

THROUGH TRIUMPH OR TRAGEDY— SFA ALUM PERSEVERES



Margie Tipton has always considered herself blessed—even when she was a single mom working a second job as a custodian to support herself and her two daughters.

She remembered that she was blessed when her youngest daughter died in an automobile accident when she was 16. And she continues to call herself blessed six years after her husband, the love of her life, died from cancer.

Despite the hardships Tipton has endured in her lifetime, she chooses to dwell on the blessings, and she also chooses to extend her blessings to the lives of those around her.

Tipton enrolled at SFA in 1972, but interrupted her college career to get married. Two daughters and eight years later, she graduated and began teaching. Tipton completed her master's degree in education in 1983. After her marriage ended, she survived the hardships of raising two daughters alone by relying on the

skills she learned as a Girl Scout: first aid, CPR and water safety.

"I taught swim lessons, water aerobics and water babies, and I did a stint as swim director," said the Nederland, Texas, native. "As soon as they were tall enough to stand up on the bottom of the pool, my daughters began helping me teach the babies to swim. We also worked as custodians cleaning office buildings around town. My teaching salary covered the basic food, shelter and clothing, but we knew that if we wanted anything more than that, we had to work for it."

Following the death of her daughter Emily in 1993, Tipton began serving as an instructor in SFA's Department of Human Services, teaching future teachers about students with disabilities and the laws that protect them. That same year, she was named director of Disability Services at SFA.

In 1995, she married Jimmy Tipton, the owner of the only Ford dealership in Nacogdoches. In 1999, he was diagnosed with cancer.

"For seven years, we had the most fun,

traveling and enjoying one another," she said.

After her husband's death in 2002, the former part-time custodian became chief executive officer of Tipton Ford, Inc.

During hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, Tipton shared with evacuees the survival skills she spent her lifetime developing. She served as a Red Cross community leader, organizing volunteers, placing evacuees in Nacogdoches shelters, and procuring and distributing resources.

Red Cross branch manager Glenna Harkness said that even though shelter agreements had been made and volunteers trained, no one anticipated the challenges that would be presented during the 2005 hurricane season.

"Margie's leadership role was a huge asset to the success at the shelter," Harkness said. "She worked many hours, many days, and continued to show up even though she was very tired. Her efforts were noted by many, including her peers, city personnel and the evacuees."

As Katrina evacuees were preparing to leave East Texas, along came Hurricane Rita, slamming the Texas Gulf Coast and reaching into East Texas. The back-to-back crises stretched every emergency worker's abilities and energy.

"Hurricane Rita provided the second event I thought I would never see in my lifetime," said Robert Hurst, former Nacogdoches County homeland security director, "and that was a Category 1 hurricane passing through our county. By the second day after Rita's passage, we were quickly becoming challenged by the number of county citizen requests, especially from the elderly and those with special needs."

At the request of the county judge, Tipton answered incoming calls at the emergency operations center.

"Margie brought calm to the worried callers and helped literally dozens of hurting people receive the special needs and care they were

seeking. Her unselfish actions removed a tremendous burden from our overworked personnel and positively impacted the citizens of Nacogdoches County," Hurst said.

In honor of her efforts, Tipton was named Citizen of the Year by the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to providing leadership to the Red Cross and the Ford dealership, Tipton has established an SFA scholarship. Financial contributions made through Tipton Ford also allow her to give back to SFA.



"My daughter Jennifer also graduated from SFA and feels the same way I do. The caring attitudes of the faculty gave both of us guidance and motivation," Tipton explained. "Jennifer felt very grounded to be able to go on to optometry school after SFA and be successful. Her husband, Michael, is also an SFA alum and attended medical school with students from other universities that sound very prestigious. But he realized he received a great foundation at SFA, and he was able to do just as well in medical school, or better in some cases, than many of his classmates."

But Tipton says her greatest desire is to show others the importance of helping those in need, regardless of one's personal situation.

