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BALANCE
ON & OFF
THE COURT

The magazine of Sam Houston State University
Member of The Texas State University System
One of my favorite tales is about the lives of nineteenth-century fur trappers of the Rocky Mountains. In this story, several huts were placed in remote parts of the mountains for the purpose of providing shelter during snowstorms. Inside each cabin was a stack of wood, so a desperate mountain man caught in a snowstorm could build himself a fire quickly. When a trapper completed his stay, it was the tradition that he cut firewood to replace what he had used. One of the most complimentary epitaphs for a mountain man was that “he left the woodpile a little higher than he found it.”

My predecessors could certainly have that epitaph. And within this context, isn’t there something special about persons who have benefited from our grand old university and who are committed to leaving it a better place than they found it for the benefit of those who follow? It is really a pretty simple concept.

Our faculty and staff members do this every day, working tirelessly on behalf of our students to provide an outstanding education in a caring environment. Moreover, 75 percent of those outstanding employees made gifts to our university this fall, which is a further testament to their commitment.

Those who have benefited the most from Sam Houston State are beginning to do their share in record numbers. This past year we received support from more than 6,000 of our alumni and friends as listed in our “Annual Honor Roll Report” section of this issue of the Heritage. Their contributions exceeded $8 million. Our university’s first capital campaign now stands at more than $40 million toward an ambitious goal of $50 million. I am both gratified and humbled by this outpouring of affection for and confidence in our university.

Most important is what these gifts allow us to do. Endowments have been created for faculty positions, scholarships, student recruitment, academic program support, athletic enhancement, and alumni relations. We have been able to provide immediate funds for equipment purchases, student activities, construction and renovation projects, library acquisitions, and performing arts programs.

Record enrollments, enhanced admission scores, a larger and stronger faculty, new and improved facilities, outstanding athletics, prominent and influential alumni, and growing alumni support make these very special days to be a Bearkat.

“… isn’t there something special about persons who have benefited from our grand old university and who are committed to leaving it a better place than they found it for the benefit of those who follow? It is really a pretty simple concept.”

We alumni have received immeasurable benefit from our Sam Houston State experience due to the dedication of previous administrators, faculty and staff who left the woodpile higher for this generation. Those of us who have benefited must commit ourselves to leaving the woodpile higher for those who are certain to follow, especially our future students. Please, join with others and share the vision.
New College Challenges Old Ideas
The College of Humanities and Social Sciences moves toward balance between teaching and research.

A Plan For Eating In The Real World
Little changes can make a big impact on eating and health.

University Focus
Regents honor profs; Tuition and fees increase; Bob Dole visits SHSU; Researchers receive prestigious science grants; Athletics program gets a look; Ag students study biofuels; Advisers to be certified.

Eye On The Kats
Martin named All-American; Fall sports wrap-up; Spring sports preview; Hall of Honor inducts new members; Basketball player shines on the court and in the classroom.

Building The Vision
SHSU thanks Ragsdale for generosity; Biology and sociology reap rewards from schoolteachers’ gift.

Alumni Look
Sowers family has a “bunch” of Bearkats; University honors Distinguished Alumni; Grads named to Board of Regents; Naming opportunities available; Upcoming events; Alumni Board of Directors
Sam Houston State University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences may be the new kid on the block, but it’s already preparing to move into the biggest house and is showing a distinct personality.

Humanities and Social Sciences was created from elements of the colleges of Arts and Sciences and Education in the fall of 2004, with Terry Thibodeaux as interim dean. Eating behavior researcher John de Castro was hired as dean in the summer of 2006.

De Castro, who started out studying the eating habits of rats before switching to similar work with humans, is now into the teaching and researching patterns of faculty members and learning patterns of students. So much so that he is creating a new species in academic administration.

De Castro says that universities tend to fall into one of two types— institutions rated based on either their research prowess (flagship universities) or teaching prowess (small colleges).

“There was no rating system for schools that do both well,” he says. “So we came up with the idea of a Tier I Balanced institution to suggest that there can be ‘flagships’ that have balance in their mission.”

He got the idea, he said, from a discussion with a research colleague at a major research institution. He complimented her university and commented how nice it must be to work at such an extraordinary place.

“She agreed, but then said she wouldn’t send her children there,” he said. “She said the faculty didn’t care about teaching, that they did as little (teaching) as they could get away with, and most of the instruction was done by graduate students and adjunct faculty.

“I realized that this was true of most of our most revered ‘flagship’ institutions,” he says. “The mission had been permuted and perverted so much by research that the institution has lost track of a primary component of their mission—instruction.”

The challenge then became how to achieve this balance. The strategy—hire faculty who do both research and teaching well and encourage the faculty already on board to fit that pattern by giving promotions and tenure to those who do it well.

Luckily for de Castro, Sam Houston State University has been one of the fastest growing public universities in Texas, which means hiring more new faculty, and current faculty support the concept. He has also put into effect new promotion and tenure policies, including such elements as a third year review, outside letters of evaluation, and a manual rewritten to reflect those values.

“It’s my fervent belief that this will, over time, produce the kind of college that is encapsulated in that vision,” he says, though he admits “it cannot happen overnight.”

As for the college’s new home, that will be the $35 million Humanities and Social Sciences Building—the largest classroom building at SHSU. It will help in the creation of that ideal “balanced” college both physically and psychologically, he says.

“As a teaching institution, we only needed to provide an office, a computer and a library,” he says. “Now we need labs. The new building will help tremendously in providing that space.”
Psychologically, de Castro says, and he is a psychologist, the new building will be a visible symbol of that college of balance.

“It will pull together departments and administration that are scattered all over the campus into one facility,” he says. “That will help to provide identity and great singularity of purpose.”

That new home for this new idea is scheduled for completion this fall. Meaningful implementation of the idea itself, de Castro estimates, “should take something less than 10 years.”

History

De Castro believes he has an ideal model for his Tier I Balanced concept already in operation, and within his own college. It is the history department.

“I believe that the Department of History is the finest example in the university of this concept,” de Castro says. “The faculty of the department are outstanding, nationally-acclaimed scholars as well as extraordinary teachers.”

He points to student surveys that show that almost three-fourths of the courses taught in history are rated above the national norms for instructional effectiveness.

While also recognized as an outstanding teacher, the incomparable Jim Olson leads the research and publication effort. Olson, distinguished professor of history, has received numerous regional and national awards for teaching and turns out new books like they are term papers.

The idea is catching on, and in 2006–07 the department’s faculty published 10 books. Five of these were either authored or co-authored by department chair Terry Bilhartz.

Sociology

If history is the leader, other departments, like sociology, are catching up.

“Our philosophy is to maintain a limited number of areas of expertise/specialization within the department,” says chair Alessandro Bonanno. “We cannot study everything well, but we can study a few areas very well.

“Over the last few years we hired people who directly contributed to one or more of these areas and created synergies with other members of the department. These synergies are used to generate research ideas and output, but also to produce information that is shared in the classroom.”

For example, the department recently hired Gene Theodori, who had taught and researched previously at Texas A&M. His expertise is in rural sociology and community.

“By adding Gene we created enough synergy that propelled SHSU sociology to be one of the most visible academic departments in ‘rural sociology’ in the nation,” said Bonanno.

“Similarly, by adding Dr. Jin Young Choi to the faculty and creating cooperation with faculty in other SHSU departments and at M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, we were able to enhance our visibility in the area of ‘medical sociology.’”

From English and History to Family and Consumer Sciences, there is something new for everyone in these traditional programs.
Foreign Languages
This spring students in James Frankki’s foreign languages class entitled “Viking Tales and the Discovery of America” found lots of reasons to question their long-held beliefs regarding Christopher Columbus’s “discovery of America.”

The course examines the Vikings’ exploration and settlement of Iceland, Greenland and the North American coast, as recorded in the literature of medieval Iceland and Norway.

Toward the end of the course Frankki will discuss recent archeological discoveries of where Leif Eriksson set up the first Viking camps in the late 10th century and evidence that the Vikings may have traveled inland as far as Minnesota or Oklahoma more than 1,000 years ago.

Also new this spring is a course on “Hispanic Women,” taught by new department director Debra Andrist, who took over last fall. Andrist is a supporter of service learning and the Tier I Balanced concept. An either/or (teaching or research) approach usually means neither/nor, she says.

“Every time I’ve run into that rigid either/or mentality and philosophy, it’s resulted in neither good teaching nor good scholarship/research,” says Andrist.

Political Science
Balance is achieved in the SHSU political science department by giving students the opportunity to actually meet the people they talk about in the classroom, and to do research and service learning projects relating to everyday issues.

The Political Science Junior Fellows group, which has a seemingly impossible schedule of community service projects and travel in addition to their classroom studies, has been so successful that they were awarded the “Community Service Group Award” by the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce.


In the Political Science and Public Administration master’s program, students are required as part of their class assignments to propose a research project and present it in class. The next semester they complete the project, write a capstone paper and submit it to national conferences.

Since the beginning of the program, several students have presented at major national conferences. Frank W. Robinson presented his to the 68th Conference of the American Society for Public Administration last spring and Kristen Sterba Schultz is scheduled to present hers to the American Society for Public Administration this spring.

Psychology and Philosophy
In the clinical psychology doctoral program, students have been successful in both research and active in clinical activities.

The program is highly selective. In the fall of 2007, 92 applications were received with only eight students accepted for admission. Donna Desforges, who chairs the department, believes there are three reasons.

First, students go beyond the classroom. In 2006 there were 31 student conference presentations and students authored 10 publications.

Secondly, prospective students like the program’s extensive clinical work in hospitals, outpatient settings, private practices, and correctional agencies. Some of the jobs even pay students a stipend.

An important part of that effort is the SHSU Psychological Services Center, which provides clinical and forensic services to the community at a reduced cost.

Thirdly, Desforges says, students are attracted by the program’s forensic emphasis. SHSU students have the unusual opportunity to participate in forensic evaluations for the courts on cases ranging from trespassing to
capital murder, an experience that students at most other programs don’t have.

Communication Studies

The communication studies department is evolving from teaching people how to speak to teaching them how to communicate.

Formerly known as the speech communication department, it was re-named and has a new Master of Arts program that will be offered beginning in the 2008 fall semester at the University Center in The Woodlands.

“There’s a difference between talking to people and being personally effective and socially appropriate,” says Frances Brandau-Brown, the department’s graduate adviser. “Our goal is to help people learn the strategies that will make them more successful in dealing with issues that would crop up in human resources, marketing, teaching or as a doctor, lawyer or politician.”

Some of the areas of study include persuasive strategies, interpersonal strategies, conflict resolution and negotiation.

The program will be the first in the state to offer a family communication component, and will only be offered at the University Center, as that is a more convenient location for the audience being targeted by the department.

Mass Communication

Warner Chair Mickey Herskowitz led the way in a surge of publications by mass communication faculty.

Herskowitz, long time Houston sports columnist and author of numerous books on sports and entertainment celebrities, published The Greatest Generation’s Greatest Team and Mickey Mantle: Stories & Memorabilia From a Lifetime With the Mick.

Ruth Massingill co-authored Prison City, produced such works to their students.


The department’s Cable 7 student news crew broke in a new mobile news van and continued production on twice-a-week live news programming and once-a-week live Spanish language news programming.

Family and Consumer Sciences

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences is no longer your “Ozzie and Harriet”/“Father Knows Best”-style study of peach-canning and clothes-mending.

Actually, home economics was never that simple, as it presented a critical pathway into higher education for American women. But now it is even more than that, as evidenced by Sam Houston State University’s programs in family and consumer sciences teacher certification, fashion merchandising, food science and nutrition, food service management, and interior design.

The SHSU department, under the direction of Janis White, last year placed a record 50 interns in a variety of positions in which they gained valuable practical experience and made equally valuable contacts for future jobs.

This spring one of the department’s efforts is a grant-supported invitation to some 300 high school students to come to SHSU to consider opportunities within the teacher certification program, in which there are many vacancies.

White is also proud that the department’s graduate and undergraduate dietetics programs are accredited by the American Dietetic Association and that the department has tripled in size since the late 1990s.

English

When a Department of English professor does research, the result is a creative work or other publication, and professors relate their experiences in producing such works to their students.

Assistant Professor of English Scott Kaukonen learned in December that the National Endowment for the Arts had recognized him as a recipient of the organization’s 2008 Literature Fellowship in Prose, a $25,000 prize. He was one of 42 writers from across the nation selected for the fellowship out of almost 800 applicants.

Paul Ruffin, distinguished professor of English, has added Jesus in the Mist to his growing list of published works. It is his third collection of short stories. He has also published two novels and five collections of poetry, with a sixth due out later this year.

Other notable efforts in English include the Sam Houston Writing Project, a center dedicated to the strengthening and teaching of writing and reading in the schools of East Texas. The project’s summer institute is open to teachers from kindergarten to college/university, and offers six graduate credits.

The department’s Sam Houston Writing Center helps students, staff, faculty and community members become better writers and develop more confidence in their abilities. The center offers one-on-one and small group instruction and workshops, and has benefited students of all disciplines.

“When our graduates leave SHSU with a degree in English, they are prepared for career opportunities or advanced study in technical and professional communication, teaching, journalism, government service, editing, law, and business,” said Bill Bridges, department chair.★
It is estimated that one third of the adult population in the U.S. is obese and an additional third are overweight. Obesity qualifies as the No. 2 contributor to preventable deaths in the United States. John de Castro, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, is a psychologist who studies how food and fluid intake is controlled in real world environments. This is his common sense and effective weight control advice.

The optimum strategy for weight control appears to be to make small changes in intake and activity that can be sustained over a long period of time. Crash diets or exercise binges don’t seem to work. They produce frustration and misery and any weight losses are rapidly gained back. In addition, eating is one of life’s greatest pleasures.

