



*Message  
from  
your  
Dean*

Spring is an exciting time on a college campus and this year it is especially so. With the recent accreditation of our professional golf management program by the Professional Golfers' Association of America (the PGA), we are now the only school in Texas to offer the highly-acclaimed PGA/PGM™ Program, effective Fall 2005. The PGA-endorsed program expands our educational impact into yet another specialized niche and further defines our program within an increasingly-crowded field of business school competitors.

Another cause for excitement is the growing momentum of our room sponsorship campaign, which continues to offer unique opportunities for friends and alumni to improve the learning experience for our students. The future of the College depends on the work we do now and I am grateful to those who are stepping up to meet this challenge as room sponsors in the new building. Once the Addition is fully subscribed, the campaign will provide a \$2 million enhancement fund, which will help stabilize the financial future of the College and build the foundation of a truly great school.

Since my last message to you, I am also pleased to report that the College has received nearly 500 contributions to the COBA Excellence Fund, which enables us to improve and enrich the educational experiences of our students on a daily basis. Every dollar contributed means much to the success of our programs and it is a pleasure to acknowledge such generous and enthusiastic support of the College in this issue.

Finally, please note that we will celebrate this year's Alumni Appreciation next fall semester, when our new facility is finished, furnished and fully operational. A mid-September dedication of the Smith-Hutson Addition and an Alumni Appreciation Breakfast/Open House during Homecoming Weekend will allow you two opportunities to visit the College, renew old friendships, and tour the entire building free of hardhats. We will mail you all the details over the summer and I hope you will be able to return to the campus for one or both occasions.

The College of Business Administration has worked hard to provide both traditional and unique educational programs you can be proud of, and it is an honor to preside over such sweeping changes. With your help we will continue to prepare our students to meet – and solve – the real-world business problems of tomorrow. Thank you for your ongoing interest and support, and I wish you and yours an enjoyable spring and summer season.

— R. Dean Lewis

## We've Got Game...

The Professional Golfers' Association of America recently announced its approval of a Professional Golf Management (PGM) program at Sam Houston State University. The announcement makes Sam Houston State University the 17th institute in the nation, and the first in Texas, to offer the PGA-endorsed degree plan. Slated to begin in Fall 2005, the structured, 5-year curriculum will be administered through the College of Business Administration's Department of General Business.

Designed for aspiring golf professionals, the PGA/PGM™ Program has two tracks. The academic track requires students to fulfill all requirements for the BBA degree (128 credit hours), and the professional golf management track has three separate, specialized components. Successful candidates will meet all PGA membership requirements and will graduate as Class "A" members of the PGA of America, with a bachelor of business administration (BBA) degree in general business administration and a certification in professional golf management. Graduates of the program will be qualified for employment as club professionals, teachers, golf association administrators, and representatives for golf retailers, manufacturers and golf industry publications. Career paths include, but are not limited to the USGA, the PGA of America, tournament players clubs, golf management companies, private equity clubs, resort facilities, public golf courses, and off-course golf retailers.

*Richard Ballinger, PGA* accepted the position of director of the SHSU professional golf management program earlier this spring and is already at work, building the program at the College. A 1994 graduate of the first PGA-endorsed professional golf management program in the country, Ballinger is convinced that this program puts careers in the golf industry on the fast track. Just two years after graduating from Ferris State University's PGM program, he was appointed head golf professional at Glen Dornoch Waterway Golf Links and then worked several years for the Glens Group, opening and operating two of their four facilities. In 2003 he became the internship and recruiting director for the professional golf management program at Coastal Carolina University and successfully placed over 200 students at internship sites in 29 states, including Pebble Beach, PGA Golf Club, Cherry Hills Country Club, Westchester Country Club, and Winged Foot.



