

Sawdust

WINTER 2016

THE MAGAZINE OF THE SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Shooting for the Stars

Dallas Cowboys' director of coaching video says SFA faculty members helped formulate his career game plan



He's a Pepper

SFA professor of communication avidly collects Dr Pepper memorabilia

Compound Interests

SFA alumnus enjoys work as chemist by day and lightning photographer by night

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STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

President's Letter

"A dynamic digital presence is more critical than ever as we make strides toward the foundational goal of our current strategic plan: meaningful and sustained enrollment growth."



IF YOU HAVEN'T visited SFA recently — either in person or online — you will notice some exciting changes the next time you arrive on campus or "click" on our website.

On Nov. 7, we held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building, a \$46 million investment in the education of SFA students majoring in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines. Located on the south end of campus between Raguet Street and Clark Boulevard, the four-story, state-of-the-art facility will be a striking addition to the campus when it opens in 2018. There also are plans to enhance the south entrance to campus from Starr Avenue to accommodate an expected increase in visitor traffic to the new building.

Another highly visible upgrade at SFA is designed to enhance the experience of online visitors to campus, particularly prospective students. The first phase of our new-and-improved website launched Sept. 12, following many months of research, planning and testing by our marketing team with support and input from departments across campus. While other phases of the upgrade are still to come, prospective Lumberjacks are already benefiting from the changes, which include optimization for viewing on mobile devices and easier navigation allowing our target audience to find information much faster and easier.

A dynamic digital presence is more critical than ever as we make strides toward the foundational goal of our current strategic plan: meaningful and sustained enrollment growth. Recently, the university reported some very positive indicators regarding enrollment, including an increase of 136 students for the fall semester. The largest growth was among freshmen, whose numbers increased 3.5 percent from fall 2015. But even more importantly, SFA recorded the highest first-time undergraduate

retention rate in the university's history. Having our students successfully graduate is the best measure of our success because, after all, that is the main reason we are here. There is more work to do, but I would be remiss if I didn't point out that these positive metrics are the result of hard work, day in and day out, by our faculty and staff members who are staunchly committed to our students' success and well-being.

Another successful fall semester is almost in the books, and the holidays are upon us, which can only mean one thing — a new SFA basketball season is underway. If you have been looking for a reason to visit your alma mater this winter, watching the Lumberjacks and Ladyjacks compete in Johnson Coliseum is a great opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni and be part of this winning SFA tradition. New head men's basketball coach Kyle Keller has brought a lot of excitement to the program, and I know he agrees wholeheartedly with me that our team's success is dependent in no small part on the enthusiastic support of SFA students, faculty and staff members, and alumni.

I hope to see you at a game or other on-campus event soon. Until then, I wish you and all proud Lumberjacks many blessings this holiday season. ★

Axe 'em, Jacks!

Baker Pattillo '65 & '66
President, Stephen F. Austin State University



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In This Issue



FOLLOWING MONTHS OF research, planning and testing, SFA launched the first phase of its new website in September. The improved site offers optimization for viewing on mobile devices and easier navigation, which will help prospective students locate information faster. Additional phases will be introduced in the coming months.

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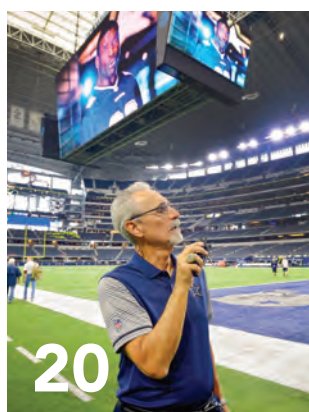
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Sawdust

Winter 2016 ★ Volume 43, No. 3

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THE SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

is a nonprofit organization dedicated to engaging SFA students, alumni and friends to create an attitude of continued loyalty and support.

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SAWDUST ONLINE

Read past issues, watch video extras, submit class notes and preview upcoming features:

sfasu.edu/sawdust

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ON THE COVER:

Robert Blackwell '76 joined the Dallas

Cowboys in 1981 as an assistant in the coaching film department. Today, Blackwell is director of coaching video and serves as the club's representative at the NFL draft. Earning three Super Bowl rings through his affiliation with the Cowboys, Blackwell said the long hours don't feel like work to him because the organization is very much like a family.

He's a Pepper

SFA professor of
communication avidly collects
Dr Pepper memorabilia



Story by Donna Parish
Photography by Hardy Meredith





IF YOU WANT to see the world's most impressive collection of Dr Pepper memorabilia, you'll need to travel to the Dr Pepper Museum in Waco. Or, you can save yourself the trip and visit the office of Dr. Jim Towns, SFA professor of communication.

Towns, who has been collecting Dr Pepper items for decades, said he began the hobby because he wanted to collect something unique.

"Many of my friends were collecting Coca-Cola items," Towns said. "I began collecting in college, and there were so many Coca-Cola collectors around. I wanted to be different. At that time, no one I knew was collecting Dr Pepper bottles, so that's how I got started."

Dr Pepper was created in 1885 in Waco at Morrison's Old Corner Drug Store. According to Towns, a young pharmacist, Charles Alderton, worked at the store and is credited with inventing the famous soft drink.

"Charles spent most of his time compounding medicine," Towns said. "But in his spare time, he enjoyed serving carbonated drinks at the soda fountain."

According to Dr Pepper's website, Alderton liked the smell the fruit syrup created when being mixed, and he decided to create a drink that tasted like the aromas.

Keeping a journal, Alderton finally concocted a mixture of fruit syrups he liked. To test his new beverage, he offered it to the store's owner, Wade Morrison, who enjoyed it. Later, the drink was made available to drug store patrons, who began requesting it.

Morrison is credited with naming the drink Dr. Pepper (the period was dropped in the 1950s). Although representatives for Dr Pepper say the name's origin is unclear, Towns attributes the naming to a real-life Dr. Pepper who had given his permission for Morrison to marry his daughter. In gratitude, Towns said, Morrison named the drink in his honor.

Dr Pepper gained such widespread consumer favor that other soda fountain operators in Waco began buying the syrup from Morrison and serving it. Soon, demand exceeded supply.

"A beverage chemist, Robert Lazenby, tried the drink and also was impressed," Towns said. "Alderton was much more interested in pharmacy work and not so much in developing the drink. He suggested that Morrison and Lazenby work on developing it further. The pair later formed Artesian Mfg. & Bottling Company, which later became the Dr Pepper Company," Towns added.

The first items Towns collected were green bottles from the 1930s to 1950s. He later graduated to cans, carriers and novelty items.



A rare find: The log-shaped Dr Pepper Nacogdoches bottle from 1930

Towns' most-coveted collectible is his 1930 Nacogdoches Dr Pepper bottle. In addition to being extremely rare, there's an added appeal — it's shaped like a log.

"In the 1930s, Dr Pepper was bottled in many locations, including Nacogdoches, and the bottlers were allowed some liberties in designing their own bottles," Towns said. "So, the folks bottling the drink locally decided to have their bottle shaped like a log to reflect the area's pine trees and lumber industry. The bottles were manufactured elsewhere and shipped back to Nacogdoches for bottling."

Visit sfasu.edu/sawdust to view more images of Dr. Jim Towns' Dr Pepper collection.



Towns said many items in his collection have been purchased from junk stores, flea markets and trade days, including Canton First Monday, where he purchased an incredibly rare bottle.

"As I was checking out the vendors, I noticed an 'I'm a Pepper' Dr Pepper bottle that dates to May 7, 1982," Towns said. "Although the bottle isn't particularly old, it's extremely rare because it is a Dr Pepper bottle that was filled with Coca-Cola due to a mix up at the bottler. The vendor was asking \$3 for the bottle. I told him it was worth much more, so I paid him \$50," Towns said.

Many, including representatives at the Dr Pepper Museum, regard Towns as a Dr Pepper expert. Towns has presented seminars at the museum about collecting Dr Pepper memorabilia and discussed his own collection. He also occasionally receives communications asking for his expert opinion on various items.

According to representatives at the Dr Pepper Museum, Towns has the most pristine collection of Dr Pepper carriers and bottles in the Dr Pepper 10-2-4 Collectors' Club, and these items are generally his topic of choice when asked to speak at the museum.

"I'll tell you a funny story," Towns said. "I came across a bottle I wasn't familiar with, which in itself is rare, so I called the Dr Pepper





Museum to inquire about it. After being transferred a few times, I finally was connected with a gentleman who told me he wasn't familiar with the bottle either, but to contact Jim Towns in Nacogdoches because he knew everything there was to know about Dr Pepper bottles," Towns said. "I told him that he was speaking to Jim Towns, and we both had a good laugh."

Towns' collection comprises hundreds of Dr Pepper-related items, which includes rare cans, bottles and carriers. He also has dozens of items that are not rare, but nonetheless have appeal.

"Some items in my collection just remind me of a time or place," Towns said. "For instance, in the 1970s, it became popular to drink Dr Pepper as a hot beverage. I have some carriers that show graphics of Dr Pepper being served steaming hot with lemon."

Various Dr Pepper items are proudly displayed on the shelves in Towns' office, including the first can Dr Pepper produced, metal bottle carriers from the early days of Dr Pepper, cans Towns purchased while visiting other countries, sports-related cans and bottles, clocks, gum packages, a sailing ship constructed from Dr Pepper cans, stained glass, and many others.

"Through the years, my students have gifted me several Dr Pepper items," Towns said. "One of the more unique collectibles given to me is a Jelly Belly dispenser that looks like a vintage Dr Pepper vending machine."

His most-recently-acquired item is a Dr Pepper can a student received from an on-campus vending machine manufactured with the 2016 Lumberjack football game schedule on the reverse.

Although he's not collecting as avidly as he once was, Towns said he still can't resist purchasing an item if it is rare or has meaning to him. His advice for up-and-coming collectors: "Don't stock up on too many general items. They don't necessarily go up in value," Towns said. "Instead, be willing to pay more for the extremely rare items. They will go up in value and protect your investment." ★

Faculty Advising



Creative tips from professional photographer Greg Patterson

College of Liberal and Applied Arts
Lecturer of Mass Communication

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN intrigued with light. While perched on the roof of my two-story childhood home in Dallas, I would watch and photograph approaching lightning storms. Many years later, the thrill of photography remains.

If you are looking to expand your photography skills, below are a few tips to help brighten your photos and expand your creativity.

One caveat: These tips require a more-advanced camera than those in a smartphone.

MASTER THE MOMENT

Photography has everything to do with timing. A fraction of a second is usually just enough to do the trick. Pressing the shutter at just the right moment takes patience and anticipation. The placement of the subject in relation to the background, expressions and shadows all play into mastering the moment. Keep your shutter finger ready and your eyes open.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

Creativity often comes when looking through your lens from a different perspective. As adults, we typically experience the world around us in relation to our height — at eye level, 4-to-6-feet from the ground. Move away from the norm and shoot your photos either higher or lower to gain a different perspective.

You might try setting your camera on the ground to capture a toddler's viewpoint. Or climb to a high vantage point for a unique view. One of my favorite assignments for students just learning photography is to take photos as close to the subject as possible. The results capture some beautiful and interesting photos.