"My mother and grandmother always made it a point to assist people, especially people with exceptions," she recalled. "Anybody can do anything if they want it badly enough, and perseverance and adversity only strengthen you and make you more understanding of the challenges other people face. That's why I don't look at my life with sadness. God puts strength in us to handle situations, and I feel I have been truly blessed." ▼

—Shirley Luna



SFA STUDENT'S PROJECT BENEFITS NACOGDOCHES NON-PROFIT



Ana Munzinger, left, completed a project for an advanced technical writing class at SFA that benefitted the Christian Women's Job Corps in Nacogdoches. Melba Tiller, director of the corps, said the brochures the class designed were vital to the continued success of the center.

What started out as a class project for one SFA student resulted in a grant for a Nacogdoches organization helping disadvantaged women enter the work force.

Traditionally, when students enroll in a college course, they expect to sit in a classroom, listen to a professor lecture and take notes on

the important material. In recent years, the idea of the traditional classroom has begun to evolve to include "service learning," which helps students put the theories and ideas they learn in a classroom to practical use.

Students in Dr. Kenneth Untiedt's advanced technical writing class recently used community service projects to enhance their technical writing skills. Rather than have his students work on projects for fictional organizations, Untiedt required that his students research and find two organizations in the community that interested them. A requirement was that the organization needed assistance in producing written material, generally brochures, newsletters, pamphlets or a Web site.

After the presentations, students divided into groups to discuss their projects and to select one organization where they could put their research findings into action.

Ana Munzinger, a senior business major from Corpus Christi, and her group worked with the Christian Women's Job Corps of Nacogdoches, an agency that offers computer literacy and job readiness classes, along with vocational guidance, to their clientele.

"I had heard of the job corps through a member of my church, and when I had the opportunity to help this organization, I jumped at the chance," she said.

As a result of the relationship Munzinger developed with the job corps, she was asked to speak at its spring commencement ceremony.

"Ms. Tiller asked me just to speak to the women and challenge them to continue their commitment to changing their lives," Munzinger said. "I was expecting to see no more than 20 people at the ceremony, but there were about 80 people there to support these women. It was so motivational to me to see how determined everyone was to help them succeed."

Due to the quality of the group's work, the Christian Women's Job Corps received a service-learning grant offered by SFA. Dr. Adam Peck, dean of student affairs, said the grants allow students like Munzinger to see their projects through to fruition.

"This is part of a campus-wide service learning program that's been implemented at SFA," Peck said. "It's much more meaningful to students if they can see the results of their work."

In moving the classroom into the real world, where success is based on more than grades, Untiedt gave his students an opportunity to see the impact their efforts can have on the world and gave them experiences they will carry with them for a long time. ▼

—Dylan Parkhurst

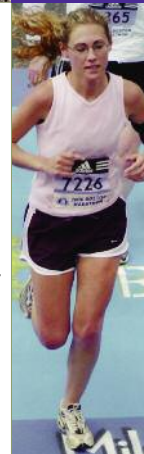


Award-winning work

Munzinger's group of SFA students was not the first to work with the job corps. One group of students designed a Web site for the class, and the human sciences honor society, Phi Upsilon Omicron, developed floor plans for the center and helped solicit donations for operational needs. The SFA chapter received a regional Professional Project award from the national organization for its work.



FORMER SFA ATHLETE SHARES PASSION WITH STUDENTS



What started out as a mother-daughter bonding experience when she was 9 became a passion for former Ladyjack cross-country and track athlete Jessica Partin.

She continued running as a student at Priddy High School and was eventually recruited and signed by former SFA distance coach Alex Gibby. A former SFA record holder in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, Partin was an All-Southland Conference honoree at SFA and helped guide the Ladyjack distance squads to their most successful stretch in school history.

Now, after earning both a bachelor's and a master's degree from SFA, Partin is sharing her knowledge and experience as coach of the girls' cross-country and track teams at Douglass Independent School District near Nacogdoches.

"While at SFA, I got to learn all aspects of training, from stretching to warm up to cooling down after a race, and I experienced different kinds of workouts," she said. "The experiences of those workouts, as well as the competitions, really help me to understand what my student athletes need to do to get better."

Partin helped SFA rack up four Southland Conference titles between 2002 and 2005, including two cross-country titles, the 2003 SLC outdoor track and field title and the 2005 SLC indoor championship. An eight-time Dean's List student, she is driven to help others reach their competitive potential in both athletics and academics.

