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RHA spreads Christmas spirit through event



Photo by Alyssa Faykus / The Pine Log

Madison Hinkle, president of the Residence Hall Association and co-lead of this year's Holiday Extravaganza, presents the SFA Charter School choir. They sang a few traditional Christmas songs like "Jingle Bells" and "The Christmas Song."

By Lauren Owens
Staff Writer

The SFA Residence Hall Association held the 2018 Holiday Extravaganza on Tuesday from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Baker Pattillo Student Center Plaza.

The Holiday Extravaganza is an annual event that takes place near the beginning of the holiday season. It's mainly coordinated by the RHA, but it includes participation from several student and community groups, as well.

According to Madison Hinkle, the president of RHA and co-lead of this year's Holiday Extravaganza, Hall Council representatives from each residence hall and student organizations participate in the Holiday Extravaganza by setting up tables with holiday-themed activities.

The event also includes various performances, the annual tree lighting ceremony and a special appearance from Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, where kids have an opportunity to meet them.

"When planning this event, we strive to plan and execute a spirit-filled night for everyone involved," Hinkle said. "We also strive to create a stronger community within Residence Life. We are blessed with wonderful support from our advisers, hall directors and hall councils."

The event is open to SFA students, faculty and community members. Various people from the community are welcome to participate and help out if they wish.

Cullen Dyer, the national communication coordinator of the RHA as well as the lead of this year's Holiday Extravaganza, said people and groups from all over the Nacogdoches community are welcome to perform or set up a table at the event.

"At each table, there is a different activity that is holiday-themed for everyone to enjoy,"

Dyer said. "We even let people from the community come out and participate with a tabling event. We also have performances from people on campus and around the community for everyone to enjoy."

According to Elizabeth Roshell, programming coordinator for residence life and adviser of the RHA, the event was created as a way for both the SFA and Nacogdoches community to come together, enjoy performances and participate in activities. She said the planning process of the event is always exciting to go through because of all the community interaction it involves.

Roshell said community involvement in the event has grown over the years, as well as student involvement.

"I believe it is important for students to participate because it is a time to volunteer and showcase to the Nacogdoches community all the great things that SFASU students have to offer," Roshell said.

Another aspect of this event that makes it important is the time of year it takes place. Dyer said it's especially exciting to see families and friends from the Nacogdoches community come together and interact with one another during the holidays.

"It's the holiday season, a time where family and friends are supposed to bond the most," Dyer said. "I feel it's important for everyone to participate because, like I said before, it's a time you get to spend the most of with your family."

The Holiday Extravaganza is also very important for those involved with the RHA. Hinkle said it's one of the organization's staple events, and everyone in the RHA works hard every holiday season to make sure it goes according to plan.

The event also promotes participation from students, staff and members of the community,

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Student bladesmith crafts knives, serves as apprentice with society

By Janil Pyle
Contributing Writer

At the farmers market, across from other local vendors, SFA student Kevin Burgess sets up his table filled with knives forged into all different shapes and sizes.

Burgess is an apprentice with The American Bladesmith Society and has been forging things since 2015. He started making knives in 2017.

According to the ABS website, "The American Bladesmith Society was incorporated as non-profit to operate for educational, scientific and charitable purposes. ABS was formed primarily to encourage and promote activities involving the art and science of forging metal, particularly tools, weapons and art forms. The objectives of the educational programs of the ABS are to inform and educate knife makers and the public about the art, science, technology, history, and culture relating to forged edged tools, weapons, and artifacts and the proper care and use of these objects."

The process of making a knife is a work of art that takes time and a lot of effort. According to Burgess, his favorite type of knife to make is specifically a bowie because of its history in Texas and in the ABS.

"I typically start out with a 1 by 1/4-inch bar for any of my knives," Burgess said. "I forge out the general shape and bevels with a combination of my hand and a pneumatic hammer. Then I rough grind and heat it to around 1,550 degrees and quench the blade into oil. Then it's just finishing the grind and putting a handle on the blade."

Burgess said he can make a knife in as little as a day or as long as a week or more.

"There are so many things that just take time to do correctly in knife making," Burgess said. "So honestly add at least a week to anything because of the strategic processes."

According to Burgess, a consumer will only ever see the last 10 percent of work he put into a knife.

"There are a lot of people these days out there interested in knife making, but Kevin makes knives to be used, not just to study in a case or to be put away as an heirloom," said Ron King, shop supervisor for the SFA School of Art.

"His attention to the details puts his knives into the artistic and collectible category easily, yet he's insistent upon their use, which I think is most impressive."

Some of the hardest things for Burgess during the making process is fitting the guard



Photo by Janil Pyle / The Pine Log

SFA student Kevin Burgess (right) forges knives and sells them at the local Farmers Market in Nacogdoches.

and keeping everything straight. The easiest thing to do is the hand sanding. The most fun part for Burgess is profiling the blade.