*Richard Ballinger, PGA, Director of SHSU Professional Golf Management Program.*

"The PGA/PGM™ Program is an exercise in self-discipline and time management," Ballinger says. "The first component of the PGM track is passing the Playing Ability Test (the PAT), and a student is given almost four years to do that. Only about 20% of the candidates pass at any one time but once a student passes the PAT, that requirement is fulfilled forever. Our program offers an extensive player development program to help students pass the PAT, which includes drills, practice routines and swing analyses to address areas of weakness. Students with golf handicaps of 12 or better will be accepted into the program, but a student generally needs to improve to about a 4 handicap to pass the PAT. That can be accomplished through practice and instruction."

All PGM students will be required to attend a player development class each week for an hour and to play at least 9 holes per week, charting their rounds with a round analysis card to identify areas that need improvement. Huntsville's Raven Nest Golf Course, just a few minutes' drive from the College, will serve as the home course for all Professional Golf Management and player development activities.

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# Together We Can

Friends and alumni are building a firm financial foundation for the College and keeping our programs strong through room sponsorships. Sponsorship payments are deposited into an enhancement fund for the College that, as it grows, will help strengthen and maintain an effective business curriculum. As we go to press, participants in the Room Sponsorship Campaign represent nearly two dozen organizations and individuals. This issue features individual sponsors; organizational sponsors will be featured in a future issue of *Pride!*

**Charlie Amato '70** and **Gary Dudley '69**, joint sponsors of Tiered Lecture Hall #1, have together founded an international corporation, supported their College and University, and enjoyed a life time of friendship along the way.



Gary Dudley and Charlie Amato

Charlie began a career with Bay City Bank & Trust shortly after his graduation from the College in 1970. In 1976, he and grade-school friend Gary Dudley founded Southwest Business Corporation to provide insurance and financial services to lending institutions. Charlie has served as chairman of SWBC for almost 30 years and, during that time, steered the company through explosive growth, a stringent qualification process by the Lloyd's of London Tribunal, and internationalization with the purchase of an interest in a Lloyd's brokerage firm in London,

England. Today their company employs a workforce of more than 400, offers a comprehensive range of loan, insurance and investment services, and is recognized as one of the fastest-growing companies in San Antonio. Charlie has received numerous awards and honors, including South Texas Entrepreneur of 1992, the Department of the Army Commander's Award for Public Service Medal in 1998 and, in 2001, Sam Houston State University's Distinguished Alumni Award. Charlie has been a member for several years and currently chairs the dean's Advisory Council. He also serves on the Sam Houston State University President's Circle. He and his wife Cathy are long-time residents of San Antonio.

Gary Dudley graduated from the College in 1969 and has more than 30 years in the insurance industry. As co-founder and president of SWBC, Gary has played an instrumental role in developing the leading-edge technology, administration and delivery systems that have propelled the company's growth. Through his expertise and guidance, SWBC today generates annual premiums of \$900 million, provides insurance and financial services to a client list exceeding 2000 financial institutions and corporations, and operates in nine states. Gary, too, serves his alma mater faithfully as a member of the dean's Advisory Council and the University's President's Circle, and was awarded Sam Houston State University's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004. He and his wife Margaret live in San Antonio.

Both men participate in several charitable and civic organizations and events in and around the greater San Antonio area and are part-owners of the San Antonio Spurs basketball team. Their business know-how, saavy insight, and fun outlook on life have made them, without question, a winning combination.

**Charles '71** and **Wanda Beckner**, sponsors of Tiered Multimedia Classroom #3, have been changing the future and the horizon of Texas for years. After graduating from the College in 1971, Chuck began a career in the construction industry and with Wanda's encouragement and that of her father, founded Regional Contracting Corporation in 1975. In 1986, Chuck and a business partner acquired the American Bridge Company, a division of US Steel and the largest steel construction firm in the country, and Chuck served as president, director and principal for five years. In 1992 he merged Peterson Brothers Steel



Charles and Wanda Beckner

Erection Company, a family-owned Houston firm, into Regional Contracting. Today, after years of growth and a lot of hard work, Chuck is the chief executive officer of Peterson Beckner Industries, a Houston-based steel construction company that builds high rises, bridges, airports, power plants, process facilities, convention centers and sports facilities across the USA and Puerto Rico. On the Houston horizon alone Chuck's firm has erected the steel and/or precast concrete structures for Reliant Stadium, the Toyota and Compaq Centers, Fluor Houston Complex, and the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts. A few of Chuck's company projects in the Dallas area include the Nokia Center, Infomart Dallas and the Gaylord Opryland Texas Resort and Convention Center located at Lake Grapevine.