LOVE THE NIGHT LIGHT

There is something special about the twinkle of Christmas lights. They are not only a joy to see but also fun to photograph. This tip is a technical one but essential for taking photographs at night. Your shopping list requires two items — a camera that allows for long exposure and something to support it.

Let's talk camera support. Tripods are excellent at keeping your camera still during longer exposure. However, they are big and expensive. With some Boy Scout ingenuity, you can create your own device for steadying the camera. For example, a bag of rice effortlessly conforms underneath your camera's body making it a great option. Set your camera to self-timer so the vibration of pressing the shutter will not create blur.

Your night-photography formula: Low ISO (adjusts your camera's sensitivity to light and improves quality), long exposure (try 30 seconds to start), manual focus (cameras have a hard time seeing in the dark) and setting the camera's shooting mode to manual. Change to a smaller aperture setting if your first image is too bright.

This article may include a few terms with which you may not be familiar. I never said being creative was easy. A desire to learn is required, and practice is mandatory.

One final tip: Give your local professional photographer, who is an expert at making everyone look his/her best, a call for special occasions. Your family will be grateful you are in the portraits and not behind the camera. ★

*There's
'Snow' Place
Like Home.*

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO OUR LUMBERJACK FAMILY



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Vista Viewpoint



"The Wall" by Stephanie Ballard

BY DR. MARCUS COX

NELSON RUSCHE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Associate Professor of Management



I GREW UP a Lumberjack.

My parents, Campbell and Peggy Cox, and most of my aunts and uncles are SFA alums. Additionally, my grandfather, Dr. J.C. Green, was a professor in the agriculture department for approximately three decades. As a native of Nacogdoches, my childhood was filled with attending SFA events such as Homecoming parades, sporting events and summer camps.

The university was a central theme during our family's Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. My grandparents, parents, and aunts and uncles often discussed legendary figures such as former SFA President Dr. Paul Boynton, who kept SFA from closing during the war years, or the tremendous growth that occurred under the leadership of Dr. Ralph Steen. My grandmother told the story of the Women's Army Corps arriving by train at the old train station and then cutting a fine figure as they marched to the SFA campus. These conversations also featured legendary professors such as Drs. Frank Lauderdale, Archie McDonald and Jere Jackson, to name a few. Later, my nephews and I were able to add our own stories as we joined the ranks as proud Lumberjacks.

During my lifetime, I've witnessed many changes at SFA. I remember as a first-grade student riding with mother as she drove through the middle of campus on the way to Raguet Elementary before Raguet Street closed and became a pedestrian area. Years later as an undergraduate student, I met many friends and visited between classes there, which came to be known as "the wall."

Another vivid childhood memory occurred one evening at an SFA football game in the mid-70s when the student section erupted in cheers as a streaker emerged from the field house wearing only a pair of tennis shoes and sprinted the length of the field before being apprehended by university police. My mother tried to shield my eyes, but as Ray Stevens said in his famous song about streaking, "It was too late. I had done looked."

As an undergraduate and graduate student, and now a faculty member in the Rusche College of Business, I have witnessed much at SFA.

One of the most visible changes is student demographics. During the past 25 years, student enrollment has diversified, helping to close the gaps, and, as a result, a new generation of educators, nurses, business leaders, foresters and artists are taking on leadership roles in our state and country.

Another interesting and pleasant change has been the increase in international students. During the past few years, I've taught students from France, Croatia, Africa, China and Pakistan. These students offer a rich and varied perspective on issues we discuss in class, and their contributions to lectures aid our business majors in obtaining a better view of global business.

The increase in first-generation college students is another important shift. As a faculty member who performs academic advising, I work closely with students from their freshman year up to graduation. Many students are the first members in their family to attend college. I always smile when I see a first-generation student cross the stage at graduation because I know that the college degree he or she just received will unlock opportunities not only for the graduate but also for his or her children and grandchildren. I hope someday multiple generations of their family will join mine in sharing fond memories of SFA around the dinner table.

Looking back at all the changes I've seen, one thing has not changed — college students are still college students. Recently, I was standing in line to order a pizza in the student center and couldn't help overhearing a freshman group conversation. The group was discussing plans for the weekend, and the main topic was a toga party. As a middle-age professor, I flashed back in my mind to when I was a student a generation ago. I smiled and said silently to myself, "Toga! Toga! Toga!"

The more things change, the more they stay the same. ★

STONE FORT MUSEUM CELEBRATES 80 YEARS

STORY BY CHRISTINE BROUSSARD



The dedication and opening ceremony
for SDA's Stone Fort in 1936



Stone Fort Museum, 2016



Original Stone Fort



Painting of Antonio Gil y Barbo



First reconstruction
of the Stone Fort

NACOGDOCHES HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Robert Monk, Secretary
Virginia Sanders,
Nacogdoches, Texas
April 14th, 1934

Lets build a
Successful
Historical
Society!

Dear Friend:

To rebuild the Stone Fort and translate many of the existing records from the old Spanish into present day English as well as to perpetuate many of the historical spots, has long been the ambition of many of us and I am sure that you are one of those.

With the above purpose in view, the Nacogdoches Historical Society is being formed to make those ambitions come true and we are sure that you, as one of those loyal citizens will be glad to help to form this Society and to carry through to completion the plans as laid down.

This 1934 letter is from the newly formed Nacogdoches Historical Society soliciting memberships. The letter also states the group's intentions to rebuild the Stone Fort.

A

A LOT CAN happen in 80 years. The Stone Fort Museum serves as an example.

Standing sentinel on the SFA campus since 1936, the museum has played host to many exhibits, speakers and touring groups, while the tide of progress altered the campus that surrounds it.

The Stone Fort Museum is a replica and the second reconstruction of a building originally erected by Antonio Gil Y'Barbo. It began its life as a magnificent Spanish colonial house sometime between 1788 and 1791.

"The Stone Fort Museum is a special place because, as a building, it embodies the multiple stories of Y'Barbo's house — the memorial building and a Texas Centennial landmark structure — and as a museum, its mission to serve the public and SFA as an educational center connects university resources with local and regional communities," said museum curator Carolyn Spears, who has worked at the museum for more than 30 years.

"History museums, in general, are places where stories of people, places and change come together. That means to tell the story of East Texas, we cover lots of subjects: technology, science, art, economic and political change, and invention, to name a few. The university community is a great resource for a history museum, and a history museum is a great resource for a university community," Spears added.

Weathering four revolutionary actions, the home changed hands many times. Eventually, the Mexican government billeted soldiers in the house, and a succession of filibusterers took temporary possession of the building before it settled into its final incarnation as a saloon.

Brothers William and Charles Perkins dismantled the original Stone House in 1902, and the structure's pieces were donated to the Cum Concilio Club, a women's study club in Nacogdoches. Some of the original stones were used to construct a building five years later that remained on Nacogdoches public school property for almost 30 years.

Decades later, the structure was dismantled again, and a replica of the original stone trading building was shepherded into existence by the Cum Concilio Club on the Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College campus in honor of the Texas Centennial in 1936. →



'LOTS OF GREAT MEMORIES'

In 1984, Spears began working at the Stone Fort Museum in the same functional position she holds now. However, over time, she has seen the duties bequeathed to that role greatly expand "as we instituted or updated museum best practices," she explained.

Linda Reynolds, director of the East Texas Research Center, said Spears is passionate about her profession and the work she does at the Stone Fort Museum. "We have worked together on many different projects. Early in our acquaintance, we digitized many of the museum's objects and made them available online. Since then, we keep in touch and talk about the changes in our profession, the needs of cultural heritage institutions and our personal lives. I am proud to call Carolyn my colleague and friend."

Between tours, new exhibits, guest speakers and hands-on activities, it's hard for Spears to pick a specific favorite memory of her time with the museum.

"I have lots of great memories, most of them tied to people, young and old, who came to learn, to help or to teach," she said. "I love having college students as employees because they keep me on my toes, and I equally love watching a group of third graders have that 'whoa' moment when they enter a room full of artifacts. If I'm honest, I am just as pleased to work in the collection room with objects as my only companions."

Since Spears began at the museum, the facility has seen major and minor improvements.

"The museum has improved operations in collection management and programming through grant-funded programs, such as the Museum Assessment Program and Conservation Assessment Program," she said. "Many of the upgrades were made possible as part of the 1990 renovations to the structure. At that time, a rear extension was added to house the office space and a collection storage room. The exterior design of the 'lean-to' structure mimics additions made to the original stone house."

"Each project through the years has raised the profile of the museum both locally and nationally. With three national awards for interpretation and state awards for publication design, the museum has made a commitment to excellence that we will build on with the current strategic planning process," Spears said.

The SFA and Nacogdoches communities celebrated the building's 80th anniversary in October, exactly eight decades to the day of its dedication in 1936. ★



Carolyn Spears



Jacquelyn May / Stone Fort yearbook



Jacquelyn May / Stone Fort yearbook



Brittany Feagins / Stone Fort yearbook



Jacquelyn May / Stone Fort yearbook



Ryan Perry / University Marketing Communications

Clockwise: During the Stone Fort's 80th anniversary celebration, a Boy Scout Troop 100 member cooks with a Dutch oven; Jeff Williams discusses the El Camino Real Trail; David Pistole re-enacts a day in the life of a Texian soldier; Mayor Roger Van Horn recognizes the Stone Fort Museum's 80 years of service to the community; and the Piney Woods Fiddlers perform.

