some students who are looking to work in the foreign division so with that background, it helps."

The College of Liberal and Applied Arts is also introducing a bachelor's degree in international and intercultural communication.

"This is SFA's first degree that is taught half in English and half in Spanish," Dr. Jeana Paul-Ureña, chair of the Department of Languages, Cultures and Communication, said. "It combines applied language courses with communication studies courses that address working with diverse populations, media and international communication. Although it attracts mostly students who are working on Spanish, students interested in French, German or Portuguese may also use the language they are studying instead of Spanish. Incorporated into the program are two opportunities to study abroad as well as internship courses."

Paul-Ureña said the new degree was in high demand, and students quickly started enrolling after it was announced.

"In our research, we found most large companies look at applications from bilingual candidates first," Paul-Ureña said.

"Also, the job of translator is one that is predicted to grow by 28% in the next 15 years. With high salaries, flexible schedules and the ability to work from home, this job is very attractive to our students. And this is only one example. There are many, many jobs that are accessible with a degree in international and intercultural communication. The day we announced the new B.A., we enrolled eight majors, and it continues to grow each semester. When it is announced also as an online program next fall, we should see a sharp spike in growth. Everyone would love to see this program take off and attract hundreds of students. We also are determined to keep it a high quality program that stays on the cutting edge."

"We also are determined to keep it a high quality program that stays on the cutting edge."
- Dr. Jeana Paul-Ureña

TRACK & FIELD: SFA’s track and field teams to compete in invitational this weekend

From Page 6

Because of their performances, both Ramirez and Bizzell received an honorable mention for SLC Women’s Track and Field Athletes of the Week.

Despite not having all athletes on hand at the invitational, the women’s team finished in third place behind SEC schools Kentucky and Texas A&M and the men’s team finished in fifth.

Olson stated that there were so many highlights that it was difficult to pinpoint them.

“Obviously, the elite performances by pole vaulters Branson Ellis and Kaylee Bizzell were special,” Olson said. “Kelsey Ramirez ran well despite battling some hamstring issues. We were especially encouraged by the women’s 4x400 meter relay and their competitive attitude right away. Our freshmen were also impressive, with exciting performances by Nissi Kabongo and Rachel Taylor, so that is fun to see.”

Ellis, a sophomore from Tyler who qualified for the Indoor National Championships last season, placed second in the men’s by clearing a height of 5.51 meters. The women’s 4x400, including Kabongo, finished in third with a time of 3:41.97 and Taylor placed sixth in the mile run with a time of 5:10.64.

Last season, the women brought home both SLC Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field titles and the men finished sixth indoor and third outdoor. Olson said that each season, the team’s goal is to win a conference championship and be a top 25 team.

“Anything less than victory on the conference level and being a nationally ranked program is disappointing to our coaches and every member of our team,” Olson said.

Regarding who will be in attendance, Olson does not pay attention to what other collegiate track programs are doing or who will compete in Houston. He only cares about one team.

“I just care about the team in purple and am just looking for improvement from our coaches and athletes each week,” Olson said.

LADYJACKS: SFA women’s basketball team prepares to compete against top conference teams in doubleheaders

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4.6 assists per game, and steals, with 2.2 steals per game.

On defense, the Wildcats’ senior guard Dominique Go lightly leads the team with 6.1 rebounds per game. Junior forward Alyssa Adams contributes on defense with a total of 14 blocks for the season, averaging 0.8 blocks per game.

SHSU was leading the conference last week before their loss against ACU 81-73 on Wednesday. The Bearkats will play Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi on Wednesday before the matchup with

SFA. They hold a 13-5 overall record, an 8-1 conference record and a .722 winning percentage.

The Bearkats average 79.6 points per game and average a scoring margin of 13.2 points. They have a .435 field-goal percentage and a .355 3-point percentage. The team averages 38.4 rebounds, 16.1 assists, 12.9 steals and 3.3 blocks per game.

Sophomore forward Amber Leggett leads the team’s offense with 15.7 points per game with a .489 field-goal percentage and an .357 3-point percentage. Senior guard Jaylon Walker contributes with a .362 3-point percentage with and average of 12.3 points per game and 2.3 assists per game. On defense, Leggett averages 2.8 steals per game and redshirt senior forward La’Sha Haynes averages 7.2 rebounds per game. Senior power forward Kiera McKinney leads the team with an average of 1.6 blocks per game.

SFA will play ACU and SHSU at the end of the season on March 3 and March 7. The game on Wednesday will be broadcast on ESPN+ and Saturday’s will be broadcast on ESPN3.

BRICK STREET: Owner hopes to keep previous restaurant’s history in new shop

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“Not to open a restaurant. I was caught off guard and I was so excited for the opportunity.”

Dodge worked alongside Cynthia to create the restaurant’s menu. Some things that they kept from the previous restaurant include the classic BLT, Caesar, Rueben, Cuban, chef and cobb salads.

“Everything is made from scratch,” Dodge said. “We work on everything to make sure it’s perfection. Our pasta salad is homemade. Our potato salad is homemade. I make homemade ranch. We make sure it’s local and homemade.”