Chuck has always supported his alma mater and is a life member of the SHSU Lettermen and Alumni Association and Kappa Alpha Order. Both he and Wanda are well-grounded in the economics of business and are pleased to support the College as it strives to build a future workforce that exemplifies the PBI motto: Experience, Integrity, & Knowledge.

When not changing the vista, Chuck and Wanda enjoy playing and watching the game of tennis. Both competitive USTA players, they appreciate a good match and travel around the world as spectators to take in international tennis tournaments and to study the strategies used by masters of the game. They have two sons, Lance and Austin, who have both joined the firm and are actively involved in management of project operations.

In 1946, after World War II, **Edwin G. Sandhop, Jr. '48** returned to east Texas. His service in the United States Army Air Force had earned him the rank of staff sergeant, the Distinguished Flying Cross with cluster and Air Medal while in China with the Flying Tigers. With the war over, Ed and his wife **Genevieve Durham Sandhop '56, MA '60** began a life together in Huntsville, where Ed accepted a position in the accounting office of Gibbs Brothers & Company while attending Sam Houston.



Edwin and Genevieve Sandhop

Using the leadership qualities and loyalty he displayed during the war, Ed dedicated himself to his company and his community and worked during the next 60 years to benefit the lives of those around him. With the backing of his employer and friends, Ed helped establish a new school, a local hospital, a center for performing arts, an animal shelter, several charities and, in the process, set new standards for good citizenship. He has freely shared his time and talents over the years and continues to do so. His many contributions include service as president and board member of Huntsville Memorial Hospital, chairman and member of the board of First National Bank of Huntsville, councilman for the City of Huntsville, member of the city planning commission, director of the tourist division and board member of the Chamber of Commerce, treasurer and board member of the United Fund, board member of the Rita B. Huff Humane Society, and is a current and active member of the President's Circle of Sam Houston State University.

Genevieve, Ed's sweetheart of 67 years, is also a graduate of Sam Houston State University, where she earned her bachelor of arts and master's degree in English. Genevieve continued her post graduate work at Texas A&M University, and was an English professor at Sam Houston State University for 36 years. Now retired, Genevieve continues her interest in the education of young people. She and Ed regularly welcome many foreign students into their home and have established several scholarships across the University, including three at the College of Business Administration.

As a fitting tribute, **Sam H. Burris Jr.**, president of First National Bank of Huntsville and **Joseph P. Smyth**, board member of Gibbs Brothers & Company LP have directed their companies to jointly sponsor Tiered Multimedia Classroom #1 in honor of Ed and Genevieve Sandhop.

**Ronald P. '61** and **Donna Koska** are the enthusiastic sponsors of the Student Technology and Lobby area. Together they have raised a successful family and grown a foodservice brokerage business from the small firm Ron founded in 1969 to a multimillion dollar corporation with operations in four locations.

As the chief executive officer of Institutional Sales Associates – one of the largest foodservice sales and marketing companies in the southwest – Ron oversees company



## Room Sponsors



Ronald and Donna Koska

efforts at his school, became an advocate of education and finished her degree at the University of St. Thomas, graduating summa cum laude while continuing to work alongside Ron at ISA.

The couple strongly believes in making positive contributions to the business community. Their strong work ethic and a deep religious faith have shaped the policies and procedures of ISA where they oversee, encourage and motivate 85 employees. ISA's management philosophy is a reflection of their convictions: the company embraces an appreciation and respect for employees, builds business relationships on integrity, and adheres to a sophisticated systems approach to assure market growth.

During his college years Ron forged a life-long friendship with *Ronald P. Mafrige '60* and he and Donna have dedicated the Lobby area to the memory of *Linda Halliday Mafrige*.