It is a mistake to take that gift away. The small change approach is simple—just decrease intake by about 5 percent, about 100 calories per day while increasing expenditure by about 100 calories per day, the equivalent of walking a mile. This 200-calorie per day change if sustained for a year can result in the loss of about 20 pounds of fat while at the same time avoiding the pain of heavy exercise and retaining the pleasures of eating. After five years you can lose 100 pounds.

There are many ways to decrease intake by 100 calories a day and increase activity by a similar amount. It is best to look at a variety of strategies and pick the ones most suitable for yourself and your circumstances. I recommend purchasing a simple pedometer to measure the amount of walking you do each day and try to slowly increase it day by day until you’re walking about 2,000 steps more each day. That will expend about 100 extra calories.

There are a number of simple strategies to do this including parking farther from the door of your destination, getting off the bus one stop early, taking the stairs rather than the elevator, pacing around as you talk on the telephone, or taking a marching-in-place minute once an hour. My personal favorite is scheduling a morning or evening walk with my spouse. It’s pleasant, easy, and provides high-quality time together.
There are also many ways to reduce intake by 100 calories a day. My research suggests that eating well in the morning actually produces a decrease in the total amount eaten over the day. Don’t rush out in the morning, but take a few minutes to eat a good breakfast. It also suggests that the evening is the time of greatest danger. Eating sensibly, with restraint late in the day, can pay off handsomely. Another danger period is the weekend, when intake often increases by 10 percent or more.

Alcohol intake appears to add to caloric intake without replacing any other intake. Simply reducing alcohol intake slightly can also help. My research also suggests that eating low energy density foods, such as fruits and vegetables, instead of high energy density meats, fats, and starches, can also successfully lower intake. Eating out in restaurants greatly increases intake. Eating more often at home can help reduce intake.

One of the reasons that restaurants increase intake is because they serve very large portions. It has been shown that reducing portion size can greatly decrease intake. One strategy to use in restaurants is to separate the servings in half, eating one half and bringing the other half home for a meal on another day. I’ve known successful dieters who ask the waiter to only bring them half the serving and to put the other half in a to-go box.

Eating with other people tends to promote intake. We’ve found that the more people that are present when you eat, the more that you tend to eat. Meals eaten with other people are, on average, 44 percent larger than meals eaten alone, and when you eat in large groups you may almost double your intake. Eating with one’s family is important and eating with friends is a great pleasure. I don’t recommend that you try to eat alone. Rather, I recommend that you be aware of your tendency to overeat when with others and practice reasoned restraint.

The time when you’re watching TV is also a time of danger of overeating. When people eat with the TV on they tend to add an extra meal for the day. TV watching appears to distract people, so that they eat mindlessly, even when not particularly hungry. Reducing mindless TV watching not only might help in reducing intake, but it might also free time for more productive and enjoyable endeavors, such as taking walks with family and friends.

Eating and activity are important to health and can be great pleasures. In trying to control body weight, moderation is the key. Taking away the pleasure of eating or making activity painful is counterproductive.

“Crash diets or exercise binges don’t seem to work. They produce frustration and misery and any weight losses are rapidly gained back.”
—John de Castro

Take a small-step long-term approach. Be mindful of when you’re vulnerable, not to eating but to overeating, and practice reasonable restraint. This is the formula that is the most likely to produce lasting results.

But be patient and don’t expect weight to drop rapidly. Weight fluctuates daily based upon body fluid levels and gastrointestinal retention. Don’t weigh yourself every day and expect to see much change. Think long-term and look for month-to-month weight decreases. If you are actively gaining weight, then a lack of further weight gain should be viewed as a success. Build on the success and eventually reverse its course.

Regardless, be positive and happy. In the long run that’s what’s important.
Fall 2007 was a time to celebrate achievements as accomplished faculty members received more accolades, the university was awarded a record-number of research grants, and a new program in academic advising was added. For the latest news about Sam Houston State University, log on to www.shsu.edu/today@sam.

Del Carmen, Olson Honored By Regents

Rolando V. del Carmen, distinguished professor of criminal justice, and James S. Olson, distinguished professor of history, are among the six faculty members from nine institutions in the Texas State University System who have been recognized by the TSUS Board of Regents for exemplary performance and contributions in teaching, research and publication, and service.

Del Carmen is a world-renowned criminal justice scholar and has taught at Sam Houston State for 33 years. He is one of only two professors in the criminal justice discipline to receive all three of the major awards presented by the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences and is the recipient of the prestigious Piper Foundation Award—the state award that recognizes outstanding college/university teaching throughout Texas. He has served as commissioner and vice chair of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards and was an instructor, coordinator and consultant for the Peace Corps.

Olson has written or edited almost 50 books, placing him in the top one-half of one percent of historians with publications in the Library of Congress. He has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in Biography and the Pulitzer Prize in History. He also has been recognized as a Piper Professor and was the Carnegie Foundation Texas Professor of the Year in 2005. He is the only SHSU faculty member ever to receive all three university awards—Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Research and Excellence in Service.

Del Carmen and Olson, along with the other four professors selected for the honor, received a $5,000 award and commemorative medallion. They will maintain the title of TSUS Regents’ Professor for the duration of their service.
Regents Approve Tuition, Fee Hikes For Fall 2008

The Texas State University System Board of Regents has approved increased fees for tuition, student services, recreational sports and ID card operations and financial counseling effective with the Fall 2008 semester.

The fee increases include $14 per semester credit hour for designated tuition, $2 per semester credit hour to a maximum of $225 in student service fees, $7 per student per semester for the recreational sports fee, and $12 per student per semester for financial services including a financial counseling program.

State appropriations for Sam Houston State University have fallen to about a third of its total budget.

SHSU President Jim Gaertner told the regents that the increase in designated tuition will be used for a number of critical needs, including:

- Hiring more full-time faculty to decrease dependence on adjunct faculty;
- New faculty and staff positions to serve enrollment growth;
- Develop new academic programs with appropriate support staff;
- Fully staff academic support centers currently funded from expiring grants and decreasing fund balances;
- Provide salary increases for existing faculty and staff.

The student service fee increase will be used to pay student wage increases resulting from federal minimum wage increases that became effective in July 2007. That fee will also support activities of the offices of dean of students, career services, financial aid, counseling, student government and athletics.

The recreational sports fee increase will also be used for increased student wage and utility costs.

The financial services fee will fund the existing university ID and disbursement program along with a new student financial center. The center will include such programs as debt management, financial counseling, and establishing and managing credit.

While tuition and fees for the 2008–09 academic year are increasing at other Texas public universities, the SHSU total of $5,910 for two semesters beginning next fall is below the current state average of $6,437 and national average of $6,185.

Dole Tells Students To Overcome ‘Bumps’ With Humor

Bob Dole, one of the most prominent United States politicians of the last half century, addressed the university and community as part of the President’s Speaker Series on Oct. 23.

As someone more well known for losing presidential bids than for his congressional accomplishments, Dole has encountered many “bumps in the road.”

But overcoming these bumps was the message Dole presented to his audience in a crowded Killinger Auditorium.

“If something isn’t quite like you’d like, that doesn’t mean you give up,” he said. “As you get older, you’re going to learn that success and failure are part of your life; they’re part of growing up.”

The former state legislator, U. S. representative and U. S. senator told the audience that there are three things one needs in life: patience, a sense of humor and the ability to keep your word.

Dole’s speech was the 12th in the President’s Speaker Series, which was begun in 2002 to bring speakers to campus who have lived successful and principled lives.
Record-Setting Number Of NSF Grants Awarded To SHSU

Sam Houston State University began the 2008 spring semester with seven National Science Foundation Awards totaling almost $2 million, a high mark for SHSU and an impressive number when compared to many larger and more research-intensive universities.

“NSF grants are one of the true gold standards for scientific research in the academy,” said David Payne, provost and vice president for academic affairs at SHSU. “The growth in the number of such grants is a clear sign of the increasing quality of leading edge scientific research being conducted here.”

Delia Gallinaro, project manager in research and special programs, said that amassing the current list of NSF grants was no accident. NSF grants are among the highest measurement of scholarly research for any university, she said, and SHSU wants to compete with research-intensive institutions.

All seven of the NSF projects are housed in the College of Arts and Sciences. They include:

• Peers Enhancing their Education through Research and Scholarship (PEERS). Brian Loft, assistant professor in mathematics and statistics, is the principal investigator. Melinda Holt, associate professor in mathematics and statistics, and Anne Gaillard, assistant professor in biological sciences, are co-principal investigators. Twenty-two undergraduate and 10 graduate students will receive scholarships of up to $5,500 for each of the program’s four years.

• Electronic Activity of Components of Lithium-Ion Batteries. Principal investigator is Gan Liang, professor in physics. Grant amount is $133,127.

• Modeling Semiconductor Devices in Strong Magnetic Fields. Principal investigator is Barry Friedman, professor of physics. Grant amount is $125,000 with an additional $78,000 from the Texas Advanced Research Program.

• Biodiversity Study of Insects and their Gregarine Parasites. Principal investigator is Tamara J. Cook, associate professor in biological sciences, with co-principal investigators Jerry L. Cook, associate professor in biological sciences and Sibyl Bucheli, visiting professor in biological sciences, and collaborator Richard Clopton of Peru State College of Nebraska. The grant amount is $259,000.

• Research Experiences for Undergraduates in Experimental Field Biology. Principal investigator is Diane Neudorf, associate professor in biological sciences, with co-principal investigator William Lutterschmidt, associate professor in biological sciences. The grant amount is $287,137.

• Long-term Undergraduate Research Experience (LURE) in Mathematics. Principal investigator is Ken Smith, professor in mathematics and statistics. The grant amount is $300,000.

• Adaptive Kernels for Partial Differential Equation Models in Image Denoising: Construction and Algorithms. Principal investigator is Jianzhong Wang. The grant amount is $168,645.

Karolis Bagdonas, 63, a Sam Houston State University faculty member known internationally for his research on butterflies, moths and grizzly bears, died in October. Bagdonas taught in the biological sciences department at Sam Houston State beginning in 1990. He was the subject of a feature story in the Fall/Winter 2005 Heritage.

“If we treasure the things out here—the grizzlies, the butterflies and moths, the fields of flowers,” he said, “then these things need to be protected.”

Karolis Bagdonas examines a night’s collection of moths at his Northwestern Wyoming Wilderness Research Field Station in the summer of 2005.
SHSU To Self-Study Athletics Program

The certification program's purpose is to help ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations.

Sam Houston State University has begun a year-long, campus-wide study of its athletics program as part of the NCAA Division I athletics certification program. Specific areas the study will cover are academic integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, as well as a commitment to equity and student-athlete welfare.

While academic accreditation is common in colleges and universities, this program focuses solely on certification of athletics programs. Following a pilot project, the Division I membership overwhelmingly supported the program and its standards at the 1993 NCAA Convention. Sam Houston State University completed its first certification self-study in 1998.

Once the university/college has concluded its study, an external team of reviewers will conduct a two-day minimum evaluation visit on campus. Those reviewers will be peers from other colleges, universities or conference offices. That team will report to the NCAA Division I Committee on Athletics Certification, another independent group. The committee will then determine the institution’s certification status and announce the decision publicly. For institutions that fail to conduct a comprehensive self-study or to correct problems, tough sanctions can be imposed.

The certification program’s purpose is to help ensure integrity in the institution’s athletics operations. It opens up athletics to the rest of the university/college community and to the public. Institutions will benefit by increasing campus-wide awareness and knowledge of the athletics program, confirming its strengths and developing plans to improve areas of concern. ★
Students Conduct Biofuels Research

The questions concerning fuels of the future are many, but a group of agriculture students at Sam Houston State University are helping provide some of the answers.

Led by agriculture professors Doug Kingman and Joe Muller, a five-student team is working in the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Sciences’ new Alternative Energy Research Laboratory located in the Holleman Field area of the campus.

Inside the lab is a shiny blue $32,000 tractor furnished by the New Holland Company and a $23,000 dynamometer that is hooked up to the tractor to measure its performance on various biodiesel mixtures.

Some of the issues relating to possible increased use of diesel fuel made from plants include the fact that the biodiesel produces less carbon dioxide, which is better for the greenhouse effect, but more particulates, which is worse for smog.

How much energy it takes in such forms as tractor fuel and fertilizer to produce a certain amount of biodiesel is another issue, as well as environmentalists’ concerns that if biodiesel production is accelerated more forests will be cleared for cropland, producing other problems.

An entire segment of the current research is concerned with algaculture, or the production of biodiesel from algae ponds at wastewater treatment plants. This process would not require agriculture production energy or destruction of forests.

The SHSU group is working on a small segment of the overall problem, but one that could be valuable even in the short term to farmers.

Members of the team were recently invited by Todd Staples, Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, to participate in a Fort Worth celebration marking the 100th Anniversary of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

The real celebration, they say, will come when there are more answers to the many questions relating to the production and use of fuels from plants.

SHSU Is First In Texas To Certify Academic Advisers

Sam Houston State University has become the first university in Texas, and only the second nationally, for students who are pursuing a career in academic advising.

With the “blessing” of the National Academic Advising Association, SHSU is offering a post-baccalaureate, 15-hour certification program.

NACADA, housed at Kansas State University, is a professional organization to which academic advisers around the country belong. KSU is the only other university to offer the certification at this time.

SHSU’s online program will be comprised of five courses, which do not have to be taken in sequential order, that give students a more theoretical basis of academic advising. To receive certification, a student must simply take and pass all five courses; there is no certification exam.

In addition, SHSU’s certification program will add an internship component for students in the Huntsville area who don’t have advising experience to work for the university’s SAM Center, which has been used as a model for other universities.

Another attractive element of the program is that the academic advising coursework can be used as part of the educational leadership and counseling department’s master’s degree in instructional leadership, which is also completely online.

Anyone interested in the certification can apply to the program through the Graduate Studies Office as a non-degree-seeking student.