Apart from the food, Dodge said that the best part of working at Brick Street Sandwich Co. was the customers.

“Seeing new faces every day, getting to know regulars and knowing your food is good, that is the best part,” Dodge said. “Knowing that I can make the customers happy.”

For Cynthia, it’s the environment.

“The [best part is the] joy of having such a fun, happy spot for our family, friends and community to gather and enjoy great food,” Cynthia said.

Dodge said that since the restaurant opened, they’ve been getting a lot of positive feedback.

“We are learning as we go, but we are committed to listening to our friends and customers to continue to make changes and bring fresh ideas into Brick Street,” Cynthia said.

OLSON BEAL: Read as much as you can

From Page 1

book for the first time along with the rest of those involved with the book study.

“As Dr. Dana Cooper was trying to organize campus-wide activities to commemorate the 100th year of the passage of the 19th Amendment, I thought, ‘Eek! I need to do some more studying on this to expand my own understandings,’” Olson Beal said. “Maybe others on campus need to as well. So, I found a book that looked like it could help us do that. It looks like a tough read. I can’t lie!”

Beal said that the book itself promises to be an intersectional feminist perspective on the fight for women’s suffrage, which means it should highlight the voices of women from minoritized populations rather than just the usual perspective of Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

“The book contains primary source document, so we’ll be reading people’s original words—not a contemporary author’s take on what happened,” Olson Beal said.

Olson Beal also mentions that she would like to focus more on the minorities that were involved during women’s suffrage. Since majority of the history we are aware of is from the point of view of white women.

“My attention has been raised over the last few years to the fact that we say the 19 amendment granted women suffrage, but it didn’t grant ‘women suffrage,’” Olson Beal said. “It granted white women suffrage. It’s a huge erasure in our common narrative of the experiences and realities of women of color.”

After she discovered this, Olson Beal decided to begin encouraging others to go on a similar journey of discovery into the past of the women of that time.

“I think reading this book will benefit anyone,” Olson Beal said. “We all need to better educate ourselves on our nation’s history and on the ways in which it still impacts our lives today. We all need to interrogate the stories we’ve been traditionally been taught. Whose voices are foregrounded? Whose are backgrounded? What lies or partial truths are we perpetuating? I think it’s also a good opportunity for students to get to interact in an informal academic setting with faculty and staff outside of class, separate from coursework.”

Olson Beal has set up a Facebook page for the book study and encourages students and faculty to participate.

“I have also set up a Facebook group where we can share related articles, links, events, podcast episodes, etc.,” Olson Beal said. “Join us! Jump in! Don’t be intimidated. This is a low pressure, low-stress set up. Sign up. Get a book. Read as much as you can. Don’t feel bad or guilty if you can’t read it all. We have enough things in our lives to feel guilty about. Who needs one more?”

Anyone interested may join the Facebook group titled, “SFA Women’s Suffrage Movement” or email Olson Beal at olson-behk@sfasu.edu with any questions.

DIVERSITY: Conference will include presentations, experiences

From Page 1

However, to truly embrace diversity we must be aware that religion, ability, marital status, sexual orientation, military experience and a host of other characteristics all play an important factor when we talk about true diversity. In the past, the majority of the speakers at the conference have been professors and staff. Last year, there was a large number of students that presented. This year’s conference is a great balance between both students and professionals.”

The Office of Multicultural Affairs, along with members of the OMA Caucus, work to plan the event each year. They meet throughout the fall semester to discuss their vision for the upcoming conference and to reflect on the last year’s event to grow the program and be innovative.

“We invite everyone to come to the diversity conference,” Berry said. “We offer various educational sessions that can assist students, faculty, staff and community members. We work to create a safe space at the conference for social justice advocates.”

Students speak on what diversity means to them.

“People will be talking about diversity that they see right in front of them and the diversity that they feel is either challenges right now or the diversity that they feel like isn’t

shown off very well,” Daquan Allen, a sophomore creative writing major from Dallas, said. “We want people to get an idea of what diversity is and open their brain to think of diversity in different aspects. When a lot of people think about diversity, they think about race. Diversity is a diverse topic itself. It could mean culture, the clothes you wear, the food you eat [and] the religion you believe in. People need to see diversity in a more positive light. Anybody looking to learn more about diversity and see about the diversity on the campus and if they can do anything to make diversity and inclusion more accessible on campus should come.”


LUMBERJACKS: SFA’s men’s basketball team plays in doubleheader against ACU, SHSU

From Page 6

lost 72-73 to the Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Islanders, but then came back with a four-game win streak. The team’s most recent triumphs were over the Northwestern State Demons (4-5, 7-11) at their home court in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and the Lamar University Cardinals (4-6, 10-11) in Beaumont.

The game against the Northwestern Demons on Wednesday had a final score of 69-62. Senior guard Kevon Harris from Ellenwood, Georgia, totaled the game with 25 points, eight rebounds and three steals. Roti Ware, a junior guard from Morton, Missouri, had the second highest amount of points with 17 points.