"That's what can decide if my knife becomes something as small as a Skinner or as large as a sword," said Burgess

Burgess forges knives by himself, and he sets up a booth at the farmers market in Nacogdoches from 8-11 a.m. on Saturdays to sell his knives.

"Kevin's abilities to execute something that is a perfect balance between form and

function is amazing," King said.

"I've been making knives for 30 years off and on, and I have to say, the quality of his workmanship and the fact that he makes knives to be used is most impressive."

SFA sends off volleyball team



Photo by Alyssa Faykus / The Pine Log

During the annual Holiday Extravaganza, SFA sends off the SFA Ladyjacks volleyball team in style. The volleyball team will play fifth-ranked Texas at 7 p.m. on Thursday in the opening round of the NCAA tournament at Gregory Gymnasium in Austin. This is the Ladyjacks first NCAA Tournament in 12 years.

Club offers students research experience

By Jayden Franke
Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Research Club is a new club on campus that aims to inform the undergraduate student body about research, help with personal projects and with these projects, give students the opportunity to go to national conventions to present their research.

Dr. Deborah Williams, assistant professor of elementary education, is the club's adviser and believes in students' engagement in research.

"I believe data collection and analyses are a part of a formula that moves a person or organization from good to great," Williams said.

According to Williams,

she agreed to be the faculty adviser when one of her former students completed research projects in three of her reading courses, and the student noticed that several of his peers did not have opportunities to engage in research. The student then went through the file process to make the club in the fall of 2017, and since he graduated last spring, the club is revising its laws to better help the student body.

In collaboration with the Ralph W. Steen Library's resources, undergraduate students will receive assistance with projects that are related to research and scholarship from the club.

According to Williams, with these resources, the

club will target how to identify credible sources and develop a credible literature review.

"We are currently looking for faculty to come and explain and explore their program's ways of research," said Alec Watson, sophomore political science major from Austin and president of the undergraduate research club.

"We want to work with individuals' personal projects as well as bring in speakers to inform those that are stuck on what the next step is, or just how to get started."

With the research the students conduct, club members' mission is to help

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■ SEE PAGE 6
Men's basketball
team competes in
Belfast Classic Friday
in Ireland.



NEWS

Page 2

The Pine Log 2018

@thepinelog

Crime Log:

Nov. 26-27
No reports.

Nov. 25

An officer was dispatched to Lumberjack Landing in reference to a theft. Upon arrival the officer met with the complainant who said on Nov. 25, his unattended laundry was removed from the Lumberjack Landing laundry room without his permission. There are no suspects.

Nov. 20-24
No reports.

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

By Isabell Tenorio
Contributing Writer

Nacogdoches is known for many things, from its famous Blueberry Festival to being the “Oldest Town in Texas,” but there are many things not known about this town. Former SFA professor, Dr. Linda Thorsen Bond, wrote “Saving the Oldest Town in Texas,” which gives a look into the town's history through the eyes of a former Nacogdoches mayor.

Based on a true story, Bond's book is a piece of historical fiction that tells the story of Col. Benjamin Wettermark, who emptied his own bank, skipped town in 1903 and left his wife, his children and his mansion in Nacogdoches behind. The search for the former East Texas mayor made headlines in every newspaper in the United States, as he broke the economy of the Oldest Town in Texas and the hearts of his family. She combines history with a modern-day tale of restoring a deteriorating mansion.

Bond is a former resident of Nacogdoches and has won two Telly awards this year for a TV production of her work. She has also written and produced historic events for the Old University

Building, as well as scripts for living history tours at the Oak Grove Cemetery and was on the board of Friends of Historic Nacogdoches. She has also taught in the SFA Mass Communication Department.

Bond's interest in the former Nacogdoches mayor's scandal sparked her to write the story.

“In 1902, people called Col. Benjamin Wettermark, mayor [and] banker, one of the most important people in Nacogdoches,” Bond said. “By 1903, he was called the scoundrel, the embezzler, the man who betrayed the town and his family. That intrigued me and made me want to know more. Fortunately, there are hundreds of newspaper articles available online, so I could follow the story as it was reported.”

Before writing her book, Bond wrote academic articles and a book about collaborative learning, and she also produced historic plays about Nacogdoches, which got her into the history of Nacogdoches.

“Nacogdoches is very interesting to me because it is truly the oldest town in Texas, but a lot of that history is mysterious,” Bond said. “I believe we might pave over our best stories and lose them



Photo by Kayleigh East / The Pine Log

Dr. Linda Bond signs a copy of her book at a book launch and signing held at the Charles Bright Visitors Center in downtown Nacogdoches on Nov. 15.

unless someone reaches out and preserves them.”

