

CHAIR'S ADDRESS **SPRING 2003**

Over a year has passed since we published our last newsletter. I don't know where the time goes. The widespread use of computers and accompanying electronic communications systems were supposed to save us time, and I suppose in some respects they have. But now, if I'm out of the office for a day, I not only have the usual list of messages taped to my door, it takes me half a day to return all the voice mail and e-mail messages. The information age has not only made us more accessible to just about everyone, it has almost completely changed the way we do our jobs in the classroom.

All of our classrooms are fitted with computer connections and now we walk into class with our laptops in hand. Most of our lectures have a PowerPoint or computer program component. Students may never see another set of old, yellow notes, carried around by the prof from one semester to the next. Now we are judged by how many bells and whistles we can put into our computer-enhanced presentations. I will admit that color photos injected into a lecture and shown on a large screen are much more interesting and illustrative than some of the transparencies still tucked away in my files (you never know when the technology bug will strike). Yet, the most technologically advanced presentation can still put

students to sleep. It's the manner in which the material is presented that draws the student to the subject, just as it always has been. There are those who believed distance education would render traditional universities obsolete. While distance education has a place, there is simply no substitute, when it comes to education, for having a real person greet, question, teach and challenge students to do their best. There is also no substitute for the camaraderie built as groups of students gather to cuss or discuss classes or profs or work as a team on a class project or a homecoming float. And how can you replace the great memories and wonderful learning experiences involved in traveling across the country, or in another country, crammed into a van with faculty and students to a competitive event or national conference? I think these are the things that comprise the college "experience."

We are so fortunate at this university to have the Gibbs Ranch, a working agricultural production unit, to further enhance and reinforce what we teach and preach in the classroom. The land, plant communities, and livestock at the ranch also provide opportunities for our students and faculty to engage in research and demonstration projects that help many others learn as well.

Recently we decided as a department to tackle

another big challenge. The laboratory facilities at the Agriculture Center on I-45 and at the current Horticulture Center have served well beyond their useful years. In fact, several structures have been demolished due to structural deterioration. The Gibbs Ranch is an ideal site on which to consolidate and construct a new Plant and Soil Science Center, animal science teaching facilities, meat science lab and additional animal rearing units. This is where we could use your help. Though we don't have architectural details at this point, the estimated cost for the facilities we hope to build is \$16 million. We are seeking every means of support possible; we will need assistance from private as well as public sources if we are to be successful. If a project such as this interests you, or if you know someone I could speak to that might have an interest in helping us, please let me know.

Our program has grown to over 600 majors, one of the largest non-land grant agriculture programs in the U.S. We have an outstanding faculty with tremendous energy and enthusiasm and a strong desire to help our students excel. Now we need to build the facilities that will allow us to become a premier program in agricultural sciences and education. My daddy always told me "Son, you don't get anything without asking." Well, I'm asking. If this is something worthy of your consideration, please let me know. By the way, I will answer your message, whether it comes by handwritten note, voice mail, e-mail or whatever other form of communication you prefer to use. Thanks to each of you for your continued support of our program.

Bobby Lane
 Professor and Chair

In this Issue...

Faculty Update	2
Student Enrollment	2
Vice President's Message	2
Ag Alumni Association President's Message	3
Newsletter Goes Online	3
News Scholarship Endowments	4
Top Cut Heifer Sale	4
2002-2003 Donors	5
Scholarship Recipients	6
Organization Activities	7
Alumni Update	10
Service Award Goes To Robert L. Bruner	12

FACULTY UPDATE

DR. MARCY BEVERLY, a Huntsville native, joined the

staff in August 2001. She received her B.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Texas A & M University and completed her master's degree



at Sam Houston State University. While completing her doctorate she served as a lecturer in the department. She brings a unique blend of academic training to the department with degrees in agribusiness and animal science. Her primary teaching responsibilities currently are in Animal Science. She serves as advisor of Block and Bridle, one of the largest student organizations in the department and sponsor of the annual Crawfish Boil. She is a member of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and the Gibbs Ranch Committee.

The mother of three active daughters, Shelby (8 years old), Logan (6 years old), and Sydney (4 years old), Dr. Beverly is on the board of Huntsville Youth Soccer and the Gibbs Elementary School PTSO. She also works with the Huntsville Girls Softball program and the Huntsville Lakers Youth Swim Team.

Dr. Beverly and her husband Danny are owners of Stockbrokers Feed and Farm Supply in Huntsville.

DR. ROGER HANAGRIFF received the 2001 NACTA

Outstanding Teacher Award for the Southern Region and has been an Agribusiness professor at SHSU for five



years. He completed his Ph.D at Texas A&M University in 2002. His dissertation was titled, "An Assessment of the Inservice Needs in Agribusiness of Texas Agriscience Teachers." He also conducted a second research project recently which entailed the importance of Agribusiness Education in Texas Agriscience programs. He recently published "Economic Impact of the GOTEPP program" and "Economic Impact of the GOTEXAN program" for the Texas Department of Agriculture.

He received followup grants in 2002-2003 for the GOTEPP and

Student Enrollment **BREAKS** Records

While the university broke the 13,000 mark in student enrollment for the first time ever in fall 2002, the Department of Agricultural Sciences passed a milestone itself, with over 600 students majoring in agriculture that semester.

"We have been experiencing growth in agriculture majors for at least the past eight years," says **Robert Lane**, department chair. "In fact, our student body has grown by nearly 60% over the past 10 years and while last fall's national data is not yet available our program was ranked 12th in the nation in student numbers among non-land grant institutions in agricultural sciences in 2001. We actually have more students than some of the smaller land-grant universities.

"I attribute much of our growth to the outstanding recruiting efforts by our alumni as well as current students and faculty. In fact, our Ag Ambassadors make

contact with over 3,000 high school students per year while speaking at various high schools and staffing our information and recruiting booth at various livestock shows and state conventions where potential Bearkats may be. The Ambassadors recruit for the entire university and we also receive a great deal of contact information from the Undergraduate Admissions office through their recruiting efforts.

"I think too," Lane says, "that the quality of our faculty and our instructional program is second to none and many across the state are becoming more aware of what we have to offer. Additionally, with the assistance of **Dr. David Burris** here on campus, we have developed on-line web-based articulation agreements with most of the junior and community colleges sending students our way."

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

For nearly 125 years, Sam Houston State University has made a difference in the lives of thousands. With their educational experiences, our alumni lead full and successful lives, and through their works, they have a positive and meaningful impact on society.

Today's university continues to offer sound educational offerings in a caring and nurturing academic environment. It is a friendly and supportive atmosphere where students and faculty know each other. The university's campus is undergoing enormous changes with the addition and renovation of its facilities. Admission standards have increased, and this past fall, an all-time record was achieved when more than 13,000 students enrolled.

You and every individual can help to make a difference for Sam Houston State University. If you are like many alumni and friends, it may not be readily apparent that an investment in your university is needed or even all that important. You may assume that our state is able to meet all the university's needs, or you may think that request for contributions are really intended for someone else — those who can make "big" gifts.

