The Magazine of Sam Houston State University

INSIDE Spotlight: Campus

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Homecoming through the years **p26**



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



SHSU President Dana G. Hoyt and John M. Hoyt, '75, were married on August 4, 2014, in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, in the presence of family and close friends.

Mr. Hoyt owned and operated HGS *Self-Storage in Waco where he retains* business interests. He has been actively engaged with the university for many years as a contributor and through volunteer leadership capacities. A member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, he has served as member of the President's Circle, Sam Houston Memorial Museum board, the Share the Vision Campaign Leadership Council, and the Alumni Association board, for which he served as president. Mr. Hoyt is a Life Endowed Member of the SHSU Alumni Association and has established endowments for academic and athletic programs at the university.

Dr. Hoyt has served as president of Sam Houston State University for four years and previously held the position of vice president for finance and operations. Under her leadership, the university has experienced impressive growth in enrollment and academic programming. During this time, Sam Houston has been recognized nationally for innovative programs and its focus on student success. The Hoyts are making Huntsville their primary home. Stepping onto our beautifully manicured and maintained campus, students and visitors alike experience something special about Sam Houston State University. Often described as "warm, friendly and inviting," the environment provides a congenial atmosphere where students, faculty, and staff excel at work and education.

In today's world, the resources and infrastructure supporting the intellectual maturation of students are evolving quickly in response to changing demographic, societal, and technological trends. The nature and very speed of these changes are making a profound impact on the university's academic and physical landscapes.

In February of 2013, updates to the Campus Master Plan were approved to accommodate continuing enrollment growth, innovative academic and research partnerships, and changing housing and student life trends. Much thought and consideration were given to the conceptual and design phases of the plan to ensure SHSU's culture, with its unique sense of community, is not only maintained but fortified.

In this issue of the Heritage, we are proud to share with you our progress and provide an interesting glimpse into SHSU's changing landscape:

- The expansion of the nursing program to the SHSU-The Woodlands Center to address the growing demand for degreed nursing professionals in our region;
- The completion of a master plan for the development of a criminal justice complex, Innovation Plaza, which will be located on a highly desirable and visible property along Interstate 45;
- The fall opening of the new Student Health & Counseling Center with expanded services to promote the health and well-being of our students;
- The opening of University Camp, a first-rate facility, to be used as a retreat site for student organizations, leadership training programs and institutional initiatives. The facility is hosting its first Bearkat Camp for incoming freshmen this August.

The integration of knowledge with workforce needs and the rapid advancement of information technology will continue to challenge the assumptions underlying the traditional higher education model. But, as we build upon Sam Houston State's strong culture and organizational structure—embracing and fostering innovation and collaboration—the university's proud legacy will continue even as its programs and aspirations evolve.

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Dana G. Hoyt President

Heritage

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The goal of *Heritage* is to keep you informed about Sam Houston State University. *Heritage* is published twice a year by the Office of University Advancement for alumni, donors and friends of SHSU. To contact the Office of University Advancement please call 936.294.3625 or visit *shsu.edu/giving*.

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

ON THE COVER



In a "then-andnow" illustration, Shirley Taylor waves to the crowd in front of the Walker County Courthouse during the 1955 Homecoming Parade.



Innovation Plaza: A Creative Presence For SHSU

In the future, relocating some criminal justice programs to prime real estate north of Huntsville will provide a "win-win" situation for several entities.



New Health And Counseling Center

A new building opening in the fall means more services for SHSU students, as well as faculty and staff.



Nursing Program To Expand To The Woodlands

SHSU will offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at SHSU-The Woodlands Center next year.



University Camp: A Place For Meaningful Bearkat Experiences

Incoming students who take part in Bearkat Camp now have a beautiful new location at which to learn about SHSU traditions, spirit and pride.

SECTIONS



Carry The Vision

Hootie Murray's desire to honor his teammates leads to a reunion with support for the Bearkat baseball program. Fundraising award reflects 'Overall Improvement.'



Eye On The Kats

Bowling team makes history, Bearkats win Commissioner's Cup, Fall preview



Alumni Look

Homecoming through the years, SHSU to recognize alumni achievements and service, Inaugural 'Founders Day' a success, Class Notes, In Memoriam

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A Creative Presence For SHSU Plaza

As enrollment grows at Sam Houston State University, along with the Aneed for new programs to meet the increasing demands of an educated workforce, the university is continually evaluating space for expansion. With its location within the city of Huntsville, there is not much "wiggle room" for expanding beyond its current boundaries. One option is to tear down existing structures and replace them with newer, taller buildings. However, for the existing facilities that are still in workable condition and

serving their purpose, that option is not feasible.

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By Julia May

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Thanks to the good relationship SHSU has with other agencies and organizations, there is help to address the growth issue for the foreseeable future. Last year, the Texas Legislature authorized the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to transfer to the university approximately 78 acres of land in a parcel on Highway 75 North.

"The land is a very desirable piece of property right along Interstate 45," said Al Hooten, SHSU executive vice president for administration. "It will give great visibility to the university in the areas where we want to grow." Plans are to build a criminal justice complex at the location, which has been named Innovation Plaza, with initial structures for the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas, the Correctional Management Institute of Texas, and a training facility for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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All the programs are currently housed on campus at the George J. Beto **Criminal Justice** Center.

Once those programs have been relocated, the existing space will be remodeled and repurposed for academic use. "We had been looking for property

Existing 78 acres

on which to locate an integrated, multi-purpose complex with a criminal justice

focus," said Hooten. "As various options didn't pan out, by happenstance, representatives from the H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum approached us and mentioned the TDCJ horse pasture next to their location. The veterans museum needed about five acres to accommodate the growth of their programs.

"TDCJ looked at their real estate requirements, and the parcel was just too small for anything they needed for prisons, etc. So, the veterans museum representatives asked if we, they and TDCJ could work together to facilitate a transfer of the property to the university," Hooten said. "Then the veterans museum would work with us to lease the acreage they needed for their expansion."

The three groups involved worked with Sen. Charles Schwertner and Rep. John Otto, who were instrumental in carrying the bills necessary for the land transfer to the legislature, and the transfer was approved.

"It's a win-win for the museum, TDCJ, the community, and us," said Hooten. "The land has been tax-exempt. As we grow and develop more programs out there, some tax base for the community will develop as well."

Aerial, long-term concept



"It will also benefit TDCJ in that there is a large contingent of their employees who will receive training at the site," said Hooten. "This was a critical element for them."

The university has contracted with Broaddus Planning, an award-winning firm who is recognized as a premier campus planning, urban design and facility programming practice.

Officials at SHSU want the area to have a distinct campus feel.

"We plan to have lots of green space to facilitate pedestrian movement. We want this to be a place where individuals can walk around and develop creative ideas," said Hooten. "It's our

hope that a company might want to build a production facility at the location, based on an innovative idea.

"This will be a very attractive environment with trees and water features," said Hooten. "It won't be just streets and parking lots." The university

is also looking

forward to hearing



Long-term Concept

the results of a feasibility study that will determine if a hotel and conference center will be supported at the site. Those facilities would be open to the public, and SHSU officials hope that a hotel with a brand name will be interested.

Once the current programs have moved from the Criminal Justice Center to the new facilities, approximately 150,000 square feet will be available for the expansion of academic programs and related support for the College of Criminal Justice

> on campus. The University Hotel will be closed down and will be used for "surge space" as remodeling takes place.

"Of course, we are early in the planning stages, and everything must go before the Texas State University System Board of Regents for approval," said Hooten.

"Once the regents have approved the master plan for the project, we will then bring in civil engineers to help us develop costs of the infrastructure aspects, such as roads, utility lines, etc. It's an intricate process, and we will work with numerous professionals to ensure a quality environment that will complement the academic mission of Sam Houston State University." 🖈





New Student Health and Counseling Center Opens This Fall By Julia May



Above, SHCC rendering

am Houston State University's newest building will not only provide more space for two very busy departments, but also more services for students.

The Student Health and Counseling Center has a new home next to Old Main Market and will be in full operation in the fall semester.

"The Health Center was built in 1965, and they've only had a couple of renovations along the way, but no expansion until now," said Drew Miller, executive director of counseling and health services. "With the new additional space, we will be able to accommodate more professional staff members and offer so much more for our students."

The Health Center has hired a new medical director whose time will be divided between administrative and clinical responsibilities.

Other additional staffing includes a pharmacy technician, a registered nurse, a licensed vocational nurse, and a part-time nurse practitioner/ physician's assistant. The facility will allow for the capability of having up to 16 full-time providers.

"We will also be developing a Women's Clinic because a large percentage of our student population is female," said Miller. "We hired Dr. Greschen Yount, an OB/GYN, last year, specifically with the space in the new facility in mind."

The new Health Center will also have a nursing clinic, which will be similar to a triage clinic, for students who don't have the time or ability to schedule an appointment.

"One of the most exciting additions is a new dental clinic," said Miller. "The health center makes a significant number of dental referrals for our students, and we've always had to send them out. Now we will be able to handle those referrals in-house for them."

The dental clinic will be operated by On-Site Dental, a company that contracts with businesses to provide

Services Offered:

- Nursing clinic
- Student health and counseling
- Women's Clinic
- Dental Clinic
- Enhanced training programs
- Expanded programming to the community



The Plan:

- Health Center, 1st floor
- Counseling Center, 2nd floor
- 20 offices
- Conference
 room
- Group therapy rooms
- Relaxtion and meditation rooms

dental care at the organization's location.