Even for someone as experienced as Bond, she said she also has times where she goes through rough patches in her work.

“Computers are great for writer's block. You can just write anything to get yourself going, then delete or rearrange,” Bond

said. “Sometimes I think we should be writing down our best stories, those we tell at parties or family gatherings, and have them ready to pop into our writing. You're much more interesting than you give yourself credit for.”

Bond's advice to those who want to write is to stay true to themselves and their interests.

“I make files on my computer and save lots of things I find interesting,” Bond said.

“That way I can look through the files and find information when I'm ready to write about them. My best advice would be to write about things you think are interesting, not things other people want you to write.”

K-pop club celebrates music, connects students

By Taylor Antwine
Contributing Writer

The K-pop Club celebrates the Korean pop music genre and makes its home among over 250 clubs on campus.

The K-Pop Club was established during the Spring 2017 semester and allows its members to get together and appreciate this musical genre with other people who also enjoy it.

“K-pop Club is a place where K-pop lovers and music lovers can come together and listen to songs by their favorite groups, play games and participate in other activities all while making friends with people that share their same interests,” said Lauren Hoots, a business major from Frisco and president of the K-pop club. “It's a place where you're free to be yourself without any judgement.”

Hoots is one of the founding members of the club, alongside Rebecca Correa, a senior history major from Edinburg and treasurer of the club. Both Hoots and Correa created the club not only for their friends but also for any SFA student who shared their interests.

“Whenever I tell people I listen to K-pop, I get very mixed responses—some positive, but more than often negative,” Hoots said. “I wanted there to be a club where my friends and I could talk freely with others about



Photo by Lashauna Bell / The Pine Log

Members of the K-pop club meet from 8-9 p.m. every Tuesday in the Wyatt Room at the Steen Library. Members listen to K-pop music and play games.

what we love, but I also wanted to create an environment where anybody could feel welcomed and supported, no matter what kind of music they listened to.”

Members of the club recommend songs as well as participate in non-K-pop activities in order to build relationships.

“We usually listen to music requests that the

club members have made prior to the meeting via our Facebook group,” said Tommye Wrinkle, a junior early childhood education major from Joshua and vice president of the club. “We do play games, like the whisper challenge and random dance play, during some meetings to help encourage people to interact with one another. And we have small

parties for the holidays that happen during the semester and for the end of the semester. We like to have some variety to our meetings so that our club members have something new to look forward to each week.”

Wrinkle's reasoning for joining the club had little to do with K-pop and more to do with friendship.

“I joined the K-Pop Club to make new friends and push myself to be more socially active,” Wrinkle said. “Before I joined, I had only been into K-Pop for a few months, but everyone was so nice and inviting that I kept coming back.”

According to Hoots, the club is open to anyone who is interested or wants to learn more about K-pop. Meetings are held every Tuesday from 8-9 p.m. in the Wyatt Room at the Ralph W. Steen Library.

“If somebody were to ask me why they should join K-pop Club, I'd tell them they should because it'd be a new experience,” Hoots said. “I'm a firm believer in giving new things a try, even if it's just once, and K-pop is one of those things that I think everyone should listen to at least one time. K-pop Club is the best place to listen to it as well, because if you don't know where to start or what groups to listen to, I know for a fact our members would be happy to make a few recommendations or you.”

Annual Purple Santa Toy Drive to accept donations

By Nella Kopp
Staff Writer

The Office of the Dean of Student Affairs is hosting the Purple Santa Toy Drive benefitting Toys for Tots on Dec. 7.

While any toy is accepted, Dr. Adam Peck, acting vice president for university affairs, said toys for ages 5-12 are suggested. Love INC. is the coordinator of the drive for SFA. They take the toys and set them up for the parents to go in and choose what their children would like most based on a credit system that is determined by income.

Peck said this drive is targeted at faculty and staff members, but anyone can contribute.

“Different offices sign up to bring toys, and some offices plan a Christmas party and we take pictures. Everyone has a great time,” Peck said. “We do a couple of other things... There's a program in Lufkin for mentally disabled adults, and for the first time last year we went to meet their clients. We brought gifts, and it was amazing.” Peck said. “I was Santa, and I probably got more hugs that day than I've ever gotten any other day in my life. It was really, really great.”

The office is planning on visiting the program again this year, though a date has not been set. The clients were also given SFA gear, like t-shirts, that were donated by organizations on campus.

This year, a change in casting will

happen. Peck has been the Purple Santa since the program started at SFA in 2009. This year, Saville Harris, assistant director of student engagement for Greek life, will wear the purple Santa suit.