**Lewis Edward "Eddie" Van Dyke** and **Sally Stuckert Van Dyke '67** have strong connections to Sam Houston State University and, as sponsors of Multimedia Classroom #4, have dedicated the room to the College and its dean, *Dr. R. Dean Lewis*. Sally is an education major and has taught English at Brenham High School for many years. Eddie, agency principal and president of Van Dyke Rankin and Company, is a member of the dean's Advisory Council and has become an important benefactor of the College and a close, personal friend to many within its walls.



Eddie and Sally Van Dyke

Originally from Tahoka in west Texas, Eddie was recruited in 1957 as a running back for the Texas A&M football team and played that position for four full seasons. Shortly after his graduation in 1962 he joined the family insurance business and quickly gained a reputation for his strict adherence to fair-minded business practices. In 1981 his company merged with the Brenham Insurance Agency and today Eddie oversees 23 employees in offices located in Brenham, Bellville and Waller. Recently son *Jarvis* joined the firm as a certified insurance counselor and part owner and will continue the family tradition of providing superior customer service to their clients. Jarvis' wife *Christy '97* is a SHSU graduate and holds a BA in history with a minor in English.

Eddie's and Sally's long-standing affiliation with Sam Houston State University grew even stronger last fall when their daughter *Heather Thielemann* was appointed vice president for enrollment management. Heather, who inherited her father's speed-burning abilities on the field, did not attend SHSU as an undergraduate but instead accepted a track scholarship from Baylor. She later attended SHSU to receive her doctorate degree. "Members of our family," Heather comments, "have graduated from different universities in Texas. Yet, in spite of our different educational experiences, we have kept close ties to Sam Houston State University."

**Ross** and **Margaret Quarles** arrived at the College in 1994 and, as a new faculty member and graduate-student wife, saw the need for a quiet study room for students. They are sponsoring the new Student Study Area to encourage academic achievement and to help advance the overall educational experience provided by the College.

An innovator and hard worker, Ross has spearheaded several initiatives within the College, the most notable being the Dow Technology



Ross and Margaret Quarles

operations in Houston, Austin, Lubbock, and Albuquerque. Donna is ISA's vice president of administration and is responsible for capital expenditures and the coordination of all employee benefits, including group health insurance and the company's 401(k) plan.

After graduating from SHSU in 1961 with a Bachelor of Science degree, Ron began his career with the Morton Salt Company and was quickly promoted to regional sales manager, a job that encompassed an 18-state territory, six sales representatives, and ten brokers. After eight years with Morton, Ron left to build his own firm in Houston. Donna, through interaction with her son's teachers and volunteer

Demonstration Center. With a grant received from the Dow Chemical Company Foundation in 1999, Ross added a versatile, technologically-advanced classroom to the facility and a new dimension to the academic program. Using in-class activities and demonstrations, the Dow Center has fostered integration of ERP-based training (such as SAP applications) into the curriculum. Ross also established an internship program for accounting students which, with the cooperation of several regional and national CPA firms and private corporations, has benefited to date more than 150 student interns. Margaret, senior assistant to the dean, coordinates the February business career fairs and oversees many of the publications and special events of the College.

Ross and Margaret both have a long history in higher education. Ross has been an educator for more than 25 years, serving the past ten as chair of the College's department of accounting; Margaret is a direct descendant of William Griffith Waring, founder of the school now called Pennsylvania State University.

Long-time management professor **Paul Reed** and his wife **Jan** arrived at the College 22 years ago and have witnessed and participated in much of the growth of the College. Paul began his career in higher education at Mississippi State University, and in 1983 accepted a position here, where he has been teaching courses in human resources management, compensation, organizational behavior, and strategic management ever since. Over the years he has written numerous articles, case studies, research reports and grants and in 1993 received a University faculty excellence award for his contributions of service.