"Although we are the second university in Texas to contract with them (University of Houston piloted the arrangement), we are the first to have a space that was designed specifically with a dental clinic in mind," said Miller. "Since we have done this, other universities have approached us to look at our model."

The dental services will be available to faculty and staff, as well as students.

The Health Center is on the first floor of the new building, and the Counseling Center is on the second floor.

The space includes 20 offices for clinicians to accommodate demand as the university grows; two dedicated group rooms for group therapy; and a relaxation room where a massage chair will be located and a space will be available for meditation for students who practice mindfulness to relieve part of their stress.

"Part of our idea for creating the relaxation room is because it's close to the waiting room," said Miller. "If we have a student who is becoming emotional in the main waiting area, we will have a space available so they can have some privacy while they are waiting."

The Counseling Center will also be able to increase staffing because of the new additional space. Two new psychologists have been added, and there are plans to add another clinician and a case manager.

Training programs, which the Counseling Center has provided in the past, will be enhanced.

"Every semester we have a handful of master-level trainees from various programs in the area who are getting their first clinical experience," Miller said. "That training component is a reflection of the university's mission.

"One thing we are excited about

Above, SHCC First Floor Plan



Construction, June 2014 is that we have been able to build a state-of-the-art video recording system that will allow the trainees' clinical supervisors to watch sessions live, so that they can get a sense of what is happening in the moment as opposed to just watching tape.

"It includes what we call 'bug in the ear," Miller said. "The clinician is wearing a little earpiece and their clinical supervisor can be sitting in their office watching the session. The supervisor can talk to the clinician and suggest questions to ask the patient. This will provide a much more effective training experience."

A large conference room is also located on the second floor, where Miller plans to offer expanded programming to the community, such as suicide prevention.

"We also hope to be able to get out into the campus community and look more broadly at wellness holistically and how we can approach that from a mental health perspective.

"Right now, because of the lack of space and staffing, we've just been doing general therapy groups; however, we are looking to increase grief support groups and our group for women of color, which has been popular," said Miller.

"We also would like to offer brief therapy groups that might focus on specific themes, such as stress management, building self esteem, and effectively managing relationships. These are sessions that can be conducted in five-tosix weeks and are sort of a hybrid, combining therapy and education into one group.

"Our idea is that by offering these kinds of things, people might not actually have to come to full-term therapy, because they will be getting that need met in a more direct way," he said. "It's our hope that we ultimately will be able to keep people from coming in the doors to begin with." ★

Highlights:

- Increased staffing
- State-of-theart video recording system
- Increased therapy groups

Nursing Program To Expand To The

By Julia May



November 2008 --new Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program approved

ouston Methodist Hospital recently announced it would be building a new 193-bed, fullservice community hospital in The Woodlands to help accommodate the expected 10,000 employees who will be moving to the 385-acre Exxon Mobil corporate campus.

They will be joining other hospitals that have already established or announced locations in Montgomery County, including: CHI St. Luke's, Texas Children's, and Hermann Memorial, among others.

The population growth of the county, as well as the need for quality health care, is projected to increase dramatically as families move closer to jobs.

In response to the growing need for health care professionals, Sam Houston



State University is expanding its nursing program to the SHSU-The Woodlands Center to offer the generic Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, leading to licensure. The program is expected to launch in January 2015.

With the closest generic bachelor's degree in nursing program located in downtown Houston, SHSU is filling a need in the area that has been expressed by medical administrators, health care professionals, and potential students.

"We also will be offering a second new nursing degree program beginning this September, called the RN-to-BSN program, which is a program designed for those individuals who have an associate's degree in nursing and have earned their RN license but wish to move on to the bachelor's degree," said Michael Lacourse,

Woodlands

August 2013 accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

> September 2013– Department of Nursing becomes School of Nursing in the College of Health Sciences

dean of the College of Health Sciences.

Lacourse believes that younger students aren't the only ones who are interested in nursing careers.

"Because there are so many nursing jobs available, the pay is good, and positions are portable, individuals who already have a bachelor's degree in one field oftentimes choose to get a second bachelor's degree in nursing," he said. "So we expect that this program will be attractive, not only to the traditional college-age student, but also for adult learners who are looking for second baccalaureate degrees to change careers."

SHSU's Woodlands location was opened on May 30, 2012. The center offers upperlevel courses leading to undergraduate and graduate degrees in a variety of disciplines. Until recently, all activity took place on the building's first three floors. The fourth







SPOTLIGHT

December 2013 —Exploratory trip to three nursing schools in Thailand for partnerships

> May 2014–Offers first study-abroad program in Costa Rica in partnership with UNIBE (Universidad de Iberoamérica)

floor had been left vacant to accommodate such program expansion as that occurring with the School of Nursing.

A "build out" of half of the fourth floor for the nursing program began this summer, with completion expected in December.

"There will be a department office, faculty offices for 13, a full simulation center, and two nursing skills laboratories," said Lacourse.

"Nationally, the target is to have 80 percent of practicing nurses with bachelor's degrees by 2020. Many of the hospitals in The Woodlands, if not all of them, require or are searching for nurses with a bachelor's degree," said Lacourse. "That's the rationale for us to expand to that area. We need to go where the health care facilities are." ★

UNIVERSIT A PLACE FOR MEANINGFUL BEARKAT EXPERIENCES

YCAN

Although many universities have sites away from campus at which to have retreats, Sam Houston State University may have the *crème de la crème* of facilities at its newly opened University Camp.

With overnight accommodations for more than 200 in bunkhouse style, dogrun designed cabins, the university offers an experience through the traditional Bearkat Camp for its incoming freshmen this year like no class has had before.

It's no wonder that University Camp is a showpiece, though—it has been 25 years in the making, according to Associate Vice President for Student Services Keith Jenkins.

"The concept of a rustic and rural facility for SHSU students to use as a retreat site for student organizations, leadership training programs and institutional initiatives was first discussed with President Elliott T. Bowers in 1989," Jenkins said.

"In addition, representatives from more than 200 student organizations had approached me about creating such a facility that was close to campus and inexpensive to use," he said.

Bowers retired in 1989, and incoming president Martin Anisman encouraged Jenkins to continue his quest for securing such a facility.

During Anisman's tenure, the university acquired 1,740 acres on Highway 75 north of Huntsville, which currently serves as a learning laboratory for students enrolled in agricultural sciences at SHSU.

"The property was initially divided into two sections—one for the agriculture department and the other for the Department of Recreational Sports to "Every family has that place where
they can get away
from everyday
life and bond ...
University Camp is
that place for our
Bearkat family."

develop a camp for SHSU students," Jenkins said.

As development for the property evolved, Jenkins became aware of another site that was owned by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and had been closed down for 10 years.

"It was a 345-acre parcel of land that TDCJ had once used for their employees called the Ellis Recreation Area," said Jenkins. "It was divided by a fence line. On one side was a central camping area, and the other side was off limits because it had been designated as a Texas Historical Site for Native American artifacts."

Because the facilities and land had not been used in so long, everything was dilapidated and overgrown; however, with the Trinity River as a border, Jenkins saw a wealth of possibilities for the property as he set in motion the effort to establish SHSU's University Camp.

Bobby K. Marks was now president of the university. Under his direction and with the assistance of former TDCJ executive directors Wayne Scott and Gary Johnson, along with state Rep. Dan Ellis, the land was transferred from TDCJ to



SHSU when Gov. Rick Perry signed HB266 in 2001.

"When President Jim Gaertner stepped into the corner office in the Administration Building, he brought an alumnus's passion for 'this grand old university' and his love of the outdoors," said Jenkins. "Recognizing that no state or central university funds would be available to develop the project, Dr. Gaertner was the first president to seek external funding to aid in the University Camp's development."

Under Gaertner's leadership, the first Bearkat Camp for incoming freshmen was established in 2009.

"Bearkat Camp is a four-day, threenight program that engages incoming freshman students prior to the beginning of the fall semester with spirit, pride and the traditions of SHSU and begins their transformation into successful Bearkats," said Jenkins.

"Research shows that the retention rate of first-year students who attend Bearkat Camp is 9 percent higher than it is for those students who do not attend. We know there are additional benefits, but the research is still in progress," he said.

On Aug. 1, this year, under current SHSU President Dana Gibson's leadership and support, SHSU's University Camp officially opened, and Bearkat Camp transitioned from a local, private camp to the University Camp.

In addition to the bunkhouse cabins, the site features two meeting areas named Bearkat Lodge and Raven Room; a dining hall; an outdoor pavilion; a swimming pool; a sand volleyball court; a recreational field; a challenge ropes course with high and low elements; and waterfront amenities.

UNIVERSITY CAMP ...

"The second phase, when money becomes available, will include the construction of a freshwater swimming hole in an old abandoned rock quarry, sports fields, staff quarters, an experiential learning center, and the completion of all camp roadways," said Jenkins.

The last phase will feature the masterpiece of the location—a conference facility with a panoramic view of the Harmon Creek waterway, located on a high point of the property.

"The facility will be for smaller groups," said Jenkins. "Also in that phase, there will be individual cabins, a full catering kitchen, and a meeting area that will recognize the Caddo and Alabama-Coushatta tribes who once traversed the area and whose descendants supported the land transfer."