We are grateful for what state assistance makes possible, but these dollars account for only a little more than half of the university's budget. And, with the recent budget crisis, even this portion is severely threatened. The balance of operating funds must come from tuition and fees, auxiliary enterprises, contracts, and increasingly, from gifts and grants.

Sam Houston State has a strong cadre of loyal and dependable donors. Nonetheless, these individuals' gifts alone cannot offset a relatively small donor base to provide the necessary funds for excellence. Simply put, more and more alumni and friends must participate. Your gift of any size when combined with thousands of others will add up to make a significant amount.

The Sam Houston State Annual Fund is a recurring opportunity for alumni and friends to support the university and its colleges, departments, programs, and scholarships. If you have not supported the Annual Fund in the past, I urge you to help make a real difference for a growing and dynamic university.

Be a part of something significant. Whether your gift is \$100, \$10, \$1,000, or \$10,000, you will be joining something that is exciting and worthwhile. Imagine what would happen if 10,000 alumni "broke through" with their first Annual Fund gift!

You can earmark your contribution for the Department of Agricultural Sciences or any other existing academic program and scholarship fund. Just make your check payable to Sam Houston State University and send it to the SHSU Annual Fund, Box 2537, Huntsville, Texas 77341-2537. Please call 936-294-3625 for additional information.

Frank R. Holmes

Vice President for University Advancement

Agri NEWSLETTER

A Message from the President of the Agriculture Alumni Association

The Sam Houston State University Agriculture Alumni Association has been hard at work providing support and enhanced opportunities for the faculty, staff and students of our alma mater. The Ag Alumni Association sponsored a dinner for the Fall '02 and Spring '03 graduates and presented them each with a personalized nameplate for use at their place of employment. We also sponsor the Ag Alumni Leadership Award, presented at the annual Departmental Awards Banquet in April.

If you are an alumnus of the program, your membership in the Sam Houston State Agricultural Alumni Association is one way to give something back to the program that was such an important part of our lives. Please join me in showing our support by continuing your membership or becoming a member of the

Ag Alumni Association today. We are constantly striving to improve our organization. I know you'll join me in welcoming **Tammy Winkler** as Executive Director of the Ag Alumni Association. She is a fellow member of the SHSU Ag Alumni Association, currently employed in the College of Criminal Justice Accounting Office. She assumed many tasks of our organization, including membership services such as membership renewals, correspondence and data processing. If you would like to join or renew your membership, please contact Tammy at 936-294-1674, or at icc_tlw@shsu.edu. She can help you start your lifelong relationship with the Ag Alumni Association today. All new members and renewals will receive a laminated membership card with a token of our appreciation for your support.

In our most recent membership drive, we received over 63 memberships, 12 of them lifetime memberships. Additionally, \$525 in donations was collected for distribution to the Agricultural Sciences Department. We are happy to see so many of our alumni taking an interest. We will be electing new members and officers at our annual membership meeting this summer in Wichita Falls on July 29. I hope you can attend. If you or anyone you know would like to serve in either of these capacities, please have them contact me at 832-484-4965 or Dr. Lane at 936-294-1215. We thank you all for your continued support and look forward to a bright future for the SHSU Agricultural Sciences program and the Ag Alumni Association.

Kevin Wiegat
President, Ag Alumni Association

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE

Beginning in June of this year, the Department of Agricultural Sciences will begin distributing the departmental newsletter via e-mail. Additionally, each edition of the newsletter will be available to those checking in on the departmental website. According to Robert Lane, Department Chair, "The electronic newsletter will be a much more efficient and economical means by which to communicate with our alums and supporters. I think it will be enjoyable to those that want to keep up with what's going on in the department," says Lane. "We have really had difficulty maintaining an up-to-date address database because

people are so mobile today. We lose contact with folks if they fail to send us their new address. Plus, by the time we gather news items, submit and edit articles, then get it to the press for printing and finally mailed out, much of what we are sharing is old news. I want to get information to our friends and alumni as soon as possible." "We're going to try to continue to publish a limited number of newsletters each year for those who aren't into the computer scene. We don't want to leave anyone out of the loop, if possible."

If you wish to receive the electronic version of the newsletter, we need to get your current e-mail address,

as well as updates whenever changes occur. The easiest way to send us your address is to complete the data form on our website for alumni updates, whether you are an alumnus or not. It is at www.shsu.edu/~agr_www/alumni.html. Simply fill in the form and click on the submit button and you'll receive the next newsletter via your e-mail. This will also allow us to share information about upcoming events that may be of interest to you. If you prefer to receive the printed and mailed version, please let us know by dropping us a line in the mail and we'll do our best to comply with your request.

GOTEXAN projects (\$30,000) and for "Assessment of TDA Wine and Oyster Programs" (\$9,000), and for "Assessment of Specialty Crop Project" (\$5,000).

Last fall, Hanagriff accepted the responsibility of becoming SHSU's Rodeo Coach and Rodeo Team sponsor. He will be accompanying both men's and women's team representatives from SHSU to the Collegiate National Finals this summer.

Outsides his duties at SHSU, Hanagriff serves as a consultant for Nolan Ryan All Natural Tender Aged Beef, and YAMA Beef, a Japanese meat company.

DR. BILLY HARRELL, a 31 year member of the SHSU faculty, is Professor of Agricultural Mechanics. He is the Graduate Coordinator of Agricultural Sciences, on the CEAS



Enrichment Committee, involved with the Departmental Scholarship Committee and is Chair of the Departmental Graduate Committee.

Harrell continues to serve as Superintendent of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo FFA & 4-H Agricultural Mechanics Project Show, the State FFA Tractor Technician Contest, and the Walker County Fair Association Supervised Projects Show. He is also the Awards Coordinator for the national FFA Agricultural Mechanics CDE.

Dr. Harrell is also serving on the Board of Directors for Ag Workers Mutual Auto Insurance Company and the Walker County Cooperative Extension Program Council. He is a member of NACTA and the Walker County Fair Association and is a lifetime member of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo and the FFA Alumni Association.

This summer, Dr. Harrell and Dr. Muller will conduct the TEA Ag Mechanics Certification Workshop during the month of June. The workshop provides certification to teach agricultural mechanics in Texas high schools.

Dr. Harrell was recognized for his many service activities by receiving the 2002 SHSU Excellence in Service Award. In his spare time, Harrell likes to fish and spend time with his family — especially his granddaughters.

DR. STANLEY KELLEY, a member of the SHSU

Agriculture family for the past 10 years, is Professor of Animal Science and received the honor of being named



NACTA Teacher Fellow in 2001.

As advisor to the Beef Cattle Show Team, the Horse Judging Team, Ag Council, and the SHSU Chapter of Independent Cattlemen's Association, Kelley still finds time to assist students with activities both in and outside the classroom and to assist with student recruitment activities.

He serves as Superintendent of the Junior Market Steer division at the San Antonio Livestock Show as well as the Houston Livestock Show. Dr. Kelley also judges livestock shows around the state and coordinates a number of livestock judging contests for 4-H and FFA youth.