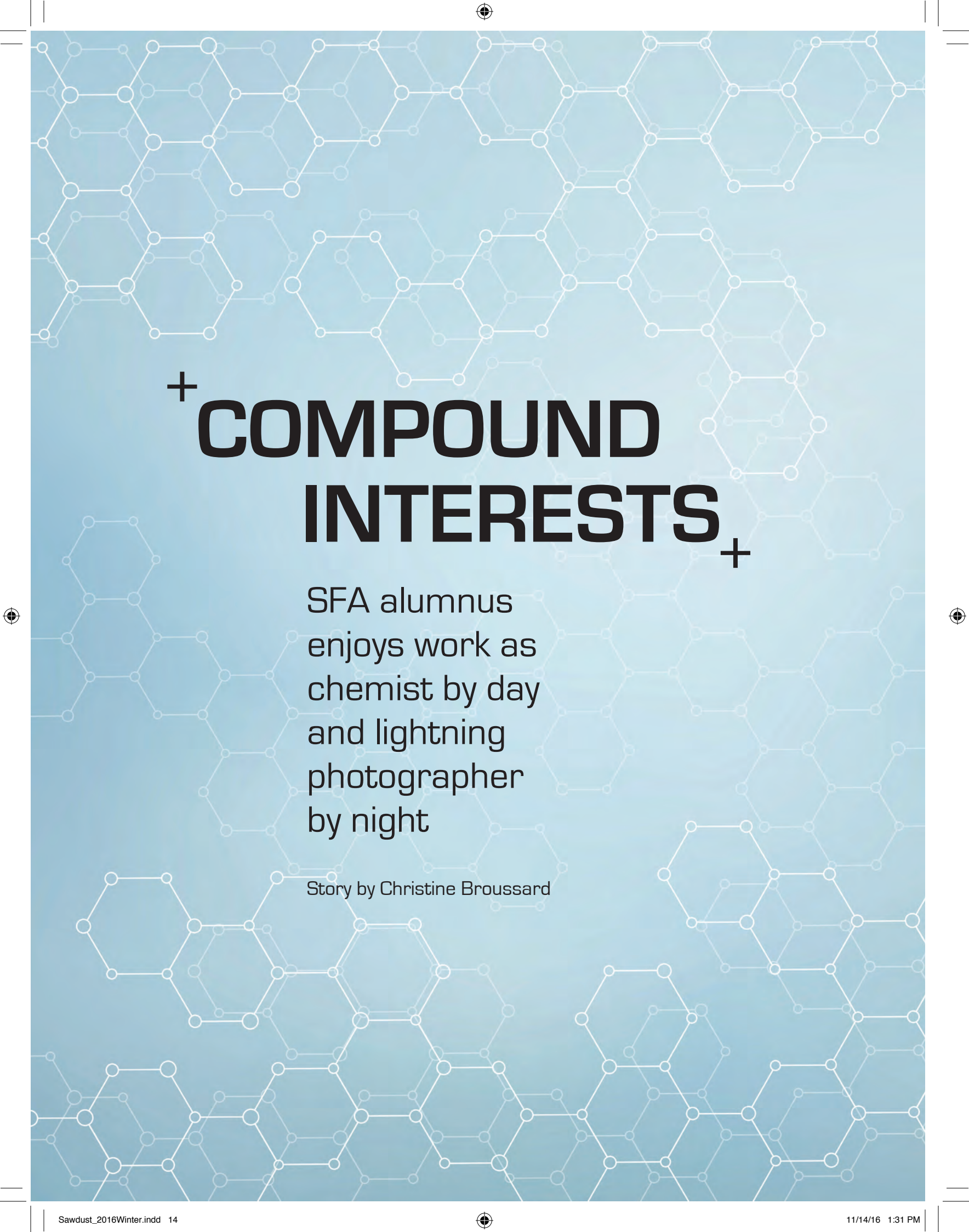
Work Space / Inside Diane Peterson's Office



DIANE PETERSON

College of Fine Arts
Box Office Coordinator

1. A “very itchy,” child-size Halloween costume, which Peterson purchased at the Family Crisis Center of East Texas thrift store, hangs behind the door. Some of her petite student workers sometimes surprise Peterson by wearing it.
2. The “graduate board tradition” started in 2010 when student workers began autographing the board upon their approaching graduation. The Masonite board was originally utilized on rainy days as a bridge over rainwater that collected near a sidewalk outside the Griffith Fine Arts Building.
3. Peterson has a habit of misplacing her pens and taking them from coworkers. Austin, a former student worker, organized Peterson’s pens, put them in this holder and labeled the four sections: Sharpies and Highlighters, Good Pens, Mediocre Pens and Terrible Pens. Austin has since graduated, and Peterson said the pens are in a horrible state of disarray.
4. An Indiana Jones-themed Mr. Potato Head sits atop the desk. Peterson said she’s had a “thing” for Indiana Jones since 1984 when the movie “Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom” premiered. Peterson said she couldn’t resist purchasing this item, which plays the movie’s theme song when you press Mr. Potato Head’s fedora.
5. Recently, Peterson commented to staff members in the College of Fine Arts dean’s office that having a box of kittens would make the work environment much more enjoyable. Hearing this, a student worker found an empty box, adhered 21 photos of kittens to the box and gifted it to Peterson.
6. Another great find from the Family Crisis Center of East Texas thrift store — purple rain boots with white polka dots. Peterson said she keeps the boots in her office so she’s prepared when East Texas weather strikes and she needs to walk across campus.
7. An oversized chess knight that Peterson affectionately calls “Thor” sits near the corner of the desk. Thor was a gift from a former student with whom Peterson exchanged novelty items through the mail. Peterson had gifted the alumna with a glass elephant missing its trunk, so the SFA alumna sent Peterson Thor to reciprocate the gesture. Peterson confessed that the alumna confiscated Thor from her parent’s mantel and sent the 15-pound statue to Peterson.
8. Steve the sock monkey was a 2009 Christmas gift from a student worker to Peterson. Steve is approximately 4 feet tall and has his own Facebook page. Peterson said Steve was awarded fourth place in a Words With Friends photo contest, has a girlfriend named Zsa Zsa, is not camera shy and was in the Nacogdoches Christmas Parade a few years ago. Steve also has served as the box office mascot for several years and has been featured on several Children’s Performing Arts Series T-shirts.
9. Notes and artwork from former student workers are pinned to Peterson’s wall as remembrances of their time spent working in the box office. Peterson said she cannot bear the thought of discarding them.
10. A “Mosquito Coast” movie poster starring Harrison Ford hangs on the wall. Peterson said she was at a church youth conference in Chicago during a Christmas break and skipped a set of afternoon seminars to see the film. She said she felt like a rebel and later purchased this poster on eBay.
11. A set of Franklin Mint Indiana Jones decorative plates, which Peterson said are “fantastically awful” and quirky, fill the front wall of Peterson’s office. The plates depict scenes from the third movie, “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.” There were originally six plates, but the one featuring River Phoenix as a young Jones fell off the wall at Peterson’s home and broke. She moved the remaining plates to her office for safekeeping. ★



+ **COMPOUND INTERESTS**+

SFA alumnus
enjoys work as
chemist by day
and lightning
photographer
by night

Story by Christine Broussard

SEVERAL SUDDEN FLASHES appear to momentarily light the sky on fire.

Safe behind glass windows, cozy in his living room, Michael Tidwell '00 watches the storm build past the distant hills near his San Antonio home. He patiently waits for morning, when he will walk outside on his back deck, collect his camera equipment and discover if he's captured any bolts of lightning with his long exposures.

Long-exposure photography isn't Tidwell's day job. It's a hobby he picked up in the early 2000s that has helped him bridge his personal life and successful career as a medicinal organic chemist.



Michael Tidwell '00 stands next to his fume hood at the Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio holding a sample of the anti-Ebola compound, Tetrandrine. Tidwell has been working with scientists at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute since the lethal epidemic broke in 2014 in an effort to discover a new drug for the Ebola virus. Photo by Hardy Meredith

"Talking to people about the Ebola virus or nerve gas antidotes or a compound I made for Alzheimer's — that can be a very difficult thing, especially if they don't have the background to understand synthetic, organic chemistry, which is basically what I do," Tidwell said while seated in his San Antonio-based office at the Southwest Research Institute, a nonprofit research and development organization. "Once you say the word 'chemistry,' many people can kind of shut down. With photography, that's not the case. I am kind of an introvert, and photography is one way I can talk to someone, and sometimes I can use photography to lead into science."

Tidwell has spent 17 years in the organic chemistry field, and, in that time, he has had a hand in the production of several potentially lifesaving compounds.➔

'VERY WELL PREPARED'

Though Tidwell's interest in organic chemistry didn't develop until his first years at SFA, his passion for scientific discovery began at a young age.

"My father has multiple sclerosis," Tidwell explained. "That is probably the one thing that has driven me more than anything else — to one day get to a place where I can make MS drugs."

After graduating in 1996 from Hemphill High School, Tidwell began attending SFA under the recommendation of his high school chemistry teacher and SFA alumna, Sherrill Hobbs '86.

"After 25 years of teaching, Michael is still my favorite success story," Hobbs said. "He came from very humble beginnings in one of the lowest socioeconomic counties in the state. Though intelligence, integrity and sheer determination, he has worked tirelessly to better himself and more importantly to make a lasting contribution to mankind through his work. To say that I am proud of him is a huge understatement. I am certain that he will continue his efforts to help mankind through his work for many years to come. I was honored to be his teacher."

It was while studying a 45-step synthesis of cortisone in former SFA Professor Roger S. Case's advanced organic chemistry course that Tidwell's enthusiasm for organic chemistry was born.

"He was the first person who really showed me how organic chemistry could be used to make new drugs," Tidwell said. "I also was an organic lab teaching assistant for Dr. James Garrett. He taught organic chemistry at SFA much longer than Dr. Case, but he was not doing research during my time there. However, Dr. Garrett is certainly the person who influenced me to apply to work at Eli Lilly and Company."

With a bachelor's degree from SFA under his belt, Tidwell moved to Beaumont to attend Lamar University, where he received his Master of Science in chemistry in 2002 and completed a thesis on new synthetic methods for C-Aryl glycosides, an important class of natural products.

From there, he applied to three companies and was offered a position at each. He accepted one, and from 2003 to 2009, Tidwell synthesized more than 600 target compounds for Eli Lilly, a global pharmaceutical company headquartered in Indianapolis. He and his family returned to Texas when he joined the SwRI team in 2009.

"I think those successes show that I not only had an excellent teacher in high school, but that I was very well prepared by the chemistry department at SFA," he said.

LIFESAVING COMPOUNDS

On March 25, 2014, the World Health Organization reported an outbreak of the Ebola virus in four Southeastern districts in the African country of Guinea.

For some time, Tidwell had been interested in studying neglected tropical diseases — or those often-fatal diseases many pharmaceutical companies decline to research because of their rarity, he explained.

Contacting a scientist from SwRI's sister company, Texas Biomedical Research Institute, where his wife, Tammi, works, Tidwell began creating and testing compounds to combat the neglected tropical disease sweeping across the African continent.

"They have a BSL (biosafety level) 4 lab where they can work with the Ebola virus," Tidwell said. "I was looking for ways to work with neglected tropical diseases, so I found the one scientist there who was working with small molecules. I contacted him in 2014 and told him about our capabilities. He asked that I make a compound that he could no longer buy, and, in making that compound, we were put into a scientific publication as co-authors."

On Feb. 27, 2015, the team's successful results were published in the American Association for the



An anti-Ebola compound synthesized by Michael Tidwell '00 allowed him to co-author a paper in the American Association for the Advancement of Science's magazine *Science*, one of the most prestigious publications for scientific discovery. The cover art from the February 2015 issue shows how the Ebola virus is transported in and out of cells.

Advancement of Science's magazine *Science*, one of the most prestigious publications for scientific discovery.

While it would be difficult to say his team found a "cure" for Ebola, it is making meaningful progress in optimizing its compound. His team is producing new compounds that are now more potent than the natural product on which they are based.

"The drug-discovery process is immense," Tidwell said. "One person does not make a drug. It's a huge team. Think of it like this: When I was in the (pharmaceutical) industry, I had at least four different projects reach a candidate-selection phase. Those (drugs) still probably have 10 years or more before they will be put on the shelf. That's why I can't come in here and say 'I made this or that drug.' But I can say that I have contributed to eight patents and several publications in peer-reviewed journals in the area of medicinal chemistry."

What Tidwell can say is that compounds developed in his lab at SwRI have the real potential to save lives. One example, he said, is a compound he synthesized for the U.S. military that serves as an antidote to nerve gases.

"SwRI is highly regarded for producing some of the best nerve gas antidotes in the world ... and that is something I really feel good about," Tidwell said. "Because five years from now, there could be a soldier in Afghanistan or Iraq who could be exposed to a deadly nerve agent, and he or she could pull an auto-injector from his or her bag and inject an actual molecule that we discovered right here at SwRI."

FULFILLING HIS PASSIONS

To say Tidwell is doing exactly what he envisioned as a young boy would be putting it mildly.