Paul began his working life as an officer in the United States Army – a career that spanned 23 years, three tours in Vietnam and ended with his retirement from active duty as a "full bird" colonel. Jan, he reports, has been the quintessential "Army wife" and a real trooper. During their years in the military she packed up the family more than a dozen times and handled all the details of resettling the household and their young children at posts as far away as Germany and the Philippines, and in Georgia, Kansas, and California.

Throughout their 48-year marriage, the couple has worked to foster the educational and professional development of young people and in 1999 established the Helen Cochran Gilliland Endowed Scholarship at the College in honor of Jan's mother. Now, with Paul's full retirement in sight, they are pleased to continue their support as sponsors of the Student Break Area.

The family of **Harry Taylor** are sponsors of the second floor Faculty Conference Room. Patriarch Harry Taylor (1915-1991) was an educator at Cooper Union College in New York City before joining ExxonMobil, where he distinguished himself as a chemical engineer. Harry's wife **Susan** is the daughter of two career teachers and at first began a career in social work. After the birth of their first child, she turned full-time attention to raising their family and, for additional challenge, earned recognition as a Life Master in bridge. Both advocates of learning, Harry and Susan instilled in their three sons the value of education.



The Harry Taylor family: Douglas, Susan, Russell and David.

**Douglas** received both a bachelor and a master's degree from Sam Houston State University and taught science in the middle schools for several years. Now retired, he enjoys traveling and working on his soon-to-be-completed, energy self-sufficient mountain cabin in New Mexico. **Russell** is an information technology specialist who worked several years for the Veterans Administration in Washington, DC, eventually retiring from the State of Texas. Today he continues to live in Austin and enjoys his active involvement with animal rescue. **David**, with nearly 30 years' combined experience in public accounting and information systems, returned to school to earn a doctorate and now serves the College as an assistant professor of management information systems. The family would like to acknowledge the generous matching gift program of the ExxonMobil Corporation.

The College is deeply grateful to the individuals above who have generously contributed to the Room Sponsorship Campaign. If you would like more information about becoming a room sponsor, please call the College at (936) 294-4997 or visit the featured website at [www.shsu.edu/coba](http://www.shsu.edu/coba).



# Classnotes

## 1930s

**Ilene G. Westmoreland '31** writes that she retired several years ago from office work in Mexia and moved to the Meridian Retirement Home in Temple, where she lives with her sister Stacey Westmoreland Carrington.

## 1940s

**Genevieve Turney Ratcliff '48** writes from Fort Worth that she and husband **Ben Ratcliff '43** were married on December 4, 1947 and had 54 beautiful years together. After Ben graduated from SHSTC he served as a naval officer on the USS Britton in the early 40s. He was the brother of Rosella Robertson and Bessie Durham, both of whom graduated from and worked at SHSTC. Ben was a beautiful person who loved his family, church and work. Genevieve and two of their four children publish the Commercial Recorder, a court and commercial daily.

**Ruth Denman Sollock '49**, husband Gene and daughter Terri all retired from Conroe ISD; son Gary is also a teacher in Sandpoint, Idaho. When Ruth retired in 1984 she and Gene moved to the country and built a log home on land that had been in Gene's family for many years, one mile from downtown Iola, Texas. Ruth served on the Iola school board for 12 years and the experience gave her a very different perspective of education than her years as a teacher. She and Gene now travel and have been to Europe and all over the United States, particularly in the west as they have three granddaughters in Idaho and two grandsons in Round Rock and Dallas. She and Gene have also visited the campus and had the opportunity to observe and be a part of the exciting growth. "What a beautiful campus!" she writes. "What great opportunities for our students!"

**Steve Townley '49** retired from First State Bank of Livingston in 1994 as senior vice president and chief operations officer. He continues to serve on the bank's board of directors and on various board committees. He and his wife Myrlie are enjoying retirement on a small ranch near town. They have two grown sons and visit regularly with Bill and his wife Melanie, and Mark and his wife Kathryn and granddaughter Sarah.

## 1950s

**Paul R. Pipes '56** taught for 29 years and was also employed by Pan American Petroleum (now BP) in production for five years. When he fully retired he was elected county commissioner, the first Republican in Washington County since reconstruction, and held office for eight years. He and his wife **Linda (Mullins) '73** have two daughters and are enjoying retirement in Brenham every day.