DR. ROBERT LANE, Professor and Chair, recently completed research at Ft.

Hood for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, working with Mark Leipnik of the



Department of Geology/Geography on the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies project. Their purpose was to determine stream sedimentation rates as affected by various climatic factors and soil characteristics within the watershed following soil disturbance by military vehicles conducting training exercises.

With the help of graduate assistants, Lane oversees the Ag Ambassadors. He is also a member of the SHSU Alumni Association Board of Directors, on the Distinguished Professor Selection Committee, and a member of the Academic Policy Council.

Additionally, Lane is active in the Agricultural Consortium of Texas and is currently serving as president-elect of the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources (AASCARR). Locally, he chairs the Walker County Fair Association Rabbit committee, serves on the Forage and Livestock committee for the Texas Cooperative Extension Service, and sits on

NEW SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS FOR AGRICULTURE STUDENTS

The expense of obtaining a college degree for many future Bearkats will now be greatly reduced due to the generosity of several supporters and their desire to help others.

Charles and Ann Mallery made initial contributions in establishing what is to become a \$100,000 scholarship endowment for assisting agriculture students. The Mallerys, both SHSU alumni, said, "We have had a great deal of contact with Sam Houston students pursuing degrees in agriculture over the years and we've been impressed by their work ethic and leadership skills." Once the goal of \$100,000 is attained, the Mallerys' plan to establish another similar endowment to support graduate students majoring in the MBA-Agribusiness program.

The **Clemon and Carolyn Montgomery** Scholarship

Endowment was established by long-time supporter and agriculture alumnus, Clemon Montgomery, and his wife Carolyn. Mr. Montgomery is now retired and is currently serving as President of the Board of Directors of Ag Workers Mutual Auto Insurance. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus of the University in 2001 and has worked hard to promote agriculture at SHSU for many years.

Ronald Reeder has established the **Preston Leo Reeder** Endowment in honor of his late father. According to the younger Reeder, "My dad spent only a year working on his bachelor's degree at Sam Houston in agriculture in the mid 1950's, having to move closer to home later to complete his college education. But he always spoke highly of his professors at Sam Houston and I

wanted to do this in his honor."

According to Department Chair Robert Lane, "Scholarships play such an important role in attracting outstanding students and students in need of financial support. We are truly blessed that these individuals have chosen to support our students in this manner, ensuring that some of the brightest minds and future leaders join our student body. Having great students in class inspires professors to perform their teaching duties to the absolute best of their abilities, which, in turn, attracts more outstanding students and builds a program that draws excellent faculty. We are so thankful to have the support of the Mallerys, Montgomerys, and Mr. Reeder.

Beef Cattle Show Team Organizes and Produces Top Cut Consignment Show Heifer Sale

The first SHSU Top Cut Consignment Show Heifer Sale was organized and produced by the Beef Cattle Show Team on April 11, under the direction of advisor Dr. Stanley Kelley.

A total of 85 lots of registered Angus and Brangus heifers were offered along with a full service flush donated by Ultimate Genetics in Wheelock, Texas. The flush was purchased by SEDAD Angus Ranch for \$1,350. Total gross sales for the day were over \$90,000.

Students actively involved with compiling the sale catalog, advertisement and organization, and working on sale day were Team Captains **Aaron Wilson** and **Michael Wallace**, and team

members **Amber Campise** and **Casey Williams**.

Following payment of sales expenses, the Beef Cattle Show Team netted almost \$4,500. These funds will be used to help defray expenses the team incurs while on the Fall and Spring show circuit. The group also

plans to purchase an aluminum trailer and will earmark some of the proceeds toward that goal.

Plans are underway for the 2004 Top Cut Consignment Heifer Sale. Information may be obtained by contacting the office of Dr. Stanley Kelley, 936-294-1189.



Fall 2002 Graduate Assistants, left to right Lee V. Moses, Elizabeth Wickett, Melanie Frank, Jennifer Wier, Jane Hartensteiner, Ann Baer, and Ryan Saucier.

Scholarship Recipients

Due to the generosity of many individuals, foundations and corporate donors, the Department of Agricultural Sciences at SHSU attracts and retains many outstanding students through the scholarship program. We are thankful for the support and congratulate the following recipients from the past year.

Wilson-Warner Endowed Scholarship

Jason Brod	Sealy
Meredith Cook	Tyler
Stephanie Edwards	Channelview
Deanna Engleman	Jewett
Genevieve Evans	Houston
Jacob Harrison	Grapeland
Amber Hemmenway	Jasper
Jennifer Hofstetter	Tyler
Michele Igo	Humble
Jessica Irwin	Shepherd
Yvan Jayne	Magnolia
Mandy Klein	Magnolia
Amy Koenig	Wharton
Wade Lee	Cuero
Crystal Lloyd	Kosse
Kelly Long	College Station
Jeanne Lupardus	Montgomery
Jacqueline Maisel	Huntsville
Joshua Muller	Bryan
Kinsey Parker	Needville
David Stewart	Atlanta
Jennifer Thompson	Spring
Pam Waltmon	Damon

Willie Frank & Virginia Hall Trust Scholarship

Ben Bostick	Palestine
Scott Weaver	Brashear

G H Morrison Scholarship

Meredith Cook	Tyler
Deanna Engleman	Jewett
John Haidusek	Denvers
Megan Kenny	Tomball
Amy Koenig	Wharton
Crystal Lloyd	Kosse
Kinsey Parker	Weimar
Alonzo Stagg	Houston

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Endowed Scholarship

Kelley Adams	Friendswood
John Allbritton	Harrisonburg, LA
Staci Bartos	Flatonia
Joshua Bowden	Coldspring
Vanessa Brossman	Spring
Amber Campise	LaPorte
Joshua Cutler	Inez
Cassi Davis	Galena Park
Lisa Donalson	Waller
Randee Gentz	Livingston
Adrian Harris	Buna
Eric Hundl	Wharton
Kimberly Kalich	Houston
Megan Kirgan	Kirvin
Michelle LeNormand	Hull
Jeanne Lupardus	Montgomery
Justin McCabe	Huntsville

Maureen O'Neill	Stanwood, WA
Brandi Ray	Houston
Randi Richards	Smithville
Megan Ripper	Weimar
Kurt Rogers	Eagle Lake
Annette Schmidt	Hallettsville
Jay Seaton	Muleshoe
Jessica Sonntag	Seabrook
Kelley Southerland	Huntsville
Jacob Thomas	Clyde
Kimberly Thompson	Riverside
Brian VanDelist	San Antonio
Megan Veillion	Weimar
Matt Vodehnal	Katy
Aaron Wilson	Centerville
Angela Wunderlich	Columbus
Brandi Yeager	Cleveland