"I would say this is probably more than exactly what I wanted to do — to work on infectious, neglected diseases," he said. "Just the idea that I can chart my own course here is wonderful. For example, my mom was recently diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. I saw her go downhill pretty quick. So just to know that you have the power, the department, the knowledge, and you are able to help in a real way, I just can't really stress enough how that feels."

"Based on things I've done — different publications, different patents — someone someday down the road may need a certain type of reaction, and they could look on the computer, find a reaction I've worked on, go into a lab and one day possibly use something I've worked on to make a cancer drug. So as far as doing what I want, I'm as happy here as I could ever be."

With all his career successes, Tidwell is sure to pursue his love of photography in his spare time, using it as a tool to connect his personal and professional life.

Photographs he has taken have been purchased and reproduced by SwRI administrators and are scattered across the 1,200-acre research campus. He was recently honored to produce several canvas prints for a special display at the residence of the SwRI president. He continues to experiment with exposure times and locations and hopes to capture a lightning storm against a backdrop of the San Antonio skyline by the end of the year. ★



Photo courtesy of Michael Tidwell

'JACK TALK

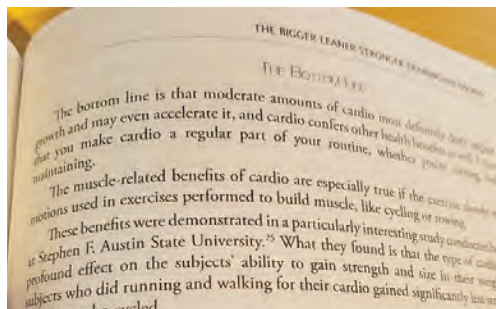
f FACEBOOK - SFASU

ig INSTAGRAM - SFA_JACKS

tw TWITTER - @SFASU

pin PINTEREST - SFALUMBERJACKS

Use hashtag #AxeEm or #SFAJackTalk on social media.



When the book I'm reading, "The Bigger Leaner Stronger," cites a study by researchers at my alma mater, Stephen F. Austin State University. #lumberjacksmakegreatresearchers

BALLFEEZY / INSTAGRAM



NOT QUITE TO THE ANCHOR PART YET, BUT WE'RE ROLLING WITH IT.

HUNTERSOWARDS / INSTAGRAM

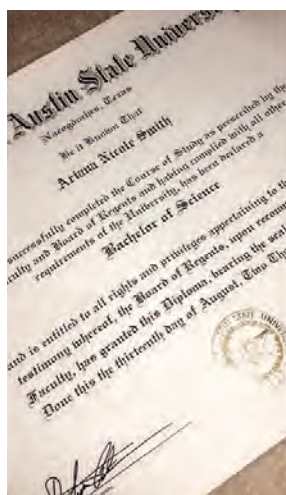
SFA is the best decision I've made in my life. The quality education, the campus, the city: there's something in that East Texas air that makes each of the aforementioned unique, second to none and **WORTH IT ALL**. I have memories and friendships from SFA that will last a **LIFETIME**; ones that I'm grateful for every day. Lumberjacks make great Everythings, and people recognize that. **PROUD** to be an SFA Lumberjack: Axe 'em, Jacks!

BRITTANY MOORE / FACEBOOK



Five years ... FIVE. YEARS. That have seriously changed my life forever.

JD_RODGERS / INSTAGRAM



Thank you, **SFA**, for the experience. It was definitely a bumpy three years, but worth the **JOURNEY**.

TENACITYRI / INSTAGRAM



When your mom designs T-shirts for a living, sometimes you really do get to be a **baby model**. #TexasSizeBling #SFA

REALEMILYDODSON / INSTAGRAM



HOME OPENER. Eli saw the field from a distance and ran to the fence screaming, "**WOOOOW!**" #SFA #football #tailgate #sfa

IMHANDMADEAJ
INSTAGRAM

Athletics Highlights

LADYJACK BOWLING RANKED SECOND IN NTCA POLL

#2

THE REIGNING NATIONAL champion Ladyjack bowling team entered the 2016-17 season ranked second in the National Tenpin Coaches Association preseason poll. The Ladyjacks finished with 1,302 points in the preseason poll, 10 points behind preseason favorite University of Nebraska's 1,312. The second-place ranking came despite SFA receiving 22 of the possible 37 first-place votes. The Ladyjacks return almost their entire squad from last year's national championship run, including reigning NTCA National Player of the Year, Stephanie Schwartz. ★



WALKUP HEADS TO CHICAGO

JERSEY
NUMBER
0

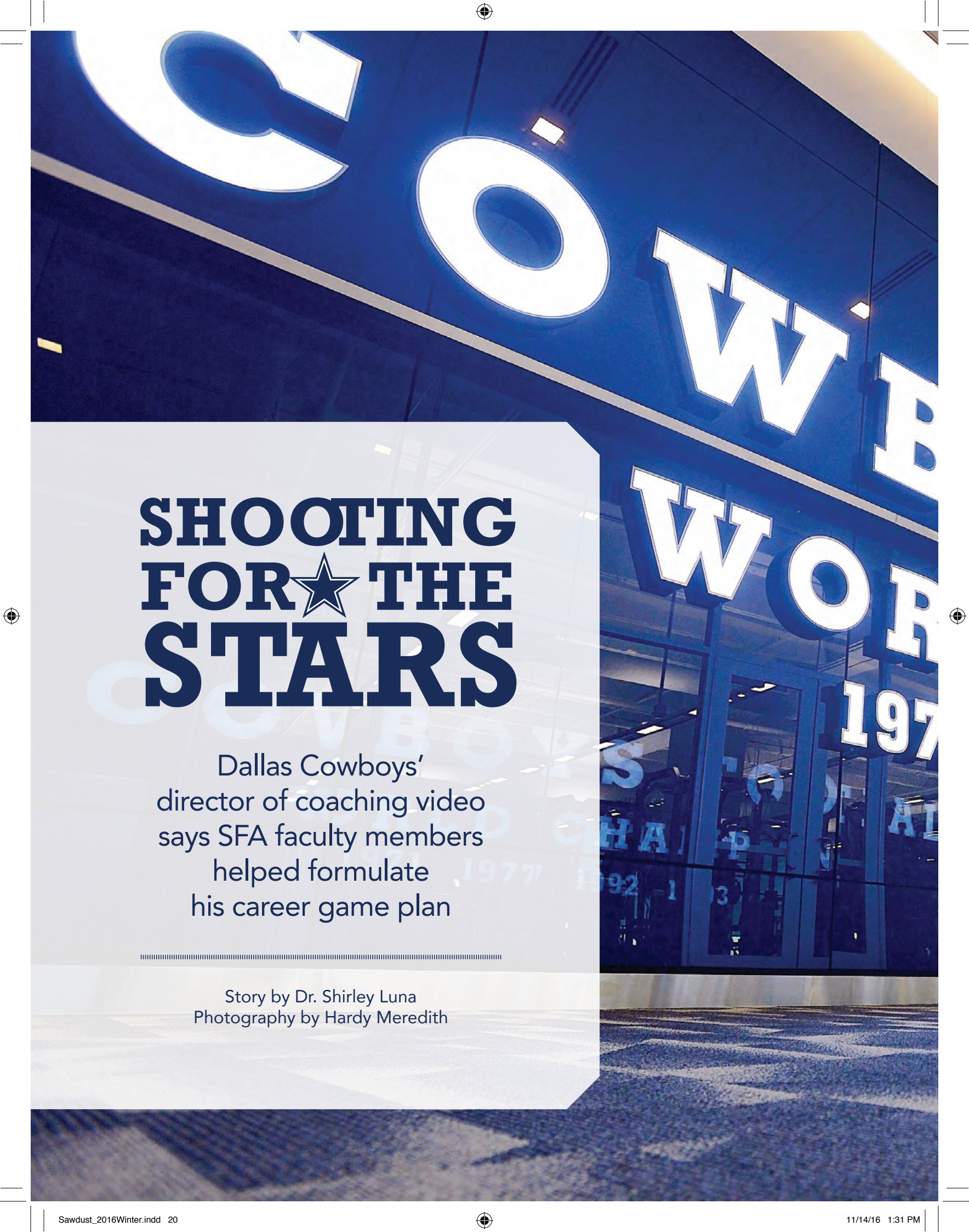
AFTER HELPING THE SFA men's basketball team become the talk of the nation in March, former Lumberjack Thomas Walkup will spend the upcoming season playing for Chicago's D-League team, the Windy City Bulls. During the summer, the former Lumberjack star signed an NBA Summer League contract with the Golden State Warriors and proceeded to play in six of the seven summer league games for the defending Western Conference Champions. During those games, Walkup logged 16 minutes per game and averaged 3.2 points, 3.5 rebounds and 1.7 assists. He left the Warriors to sign a training camp contract with the Chicago Bulls. Walkup will play on Windy City's 10-man roster of players who serve as a developmental team to the Chicago Bulls. ★

THE 'ROYAL' TREATMENT



JERSEY
NUMBER
60

FORMER LUMBERJACK STANDOUT Hunter Dozier has moved up the ranks within the Kansas City Royals organization, the 2015 World Series champion, to officially join Major League Baseball. Dozier played shortstop for the Jacks from 2011-13. Upon entering the minor leagues, he switched to third base, a position he now plays the majority of the time. Dozier is the first former Lumberjack baseball player to don the colors of an MLB squad since 2012, when Steven Hill played nine games for the St. Louis Cardinals. Dozier is one of only two active Southland Conference players in the MLB ranks. "It's a special feeling to the SFA baseball program to have a player in the big leagues, but I'm more happy for the young man," said Lumberjack baseball head coach Johnny Cardenas. "He has worked hard and done everything the right way, whether it was here or in the minors, and now he's getting his chance." ★

A large, illuminated blue sign with white lettering that reads "Cowboys We Do It Better" is mounted on a building facade. The sign is partially visible, with the "Cowboys" part on the left and "We Do It Better" on the right. The background is a dark blue sky with some light streaks.

SHOOTING FOR★THE STARS

Dallas Cowboys'
director of coaching video
says SFA faculty members
helped formulate
his career game plan

Story by Dr. Shirley Luna
Photography by Hardy Meredith



While owners, coaches and players have come and gone since 1981, one person has been a constant on "America's team." When young Robert Blackwell '76 arrived at SFA, he didn't have a specific career goal in mind. He had taken a journalism class as an elective at the junior college he previously attended, and photography caught his attention.

At SFA, he was approached by a faculty member who asked him to be a part of the newly formed communication department.

"I knew I was meant to be here. If it weren't for some of those first faculty members, especially Dr. Michael Roach and Dr. James Kroll (both now retired), I wouldn't be where I am today."

Blackwell also recalls an enriching educational experience he had spending a summer traveling with Professor Bill Arscott, SFA filmmaking professor, across the country to film archaeological sites associated with Native American reservations in the Western United States.

"The truck had a camper shell, and we had tents, and that was about it," he said. "We had permits and were allowed to pack into areas that most people are never privileged to see. It was an incredible experience."

Blackwell interrupted his studies at SFA to do a one-year project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"A U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist made a presentation on campus about its recovery program for the red wolf, and one of the primary concerns was convincing landowners to grant property access to its biologists," Blackwell stated. "Dr. Kroll told them they needed a film describing the work and showing its importance, and that I was the one they should hire to create the film. I was pretty much hired on the spot."