During the game against Lamar University on Saturday, SFA gained another victory of 70-62 over the Cardinals. Senior guard John Comeaux from Beaumont led the Lumberjacks in points, scoring a total of 18 points, along with three rebounds and two assists at the end of the game. Leading the team in rebounds was freshman forward Calvin Solomon from Houston. Solomon finished the game with a stunning total of 11 rebounds



and also had four points. Harris also ended the game with six rebounds, which was the most earned during the game, and he attained 15 points toward the game’s final score.

ACU takes on the Lumberjacks with a 6-2 conference record along with an overall 11-8 record. The Wildcats’ most recent game against Sam Houston ended in a 76-82 loss in overtime. Senior guard Payten Ricks from Wichita, Kansas, has an average of 13.8 points per game. In the game against Sam Houston, Ricks scored a total of nine points the entire game.

The Lumberjacks prepare to take on the Bearkats this week after SHSU obtained a victory over the Wildcats. The Bearkats have a 7-2 conference record with losses to Lamar and the Nicholls State University Colonels (8-2, 14-7). This places SHSU behind SFA and Nicholls State at third in the SLC. The Bearkats have a 14-6 overall record. The Lumberjacks are set to face SHSU’s senior forward-center Kai Mitchell from Haverstraw, New York. Mitchell averages 14.7 points and 6.6 rebounds per game. During the game against Abilene Christian, Mitchell scored a total of 27 points, which was nearly 33% of the total score.

Fans can watch the Lumberjacks play against the Wildcats on ESPN+ and the game against the Bearkats will be on ESPN 3.

HEAD COACH: SFA athletics hires new Ladyjacks head soccer coach from Iowa State University

From Page 6

his transition from Iowa State. He is excited to start a new chapter by adopting the SFA Way.

“I felt like going into an environment like this where there’s a very strong tradition of soccer [and] would hopefully reinvigorate me,” Minatta said. “It really has. There’s been a lot of positive energy from everybody I’ve talked to. It just seemed like there were a lot of connections here for me, which is odd I guess, but then I don’t think anything happens by accident.”

Crittenden agrees that the timing of this transition couldn’t have been better. He had known for a while that he eventually wanted to step back from coaching and fulfill a different role in sports administration. He decided that 2020 was the year to make it all happen. His confidence in the program rests with both Minatta and the experienced players returning for next season.

“When you look at some things we’ve done in the budget, when you look at the facility, when you look at the returning senior class, we’re leaving the program in a better spot,” Crittenden said. “The coach in me wants to stay and coach another ten years, but the administrator in me says, ‘You know what? If there was ever a time that we could really give this transition the best chance to be successful, it’s now.’”

As someone who played for Crittenden and will continue to play under Minatta’s leadership, sophomore Kinesiology major from College Station and midfielder Ryka Shea is excited about the new perspective Minatta will bring to the team. She’s also anticipating the chance for growth and development as an athlete in the months ahead.

“I’m looking forward to a new start, a new challenge and the opportunity to prove to someone new the things we as a team can do,” Shea said. “I think that a new coach can really challenge us and set everyone straight on working hard.”

Though they all have different roles within the soccer program, Minatta, Crittenden and Shea definitely agree on one thing: the success of a team depends more on hard work than anything else. More than anything, he’s excited to show off the product of teamwork and perseverance next season.

“I can’t wait to get on the field to let everybody see the work ethic and the SFA way that we’re going to instill in the team over this spring,” Minatta said, “When they come watch us play, they’ll see a team that doesn’t quit, that works hard and is doing things the right way.”

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Taking a leap, Marcus Lucas demonstrates his dance moves.

Photo by Cameron Keplinger / The Pine Log

Campus dancer aims to help students cure anxiety

By Hannah Meredith
Contributing Writer

College is a common time when people begin to learn more about themselves and their ideas of self-expression. For one young man, self-expression came easy; and, although he is not a college student, he still shows up on

campus often to encourage others to embrace their true selves and to bring a smile to the faces who see him.

Marcus Lucas is a 23-year-old dancer from Douglass. He began dancing with his brothers and it soon became an outlet for his energy and personality.

[don't] say much because it gives me anxiety to talk about myself," Lucas said. "I try to be outgoing for my family or anyone I have a deep respect for. My personality [however] is a wild card of random enjoyment. Then, it leads me to dancing, flipping and free running."

According to Lucas, some

people consider him to be a "walking meme" due to his speech pattern and the way he responds to some things.

"Sometimes I pause, stutter or speak as fast as Eminem when he raps when I get excited," Lucas said. "That's what I've been told. [But] I channel my energy by keeping my diet strict and meditation constant. Those are my building blocks."

Lucas goes on to explain how these building blocks aid him with his dancing as well.

"They keep me feeling right and always thinking [about] what needs to be created or what needs to be worked on," Lucas said.

As for why Lucas chose to begin dancing on SFA campus, he explains that it was a way to get past the anxiety he had while

growing up.