“This year, I decided it was time to pass the baton,” Peck said. “I think he's going to be the perfect Santa.” Peck praised Harris' big personality and is looking forward to his performance as the Purple Santa.

According to the official website, the Toys for Tots program began in 1947 with 5,000 toys being delivered to children in need.

Now, the program averages 18 million toys to 7 million children annually.

The goal of the program, according to the website, is to spread hope to less fortunate children as well as bring Christmas joy.

According to the Love INC. Facebook page, admission is free to the Ladyjacks basketball game, and the local girls softball tournament with

the donation of a new, unwrapped toy.

Love INC. will also be accepting new, unwrapped toy donations on Saturday and Sunday in the Walmart parking lot.

The program began with Marine Corps Reserve Major Bill Hendricks when his wife, Diane, started hand-making dolls for less-fortunate children. Having supporters like Hasbro Inc., former First Lady Michelle Obama, The UPS Store, current First Lady Melania Trump and Build-A-Bear Workshop, the program has grown into a national non-profit charity.

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HOLIDAY: RHA annual event kicks off SFA holiday season

From Page 1

something heavily encouraged by the organization. “It is important to continue the tradition of this event because it is a wonderful start to the holiday season,” Hinkle said. “The event is filled with holiday spirit and love from the RHA. I am so blessed to be the face of an organization with such a substantial

impact on the Nacogdoches community.” This year’s Holiday Extravaganza included performances from the SFA Charter School Choir, Kayla Pearson and Chloe Stroud and the SFA Pep Band. In the future, Hinkle said she would like to see a wider variety of performances and attract even more people. She said she would also like to get more student organizations involved with hosting tables.

Native hoop dancers perform



Photo by Hope Feaster / The Pine Log

The Office of Multicultural Affairs celebrated Native American Heritage Month by inviting the Keitos Native American Hoop Dancers to perform for a public event on Nov. 14 in the Baker Pattillo Student Center.

SFA completes Cooking Matters program

SFA students in the School of Human Sciences wrapped up their fourth annual Cooking Matters program with a graduation ceremony and game night. During this six-week collaborative course with the East Texas Food Bank, SFA students worked with community members to educate them on healthy eating habits and budgeting. SFA students helped administer the program to community members connected with

the Helping Other People Eat organization. This year, 18 community members graduated from the program from among 20 participants. “This year has been the most successful based on participants who graduated,” said Justin Pelham, food, nutrition and dietetics clinical instructor at SFA. “We look forward to future partnerships with the East Texas Food Bank in community nutrition to create transformative learning

experiences for our students.” During the final meeting, students and participants competed in a Jeopardy-style game and tasted homemade tortilla chips and black bean brownies. Participants also received a reusable bag, a chef apron, a flexible cutting board and various kitchen utensils based on prior meeting attendance. To learn more about SFA’s food, nutrition and dietetics program, visit sfasu.edu/hms/101.asp.



Photo by Adriana Salazar / The Pine Log

Officers of the Undergraduate Research Club from left: Vice President Brian Fernandez, President Alec Watson and Elementary Chair Traci Dorsetti.

RESEARCH: New club guides student projects

From Page 1

students refine their work in order to make it to the National Conference of Undergraduate Research, or to SFA’s own Undergraduate Research Conference. According to scholarworks.sfasu.edu, SFA’s Undergraduate Conference is an annual competition that showcases students’ work from each of SFA’s six colleges. Any paper or project composed or performed during the previous calendar year as part of an undergraduate course, or faculty supervised independent project,

is available to be showcased in the BPSC Theater and Twilight Ballroom from 4 to 7:30 p.m. April 16, 2019. If interested in the SFA Conference, the deadline for submission to departments is Feb. 8, 2019. For further information, go to sfasu.edu/honors/urc/. Members of the club are happy to help if students are interested in the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. “What made me initially interested in research was the opportunity of scholarships,” Watson said.

“But I also enjoy being able to do individual learning to gain knowledge on something I am interested about with the possibility of benefiting my future success.” The club has no dues, and meetings will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. every Monday night in the Steen Library, Room 205. The club welcomes students of any classification, from freshman to senior, from all fields of study who aspire to make a difference in society through either research or creative projects.

Ring Dip set for Friday

Two ceremonies will be held at The Fredonia Hotel Convention Center at 200 N. Fredonia St. The first dip will be at 9:30 a.m. for the Colleges of Education



and Fine Arts. The second ceremony will be at 2 p.m. for the Colleges of Liberal and Applied Arts, Forestry and Agriculture, and Science and Mathematics.



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REVIEW



Artwork from IMDB

Netflix original 'Haunting of Hill House' not that scary

By Brittany Barclay
Copy Editor

"The Haunting of Hill House" has been on Netflix since October, and I'm honestly mad I waited this long to watch it.

Warning: There are some spoilers ahead.