Blackwell returned to the Dallas area armed with his SFA degree and a wealth of hands-on experience and joined a colleague who had opened a photography studio.

"I contacted my high school about filming its football games. Through that work, I had the opportunity to help shoot football and basketball for Southern Methodist University from 1979 until 1982 —

those were the days of the Pony Express with SMU running backs Craig James and Eric Dickerson."

Through this experience, Blackwell was introduced to the coaching film director for the Dallas Cowboys, and in 1981, he received word that there was an opening for him on the Cowboys' staff.

Blackwell began his tenure with the Cowboys as an assistant in the coaching film department and, just seven years later, was responsible for one of the most important jobs for the franchise — as the club's representative at the NFL draft, Blackwell is responsible for ensuring the correct player's name is presented to NFL officials when the Cowboys are on the clock. He has continued in that role for the past 29 years. In 1989, he was promoted to director of coaching video and has never missed a game.

While his work sounds glamorous, it is equally grueling. Staff members enjoy only two days off (the Friday and Saturday of the bye week) from the day training camp starts until the last game of the season. And the work doesn't end when the season does.

"We are an arm of the coaching staff — to support their video technology needs," Blackwell explained.

According to Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, one of Blackwell's greatest strengths has been his ability to adapt to technology and the ever-changing world of video study for the coaches and players.

"He has overseen the transition from 16-millimeter film to videotape and now to digital media, and he has always provided everything that we have needed with the highest level of efficiency," Jones said. "He is trustworthy, hardworking and loyal to this organization and to the players and coaches he has served for more than three decades."

On game day, Blackwell is responsible for the NFL's instant replay and leads a staff of 17, including three camera operators and two still-shot operators. Technology has changed the work process — what used to take five hours is now almost instantaneous.

"When we were shooting film, I didn't go home after the games," Blackwell recalled. "I had a cot at the office, and I went there and processed film and slept for a few hours, if I could, before the coaches arrived at work the next morning."

"Now we upload to the cloud, and the coaches and players can download it at home on an iPad. When we play away games, the coaches and players are watching the game on their iPads many times before the plane even leaves to come home," he added.

Blackwell said the spirit of investigation and exploration he witnessed at SFA has served him well throughout his career.

"The Cowboys were the first team to try a thermal-imaging printer instead of Polaroid photos to study plays during a game. When we started, the league told us we couldn't have the printers on the field, so we used it in the locker room. My staff would physically run the pictures from the locker room to the sideline. After a year or two, every team was using it, and then the league allowed the printers on the field, as well."

Printed photos have been replaced by digital technology throughout the league, but nowhere is the love for technology more evident than at The Star facility, the new home of the Dallas Cowboys World Headquarters in Frisco. Next door to Blackwell's office in the video suite is a room where players can utilize virtual reality for training purposes. In addition to practice facilities, therapy rooms and corporate offices, the Star includes a 12,000-seat indoor football stadium where local high school football games will be hosted, and the facility is designed to include an entertainment district lined with restaurants, shops, a hotel and a medical center.

Standing in the dazzling new facilities near a display of the five Cowboys Super Bowl rings, five Lombardi Trophies and an overhead display of 19,200 LED lights designed by El Paso artist Leo Villareal, Blackwell said one of the most thrilling memories in his career stems from one of the most disappointing — a singular moment of athleticism during a notorious loss to San Francisco in the National Football Conference Championship game, played on Jan. 10, 1982, that has been memorialized in the hearts and minds of football fans everywhere as "The Catch."

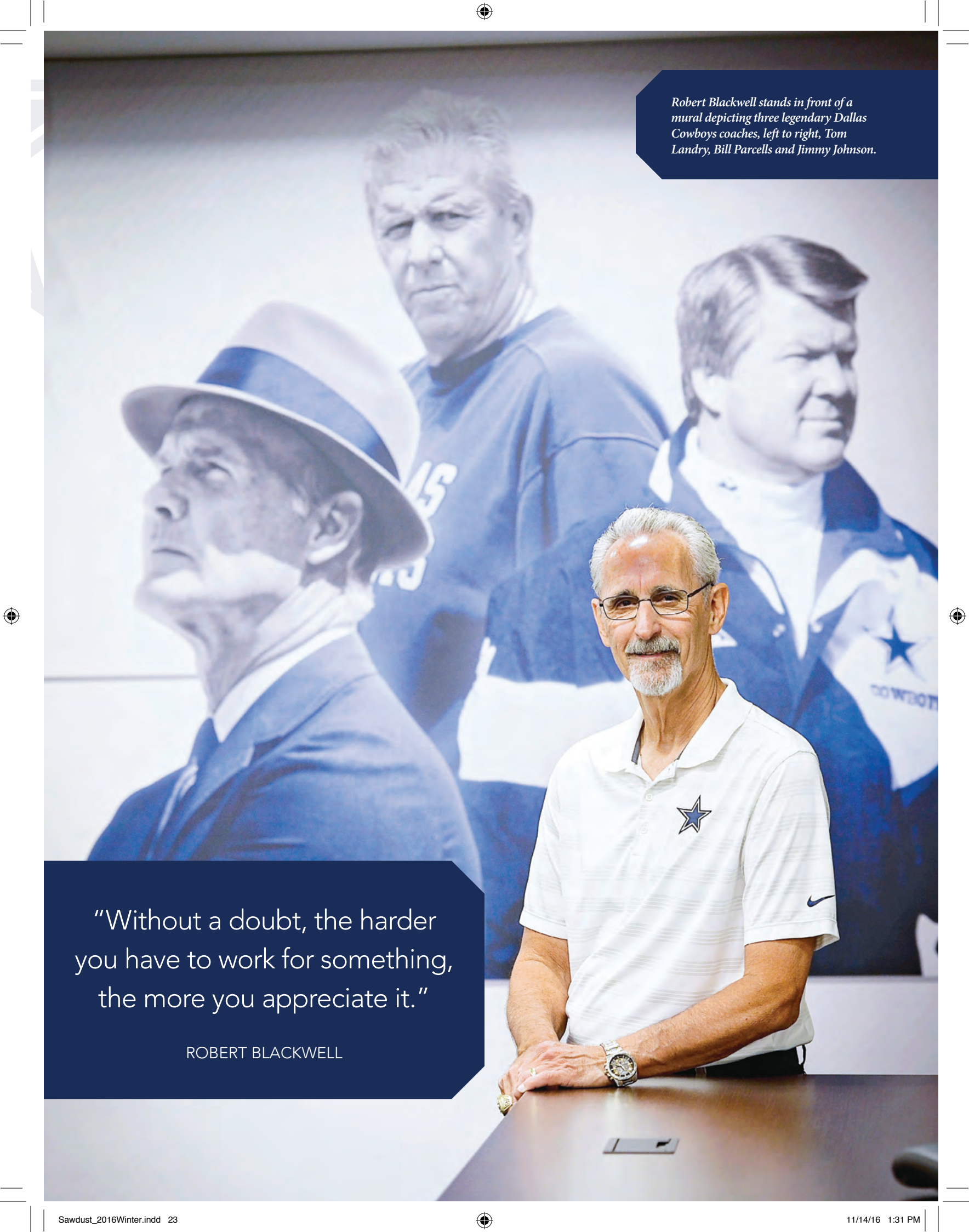
"Joe Montana threw a pass for a touchdown, and they beat us by one point, and then went on to win the Super Bowl," Blackwell recalled. "That's a moment you don't forget. But the work that occurred during the next years to overcome that loss, and then coming back to beat San Francisco in the 1992 championship game and winning the Super Bowl just made that win more meaningful. Without a doubt, the harder you have to work for something, the more you appreciate it."

The ring from Super Bowl XXVII was the first of three Blackwell has earned through his affiliation with the Cowboys. He said the long hours don't feel like work to him because the organization is very much like a family. Similarly, there is a sense of camaraderie among all the video directors for teams throughout the NFL rather than the competition one might expect.

"When I go into their stadium and need something, I know that I'll have it," he said. "A few weeks ago, a team was missing video from an entire year, so the video director was calling every other team to ask for the tapes from their team's games that year. And they will get those videos, because we all take care of each other. It wouldn't be possible to do this work under any other circumstances. That's what makes it enjoyable. And if you enjoy what you are doing, it doesn't really feel like work at all." ★



Lora Blackwell, daughter of Robert and Diana, is a senior Ladyjack softball player. The Blackwell's son, Nate, is a coach at Coppell High School.

A photograph of Robert Blackwell, a man with grey hair and glasses, wearing a white polo shirt with a Dallas Cowboys star logo. He is standing in front of a large mural depicting three legendary Dallas Cowboys coaches: Tom Landry (left, wearing a hat), Bill Parcells (center, in a blue jersey), and Jimmy Johnson (right, in a blue and white jacket). Robert Blackwell is leaning on a dark wooden table in the foreground.

Robert Blackwell stands in front of a mural depicting three legendary Dallas Cowboys coaches, left to right, Tom Landry, Bill Parcells and Jimmy Johnson.

"Without a doubt, the harder you have to work for something, the more you appreciate it."

ROBERT BLACKWELL

'Jacks of All Trades / with Judith Carter '82



IT IS SAID that a blank canvas provides limitless possibilities. Judith Carter '82 created and built her business around this belief.

Carter is the owner of Needleworks, an independent, specialty retail establishment just outside downtown Birmingham, Alabama, that sells hand-dyed threads, needlework accessories and hand-painted needlepoint designs made by hundreds of designers.

The shop, which is nestled in a quaint, red-brick building in an area of Birmingham named Homewood, serves as a hub for artisans to sell their one-of-a-kind needlework heirlooms.

Directly across the street sits the shop's workshop, where many distinctive items made from needlepoint are assembled, including pillows, holiday stockings and decorative ornaments.

In 1999, Carter decided it was time to take a huge leap and work toward a career she was passionate about. So, she took all her previous knowledge — experience gained as a patternmaker for infant and children's wear, lessons learned as an instructor of apparel production management, and skills gathered as an independent product development specialist — to launch her own company.

She opened Needleworks in 2000. The company employs nine part-time staff members and six independent contractors and serves as a highly specialized niche enterprise that offers everything needlepoint enthusiasts desire.

Carter refers to the formation of her business as a series of events that allowed her to "make lemonade out of life's lemons." Having worked in the rapidly changing apparel and textile industry throughout the 1980s, Carter held a number of positions that were either phased out or outsourced to companies overseas. However, through her various transitions, she gained a wealth of knowledge.

Learning to embroider and sew at a young age introduced Carter to the basics of the industry. After receiving her bachelor's degree in clothing and textiles with a concentration in weaving and surface

design in 1978, Carter decided to enroll at SFA to attend graduate school. She said while studying at SFA, she observed the people and management skills that ultimately led to her success.

Carter refers to her time at the university as a unique opportunity to observe professional standards of behavior that she has implemented in her workplace at every opportunity.

"I endeavor to treat my staff and industry associates with the same kindness and respect I observed as a student in SFA's School of Human Sciences," Carter said. "I saw that the extra effort in every area mattered, whether it was a technique, subject matter or character."