Rodeo Activities Scholarship

Julie Adams	Trinity
Rusty Barnett	Fredericksburg
Katie Carpenter	Hempstead
Curt Crawford	Royse City
Amanda Gamblin	Goliad
Jabe Herring	Alvin
Yvan Jayne	Magnolia
Haley Kolle	Intez
Charity Lee	San Antonio
Seth McFadin	Bryan
Jayne Nulisch	Needville
Gerald Pasley	Dekalb
Douglas T Salaza	Canton
Will Scoggins	Mount Vernon
Somer Scott	Fair Oaks Ranch
Tyler Senior	Arcola
Clint Singelton	Medina
Jodie Smith	Texarkana
Britt Walters	Huntsville
Mandy Walters	Burleson
Heather Wiley	Huntsville

San Antonio Livestock Exposition Scholarship

Noel Bailey	Spring
Bryan Brooks	Huntsville
Jennifer Broom	Woodville
Leslie Cronin	Shepherd
Brian Hinkel	Houston
Adam Jenke	Coldspring
Alesia Joiner	Huntsville
Stephanie Kimich	Anderson
Brian Pape	Spring
Lindsey Pierce	Huntsville
Jessica Redden	New Waverly

Copenhagen-Skoal Scholarship

Rusty Barnett	Fredericksburg
Amanda Gamblin	Goliad
Britt Walters	Huntsville

Tommy Castenson Memorial Scholarship

Katie Carpenter	Hempstead
Joshua Cutler	Inez
Jabe Herring	Alvin

W E Lowry Leadership Awards Scholarship

Shannon Clinard	Anderson
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Arthur Lynn Talk Jr Memorial Endowed Scholarship

Jennifer Crump	Liberty
Warner Ervin	Houston
Daniel Griffin	Huffman
Billy Igo	Humble
Shannon Liska	Humble
Reagan Machac	Waller
Jennifer Wehmeyer	Port Lavaca

James Marcus Smith Endowed Scholarship

Jessica Givins	Rockdale
Clara Miller	Pearland
Garry Power	Huntsville

Letts/Hopper Endowed Scholarship

Jeanne Lupardus	Montgomery
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Wes Neyland Memorial Rodeo Scholarship

Garrett Manahan	Fairfield
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Willie Frank and Virginia Hall Trust Scholarship

Scott Weaver	Brashear
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Clemon and Carolyn Montgomery Endowed Scholarship

Brandy Yeager	Cleveland
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L N Sikes Memorial Scholarship

Christy Sikes	Huntsville
Heather Wiley	Huntsville



San Antonio Livestock Exposition Scholarship recipients, left to right Jennifer Broom, Brian Pape, and Leslie Cronin.

ORGANIZATIONS

Horticulture Club "Green Thumb" Benefits Community

Members of the Horticulture Club enjoy developing their green thumbs by providing plants that are available for sale to members of the Huntsville Community. Under the direction of officers **Mason McMeans, Casey Smith, Josh Ringleb, and Lauren Tyler**, the group stayed busy this year with a sale at Christmas and one in the spring.

The club purchased unfinished poinsettia plants from Ellison Greenhouses and finished growing them in time for a poinsettia sale during the Christmas season. Then the group organized and participated in a Spring Bedding Plant Sale where they provided vegetable and bedding plants and hanging baskets.

Monies raised by the two plants sales are used to help defray costs of club trips, banquets, and to finance their annual "Green Thumbs Day" which gives kindergarten children the opportunity to visit the Horticulture Center and participate in greenhouse activities. The children learn all about the growing of plants and their care. Then the Horticulture Club members treat the group to drinks and ice cream sandwiches to end their fun day.

Club members enjoyed the trips they took to observe several nursery production facilities, landscape operations, and a wholesale floral business. They were able to interact with people already in the business of horticulture and gain insight into what it takes to run and operate each type business.

This was the first year that SHSU participated in ALCA activities. The Associated Landscape Contractors of America hosts the Student Career Days national landscaping competition each year. The SHSU ALCA team traveled to Raymond, MS in

March to compete in 24 events which covered all aspects of landscape contracting from sales to landscape design to plant installation and maintenance.

Three students, **Mason McMeans, Josh Ringleb, and Casey Smith**, accompanied by advisor **Carolyn Robinson**, attended the meet with McMeans and Smith receiving first place in truck and trailer operation and fourth place in maintenance equipment operation. Each of the SHSU participants did very well on their individual scores, competing with 51 schools and 671 students from across the nation.

Plans are already in progress and sponsors are being sought to attend the Student Career Days in Columbus, OH next year.

Ag Council

All organizations in the Agricultural Sciences Department participate under the umbrella of the Ag Council so that all organizations participate as one during university-wide events. Officers this year were **Brian VanDelist**, President; **Jenny Thompson**, Vice-President; and **Maureen O'Neill**, Secretary/Treasurer.

To end the 2002-2003 school year, the Ag Council

won the Sammy Award for "Most Spirited Bearkat Organization" for the second year in a row. Each fall, activities kick off with the annual hamburger social at the Ag Mech Center. Hopes ran high this year to once again win the Homecoming Spirit Competition, which was unfortunately cancelled due to torrential rains! Not to be deterred, however, the group did win the "Paint the Town Orange" competition, where participating businesses in downtown Huntsville had their windows decorated.

The Ag Council helped plan and sponsor the department's annual awards banquet and is looking forward to showing their spirit during the coming school year.

Ag Ambassadors

One of the most visible student groups across the state is the SHSU Ag Ambassadors. The highly motivated group attends various livestock shows and schools, representing the SHSU Department of Agricultural Sciences. They have the extraordinary job of serving as the voice of the department as they distribute information about SHSU and the department. They serve as hosts for student recruitment activities

and staff booths at the various livestock shows and State and National FFA Conventions.

Under the direction of advisor **Melanie Frank**, Ag Ambassadors for the 2002-2003 school year included

Melissa Ausley, Kim Adams, Ashley Brasher, Vanessa

Brossman, Blue Broussard, Billy Igo, Michele Igo, Leslie Cronin, Mandy Klein, Justin Little, Michelle LeNormand, Ben Luco, Reagan Machac, Brian Pape, Pam Waltmon, Rebecca Wendt, and Dannell Woolery.

As an Ag Ambassador, the student must be in good standing with the university, a full-time student, and an agriculture major. Many hours are spent participating as Ambassadors, entailing a lot of hard work along with the opportunity to recruit prospective students, make business and industry contacts, and further develop personal and professional skills.

Block and Bridle

As an SHSU community service organization, the Block and Bridle Club hosts a Children's Barnyard in the Fall, conducts trash pickups twice a semester in front of Gibbs Ranch on Hwy 75 N, and hosts the Area IX Livestock Judging Contest in the spring each year. Each spring semester the group puts on its annual Crawfish Boil, attended by nearly 600 students and faculty.

Officers are **Aaron Wilson**, President; **Michael Wallace**, Vice-President; **Casey Williams**, Secretary; **Brian VanDelist**, Treasurer; **Stephanie Kimich**, Reporter; **Amber Campise**, Sentinel; **Jenny Thompson**, Ag Council Rep; and **Kayla Kerbs**, SGA Rep. **Dr. Marcy Beverly** is advisor.

Groups which are supported by the Block and Bridle are the Beef Cattle Show Team, Horse Judging Team, Livestock Judging Team, and Independent Cattlemen's Association.