Mike Flanagan adapted the show from the novel by Shirley Jackson. It centers around the Crain family—Hugh, Olivia, Steve, Shirley, Theo, Luke and Nell—and their lives after living in the Hill House for a summer. It flashes back and forth to when they were in the house and where they are now, in the present.

The thing I liked about this show is they told the story in pieces. After each episode you had to piece every scene together yourself to figure out what was going on. It made the show way more interesting and made you want to keep watching to see what they would show next.

However, this also made the show kind of confusing because they kept bouncing back and forth between different time periods. Even in the scenes in the present time, they would bounce around to different days. You really have to pay close attention while watching this show or you could miss a lot.

Something else I really liked about it was when they showed the kids as adults, they would show small things some of them did that were really weird and you wouldn't know why at first. They would eventually flash back to them in the house and show the reasons why they did those things.

For example, the middle child, Theo, was wearing gloves when you first saw her as an adult. You didn't know why she wore gloves, until they showed her as a child when she found out she has visions when she touches things. Her mom gave her gloves so she wouldn't be so "sensitive" to things like she was. Her mom also had visions, but they were more like dreams.

The acting really brings this show to life. It has a lot of familiar actors in it, including Carla Gugino (who was in "Spy Kids" and "Night at the Museum,") Elizabeth Reaser, who played Esme in the "Twilight" series and Timothy Hutton who was in "How to Get Away with Murder." Even the children who played the young Crains were amazing.

I think my favorite actors were the ones who played Nell (Nell as an adult is played by Victoria Pedretti and Nell as a child is played by Violet McGraw.) Nell and Luke are twins, but Luke is 90 seconds older than her. I think Nell went through the most as a child and an adult, and the actresses did a great job of portraying her.

This show wasn't as scary as I thought it was going to be. There were only a few scary moments, but other than that it was just creepy. The thing that makes this show so amazing is the story line. This is also one of those shows where you will be confused until the very last episode.

Downtown shopping guide:

By Alyssa Faykus
Opinions Editor

It's officially socially acceptable to begin celebrating the Christmas season. Lights are being hung from roofs, inflatable gingerbread men decorate lawns and it is merry and bright in Nacogdoches.

I love shopping in historic downtown Nacogdoches, especially for Christmas gifts. If you're not familiar with all that Nacogdoches has to offer, here are some of my favorite shops to hit in downtown for Christmas shopping:

■ Texas Size Bling

For your SFA-obsessed friend, try shopping at Texas Size Bling. Texas Size Bling is filled to the brim with SFA spirit apparel, and you can never go wrong with a t-shirt as a gift. They also have an assortment of accessories and on-trend boutique clothing.

■ Heart of Texas Gift Gallery

For your Texas-obsessed family member, take a look at Heart of Texas Gift Gallery. This unique gift shop has all things Texas—from mugs and shot glasses to barbecue rubs and stained glass. I love shopping here for my brother, who lives in New Hampshire. It's nice to give gifts that remind him of home and how proud Texans are to live in Texas.

■ Gifts and Greeks

Looking for a gift for your Greek brother or sister? Gifts and Greeks has dad hats, raincoats and other personalized items for that special little, big or grand-big in your life.

■ House of Photography

House of Photography is a new gift shop downtown with unique photography and Nacogdoches-inspired gifts. You can find camera-shaped purses, camera bags, camera straps and gels for unique lighting.

The shop also has the cutest greeting cards with puns galore. This gift shop is one of my favorites and is worth looking around. Greg Patterson features his work from his time as SFA campus photographer, and it's a blast from the past as you shop for your loved ones.



MORE shopping at Jingle and Mingle

- The annual Downtown Nacogdoches Jingle and Mingle will begin at 5 p.m. Friday downtown. Participating shops will be open later than usual; there will be food trucks, live entertainment and more, according to the event's Facebook page.

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HOLIDAY EDITION



■ House of Traditions

From Mariana jewelry to planners and home décor, House of Traditions has a little bit of everything. Their bath bombs and soaps fill the entire store with a wonderful smell that is so welcoming.

House of Traditions also sells kitchenware for the chef in your family. And if you're looking to treat yourself, they also have cute clothing and shoes just in case you need a last-minute holiday outfit.

■ Macy May

What do Kate Spade, Barrington Gifts, Draper James and Kendra Scott have in common? Macy May. Macy May is a fabulous boutique that offers the finer things—and the quirky things—in life. Bath scrubs, soaks, face masks and moisturizers are perfect stocking stuffers that can be found here. They carry zany socks, cute key fobs and adorable accessories for the fashion-forward friend in your life.

■ The Bosslight

Do you have a book-loving friend? The Bosslight is the perfect store to find a book or two for your friends and family. The Bosslight also has art from local artists inspired by favorite fandoms like Star Wars and Marvel.