Carter said Dr. Gloria Durr, SFA professor emeritus of human sciences, has served as her mentor for more than 35 years.

"As one of her graduate students, I learned skills in time management, event planning, resource management, consumer spending habits and practical financial solutions," Carter said. "I also learned how to balance career objectives and family life."

Like most entrepreneurs, Carter stays busy with myriad tasks. She manages the company, organizes visual displays and merchandising, oversees education and training, and handles product development, evaluation, event planning, and what she refers to as "fun stuff like cleaning and restocking the shelves."

Carter's husband also plays an integral role in the success of the business by providing much of Needleworks' structural backbone. He designed the shop's cabinetry and completed other additions to the facilities he and his wife designed together.

As with any business, Needleworks is constantly adapting. Recently, two longtime employees retired, and two new staff members joined the team. Carter said she hopes to instill her passion and knowledge in the next generation of artists, which is a legacy she will be proud to pass down.

"Every career provides opportunities to share your knowledge and teach future generations," Carter said. "This philosophy was instilled in me as a student and business professional, and I am always eager to share what I know to help our future business leaders gain success." ★

Creating
needlework
heirloom art
at a bungalow
boutique in
Alabama

Story by
Stephanie Ballard

From the Association

"I have been honored to serve you during the past two years, and I am proud of the Alumni Association's accomplishments during that time. More importantly, our alumni are expressing *their* pride in SFA, which is our primary goal."



MY TERM AS president of the SFA Alumni Association Board of Directors concludes at the end of 2016, and this is my final *Sawdust* letter.

I have been honored to serve you during the past two years, and I am proud

of the Alumni Association's accomplishments during that time. More importantly, our alumni are expressing *their* pride in SFA, which is our primary goal.

In late 2014, the Alumni Association Board of Directors held a workshop to chart the direction of the Alumni Association. We evaluated services offered by the Alumni Association and the events we host. You were at the center of our discussion — our focus was on what our alumni and friends want from their Alumni Association. The board created an action statement expressing the primary role of the association: ***We Grow Lumberjack Pride***. During the past two years, the Alumni Association has tirelessly worked to grow *your* Lumberjack Pride.

With this goal in mind, we began hosting Lumberjack Network breakfast events in Dallas in 2015. These events continued in Dallas this year and expanded into Houston and The Woodlands. Guest speakers often are Lumberjack alumni who showcase their professional achievements. During the breakfasts, attendees learn about the impressive career of a fellow alum and also have the opportunity to network with other Lumberjacks who live and work nearby.

In 2017, the Alumni Association will continue to host breakfast networking events. We also will offer Lumberjack Professional Network events during the evenings in East Texas, Dallas, Houston and other areas. Our goal is to grow more Lumberjack Pride by connecting with alumni and friends and letting them know about the great things happening at our university.

We want to keep you informed about what is happening on campus. In past letters, I discussed the benefits of many now-complete construction projects, including the Student Recreation Center, a host of new residence halls and the Baker Pattillo Student Center. The university recently broke

ground on the \$46 million Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building, which is scheduled to open in 2018. In addition to the progress on our campus, did you know this about your alma mater:

- 96 percent of Lumberjacks report Texas residency
- Most Lumberjacks (83 percent) come from the Dallas (24 percent), East Texas (30 percent) and Houston (29 percent) areas
- Lumberjacks from outside Texas originate from 43 states (335 students) and 46 countries (116 students)
- SFA has 548 full-time faculty members and more than 120 areas of study and concentrations, and
- With 12,742 students (fall 2016), there is a student-to-faculty ratio of approximately 20:1.

As Lumberjacks, we have so much in which to take pride, including the men's basketball team that has brought the national spotlight to our university. Additionally, our mascot is becoming equally well known. In 2014, ESPN included the Lumberjack in its "Top 10 mascots in college basketball." During March Madness 2016, ESPN again recognized the Lumberjack and declared him, "The mascot you'd want on your side if you got into a fight." Who can argue with that?

It has been my honor to serve you during the past two years and work to ***Grow Lumberjack Pride***. Now, we want you to spread the word. Raise your SFA flag! Put an SFA sticker on your car! If you don't have an SFA flag or any SFA swag, visit www.sfaalumni.com and get some. When you see another Lumberjack, salute with your Axe 'em, Jacks hand sign. If you use social media, use #LumberjackPride. Let the world know you are proud to be a Lumberjack. ★

Axe 'em, Jacks!

Karen Gregory Gantt '95 – McKinney, Texas
President, SFA Alumni Association

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Jennifer Sowell
assistant to the executive director

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assistant director of alumni relations

Samantha Mora '08
director of events and engagement

Alicia Roland Chatman '16
gifts and records specialist

Amie Ford '09 & '11
scholarship coordinator

Derek Snyder '01
communications and marketing
coordinator

Hannah Franks '13
accountant

Scholarships

SFA freshman awarded first Pat Spence Scholarship for *The Pine Log*



THE FIRST RECIPIENT of a scholarship established in honor of Pat Spence, retired SFA director of student publications,

was awarded to freshman journalism student Parastoo Nikravesh from Jacksonville, Texas.

"Being the recipient of this scholarship is really cool because I'm glad they're helping with my college expenses, of course. But on a deeper level, I'm grateful to have someone like Pat Spence supporting me," said Nikravesh, staff writer for *The Pine Log*. "She is a legend at *The Pine Log*, and I just can't wait to make her and the people who helped her set up the scholarship proud. They're helping fulfill my dream, and I'm so appreciative."

The Pat Spence Scholarship for *The Pine Log* was established in 2014. Money for the scholarship was raised by friends, former students and advisees of Spence, who served as director from 1986-2014.

"Parastoo was selected for the scholarship from among many promising SFA student journalists," said Amy Roquemore, SFA director of student publications and divisional media. "Her application stood out for many reasons, including her high academic achievement, her strong commitment to a career in journalism and, in particular, her compelling essay in which she wrote eloquently about her dreams of becoming a professional journalist and serving as a voice for those who do not have one."

Nikravesh joined *The Pine Log* staff in 2015 and "quickly became an asset to the student publication," Roquemore added. "She regularly contributes news stories and columns, and her journalism skills have continued to develop week after week. She is already a very good writer, and I expect her to

become more proficient as she continues her SFA education and her work on *The Pine Log*."

A group of donors, supporters, former students, family, friends and colleagues surprised Spence with a dinner in her honor and the scholarship reveal on campus in August 2014. The scholarship was endowed that December.

"I am so excited that we are able to award the first *Pine Log* scholarship to a young woman who has proven her dedication to SFA's student-produced newspaper," Spence said. "Although I have not had the pleasure of working with Parastoo directly, her passion for writing and for her campus newspaper is evident in the recommendations from those who have."

"This scholarship is so special to me," Spence added. "It stands as a testament to many Lumberjacks whose careers and lives have been shaped by their collegiate experiences in student publications and at *The Pine Log*. They have made this happen, and I am so grateful for their love and support of this scholarship. They are truly paying it forward." ★

Scholarships Help Make Dreams Come True

HOW TO ENDOW A SCHOLARSHIP:

A minimum of \$20,000 is required to endow a scholarship and may be accomplished during a 10-year period. Scholarships are endowed by cash, gifts, corporate matching gifts, gifts of stock, bonds, life insurance, memorial contributions and wills.

Your gift to support SFA students secures educational opportunities for generations of future Lumberjacks. Contact us to create your legacy today.

STEP 01

Make the decision to help.

Future SFA alumni need your financial assistance. Plan your contribution.

STEP 02

Name your scholarship.

You may name your scholarship after yourself or in memory of someone.

STEP 03

Determine eligibility criteria.

You may include college major or GPA or restrict the scholarship to certain types of recipients.

STEP 04

Complete an endowment packet.

You may download and submit documents online at sfaalumni.com or request documents via U.S. mail.

SFA Alumni Association / P.O. Box 6096, SFA Station / Nacogdoches, Texas 75962-6096
Phone: (936) 468-3407 / Toll Free: (800) 765-1534 / Fax: (936) 468-1007 / Website: sfaalumni.com / Email: alumni@sfasu.edu

ON AIR with Kim Wier

Alumna hosts Christian radio broadcast



Story by Kasi Dickerson / Photography by Robin Johnson

WITH 90 SECONDS to spare, Kim Wier '85 places headphones atop her head and draws the microphone near. She has done this hundreds of times, but when the recording light turns on, she still feels excited.

For more than a decade, Wier has been a radio host and is currently hosting and producing *Sunday Night Live!*, a weekly two-hour interactive radio show on KSBJ-FM in Houston — the largest Christian radio station in the country.

Weekly topics include current events, Christian living, cultural trends and expert interviews, all with a biblical worldview. A key part of the show is opening the phone lines for listeners to call in. Wier said the radio show is simply a conversation between her and the listeners.

"I'm a believer in Jesus Christ and happen to be a communicator, so I leverage that to build people up in Christ," Wier said. "It's all about how I can invest in other people's lives so they can experience the fullness of a relationship with Christ. Radio helps me do that."

KSBJ producer and on-air personality Steven Kay produces *Sunday Night Live!* and works alongside Wier.

"Kim is a delight to work with. She is both pleasant and professional," Kay said. "She has a rare talent as a talk show host to create a conversation among her, the guest and the listener, and she always brings great discussions on life and faith."

Wier's path to radio was filled with irony and ingenuity. She entered SFA as an undecided major, but by her junior year, she discovered a knack for writing and declared journalism as her major. Ironically, she enrolled in a radio/TV course and later dropped it.

"It's the irony of ironies because radio fits me better than anything I've ever done," she laughed.

Putting her skills to use, Wier worked for *The Pine Log*, the university's student newspaper, as an advertising representative and reporter. She also was an officer in the American Marketing Association organization.

"*The Pine Log* is where I had my first byline and published article," Wier said. "Often, there are few opportunities for real-world experience as a college student, but *The Pine Log* is an exception. Everything I learned there — from design and writing to interview skills — I have put into practice."

Wier met her husband, Tony '86, to whom she's been married 30 years, while she was a senior at SFA. The couple has four children and one granddaughter. Three of their children are SFA graduates.

Before joining KSBJ in 2011, Wier hosted a one-hour radio show at KSWP-FM in Lufkin and Nacogdoches for seven years. A go-getter by nature, she landed her position with KSWP after contacting the station manager and suggesting a biblical feature program.

Her first radio broadcast occurred just days after the 9/11 attacks. Wier recalls discussing how the terrorists' attacks impacted families and how parents should talk with their children about the events.



KSBJ producer and on-air personality Steven Kay produces *Sunday Night Live!* and works alongside SFA alumna Kim Wier.



A few years later, Wier learned KSBJ was reformatting its only talk program, and the station offered her the opportunity to create a new show.

"It was definitely a God opportunity. It was something you can't make happen," Wier said. "God just opened the door, and I walked through it at the right time."

Wier's radio shows are archived online, which she said means the show continues to minister long after it is broadcast. Wier added the show has been downloaded thousands of times in more than 100 countries, including Afghanistan, Puerto Rico and Sweden.

"It's cool to create a message and leave it online where it has a life of its own all around the world," she said.