She recently started her third year of teaching at Douglass, and her second as a coach. In the classroom, Partin teaches seventh- and eighth-grade math, algebra and geometry. She coaches the girls' cross-country team in the fall and the girls' track and field team during the spring. She also serves as first-base coach for the girls' softball team.

Partin's influence was evident in her first sea-

son as a cross-country coach. Two of her athletes advanced to regionals, just missing a berth at the state meet, and each beat a personal record by two minutes.

"I enjoy coaching and really getting to know the girls outside of just the 50 minutes in the classroom," Partin said. "It's been fun learning their different personalities and what makes them work harder. Some of the girls were not excited about long-distance running at first, but they have worked really hard, and it's

been a wonderful experience seeing them improve this past year. I can't even imagine not coaching now."

For the past three years, Partin has continued to fuel her own competitive nature at one of the most notable races in the world, the Boston Marathon. Partin finished the 2008 event with a time of three hours, 56 minutes and 52 seconds.

"I did not meet my goal of three hours and 30 minutes, but I did finish in under four hours, so that was exciting," she said. "I did well until about the 18th mile, and then I kind of hit the wall."

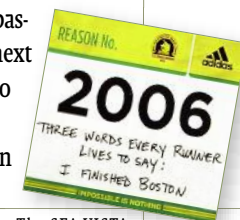
Partin said her slower-than-hoped-for finishing time was not altogether unexpected, as the demands of coaching and teaching sometimes interfered with her marathon training.

"There were a lot of nights when I would get home from a track meet at 9 o'clock, and I just didn't feel like going out to run!"

Partin is currently enrolled in principal-certification classes at SFA, although she says serving as a school administrator is a goal she plans to postpone until later in her career. For now, she is happy right where she is, training young athletes in the sport she's loved her whole life.

She hopes to bring that lifelong passion full circle when she enters her next Boston Marathon, which she plans to run side-by-side with her mom. ▼

—James Dixon



THE ED AND GWEN COLE ART CENTER @ THE OLD OPERA HOUSE



From left, SFA President Baker Pattillo, Ed and Gwen Cole and Regent Joe Max Green



Stephen F. Austin State University recently hosted a celebration of philanthropy as it dedicated The Ed and Gwen Cole Art Center @ The Old Opera House in downtown Nacogdoches. The event recognized the generous spirit of four Nacogdoches families and marked the culmination of the building renovation that had begun eight years earlier.

The 9,460-square-foot building was constructed in 1889 and became known as "The Old Opera House." In 1923, D.K. and Willie Maud Cason purchased the building, and, through the years, it served a variety of functions, including department store and recreation center. Approximately eight years ago, the Casons' heirs deeded the building to Pineywoods Architectural Inc., and in February 2001, the building was deeded to the SFA Real Estate Foundation for use by the SFA College of Fine Arts and School of Art.

Roger Shimomura, an artist and University of Kansas Distinguished Professor of Art Emeritus, recently served as juror for the Texas National Exhibition and said seeing the facility was one of the highlights of his visit.

"I was immediately struck by the sense of openness, light and well-organized spaces," he said. "The town of Nacogdoches and SFA are both fortunate to share in the benefits of having one of the cultural jewels in East Texas located in its city."

During a July ceremony, the center was renamed The Ed and Gwen Cole Art Center @ The Old Opera House, recognizing the gener-



ous spirit of Ed and Gwen Cole and the gifts they have made to SFA.

After a career in the oil-field equipment industry, the Coles moved to Nacogdoches in 1978 and quickly embraced SFA. Ed Cole served on the SFA Foundation Board of Trustees and is a former president of the Lumberjack Booster Club. Gwen Cole is a former president of the Ladyjack Booster Club and was the originator of the cross country team's award for outstanding Ladyjack. Together they have served on the Friends of Music Board, and they are currently serving on the College of Fine Arts Dean's Circle Advisory Board. The Coles became the first recipients of the president's service award established by the SFA Alumni Association in 1993.