"Growing up I had extreme anxiety that blackened my heart of any social outgoing," Lucas said. "For the past five years I've made a step towards changing who I was. I generally felt stage fright so I [thought,] 'What better way to start beating my fear [than just] putting myself out there?'"

Lucas explained that although this method worked for him, it may not help others in the same situation.

"My anxiety has been helped by other variables, but for the most part [dancing] has been helping me," said Lucas.

Although he believes that his methods may not work for others, he still encourages people who are looking into doing similar things as he is.

"[I think they should] be open to new things and give a chance to new habits and

approaches to [their] daily schedule," Lucas said. "Be a person that is okay with change. [I think] that's where we learn the most as people."

As for Lucas, he wants people to understand the truest intent on why he dances.

"I have now put my anxiety to a controllable level," Lucas said. "I love to entertain and inspire. If 1,000 people walk by me with bad attitudes and I can get one to smile, I have done my job."

Lucas does his best to be a positive image for others and continues to work on himself and his dances.

"I want [people] to feel comfort and to just be genuinely happy," Lucas said. "I seriously want an attitude that is so strong [that it] is contagious, so others can feel the way I do about life. I want people to be strong in their dreams and to never give up."

‘Hear My Voice’

Professor publishes book on student trauma

By Jocelyn Bradford
Life & Arts Editor

"I sat quietly waiting for her to find the right prayer," Dr. Amber Wagnon, assistant professor of secondary and education leadership, said. "Psalm 91. The protection prayer. That's really what we needed, protection. Protection from having our family ripped apart across 1,000 miles. I didn't really understand that at the time. How could a 6-year-old begin to grasp what a legal citizen is?"

Reading from her new book, "Hear My Voice: Tales of Trauma and Equity of Today's Youth," Wagnon shared the story of a former student who was the inspiration behind the book's publication.

"The idea actually came from a student in a class at SFA," Wagnon said. "She wrote a narrative about what it felt like to be as a child of someone who didn't have legal status in the United States, and I was really moved by it and a perspective I just hadn't read before."

The project began in summer 2018 when Wagnon and Dr. Heather Dean, assistant professor of teacher education at California State University, Stanislaus, attended an education conference. As Wagnon shared the story that impacted her personally, the idea to create a collection of stories in the first-person narrative of accounts that real students faced began to form.

The book was officially published Dec. 16, 2019, by Rowman & Littlefield. The



book comprises 10 chapters written by eight authors, two of whom are Wagnon and Dean, who contributed personal narratives shared to them by former students. The names of students are not revealed, allowing them to remain anonymous.

Each chapter features a personal account from a student who has dealt with different levels of trauma, ranging from students battling with anxiety, ADHD, bullying and racial and gender discrimination, to students who were subject to foster care, human trafficking, homelessness and chronic illness.

"Their stories were so unique, and I felt like [they were] something that needed to be shared," Wagnon said. "It was brave of them to give us these words and to share this information."

Due to the varying levels of trauma that each student has experienced, each narrative is followed by an educator in the field of brain research to show what these levels of trauma can do to the brain.

By understanding how traumatic events can impact

students in the classroom, the purpose of the book is to provide its audience with ways to respond in the classroom or school setting to help students.

While the intended audience is for educators, who she defines as teachers, social workers, administrators and those who work within the education system, she sees "Hear My Voice" as an opportunity to teach and inspire pre-service teachers who are currently being taught at SFA.

"For me, if just one teacher is impacted and looks at a student differently, or thinks about how they run their classroom, or how they interact with a student differently, then that's all that matters to me," Wagnon said.

Because she feels that she was not able to fully touch on the many different people that need a voice, Wagnon hopes to publish more books in the future that will allow others to share their unique stories.

"We live in a world [where] you're this or you're that a lot and I think we forget the human side, so I hope that other people [will] share their stories," said Wagnon.

The book can be found on the Rowman & Littlefield website, Amazon, Google Books and various other websites for an average purchase price of \$25, with an e-book version for slightly less.

Wagnon and her co-editor Dean will meet together in February to begin planning their next project to together.

SFA aims for inclusivity with new esports club

By Amanda Hope
Staff Writer

Campus Recreation will soon be offering esports, a club where students can participate in electronic, multiplayer gaming competition, to encourage wellness across the SFA community.

SFA Campus Recreation wanted to provide a sport that reaches an audience of students who want to pursue a career in sports marketing or who have a passion for video games. They wanted to create a group that could encourage a diverse audience and help students succeed in their future career.

"Professional esports is a vibrant industry with employment opportunities, broadcasting, sports marketing and advertising," Kathryn Blevins, coordinator of promotions/sponsorships for Campus Rec, said. "This provides students with opportunities to gain relevant experience in the area, like potential

internships, classes and student jobs. Three student interns are currently working on esports projects through Campus Recreation, gaining sports business, sports marketing and graphic design experience."

In 2017, seven colleges and universities had a varsity esports team; but, in 2018, the number jumped to 63 because it was wanted by popular demand of students.