**Charles R. Wiggins '56** was chairman of the board of First Liberty National Bank with branches in Liberty and Dayton.

**Courtney G. Fowler '57** keeps pretty busy with his companies All American Connection and Precision Tubular Service. He is a member of several clubs in the Houston area and stays in touch with fellow KAs **Jasper Tramonte '62 MBA '64** and **Eugene Cookenboo '62 MBA '64**. Courtney has one son, Randy, and is engaged to be married soon.

**William Marcus Stephenson '58** writes from Lake Jackson that he is keeping busy with residential real estate sales and volunteer work and enjoys serving as chairman of the board of directors of the Texas Dow Employees Credit Union. His wife Lila is also busy with volunteer work. Their four children are all raising their families in the area and are doing well. "Lately," he writes, "we have had more opportunities to visit with

old Bearkats and the visits are so very enjoyable. Looking forward to more opportunities."

## 1960s

**Jim Hanscom '62** is retired from the industrial safety equipment industry. He and his wife Sandra are alive and doing well in Huntsville. Jim received his MBA from Pepperdine in 1978 and is a past president of the SHSU Alumni Association.

**Glenda Miles Dawson '63** was with the Pearland ISD for 33 years and is now a keynote motivational speaker and facilitator for conferences, conventions and churches. She received her MS in occupational education from UH and is currently in her second term in the State Legislature of Texas. She has one daughter and two grandchildren.

**Charlie Maiorana '65** was inducted into the Texas High School Baseball Hall of Honor in 1995 and was a teacher and coach at Spring Woods High School in Houston from 1967 to 2000, retiring with a 703-235 record. He had the privilege of coaching Roger Clemens, the 7-time Cy Young award winner at Spring Woods. Charlie established a scholarship fund in memory of his wife, **Sandy Passalacqua Maiorana '66**, in 1994 and so far has granted 23 scholarships to Spring Woods high school senior baseball players. Retired, Charlie keeps involved with baseball as the president of Baseball USA's "The Yard" in west Houston.

**William A. Rampmeier '65** graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate and served with the US Army from 1965-1967, including a tour in Vietnam as a First Cavalry Division officer. After the military, he worked in public accounting at Ernst & Ernst and, in 1970, began a career in the health care industry as a chief financial officer and consultant to several hospitals around the state. Al now owns and operates Express Personnel Services in Bryan, which recently celebrated 15 years in business. Also a part-time rancher, Al and his lovely wife Elizabeth were married on November 14, 2004.

**Joe Warren '66** keeps busy as district sales manager for the Houston area for Quikrete Companies, a concrete packaging firm based in Atlanta, and with volunteer work. He is vice president of the Arizona Creek Wildlife Association, past-master of Saratoga Masonic Lodge #914, and former chairman of the Hardin County Appraisal District review board. His wife of 40 years, Janie Loftin Warren, is the Thicket, Texas postmaster and they have two children and two grandchildren. Daughter Carrie works for Wells Fargo Bank in Beaumont and son Jason is the investigative officer for the SHSU Dean of Students office and patrol deputy with the Walker County Sheriff's Office.

**Harry E. Stengele MBA '68** was a chief financial officer for 20 years and his wife Nancy taught school. Now retired in the Seattle, WA area they live near their sons, Bill and John, who are both school teachers, coaches and parents themselves. Grandson Barrett is now 3 and granddaughter Avery was just born.

**Michael Whitten '69** emails that after 20 years in the army he retired as a major and lives in Marin County, California. He is active with the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association, serving on the executive council and as chairman of the reunion golf tournament. At the last VHPA meeting in Dallas, Mike met up with college roommate and fellow Lowman Rifle Member Jim Wilkerson for some golf and catching up at Mill Creek Golf Course near Fort Hood. They then met again in Houston for dinner with fellow 1969 SHSU and ROTC graduates **Ken Rice**, **Lou Walker** and his wife, and **Mark Gerlich** and his wife. Mike is now organizing the VHPA's next reunion, signing up sponsors for the golf tourney, and is planning a follow-up trip to Maui, Hawaii.