Jack and Doris Ledbetter Gallery

The first-floor gallery of the art center honors Jack and Doris Ledbetter, who moved to Nacogdoches from California two years ago. Soon after, the couple chose to contribute to the Cole Art Center to show support for the university's many cultural endeavors.

Both Jack and Doris are directors of the College of Fine Arts Dean's Circle and members of the Amore opera group, SFA Friends of Music, the Nacogdoches Club, the Nacogdoches Treatment Center, the Samaritan Center, Millard's Crossing, and the Boys and Girls Club of Nacogdoches.

A.T. and Patricia Mast Forum

The A.T. and Patricia Mast Forum honors Patricia Mast and her late husband, Adlai, who was a fourth-generation native of Nacogdoches.

Adlai and Patricia Mast's generous support has positively impacted both SFA and the community. Endowments include the A.T. and Patricia Mast Arboretum Fund, A.T. and Patricia Mast Nursing Fund, A.T. and Patricia Mast School of Art Scholarships, and the Horace Mast Scholarship in agriculture. The university's arboretum is named in their honor.

Florence Wilson Reavley Gallery

The second-floor gallery honors the memory of the late Florence Wilson Reavley. Florence grew up in Nacogdoches and attended Stephen F. Austin Teachers College Demonstration School. She was a gifted artist, painter and sculptor who also enjoyed working with fabrics.

Florence was married to Judge Thomas Morrow Reavley, also of Nacogdoches, for 60 years before her death in 2003. Thomas served on the Texas Supreme Court and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. ▼



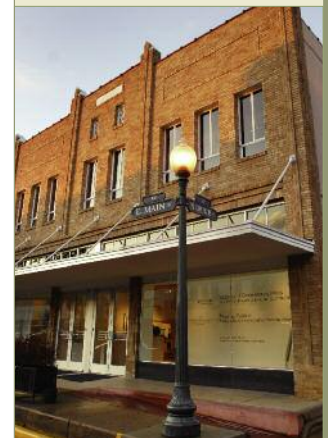
Art Exhibitions

Each year, The Cole Art Center @ The Old Opera House offers a variety of traveling exhibitions, juried competitions and special events. Recent highlights include:

Modern and Contemporary American Prints, featuring prints from the biggest names in American art, including Andy Warhol, Robert Motherwell, Roy Lichtenstein and Christo.

Refined, a biennial, international juried exhibition sponsored by the School of Art. The 2008 event demonstrated the breadth of originality in the jewelry discipline around the world.

Texas National, an annual juried competition and exhibition that attracts entrants from all 50 states, providing artists the opportunity to have their work juried by internationally acclaimed artists.



SFA IMPLEMENTS SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION



New safety measures, including outdoor alert and mobile messaging systems, have significantly improved SFA's ability to communicate with students and parents in case of an on-campus emergency.

The outdoor system is designed to promptly alert the campus in case of an imminent threat, while the messaging system provides subscribers with supplemental information about the emergency in text messages. Both systems were installed late last year and are tested monthly.

"We have had some time to test these new systems, and so far they have performed very well," said University Police Department Chief Marc Cossich. "SFA has been extremely proactive in making our campus as safe as it can possibly be for our students, faculty, staff and visitors."

Sirens positioned on the roof of the Ralph W. Steen Library emit two different alert tones. One is meant to indicate severe weather, such as a tornado, that could directly affect the university. The second tone would alert students, faculty and staff in the unlikely event of an active danger, such as a hazardous spill or an armed individual on campus.

When a campus alert is issued, a bright yellow banner is splashed across the top of every Web page hosted on the SFA Web site. Anyone who clicks on that banner is directed to a page that is updated as information related to the alert becomes available.

The text message notification system is available to anyone who registers a mobile or land-line phone. When an alert is issued, messages are sent to all of the devices registered

on the system. To register for the mobile alerts, go to mySFA and click on the "Register to Get Campus Alerts" button to start.

"I strongly encourage every SFA student and their parents, if they wish, to register their devices on our system so that they can receive important information in case of emergency," Cossich said.

Incoming freshmen students and their parents were told about new alert systems and other safety programs at SFA during summer orientation sessions. Sharon Warren of Houston said the new safety measures have given her added peace of mind as she prepares to send her son off to college.