Sports Clubs and Camps Coordinator Trace Seaton encourages students to join because of the relationships they could build by being a part of the team. By esports coming to SFA, the goal is to start a conversation across campus, as well as provide a physical space and opportunities to engage in an organized team.

"I would encourage students to join because I know it will be a fun, rewarding experience," Seaton said. "The opportunity to meet new people, develop friendships, learn new skills, compete at a higher level and do all of this while playing their favorite video games

will be intriguing to many students. This will be a very exciting and rewarding club in which to be involved."

Seaton also has a lot of goals for the club and is hoping the new club is a hit, so students could have the possibility to compete at a national level.

"The short-term goals for the esports club, from my perspective, would be to see the team join an esports league and be competitive in the region," Seaton said. "I would like to see the club build an inclusive community where students can come together around a shared interest. I would like to see esports provide students with skills they will use after college as well, such as leadership, communication [and] team work, as our clubs are student led. A longer-term goal would be to see the team competing for and winning national championships."

The first interest meeting will be held at 5 p.m. on Feb. 6, at the Baker Pattillo Student Center tiered classroom and will be live streamed live through Twitch.tv.

Construction invites positive outlook

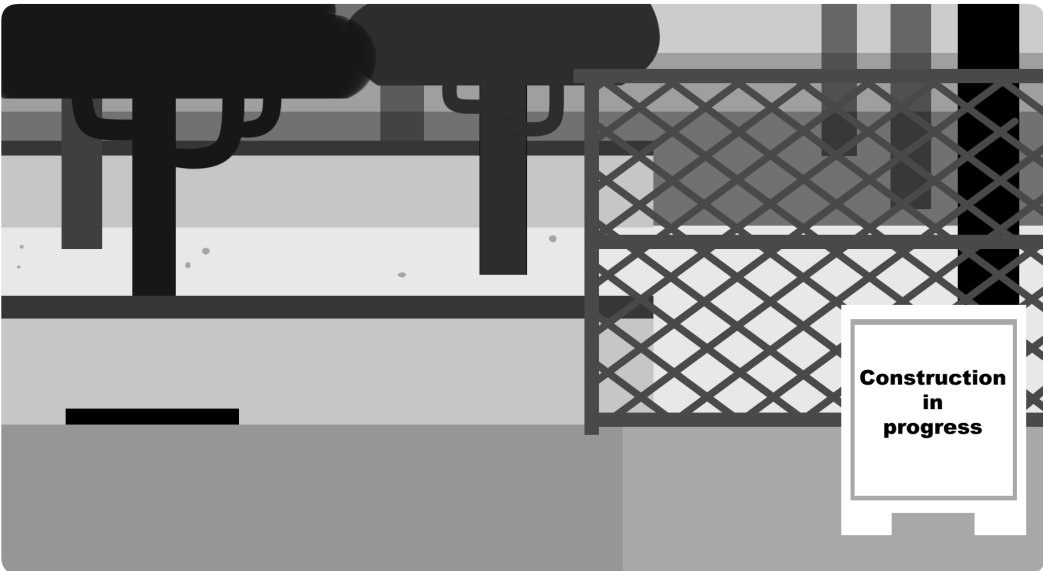
Following the five-year plan SFA administrators announced last spring, part of Raguet Street will be under construction this semester. The result will be more aesthetically pleasing, according to Director of the Physical Plant Department Ron Watson. It might be inconvenient for the time being; but, in the end, it will be worth it.

Having to re-configure your route for classes can be a little frustrating, especially when it's rush hour with everyone racing to get to the next class on time. Also, no one really likes adding more steps to their day when the building is just across the way. However, just think about when this is all over. Not only will there be no construction in the way, but there will be another nice and

cool place to either relax before heading to your next class or to meet up with your friends for a little bit. Not to mention when clubs start tabling for fundraisers, there will be lots more room and not just the limited pavement we had previously.

SFA's goal with the five-year plan is to make the school more visually appealing, not only for the students but for everyone visiting. Also, it's about time the campus had a little upgrade, especially since it's creeping up on its centennial anniversary.

So, though it might be annoying and inconvenient right now, just think about how it will be once it's all done and polished—one more thing to look forward to other than summer break.



Counseling services not meeting student needs

When I first came to SFA, I was informed about the Counseling Services located in the Rusk Building. The purpose of Counseling Services is to help students who are going through a variety of struggles, such as roommate issues or coping with something as serious as bipolar disorder. However, Counseling Services only offers four sessions per semester. The limited sessions don't meet the demand for many students.



By Phoenix Tierrablanca
Contributing Photographer

been limited to four one-hour sessions per semester. This might be enough for someone who is dealing with minor issues; however, four sessions per semester completely ignores the population of students who need significant therapy.

Personally, dealing with major depressive disorder, coming to SFA was a huge struggle for me due to the session limit. The counselor assisting me at the time admitted that the four sessions would not be enough for me, so she referred me to the counseling clinic.