Jenkins feels that future generations of Bearkats will have special memories of the times they spend at University Camp.

"The camp is a unique facility that will enrich the tradition, spirit and pride that Sam Houston State University is known for," said Jenkins. "Former student body president Ramiro Jaime Jr. summed it up best when he said: 'Every family has that place where they can get away from everyday life and bond ... University Camp is that place for our Bearkat family."★









BOOKSHELF

Nineteen faculty publications showcase the work professors do outside the classroom.





The Films of John G. Avildsen

Rocky, The Karate Kid and Other Underdogs

Larry Powell and Tom Garrett



Foreword by Jean Bodon

The Films of John G. Avildsen: Rocky, The Karate Kid and Other Underdogs

Tom Garrett, associate professor and film program coordinator in the mass communication department, and Larry Powell, professor of communication studies at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, present a thorough examination of the life and work of American director John G. Avildsen in this detailed filmography and critical study. Each of the most significant films made by the Oscar-winning director is given a separate chapter, including such critical successes as "Joe" and "Save the Tiger" and box-office blockbusters "Rocky" and its sequels and the "Karate Kid" series. The authors' observations on these and other titles-some well known, others less familiar-are enhanced by extensive production notes and commentary from Avildsen himself. Cinema historian Jean Bodon, professor and chair of SHSU's mass communication department, provides a foreword. McFarland—252 pages

2013

Collection of Case Studies in Higher Education Leadership

Associate professor of educational leadership Rebecca Bustamante compiles life-like scenarios authored by higher education leaders. Created for classroom use in graduate courses in organizational theory and behavior for administrators and faculty members who work in community colleges and universities, each case is followed by a series of group discussion questions and a relevant writing prompt that asks students to apply an organizational theory. Students in Bustamante's higher education administration master's program course contributed to the collection, including Student Money Management Center director Patsy Collins, who examined "One Stop Shop: Integrating Financial Aid with a Satellite Campus."

Kendall Hunt—114 pages

Competitive Elections and Democracy in America: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Assistant professor of political science Heather Evans explores the debate over competition in elections, questioning whether it is beneficial for democracy in the U.S. Using an innovative data set she assembled to analyze the 2006-2010 congressional elections, Evans evaluates whether the competitiveness of an election affects citizens' political knowledge, political interest, and opinions of Congress, their representatives and the governmental system as a whole, as well as the effects that competitive elections have on constituencies. She incorporates an examination of the effects "ugly" campaigns have on voters, relevant to today's oft-used "mud-slinging" campaign tactics, demonstrating that competitive elections do have lasting effects on voters that go beyond just the length of a campaign. Her research reinforces the vital role that political competition

plays in modern democracies. **Routledge—142 pages**

Gender Relations in Sport

The textbook edited by Emily A. Roper, associate professor of kinesiology, is designed to be a comprehensive examination of the intersecting themes and concepts surrounding the study of gender and sport. The 16 contributors, leading scholars from sport studies, present key issues, current research perspectives and theoretical developments within nine sub-areas of gender and sport, including gender and sport participation; theories of gender and sport; gender and sport media; sexual identity and sport; intersections of race, ethnicity and gender in sport; framing Title IX policy using conceptual metaphors; studying the athletic body; sexual harassment and abuse in sport; and historical developments and current issues from a European perspective. Sense Publishers—186 pages

Living in a Christ-Haunted Land

In his newest collection of stories, Paul Ruffin, Texas State University System Regents' Professor and Distinguished Professor of English, focuses on characters whose lives are governed to a very large degree by the role of religious forces or on stories in which religious motifs figure prominently. The title comes from a remark made by writer Flannery O'Connor when she was asked whether the South was Christ-centered: "I don't know about it being Christ-centered," she said, "but it is certainly Christ-haunted." The collection comprises stories most initially published in literary journals and earlier books.

Louisiana Literature Press—237 pages

The Other Great Migration: The Movement of Rural African Americans to Houston, 1900-1941

While most scholars focus on the southern exodus of African Americans during the Great Migrations, Bernadette Pruitt, associate professor of history, concentrates on the Great Migration of blacks to a southern city. African Americans relocated to Houston for a variety of reasons. As they found



permanent work, opened schools and hospitals, created churches, formed institutions, graduated with high school diplomas and entered college, these children, women, and men fostered hope in later generations, generations that ultimately dismantled legal barriers to social justice. Her study argues that the black rights movement never would have happened without the Great Migrations, particularly into Houston, where black communities shaped national protest movements through the fight for pay equity, the dismantling of the white primary, the push for union recognition, and the musical and artistic discoveries of Houston Renaissance artists.

Texas A&M University Press—480 pages

Pet Shop Girls

Scott Kaukonen, associate professor of creative writing and MFA program director, and Helena Halmari, professor and chair of the English department, translate into English Anja Snellman's best-selling Finnish novel about a girl who reappears after being missing for 12 years to tell her story. The unmoralizing calm of Snellman's poetic language in "Pet Shop Girls" provides a startling contrast to the reality behind the pet shop that teenage Jasmin liked to visit with friendsprostitution and trafficking in girls. Snellman reveals a world of victims where some remain so and some take revenge—on other victims. The story raises questions about the sex trade, teen sexuality, mothers and daughters, and pedophilia and voyeurism, questions as relevant to audiences in the United States as they are to Finns and Scandinavians.

Ice Cold Crime—262 pages

Putting Essential Understanding of Multiplication and Division into Practice in Grades 3–5

Dustin Jones, associate professor of mathematics education, along with John Lannin and Kathryn Chval, both from the University of Missouri, focus on the specialized pedagogical content knowledge needed to effectively teach multiplication and division to third, fourth and fifth graders. The authors demonstrate how to use this multifaceted knowledge to address the big ideas and essential understandings that students must develop for success with multiplication and division—not only in their current work, but also in higher-level mathematics and a myriad of real-world contexts. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics—172 pages

Reptiles in Research: Investigations of Ecology, Physiology, and Behavior from Desert to Sea

William I. Lutterschmidt, professor of physiological ecology, shows how scientists use reptiles in their academic research and why reptiles offer a unique opportunity to address dozens of interesting and novel questions. As editor of the book, Lutterschmidt has invited top researchers from around the world to illustrate how environment influences the ecology, physiology and behavior of reptiles. This book introduces students, novice herpetologists and even seasoned scientists to a diversity of research fields and reptilian species, from how web-footed geckos move in desert sands to how sea snakes cope physiologically with high salinity. Chapter introductions present beautiful color plates of study organisms and their typical habitats that will inspire most audiences, and numerous graphs and figures offer informative perspectives on original data, analyses and discovery.

Nova Science—527 pages

2014

Bridging Literacies with Videogames

Hannah R. Gerber, assistant professor of reading in SHSU's department of language, literacy and special populations, provides an international perspective of new literacy practices, gaming culture, and traditional schooling. Featuring studies from Australia, Colombia, South Korea, Canada, and the United States, this co-edited volume addresses learning in primary, secondary, and tertiary environments, with topics related to recreating worlds and texts, massive multiplayer second-language learning, and videogames and classroom learning. These diverse topics provide scholars, teachers, and curriculum developers with empirical support for bringing videogames into classroom spaces and fostering meaning making. The text is essential for students and faculty interested in contemporizing learning with the medium of the videogame.

Sense Publishers—234 pages

Bubba Can Dance: Winning at Work

Assistant professor of general business and finance Bradley Wesner and Randolph Pohlman, professor of finance and dean emeritus at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, outline the qualities and work practices that facilitate success in the workplace. Intended as a popular business press release, the book is derived from the extensive experience both authors have in the corporate and academic sectors, including large bodies of consulting work. During this time, the authors developed relationships with individuals at all levels of organizations that have managed to rise to the top and promote very quickly. After years of observation, the authors noted that individuals who were able to achieve great success in organizations shared common qualities and work practices. KBO Publishing—142 pages

KBO Publishing—142 pages

Beyond Buildings: Designed Spaces as Visual Persuasion

J. Donald Ragsdale, professor and chair of communications studies, extends theories of persuasion and visual communication to landscape architecture and interior design, assessing the elements of visual literacy, landscapes and interior design elements to show that such designed spaces can have a social impact on the viewer. He demonstrates that these spaces are as socially influential as speeches or advertisements and that an awareness of this influence provides insight into the cultural roles of designed spaces. He considers spaces ranging from pleasure gardens and parks. to city parks and cities themselves, and includes assessments of the visual impact of national parks, zoological gardens, amusement parks, battlefields and monuments, and the interior spaces of buildings.

Cambridge Scholars—214 pages



Emerging Methods and Multidisciplinary Applications in Geospatial Research

Geography professor Donald P. Albert and G. Rebecca Dobbs, from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, exemplify the usage of geographic information science and technology to explore and resolve geographical issues from various application domains within the social and/ or physical sciences. The book specializes in studies from applied geography that interface with geographic information science and technology and is designed to provide planners and policy analysts, practitioners, academicians, and others using GIS&T with useful studies that might support decision-making activities.

IGI Global—414 pages

An Eye for An Eye: A Global History of Crime and Punishment

Criminal justice professor Mitchel P. Roth draws on anthropology, archaeology, folklore, and literature to chronicle the global history of crime and punishment—from early civilizations to the outlawing of sex crimes and serial homicide, to the development of organized crime, and the threat today of global piracy. He explores the birth of the penitentiary and the practice of incarceration, while also looking at execution and its many forms that are considered either barbaric or justified across different cultures. Ultimately, he illustrates that despite advances in every level of human experience, there is remarkable continuity in what is considered a crime and the sanctions administered, but Roth also scrutinizes the effectiveness of such efforts in both punishing wrongdoers and bringing a sense of justice to victims.