"I was very glad to hear about the outdoor sirens and the messaging system, and I will definitely make sure my son registers his phone, as well as mine," she said. "With all the things we have heard about on the news lately, it's good to know we would have a way to be informed if there were ever an emergency at SFA."

In addition to the new alert systems, the university recently increased the number of emergency call boxes located throughout campus, bringing the total to 117, according to Steve Westbrook, vice president for university affairs. The call boxes can be used at any time of day or night to request information, an escort, vehicle assistance or other police response.

Louisville senior Heather Rentfro said she has taken

advantage of the emergency call boxes on two occasions, once when she was locked out of her residence hall at 2 a.m. and once when her car's battery needed a jump start.

"Both times I used the call boxes the police came and helped me right away," she said. "It's good to know you can reach them easily, and they will help you if you need an escort after dark or anything like that."

UPD also offers various crime-prevention programs, including drug and alcohol awareness, Rape Aggression Defense (RAD), sexual

assault awareness, residential and office security, and personal safety awareness courses. Updated crime statistics for the university are posted at www.sfasu.edu/upd, along with information on all of the department's programs and services.

Like all universities, SFA has taken a thorough look at its safety procedures in the wake of recent crimes on college campuses elsewhere in the country, Westbrook said.

"We know statistically that college campuses are some of the safest places a person can be. That being said, we have tried to learn from those events and have applied new technologies and response techniques wherever possible to further minimize any risk to the safety of our students, employees and visitors." ▼

—Amy Roquemore



Sign Up for Mobile Alerts

SFA students may register to receive mobile alerts on up to five devices on the mySFA main page by clicking on the "Register to Get Campus Alerts" button. Off-campus landline phones and e-mail addresses may be registered. When an alert is issued, messages are sent to all registered devices.

Hurricane Ike cleanup (below) and Call Center (above).



KINDRED SPIRITS



In the sweltering jungles of a country in conflict, two brave men with artists' souls took up arms, one against the other. More than 40 years later, in an art studio on the campus of Stephen F. Austin State University, the parallel lives of these one-time enemies merged for a second time. And there the men, now both artists and teachers, created a unique way to reconcile the deep personal and professional kinship they now share with the part of their past that placed them on opposite sides of a war.

SFA art professor Charles Jones and University of Hanoi art professor Dinh Viet Luc were first introduced at an international artists' conference in 2001. In discussing their mutual interest in the fine art of printmaking, the two quickly discovered they had much more in common.

"I found out he was in the North Vietnamese army at about the same time I was with the U.S. Marine Corps fighting in the south," Jones recalls of their first conversation. "We felt a sense of

sharing and kinship right away, even though we'd been very much enemies at one time."

Out of that meeting was born the idea of a collaborative project, a book of the men's essays and prints that would give artistic expression to their opposite perspectives of the Vietnam War. The book would be hand stitched and leather bound, and assembled in SFA's fine arts press, the LaNana Creek Press, which Jones directs.

"Calling it a book is actually kind of misleading because it's really more of a bound portfolio of original work," Jones explained.

While both artists were excited about the idea, it would be seven more years before the book they envisioned came into being. A lengthy grant-writing process and the barriers of language and distance all contributed to the delay.

Work on the project began in earnest in spring 2006 when Jones traveled to Hanoi to meet with Luc and discuss the details of the book. It was during that visit and a follow-up trip in 2007 that the men discovered the commonality of their lives goes all the way back to childhood.

Both were raised in rural settings, and much of their artwork reflects the pastoral scenes and

cultural experiences of their early memories. Some of these images are included in the book, along with expressions from the war and more recent works. The artwork is interspersed with sketches and autobiographical writings, which appear in both English and Vietnamese.

"With our art, we each have different strengths, but we cooperate well together," Luc said through an interpreter when he visited SFA's LaNana Creek Press in January to help assemble the 40 handmade volumes. "Our styles are not similar, but they are harmonious."

Each year, the LaNana Creek Press publishes limited editions of one or two major books in the fine press tradition. Each is designed and printed from hand-set type and bound by hand at the press, which is housed in the SFA School of Art.