For more information, contact Anthony Harris at 936.294.1155 or edu_ajh@shsu.edu. ✭
Martin Earns Prestigious All-America Honor

Tight end Blake Martin capped an outstanding 2007 season by becoming only the third Sam Houston State football player to be recognized as a first team selection on the Associated Press All-America squad.

The senior from Hemphill joins Michael Bankston (1991) and Jonathan Cooper (2001) as the only Bearkats to be named to the Associated Press first team. In all, 11 Bearkats have now been named a first-team All-American since Sam Houston State moved up to Division I football.

“It’s an exciting honor,” Martin said. “I always wanted to be the best I could at whatever I did, and probably the only time I would have ever thought about being an All-American was when I dreamed about it in high school. But it’s nice to go from all-district in high school to all-conference and now All-American.”

The selection of Martin marks the fourth straight season the Bearkats have had a player selected as an All-American. In 2004 Paul Donelson (Sports Network, Second Team), Stephen Izevbizua (Sports Network, Second Team), Jason Mathenia (Don Hansen, Honorable Mention), and Dustin Long (Sports Network, Second Team and AP Third Team) all earned national recognition. In 2005 Corey Roberts was selected to the first team of the American Football Coaches Association, and last season Derrick Harris was an Associated Press second-team selection.

“I think that is an outstanding achievement for Blake,” SHSU head coach Todd Whitten said. “He has had a wonderful career at Sam Houston and was two time all-conference. He is the best receiving tight end I ever coached. I can’t say enough good things about him. As a program and coaching staff, we are all proud of him.”

Martin led the Bearkats with 46 catches for 561 yards in 2007 with a pair of touchdown catches. He finished his Bearkat career with 117 catches and 1,388 yards to rank 10th in all-time SHSU pass receiving yardage.

Martin, who was a first-team All-SLC selection the past two seasons, is the latest in a long line of talented Bearkatt tight ends. Ricky Eggleston, Kevin Pesak, Keith Heinrich and Corey Roberts also earned some sort of All-American honors during their playing days.

“Some of the guys before me are the ones that you see their picture hanging on the walls at the field house,” Martin added. “To now be a part of that group, it’s a great feeling. There were a lot of great players that were also All-Americans at Sam, and I’m honored to be among them.”
Finishing with five straight victories, the football team rolled up a 7 – 4 record to nail down its second consecutive Southland Conference runner-up finish, and both the soccer and volleyball squads earned SLC post-season playoff berths to highlight a successful fall for the Bearkats’ intercollegiate athletics teams.

The 7 – 4 season marked just the seventh time in Sam Houston’s 21 years of NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision play that the Bearkats have won seven or more games. Sixteen Bearkats were selected to the 2007 All-Southland honor squad.

Tight end Blake Martin, offensive lineman Brandon Hale, defensive end Chris Brown, and defensive back Byran Richmond all were first team All-SLC selections.

Tight end Blake Martin, offensive lineman Brandon Hale, defensive end Chris Brown, and defensive back Byran Richmond all were first team All-SLC selections.

All-league honors also went to running back Chris Poullard, place kicker Taylor Wilkins, linebacker Nolan Bucek, quarterback Rhett Bomar, offensive linemen Brennan Williams, Ryan Dretke, and Hunter Schmidt, defensive linemen David Branch, Jerod Brown, and Eric Mikolajchak, defensive back Carlton Cobey, and punter Michael Capparelli.

Three of the final five victories came on the road, with senior quarterback Brett Hicks leading an amazing comeback in the final game of the year on a six-state Fox Sports telecast. Down 28 – 10, the Bearkats rallied for a 29 – 28 victory over Texas State-San Marcos with Hicks throwing the winning touchdown pass on fourth-and-goal with 13 seconds remaining.

Raquel Bueno, Tofi Chavez, and Luana Miessa all were named to the All-Southland Conference women’s soccer team after leading the Bearkts to their second SLC post-season tournament bid in the five-year history of the program.

Cynthia Yarotsky, the only senior on the 2007 Sam Houston volleyball squad, was a first team All-Southland Conference selection. She led the league in kills with a total of 431 in 1398 attempts. The Bearkats lost to No. 1 seed Lamar in three games in the first round of the Southland post-season tournament.
The performances of Sam Houston State’s spring sports teams in 2007 will be hard to top in 2008. Last spring, the Bearkats produced Southland Conference championships in two sports, an all-time best finish in tennis, NCAA playoff appearances in baseball and softball, and NCAA finalists in track and field.

But with many of the stars from those successful teams returning, the outlook for spring sports success again is bright.

Sam Houston State will host two Southland Conference championship events in 2008. The Southland Outdoor Track and Field meet will be held at Bowers Stadium Friday through Sunday, May 9 – 11.

Sophomore sprinter Jessica Fisher, the Southland Conference 2007 “Freshman of the Year” and “Outstanding Female Outdoor Track Performer,” returns to lead the Bearkats. Fisher won four individual titles and was All-SLC in seven events last season.

Don Sanders Stadium at Sam Houston will host the Southland Conference baseball post-season tournament in Huntsville May 21 – 25. This year the tournament field has expanded to eight teams with the winner earning an NCAA post-season berth.

Both the baseball and softball teams won their post-season tournaments last year.

All-American outfielder Bobby Verbick and All-Conference outfielders Keith Stein and Todd Sebek and pitcher Jacob Howard return from last year’s baseball squad that rolled up a 40 – 26 record, the most victories by a Bearkat squad since 1987.

All but one starter returns in softball. Senior shortstop Tonya Hooser and designated player Mandy Huckabee and junior Brandi Crnkovic hope to return the Bearkats to the national tournament again this spring.

In golf, the Bearkat women are defending Southland Conference champions. Led by senior Jennifer Heinz and junior Wendy Joyner, the women’s golf team won two tournament titles during the fall semester. Fergal Rafferty and Brandon Frankhouser lead an improved men’s golf squad that won the team title at its final tournament of the fall.

Women’s tennis hopes to follow up its 9 – 2 runner-up performance in Southland play last year with another strong season. All-Southland Conference performers Irina Sotnikova and Peta Taylor lead the Bearkats.
Nine former Bearkat student-athletes and one former coach were recognized for their achievements by the Sam Houston Athletic SH Association at the association’s inaugural Hall of Honor Banquet, Dec. 7, at the Lowman Student Center.

The banquet marked the first women’s inductees into the Hall of Honor.

Basketball players David Amaya and Scott Horstman, golfer Jeff Bellnap, and baseball player Chris Burton were inducted into the men’s Hall of Honor.

The late Rebecca Bilsing, who coached Sam Houston’s women’s basketball, volleyball, and golf teams from 1973 until 1982, was also inducted.

The SH Association serves as an umbrella organization for both the men’s and women’s letter winners groups. Since the Sam Houston Lettermen Association initiated its Hall of Honor in 1971, 148 former Bearkat men from the sports of football, basketball, baseball, golf, and track and field have been inducted.

Members of the Women’s Letter Association executive committee selected their first inductees from a list of outstanding performers from basketball, golf, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball and track and field.

“Our inaugural SH Association Hall of Honor was a tremendous event and we are grateful for each person’s contributions to both organizations,” said Director of Athletics Bobby Williams. “This event will become one of the premier occasions on our athletic calendar.”

The 2008 SH Association Hall of Honor dinner has been set for Dec. 6.
As the senior nears graduation, he said the process has gotten a little easier, but not much. "The classes are more specialized, so that makes it more interesting to me, and I want to study and read," he said. "But at the same time, they are much more difficult classes so I am having to put a lot of time in them just to be able take in all the material."

Moments after teammate Aaron Wade made a baseline move and threw down a dunk, Bright drove the lane, went around his back, creating an open layup at the basket. That had the entire Alcorn football team on their feet jumping up and down. For the remainder of the half, Bright had his own cheering section.

"The football guys got so excited when Ryan did that," SHSU head coach Bob Marlin said after the game. "They were actually rooting for us the rest of the time they were there, and every time Ryan touched the ball they were on their feet wanting to see what he was going to do next."

"It was kind of weird," Bright said. "They were all rooting for us. I kind of felt bad for Alcorn, because they didn’t have many fans there and the ones who were there started yelling for us."

Now in his fourth season of Southland Conference play, the critics across the league haven’t exactly quieted. While some measure of respect has been earned, Bright said the heckling hasn’t died down any.

"If anything it is probably getting worse," Bright said. "They remember me from last time, and I am on the floor more. Plus if I am having a bad game they really start to get on me."

But with all of the success Bright is having on the basketball court, his real mark is being made in the classroom. The senior kinesiology major from Deer Park has always put books ahead of basketballs, and last year he was rewarded for it when he was named the Southland Conference Basketball Student Athlete of the year.

This spring he and teammate Shamir McDaniel were named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District first team. Bright advanced to be named one of 15 Academic All-Americans. The act of balancing basketball and academics had been pretty easy for Bright. He said it was something he made a point of emphasizing when he first stepped foot on the SHSU campus.

"Getting an education is first and foremost," Bright said. "That has always been the case for me. That is something I learned from my parents a long time ago. Basketball was always just a means to get an education."

Bright said there was an adjustment early on when he got to college, but he soon learned how to be successful both in the classroom and on the court.

"You just have to figure out a way to make time for the things that are important," Bright said. "Sometimes that means not doing something all of your friends are doing and just hitting the books. It is tough at times."

As the senior nears graduation, he said the process has gotten a little easier, but not much. "The classes are more specialized, so that makes it more interesting to me, and I want to study and read," he said. "But at the same time, they are much more difficult classes so I am having to put a lot of time in them just to be able take in all the material."

Ryan Bright’s hair might be the first thing you notice, but it’s his success on the court and in the classroom that’s really getting attention.

By Jason Barfield

Ryan Bright Facts:

• Southland Conference men’s basketball “Student-Athlete of the Year” in 2007
• First team All-Southland Conference selection in 2007
• 2-time First team Academic All-SLC with 3.57 grade point average
• 3-time SLC Player of the Week in 2007
• Ranked among the top 10 in the Southland in scoring (14.8 points per game), rebounds (8.1 rpg), field goal percentage (.514), and steals (1.7 spg)
• 20th Bearkat to score more than 1,000 career points (1,065)
• Dean’s List student and a member of the SHSU Student Athlete Advisory Council
• Southland Conference “Freshman of the Year” in 2005
Ragsdale, a Sam Houston State alumnus who oversaw the Burger King restaurant franchise in the Houston area for over 30 years, recently gave $1.25 million to three different programs of Sam Houston State University, which will benefit former, current and prospective students.

One million dollars is being used to establish the John R. Ragsdale Alumni Enrichment Endowment Fund to benefit the work of the Office of Alumni Relations and for a Joint Alumni Endowed Life Membership in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ragsdale. The John R. Ragsdale Enrollment Management Enrichment Endowment Fund, to provide financial assistance to the university’s Division of Enrollment Management, has been created with an additional $150,000.

Also, the Winnie Laurene Ragsdale Scholarship Endowment Fund, in honor of Ragsdale’s mother, was established with $102,500 for the education of a Sam Houston State student from Humble.

Ragsdale grew up in Humble, a happy youth with a loving and supportive family and lots of friends. He entered Sam Houston State Teachers College in the fall of 1954, and the following year he became a member of the Caballeros. The group went on to be known as Sigma Chi fraternity, and Ragsdale returned to Sam Houston State following his graduation and tour of duty in the U.S. Army, to be formally initiated into the fraternity.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in general business and a commission in the Army in 1959.

After serving active duty in the military, he and his wife, Mary Ellen, returned to Houston where he began a seven-year career with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, and he and Mary Ellen brought up their two daughters, Georgia and Laura.

In 1968, Ragsdale and his partner opened their first Burger King Restaurant. The business was successful, and at the time of Ragsdale’s retirement in 2000, they owned 23 restaurants in and around the Houston area.

In addition to being an entrepreneur, he also served on the board of directors of Klein Bank and was a major stockholder during this time.

Although Ragsdale was making tremendous strides in his professional life, he was facing a difficult time in his personal life. In 2003, following a lengthy illness, his beloved wife, Mary Ellen, died.

However, he was not to endure loneliness for very long. His high school sweetheart, Judy, and her husband had been close friends with John and Mary Ellen Ragsdale. Around the same time that Mary Ellen died, Judy lost her husband as well. They turned to each other in friendship for comfort.

Later Ragsdale and Judy began going places together, first as friends, then as a “couple,” when their newly-found interest turned into love for each other. They got married, and they now have a home on Lake Conroe where they enjoy spending time with their children, grandchildren and friends.

Ragsdale is also happy to be only about 45 minutes from Sam Houston State.
“For many years, I was busy making a living, running my business, and raising my family,” he said. “I didn’t think I had time to spend coming back to the campus. But if I had to do it all over again, I think I would find time. And from this point forward, I do believe I’ll spend more there.”

Jim Gaertner, SHSU president, thanked Ragsdale for his gift to the university.

“By tradition, our continuing mission at Sam Houston State University is to provide an opportunity for talented individuals, many of them with limited means, to transform their lives so that they can make a contribution to our world. We are grateful to John for his exceptional generosity which will assist Sam Houston State in continuing in that role,” he said.

Among the guests who were on hand for the building dedication ceremony were Ragsdale’s 94-year-old mother, Winnie Laurene Ragsdale; his wife, Judy; daughters Georgia and Laura; a large number of relatives and special friends; and old and new members of his SHSU “family.”

“During the dedication, I was thinking what a beautiful day God had provided for this special event and how my whole life has been blessed with so many old friends and new friends present at this dedication,” said Ragsdale.

“I prayed that this gift (to the university) would change, for the better, many young lives who will improve things yet to come,” he said.

“Being able to give to an institution that has such a special place in my heart has given me so much happiness,” he said.

“Financial success means very little unless you can share it with others who may need a little help along the way,” he explained. “I donated this gift in a manner that it may continue to help young people who in turn can make a positive difference in the world.”