## 1970s

**Jim Danklefs '70** emails that he and his wife lived in Houston for 26 years and moved to Austin in 1996. "I'm 56 years old and finally found a job I love" he says, as a factory representative for Schaeffer Lubricants selling specialized lubricants for fleets and heavy equipment. He has had a home office for more than 22 years, enabling Jim and his wife Rita to become avid bicyclists. In good weather, they usually bike 60-70 miles a week. He also enjoys playing racquetball, a game he played for the first time in the Old Men's Gym at SHSU in 1966. "Was that a long time ago?" he asks. Jim has attended alumni get-togethers in the Austin area and was sorry to hear that his favorite instructor **Bill Lawler** had passed away.

**Toby T. Irwin '70** recently received a certificate in recognition of his 35th year as a Baptist pastor at the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Dr. Irwin received a master's degree from Southwestern Baptist Seminary and a doctorate from Luther Rice Seminary. He is currently pastor of Hayden Baptist Church in Wills Point.

**James H. Tate '70** keeps busy as the business manager at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Giddings, a position he has held since February 1999.

**William T. Smith '71** is the vice president of human resources for Canal Barge Company of New Orleans, LA and has been with the company since February 1989. He keeps in touch with SHSU alums **Robert 'Mack' Bell**, **Thomas Linn** and **Robert A.** and **Jonathan Socha**. Last summer Tom met with COBA professors **Juliana Lilly** and **Joe Kavanaugh** to discuss marine transportation job needs.

**James B. Neal '72** writes that, after 17 years of service, he has retired from the City of Houston. Jim was senior staff appraiser for right-of-way.

**Gerald L. Simpson '72** is married to Bearkat **Vicki R. Whitecotton** and he owns and operates a CPA practice in The Woodlands. Gerald has been in public accounting since 1972 and in his own practice since 1987.

**Susan S. Lenamon '73** emails that she retired after 25 years as a public school teacher and administrator. She received her Texas real estate license in 2002 and now partners with her dad in David L. Smith Realty, a company her parents started in 1960. Susan was elected in 2005 to the SHSU Alumni Board of Directors, is a charter member of the Women in Leadership Society, and is a member of the board of directors of Brazoria County's United Way. She and retired husband **Benjamin R. Lenamon '72** have three children and seven grandchildren.

**Dan Rawls '73** emails from Ontario that after 30 years in the automotive business he is now semi-retired, consulting and teaching part time. Dan received his MBA from Trinity several years ago and his wife Kendra is a vice president of RL Polk Automotive. Kendra travels quite a bit with her job and Dan accompanies her on most trips. They have homes in Palm Springs, Toronto and London and are interested in all the cultural arts. They have one Bearkat daughter and a 9-month old grandchild. Dan and Kendra are Century Club members, support the SHSU Alumni Association, and take great pride in SHSU.

**Hugh D. Shine '74** emails that he is the branch manager of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter's central Texas complex and has retired from the Texas Army National Guard after 30 years of military service. He received his MBA from Baylor University in 1993, a master's degree in strategic studies from the Army War College in 2003, and, as one of the top 150 financial advisors for Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, has been a member of that company's Chairman's Club since 1998. Hugh has served on a number of civic organizations, including the Temple Reinvestment Zone Board and the Temple Airport Board, and was the District 53 representative for the State of Texas from 1986-1991. He has made annual visits to SHSU for the past seven years for the National Guard, and flies helicopters to support the ROTC program. Hugh fondly remembers attending the stadium dedication nearly 15 years ago



## Class Notes

when he was a member of the State Legislature and still tries to keep in touch with his friends in Huntsville when he can. He and his wife Debbie have three daughters and a son.

**Cynthia V. Donatto-Blair '77** emails that she has 18 years' experience in education and is the Charles Drew Academy's technology specialist for Aldine ISD. Both her daughters attend SHSU; Christina is a senior and Cara is a sophomore.