Helping Jones and Luc with the meticulous bookmaking process was Luc's interpreter, along with several SFA graduate students and friends and colleagues of Jones. Also lending a hand were a group of ex-Marines who served with Jones during the war and wanted to make their own contribution to the project.

There are a total of 20 prints in the book, 10 by each artist. Jones' woodcuts and Luc's linoleum cuts are printed on thin bamboo paper from Vietnam with alternating pages on an American paper. The 60-page books are covered in black Japanese silk and leather.

Its title, "The Bear Went Over the Mountain," references a marching song historically used by militaries. Most of the books will be housed in special collections of libraries across the United States.

"One of the reasons this book is very special is the paper materials used," explained Luc, who had never



before created a book using this process. "One of the two paper materials used is a very traditional art paper from Vietnam. I think a collector would be very interested in this project."

While Luc was visiting East Texas, the books and the prints contained in them were exhibited at The Museum of East Texas in Lufkin. The show included large drawings by Luc, who is primarily a painter. In February 2009 the books and prints will be exhibited in France at the Coombes Gallery at The American University of Paris.

Luc said he hopes the art book will be the first of many collaborative projects with Jones.

"Our friendship for each other is a very special situation. We come from different countries, but we share the same interest in art."

For Jones, the project was an affirmation that he had always yearned for yet never expected.

"If you can imagine having an angry fight with someone and then being apart for a long time and not really knowing if the fight was over. And then, to find out that it really is over—I find it very satisfying." ▼

—Amy Roquemore





1972 ART STUDIO
(ART BUILDING 1982)

1980 UNIVERSITY WOODS APARTMENTS



1981 HUMAN SCIENCES SOUTH



1982 TRACIE D. PEARMAN ALUMNI BUILDING



1984 VERA DUGAS LIBERAL ARTS NORTH

2000 RUBY M. MIZE AZALEA GARDEN



2001 SOCIAL WORK BUILDING



1973 HOMER BRYCE STADIUM
RALPH W. STEEN LIBRARY



1983 NURSING AND MATH BUILDING

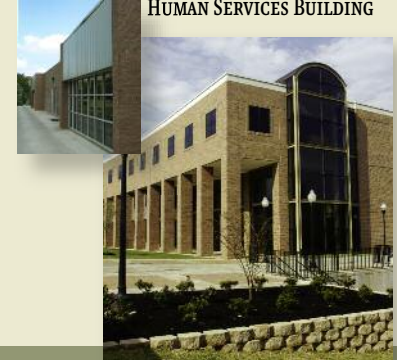


1985 HALL 20
MAST ARBORETUM



2002 BROILER
RESEARCH CENTER

2004 SPORTS MEDICINE AND ACADEMIC CENTER
HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING



1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008

1975
INTRODUCED FIRST
DOCTORATE:
FORESTRY



1978 OBSERVATORY
STEPHEN B. TUCKER UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES



1998
ADDED
EDUCATION
DOCTORATE

1986 TUCKER HOUSE (FOREST
RESOURCES INSTITUTE, PINEY-
WOODS NATIVE PLANT CENTER)



2006 LUMBERJACK LODGE
LUMBERJACK VILLAGE
SCHLIEF TENNIS COMPLEX



1975 EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH CENTER



1976 UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



1977 AGRICULTURE



1995 COLUMBIA REGIONAL GEOSPATIAL SERVICE CENTER



1996 JIMMY MURPHY WELLNESS CENTER



1998 JIM AND BETH KINGHAM
CHILDREN'S GARDEN



2007 STUDENT RECREATION CENTER



1974 ROBERT T. MCKIBBEN EDUCATION BUILDING
R.E. MCGEE BUSINESS BUILDING
WILLIAM R. JOHNSON COLISEUM
LUCILLE NORTON HPE COMPLEX



Nelson Rusche
College of Business
R.E. McGee Building

IN MEMORY

David Coleman Howard, retired



professor of English, passed away July 21, 2008. Howard was born in Navasota, Texas, Jan. 7, 1942.

Howard received a B.A. from Sam Houston State University. He went on to Texas Christian University, where he earned an M.A. in English and completed coursework for his Ph.D.