Agribusiness Association

The Agribusiness Association has a membership of approximately 25 students and is active within the department as well as across



SHSU's first ALCA (Associated Landscape Contractors of America) Student Career Days team — Casey Smith (Katy, TX), Mason McMeans (Katy, TX), and Josh Ringleb (El Campo, TX) — stands next to what two hours earlier was an empty plot. The students had three hours to install the landscape shown according to a set of prescribed specifications.

Mechanization and Technology Center.

Dr. Muller has been elected to serve as Superintendent of the National FFA Ag Mechanics Career Development Event for the next three years. This summer he and Dr. Harrell will again teach the TEA sponsored Ag Mech Certification Workshop.

Muller serves as co-advisor of the Ag Mech Club and is involved with several committees at Bethel Lutheran Church. He enjoys restoring antique tractors and pickup trucks with his sons.

TIM PANNKUK joined the SHSU faculty as a lecturer of

Horticulture during the spring 2002 semester. In addition to teaching the introductory plant and soil science courses,

Pannkuk was the instructor for the SHSU three week TEA Horticulture Certification Workshop last summer and will do the same this summer.

Pannkuk received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Texas A&M University in Horticulture and will begin work on his doctorate this summer in the Texas A&M Soil and Crop Sciences Department. Having arrived at SHSU with several year's experience in horticultural production, Pannkuk, as advisor to the Horticulture Club, has helped the students produce outstanding crops of poinsettias and various bedding and foliage plants which they sell to the Huntsville community. Proceeds from the sales are used to support educational endeavors for club members.

In addition to his teaching and advising duties in the department, Pannkuk enjoys home gardening, hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family, wife Amanda, and children Alyssa, age 9, and Benhardt, age 4.

DR. DWAYNE PAVELOCK joined the faculty as an

Assistant Professor of Agricultural Sciences in the fall of 2001. A graduate of Sam Houston State University in 1986 (B.S. in Agriculture) and 1993 (M.S. in Agriculture), he received his Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from



ORGANIZATIONS *cont'd*

campus. Current officers are **Pam Waltmon**, President; **Jessica Irwin**, Vice-President; **Zach Berry**, Treasurer; and **Leslie Cronin**, Secretary. **Dr. Andrew Lee** is advisor.

The group sent **Maureen O'Neill**, **Wendy Gaertner**, and **Pam Waltmon** to the American Agricultural Economics Association Academic Quiz Bowl competition in Long Beach, CA last fall. Another team, comprised of **Zach Berry**, **Pam Waltmon**, and **Jessica Irwin** was sent to the Southern Agriculture Economics Association Quiz Bowl Competition in Mobile, AL in February. The competitions are a great learning experience and provide a means of making contacts with faculty and students from across the nation.

In addition to competitive events, the Agribusiness Association sponsored career panels in the fall and spring semesters in order for students to obtain career-related information from established business leaders. They also sponsored a career panel directed at students interested in internships.

SHSU Beef Cattle Show Team

The SHSU Beef Cattle Show Team showed five head of Angus and four head of Brangus cattle at major livestock shows as a way of representing the university and the department while gaining valuable experience in training, showing, and fitting cattle. The team traveled and competed at the State Fair of Texas, the Fort Worth Stock Show, the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Serving as team Captain this year was **Aaron Wilson** with **Michael Wallace** as Co-Captain. Team members include **Chuck Godwin**, **Ashley Guth**, **Adrian Harris**, **Brian Hayes**, **Brandon Kolaja**, **Kayla Krebs**, **Sara Rogers**, **Cody**

Smith, **Clay Willey**, and **Casey Williams**. Advisors are **Dr. Stanley Kelley** and the Gibbs Ranch Manager, **Dennis Stepp**.

The Show Team showed their excellent preparation and hard work by winning the Herdsman Award at all of the shows. They are to be highly commended on this achievement!

In addition to winning the Herdsman Awards, team members were pleased with the performance of the cattle at each of the shows. At the State Fair, SHSU had the champion Brangus and took a 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th place with the Angus heifers in their classes. In Fort Worth the team received 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 9th with the Brangus and 2nd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 10th with the Angus. In Houston they placed 4th, 6th, 7th, and 8th with the Brangus, and 3rd, 4th, and 6th with Angus. They also captured Reserve Grand Late Fall Division Champion and Reserve Grand Late Winter Cow/Calf Pair Division Champion.

In addition to show activities, the Beef Cattle Show Team sponsored the first SHSU Top Cut Consignment Show Heifer Sale on April 12, 2003. The team was joined by Brangus and Angus breeders from the east Texas area to market the heifers.

CFFA

The SHSU Collegiate FFA officers are **Brian VanDelist**, President; **Cassandra Williams**, Vice-President; **Regan Machac**, Treasurer; **Maureen O'Neill**, Secretary; **Dannell Woolery**, Reporter; **Wayne Hux** and **Michelle Igo**, Senators to Texas; and **Kristi Hemann**, Sentinel.

This group sponsors an annual steer saddling event during the spring semester and assists with the

Area IX CDE's and the State FFA Convention each summer.

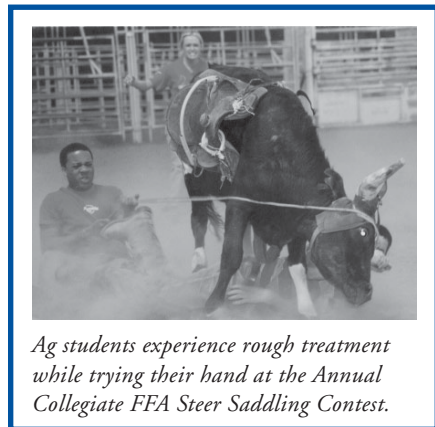
Livestock Judging Team

The Senior Livestock Judging Team ended their fall season on November 12 with the knowledge they had completed a successful year gaining information about the livestock industry and learning many lessons they feel will benefit them in life. Advised by **Dr. Stanley Kelley**, the team included **Cindy Swanner** (Spring), **Michael Wallace** (Arp), **Aaron Wilson** (Centerville), **Mitzi Smith** (Liberty), and **Josh Vodehnal** (Katy).

The 2003 Livestock Team began right after Christmas with a trip to Phoenix for the Arizona National, then The National Western in Denver, the Southwestern Livestock Exposition in Fort Worth, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Team members for 2003 are **Lee Mathews** (Houston), **Jennifer Lee** (Liberty), **Bobby Boatman** (Howe), **Allen Stanton** (Onalaska), and **Chris Ruescher** (Humble). The team is coached by graduate assistant **Cole Young** and **Dr. Stanley Kelley**.

Following their spring season of competition, the group will host the annual Heat Wave fundraiser and spend the remainder of the summer practicing on their own. The fall semester will find them traveling to and competing in Memphis,



Ag students experience rough treatment while trying their hand at the Annual Collegiate FFA Steer Saddling Contest.

Kansas City, San Francisco, and Louisville. They plan to do some sightseeing along with their competitions and are looking forward to seeing Alcatraz, Pier 39, Churchill Downs, and the Louisville Slugger Factory.