Shopping local is an integral part of the holidays for me. It feels good to look the owner of a store in the eyes and know that my money is helping to support their family instead of some faceless corporation. Take a stroll downtown with your friends this holiday season and shop with your neighbors and community in mind.

GET INVOLVED!

SFA INVOLVEMENT CENTER ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

The SFA Girl Scouts Alumnae Association was the first organization of its kind to be established on a college campus. We connect with other adult girl scouts in the area to learn what Girl Scouting is doing today to help girls succeed, volunteer with service projects and assist with older Girl Scout troops. We actively serve the local community and their Girl Scouts by supporting on-campus cookie sales, networking and participating in community outreach. Our last meeting of the semester will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29. Email sfagsaa9367@gmail.com for more info.



GIRL SCOUTS ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

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Guns need regulation

There is not a problem with guns in America; there is a problem with gun users. Time and time again, the news of a mass shooting hits our news desk, and we are left to wonder what should be done. The second amendment should be protected but reevaluated.

The topic of gun control remains a hot-button issue in America. According to a poll conducted after the Parkland shooting by National Public Radio, overall, 75 percent of those surveyed believe gun laws should be stricter.

Under the same survey, 94 percent believe requiring background checks before buying a gun is important. Overall, 92 percent believe those with a history of mental illness should be added to a federal gun background check system.

Requiring a background check is a step in the right direction. Before you can apply for most apartments, you have to have a background check. Even potential employers run background checks. If these situations warrant a background check, why doesn't buying a potentially lethal weapon yield one?

It's plain to see that a majority of Americans want some sort of regulation on guns. This does not mean that they want them taken away completely. The ability to protect one's home is important to many people. If the person who owns the gun is of sound mind and only wants the weapon to protect his or her family,

there is no reason they should not be allowed to own a gun. The second amendment ensures that.

However, with the news of so many mass shootings, Americans are quickly becoming desensitized to gun violence, and that is not okay. The second amendment states, "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

Adding restrictions such as background checks would be an infringement of the second amendment. But just like the 14th amendment, President Donald Trump could sign an executive order to allow these regulations, or Congress could pass a two-thirds vote to do the same. However, that might not be necessary because previous presidents have passed legislation along the lines of gun control.

According to Time, former President Franklin D. Roosevelt passed the National Firearms Act , which put a tax of \$200 on many firearms. This legislation came after the St. Valentine's Massacre and was meant to help stop gun-related crime, or at least slow it down.

In 1938, the Federal Firearms Act required gun manufacturers, importers and dealers to obtain federal firearms license. This act also defined a group of people, including convicted felons, and did not allow this group of people to buy firearms. This is very similar to the proposal of adding people with a history of mental

illness onto a federal gun background check system.

However, these laws were either changed or repealed and are no longer in effect.

Other proposed restrictions include banning assault weapons. According to Fox, an assault weapon is "any semi-automatic rifle with a detachable magazine and are equipped with at least two of the following five items: a folding or telescopic stock; a pistol grip that protrudes conspicuously beneath the action of the weapon; a bayonet mount; a flash suppressor or threaded barrel (a barrel that can accommodate a flash suppressor;) or a grenade launcher."

In 1994, former President Bill Clinton passed an assault weapons ban, which has since been lifted and not reenacted. Former president Barack Obama tried to restate the ban with no success.

While assault weapons give mass shootings higher death tolls, there are still other weapons that can kill just one person, which is still a tragedy. In a perfect world, there would be no murder. But we do not live in a perfect world, and something needs to be done to help ensure a safer America.

Gun control needs to be taken more seriously in America. There are too many lives being lost to senseless arguments and easy accessibility to guns. Wait periods need to be enacted, background checks need to be enforced and mental health needs to be taken more seriously.



Illustration by Audrey Diakun / The Pine Log

Victoria's Secret lacks inclusivity, creativity, does not reflect reality



Meaghan Morton
Managing Editor

Inclusivity is in this season, and those who aren't into that, are out. With clothing brands—and to be more specific in this case, lingerie brands—an emergence of plus size wear, and patterns fit for the more androgynous style have become more and more prominent each year.

The Victoria's Secret fashion show is set to air at 10 p.m. Sunday. However, recently, Ed Razek, chief marketing officer of L Brands (a flagship brand of L Brands is Victoria's Secret), has been called out on social media for what he said during an interview by Vogue reporter Nicole Phelps.

Razek said transgender models should not be in the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show. Here is the full question and partial quote for context:

Phelps: "I want to talk about the Instagram generation. I assume you have lots of data; do you see a shifting desire or shifting needs? Are they looking for something new from Victoria's Secret?"