Another gift topping $1 million has been donated to Sam Houston State University, putting the university one step closer to reaching its Capital Campaign goal.

The gift of $1.1 million from the estates of Pauline Rea Woods and Merry Mary Berry, former Texas public school teachers, is the seventh seven-figure contribution made to the university since the Share the Vision campaign began. In the university’s previous 125-year history, only four seven-figure gifts had been donated.

The funds will be divided equally between the biology and sociology programs at the university to support undergraduate and graduate scholarships.

“Making higher education accessible is a vital part of our mission,” said Jim Gaertner, president of Sam Houston State University, in accepting the gift.

“With the funds provided by the Woods and Berry estates, significant financial awards will be available to some of our brightest students for their education in biology and sociology,” he said.

Woods obtained her bachelor’s degree from Sam Houston State Teachers College and her master’s degree from Columbia University in New York City in physical education. Beginning in 1931 she taught physical education and, later, history and Spanish for 41 years in the Houston Independent School System. She died in 2000 at the age of 92.

Berry was trained as a science teacher in Oklahoma and later earned a Master of Science degree in biology at Sam Houston State in 1953. She taught high school biology and other sciences, initially in San Marcos and then for many years in the Marlin school system. She died at the age of 89 in 2006.

“At a time when costs are rising for students and so many are first-generation college bound, it will offset expenses that will be incurred by some of our most deserving students.”

—Matthew Rowe—Chair, Department of Biology
They met during World War II as volunteers in the USO club in Muskogee, Okla., where Woods was recruited as club director. They then moved on to USO clubs in Junction City, Kan. and Temple, forming what was to become a life long friendship.

Berry was engaged to a serviceman who was later killed in action during the war. Both women remained single for the rest of their lives.

While they were both still alive and doing their estate planning, Woods and Berry decided to combine their funds in order to make one single gift to Sam Houston State University.

Sam Houston State administrators expressed appreciation for the thoughtfulness of the two former educators.

“This is definitely the largest gift we’ve ever received,” said Alessandro Bonanno, chair of the sociology department. “This generous gift comes at a time when we are expanding in enrollment and size of faculty, and it will help us to grow both in quantity and quality.”

The gift to the sociology department was given in honor of Woods’ uncle and adoptive father, Ramsey M. Woods, who initiated the program and was the first teacher of sociology at the university. He taught from 1910 to 1940.

He held the titles of professor of rural education and sociology and professor of sociology and economics. The Woods Building, built in his honor, was the original location of the sociology department and criminal justice program. Woods was a long-time member of the Texas Commission for Interracial Cooperation and served as vice president, director, and executive secretary. He was known as “Daddy Woods” to generations of students.

The gift to the biology department honors James D. “Jimmie” Long, professor emeritus of biology and former director of the department. The funds were added to the James D. Long Biology Endowment Fund, already in existence. Long was a longtime friend of both Woods and Berry.

“This gift will double the amount of scholarship funds we will now be able to award our students,” said Matthew Rowe, chair of the biology department.

“At a time when costs are rising for students and so many are first-generation college bound, it will offset expenses that will be incurred by some of our most deserving students,” Rowe said.

“It’s a fantastic gift and a wonderful testimony to the influence that one of the members of our program had on these two ladies,” he said.

The Long Endowment was established in 2001 by Long’s friends to honor him and his contributions to SHSU and the profession of biology as education, teacher, researcher, and professional biologist. Funds from the endowment are used to provide scholarships and support for student research projects in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Long met the Woods family as a first year graduate student at Sam Houston State Teachers College when he rented a room from Mabel Prentice Woods, Pauline’s aunt and adoptive mother, in 1951. Professor Woods had died in 1940.

At the time, Pauline had been teaching in Houston for 20 years. She would come to Huntsville almost every weekend to visit her mother and was often joined by her friend, Mary. They developed a friendship with Long, often referring to him as their “adopted brother.” As experienced teachers, they encouraged Long throughout his studies at Sam Houston State and later when he moved to Austin to complete his doctorate at the University of Texas.

Over the years, Long remained close to the two ladies. Following their retirements from teaching, Pauline and Mary spent their final years in assisted living facilities and nursing homes in Houston, where Long continued the friendship as a frequent guest. He ultimately arranged funerals for both Pauline and Mary.

“Dr. Long encouraged them to remember Sam Houston State University in their giving plans, and the generous gifts to the biology and sociology departments are the result of this life long friendship,” said Andrew Dewees, former chair of the biology department.

“The university is indebted to Ms. Woods and Ms. Berry for their generosity and to Dr. Long for his many years of service to Sam Houston State University,” he said. ✾
Although Sam Houston State doesn’t keep statistics on how many family members attend and graduate from the university, it is possible that the Sowers family may hold the record for the most Bearkats to come through campus.

For more than 50 years, from the late 1920s through the 1980s, 24 individuals in the family were enrolled as students. One Sowers even went on to serve as an administrator at Sam Houston State.

The Sowers family has its roots in the Piney Woods of East Texas, where J.B. and Fannie Sowers were bringing up their four sons and three daughters on a Houston County farm near Weldon before the Depression hit.

Although she had never been to college, Fannie always stressed the importance of a college education to her children. In fact, it was so important to her that she and Pappa Sowers made the decision to move the entire family close to Huntsville so the children could attend Sam Houston State Teachers College.

In 1928 the family loaded up all their belongings in a wagon and moved to a farm near town. Each Sowers child who started college literally followed in the footsteps of
the older sibling who had gone before—they all walked to and from campus to attend class. Along the route, they sold vegetables grown on the family farm to finance their education.

Cullen Sowers was the first to graduate. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture in 1931. He went on to serve as Sam Houston’s registrar and later as the dean of the graduate school at East Texas State.

His younger brother, Morris, graduated next in 1933 with a bachelor’s degree in physical education. He played football and was an all-conference basketball player at Sam Houston. His teammates gave him the nickname “Tree Top” because he was 6 feet 6 inches tall, which was quite unusual at the time. His wife, Woodie Dell Hale, attended Sam Houston and earned a Bachelor of Science degree. Morris also received a Master of Education degree from Texas A&M University.

Their sister, Jessye, graduated in 1935 with a bachelor’s degree in history.

Brother Sam received his Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture in 1940. He joined the Coast Guard and served in World War II. When the war was over, he returned to Sam Houston and completed his master’s degree in agriculture education in 1948. He married Ida West who also attended Sam Houston.

Sister Glyn Nell graduated with a bachelor’s degree in home economics in 1941.

Brother George received his bachelor’s degree in science in 1946, after serving in World War II. George’s son, Howard, received his degree in agriculture.

Another sister, Lily Belle, received a teaching certificate from Sam Houston. She married Fritz McPhail, also a Sam Houston graduate.

Norma Rives and Sara Cole, the daughters of Morris Sowers and his wife, Woodie, were recently at Sam Houston State University for a visit. Both daughters are Bearkats, as well as Sara’s husband, Donald Cole. They had many good memories about campus life from their college days.

“We always knew about Sam Houston State from our earliest days because both our parents went to school here,” Norma said.

“Our father was a Sam Houston athlete, and we would come to campus for homecoming and other events when he would be honored,” she said. “We grew up attending special events at Sam Houston.”

“Dad’s niece, Glyda McPhail McCullough, was the daughter of his sister Lily Belle,” said Sara. “Glyda had also attended Sam Houston and was the nursing supervisor at the health clinic on campus during the 1950s.”

Glyda and her husband, James “Pete” McCullough (also a Sam Houston graduate), lived in the back of the clinic. They had a son, Charles Morris—named after Norma and Sara’s father—who received his degree from Sam Houston State in 1985.

“We came to campus to visit them from time to time when we were growing up,” Sara said. “Although we didn’t live in the area, we were in Huntsville a lot because of family ties.”

When the Sowers family got together, the Sam Houston connection was often the main topic of conversation.

“The adults talked about their college days and things going on at Sam Houston all the time—non-stop,” laughed Norma. “Because, in addition to the brothers and sisters who attended, their spouses, children and grandchildren had either attended or were attending as well.”

“They enjoyed talking about different professors and their memories of the Estill Building,” said Sara. “Our mother’s graduation picture was taken on the steps of the Estill Building, so we knew the significance of that building to her when we were very young.”
Morris also inspired a sense of Bearkat pride in the girls as they were growing up.

"Dad’s Sam Houston class ring was very special to him," said Sara. "He always wore it, except for the time he had to send it off to be re-cast, because the cast had worn away."

As the girls were growing up, they had the opportunity to see just how much their parents valued their education at Sam Houston.

"Both our parents influenced many of their students to attend Sam Houston State," said Sara. "They were very proud of the Sam Houston tradition and wanted it to continue."

When Norma and Sara finished high school, they said it wasn’t hard at all for them to decide which college to attend. "Both our parents were teachers, and they encouraged us to go to Sam Houston," said Norma.

There was one time during the mid-1960s when four of the Sowers cousins were enrolled in Sam Houston at the same time.

Sam Sowers and his wife, Ida, had three daughters—Ann (Anderson), Mary Jane (Bradley) and Linda (Frazee)—born within 29 months of each other. They all attended Sam Houston when Sara did.

"There were three of us in Martha Ann Turner’s Literature of the Southwest class," Sara said. "She called us Sowers No. 1, Sowers No. 2 and Sowers No. 3."

Although Ann later graduated from the University of Texas, Mary Jane and Linda both received their bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Sam Houston. Linda additionally earned a Ph.D. at the University of Colorado.

The family members had many similar experiences while they were Bearkats, but Norma had one college experience that is unique only to her. She went to the beloved Tripod’s funeral.

"I was the only member of the Sowers family who attended," she said proudly.

Because of their parents’ influence, both Norma and Sara chose careers in teaching, and both received their bachelor’s and master’s degrees in elementary education from Sam Houston State. Norma taught 38 years in Galena Park and Liberty, and Sara taught a total of eight years in the Houston, Spring Branch and Cypress-Fairbanks Districts.

Following the example set by their parents, Norma and Sara encouraged their students to attend Sam Houston State, even though their students were elementary school age. Norma’s son, Michael Rives, also attended.

"When I was teaching, I would take pictures of the campus to my classroom to show the children and tell them about my college," Norma said.

Although it has been awhile since a direct member of the family has been enrolled as a student at Sam Houston State University, it’s possible that someone whose last name is or was Sowers guided some current students directly or indirectly to the SHSU campus.

Sam taught science and agriculture in Wortham, Mexia, and Texas City and was an administrator at the Mexia State School and in Texas City. During his time in Wortham and Mexia, he assisted farmers with soil conservation, crop rotation, and insect control.

"He was a man who appreciated the value of education and shared this value with his family, his friends, and his students," said his daughter, Mary Jane.

"Through the years, my sisters and I often heard our dad’s former students say, ‘Mr. Sowers turned my life around,’ or ‘I would never have gone to college without your encouragement,’" she said. "The education he received from Sam Houston State inspired him to help others."

Sara had a similar experience remembering her parents.

"Sam Houston is a great university! Many memories are reflected from the past. It is an honorable tribute that the Sowers family is part of its history."
Five Sam Houston State University graduates who have brought pride to the university through their contributions to business, humanitarian efforts, the medical profession, and public service were honored as Distinguished Alumni on Oct. 19 as part of the university’s 2007 homecoming festivities.

Kemper Crabb

Kemper Crabb received his Bachelor of Science degree in physical education in 1954 and his Master of Science degree in education three years later, both from Sam Houston State.

He spent 30 years in education as a coach, athletic director, and professor of kinesiology. He and his wife Tommye, also a Sam Houston graduate, brought up their family in San Antonio.

However, at a time in life when most people are reflecting upon their past accomplishments and settling into a time of relaxation, something unexpected happened to Crabb. After a business trip to India, he felt called to return to the impoverished streets of that country to try to make life better for its needy citizens.

In 1994 at the of 62, he organized the Order of Servants of the King, a charity organization that builds churches, schools, orphanages and hospitals in remote areas of foreign countries. His primary emphasis has been in India, Nepal and Uganda.

His organization is responsible for the establishment of 845 churches, 22 orphanages, three leprosy hospitals, 60 schools and one seminary school in India and Nepal.

His efforts are now focused upon Uganda, where Servants of the King expect to complete over 400 churches, two orphanages, one AIDS hospital, 20 schools and one seminary school this year.

Crabb has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times, once by Mother Teresa, for his missionary work.
Melinda Estes

San Antonio native Melinda L. Estes, M.D., has served as president and chief executive officer of Vermont’s Fletcher Allen Health Care, a 562-bed facility whose 6,000 employees provide care to nearly one million people in Vermont and northern New York, since 2003.

She also serves as a clinical professor in the Department of Pathology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine in Burlington.

Estes received the Bachelor of Science degree from Sam Houston State University in 1974, majoring in biology with a minor in chemistry. She received her medical degree from the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston in 1978, where she graduated magna cum laude.

She completed an internship at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas and a residency in neurology at UTMB in Galveston. She also was a neuropathology fellow at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation and completed special training in pediatric neuropathology at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

In 1995, she earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Management in Cleveland, Ohio.

Prior to joining Fletcher Allen, Estes served as chief executive officer, chief medical officer, and chair of the Board of Governors of Cleveland Clinic Florida. She was also the executive director of business development at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation and the executive vice president and chief of staff for the MetroHealth System, both in Ohio.

She was honored with the YWCA Career Woman of Achievement Award and was recently given the American College of Healthcare Executives-Vermont Regents’ Special Recognition Award.

Estes is married to Harold H. Morris III, M.D., and they are the parents of two daughters, Megan and Sarah.

Roger Lawrence

Roger D. Lawrence’s name is synonymous with the highly acclaimed banking program at Sam Houston State University.

Lawrence received a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology with a minor in business from Sam Houston State in 1969, and later graduated with a Master of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M University.