We wish them safety in their travels, lots of fun in their sightseeing, and good luck at the competitions, especially the National contest in the fall!

Two SHSU Students Elected National DTA Officers

SHSU students **Brian VanDelist** and **Jayson Hill** were recently elected national president and southern region vice-president of Delta Tau Alpha national agricultural honor society.

VanDelist, a junior animal science major from San Antonio, and Hill, a junior general agriculture major from Cleveland, were elected by delegates attending the 44th national DTA convention at Sul Ross State University in Alpine. Both are members of the university's chapter in the Department of Agricultural Sciences. Seven members of the SHSU chapter attended the convention.

Delta Tau Alpha is a national organization whose primary purposes include the promotion and recognition of high standards of scholarship, leadership and character among agricultural students. Membership in the organization is by invitation only to agriculture majors who rank in the top 30 percent of their university class, have a minimum 3.0 GPA, and complete at least nine hours of coursework in agriculture and 12 hours overall at SHSU.

There are currently 55 members in the SHSU chapter which continues to be active in all aspects of the department and throughout the community. The group held

its regular "Late Night with DTA" a final exams study session that gives students in-depth study time with their professors. Members manned the concession stand at the SHSU Collegiate Rodeo, raising money for club operations and a \$300 donation to the Rodeo Club to support its activities.

Under the direction of advisor **Dr. Dwayne Pavelock**, officers include: **Brian VanDelist** (San Antonio), President; **Mitzi Smith** (Liberty), Vice-President; **Jessica Redden** (Coldspring), Secretary; **Adam Jenke** (Coldspring), Treasurer; and **Ashley Ray** (Splendor), Reporter.

SHSU Rodeo Team Stars on Television!

The Sam Houston State Rodeo Club hosted its annual rodeo March 13-15. It was the first ever NIRA college rodeo taped for the Outdoor Channel. A challenging but fun experience, members were asked to solicit sponsors by selling banners and advertising space, along with some airtime to local businesses. With much behind-the-scenes planning and coordination, the event was highly successful. The rodeo was aired on April 21 and again on April 23.

The group reports the rodeo season has been a successful one thus far for the SHSU team. At press time the Men's team was 4th and the Women's team 6th in the region. The following individuals have qualified for the College Regional Playoffs in Hobbs, NM: **Yvan Jayne, Somer Lynn Scott, Mandi Walters, Wendy Schuller, Tyler Senior, Jabe Herring, Will Scoggins, Gerald Pasesly, Garrett Manahan, Colton Thomas, Curt Crawford, Charit Lee, Jayme Nulisch, and Julie Adams.**

Three team members have already qualified for the National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming: **Tyler**

Senior, Jabe Herring, and Will Scoggins.

An additional honor for Sam Houston State University, the department, and the Rodeo Team is that Coach **Roger Hanagriff** was selected as the Southern Region Coach of the Year! Congratulations to Coach Hanagriff and the entire team, and good luck in New Mexico and in Wyoming!

Ag Mech Club

Fall Semester Ag Mech Club officers were **Scott Weaver** (Blooming Grove), President; **Curtis Langley** (Winona), Vice-President and Reporter; **Meagan Kirgan** (Teague), Secretary; and **Keri Davis** (Waller) Treasurer.

Officers who served during the Spring Semester 2003 were **Garry Power** (Irving), President; **Brandon Ford** (Graham), Vice-President; **Tommy Paben** (Waller), Secretary; **Megan Kirgan** (Teague), Treasurer; and **Curtis Langley** (Winona), Reporter.

Seven Ag Mech Club members, along with advisors Dr. Joe Muller and Dr. Billy Harrell, traveled to Louisville, KY to conduct the National FFA Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event.

Agricultural Mechanization Majors and Ag Mech Club members coordinated the Area FFA Tractor Technician Contests at Waco and at SHSU. The top ten teams advanced to the state contest held in conjunction with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, also conducted by SHSU faculty and students.

SHSU students and advisors continue to work with the Houston Livestock Show Agricultural Mechanics Committee to coordinate the FFA and 4-H Agricultural Mechanics Project Show and the FFA Tractor Technician Contest. The show continues to grow and had 653 entries at the 2003 show.

Texas Tech University in August of 2000. His teaching duties are centered on preparing and supervising student teachers for certification as high school agriscience teachers. He also teaches courses in agricultural communications and agribusiness.

SHSU received a \$50,000 grant from the Texas Education Agency, provided in the 77th Legislative Session in order to provide assistance to novice teachers to help retain them in the teaching profession. Dr. Pavelock was hired as a half-time Agricultural Science Field Representative from this grant.

Through this grant teachers are provided information and technical support regarding emerging and innovative agricultural technologies, teaching methods, and information concerning funding, curriculum, facilities, and other program guidelines.

Pavelock taught secondary agricultural science in Dayton, Texas, for 7 years before becoming an education specialist and assistant program director of agricultural sciences at the Texas Education Agency. While at the TEA, he was the executive secretary of the Texas Young Farmers and coordinator of the Texas FFA Scholarship program. In addition to his 3 years of TEA experience, he spent one year as principal of Iola Elementary School.

Currently, Pavelock's research emphasis involves the perceptions of Texas public school superintendents toward the agricultural science program, student perceptions of the work-related attitudes developed from the HLSR Agricultural Mechanics Project Show, and why participation in livestock shows and judging contests is declining. He has presented his findings at regional, state, and national professional development and research conferences.

In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities, Pavelock is co-chair of the Texas FFA State Leadership Development Events and the Area IX Career Development Events, and serves as general superintendent of the Texas FFA State Speaking Development Events. He currently chairs the department's curriculum and catalogue committee, is a member of the Graduate Committee for the College of Education and Applied Sciences, and serves on the SHSU Convocation Committee as a marshal at graduation ceremonies.

Dwayne enjoys the game of golf and spending time with his family,

wife Michelle, an agriscience teacher at Normangee High School, and daughters McKenna (23 months) and Delaney (6 months). His philosophy regarding his life is: "Even though my job and the students are reminders of how fortunate I have been in life, my family provides the greatest testament to God's blessings."

DR. CAROLYN ROBINSON

joined the SHSU faculty last September and holds a B.S. degree from Auburn University (in her home state of Alabama), a master's degree from the University of Florida, and a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. She teaches many of the upper level horticulture courses.



Dr. Robinson has an interest in socio-horticulture with research interests on the benefits of plants to people of all ages, horticultural marketing and environmental responsiveness of the horticulture industry. She is currently teaching two courses, Tropical Horticulture and International Agriculture, in Puebla, Mexico!

Outside her SHSU duties, Carolyn enjoys floral and landscape design, stained glass work, drawing, needlework, and music. In addition she enjoys cooking and baking and spending time with husband Mike, a Microsoft certified systems engineer who works as a network specialist and personal computer technician in Conroe.