Reaktion Books/University of Chicago Press—304 pages

Introduction to Homeland Security: Policy, Organization, and Administration

Criminal Justice professor Willard Oliver, University of Akron associate political science department chair Nancy Marion, and Tiffin University assistant professor of homeland security and terrorism Joshua Hill (also a CJ alumnus) provide the only available text of its kind with their comprehensive, but accessible, textbook, which offers grounding in the basic issues of homeland security, the history and context of the field, and what the future of the field might hold. An essential text on understanding homeland security in America today, readers will come away with a solid understanding of the central issues surrounding policy concepts and political and legal responses to homeland security.

Jones & Bartlett Learning—318 pages

Jehiel Brooks and the Grappe Reservation: The Archival Record

In this revisionist history, professor of geography Jim Tiller examines the role of Jehiel Brooks, Caddo agent (1830-1834) and the commissioner who in 1835 negotiated the transfer of Caddo lands in Louisiana to the United States. The two primary questions posed are: where is the wisdom of using House Report 1035 as the sole, or even primary, basis for a discussion of the actions of Brooks as regards the Caddo treaty negotiations and its aftermath; and did Brooks take unfair advantage of the Caddo Nation in terms of the quantity of land ceded and the price paid for those lands? The large-format work is drawn primarily from the archival record and contains 15 appendixes, endnotes and six illustrations/maps, several of which were developed by the author.

The START Group—219 pages

Hard copies and eBook at: http://cdm2635-01.cdmhost.com/ cdm/search/searchterm/jim+tiller/order/noso

Online Like a Boss! A Comprehensive Guide for Taking the Guesswork out of the Online Communication Experience

The textbook by Wesner and Katherine Hampsten, assistant professor of English and communication studies at St. Mary's University, is designed to approach the idea of being successful in the virtual world by addressing various communication and business communication topics and relevant theoretical concepts, and then applies these concepts in the online environment. The book allows anyone to begin to function at a very high level on the Internet by integrating business and communication topics with active technology.

Kendall Hunt—404 pages

The Path to the Greater, Freer, Truer World: Southern Civil Rights and Anticolonialism, 1937-1955

Lindsey R. Swindall, visiting assistant professor of history, traces the development of the Southern Negro Youth Congress and the Council on African Affairs, which were created as part of early efforts to address race issues during the Great Depression. By situating the development of the SNYC and the CAA within the scope of the long civil rights movement. Swindall reveals how these groups conceptualized the U.S. South as being central to their vision of a global African diaspora. Both organizations illustrate the progressive collaborations that maintained an international awareness of segregation and colonialism during World War II. By highlighting their cooperation from the 1930s to the 1960s, Swindall presents an understanding of the intergenerational nature of civil rights and anticolonial organizing.

University Press of Florida—256 pages

A People's War on Poverty: Urban Politics and Grassroots Activists in Houston

Assistant professor of history Wesley G. Phelps investigates the on-the-ground implementation of President Lyndon Johnson's "War on Poverty" in Houston, where the policy spawned fierce political battles that revealed fundamental disagreements over what democracy meant, how far it should extend and who should benefit from it. Many of the program's implementers took seriously the federal mandate to empower the poor as they pushed for a more participatory form of democracy that would include more citizens in the political, cultural, and economic life of the city. By focusing on local actors, Phelps shows that grassroots activists in Houston were influenced by a much more diverse set of intellectual and political traditions, fueling their efforts to expand the meaning of democracy. University of Georgia Press-264 pages March 2014

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"BUD TOLD ME THAT ALL THE GUYS WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FOR HOOTIE AND BUD HAD COME UP WITH THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING A BASEBALL ENDOWMENT AT SHSU IN HOOTIE'S NAME."

GUINN "HOOTIE" MURRAY, LEFT, WITH HIS BROTHER MIKE.

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MURRAY AT THE 2014 BASEBALL AUCTION

S tudent-athletes on winning Bearkat teams today receive a lot of recognition for their accomplishments. Many times, fans will welcome them home in the middle of the night and celebrations may go on for days.

However, that wasn't always the case, especially for those teams returning to campus in the summer when no one was around.

Guinn "Hootie" Murray, of Huntsville, felt compelled to do something for the 1963 Bearkat baseball team that won the NAIA National Championship in St. Joseph, Missouri, after reaching the World Series the previous three seasons.

The 50th anniversary of the win seemed like a good time to make that something happen.

Back in the late 1950s, Murray was a talented athlete in many sports, but his first love was basketball. He began his collegiate athletic career as a basketball player at Tyler Junior College.

After a year, he returned to Huntsville

and enrolled at Sam Houston State. He joined a fraternity and was, he admits, fairly free with his dad's money.

"When it came time to register for my third year of college, I asked my dad for tuition money, and he told me I either had to go get a parttime job or ask Coach Ray Benge, the Sam Houston baseball coach, if

the scholarship he had offered me when I was a senior in high school was still available," Murray said.

As it turned out, there was one scholarship left for the upcoming year, and Benge told Murray he could have it.

"I played right field during the 1960, 1961 and 1962 seasons and graduated in 1962," Murray said.

All three years that Murray was on the team, the Bearkats qualified to play in the NAIA World Series. However, the title remained elusive.

Murray's baseball days continued following graduation when he signed with the Colt .45s professional baseball team, which was later renamed the Houston Astros.

He played centerfield for three-and-ahalf years, until he suffered a leg injury by sliding into second base, which had been crimped when a previous runner had also slid into the base.

His playing days over, he bought into the Western Auto store where he had worked during the off-season. He also co-owned a clothing store with his brother.



"ONE OF THE THINGS THAT MAKES THE GIFT SO SPECIAL IS THE FACT IT IS NAMED IN HONOR OF SOMEONE WHO IS A ROLE MODEL FOR ALL STUDENT ATHLETES PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE."

He then found his calling as a petroleum land man and stayed with that endeavor for 39 years.

urray never forgot about his Bearkat teammates, and a couple of years ago, he began to think of ways to recognize their National Championship win.

"It was really in Hootie's heart to find some way to honor that team," said Murray's younger brother Mike. "Although he graduated in 1962, he had played with most of the guys on the 1963 championship team, and they were his teammates."

After discussing his thoughts with SHSU athletic director Bobby Williams, Murray came up with the idea to present the players with National Championship rings.

"Once the word got out, some of the guys on the team who are still around said they wanted to help, and our plan went into action," Murray said.

Trying to locate 31 individuals from across the country after almost 50 years was not an easy task. However, although both coaches and five teammates were no longer living, eventually all but one of the 31 team members or surviving family members were found.

- WINNERS

The team was invited back to SHSU for a reunion to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the National Championship win, to be recognized at halftime during a Bearkat football game, and to receive their rings.

The response was overwhelming.

"Of the 31 players, 30 either came or were represented by family members," said Murray. "We had one from New England, one from South Carolina, one from Louisiana, one from Arizona, and three from Canada. The rest were from Texas."

"The room was filled with hugs, smiles, laughter and tears," said Mike. "Some of those guys had not seen each other in 50 years."

embers of the team were so touched, they wanted to do something to show their appreciation to Murray for all the work he had done in getting them recognized, but he would not hear of it.

"Bud Haney, one of the team members, called me and said, 'Your brother is not going to accept anything from us," Mike said. "The team members had even tried to give Hootie a ring, and he refused it because he said he didn't play in that championship-winning game.

"Bud told me that all the guys wanted to do something for Hootie, and Bud had come up with the idea of establishing a baseball endowment at SHSU in Hootie's name," said Mike. "This endowment would help supplement the budget so that funds could be used for special projects."

Haney contacted former Bearkat athletes, and Mike went to work on friends and family.

The outcome was \$50,000 to establish the Guinn Hugh "Hootie" Murray Baseball Operations Endowment. The interest that is accrued will go into enrichment projects for the baseball program. The endowment is open ended and contributions can be made to it at any time.

"We plan to use the funding for things



1961: MURRAY STEALS HOME



1961: HITTERS MURRAY AND HANEY

Outfielders Set Pace As Kats Win Center Fielder Joe Haney (left) hit a single in the bottom the third in the series opener with the University of Hous n to tally the only runs batted in, and Right Fielder Guim urray tripled in the second game to tie the secore as the earkats secored a clean sweep over the Cougars, 6-1 and 9-8.

THE HOUSTONIAN





The 1963 Championship team at the 2013 Baseball Auction (left to right): Cary Workman, Leroy Wilkinson, Freddie Beene, Pat Harrop, Mike Ferrell, Larry Smith, Tommy Dotson, John Skeeters, Jimmy Dodd, Jerry Register, Carlo Gott and Bud Haney.

that will help our program move forward," said Williams. "We have a budget in place, so the endowment will go toward paying for projects above and beyond the budget; things that will make life better for our student-athletes and coaches."

illiams was quick to recognize Murray's selfless involvement through the years in SHSU athletics.

"One of the things that makes the gift so special is the fact that it is named in honor of someone who is a role model for all student-athletes—past, present and future. Hootie played at a high level and he gives back at a high level, whether it's supporting the program with fundraising or with his presence," said Williams.