He is a huge supporter of the banking program at SHSU, especially the internships. Over two-thirds of his staff have graduated from SHSU, and he has been instrumental in fundraising as another means of support. The Smith-Hutson Endowed Chair of Banking at the university boasts one of the finest technological classrooms to be found anywhere and it is appropriately named the Roger D. Lawrence Banking Center.

Lawrence’s career in banking for over 40 years has spanned positions from clerk to chairman. In addition to his experience in suburban banks, he has almost 15 years of experience in larger holding company banks.

He retired from Citizens Bank as chairman of the board/president/CEO at the end of 2001 after 15 years of service. During his time at Citizens Bank, he took a small rural bank of approximately $20 million in assets to over $125 million in assets in three locations.

Today he serves as chairman and CEO of Texas Community Bank—a bank he chartered in 2002 along with three other individuals—in The Woodlands. The bank began operations on Sept. 10, 2002, and has since grown into a $210 million institution. He also formed TCB Holding Company in 2005.

Lawrence is married to the former Angela Allen who is also a Sam Houston State graduate.
Cecil N. Neely

After one exceptional career in the military, Cecil Neely was primed to continue public service in a second distinguished career.

Neely came to Sam Houston in 1953 from Madison County. After completing approximately 90 hours at Sam Houston State, he enlisted in the United States Army as a private and rose to the rank of brigadier general during the 29 years he served.

He holds the nation’s highest peacetime award, the Distinguished Service Medal. He also received the Bronze Star for valor in Vietnam, as well as the Combat Infantryman’s Badge, the Parachutists’ Badge and numerous other U. S. and foreign awards.

He was a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and served as Nation’s Duty Officer for the President of the United States and the Secretary of Defense.

During the time he was enlisted, he completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Nebraska and earned the Master of Arts degree in history from Sam Houston State.

After his retirement from the military, Neely began a second career in public service. In 1995, he returned to his Texas roots and took the role of county judge for Madison County.

Neely has also been a member of the Brazos Valley Council of Governments since 1994, serving as chairman for two years. The regional planning council covers a seven-county area providing services in the areas of health, housing, assistance to the elderly, and public safety planning.

He and his family have supported Sam Houston State University through the establishment of scholarship endowments for the College of Business Administration, and Neely has served as a member of the board of directors for the SHSU Alumni Association.

Neely and his wife, Lynn Hardy Neely, who received her Master of Education degree from Sam Houston, are the parents of three children—Susan, Russell and Michael.

Peter Bell, Outstanding Young Alumnus 2007

A young entrepreneur who took a small company and developed it into a major corporation to help life return to normal for victims following a catastrophe has been named the Outstanding Young Alumnus for Sam Houston State University.

Peter Bell of Houston received the Bachelor of Business Administration degree from SHSU in 1993.

At the age of 26, while working in the restoration industry, Bell had the opportunity to start his own company. His plan was to modernize the old services, which were being used in the restoration business while focusing on improving customer service at the same time.

The new venture was named Cotton USA and has evolved into a national disaster recovery business that specializes in catastrophe management, fire and water restoration services, commercial construction, and environmental remediation.

Bell’s company began with a staff of four employees in Houston. Today, Cotton USA has offices in eight states and conducts business throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean Islands, and employs more than 400 people. In its brief history, Cotton USA has twice been named one of the top 100 privately held companies making the greatest impact on Houston.

In March 2007, the company was purchased by Charys Holding Company; however, Cotton retains its name and brand as well as its leadership, and Bell continues to serve as president.

Bell has also established two real estate capitalist venture groups, which purchases and develops land primarily in Texas. In honor of his alma mater, Bell named the groups Sam Houston Ventures and Bearkat Ventures.

He and his wife Jill Miller-Bell, also a graduate of Sam Houston State, support a number of philanthropic causes. They created the Cotton Foundation, which is dedicated to helping children restore their lives after illness, injury or catastrophic events. The organization has also reached out to help victims of Hurricane Katrina.

He has supported Sam Houston State through giving, time, and continuously marketing and promoting the university. He has hired many Sam Houston graduates over the years and currently has many working in key management roles for his company. 🌟
Governor Appoints Two Grads to Board of Regents

Sam Houston alumni Charlie Amato of San Antonio and Ron Blatchley of Bryan are among the newest members of the Texas State University System Board of Regents. They were appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry in 2007, and their terms will expire Feb. 1, 2013.

In addition to Amato and Blatchley, SHSU graduate Trisha Pollard serves on the board as well as student regent Magdalena Manzano.

Amato is co-owner and chairman of Southwest Business Corporation. He is also chairman of the University of the Incarnate Word Board of Trustees, and past chairman of Christus Santa Rosa Health Care Corporation and the Sam Houston State University School of Business Advisory Council.

Amato is a board member and past chairman of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the University of Texas at San Antonio Development Board. He received a bachelor’s degree from Sam Houston State University in 1970.

Blatchley is co-owner of BMB Homes, a residential construction company. He is a former mayor and city council member for the City of Bryan. He has worked in higher education for more than 20 years, which includes serving as director of student affairs at Texas A&M University and director of student activities at North Texas State University.

Blatchley received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education in 1968 and 1969 from Sam Houston State University.

TSUS’s eight component institutions include Lamar Institute of Technology; Lamar State College-Orange; Lamar State College-Port Arthur; Lamar University; Sam Houston State University; Sul Ross State University; Rio Grande College; and Texas State University-San Marcos. ⭐

Alumni Association Offers Naming Opportunities

The John R. Ragsdale Visitor and Alumni Center is an attractive point of entry for prospective students upon their first arrival on the campus, and it serves to welcome alumni as they return to their alma mater for visits.

The building is named in honor of a Sam Houston State University graduate whose generous gift, in addition to providing scholarships, allowed for the establishment of an Alumni Association permanent endowment to support programs and activities.

John Ragsdale’s thoughtful act has inspired a campaign with naming opportunities within the Alumni Level for donors. With a special gift to Sam Houston State University you can create a lasting tribute to yourself or a loved one.

Contributions will be endowed to create a permanent fund to support Alumni Association programs, activities and initiatives to engage alumni with the university.

Naming opportunities will be reserved in the order in which the gift commitments are received, and an initial gift payment of at least 20 percent is required to reserve a naming opportunity. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by federal law.

Donors may complete their gift commitment over five years. Gifts will be counted as contributions to the university’s Share the Vision capital campaign.

For additional information about naming opportunities for the Alumni Association Endowment Campaign contact the SHSU Office of Alumni Relations at (936) 294-1841. ⭐

Gift levels are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gift Level</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Board Room</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Plaza</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lobby Area</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director’s Office</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Director’s Office</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Event Coordinator’s Office</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant’s Office</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multipurpose Room</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concourse</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall of Honor (Listing of Donors)</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From left: Ron Blatchley, Trisha S. Pollard, Charlie Amato and Magdalena Manzano

Lamar State College-Orange; Lamar State College-Port Arthur; Lamar University; Sam Houston State University; Sul Ross State University; Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College; and Texas State University-San Marcos. ⭐
Upcoming Alumni Events

Tuesday, March 18
Austin Area Alumni and Friends
Serrano’s Mexican Restaurant
Austin

Tuesday, April 1
Official Ring Ceremony
SHSU Austin Hall Grounds
Huntsville

Saturday, April 12
Alumni Legacy Golf Tournament
and Crawfish Boil
High Meadow Ranch Golf Club
Magnolia

Friday, April 18
Service Awards Luncheon
Lowman Student Center Ballroom—SHSU
Huntsville

Thursday, May 22
Washington and Austin County Alumni
and Friends
The Welcome Store
Brenham

Wednesday, May 28
Houston Area Alumni and
Friends Reception and Show
The Alley Theatre
Houston

Tuesday, June 24
Astros vs. Texas Rangers
Minute Maid Park
Houston

For more information, visit the SHSU Office of Alumni Relations Web site at http://alumni.shsu.edu or call (936) 294-1841.

2008 Alumni Board

Walter Bennett, Jr.  
President

John Hoyt, Jr.  
1st Vice President

Ed Owens, Jr.  
2nd Vice President

Barbara Bright  
Secretary

Jack Compton, Jr.  
Treasurer

John McManners  
Past President

George Buckow, Jr.  

Chester Crawford  

Marta Edwards  

Allen Fletcher  

Gloria Gilbert  

Marie Hayden  

Sara Kelly  

Ron Koska  

Jack Kyle  

Susan Lenamon  

Dianne MacKenzie  

Charles Mallery  

Scott McCarley  

Jerry McGinty II  

Jill Myatt  

Kirby Nash  

Dennis Reed  

Kenneth Ross  

Linda Rushing  

Richard Rydzeski  

Summer Sanford  

Sonny Sikes  

Michael Sizemore  

Marcus Stephenson, Sr.  

Alan Tinsley  

Mary Ellen Thornton  

Brian VanDelist  

Robert Wallace  

Don Ward  

Frank Holmes  

Ex Officio

Charlie Vienne  

Ex Officio

Over 50 Sam Houston State University alumni and friends attended a dinner at the historic Waldorf-Astoria in New York City on Dec. 7. The evening included an update on the university by President Jim Gaertner.
The society ($2,500 and more) commemorates Texas’ greatest hero and the university’s namesake. It is comprised of four associates’ categories, according to donors’ levels of giving. All members receive invitations to a special program held annually.

The President’s Associates ($25,000 or more)

Anonymous  
The 100 Club, Inc.  
Akagi Forque Instrumental Endowment  
The Alpert Family Foundation  
Robert and Hillary Alpert  
American Society for Industrial Security  
Dan R. and Donna L. Beto  
Ronald B. and Ruth Blatchley  
Rodney L. and Cheryl Byrd  
CBS News  
King K. and Judy C. Cole  
Haldor R. Conwell  
Dow Chemical Company Foundation  
M. B. Etheredge  
ExxonMobil Foundation  
Financial Tools  
GHS Foundation  
Russell D. and Glenda J. Gordy  
Greater Texas Foundation  
Joe L. “Bud” and Joan Haney  
Hewlett-Packard Employee Charitable Giving Program  
Houston Endowment Inc.

Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo  
Ethel May Johnson Estate  
Agnes Latchaw Estate  
Ron Mafrige  
G. Scott and Mary S. McCarley  
Joyce McCauley  
E. Mcelveen Moore  
Murphy Payne Charitable Trust  
Foster E. and Mary Murphy  
Profiles International, Inc.  
John R. and Judith A. Ragdale  
Edgar A. and Carolyn L. Reeves  
Joe B. and Winnie M. Sandel  
Don A. and Chris Sanders  
Edwin G. and Genevieve W. Sandhop  
Texas Educational Foundation  
Texas Pioneer Foundation  
W. T. “Tom” and Lou Thweatt, Jr.  
Carrie Herren Tomlinson Estate  
Weller Family Trust  
Carol H. and Joseph M. Weller  
S.C. Wilson Estate  
Miriam York Estate

The General’s Associates ($10,000 to $24,999)

Anonymous  
Abbott Laboratories Fund  
Anadarko Petroleum Corporation  
BASF Corporation  
Charles and Wanda Beckner  
Karey Patterson Brezenhan  
Earl H Burrough Trust  
Ruth M. Cady  
CEV Multimedia, LTD.  
William K. and Marilyn A. Dabaghi  
Thomas F. and Patty Sue Davis  
Glenda L. Dawson  
Rolando V. and Josefa del Carmen  
Geraldine and Wilburn D. Dickerson  
Fisher Tull Endowed Scholarship Fund  
David E. and Dolores A. Haralson  
John F. and Teresa Harris  
Willie and J. J. Head  
The Sam Houston Foundation  
Houston TSCPA Foundation  
International Society for Technology in Education  
Preston and Joslen Johnson  
Ronald D. Johnson  
Walter E. Johnson  
Joint & Spine Center, P.C.

Charles W. and Lina Z. Jones  
Leonard and Marlene Keeling  
Ronald P. and Donna Koska  
KPMG Peat Marwick Foundation  
Roger D. and Angela A. Lawrence  
Frank P. and Lyndall F. Leathers  
Benjamin R. and Susan S. Lenamon  
Charles T. and Ann C. Mallery  
Lee E. and Elizabeth B. Olm  
Randy D. and Trisha S. Pollard  
Jeffrey L. and Simeon L. Pruski  
Paul and Jan Reed  
Region 5 Education Service Center  
Marjorie B. and Harley E. Rex  
San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Inc.  
J. Byron and Charlene D. Sandel  
Rand L. and Karen Schleusener  
Miles L. and Gaynelle B. Schulze  
L. N. “Sonny” and Joanne Nussbaum Sikes  
The Summerlee Foundation  
Texas Community Bank  
ThermoEnergy Corporation  
United Technologies  
William J. and Lois A. Walstead  
Gary L. and Pamela A. Whitlock  
R. Tracy and Leesa Williams
Giving Societies

Giving societies recognize donors’ exceptional giving that meets annual, special project, endowment, capital, and scholarship needs of the university. Listings are for gifts made between September 1, 2006, and August 31, 2007. Unpaid pledges are not included.
The Old Main Society
($1,250 to $2,499)

The society commemorates the historic significance of the building that was completed in 1890 and destroyed by fire in 1982. Revered as a traditional symbol of the university, its foundation footprint is maintained.