DR. DOUG ULLRICH,

Associate Professor of Agricultural Education, is currently serving as the SHSU representative to the state Vocational Agriculture



Teachers Association of Texas Board of Directors and the State FFA Alumni Board of Directors. He participated in developing the proposal for a \$50,000 TEA grant to develop an Agricultural Education support program for FFA chapters in Area III, VI, and IX. The grant will be used to fund the position for an Ag Education Specialist at SHSU. During the past year he has had three national research articles published dealing with Safety and

1940's, 1950's, 1960's

Dr. Carl O. Westbrook, '48, is now President Emeritus at Connors State College. Upon his retirement, Oklahoma State University and A&M College Regents named the new library on the Warner Campus the Carl O. Westbrook Learning Resource Center.

Billie Casteel, '50 is retired from the USDA Soil Conservation Service and living in Canyon, TX.

Clemon Montgomery, '50 & '57, is Chairman of the Board for Ag Workers Auto Insurance.

James Sowell, '52, is retired from teaching agriculture in Rio Grande City (2 yrs) and Bay City (28 yrs).

Joe Smetana, '53, is retired as Farm Bureau Safety Director and living in Lorena, TX.

Donald LeWallen, '60 is retired and living in Robinson, TX.

Harvey R. Kahlden, '61 & '67, works for the USDA NRCS in Kennedy, TX.

Don Knotts, '61 & '62, is the retired Dean for the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences at Tarleton State University and living in San Marcos.

William Woody, '62 & '64, has retired from Lorena ISD and is living in Lorena.

Congratulations to **Robert McGill,** '64 & '68, as he was inducted as a Charter Member of the Georgia Agriculture Education Hall of Fame. He is the Young Farmer Coordi-

nator for Jefferson College Board of Education.

Mitchell Beene, '65, lives in Lola and works for the Lola ISD as an agriculture science teacher.

George W. Lantrip, '65 & '93, was awarded 'Technician of the Year' in 2001 by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science. He is a registered Laboratory Animal Technologist for Veridian Engineering.

1970's, 1980's

Leon Cummins, '71, is an agriculture teacher for the Cy-Falls School District.

Congratulations to **Wayne A. Kucera,** '72, for his selection as Vice-President of First Victoria National Bank in Edna.

Pat Peebles, '72 & '92, and his wife Brenda reside in Lake Jackson, where Pat is Vocational Supervisor of Windham School District in Rosharon.

Larry Booth, '73 & '76, is a Corporate Service Manager for J. A. Riggs Tractor Company in Arkansas.

Curtis R. Noble, '78, is a rural carrier for the U.S. Postal Service in San Antonio.

Sherrice Massey-Stastny, '78 is the manager for Bennett Ranch in LaSalle, TX.

Jody Cronin, '81, is an Agriscience teacher for Shepherd ISD.

Alumni Update

Paul Booth, '82 & '83, lives in Lancaster and teaches in Midlothian.

Brian VanDerAu, '82, is owner of BLV Enterprises in The Woodlands.

Hats off to **Eric Herzog,** '84, permanent Board Operator for the Olefins Unit at Equistar Chemicals.

Vicki Lambuth, '84, is working in Public Relations for D & D Farm and Ranch in Hockley, TX.

Residing in Austin, **Kelly White,** '85, is working as an agriculture teacher in Del Valle ISD.

Bill Woody, '85 & '87, is an Agriscience teacher in Hillsboro.

Tim Drake, '86, lives in Deer Park, raises Texas Longhorns, and Boer goat crosses for showing.

David Lindsey, '86, owns Lindsey Farms in Pocasset, OK.

Reagan Jacobs, '87, Mayor Pro-Tem of Coolidge, TX; owns the Coolidge Feed Store with his twin brother.

Tamara Christian, '88, is an agricultural science teacher for Penelope ISD.

Bashir Duale, '88, is Assistant to the Director for the Loans Division for the USDA/ Farm Service Agency in Washington, D.C.

Harvey Stavinoha Jr., '88, is an insurance agent in Katy, TX where he lives with

wife Shawn and son Harvey III.

Damon Acord, '89, lives in Madisonville and teaches agriculture in the Normangee ISD.

Bob Choiniere, '89, lives in Lola and works as an agriculture science teacher.

1990's

Gretchen Deatherage, '90, is an Ag Commodity Grader for the USDA, AMS, Cotton Program.

A tip of our hat to **Pamela Finke,** '90, for being a Junior Chamber International Senator as well as the Vice-President of Navasota Farm and Ranch Center.

Mark Minton, '92, works in sales for Fresh Country in Longview.

Congratulations to **Michelle Murphy,** '92, upon receiving her master's degree from the University of North Texas in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling. She is employed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission in Bryan/College Station.

Shaun Nelson, '92, works as a Regional Sales Manager for Schwing America and was elected to the Waller ISD school board in 2002.

Kenneth Hancock, '94, is an agriculture teacher in Malakoff and living in Athens, TX.

Scott Schulze, '94, is an agriculture teacher for the Brenham ISD.

Trey Daniel, '95, is an Agriscience teacher for Coolidge ISD.

Alumni Update

Robert Breddin, '96, is an agricultural science teacher for Mansfield ISD.

Congratulations to **Kristie Franks**, '96 and '02, upon completion of her master's degree at SHSU. She is a veterinary technician at Texas A&M University in College Station.

Craig Kettler, '96, and his wife, **Misty Maxwell Kettler**, '98, are back in Texas, living in Alvin and beginning their family. Craig is a Sales/Marketing Consultant for InterGlobal Waste.

Congratulations to **Shane Simon**, '96, and his wife on the birth of a daughter, Sarah Mikenna, on May 9, 2001. Shane is Livestock Operations Coordinator for the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Inc.

Jana Wilson, '96, an agriculture teacher for Magnolia ISD, lives in Huntsville with her husband, **Clint**, '96, who works for Odom Trailer in Conroe.

Eric Griffith, '97 received his master's degree in Agronomy from Texas A&M University and works as a golf course construction assistant.

Brian Johnson, '97, is the manager of Eastex Farm & Home in Beaumont.

Bubba Schulz, '97, teaches agriculture in Big Sandy and lives in Lindale with his wife, **Stephanie (Peter) Schulz**, '99, who is a regional manager for Deere and Co.

David Timmons, '97, a Technical Advisor for

Tyson Foods, lives with wife **Hallie Long Timmons**, '98, in Gonzales.

Kevin Wiegat, '97, lives in Magnolia and works as an agriculture science teacher in the Klein ISD.

Genevieve Anderson, '98, is an agriculture teacher in the Humble ISD.

Linus Ashlock, '98, is employed as a Manager for Skinner Nursery in Houston.

Michael Garcia, '98, is a Special Assistant for the Office of Vice President Dick Cheney.

Kyle Franklin, '98, works as a Landscape Maintenance Manager in Houston.

Sommer Sebastian, '98, lives in Montgomery and teaches in the Tomball ISD.

Larry Smith, '98, teaches in the Aldine ISD.

Congratulations to **Gregory Svrcek**, '98, for being the Sales Team Leader for Grainger in Austin.

Tracy Gehring, '99 is a Spring ISD teacher.