"Hootie picked a great time to honor and recognize this group of men," he said. "We've had a lot of success with our athletics programs through the years, but something changed around 2010. Everything came together with what the university was doing, and our community embraced athletics in a way we had not seen before.

"What Hootie, Mike and Bud did with getting the 1963 championship baseball team together and having them recognized on the football field at halftime in front of a huge crowd was very special," Williams said. "The endowment was a bonus." *

Fundraising Award Reflects 'Overall Improvement'

S am Houston State University's fundraising efforts have earned the university a 2014 Educational Fundraising Award by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

SHSU was selected to receive an "Overall Improvement Award" in the "public comprehensive institution" category.

CASE's Educational Fundraising Awards honors superior fundraising programs at CASE-member educational institutions across the country, according to Brian Flahaven, director for CASE's legislative, foundation and recognition programs. This is an annual program in which awards are given for "overall performance" and "overall improvement" in fundraising based on data submitted to the Council for Aid to Education's Voluntary Support of Education survey. Institutions are grouped and judged in categories roughly based on the Carnegie Classification.

Judges are selected from the ranks of senior development professionals and CASE volunteers and represent a wide array of experience. When reviewing data profiles, the judging panel does not know the name of the institution tied to the data, according to Flahaven.

Judges selected winners based on a multitude of factors: the pattern of growth in total support, or adjusted total support, if appropriate; evaluation of what contributed to the total support figure; overall breadth in program areas; pattern of growth in each program area; pattern of donor growth among alumni donors and other individual donors; impact of the 12 largest gifts on total support; total support in relation to the alumni base; and the type of institution.

Of the 1,010 higher education institutions participating in the survey, 450 were considered for judging and 79 received awards. Some of the institutions who have been recognized for sustainable exemplary fundraising programs include Baylor College of Medicine, Harvard University, Stanford University, Villanova University and University of California, Berkeley.



APRIL 13-15,2014 ARKANSAS LOUISIANA NEW MEXICO OKLAHOMA TEXAS 2014 CASE District IV

DELIVER Conference

"I am overwhelmed by our staff's collective accomplishment in achieving national recognition for charitable giving," said Vice President for University Advancement Frank Holmes. "This award is not a popularity contest; it is based solely on the numbers."

Fundraising efforts are a critical part of a university's mission, according to Holmes. Donations support student scholarships, faculty and staff endowments, academic program endowments, construction projects, and program enhancement.

Approximately 11 years ago, SHSU had a donor giving rate of less than 1 percent; today, that rate is 11 percent.

"It took years of consistent work and focus to reconnect, build relationships, and gain the confidence and understanding necessary to create a culture of philanthropy," Holmes said.

"Obviously, the Development team is dedicated every day to raising money," he said. "It should not be overlooked that their efforts are supported by advancement-wide programs that maintain accurate alumni and donor data; provide opportunities for involvement and engagement on and off the campus by our alumni and friends; produce strong public relations, outstanding publications and effective electronic media to enhance the image of the university and tells its story; and a sincerely caring staff that places customer service right at the top of everything done.

"And, our efforts are augmented by an administration and faculty that appreciate our efforts and are willing to help whenever asked."

"With the steep decline in state funding as a percentage of the university's overall budget, fundraising and alumni engagement are mission critical to the ongoing success of the university and our students," said Dana G. Hoyt, SHSU president. "This award is significant and shows how a strong advancement program and an engaged base of alumni and friends can make a difference. Frank's leadership and vision along with a top team of development, alumni relations, and marketing and communications professionals have earned this recognition."

The Council for Advancement "It took years of consistent work and focus to reconnect, build relationships, and gain the



confidence and understanding necessary to create a culture of philanthropy," Holmes said.

and Support of Education is a professional association serving educational institutions and the advancement professionals who work on their behalf in alumni relations, communications, development, marketing and allied areas. It is one of the world's largest nonprofit educational associations in terms of institutional membership with more than 3,600 colleges and universities, primary and secondary independent and international schools, and nonprofit organizations in 82 countries. CASE serves nearly 74,000 advancement professionals on the staffs of member institutions.

For more information, call the Office of University Advancement at 936.294.3625.



SHSU Bowling Team Makes History

By Jason Barfield

our years seems like a long time to wait for something. But for bowling coach Brad Hagen, it was worth every minute of it.

Hagen started the bowling program in 2010 with the clear intention of winning a national championship. Despite the doubts that a team could be started from scratch at the Division I level and achieve the ultimate top prize that quickly, Hagen moved forward with his plan.

In April, it all came together, as Hagen and the Bearkat bowlers

defeated Nebraska to win the first national title in the school's history. "I don't think anyone really knew what to expect from us," Hagen said. "This was something new for this department. There wasn't a conference championship we could compete for, so I made the goal a national championship."

Kimi Davidson was the first recruit for Hagen. The senior from Azle said his recruiting pitch was simple.

"He came to my house and said, "Do you want to win a national championship," Davidson said.

To Hagen, the plan *was* simple. Neishka Cardona soon followed as a freshman, signing as Hagen started with a mix of freshman and junior college transfers with the goal of doing what no other first-year program had ever done.

"Only eight teams make it to the finals each year, so my goal from the start was to be one of those eight," Hagen said. "I think people thought I was crazy saying that right off the bat, but that is the way I approached the job. I didn't think there was any other way to go after it."

The Bearkats did reach that first-year goal, advancing to the national finals in Detroit. What Hagen didn't have in the plans was missing out in year two.

"That stung, missing out on Cleveland that second year," he said. "We had to change our approach with a few things to keep moving forward."

A return to the NCAA Championships in 2013, the third competitive season for the Bearkats, proved the first season wasn't a fluke. SHSU put together an opening-day record of 5-2, but for the second time, the Kats failed to win a match in the doubleelimination bracket play.

Three years, two trips to the national championships, and still a lot of work left to do before Hagen could make a serious claim at being a national championship contender, there was just one final chance



for that first group of freshman recruits to claim a title.

This past season got off to a slow start, and in January, the Bearkats were on the outside of the projected field of eight to get into the national championship field, which was once again in Cleveland.

"It's the one that got away," Cardona said, about missing out in 2012. "We knew we missed out on it the first time around (to go to Cleveland) and for me and Kimi, we wanted to get there."

For that to happen, Hagen said some things had to change with the team. He made a few tough decisions with the squad, originally consisting of eight members, and moved forward with just six.

"I think we all kind of knew we had to make some changes in our approach," said sophomore Anna Groce. "In the second half of the season, we had a different focus and played like a different team."

The Bearkats closed strong and earned their third trip to the national championship tournament. Determined to make this outcome different, Hagen took a risk. In the final four matches of the first day, he scrapped the team's game plan and decided to try something new.

Hagen experimented with different equipment to see how it would react with the lanes. The plan cost the Kats three matches, but Hagen also learned some valuable information in the process. He used that knowledge and put a new plan in place that resulted in the Kats going 3-0 in the bracket play to advance to the championship match against Nebraska.

"I attacked things a lot differently than

"I can't believe we are sitting here." (other teams) did, and what we did worked out in our favor," he said. "I'm happy the girls stuck to the game plan, trusted me and their abilities."

In the finals against Nebraska, the Kats picked up right where they left off. The Cornhuskers were the defending championships, but bowling in front of a live ESPN audience, the Kats were the team with the poise and confidence.

Davidson came up with several huge shots when the Kats needed them, closing out the Cornhuskers in six games in the best-of-seven championship series.

When it was over, the Bearkats stormed the lanes and hoisted the championship trophy. Seniors Cardona and Davidson clutched the trophy with tears streaking down their cheeks. "We did it," they kept saying over and over.

Even after the awards ceremony and in the calm of the press conference room, Davidson and Cardona still struggled to settle the emotions.

"I can't believe we are sitting here," Davidson said less than an hour after winning the title. After a pause, she looked over to Cardona and struggled, "I couldn't have had a better teammate to share this journey with."

Hagen will be the first to admit he might be the only one who could believe what had just happened. He told anyone who would listen for four years they would be there; they just had to trust him. His players did, and he delivered on his promise. *





Bearkats Win Commissioner's Cup ... Again! By Paul Ridings Jr.

Sam Houston State is "Southland Strongest" again in 2014.

For the second consecutive year and the fifth time in the last 10 seasons, the Bearkats have won the Southland Conference Commissioner's Cup.

The trophy is presented annually to the top overall athletics program in the Southland. In its 17-year history, no other current or former member of the league has won the cup five times.

The Kats took the cup after one of the athletic program's most successful seasons ever.

SHSU won team championships in baseball, men's golf and both women's indoor and outdoor track and field. Both the baseball and



men's golf team advanced to NCAA regional competition.

In addition, men's indoor track and field posted a runner-up finish, and five teams (football, softball, men's basketball, volleyball and men's outdoor track and field) finished third in the league standings.

Only once before—in 1985-86 when the Bearkats won football, baseball, men's basketball and golf titles in the Gulf Star Conference—has Sam Houston State earned four league titles in one sports year.

"Winning the Commissioner's Cup for the fifth time in 10 years is so special because of the fact that a cup victory was the first and only goal I set for this department back in 1997-98," Sam Houston director of athletics Bobby Williams said. "The main reason behind setting the cup as a goal was I wanted every sport to be important, not just a few.