A T & T
Randee B. Johnson and
Sue J. Ashmore-Johnson
Leroy and Myrna Ashorn
Thomas A. and Jean Babcock
William A. Bartlett
BDO Seidman, LLP
Lyndel N. and Linda S. Beene
Danny R. Billingsley
BKD, LLP - Houston
Edward F. and Nicole Blackburne
Bracewell & Giuliani
Jerry S. and Ann B. Brannen
Brook Place
Sam H. and Judy S. Burris
Marilyn M. and David M. Butler
Ronald D. and Melissa Carroll
Charlie’s Used Cars, Inc.
Clark Consulting
Donald Anthony Cole and Sara Sowers Cole
Charles and Sherry Cox
Rowe E. and Marjane W. Creager
D’Anne M. Crews
Michael J. and Nancy L. Czerwinski
Jeffrey C. and Yasmine G. Daugherty
James and Ruth DeShaw
Dinero Investments, Inc.
Ronald L. Earl
Marta and Bruce Edwards
Entergy Corporation
Rudy R. and Vicki Fernandez
First National Bank of Killearn
First Victoria National Bank - Victoria
The Arthur J. Gallagher Foundation
Glyn and Marty Gilliam
Karen A. and William R. Gray
William B. and Diane J. Green
Edward R. and Patricia H. Griffiths
Bobby G. and Linda A. Grisham
Willie Frank Hall and Virginia Hall Trust
Halliburton Foundation Inc.
Harry T. Hambleton III
Heartfield Florist
Jaimie L. and Kelly S. Hebert
Tom and Lynda Henry
Kenneth J. and Nicole D. Holland
E. Brent and Victoria Hughes
Huntsville Pediatric & Internal Medicine Associates
Integrated Compliance Solutions
Keefe, Bruyette & Woods
Gary L. and Amy R. Krone
Jack D. and Mary C. Kyle
John and Nancy Larkin
Michel T. Leonte
Cynthia A. and Paul A. Loeffler
Michael A. Lytle USA (Ret)
Bobby K. and Colleen M. Marks

Becky Nell Martin-Dunlap
Charles R. and Julia F. Matthews
Kevin R. and Lisa McKenzie
McKenzie’s Barbeque - McKenzie’s Burgers & Fries
John A. and Geanie L. McManners
Mannie Bea Medford
Pamela A. and Max L. Mejia
Stacey and Brian T. Michalik
Jimmy and Lindy Miller
Janet L. and Bruce K. Misamore
M. Doug and Pamela J. Moore
Valerie P. Muehsam
John J. and Margaret J. Murray
Kerry G. Murray
Murski’s Ice House
Emil and Florence Nakfoor
Fawzi M. Noman
Occidental Petroleum Charitable Foundation
Patricia M. and Hugh O’Kane
James S. and Judith Olson
William J. Osher
Ana and Mark Palmer
Frank E. and Carol H. Parker
Jack C. and Ruth Lynn Parker
Physical Therapy Associates
Walter E. and Phyllis A. Pinegar
Gordon A. and Mary F. Pfishker
Thomas S. Raguse
Frank J. Robinson
Hope Robinson
Margaret L. and Bennie D. Rush
Billy A. Smith, Jr.
Billy A. and Kathy L. Smith
W. Marcus and Deilah Mixon Stephenson
Stevenson Beer Distributing Co.
W. A. & Edna Leake Stubblefield Estate
Texas Capital Bank
The Texas State University System
Bonnie Thorne
James L. and Tamera D. Threadgill
April D. Timm and Daniel R. Wynn
Claude H. and Lily Townsend
Van Kampen American Capital
Convertible Securities Fund
E. Don and Denise Walker
Robert H. and Ami L. Wallace
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
William K. and Elizabeth R. Wheeler
Mark F. and Cristel Whitaker
Ray O. and Michele L. Whittington
Wiesner of Huntsville
Roddy R. and Margie Wiley
Bobby and Janet Williams
James I. Wood
Gibbs A. and Lela M. Wynne Trust
The Austin Hall Society
($750 to $1,249)

The society commemorates the oldest building on campus that was dedicated in 1851 for Austin College with Sam Houston in attendance. A group of Huntsville citizens acquired the building and contributed it to the state in 1879 to open Sam Houston Normal Institute.
The Harry F. Estill Society  
($500 to $749)

This society commemorates the university leader who served as president for 29 years, longer than anyone in Sam Houston State history. Among his many achievements, the curriculum was expanded, and the first baccalaureate degree was awarded in 1919.

Harriett I. Smith  
Jeannine B. and Isaac S. Smith  
Karen S. and Guy V. Smith  
William G. and Ruth P. Smith  
Sonic Drive In  
Jack S. and Kathleen Staggs  
R. Dana Steigerwald  
Sterling Bank  
Robb M. and Susan Stevenson  
Bradley S. and Sandy A. Stewart  

Mary E. Stiles  
Thomas G. and Claudette M. Stone  
A. Doyle and Edloe Stuckey  
Suburban Megamerica Mortgage, Inc.  
SunTrust Banks, Inc.  
Texas Association for Play Therapy  
The Farmhouse Cafe  
Harriett I. Smith  
Jeannine B. and Isaac S. Smith  
Karen S. and Guy V. Smith  
William G. and Ruth P. Smith  
Sonic Drive In  
Jack S. and Kathleen Staggs  
R. Dana Steigerwald  
Sterling Bank  
Robb M. and Susan Stevenson  
Bradley S. and Sandy A. Stewart  

3M Foundation  
Leah J. and John Allen  
Alpha Phi Sigma  
Ricky L. and Fay Altman  
Elsie and Steve Ameen  
Baker Hughes Foundation  
Katharine H. and Larry Barker  
Nelda Barton  
Paul and Beth (Smith) Bartush  
Mark A. and Jennifer S. Beedlow  
Jerald H. and Judith A. Beene  
Brian K. and Denise W. Bennett  
Walter H. and Cynthia A. Bennett  
Connie F. Billingsley  
BKD, LLP - Springfield, MO  
Nora M. and Fred H. Blundell  
Leonard G. Breen and Mary E. Robbins  
Conrell and Glenda Brown  
Wayne H. and Joyce Brown  
Bethlyn Burditt  
Alton and Dorothy Burgess*  
Charles L. Calvit  
ChevronTexaco Matching Gift Program  
Chicago Sky, WNBA  
Texas Society Children of the American Revolution  
Thomas Tolbert and Carrie Chisum  
Lucy T. Cleaver  
William P. Clements, Jr.  
Dustin C. Cole  
Thomas J. Cooper and Sherry B. McPhee-Cooper  
Ann Copeland  
Lee F. Courtney  
Lee and Martha W. Cox  
Mrs. William Crnkovic  
Al S. and Jewell F.* Culberson  
Charles and Elsie L. Czerwinski  
Ginny A. Davis  
Wesley and Louiza Deskin  
Knight E. and Beverly B. Doggett  
Douglas J. and Dee Dee Dretke  

Richard H. and Michelle R. Ward  
Elaine B. Weisenhorn  
Randy and Pam Wells  
Ricky C. and Janis H. White  
Byron and Elsie Whitmarsh  
James F. and Elizabeth Wiggins  
Howard H. Witsma  
Woodforest National Bank  
Jerry L. Zamzow  

Erma B. Eberlan  
Robert G. and Patricia J. Ernst  
Carole T. Faig  
Janet B. and Frank K. Fair  
Jerry W. and Angela F. Fannin  
Virginia W. Fanta  
Carolyn L. Faulk  
Timothy S. and Grace Feng  
William A. and Linda Fick  
Fidelity Foundation  
Terri L. Foster  
Gordon A. and Lynn M. Franzen  
Donald G. Freeman  
Laverne L. and Eduardo Garcia  
Ron and Terri Gay  
J. Philip Gibbs, Jr. Trust  
Goerdel’s Country Meat Market  
Martin R. and Billie Kay Gold  
Frederic A. and Gretchen A. Gottschalk  
Roger D. and Gena L. Hanagriff  
John D. and Elisabeth L. Hardin  
Dwayne A. and Mary R. Harrison  
Sharon T. and Thomas L Hart  
Richard A. (Rick) and Maud Ella Hartley  
David A. Hayob  
Kip Herriage  
Leland and Brenda Hill  
Hillcrest Ford Lincoln Mercury Inc.  
Arleah B. Hillegeist  
Robert J. Hoatson  
Randall R. and Jacqueline R. Hodges  
John W. Holcombe  
Morris A. and JoAnna Holiday  
Glendon M. and Jennie M. Hollis  
Errington M. and Nancy B. Holt  
John R.* and Katherine M. Holt  
William Hunter Holt  
Huntsville Lion’s Club  
Huntsville Livestock Services, Inc.  
James W. and Andrea C. Jenkins  
Thomas P. and Lisa Karlok
Anonmous  
Pamela D. Adair  
Gary W. and Jill H. Adams  
Dicki L. Alston  
American International Group, Inc.  
Harlin and Carolyn Anderson  
Matthew S. Anderson and  
Jennifer A. Gessner-Anderson  
Rowena R. and Alvin Anderson  
Sheri L. Armour  
Corey and Christina Armstead  
Allen and Donna Artho  
David S. and Mary Bain  
Bank of America Student Banking  
Christina S. Barrera  
James A. and Trinell Barrum  
Aaron W. and Jennifer L. Bayles  
Bayou City Breakfast Club  
Michael J. and Debra G. Beal  
Mitchell J. Muehsam  
David and Leah Mulligan  
Janet L. and Edward J. Mullings  
My Sports Dreams  
Michael K. Nikkel  
Samira M. Noman  
Oneok Foundation, Inc.  
Opti-Flow LLC  
Helen R. and Joseph H. Park  
Party Props, Inc.  
Charlie J. and Virginia Pavlovsky  
M. Howard and Diane B. Payne  
Ralph G. and Charlotte H. Peil  
John L. and Nita K. Pessarra  
Pfizer Foundation  
J. M.* and Liberty Pollard  
Ed Quade  
R S H Trucking, Inc  
Lin C. and James Rahe  
William A. and Elizabeth Rampmeier  
Ronald J. and Margie Randleman  
Charles B. and Susan L. Randolph  
Robert F. and Beth Rangel  
Daniel L. and Cassie A. Rathe  
Glen R. and Norma A. Reader  
Randall L. and Sherry D. Reed  
Resource Protection Management, L. P.  
Donald M. and Shirley E. Rose  
Melvin R. and Gail W. Rother  
James E. Rowden  
SBC Foundation  
James R. and Frances M. Sharpless  
Carol and Doug Shaw  
Preston D. and Dianne R. Sides  
Southwest Meat Foundation  
Edna Stachey  
Billy D. and Priscilla Steele  
Kurt and Glynna Stevenson  
John T. Stiles  
Tandy Brands Accessories, Inc  
Nina Parks Tate  
David W. and Laura Theis  
Wade K. Tidwell  
William H. and Margaret Tidwell  
Tri County Republican Women of Texas  
Douglas R. and Johanna G. Ullrich  
Union Pacific Corporation  
Robert and Rebecca Von Der Au  
Wachovia Corporation  
John M. and Harriet F. Wainwright  
Thomas W. and Leigh A. Watson  
Vincent and Elizabeth Webb  
Cynthia Weeks  
Toby Wertheim  
Jay K. Whatley  
Douglas L. White and  
Teresa R. Montgomery-White  
Kirk Wickline  
Brad G. and Charlene M. Williams  
Jerry S. and Debra L. Wilmoth  
Christopher Wilson  
Maxine Wilson  
The Woodlands Cycling Club  
Pamela J. Zelbst  
Todd A. and Ann J. Zuspan  

The Mallon-Smith Founders Society  
($250-$499)  
This society commemorates the dedication and sacrifices of establishing Sam Houston Normal Institute. Bernard Mallon, the first president, died 11 days after classes began on October 10, 1879. Hildreth H. Smith took over and guided the college until 1881.
The Anniversary Society

($127 to $249)

This society recognizes donors who contribute one dollar for each year of the university’s existence during the past academic year. On September 1, 2007, the minimum gift requirement for society listing increased one dollar to $128 for the university’s 128 years of service.

Anonymous
Christie and Jeffery Abel
Roger D. and Toni Abshire
Donald L. and Adele Adams
Mark C. Adams
Mary Ella and Roland C. Adams
Robert Adams and
Helena Halmari Adams
Robert L. and Stephanie Adams
Mary Ella and Roland C. Adams
Virgil H. and Evelyn Y. Adams
Ana Maria T. Aguirre
Linda M. Albright
Bobby E. and Janis Alexander

L. Richard and Pam Westerburg
Vonda N. and George Whisman
David L. and Susan Horak White
Doyle M. and Kimberly L. Willey
Charles D. and Wanda C. Williams
Justin Williams and Jennifer Pontius
Pamela E. Williams
L. Wayne and Ruth Wilpitz
Jimmy D. and Cynthia J. Wilson
Nancy Perkins Wilson and Ben F. Wilson
Larry W. and Peggy S. Winkelmann
Nathan R. Winkelmann

Cecil E. and Elva Berg
Elaine M. and Michael Bergman
Jesus S. Bernal
Julianne B. and Gerald R. Betty
Denise Smith Bickel and
David A. Bickel
Geoffrey A. and Penni Biehl
Robert E. and Jean L. Biles
Kenneth R. and Stacey J. Bill
Steven and Ursel L. Billings
D. Marlin and Deborah Birdwell
Kenneth E. Birkner
Rhonda S. and Lyle Bitter
Bill P. and Janis H. Blalock
Bernard and Stella Blanchard

Blue Bell Creameries, Inc.

Catherine Brown
Cletis D. Brown
Mark E. and Cheryl A. Brown
Rick A. and Sara D. Bruhn
Bryan Independent School District
Robert M. and Kay Bryant
Angela C. Buck
Susan A. Buckstaff
Richard A. and Janice Budach
Michael A. and Ann M. Bullis
Nancy T. Burch
Terry and Kathy Burney
Cristina D. Burt
Ronald and Elizabeth F. Burt
Charles E. and Marie E. Buzzbee
Kaye T. Byrd and Bret Berkman
Daniel and Celeste Byrne
William W. and Bonnie Cadwell
Robert B. and Kathryn Callahan
Earl E. and Adria T. Campa
John A. Campbell
Keith M. and Lisa Campbell
Rickey B. and Julie R. Campbell
Campus Door Inc.