Stan Bauer, '99, teaches Agriscience in the Coldspring ISD and currently resides in New Waverly.

Brandy Goodson Gustafson, '99, works as an Ag Appraiser for the Harris County Appraisal District.

Robert Hanks, '99, and his wife Stephanie are the proud owners of Gator Lake Farm, a

commercial hay producing operation near Huntsville specializing in horse quality coastal hay.

Armon Hewitt, '99, is the Ag Advisor for Centerville ISD and lives in Trinity.

Congratulations to **Clint Joines**, '99, and **Rebecca (Hock) Joines**, '00, who married in January 2001, live in Houston where Rebecca works in Corporate Real Estate and Clint is a Mutual Fund Accountant for AIM Management Group Inc.

Jason Nelson, '99, works as a Training Coordinator for San Jacinto College Aerospace Academy.

Casey Sellers, '99 is an inspector for the Texas Department of Agriculture in Houston.

Amy Benfer Vann, '99, teaches business classes at Klein Forest High School.

Damon Wells, '99 is the Natural Resources Legislative Assistant with the State of Texas in the Office of State and Federal Relations in Washington D.C.

2000, 2001

Richard A. Beyer, '00, is the proud owner/operator of Richard A. Beyer Farms in Markham, TX.

Brian Brightwell, '00, works in Sales and Service with Texas Liquid Fertilizer in Beaumont.

Jeffrey C. Brown, '00, is an appraiser for the Texas General Land Office in Austin and lives in Huntsville.

Brian Buckner, '00, is a Golf Course Superintendent for Quail Valley Country Club in Missouri City, TX.

Hats off to **Stephanie Herring**, '00, who was named 'High School Rookie of the Year' and 'The Rookie of the Year' for the entire Sheldon ISD!

Katie Johnson, '00 works in the human resource department for Tubular Instrumentation and Controls Inc.

Brett LaCoste, '00 works in Transportation Sales at C. H. Robinson in Houston.

Adam Lira, '00, lives in Willis with wife **Tamra (Webb) Lira**, '99, and is an agriculture teacher for Splendora ISD.

Sara Winkelmann, '00, is the QA Supervisor for ConAgra Poultry in Louisiana.

Paula Siems Jackson, '01, and her husband, TJ, live in Rockdale. Both are employed by the Rockdale ISD.

Congratulations to **Stephanie (Smaistrla) Lyford**, '01, upon her marriage to Stephen Lyford in March 2002. She is a Science teacher at Huntsville ISD.

Angela Thompson, '01, is an appraiser for the Harris County Appraisal District.

Health issues at agricultural education facilities in Texas.

Ullrich, working with Dwayne Pavelock, Billy Harrell, Joe Muller, and Roger Hanagriff, has received over \$21,000 in research funding to fund research projects dealing with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Ag Mechanics Project Show, Major Livestock Show Participation, and Partners for a Safer Community.

Ullrich is heavily involved with the student advising center on campus and advised over 650 students last fall and this spring.

He was selected for a Who's Who Among University Teachers Award for 2002-2003 and serves as advisor for the Collegiate FFA, Ducks Unlimited, and the Trophy Hunters Club.

D. BARRY WILLIAMS joined the SHSU faculty in



December 2002, traveling from a cold and snowy New York state to begin his teaching career here in January. Coming to

SHSU from the biotechnology industry, Dr. Williams completed his undergraduate work at Texas Tech University, his master's degree at Washington State University, and completed his doctorate in animal science at Virginia Tech.

Williams has conducted research in reproductive endocrinology, embryo transfer in swine, swine lactation and sow milking machines, artificial insemination in cattle, neonatal immunity and survival, colostrum replacements, genetic engineering in swine for production of human pharmaceuticals, and xenotransplantation (the transplantation of tissues from one species to another, i.e. pigs to humans).

His plans for research at SHSU are to focus on management related research – neonatal survival, colostrum supplementation, waste management, and management practices to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

Barry enjoys anything related to the outdoors, livestock, and traveling to new places. He and his wife Beth, a Virginia native, reside in Huntsville with their four year old daughter Annie.

Credits: Many thanks to Vanessa Brassman, student assistant, for gathering information for this newsletter and to Toni Bruner for her article composition and editorial reviews. Thanks are also extended to the SHSU Office of Public Information for final editorial suggestions.

ROBERT L. BRUNER

honored with 2003 SHSU Alumni Association Service Award

The SHSU motto is "The measure of a life is its service."

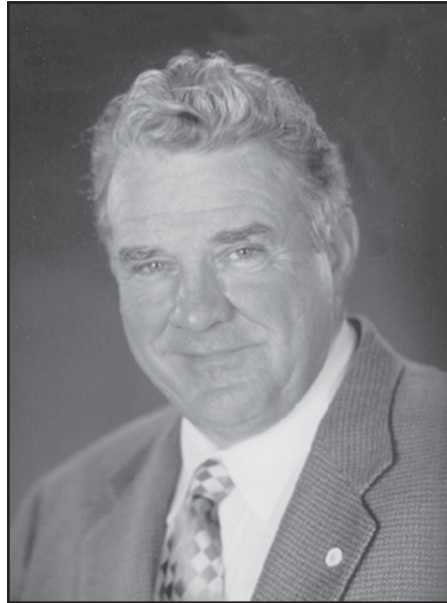
This could not be more true for the four individuals who were chosen to receive the 2003 SHSU Alumni Association Service Awards.

Robert L. Bruner, Mary Frances Allen Park, and George Robert Vick of Huntsville and Ray Burgess of The Woodlands were honored at a luncheon on April 11, 2003 for their commitment to the university.

Robert L. Bruner is a 1962 graduate of SHSU with a bachelor of science degree in agricultural business. The owner of Bruner Angus Ranch, Bruner worked in the agriculture-chemical industry for 25 years, as well as serving as the managing partner of two gasoline distributorships and two multi-unit apartment complexes.

He is is past recipient of the Man of the Year in Agriculture Award from the Texas County Agriculture Agents Association; the Bill Clements Award for Outstanding Leadership in Agriculture Award from the Build East Texas Commit-

tee; and the Excellent Producer Award from the Texas Forage and Grassland Council.



In addition, he has been active in community and university endeavors, including serving as director of the Huntsville Memorial Housing-Parkview Place Retirement Center,

director of the Texas Angus Association, founding director and life member of the Walker County Fair Association, and assistant superintendent for the Junior Commercial Steer Show at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. He is agriculture advisor for the SHSU Gibbs Ranch and a trustee of the Sam Houston Foundation.

"He has been a strong supporter of Sam Houston State University and the Department of Agricultural Sciences for many years," according to Dr. Stanley Kelley, animal science professor. In 1998, Robert secured the donation of 38 registered angus cows from Circle A Angus in Iberia, MO for the Department of Agricultural Sciences.

"Robert continues to assist our program through considerable personal commitment of time and resources," said Robert Lane, department chair. "We are certainly proud of Robert and are blessed to have the tremendous support he and his wife Toni have given us over the years."



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