In addition to communicating through her weekly radio program, Wier has written four Christian books and is working on a novel. She has written a humorous column for *The Daily Sentinel* in Nacogdoches for more than 18 years and writes two blogs — one is about her life experiences, and the other is a biblical devotional.

"I think people who are natural communicators are always looking for ways to connect. Today, we have so many options," Wier said. "My blogs are personal in nature. It's me sharing my life and things people can relate to in hopes of encouraging others. My goal with my column is to look at life with a certain eye and show how God's hand is in everything."

Wier said she is constantly amazed when viewing her blog's statistics,

which detail the countries of origin for the people who read it, including non-Christian countries.

When she isn't reaching out to people through radio, newspaper or her blog, Wier travels the country providing weekend seminars, retreats and Christmas programs through Engaging Women, a Christian ministry she started with a friend.

"I've been blessed in an abundance of ways, but even when things are difficult, my goal is to be grateful. God only lets into my life the things that are ultimately for my good and for his purpose," Wier said. "We are given a finite amount of time. What is wasted we don't get back, so in life or ministry, I hope not to waste too much but invest the hours, minutes and days so they produce something meaningful." ★



**Join Kim Wier
from 7 to 9 p.m.
Sunday nights on
her radio show.**

**Call in with your
questions or
comments, and
interact with expert
guests from across
the country through
the Listen Live link
on KSBJ.org.**

**Visit kimwier.com to
view her blog.**



**"It's all about
how I can invest
in other people's
lives so they can
experience the
fullness of a
relationship
with Christ.
Radio helps me
do that."**

- Kim Wier





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Olivia Kling - Simpson Real Estate
Kiwanis Club of Nacogdoches
Natalee Kelaher - Heritage Texas Properties
Nacogdoches Convention
and Visitors Bureau

HOMECOMING WINNERS

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Gross Winners:

Larry Hargett, Mike Reese,
Ken Rollins and Rudy Waters

Net Winners:

Eric Appel, Steve Cooper,
Harold Rapsilver and Paul Van Bentem

HOMECOMING 5K

Overall Female: Marilyn Gonzalez

Overall Male: Ervin Mooney

DUCK DASH

First Place: Suddenlink

Second Place: Lynn Montes

Third Place: James Mason

BENEFIT DRAWING

Peggy Wright

STOREFRONT DECORATIONS

First Place: Twigs and Tin

Second Place: Greer's Fabrics

Third Place: Glass Castles



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AWARDS

Alumni Award recipients were honored Sept. 9 during the annual awards banquet. Each recipient is pictured with Dr. Baker Pattillo (left), SFA president, and Karen Gregory Gantt (right), president of the SFA Alumni Association.

HALL OF FAME: Dr. Peggy Wright '44

DR. PEGGY WEDGEWORTH WRIGHT'S devotion to SFA began decades ago as a student. Peggy attended the SFA Demonstration School and graduated from Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College in 1944 with a bachelor's degree in music. She married Tom Wright, her late husband, in 1942 while Tom was serving in World War II. Later, the couple reared two daughters while Tom served as an executive in the Wright's family business, Texas Farm Products Company. Her work on behalf of SFA includes her service as president of the SFA Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1974-75; member of the SFA Board of Regents from 1973-83 and 1987-93, serving as chairman of the board for four years; member of the SFASU Foundation Board of Trustees, serving as secretary/treasurer from 1987-2006 and chairman from 1985-87; and member of Friends of Music and the Dean's Circle. Peggy was named the SFA Distinguished Alumna in 1985 and Nacogdoches Woman of the Year in 1989. In 1997, the SFA Board of Regents selected her as the second recipient of an honorary university doctorate.

The Wrights' philanthropy to SFA has been extensive, including the creation of the Wedgeworth-Wright Endowment for the Arts. In recognition of their longstanding commitment and love for SFA, the music building was named the Tom and Peggy Wright Music Building in 1999. Peggy also has been highly involved in the Nacogdoches community,



serving in numerous leadership roles, including president of the Cum Concilio Club, regent for the Nacogdoches Chapter Daughters of the Republic, and member of the Texas Council of Economic Education Board of Directors, Citizens 1st Bank Board of Directors, Heritage Club, Dallas Woman's Club and National Society of Colonial Dames of America. In 2004, the Wrights shared the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce's Citizens of the Year award.



Distinguished Alumna Award

DORRIS FORTSON '92 is co-founder of Neema House/ Neema Village, a rescue center

for abandoned, orphaned and at-risk babies in Tanzania, Africa. Neema Village can accommodate about 60 babies and also houses a mothering center where prenatal and child care classes are offered. Neema employs approximately 40 full-time workers, and volunteers from around the world visit annually to assist. Fortson also is the author of six children's books and has served as a motivational speaker. She was employed at SFA from 1985-96 and retired as coordinator of reservations and conferences. She received the SFA President's Achievement Award for outstanding service in 1994.



Distinguished Alumnus Award

MIKE KARNS '86 is the owner and CEO of the Dallas-based Firebird Restaurant Group, which comprises

four award-winning brands: El Fenix, Meso Maya, Taqueria La Ventana and Snuffer's Restaurant & Bar. Firebird Restaurant Group operates in 35 locations and employs more than 2,000 people. Karns also operates a commercial real estate firm and owns Sunrise Mexican Foods, a restaurant supply company that produces the chips for which El Fenix is famous, along with tortillas and other food items for retail and food-service operations.



Outstanding Young Alumna Award

A first-generation college student, **JULIAMARIA CALVO '08** graduated from SFA with a bachelor's degree in biology. She then enrolled at The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, where she received her Bachelor of Science in respiratory care. Calvo works for Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. She is a member of the Kangaroo Crew, an elite neonatal and pediatric intensive care team that travels the world to help save infants and children in critical need of medical care by transporting them to hospitals and providing medical care while en route. In addition to her role with the Kangaroo Crew, Calvo assists in the hospital's pediatric intensive care unit and is a respiratory therapy clinical instructor at UTMB-Galveston. Calvo was elected SFA's Homecoming queen in 2007.



Lumberjack Pride Award

ALEX RANC '11 & '13 has worn many hats at SFA. Ranc is a former Orientation and Weeks of Welcome leader. She also served as an involvement adviser, worked the SFA information desk and was a graduate assistant. Most recently, she has served as an SFA faculty member and on the Alumni Association Board. An avid fan of SFA athletics, Ranc helped host an official SFA Alumni Association watch party during the 2016 NCAA basketball tournament. She proudly engages in social media to help generate excitement and support for the university.

Lumberjack Pride Award

A die-hard Lumberjack fan and university supporter, **MATT ADKINS '06** bleeds purple. Creator of the fan forum LumberjackFans.com, the athletic, event and information site has significantly grown and is utilized by many passionate SFA alumni and students. Adkins also runs multiple LumberjackFans social media accounts, which have thousands of followers. Although Adkins now lives in Seattle, he still proudly supports the university. During March Madness 2016, Adkins made the trip to New York to watch the Lumberjacks play in the NCAA tournament. Always eager to showcase school spirit, he travels to Nacogdoches annually for football, basketball and baseball weekends, where he sponsors tailgate parties at his own expense for all fans to enjoy. As a student member of the SFA "Hecklers," an athletic fan group, Adkins was named "Heckler of the Year" for his enthusiasm and support. He continues to pay his Lumberjack pride forward by helping organize alumni watch parties and providing support and assistance to his fellow Lumberjacks whenever possible.



Distinguished Professor Award

Although she's only been an SFA faculty member for eight years, **DR. DANA COOPER**, associate professor of history and executive director of the Student Success Center, is making a lasting impact on the university and its students. The 2010 recipient of the Teaching Excellence Award for the SFA College of Liberal and Applied Arts and recognized in 2015 for the national teaching award "40 Under 40: Professors Who Inspire," Cooper also serves as president of the Texas Council of Faculty Senates and co-chaired SFA's strategic planning team. Cooper is a prolific researcher and author, publishing numerous scholarly articles and three manuscripts. She also was a featured scholar on a Smithsonian Channel television documentary. In the classroom, Cooper captures the attention of her students through engaging lectures. Her students consistently comment in their evaluations that, although her classes require hard work and dedication, Cooper inspires them to work hard, and she creates a classroom atmosphere in which topics can be freely discussed. It is through her dedication to her profession and students that she brings history to life and shows its relevance to current situations.



Distinguished Professor Award

As a professor of elementary education, **DR. ALAN SOWARDS '73** has taught at SFA for 20 years and has received numerous accolades and awards, including the 2015 Project Learning Tree Outstanding Educator Award, which recognizes educators who successfully establish a positive environmental education philosophy in their classroom and community. Sowards is a tireless advocate for students — developing programs that integrate field-based elementary science and social studies learning experiences, courses and programs. He was instrumental in the establishment of SFA Gardens' environmental education program and created "Bugs, Butterflies and Blossoms," an annual weeklong event that attracts thousands of school-age children in a station-by-station learning adventure. Sowards is an active researcher and has presented his findings at multiple international, national and state conferences. He has co-authored several journal articles and provided educational consulting for various school districts.



Alumni Calendar /

Visit sfaalumni.com/events for the most recent information.
Times and dates are subject to change.

DECEMBER

2

Big Dip Ring Ceremony
Baker Pattillo Student Center
Grand Ballroom
Nacogdoches

9:30 a.m. - James I.
Perkins College of
Education and College of
Fine Arts



2 p.m. - Rusche College of Business, College
of Liberal and Applied Arts, Arthur Temple
College of Forestry and Agriculture, and
College of Sciences and Mathematics

6

Senior Send-Off
5:30 to 7 p.m.
Banita Creek Hall
Nacogdoches



10

SFA Gala
Baker Pattillo Student Center
Grand Ballroom / Nacogdoches

17

Commencement Ceremonies
Johnson Coliseum

21

Campus Closes for Winter Break

JANUARY

2

Campus Reopens

24

**SFA Lumberjack Professional
Network Breakfast – The Woodlands**
7 to 8 a.m. / Fleming's Prime Steakhouse



**SFA Lumberjack Professional Network
Happy Hour – Houston Area**
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Lupe Tortilla / Webster

FEBRUARY

8-11

**Texas Music Educators
Association Convention**
SFA reception: 9:30 to 11:30 p.m. / Feb. 10
Marriott Riverwalk – San Antonio

9

**SFA Lumberjack Professional
Network Breakfast – Houston**
7 to 8 a.m. / GE North America / West
Region / Houston



**SFA Lumberjack Professional Network
Happy Hour – Houston Area**
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Flying Saucer / Sugar Land

15-17

Nacogdoches and SFA Days in Austin

18

Showcase Saturday
11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

23

**SFA Lumberjack Professional Network
Breakfast – Dallas / 7 to 8 a.m.**
Maggiano's Little Italy – NorthPark Center

**SFA Lumberjack Professional Net-
work Happy Hour
– Dallas Area**
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / TBA



MARCH

3-4

**Zeta Tau Alpha 40th
Anniversary Reunion**
Nacogdoches

7-12

**Southland Conference
Tournament – Basketball**
Leonard E. Merrell Center / Katy

11-20

Spring Break

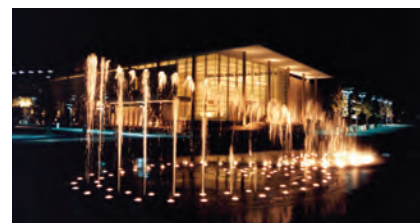
21-24

SFA Ring Week
Pearman Alumni Center / Nacogdoches

25

Showcase Saturday
11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

APRIL



11

**SFA Wind Ensemble Concert at the
Eisemann Center**
Richardson

13-16

Easter Break

MAY

2

Senior Send-Off
5:30 to 7 p.m.
Banita Creek Hall
Nacogdoches



5

Big Dip Ring Ceremony
Baker Pattillo Student Center
Grand Ballroom / Nacogdoches

9:30 a.m. - James I. Perkins College of
Education and College of Fine Arts

2 p.m. - Rusche College of Business, College
of Liberal and Applied Arts, Arthur Temple
College of Forestry and Agriculture, and
College of Sciences and Mathematics

Class Notes /

Visit sfasu.edu/sawdust to send your class notes and wedding or birth announcements to the Alumni Association.