The counseling clinic is a training clinic, meaning it is run by students and monitored by licensed counselor educators. I understand that the students who work in the counseling clinic need to earn hours, but I don't think the clinic should be the only

“The limited sessions don't meet the demand for many students.”

other on-campus option for students. Due to the fact that it is run by counselors in training, it means students will be seeing a counselor with little experience. This is a problem because, depending on the students and the complexity of their conditions, the counselor in training might not be able to provide the support the student needs at that time.

An issue I have with the counseling clinic is that every session is recorded to be studied, and every room has a double-sided mirror that allows other students to observe the sessions.

One possible unintended consequence is that students will feel uncomfortable and not be completely honest about what they're going through. This is why I believe that SFA's Counseling Services are unable to effectively provide help for all students who are limited to four sessions and the counseling clinic having employees who are inexperienced.

Freshmen should be given options on where they live

When I was a senior in high school, I came to tour SFA. I saw the Baker Pattillo Student Center, Steen Library and, most importantly, the dorms. After seeing Hall 16, Hall 14, Lumberjack Landing and Steen Hall, I decided I was going to live in Steen Hall. In fact, I did when I started here in the fall of 2017. This ended up being a great decision in some ways. But, like most things in life, it had its downfalls, too.



By Kayley Frazee
Staff Writer

Out of all of the freshman dorms, the only two that don't have community bathrooms are Steen Hall and Lumberjack Landing. Some people don't like the idea of showering with others, or having to walk down the hall to use the bathroom in the middle of the night. Many freshmen scramble to get into the dorms where you just share a bathroom with your suitemates; but, when everybody goes at once, there simply isn't enough space.

Furthermore, if you live on campus, you're required to buy a meal plan. Living on campus is more expensive. Depending on where you choose to live off campus, it can be a lot more cost efficient. Plus, you get to cook mozzarella sticks for dinner whenever you choose.

I'm a junior this year, so I live off campus now in an apartment with a roommate. While I do miss my best friends who all live on campus, I love being able to cook whatever I want whenever I want, being able to use Lush bubble bars to take baths and being able to burn candles to my heart's desire. All of these things I could only dream of during my freshman and sophomore years.

I'm not saying that living on campus is just terrible, nor am I saying living off campus is a perfect wonderland and everyone should do it. I am saying, however, that if you want students to start thinking and behaving like young adults, you have to allow them to make their own choices, especially when it comes to something as personal and important as their living space. If students want to live on campus every year they are here, that's their choice. But, if a student would rather live off campus, I think that should be something they are able to do.



Illustration by Simone Rodriguez / The Pine Log

Stricter rules needed for handicapped placards

Let's face it. Parking can be and is a hassle for a lot of students on campus, but this struggle has also been affecting students who need access to handicap parking spots. Many times, it has come to my attention that the people who have been taking the parking spots either are parking illegally without a permit, are using a tag that isn't specifically prescribed for them, or may have lied about their actual need in order to attain these plates solely for their selfish convenience.



By Luis Ruperto
Staff Videographer

While not all drivers share this mentality, and I am grateful toward them for not doing so, it is the ones who do that really cause a major inconvenience for those who need to use handicap parking spaces daily.

The obvious solution to this problem is to report any illegal parking in handicap spots, but I feel this is very ineffective outside of the SFA campus. For example, say someone is parked in a handicap spot, and you decide to report it. Between the time you make the report and someone comes out to investigate, the person could leave, and they get away with it. Additionally, even if the vehicle displayed a placard, there is no way of knowing if that placard is assigned to that specific vehicle. Most people wouldn't even think twice about it and move on.

I believe that a tighter registration process should go into place, or at least a tighter control over who has handicap parking privileges and for how long. If someone suffers an injury that is planned to recover in six months but they recover in three, the placard should be confiscated after they are fully healed. This could also be applied to a permanent placard or license plates.

It is fully understandable that some injuries and conditions can take years to recover from. I have been in and out of surgeries and recoveries for a good portion of my life. I have spent three or four years total in wheelchairs, crutches and casts. But, during that time, I refused to use a handicap tag because I knew that there was someone out there suffering from a condition worse than mine.

So, with this in mind, once someone is issued a placard, either permanent or temporary, a monthly evaluation by a doctor could prove useful to determine if the condition has improved. And, if so, then at that time handicap parking privileges are no longer necessary. Handicap parking is a privilege and a benefit to those who need it, and they should be respected and not taken advantage of.

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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.

BOWLING

■ The Ladyjacks bowling team will play at the Prairie View A&M Invitational Friday through Sunday in Arlington.

BASKETBALL

■ The men's and women's basketball teams will play doubleheaders on Wednesday in William R. Johnson Coliseum against Abilene Christian University and against Sam Houston on Saturday in Huntsville.

TRACK & FIELD

■ The SFA track and field teams will compete at the G5 & Mid-Major Invitational Friday through Sunday in Houston. The teams will compete in the Southland Conference Indoor Tournament March 1-2.