"If every sport is important, then every studentathlete, coach, manager, trainer and administrative staff member is important. The pursuit of the cup is something that has brought this department together as an athletic program."



Bearkat baseball not only won its third consecutive Southland Conference regular season championship but again advanced to the NCAA Championships. In the Fort Worth regional, Sam Houston battled host TCU in the second-longest game in NCAA annals and the longest ever for the Kats—a 22-inning marathon that lasted nearly seven hours, finishing at 2:30 a.m.



The Sam Houston women earned both the Southland Conference indoor and outdoor track and field championships in the spring. Head coach David Self received "Coach of the Year" honors in both sports. Sabrina Starr earned All-America honors in the NCAA Indoor 100 meter hurdles. Lygia Foreman was the league's top scorer in the outdoor meet.



Head coach Brandt Kieschnick, Andrew Johnson, SLC individual champion Zach Cabra, Albert Miner, Klein Klotz, Logan Boatner and assistant coach Tommy Chain display the 2014 Southland men's golf championship trophy. With the title, the Kats earned their first team berth in the NCAA Regional at Auburn. Sam Houston missed a spot in the NCAA finals by only five strokes.

The race for the 2013-14 Commissioner's Cup was exciting. In the end, Sam Houston edged rival Stephen F. Austin by just one point, 176.5 to 175.5.

The Bearkats also brought home their third Southland Men's All-Sports Cup, winning the 2013-14 title with 85.5 points (11.5 ahead of runners-up Southeastern Louisiana and Stephen F. Austin).

"Prior to our emphasis on the Commissioner's Cup, it wasn't that big a deal in the Southland," Williams said. "Now the conference has embraced it and the competition is fierce."

The Bearkats previously won the cup in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2013. Sam Houston also won the men's all-sports title in 2000 and 2007 and earned its first women's all-sports cup last year.

The SHSU athletic program's success during the 2013-14 school year continues to reflect the Bearkats' dominance in the league. Since 2000, Sam Houston teams have won 24 regular season and six tournament championships.★



By Paul Ridings Jr.

Sam Houston football opens Saturday, Aug. 23, with a nationally-televised contest on ESPN at Eastern Washington.

The new "FCS Kickoff" is the only college game of the day. The Bearkats and the Eagles will open 2014 national college football coverage with kickoff at 2:30 p.m. Central Time on ESPN.

The Eastern Washington game represents the earliest season start in 98 years of Sam Houston football. The action will kick off another exciting fall of sports action for Bearkat athletics.

Sam Houston's third game

For 2014 Football Schedule see GoBearkats.com Bearkat home games at Elliott T. Bowers Stadium include contests with Alabama State, Aug. 31; Colorado State Pueblo, Sept. 13; McNeese, Oct. 11; Abilene Christian, Oct. 25; and Central Arkansas, Nov. 2.

Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin meet in the "Battle of the Piney Woods" at Reliant Stadium in Houston on Nov. 1. Two other Bearkat sports teams begin action in August as well. The SHSU soccer team opens play Aug. 22 against Louisiana-Lafayette. The Kats play 11 of their 18 regular season games at Joseph Pritchett Field in Huntsville.

Volleyball starts play with the annual Bearkat Invitational Friday and Saturday Aug. 29-30. Two-time All-Southland and 2012 league player-of-the-year Deveney Wells-Gibson returns to lead an experienced SHSU squad.

Men's and women's basketball begin play in November. Both programs have seen their first NCAA Division I post season tournament play in the past three years. ★

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of the 2014 season Saturday, Sept. 6, against LSU in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, also will be televised by the new SEC Network. The match-up with the Kats will be LSU's first contest in the newly-expanded Tiger Stadium, which will feature a seating capacity of more than 100,000. ALUMNI & FRIENDS TRAVEL PARTY AND ANNUAL ALUMNI DINNER

NEW YORK, NEW YORK DECEMBER 15–18, 2014

Travel with University President Dr. Dana G. Hoyt and enjoy a reception and dinner at The University Club of New York on December 16 at 7 p.m.

Package includes:

- Roundtrip airfare
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 - 3-nights lodging
 - Alumni reception and dinner
 - Welcome reception

Package prices: one (1) individual: \$1,517 two (2) individuals: \$2,014 \$250 deposit required by September 1, 2014 Payment in full due by October 15, 2014



Office of Alumni Relations 936.294.1841 shsu.edu/alumni alu_kat@shsu.edu

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26 SHSU Heritage Magazine



SHSU to Recognize Alumni Achievements, Service

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE SHSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WILL HONOR SEVEN INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BROUGHT PRIDE TO THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, EXAMPLES OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP, AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIETY AT THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI GALA ON OCT. 10 AS PART OF HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES.

The honorees include Distinguished Alumni Charles Beckner, Hiram L. "Doc" Jones and Robert Sterling Steele; the Outstanding Young Alumnus Carlos Rainer; and the Alumni Association Service Award recipients James "Jim" B. Bexley and Jon and Barbara Bright.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

CHARLES L. "CHUCK" BECKNER: REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Charles "Chuck" Beckner, '71, took his business education from the "college on the hill" to even greater heights—structures up to 72 stories high, to be exact. Chuck has been building high rises and other heavy and complex steel structures for over 40 years, striking out on his own after less than a decade working in the steel construction industry.

His vision, business acumen, leadership and partnering with others have been instrumental to building successful and well-respected companies over the years. In 1987 Beckner and a partner engineered the acquisition of American Bridge Company (AB) from United States Steel Group, which at the time AB was the largest steel construction firm in the USA. In 1992, Chuck initiated a merger between Peterson Brothers and Regional Contracting Corporation which became Peterson Beckner Industries headquartered in Houston. Since 2005 he has served as Chairman of Unamsco, the parent company of PBI and National Steel City, a heavy industrial contracting firm with offices in Michigan and Alabama.

The next time you drive by downtown Houston or see an image of the skyline,

know a fellow bearkat had a significant hand in shaping the city's topography. Peterson Beckner built many of the high- and low-rise buildings that comprise the business and entertainment epicenter of the fourth largest city in the nation. Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, JPMorgan Chase Tower, and Pennzoil Place are just a few of the notable projects, now landmarks, that Peterson Beckner has built.

Many other construction projects in which he has been involved include: Nokia Center, Dallas; Toyota Center for the Houston Rockets, Houston; Gaylord Texan Resort, Grapevine; Infomart USA,



Dallas; University of Miami Basketball Arena, Miami; Century Link Center, Bossier City; Flour Enterprises Complex, Sugar Land; and numerous power plants, refineries, manufacturing plants and bridges throughout North America.

Beckner is respected by those who know him for his admirable character, determination, strong work ethic, and honorable reputation. Felton S. Dengler III, '71, summed it up best with his comment: "Chuck, his wife Wanda, and their two sons, Austin and Lance, continue to be an inspiration to all of us. His genuine, honest, hard-working approach to business and life is an example of what the university, state and country should base their success on."



ROBERT STERLING STEELE: A GAME CHANGER

For Robert Sterling Steele, golf isn't just a passion; it is part of a legacy handed down from his grandfather, who was the head golf professional at courses in Arkansas and Beaumont, Texas. At the age of seven, his father gave him his first set of clubs and he's never stopped playing since. Now "retired," Robert does a lot more than play golf—he and his wife, Erin, have turned a passion into a very successful business enterprise.

Together, they own and operate Sterling Country Club and two, 18-hole golf courses at Houston National; Sterling Golf, a management company that operates four additional golf courses including the Texas A&M campus course, Red Wolf Course in Houston, Golfcrest Country Club and Country Place, both in Pearland, Texas; and Turf Technologies, a local distributer of Floratine—a line of products designed to

maintain the "finest turf grass surfaces in the world."

"Golf is a game that you cannot perfect. It's one of the things that drives me to play it." Robert earned a degree in physics at Sam Houston State University in 1980 while simultaneously earning an engineering degree from Texas A&M. His education helped prepare him for a role in a family business, Texas Honing, Inc., which produced precision tools for work in the oil and

gas industry. By 1995, Robert had become sole owner of the company.

In 1998, the couple started the Steele

Charitable Foundation, offering scholarships to the children of Texas Honing employees. Even after selling the company in 2008, they continue to provide financial aid to the families of the employees.

Robert and his wife have a long history with the university—they met in 1977 while studying at Sam Houston State and married upon graduating. While Robert's family paid for his education, he watched his wife-to-be work hard to help pay for her expenses. They knew early on, if they were ever in a position to "give back," they would. In 2010, the Steeles pledged \$1 million to SHSU through two endowments—one aiding science or engineering majors and the other supporting students in educator preparation programs.

Robert is on the board of directors for the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and serves on the committee for the Junior Poultry

Auction. The couple also contributes annually to scholarships provided by the HLSR. Erin is a past president and active member of Keep Pearland Beautiful, as well as Women in Leadership Society, which offers scholarships to single moms attending college, among other things. In 2010, she was named a recipient of SHSU's Alumni Service Award.

Together, the Steeles were named "Citizens of the Year" for 2008 by the Pearland Chamber of Commerce.

The gala will begin at 6 p.m. in the Lowman Student Center Ballroom with a cocktail reception, followed at 7 p.m. with a dinner and program. Tickets are \$100 each and reservations are requested by Oct. 3. Table sponsorships are also available.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 936.294.1841 or go online to alumni. shsu.edu.