Howard taught for two years on a fellowship at the Universidad Catolica "Madre y Maestra" in Santiago de Los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, where he met his future wife, JoAnne Cusack.

He joined the SFA faculty in 1969 and taught for 38 years. He was always close to his students, who liked and admired him, and he made his home a gathering place for friends and students.

Howard was preceded in death by his wife and is survived by four daughters, Maury E. Howard of Austin, M. Quincy Howard of New Orleans, Jennifer Daniel of Beaumont, and Christina of Nacogdoches, and three sons, Christopher Howard of Nacogdoches, Michael Fowler of Sherman Oaks, Calif., and Robert Fowler of Potsdam, N.Y. He also is survived by 10 grandchildren.

Dr. Buster Duke Brannen, retired professor of secondary education, was remembered at a funeral service July 26, 2008, in Nacogdoches.

Brannen was born April 8, 1938, in Fort Worth and earned a bachelor's de-



gree from Texas Wesleyan College. His master's degree was from North Texas State University in Denton, and his doctorate was from

Purdue. He taught future teachers, principals and superintendents for 32 years.

After retiring as a professor, Brannen moved to Round Rock with his wife, Carolyn, and she survives him. He also is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Dee Ann and Matthew Lee Carney of Pflugerville, and three grandchildren. His daughter Amber Brannen Malowitz preceded him in death.

"Students overwhelmingly praise Dr. Brannen's teaching," said Dr. Betty Alford, chair of the Department of Secondary Education and Educational Leadership. "He was a gifted teacher and served as a role model. We continue to have graduates who ask about him because he made such a mark on their lives."

Donald Herbert Richter, longtime



music and sciences research librarian at the Ralph W. Steen Library, died Aug. 8, 2008. He was 79.

Richter was born Oct. 5, 1928, in Laredo and attended public schools in Corpus Christi. He attended Del Mar Junior College and

later graduated from the University of Texas with a degree in geology.

After working many years for Shell Oil, Richter returned to the University of Texas and earned a master's degree in library science. He joined the SFA faculty as a sciences librarian in 1973, and continued to work at Steen Library for 35 years until the time of his death.

"Fifteen years past the time when most people retire, Don was still arriving at his office shortly after 7:30 each morning," said librarian Bernice Wright. "He still loved his work. For students and faculty in chemistry, geology or music, he was simply the best person to help them."

Richter is survived by his brother and sister-in-law, John and Dixie Richter of Albuquerque, N.M., two nephews and many friends.

Marshall Brown, one of the most successful coaches in SFA history, died Aug. 20 in Tyler. He was 90.



Brown was 345-168 (.672) in 19 seasons as Lumberjack basket-

ball coach, and his teams won five Lone Star Conference titles and featured two players who went on to play in the NBA.

Brown led SFA to the Lone Star Conference titles in 1965, 1968, 1970, 1971 and 1972. The 1971-72 team went 31-3 overall and finished third in the NIAA national tournament. The 31 wins still stand as a school record.

A 1936 graduate of Whitehouse High School, Brown played at Lon Morris College and Texas Tech. He played one season of major league baseball with the St. Louis Browns before beginning his coaching career.

Dr. Minho Park, an assistant profes-



sor of computer science, died Sept. 15, 2008, after an accident at his home. Park had been part of the SFA computer science department

since fall 2005 and taught both undergraduate and graduate courses.

Park was born Aug. 25, 1968, in Seoul, Korea, and is survived by his wife, Suwon Park, and two children.

"He was a very energetic professor and was very popular with his students," said Dr. Craig Wood, chair of the Department of Computer Science. Several of Park's students gave testimonials at a memorial service held in his honor.

Mike Pickard was a fellow faculty member and enjoyed playing racquetball with Park on a weekly basis.

"You learn a lot about a person when you regularly play an intense sport together," Pickard said. "I learned that Minho was persistent, gracious, energetic and confident, and that he loved his family very much. He also cared for his students, and this is a great loss for our department."

THE SFA VISTA VOLUME ONE, ISSUE TWO

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Amy Roquemore, Editorial Coordinator

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P. O. Box 6100, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, TX 75962
(936) 468-2605, vista@sfasu.edu
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