David W. and Jennifer M. Cargill
Thomas R. and Elizabeth Carlson
Deborah K. and Robert Carrick
Gregory H. and Linda Carrington
Russell L. and Deedra A. Carroll
Steven J. and Jennifer B. Carter
Barbara and Tom Casey
Johnny W. and Carolyn R. Casey
Sandra Taylor and Jeffrey Cashe
Rita Caso
Sonya A. and Dale E. Cather
John A. and Teresa Cazort
Rosemary S. and Charles W. Chance
Steve and Kim Childs
W. Dean and Lisa Choate

Charles H. and Sharon M. Chude
Nila and Ronald W. Ciesiel
Clark Security Systems, Inc.
Marilyn J. and Truman R. Clark
Sarah L. and Chris Clem
John E. and Sylvia Coffman
John S. and Shelley L. Cole
Leo D. and Virginia Coleman
Solon D. Coleman
College Board
College Loan Corporation
Isa L. Collins
James B. and Gwendolyn M. Collins
Jerry A. Collins
Kar L. and Doris Collins
Mary Evelyn Collins
Beverly J. and Anthony Colvin
ConocoPhillips
Marian C. Conradi
Reymundo Consemi
Linda R. and Richard Cook
Bryan N. Cooney
Peter and Carol Cooper
Lynda N. and Charles A. Corbeil
Waldeen H. and Walter Cornelius
Tracey L. Cortez
Paul J. “Jeff” Cortez
Ann Covell Council
Russell W. and Stephanie B. Cowart
Sidney A. and Gladys M. Cox
Mary Margaret and Richard Coyle
Angela and Kevin Craig
Carol and Charles Craig
Caroline C. and Jack Grimm
John M. and Sharon Criswell
Charlene S. Crocker
Dennis K. and Heather V. Crowson
Dennis A. and Paula J. Culak
Jason M. Culpepper
Rita A. and Casey G. Cundieff
John A. Cunningham
Charles E. and Deborah J. Cupples
Nina Genz Cashman
Ronald and Jill Daigle
Julie J. and Walter Dale
Becky T. Davies
Samuel and Melissa H. Davila
Nat H. Davis
Marco A. and Imelda de la Guardia
Harold E. and Carolyn de la Mare
Ciro E. and Alice R. de la Vega
Lisa A. and David Dealy
Larry W. Degner
Margaret E. and Huey L. Denman
Paulette Christine Deruelle
Donna M. and David F. Desforges
Charles W. and Mary Lynn DeShazo
Orlando and Natalie Diaz
Lloyd and Jimmie M. Dickens
James M. Dines and Nancy L. Wood
E. Dale and Candye Dixon
Timothy A. and Michelle D. Dlabaj
John C. Domino
Domino’s Pizza
David W. and Jennifer E. Dougherty
Jerry L. and Katherine F. Dowling
Leon F. and Cynthia A. Dragoo
Leah A. Drake
Matthew T. and Marcia S. Dreiss
Julius J. and Jeannie Dubcak
Mari T. DuBois
Jimmie D. Dunaway
Joseph A. Dunn and
Mary Ann Aranguena
Matthew W. Dupler
Don M. Everett
Clinton W. and Becky L. Fancher
David R. and Kimberly D. Fannon
Brenda L. Farley and Jimmy White
Carolyn W. and Pat J. Farley
Bob R. Farmer
Willie H. and Carol M. Farmer
H. L. and Barbara Farrell
Don and Victoria Farrell
Fatboys
James L. and Nancy A. Fatheree
Robert H. and Patti L. Felton
Charles and Michele Ferguson
Margaret C. Ferguson
Louis M. and Annette P. Ferrell
Douglas E. Feisler
David P. Figliola
Chris L. Fortune
Patti G. Foster
Thomas P. Fowler
Robert N. and Susan P. Francis
G. Charles and Ima Jeane Franklin
William and Caron Fraser
Margo L. Frasier
Lisa A. and Ronald J. Freeman
Eric J. and Cheryl D. Fritsch
William L. Furr
Gerald W. and Judy B. Gaenslen
Mary B. and Dean Gaertner
Lillian F. and Marvin A. Gajevsky
Delia Gallinaro
Nora A. and Leandro Galvan
Gary R. and Linda L. Ganttt
Daniel V. and Irma Garcia
Lauren J. Gardner
David Garza
Julie A. and Oscar L. Garza
William A. Gawthrop
Nathan A. and Rachel N. Geick
James H. and Martha C. George
Jurg and Wanda Gerber
Lisa K. and David Gerber
Jacqueline Reuter Gerlovich
Harold R. and Mary A. Gilbert
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Suzanne D. Gillespie
Cathi Gillette
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Lauren M. Gray
Justin and Tammy Gray
Mindy L. and Raymond R. Gray
Glenn A. Green
David B. and Megan M. Greene
Douglas J. and Sandy K. Greening
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Donald A. and Jackie Griffith
James D. and Kathy Griffith
Joseph R. and Janet C. Grillo
Donna C. and Donald L. Grigg
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William R. and Deborah S. Gunter
Rodney and Eva Guirley
Wenli and Charles L. Guthrie
Nicholas P. Haby
Barbara W. (Lofton) and
Charles Hale
Judy and Jim Haller
Walter W. and Amy L. Hambrick

SAM HOUSTON
STATE UNIVERSITY

127th Anniversary

Spring 2008         39
Allene P. and James Hamilton
James and Tenisha Hamilton
Margaret D. Hammer
Janet M. and Warren Hankammer
Chad W. Hargrave
Martha L. and James Harlow
Ralph B. and Karen C. Harp
Jerry D. and Patsy E. Harper
Deborah S. and Carl D. Harrelson
Anthony J. Harris
Edwin F. and Cynthia H. Harris
Marlon D. Harris
Jennifer (Harvey) Hart
Betty Roe Hartline
Penelope Hasekoester
William D. Hattaway
Randall B. and Denessa M. Haudek
Brenda L. Hawkins
Jerry M. and Ann E. Hawkins
George T. and Betty Hayes
Susan Hayes
Wynona E. and Tommy Head
Ann M. and Mark Headley
Theodore H. and
Barbara J. Heinsohn
Dale E. Heisch
Dennis R. and
Estelle W. Hejtmancik
Jerry R. Henderson
Tommy L. Hendricks
Sherry and Matt Henke
David and Xenia Hennington
Brett M. and Barbara L. Henry
Jennifer L. Henry
John G. and Wynelle Hermesmeyer
Arturo and Sheila Hernandez
Katrina M. Hernandez
Gary W. and Sharon Herwald
Elizabeth Straka Heuermann
Lisa D. Heuring
Higher Education
Servicing Corporation
Ingrid H. and Jason Hightower
Michaela A. and Hal Hightower
Bobby Hill and Mary Byers Hill
Paul G. and Tammy L. Hilley
Betsy B. and Rick Hilis
Elizabeth Hines
Milton D. and Reta P. Hines
Billy and Sherry Hirsch
Robert J. and Karen Y. Hlavinka
Denise Holcomb
Richard N. and Debra L. Holden
Ann H. Holder
George C. and Frances J. Holewynec
Agnes H. and Fred R. Holland
Larry M. and Mary E. Hollmann
Jodi L. and Greg Holloway
Ralph E. Holm
Donna J. and David N. Holmgreen
Melinda A. Holt
Rosemary W. and Lee Holt
Mary A. and Orville Hooks
Daryl D. Howard
Judith M. and Steven Howard
Joan M. and Henry E. Howey
David R. and Joan E. Hudson
Christopher J. and Jan Hughes
Jeffrey L. Humphrey
Leroy J. and Daisy E. Humphries
Richard A. Hunter
Harry H. and Shannon M. Hurst
Nancy K. Ilfrey
Omer H. and Katherine A. Ilsever
Sara E. and William Isabel
Clyde E. and Nancy J. Jacks
Jenna L. Jackson
Timothy S. and Paula R. Jackson
Grady M. and Sharon Jenkins
Sue Lamb Jenkins
Merle R. and Charlotte K. Jensen
Kurt and Sheryl Jesswein
Scott M. and Stacy L. Jeter
Joe Courtney Homes Inc.
Billy J. and Norma Johnson
Christopher W. and
Cheryl A. Johnson
Dennis K. and Debra B. Johnson
Joe R. and Wanda Johnson
Morris V. and Blossie Johnson
James R. and Teresa S. Johnston
Karlene H. and Scott Jolly
Carl G. and Mary Jones
John C. and Stacey Jones
William C. and Johnnie S. Jones
Janie S. and Gary R. Joyce
Eugene H. and Mary L. Kamas
Myron S. and Joanna D. Karner
Debra D. and Kenneth R. Keehn
Richard J. Keeler
Rodney G. and Brenda D. Keith
Kerry D. Kelley
Cory A. and Laureen Kinney
Robert B. and Lisa Kinsey
Margienell S. and Onnie I. Kirk
William J. and Kelli L. Kirkconnell
Richard C. and
Martha A. Kirkpatrick
Wayne K. and Yvonne M. Kitchel
Bonnie V. Kittleband
Taylor S. and Janet S. Klett
Anastatia Knight
Michael F. and Judy R. Koehl
Christopher and Sherry Koenig
Jennifer Kohler-Starns and
Kevin D. Starns
Paul M. and Tina Kone
Daniel Konopnicki*
Tami M. Kozelsky
Valerie A. N. Kramer
Rebecca D. and Seth Krauss
Arons and Katherine Kresta
Mark J. Kroll and
Nghi T. Pham-Kroll
Donna M. and Duane Krueger
Tracey L. and William A. Kuehn
Gloria J. and Joseph Kutch
Charlotte M. and Dale LaFley
Robert H. and Wilma Landry
Barrett A. and Christy J. Lankford
Marvin E. and Deborah S. LaRue
Keenan J. Lazenby
Bruce R. and Lisa P. LeGrand
Kelli Leaf
W. Hadley Leavell
Charles W. Leavens
Kent D. and Linda D. Lebsack
LECS, Ltd.
Francis A. and Elsa Lee
Kumsup and Hongjoo Lee
Wade T. Lee
Robert J. Lefebvre, Jr.
Carol A. and Ed S. Lehnhert
Vicki S. and Ralph B. LeMay
Dan W. and Eloise E. Leonard
Hwei H. Lewinski
Renai L. and Mark Lightfoot

University Advancement’s Campus Callers

Finishing the fifth year of the Annual Fund phonathon, student callers raised a pledge total of more than $222,000 for fiscal year 2006-2007.

Each semester, students call alumni to increase support for the Annual Fund campaign, which provides support for academic departments, student scholarships, athletics, and faculty development. The phonathon also provides an opportunity for alumni to stay connected. The Campus Callers, as the students are called, have a chance to visit with alumni and give updates on current developments on campus.
Mary E. Martin
David E. and Mildred A. Martin
Andrew D. Martin
David E. and Mildred A. Martin
Mary E. Martin
Tammy and Albert R. Martinez
Janie F. Martinez
Charlotte J. Matthew
Mark A. and Elizabeth McCann
Brian P. and Molly M. McAuley
Deborah C. McClellan
Dennis M. and Kara A. McCormick
Martin “Marty” R. McCoy, III
Margaret E. and Dave McDowell
Timothy D. McGregor
Carly F. Watson
Chelsea L. and Matt Winter
Jason M. and Aliza S. Plotkin
Ross A. and Stepanie Pilcik
Katherine and Hershel E. Phillips
Ross A. and Stepanie Pilcik
Jason M. and Aliza S. Plotkin
Charles T. and Marsha C. Poe
Gary M. and Jacqui Poe
Stephen D. and Susan E. Polnick
Steven R. and Dee A. Poorman
Karen L. Porter
Gary L. Powell
Sue A. and Luther Powell
Eugene P. Prater, Jr.
William E. and Frances S. Prewitt
Joseph K. and Runae Price

Kyle and Amber Pryor
Mike Pyland and
Heather Bujnoch-Pyland
Terri L. Quinn and David J. Russo
Raul and Alice R. Quirroz
Theresa M. Rand
John E. and Sharon G. Randle
William E. and Pearlie M. Randle
Cary E. and Amanda N. Rasberry
Donald T. and Penny W. Rascoe
James Q. Ratcliff
Martha E. Reagan
Ray and Leta Reiner
David G. and Sharon Remmy
Repsol Services Company
Franklin N. and Kate Rhoad
Dusty and Frances Rhodes
Stacy R. Rhodes
Timothy J. and Linda D. Richards
Gregory P. and Sharon Richmond
Kenneth K. and Barbara A. Richter
Steve J. and Sarah E. Rieger
Billy N. and Rhonda K. Rigby
Scott and Kathleen Rimlinger
Lillian E. and Thomas T. Ritchey
Roger E. and Mary Rivet
Juan D. and Beverly A. Robinson
Twyla S. Robinson
Lincoln C. and Jacqueline Rolling
Trent M. and Lauren D. Rosenkranz
John N. Rowe
Brad Rowland
William T. Rowland
Andrea M. Ruggiero

1879 Society

The society commemorates the university’s founding and recognizes individuals who make planned gifts. Gift planning enables donors to make lasting contributions that are often larger than their ability to make an outright cash gift. Planned gifts include appreciated assets, bequests, gift annuities, trusts, life insurance, and real estate.

Anonymous
Dan Barnes
Alton* & Dorothy* Burgess
Ione Jones Clark
Ann Lindsay Cloud
Rolando V. & Josefina del Carmen
Dean Sidney H.*, Bernard W.*, & Kim E. Detlefsen
M. B. Etheredge
Shelley Fitz
Yvonne Parkhill Fowler
Harry T. Hamblen, III

Lee B. & Eva A. Hunnicutt
Charles W. Jones III
Stephen Owen Johnson
Roger D. Lawrence
Gibson D. Lewis
Ron Mafrige
Janelle Avenell Paris
Maggie M. Parker
Walter E. & Phillis E. Pinegar
Edwin & Genevieve Sandhop

*deceased

nerg

King George V. of the United Kingdom, who died in 1936.