HIRAM L. "DOC" JONES: SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

For most people, spiritual leadership is not the first thing that comes to mind when referring to the military, but Hiram "Doc" Jones, '59, believed that serving his country meant fulfilling that particular role. He dedicated more than 30 years to helping shape and manage an organization of more than 2,300 active-duty, guard and reserve chaplains, enlisted



support personnel, and civilians charged with meeting the diverse spiritual needs of servicemen and women as well as their families.

He was ordained as a minister of the United Methodist Church in 1963 and pastored several churches in Texas. Even though clergy were exempt from the military draft and the United States was deeply divided regarding the Vietnam War, Doc felt compelled to serve his country. He enlisted in 1969 with every intention of serving a single tour of duty but found his true calling serving God and country as a United States Air Force chaplain.

Doc went all over the world, focusing on marriage and family counseling and grief recovery for military personnel, in addition to his regular duties as chaplain. His leadership abilities combined with remarkable empathy for those suffering from great loss or extreme

emotional challenges, propelled his military career.

At his retirement in 1999, he had attained the rank of brigadier general and was the deputy chief of the Air Force Chaplain Service. He was a member of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board advising the secretary of defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff on religion, ethical and quality-of-life concerns. Doc was also awarded the Distinguished Service Medal to add to his other major awards and decorations.

"Even though he has retired, 'Doc' Jones continues to take a lead role in caring for the needs of persons who are suffering from illness, accident, loneliness, aging, and bereavement," said Leonard Keeling, '63. "He accomplishes this through personal calling, visitations to homes, hospitals and care facilities ... Though he is not a wealthy man in the financial sense of the word, he is wealthy in experience, wisdom, respect, and faith."

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS

CARLOS RAINER: RAISING THE BAR

Carlos R. Rainer, '96, a partner with the distinguished law firm Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP, has consistently been recognized as a leading attorney in matters of business litigation, corporate governance and compliance, internal investigations, and government enforcement actions and proceedings. His work involves millions of dollars.

He was a member of the Elliott T. Bowers Honors College at SHSU and graduated summa cum laude with a degree in history. He then attended the University of Texas School of Law and graduated in 2000.

Carlos has developed a reputation as a go-to lawyer and a trusted adviser to a diverse group of clients, including energy companies, financial and professional services firms, banks, transportation and distribution companies, technology firms, and industry associations and trade groups. Executive management, business principals and directors of private and public companies routinely rely on him for legal consultation and representation in complex litigation matters and other business disputes and controversies. His investigation experience covers the globe, having assisted clients with investigations in the United States and abroad including Canada, continental Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and other foreign territories.

Carlos has consistently been recognized in peer publications as a leading practitioner. He was selected as one of "Houston's Top Lawyers" for business litigation in the H Texas Magazine, June 2010, a Rising Star in business litigation in "Texas Rising Stars," Litigation, Law & Politics (consecutively from 2004 - 2013) and as one of the "Lawyers on the Fast Track," *H Texas Magazine* (2004).

"Carlos is one of the finest, most promising young attorneys in the United States," said James Olson, Distinguished Professor of History at SHSU and Texas State University System Regents Professor. "His gifts—intellectual acuity, verbal clarity, and clear expository prose—have taken him to the pinnacle of legal success for a young attorney. I am confident that SHSU will someday claim him as one of its most influential alumni."



SERVICE AWARDS

Jon and Barbara Grady Bright: Serving Behind the Scenes

Jon and Barbara, both members of the class of '61, are often the ones "behind the scenes" of some of Sam Houston State University's most recognizable activities.

They were active in their Seabrook community when they were raising their children, and they've been active with SHSU since their return to Huntsville 20 years ago.

From furnishing meals for the football players after each home game to throwing parties in their back yard to celebrate the recipients of SHSU alumni awards through the years, the Brights have earned the reputation of being the best Bearkat hosts around.

A teacher before her retirement, Barbara also served on the City of El Lago council. Since living in Huntsville, she has served on the Children's Protective Services board and volunteers with the Boys & Girls Club. She also served 10 years as secretary of the SHSU Alumni Association board, as well as on the association's scholarship, golf, awards, and gala committees.

During the work week, Jon spends time servicing his financial advising clients but on weekends, he can be found feeding approximately 150 football players following home games at Bowers Stadium.

In addition, the Brights are active members of First United Methodist Church in Huntsville, where they served as a mentoring couple for Warren Methodist Chapel in Walker County.

"The measure of a Life is its Service,' is not only the motto of our grand old university, but exemplifies the lives of Jon and Barbara Bright," said Susan S. Lenamon, '73, 2013 Alumni Association president. "They were active college students and that has continued, particularly with SHSU activities. The bottom line is Jon and Barbara are pure orange."





JAMES BEXLEY: TAKING SERVICE FROM "0 TO 60"

Did you know that James B. "Jim" Bexley, chairholder of the Smith-Hutson Endowed Chair of Banking and professor of finance at SHSU, has a passion for cruising the open roads in a finelycrafted, high-performance car? And whether he is behind the wheel, lecturing in the classroom, or sitting at the boardroom table, Jim is "driven" to help others.



His deep roots in the banking and financial institutions industry honed his understanding of the importance of service and the tremendous impact it can have on individuals, businesses, and communities alike. With more than 40 years in senior management positions, he now applies his considerable experience and knowledge in the classroom, educating new generations of service-oriented banking professionals.

Jim developed a banking curriculum at Sam Houston State that now includes the only four-year accredited BBA degree in banking and financial institutions in the United States and an accredited, web-based MBA degree, also in banking and financial institutions. He teaches banking courses and directs an internship program that produces approximately 40 banking interns each semester.

During his tenure at the university, he also served on the board of directors for the Federal Reserve Bank for the 11th District in Dallas and served the Fed District as chairman of the audit committee and as a member of the executive committee.

Jim has been active on campus helping to lead and promote the annual faculty-staff campaign that raises hundreds of thousands of dollars each year with an approximately 80% participation rate. As the faculty athletics representative, he has been very generous with his time and support of the program and SHSU student-athletes.

"With his leadership, Sam Houston State has the nation's only accredited banking degree, which is highly regarded throughout the state and nation. Through his service on the board for the Federal Reserve Bank, 11th District, and international consulting activities, he has helped others while elevating the stature of our university," said Frank Holmes, vice president for University Advancement at SHSU.

The community, university and students have benefited from his focus, abundant energy and commitment to serving others.

INAUGURAL FOUNDERS DAY A SUCCESS

Approximately 100 guests attended the inaugural Founders Day on April 26, honoring those who have contributed to the growth and development of Sam Houston State University since its beginning.

In addition to honoring the founders of the university, activities throughout the day celebrated 135 years of learning at SHSU. Panel discussions with faculty included such topics as "Building Bridges Between Town and Gown," "How SHSU is Preparing Students for the Workforce," "The Role of Arts and Media in Texas," and "How SHSU is Serving the Needs of the State."

After a lunch in Peabody Library, guests were treated to a keynote address by Mac Woodward, director of the Sam Houston



Jack and Sue Ann Compton with seedlings.

Memorial Museum and current mayor of Huntsville, who presented "Sam Houston State University—Then and Now."

The program concluded with the planting of a Catalpa tree between Austin Hall and Peabody Library and the distribution of young Catalpa trees to those attending as a memento of the day, a reminder of the university's rich past,



Dr. Dana G. Hoyt oversees Mac Woodward and Charles Vienne planting the catalpa tree.

and a sign of its promising future.

The Catalpa tree was chosen to symbolize SHSU's Founders Day because of its association with Sam and Margaret Houston. According to legend, Margaret planted two Catalpa trees on the Woodland House property symbolizing the couple's relationship. While the family

lived in Huntsville, Houston spent much of his time away in Washington.

Margaret, a romantic, wrote many letters to her husband professing her love and devotion. She would enclose the heart-shaped leaf of the Catalpa tree as an expression of her affection. While the original trees have been lost, a seedling took root in front of Sam and Margaret's home—a testament to the legacy of strong bonds and enduring relationships.

The next Founders Day celebration will be on April 18, 2015. \bigstar



Edgar Reeves

CLASS NOTES





William R. Brinkley, '59 and '61, dean emeritus of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and distinguished service professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Baylor College of Medicine, has been named as one of the recipients of the E.B. Wilson Medal, the highest scientific honor of the American Society for Cell Biology. The award recognizes lifetime contributions to the field of cell biology, particularly to the study of the cytoskeleton. Brinkley

was named a Distinguished Alumnus of Sam Houston State University in 1985. The William (Bill) R. Brinkley Endowed Scholarship, established at SHSU by friends in his honor, supports a full-time undergraduate student in the biological sciences.

Dorothy Huff, '68, is celebrating entering SHSU 50 years ago as a freshman. That year, she was named to the Texas All-Star Basketball team and her coach was Rebecca Erekson, '61, who was also a graduate of Sam Houston State Teachers College.

James P. "Buzz" McBride, '69, worked as an aerospace photographer for several years after graduating, before becoming an educator. Serving as professor/photography program coordinator at San Antonio College, he established a professional track commercial photography program in 1973.

For 40 years, the program has trained portrait/wedding photographers and photo illustrators for South Texas and beyond. He still enjoys teaching, with no plans of retirement.