Razek: "So it's like, why don't you do 50? Why don't you do 60? Why don't you do 24? [Bra sizes] It's like, why doesn't your show do this? Shouldn't you have transsexuals in the show? No. No, I don't think we should. Well, why not? Because the show is a fantasy. It's a

42-minute entertainment special. That's what it is."

Earlier in the interview Razek said in 2000 the Victoria's Secret brand tried to put on a plus size specific show but according to Razek, "No one had any interest in it, still don't."

This is troublesome. One, because it has been 18 years since the original thought of a full plus-size fashion show.

In the age of body positivity and acceptance, I'm sure there would be many women

with any visible diversity, why not?

According to the Vogue interview, Razek said the Victoria's Secret brand does have diversity. This year for the 2018 runway show, the brand has introduced 19 new models to the catwalk. The only visible diversity is race and the beautiful Winnie Harlow, who has vitiligo, a disease that causes skin to lose pigment over time.

Brands like Adore Me (have sizes 30A - 46DDD) and Rihanna's brand Savage X Fenty (carries sizes from 30A - 44DDD) have an obvious advantage over Victoria's Secret (which carries sizes between 30AA - 40DDD.)

Even Aerie, whose parent organization is American Eagle Outfitters, has a smaller size range than Victoria's Secret (30A - 40DD) but has models on their website who have visible scars, stretch marks, age differences, tattoos and even a model who wears a colostomy bag. In fact, Aerie does not use Photoshop in their ads.

On the other hand, Victoria's Secret is notorious for Photoshop blunders, to the point where they completely erased part of a posterior.

Razek, the world is not a fantasy. Women and people in general are not fantasies; we are people—real people who happen to wear undergarments.

"In the age of body positivity and acceptance, I'm sure there would be many women who would like a plus-size lingerie fashion show from Victoria's Secret."

who would like a plus-size lingerie fashion show from Victoria's Secret.

Also, I'm calling you out right now Razek, because I don't even think the company would have the product for such a fashion show considering they only go up to a size 40 bra band, and for Victoria's Secret to not even consider it at this time is weak and shows just how bad and uncreative their marketing and products are.

Also, on the subject of not wanting transgender models, or apparently any models

Audience does not define effort



Parastoo Nikravesh
Design Editor

For three years I have worked for The Pine Log. I have been a novice contributing writer, and I have been the highest position of editor-in-chief.

I've interviewed almost every kind of person in our community and written everything from news stories about campus-wide policies to features on hard-working individuals.

Of course, working on the newspaper, I've had so much support, but through it all there was one thing people felt was necessary to say to the staff and me: "No one reads The Pine Log."

First off, that's not true. You might not read The Pine Log. Your friends might not read The Pine Log. But there are many people who do.

When a person is featured, he or she, their friends, and their family read The Pine Log. When an organization makes the news, the members read The Pine Log. When people want to be informed (which is not surprisingly our target audience) they read The Pine Log.

Whether they pick up a copy of The Pine Log or read it online, we hear from the people who read our paper. Professors stop me or email me to let me know I've done a good job.

I see people read it around campus, which makes my day, and of course people leave comments or share our work online. Also, on the rare occasions we make a mistake—people definitely let us know. So, they must be reading our paper, right?

Additionally, there's an

"What matters is the amount that it can help or guide our readers. That is the heart of what the newspaper does."

audience that most of our critics don't know about: our professional critics. The Pine Log is a Texas Intercollegiate Press Association member, and every year our work is sent to TIPA where judges pour over our best work and compare it to other universities.

As a journalist, I keep all

my best writing and design samples to show future employers. My work is published almost weekly, and I have proof to show people that I know what I say I know. So, yes, those people are also reading The Pine Log.

However, the hardest hitting part of my argument shouldn't be, "People do too read The Pine Log!" It's that the people who do read The Pine Log get something out of it. The number of readers doesn't exactly matter, although high numbers would be nice. What matters is the amount that it can help or guide our readers. That is the heart of what the newspaper does.

Our objective is and always will be to be the independent voice of Stephen F. Austin State University. We will independently work to inform our community to the best of our growing ability. When you read The Pine Log, that's what I hope you get.

Whether you choose to read us or not won't stop me from trying to keep you informed. It's important for people to know that that's my goal as a journalist. How big my audience is doesn't affect the work I put in. At the end of the day, I did something that I'm passionate about that might help my community—what did you do today?

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



VOLLEYBALL

■ The Ladyjacks will take their 29-game winning streak to Austin as they face off against fifth-ranked Texas a 7 p.m. Thursday.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

■ SFA will compete for the first time overseas as the Jacks take on USF and UB/UWM in the Belfast Classic. Read more at [thepinelog.com/sports](#)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

■ The Ladyjacks are set for a clash with Big 12 foe Texas Tech at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The game will be broadcast through Texas Tech TV with purchase of a day, monthly or yearly pass.