King George V. of the United Kingdom, who died in 1936.

King George V. of the United Kingdom, who died in 1936.

King George V. of the United Kingdom, who died in 1936.

King George V. of the United Kingdom, who died in 1936.
These listings reflect gifts made between September 1, 2006 and August 31, 2007. Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this report is accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions, and we ask that you bring them to our attention. Please report any corrections to:

Office of University Advancement
Box 2537
Huntsville, TX 77341-2537
(936) 294-3625

* Denotes Deceased
1932
Joseph P. Davis, Sr.

1934
Elton Bohmann

1936
Sarah (Matthews) Bergen
Margaret (Beason) and John Wilson

1937
M. B. Etheredge

1938
Lena (Campbell) Mathis

1939
Gordon M. and Marjorie L. Cotton
Frances (Leathers) Holsey
Virginia W. and Bob Kristensen
Marie (Garrett) Spigg

1940
Marjorie (McCown) Lawrence
Marie (Garrett) Spigg

1941
Martin L. and Ida (Griffith) Reddry
Rodney D. and E. D. Guiley
Edith (Hubbard) Randel
Alfred Y. Scarborough
Virginia (Davis) Scarborough
George R. Vick
Lola (Clevenger) Wiese

1942
Byrnn N. Cooney
Mary (Murph) and Alfred Dorley
Helen (Caldwell) Holm
Ina (Allen) Kelley
Georgia (Jordan) and Floyd Miz
Elizabeth (Best) and Odis Macnink
Ferd M. Robinson* 
Gene (Porter) Russell
John M. Terry, Jr.
George R. Vick

1943
Billie (Hazel) Quinn
Eleanor (Parker) Saunders
Roy Simmons, Jr.
Mary (Ellis) and Samuel Stovall
Billy Wallis

1944
Elmer and Helen L. Berryhill
Mary (Ball) and Richard Bush
Ouida E. Carroll
Mary (Ball) and Richard Bush

1945
Laverne (Wallingford) Etheredge
Bonnie (Vick) Kittleband

1946
Horace R. and Euline W. Brock
Dale Brown
John W. Etheredge
Virginia (Woodridge) and Scott Huggard
Mary (Nichols) Lewis
Dorothy (Moore) and Tom Owen
Billie (LaRoe) Turner
Sybil (Heath) Vick

1947
Dale Brown
Dorothy (Hanagriff) Clark
Wilfred O. Dietrich
M. B. Etheredge
Geneva (MacDonald) Fulgham
Carl D. and Charline H. Lively
Marie (Coley) Maddox
Liberty (Chomour) Pollard

1948
Gwendolyn (Link) Collins
James B. Collins
Ray F. Dabney
Gloria (Pears) Dotson
Lee A. and Lynell Drain
Roy C. Finley
Howard L. Griffin
Wiley G. McDonald, Jr.
Alma (Howell) Miller
Jewes E. Miller

1949
Benjamin H. and Laura W. Baisden
Roy C. Finley
Gene R. Freeman
James E. Gilmore
Gail L. and J. Jackson
Bilby J. and Norma Johnson
Robert R. and Bernice Kelly
Merle D. Kovar
Frank P. Leathers
Courtney C. Parks
Liberty (Chomour) Pollard
Donald A. and Jean Taylor
Warren H. Walker

1950
Lulle (Abcrombie) Anderson
Elmer and Helen L. Berryhill

1951
Mary (Arnold) and Roland Adams
Alice C. Barfeld
M. Darwin* 
Barbara J. Barnett
Horace R. and Euline W. Brock
Gordon L. and Genevieve H. Brown
Rosann (McLaughlin) Cox
Billy G. Cozart
Jean (Carr) Dabney
Virginia (Webber) Fanta
Wiley J. and Bernice D. Flint
Joyce C. Robinson

1952
Fred H. and Nora M. Blundell
Bobby W. and Jo A. Brown
Dorothy (Priesty) Cozart
Dorothy (Moore) and Kermit Cummings
Joe D. Fuller
Jacqueline (Gerloch) Gerlovich
Milton D. and Reta P. Hines

1953
Mary (Coffin) Morgan
James R. Carpenter
J. A. and Beverly A. Robinson
Robert Fowler
Betty (Dickens) and John Freeman
Harold R. Gilbert
Suzanne D. Gillespie
Clayton G. and Anna Hester
Joe R. and Wanda Johnson
Frank P. Leathers
Bernard Mayfield
Mary (Ball) and Richard Bush

1954
Vigil H. and Evelyn Y. Adams
Bertie (Hoyes) Bond
Lois M. Brown

1955
Mary (Morgan) Morgan
Barbara (Ballard) Buckow
Jenny (Welch) and Homer Callaway

1956
Harlin and Carolyn Anderson
Art D. Anthony
William A. Barbarett
Carolyn (Brannen) and Ed Strodes
Sanford Blakey
Loyd M. Brown
Barbara (Ballard) Buckow

1957
Eloise and Clyde Caskey
Dusky (Phillips) and Dewey Clark
Kemper B. Crabb
Tommye (Pierce) Crabb
Lillie Garcia
James H. and Martha C. George
Charlotte (Blake) and Peter Hains
Charles L. Johnson
Dora (Clark) Johnson
Anastatia (Acord) Knight
Mary C. (Fadel) Kyle
Barbara (Housier) and Richard Landry
LaNece (Pope) Lomonte

1958
Nell H. Patton
Frank J. Robinson
Jack E. and Partie Rowland
Douglas and Joan Shannon
Sonny Sikes
Alila J. Smith
James W. Smith
Ulma (Fite) and James Somerford
A. D. and Jean Taylor
Meta Midwell

1959
Dorothy (Wilkie) Aldrich
David S. and Maina Baquet
Margaret (Sharpe) Baquet
Daniel B. and Lanny Maeyers
Charles H. and Nancy Bock
Lynn (Hardy) Shirley and
Jack Garewood
Johnny G. and Mary Gilliam
Glen (Grant) and
Homer Goerths
Bobby G. and Linda A. Gisham
Loretta Hankins
Sally J. Head
William (James) Head
Vera (Johnson) and Bill Hedges
Arleah (Bruce) Hilligest
Norman S. and
Loretta G. Hoadley
Res C. and Diana L. Hagby
Chance E. and V. J. Janac
Stanley P. and Ardeni B. Keathley
Lena M. Kozelicki
Carole (Rankin) Lawley
Arliss R. Mallory
Margaret (Day) Marshall
Lloyd C. Martin
LeBland F. and John P. MAdams
Marie Beas (Burgher) Medford
Joseph D. and Mary Mendoza
Stephen B. and
Carol K. Montgomery
Nelda (Denton) Mason
James D. and Barbara Neal
Lynn (Hardy) Neely
John R. O’Brien
Emaufred (Shoppie) Pengelly
Bobby M. Powers
Helene P. Reat
Edgar A. and Carolyn L. Reeves
Joe B. Sandel
Winnie (Farris) Sandel
Genevieve W. Sandhop
Gerald L. Seber
Rosie (Lee) Seber
Charles L. and Geraldine Smith
Perry and Berry Smith
Carolyn (Craig) and Ed Stewart
Thomas G. Stone
Shirley G. Villarreal
Grace Wiggins
Kenneth R. and Patsy Wren
DONORS

44        SHSU

Helen (Hortman) and Wayne and Cynthia Mosley
Shirley Harrington
Harold G. “Hap” and Tom and Patsy Freeman
Ima (Tomlinson) Franklin
Charles J. and Arlene Fernandez
Bobbye (Manning) Burke
Fred H. and Nora M. Blundell
Gladys A. and William Young
Roy P. and Carol Turner
Robert D. Tyler
Sibyl (Heath) Vick
Robert E. White
Billy R. and Raunice Ware

Gladys A. and William Young 1958

Gerald D. and Serena M. Andrews
Victor J. Barrels
Billy P. Blalock
Fred H. and Nora M. Blundell
Bobbye (Manning) Burke

Eugene E. Steinmeyer
Joan Black

Robert R. and Ollie Hardy
George T. and Cynthia Mosley
George R. and Carolyn Nelson
James E. Norman
Helen (Horneman) and Joseph Park
Gloria (Ledrie) Price

Ray F. Dahnley
Glenda (Miles) Dawson*
Lloyd Dickens
Carolyn (Carothers) Dooge
Rayburn L. Dooe
William P. Douglass
Louis M. Ferrell
David and Ruth A. Figari
Elizabeth (Smith) Gulledge
Sandra (Bailey) Haines
Joe L. “Bud” and Joan Hayes
Robert R. and Ollie Hardy
Jerry M. and Ann E. Hawkins
George T. and Betty Hayes
Billie (Smith) and James Hickman
Jennie M. Hollis
Kirby G. and Claudia Isett
Clyde E. Jacks, Jr.
Leonard and Marlene Keeling
Leslie J. and Martha Koentgen
Franklin D. Krystynik
Linda (Kolby) Krystynik
Carol (Rankin) Lawley
C. O. Lee
Donald D. and Olive L. Lindop
Betty (Wyatt) and Robert Martin
Lena (Campbell) Mathis
Dan O. McLean
Albert G. Mill
Ronald J. Mitchell
Bette (Tippie) and Janey Moore
Roy G. and Ivy B. Moss
Henry H. and O. Q. Diane
Diane B. Payne
Charlotte H. Peil
Ralph G. Peil
George Pease
Wal (Warran) and Melvin Rother
Charles W. and Colleen E. Shuck
Preston D. Sides
Johnnie W. Smith
Larry L. Smith
Larry Snook
Mary (Vie) Snook
Brenda (Hudson) Spears
R. Dana Steigerwald
Mary (Clark) Stiles
Martha (Sumrall) Sweeney
Dan A. Thomas
Shirley (Ward) Thomas
Gene and Jan E. Thompson
Al J. Vera
Douglas and Joanna Wible
James A. Young
Mary (Lester) Zegler
Robert E. Ziegler

1964

William L. and Julie M. Atkins
 Jerry L. and Roy Barber
Charlotte (Ingram) and
Ellwood T. Barrett
Linda Barton
Joe B. Bickley
Nancy (Jaggers) Bickley
Brenda (Smith) Mosk

Ann (Lindus) Cloud
L. C. and Cathy W. Courtney
Kemper B. Crabb
Thomas F. Detweiler
Lloyd Dickens
Donald A. and Sarah B. Forbes
Joel D. and Raedona L. Garcia
Earl L. and June Grirstenberger
Johnny G. and Mary Guilliam
James E. Gilmore
William D. Grogan
Gena (Parrish) Hestand
Kerrethem D. Hestand
Rafta D. Hopper, Jr.
Clara (Hendrix) and Craig Jensen
Marlene R. and Charlotte K. Jensen
Myles B. and Frances A. Knape
Larry R. Krzeski
Sandra (Craig) Larsen
Doris (Baron) Lee
Berry S. Leggett
Berry (Arnold) Maranto
Janell and Joe Marck
Clemon L. and Carolyn E. Montgomery
E. McNeil Moore
Robert W. and Martha Peacock
Jerry L. and Jeanette A. Pentecost
Martha (Moore) and C. Richardson
Samuel V. Roach
Herman M. and Ruth Schoenemann
Joanne (Nussbaum) Sikes
Sonny Sikes
Billy D. and Priscilla Steele
Claudette (Miller) Stone
Shirley (Branches) Thomas
Roy P. and Carol Turner
Robert D. Tyler
Sibyl (Heath) Vick
Robert E. White

44
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
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<th>Class</th>
<th># Donors</th>
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Tennessee      17             3,660.00
New York      19             5,699.00
Missouri      20             3,736.00
Michigan      16             4,070.00
Louisiana      35             4,171.00
Illinois       20             5,023.00
Arkansas      17             1,642.00
Arizona      23             2,572.50
California      33             5,087.00
Colorado        26             4,570.47
Florida        29             8,592.00
Georgia        25             4,617.50
Illinois        20             5,023.00
Louisiana       35             4,171.00
Michigan        16             4,070.00
Missouri        20             3,736.00
New York        19             5,699.00
North Carolina   21             2,088.00
Ohio            30             4,096.00
Tennessee       17             3,660.00
Virginia         33             4,239.00
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To honor J. A. and Ruth and to recognize their dedication and commitment to education and to Sam Houston State University, the Chandler family has established the Ruth and J. A. Chandler Endowment Fund to provide scholarships in agriculture, elementary education, and family and consumer sciences.

From student to retired administrator, James A. Chandler has carried Sam Houston State University in his heart for many years. He graduated from Sam Houston State Teachers College in 1942 with a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture and earned a master’s degree in 1948.

In 1955, after working in the Texas rice industry, he returned to his alma mater as a professor. From 1975 to 1981, he served as dean of the College of Applied Arts and Sciences. He retired in 1982 as an assistant to the vice president of academic affairs.

After his family, his first and foremost interest was in the students at Sam Houston State University. Throughout his tenure, he made many significant contributions to the SHSU agribusiness program and devoted his talents to its development. He was also instrumental in securing a scholarship endowment from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, which totals more than one-half million dollars today.

Not only did he consider it a privilege to teach, he was especially proud of the work he did on such university committees as financial aid and the student-faculty appeals, which helped students attend Sam Houston and stay enrolled once they came to the university.

J. A. and his wife, Ruth (who also graduated from SHSTC), brought up their children, Judy and King, just a short distance from campus.

Judy and King enjoyed being a part of the university community and attending Sam Houston State events and activities. When they graduated from high school, they both chose to attend Sam Houston State.

The Chandler children graduated, got married and had children of their own, who also became Bearkats. Now, another generation is in the picture, and although they are still young, they also are attending Sam Houston events and activities, just as their parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents have done for so many years. Before long, they will consider orange and white their favorite colors, too.

A Father’s Example Creates A Bearkat Legacy