TENNIS

■ The SFA tennis team will continue its five-game home stand at 1 p.m. Feb. 7 against Louisiana-Tech and at 11 a.m. on Feb. 9 against Jackson State

Ladyjacks seek the No. 1 seed in SLC

SFA women's basketball team to play ACU, SHSU while tied for first in the conference with Bearkats



Photo by Phoenix Tierrablanca / The Pine Log

Sophomore guard Stephanie Visscher attempts a layup during the match against the Northwestern State Demons last week. The Ladyjacks will play the Abilene Christian University Wildcats at 5 p.m. on Wednesday in William R. Johnson Coliseum for a doubleheader.

By Deanna Swindell
Sports Editor

The Ladyjacks basketball team will look to continue its winning streak and acquire the No. 1 seed in the Southland Conference this week when they take on the Abilene Christian University Wildcats at 5 p.m. on Wednesday in William R. Johnson Coliseum and the Sam Houston State University Bearkats at 3 p.m. on Saturday in Huntsville.

These matchups will be the Ladyjacks most difficult opponents as the Wildcats are standing at No. 3 in the SLC, and the Bearkats are tied with SFA for first. SFA holds a 15-3 overall record, an 8-1 conference record, a .833 winning percentage and a five-game winning streak.

The Ladyjacks come off an 89-40 win on Wednesday against Northwestern State University and a 54-53 win against Lamar University on Saturday. Saturday's win came in the last 1:12 of the game after the teams were tied 53-53.

In those final seconds of the game, Lamar had possession after a turnover by sophomore guard Stephanie Visscher. The Cardinals missed a jumper, and the Ladyjacks took possession. Sophomore

forward Aiyana Johnson attempted a layup and missed but SFA obtained the offensive rebound. The Cardinals fouled Johnson with two seconds remaining in the game with an attempt to regain possession. Johnson missed the first free throw but made the second one, which was the game winning point.

ACU holds a 15-2 overall record, a 7-1 conference record, a .882 winning percentage and a three-game winning streak. The Wildcats come off a 74-64 win against the University of Central Arkansas. ACU outscored the Sugar Bears 21-9 in the second quarter and maintained the lead for the remainder of the game. The Wildcats ended the game with a 43.2 field-goal percentage and a 50.0 3-point percentage.

ACU averages 82.2 points per game with a .490 field-goal percentage and a .383 3-point percentage. The team averages 38 rebounds, 16.8 assists, 10.9 steals and 2.5 blocks per game. Senior guard Breanna Wright leads the team in points with an average of 16.8 points per game with a .494 field-goal percentage and a .450 3-point percentage. She also leads with assists, averaging

See LADYJACKS on Page 3

Jacks to play in doubleheader against ACU, SHSU this week

By Faith Skodak
Contributing Writer

The SFA Lumberjack basketball team is preparing to take on the Abilene Christian University Wildcats and the Sam Houston State University Bearkats this week. The game against ACU will take place on SFA's home court at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the William R. Johnson Coliseum. The rivalry basketball game against SHSU will start at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday in Huntsville.

SFA is ranked first in the

Southland Conference with an 8-1 record, along with a 17-3 overall record. The record includes victories in the SLC against the McNeese State University Cowboys (6-3, 11-9) and the University of the Incarnate Word Cardinals (1-7, 4-15), along with a victory over the NCAA Atlantic Coast Conference Duke University Blue Devils (6-2, 16-3).

As the Lumberjacks are entering this week's games, they approach their upcoming opponents on a high note. The Lumberjacks

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on Page 3

Track and Field teams to compete at G5 & Mid-Major Invitational

By Alec Reyes
Staff Writer

SFA's track and field teams will compete in the G5 & Mid-Major Invitational, hosted by the University of Houston on Friday through Sunday. This will be the teams' second indoor meet of the season after they competed in the Ted Nelson Invitational in College Station on Jan. 18.

Phil Olson, SFA's director of track and field and cross-country, was pleased with the team's performance.

"I really liked how competitive we were at the Ted Nelson Invitational at Texas A&M," Olson said. "I can't say we were as sharp as

we were at the Fastrak meet in Houston in December, but I feel our intensity level was high as was our competitive excitement."

Four athletes won their respective events at the Ted Nelson Invitational. They were freshman Megan Eichler in the women's 5,000-meter, junior Kelsey Ramirez in the women's 3,000-meter, freshman Ben Murphy in the men's 5,000-meter, and senior Kaylee Bizzell in the women's pole vault. Along with them, 21 athletes and two women's relay teams finished within the top eight of their events.

See TRACK & FIELD
on Page 3

SFA, Crittenden hire Minatta as Ladyjacks' new head soccer coach

Minatta to continue the SFA Way with soccer team

By Savannah Shelton
Contributing Writer

As SFA rings in a new decade this semester, it also welcomes the addition of new head soccer coach Tony Minatta. This change in staff comes after former head coach Wally Crittenden made the difficult decision to step back from coaching and accept a role in athletic administration.