LUMBERJACK HONORS

■ Senior SFAMen's basketball player Shannon Bogues was named to the Lou Henson Mid-Major Player of the Year Award watch list.

Ladyjacks set to battle Texas Tech Wednesday

By Deanna Swindell
Staff Writer

During the holiday break, the SFA Ladyjacks basketball team came back from a loss to the University of Miami to a four-game winning streak. From Nov. 16 to 24, the Ladyjacks defeated Morgan State, Yale, Our Lady of the Lake and Tulsa University. This week, they will be playing against Texas Tech University at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Lubbock and Wiley College at 2 p.m. Saturday in the William R. Johnson Coliseum.

Wednesday's game will be SFA's second away game. With the same 4-1 record, the Lady Raiders have a two-game winning streak and have played against Jacksonville State, Louisiana-Monroe, Idaho and Texas A&M – Corpus Christi.

Only a few games in during preseason is difficult to rely on statistics because they can change drastically once the regular conference season begins. Although, only five games in, the Ladyjacks have played with the ferocity to keep their streak going.

The defense is what keeps opponents away from gaining points on the scoreboard as SFA averages 16.6 turnovers per game and has made 22.6 points off turnovers. To compare to Texas Tech, the Lady Raiders average



Photo by LaShauna Bell / The Pine Log

Riley Harvey looks for an open teammate against a defender.

17.2 turnovers per game but have only made 14 points off turnovers.

Forward Riley Harvey has had a great start to this season and has been a massive contributor to the team's wins. In the last two games, Harvey has had double-doubles with 15 points and 10 rebounds against OLL and 12 points and 12 Rebounds against TU. Guard Chanell Hayes has also had a positive impact on the court for her last year as a Ladyjack. Hayes has a field goal percentage

of .561 and a three-point percentage of .607 and leads the team in points.

Even though Texas Tech has a lower field goal percentage, the team has attempted 330 compared to SFA's 287. Wiley College, on the other hand, has not had much of an impressive start to their year. The have a 2-4 record and a two-game losing streak. SFA needs to take great advantage of being able to play at home, because three of Wiley College's losses were in away games.

SFA searches for new coach

By Devin Brooks
Staff Writer

Ryan Ivey, the newly hired SFA athletic director, announced the department will open a nationwide search for a new head coach of the SFA football program. The search will begin immediately, and the athletic department hopes to have a new head coach by the first week of December.

The announcement of the new head coach position opening came directly after the Lumberjacks' season-ending loss to the Northwestern State Demons in the 53rd Battle for Chief Caddo. Ivey and the SFA Athletic Department promoted Jeff Byrd to interim head coach on June 19 following the suspension of Clint Conque, former SFA head coach on June 18. Conque's suspension stemmed from an investigation into allegations of violations of the university policy. Conque's four-year coaching career at SFA came to an end on Aug. 2, when he announced his resignation from the SFA football program.

Despite the team's record, Ivey said Byrd handled the team with grace throughout the season, and he has nothing but respect for Byrd's efforts on and off the field.

"First off, I want to sincerely thank coach Byrd for his work and effort during this season," Ivey said. "His tireless work to help improve our program both on and off the field is very much appreciated and has not gone unnoticed."

Ivey expanded on his plans he has for the SFA Athletic Department going forward as they look ahead to hiring a new coach.

"At this time, I believe it is important for the future of our program that we embark on a national search," Ivey said.

"Coach Byrd has been encouraged to apply and be part of the process, as he has earned that right through his work and effort this season. He's a viable candidate for us moving forward through this process.

"We are doing a national search because it's the right thing to do for this program. Finding the right person is paramount to this program and paramount to our success moving forward. Our number one priority is to find a coach that will turn our program around and help us achieve our departmental vision.

"At this time, I believe it is important for the future of our program that we embark on a national search,"

—Ryan Ivey, SFA athletic director

believe SFA has the ability and potential to achieve a high level of success within our football program and that we should not apologize for those expectations.

"However, it is going to take everyone in and around our football program to move it forward," Ivey said.

"Until everyone associated with SFA football starts to take full accountability and responsibility for the direct success and failure of our program, we will not be able to be as successful as we can and should be. However, I am truly excited about the future our football program and believe that we can and will achieve success on and off of the field," Ivey said.

"SFA has a brand. I think people are excited about what is going on here. I think we will get a great pool of applicants that want to come out of the shadows. I think it is vitally important that we find the right person. We have to make sure that he wins the job. I've never been a person that will give a job to anyone. I think it's imperative to be a head football coach here, and we have to make sure that the person we hire doesn't take that for granted."

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