HENRY STEITZ '57



The Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council recently honored **Henry Steitz '57** of Conroe with a unique distinction. For more than 10 years, Steitz has treated Girl Scouts and their volunteers to a special trek at Camp Agnes Arnold in Conroe. Each participant who completes the walk receives a special

patch with the wording, "I Hiked with Henry and Friends."

Steitz's family owned property adjacent to the camp for many years, and as a child, Steitz recalls learning to swim in the 40-acre lake on the property. He also credits the wooded land with piquing his interest in obtaining a forestry degree from SFA.

"I remember one of the things I did as a kid, the Texas Forestry Association gave away a bunch of trees," Steitz said. "I took them home, and my dad and I planted them on our 100 acres."

Steitz measured one of those trees recently, and it's reached 23 inches in diameter. Steitz estimates he was in the



seventh or eighth grade when the seedlings were planted. He's now 84.

During his hikes with the Girl Scouts, Steitz teaches attendees about the property's vegetation and wildlife. He also discusses how he's working with the Girl Scout Council to preserve the camp so visitors can enjoy it for years to come.

1960s



Jim Dunlap '69 & '76 of Longview was recently named a Carthage High School Distinguished Alumnus after serving in public education for 48 years.

He has been married to **Linda Sample Dunlap '70 & '71** for 47 years, and he currently serves as chief operating officer and lead consultant for Arrow Educational Services Inc.



Jim Drennan '73 of Pittsburg, Texas, retired as purchasing manager at Atlas Copco Drilling Solutions.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott appointed **Joe Martino '73 & '83** to the five-member Texas Crime Stoppers Advisory Council. Martino was an educator for Marshall ISD for 30 years and, after retirement, returned to work in 2003 at Trinity Episcopal School where he was employed for 11 years. He currently works for McKool Smith Law Firm.

1970s



Robert C. Ballard '70 of Millwood, Virginia, hosted an exhibit of his original paintings titled "Whimsical Landscapes," according to *Th Winchester Star*. He said his paintings are meant to "evoke some emotion, raise questions and create doubts."



SFA alumni and educators **Linda Daniel '77**, **Lee Brown '90 & '93**, **Angie Self '87** and **Becky Godell '94** celebrated being Lumberjacks during College Day on their Houston campus, Cloverleaf Elementary School.



Joe Hahn (left), who served in the Coast Guard during World War II, traveled with his son, **Mike Hahn '76**, on an Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., in 2015. During the flight, the pair met George "Moose" Morton (right). Both veterans met again during the Battle of the Piney Woods. Joe is now 92 years old and lives in Dickinson. In addition to Mike, Joe watched another son, **Larry '69**, and granddaughter, **Amy '11**, also graduate from SFA.

Class Notes

1980s



Richard Illmer '83 of Dallas has been named office managing partner of the Dallas-based law firm Husch Blackwell.

1990s



Patti Eden '90 of Jacksonville, Texas, made her Carnegie Hall conducting debut in October with members of her choir from Brook Hill School during a concert with Lauren Daigle and Francesca Battistelli.

Liz Wilson '93 of Dallas is vice president of Corgan Architects in Dallas.



Author **Amy Denton '96** of Houston was the 2016 Killer Nashville Jimmy Loftin Memorial Scholarship Award recipient and a guest

speaker at the 2016 Literary and International Mystery Conference.

Ashley Pasquier Klamfoth '98 of Lumberton is a co-owner of and therapist at NewPath Counseling Group in Lumberton. NewPath also has offices in Goodville and Jasper.



Ted Bowen '99 of Houston was named senior destination sales executive for the new Marriott Marquis Houston.

Jesse Hunter '99 of Sanger was promoted to captain in the Lewisville Police Department.

2000s



Erin Jones '01 of Lufkin was named director of business development for the southwest division of Transervice Logistics Inc.

Sarah Robinson Davis '14 and Jay Davis of College Station were married Oct. 8.

Life Members

The SFA Alumni Association thanks the following alumni who recently became life members.

- 8138. Marie R. Meng '11, Rosharon
- 8139. Katherine M. Barry '15, Austin
- 8140. David A. Wharton '16, Nacogdoches
- 8141. Lisa D. Haglund '89, Lufkin
- 8142. Jerry H. Whitley '66, Victoria
- 8143. Eduardo Valverde '95, Spring
- 8144. Denae M. Valverde '93, Spring
- 8145. David L. Shofner '78, Nacogdoches
- 8146. Frances Shofner, Friend, Nacogdoches
- 8147. Elizabeth B. Howe '16, Arlington
- 8148. John D. Blacklock '12, Fort Worth
- 8149. Thomas Connor Murnane '15, Fort Worth
- 8150. Megan L. Sellers '15, Nacogdoches
- 8151. Alexis N. Guthery '13 & '15, Chireno
- 8152. Dr. George R. Franks Jr., SFA Associate Professor, Bullard

Justyss Esquivel '14 of Whitney was recognized as the 2016 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Fort Worth District Employment Opportunity Employee of the Year. Esquivel is a natural resource specialist for the district. She was recognized for her efforts mentoring contract gate attendants, coordinating water safety outreach events and seeking training on new ways to foster a diverse and inclusive work environment throughout the Whitney Lake Project Office and Three Rivers Regional Office



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As part of our continuous effort to improve *Sawdust*, we are conducting an online survey to gain information about reader preferences. Thank you for helping make *Sawdust* a better publication.

sfasu.edu/sawdust/survey

In Memoriam

GARY BOB WORKMAN of Spring passed away March 16, 2016.

Workman was born April 5, 1950, in San Angelo. He graduated from Spring Branch High School in Houston and was a 1972 graduate of SFA with a degree in management. Workman completed certifications from Texas Tech School of Banking and The American Institute of Banking. His career began in East Texas as the manager of a credit union. Later, he served as vice president of Fredonia State Bank in Nacogdoches and president of Victoria Bank and Trust in Bastrop until he changed career paths and entered the insurance business with Texas Farm Bureau. He began as an agent and quickly advanced to become agency manager and then district sales manager, a position he acquired in 1998. Workman

received several notable achievements during his career, including being honored as a member of the Century Club, Round Table and as a Master Agent. In 1998, the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce named Workman "Man of the Year." Workman served for many years on the SFA Alumni Association's Board of Directors. A member of the Jaycees, he served as president, vice president and director. He was awarded "Outstanding Jaycee of the Year" twice. Workman also served as program director for the Nacogdoches County Civic Center and was instrumental in raising funds for the construction of the Nacogdoches Rodeo Arena. He was a Calvary Episcopal Church Vestry member and Ministries in Worship committeeman.



GREG TALTON HARBER, a 1979 and 1994 SFA graduate and computer science instructor, passed away Sept. 2. Harber was born on Nov. 1, 1957, in Lufkin. He taught a variety of courses at SFA focusing on computer architecture, networking, system administration,

computer literacy, web development and ethics. Before arriving at SFA, he taught at secondary schools, managed restaurants and hotels, and was a drilling fluids engineer in the oil industry.

Travis Amie '77 of Lufkin, July 22
Royce Anderson '65 of Carthage, June 9
Carolyn Blankenship '52 of Corpus Christi, July 24
James W. Blount '65 of Tomball, Sept. 16
J. Hoyt Bowers '64 of Plainview, May 25
Kenneth M. Briegel Jr. '73 of Naperville, Illinois, July 23
Clayton L. Brooks Jr. '75 of Garland, Oct. 4
Robert W. Cox '65 of Huntsville, Sept. 27
Robert S. Crow Jr. '56 of Nacogdoches, July 24
Alfred E. Danheim Jr. '50 & '61 of Alto, Sept. 6
James Taylor "Jimmy" Daniels '71 of Nacogdoches, Aug. 3
Arlene L. Davis '67 of Shreveport, Louisiana, July 2
Charles W. DeYoung '72 of Hamshire, July 23
Willie K. Doty '87 of Pearland, July 30
Nancy A. Drawhorn '55 of San Augustine, Sept. 19
Harold R. Fahrenthold '66 of Houston, Sept. 19
B.C. Fenley Jr. '61 of Houston, July 30
Roberta S. Frame '74 of Pearland, May 20
Arturo Gonzales '77 of Galveston, June 23
Judge Gerald A. Goodwin '66 of Lufkin, Aug. 3
Billie Grimes '76 of Gary, Sept. 24
Mary N. Grimland '68 of Nacogdoches, Aug. 28
James (Jim) Franklin Havard of Huntington, friend of SFA, July 7
Diana E. Hensley '82 & '96 of Nacogdoches, June 29
Jenny L. Heuer '84 of Mansfield, July 21
Dianne N. House '91 & former SFA instructor of Nacogdoches, Sept. 23
James A. Jones '66 & '73 of Lufkin, Aug. 23
Christopher R. King '05 of Nacogdoches, Aug. 16
Lewis Richard McCarroll Jr. '65 of Austin, June 25
Clyde E. McClatchey '58 & '66 of Midlothian, July 1

Elizabeth A. McDaniel '78 of Dallas, July 1
Ralph McKinney '50 of Franklin, Sept. 3
Kristi B. McLain '89 of Nacogdoches, July 24
Robert James Mechler '70 of Houston, Sept. 10
Ninfa Middleton '80 & '81 of Brownsville, July 27
Rodger D. Moake '74 of Rusk, July 5
Peggy Mullinix '65 of Jacksonville, Texas, Oct. 7
Thomas Marion "Coach" Neill '59 of Broadus, Aug. 5
Corine C. Odom '64 of Kilgore, June 20
Karon J. O'Neal '86 of Carthage, July 3
Don Bruce Richards of Cushing, friend of SFA, Sept. 11
Philip A. Roos '76 of Marshall, Oct. 6
William J. Rushing '49 of Dearborn Heights, Michigan, Sept. 1
Ezem G. Scarborough Jr. '65 of Palestine, July 1
Bennie M. Tindall '58 & '60 of Grapevine, Aug. 6
Dale L. Tindall '70 of San Augustine, July 8
Cecil Allen "Bud" Townley '70 of Crestview, Florida, June 20
Gary G. Warren '72 of East Baldwin, Maine, July 28
Blitz Womack '68 of Lufkin, July 6



SFA student

Michael D. Chenier Jr. of Katy, Sept. 26

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