Minatta, who previously spent six years as head soccer coach at Iowa State University, was chosen for the position in December after a nationwide search headed by Crittenden. He will have the spring to prepare his team for next season beginning in August 2020.

Minatta has been involved with soccer since childhood. Growing up in Fort Collins, Colorado, his father was the director of the Fort Collins Soccer Club, and he played on a club team throughout high school, planning to play in college as well. However, Minatta's college plans changed when he felt the call

to serve his country, so he joined the United States Marine Corps.

After spending four years in the armed forces, Minatta returned to Fort Collins and began to coach soccer there while attending college. He later transferred to the University of Nevada in Las Vegas and earned a bachelor's degree in English in 2003.

After college, Minatta took up coaching again and eventually became the assistant director of coaching at the Fort Collins Soccer



Photo by Matt Ocasio / The Pine Log

Tony Minatta was hired as the new SFA head soccer coach in December after former head coach Wally Crittenden took a position in athletic administration. Minatta comes to SFA after six years as the head soccer coach at Iowa State.

Club, gaining recognition as success as his teams grew. He also traveled to several different countries, including Brazil, Italy, Portugal, Belgium and Iceland, to hone his craft and learn more about the sport. Minatta went to Iowa State to work as an assistant coach and two years later, in 2013, was offered the position of head soccer coach.

He spent a few years at Iowa State and enjoyed a fair amount of success with his team early on; but after that, the pressure to continue winning set in. Feeling that it was time for some changes in his life, Minatta decided to move on from Iowa State. He wasn't sure what the future would hold, whether he would remain in the college soccer world or return to club soccer, but that uncertainty disappeared when he received a call from Crittenden, then-head soccer coach at SFA.

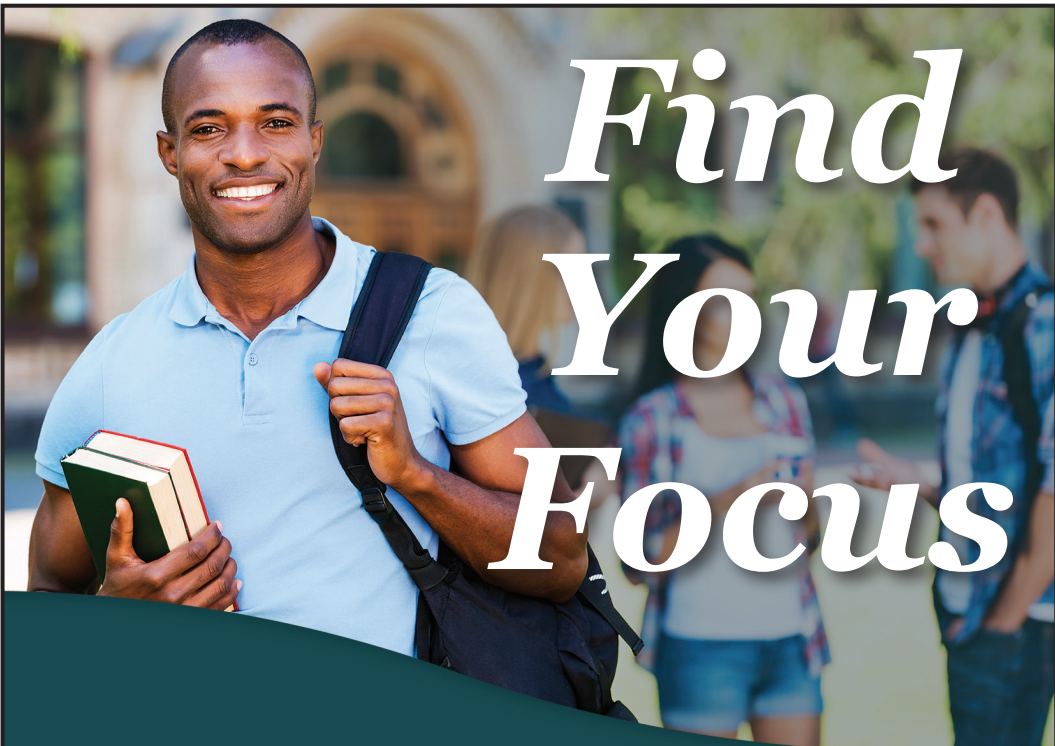
"I knew I needed a change from Iowa State, and then I got the call from Wally," Minatta said. "We talked about it, I ended up putting my hat in the ring, and here I'm sitting."

The call from Crittenden was by no means random. The two coaches have kept track of each other's soccer careers for several years, and even earned their A License for coaching together in 2005. For Crittenden, after meeting with Minatta for the position, the choice was obvious.

"I just felt, and our search committee just felt that, when you met him, you knew who he was within five minutes of conversation," Crittenden said. "By the time he left the room, you knew what he was about. It's so important that you have an identity, and he certainly has that. I think his identity will fit in very well."

For Minatta, accepting the position of head soccer coach at SFA was also a fairly easy decision. He believes that the timing was right, and all of the pieces fell into place for

See HEAD COACH
on Page 3



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