Cathy Glass Harbour, '70, was honored by the Dayton school district on May 29, when the Cathy Harbour Center for Texas History, located

was dedicated in

her name.



Ed McIntosh, '71, and his business associate have formed VII Cities Energy, LLC, and are about to embark on an exciting Enhanced Oil Recovery project in Jack County in North Texas. Once completed, the VII Cities partners will

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CLASS NOTES

use this as a model for other depleted oil reservoirs in the North Texas area.

Keith Price, '73, has been appointed the assistant dean for social sciences in West Texas A&M University's College of Education and Social Sciences.

Paula E. Lenz, '74, executive director of the North Houston Association, will complete, at the end of 2014, her two-year service as the chair of the SHSU College of Humanities and Social Sciences advisory board. Lenz has served on the board since 2009. Additionally, she was a luncheon speaker for the Huntsville Rotary Club, covering the extensive new development moving northward along the Interstate 45 corridor.

Carol Shaw, '74, following a brief retirement, began working in the Office of Enrollment Management in February 2014. Shaw said that SHSU is more than

el provided by

COLLETTE

her alma mater; it is her home, and the faculty, staff and students make every work day a joy.

Robert Arnold, '76 and '79, was re-elected as Sealy ISD board president for 2014-15 after serving in the same position two previous years. Retired since 2006, after 31 years teaching, coaching and serving as administrator in the Katy and Sealy school

district, Arnold now spends time volunteering for Sealy schools and working as a part-time land agent

for Wybank Land Services.

Eugene Pfeiffer '76 congratulations on receiving his Doctor of Management,

Organizational Leadership. Eugene was conferred by the University of Phoenix in February 2014. He was also inducted into Delta Mu Delta, International Honor Society in Business in 2013.

Jim Harriss, '77 and '78, and Betty Backen, '80 and '85, celebrated five years of marriage on May 14. The two married in 2009 in the Turks and Caicos Islands (pictured).



Betty and Jim met through the Greek system—Betty being an Alpha Chi Omega member and Jim, a Lambda Chi Alpha member. They dated in college and were to be married, but it didn't work out that way—the two reconnected 30 years later. Betty is now retired, after 25 years as a speech pathologist, and Jim is a professor



*rate is per person and includes round trip air from Houston Intl Airport, air taxes and fees and hotel transfers. Early Booking Savings is included in the rate. Airfare: For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all vacation packages. If you purchase an air inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date. Checked baggage charges: some airlines may impose additional charges if you choose to check any baggage. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding your airlines checked baggage policies.†Restrictions may apply. Call for details.



of finance at Campbell University. They reside in Wilmington, North Carolina.



shsu.edu/giving

Martha (van Bavel) Zeiher, '79, was recently appointed the first executive director for the Hill Country

Land Trust, a non-profit organization headquartered in Fredericksburg. Zeiher will coordinate the land trust's activities in its 19-county area of interest by working with Hill Country landowners who wish to conserve their property for its natural and scenic value. She recently moved to Fredericksburg from Ventura, California, where she had lived for 26 years and worked in the corporate events planning field.

John Shields, '85, is currently serving as the director of vocational rehabilitation services in the neurobehavioral program at Holyoke Rehabilitation Center in Holyoke, Massachusetts. The program works with individuals who have acquired traumatic brain injuries.

Michael Batek, '90, has designed a winery from the ground up with winemaker Jeff Ivy. The two have nine wines in their portfolio in Hye. The winery is located on the 290 Wine Trail, near Fredericksburg.

Batek said he would love to have Bearkats in the area stop by to sip some wine and talk about SHSU.

Christie McWilliams-Abendroth, '95 and '00, received her doctorate in

ANNUAL FUND

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

May 2014 in curriculum and instruction from the University of Houston. She currently lives in West Bloomfield, Michigan, with her husband, Justin, and two-year-old daughter, Chloe.

Terre Albert, '97, began serving as the general manager of the Texas Renaissance Festival in 2010. Since that time, attendance has increased 47 percent. He has also increased community involvement and support and raised the profile of the event. The festival also supports local non-profit organizations and has donated \$50,000 to non-profit organizations in Magnolia.

Brad Basker, '10, has been quite busy since graduation with several writing projects. He released his first book "It's Particular" and has a blog titled "Shameless Vagabond." 🖈



You are an important piece of the puzzle in helping students achieve their dreams. Your support of SHSU through the Annual Fund is an investment in life-enriching experiences for dedicated students who aspire to be successful at Sam and far beyond.

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In Memoriam

Margaret (Beason) Wilson '36 Alta Maurine (Hewitt) Boutwell '41 Juanita Martin (Coleman) Parker '44 Ida Mae Katherine (Kelley) McCorkle '47 E. C. Deaton '49 Robert R. Bagby '50 Arliss Ray Mallory '53, '56 Juan Dean Robinson '53, '62 Mable Lee (Cook) Cavers '53 Jally Jack Head '55, '56 Phil Morris '55, '57, '63 Ben Wayne Nicholson '57, '65 Mary Ann (Crouch) Darby '57, '74 Janis Lee (Danner) Myrick '57 Numsen Moore Hail '57 Kenneth Wayne Daw '58, '66 **Billy Byars Wedemeyer '58** Glenda Ann (Schultz) Poldrack '60 Daniel E. Whitehead '61



Loyd Dale Hunt '61 James Elbert Raney '62 Madeline Ann (Gentry) Schraeder '64 **Ross Leroy McAlister '64** Hiram Glynn Turner '65 Leroy Willie Ashorn '66, '67 Jeanne K. (Clancy) Brelsford '67, '74 Melvin Joice '67 Connie F. (Skipper) Woods '69, '74 John Richard Darling '69 Kal David Hooper '69 Edward Lewis McClendon '70 Blanche Baker (Risinger) Shaw '70 Armando G. Ruiz '71 Steven Douglas Gibson '72 **Emmett Webster Solomon '72** Emilianne Uth (Holten) Muhl '73 **Emmett Jerrell Pugh '73** Carl Dee Hughes '73 Beverly Ann (Morgan) Christian '74

Flora Gray (Harper) McMillian '75 **Billy Lester Grace '75** Delbert L. Nave '78 James Michael Farris '80 David William Smith '80 Sharon (Sanders) Grimes '80 Linda (Easley) Lambert '82 Angela Lee (Reat) Kinman '83 **Reagan Dean Jacobs '85** Leslie Alan Bassham '88 **Bobby Breen Cavton '89** Norman Johnston Blake '89 James Wendell Holmes '93 Cari D. Ashworth '93 **Catherine Lynn Torrence '95** William Frederick Stewart '96 Nancy Elizabeth (Wilson) Pfeifer '99 **Tedd Toner Pettibon '99** Jill L. McMillan '05

M. B. Etheredge

Lt. Col. M. B. Etheredge, '37, '47 died on May 15, 2014, in Huntsville, at the age of 98. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Sam Houston Teacher's College in 1937. In 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and spent the next four years in the 3rd Division Infantry. He earned two battlefield promotions and advanced in rank from second lieutenant to captain. He was awarded three Silver Star medals for gallantry in action, two Bronze Star medals for heroism and two Purple Hearts, making him one of the most decorated soldiers of the war. Following his military service, he completed his Master of Arts degree at Sam Houston State and was an associate professor of education at SHSU. In addition, he served three terms in the Texas House of Representatives.

THE CHRONICLE

SHSU Recognized As A Great Place To Work

For the fifth consecutive year, Sam Houston State University has been named to the annual list of The Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges To Work For."

The university earned a place on the 2014 Honor Roll for rating highly across all categories.

Relative to other participating schools, employees rated SHSU high in: collaborative governance; facilities, workspace and security; job satisfaction; professional/career development programs; respect and appreciation; and work/life balance.

A Legacy that Counts

The roots of the Parkhill family tree are deeply entwined with Sam Houston State University.

> Clifton A. (C.A.) Parkhill and his wife, Rose Walker Parkhill, arrived in Huntsville in 1916 after accepting the business manager position at the university where he worked until his death in 1934.

Rose was the manager of the college bookstore and director of the switchboard. She earned her BS in Home Economics and a minor in English in 1928.

> Of the Parkhills' three sons, Elwood W. Parkhill '46 would follow in his father's footsteps joining Sam Houston as one of five original faculty members in the newly organized Department of Accounting. In 1954, Dr. Parkhill became Huntsville's first certified public accountant, opening a practice in addition to his teaching. Over the years, many graduates of the accounting program came to work

for the small firm.

The Parkhill family profession continued with Steve Parkhill who majored in accounting at SHSU while working part-time at his father's practice. After graduating in 1977, Steve received his CPA and worked for White, Petrov and McHone. Ten years into his career, Steve and some co-workers formed their own practice, Easley Endres Parkhill and Brackendorff. EEPB is an independent accounting firm located in Houston, Texas employing over 70 professionals and servicing a wide variety of industries.

For almost a century, the Parkhill family and Sam Houston State University have shared in a legacy steeped in education and professional tradition. While the Parkhills now have claim to four generations of accountants, they have also ensured others attending SHSU will have the opportunity to pursue a degree in accounting. The Elwood Parkhill Accounting Endowment, named in honor of long-time faculty member Elwood W. Parkhill, was established in 1982 to provide scholarship support to new generations of accountants.

Diane Parkhill Smith '75

Yvonne Youngblood Parkhill '51

Steve Parkhill '77

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