**Philip Law MBA '77** emails from San Antonio he began his career in process accounting. After acquiring his CPA and CFE certificates in the mid-80s, he moved to insurance and became a chief financial officer and treasurer, overseeing mergers and acquisitions of several insurers. Now he works as a financial field examiner for the Texas Dept. of Insurance and his travels take him from Hawaii to Puerto Rico to Helsinki. Philip enjoys athletics and has completed the Houston Marathon twice, the MS 150 bicycle challenge, several Olympic-distance triathalons and is in training for a half-ironman distance triathlon. He and Margo have been married for 16 years and they have two daughters.

**Cecelia Pasket Marquart '77 MBA '79** would love to hear from her MBA classmates. Cecelia is the coordinator for a state drug evaluation program that focuses on detecting and apprehending drug-impaired drivers. She has worked at SHSU for 25 years, writing and overseeing grants and interagency contracts. Husband Jim is a professor and director of research for the College of Criminal Justice and they have two children: a son, who is attending Jacksonville University and a daughter who attends Huntsville High School.

**Dennis R. Noland '77** emails that since 1999 he has been the owner of Alpha Resources, a human resources consulting company in Birmingham, AL and has been able to travel extensively. He would like to hear from other '77 Barkats!

**Daniel C. Conley '79** emails that he is an attorney in Nassau Bay, licensed since 1986, and an escrow officer for a large title company. He specializes in real estate, probate, estate planning and corporate areas of the law and urges all Barkats who are buying or selling homes in the Clear Lake area to call him. He and Karol have been married for 23 years and have two children: Kevin is 14, and Casey 12.

**Steve Johnson '79** writes from New Braunfels that he is a pilot with SBC Communications out of San Antonio. Son Matthew is 18 and starts college this year, middle son Michael is 15 and starts high school, and daughter Lauren is a third grader.

## 1980s

**Terri Baker O'Meara '80** writes from Dickinson that she and her husband celebrate 25 years of marriage this year and they have two children: Ashley, 20, and Daniel, 16. She was a bookkeeper for 20 years and now works for a party rental company and owns a home candle business. She is also a member of Toastmasters International and has achieved the advanced toastmaster bronze level. "The business degree I received at SHSU," she writes, "has helped me in everything I have done so far."

**Joe Roche '80** emails that he is a retired vice president of Black-eyed Pea Restaurants. Joe played baseball for SHSU when he was an undergraduate and now lives in West Palm Beach, FL where he spends his time coaching youth baseball teams, playing golf, and raising their new lab puppy "Sam(antha)." Joe enjoyed seeing many of his former teammates at the baseball reunion last year.

**Geoffrey Bond '81** and **Nancy Gwen Hartsfield '83** email that their son Patrick is now a freshman at SHSU. Geoffrey enjoys bowling in leagues around the Houston area and participates in state and national tournaments each year. He has just bowled his seventh "300" game since he graduated in 1981!

**Charles W. Jones III '81** emails that he is now the senior vice president of the mid-states division for WFS Financial, a subsidiary of Westcorp, and received the Leadership Award at Westcorp's January meeting at the Hyatt Regency Resort in Huntington Beach, CA.

**Robert Stein '81** is currently a vice president for McJunkin Corporation, a privately-held West Virginia industrial supply company. Robert has been with McJunkin for 20 years and is based in Houston. He has four sons: one is attending SHSU, one is at Texas A&M, and the younger boys are still in high school.

**Philip B. Spencer '81** has been in Hillsboro for ten years now and operates four stores in the area. Fleas 'N Tiques, Decades, and Happy Holiday ( a year-round Christmas store) are in Hillsboro, and another Fleas 'N Tiques is located in downtown Itasca.

**Nat H. Davis III '82** emails from Sugar Land that William, child #4, was born last January. Nat's business of developing shopping centers is doing well and he sees **Mike Divin**, **James Roberds**, **Jonathon Reed**, and **Joe Murrillo** around town. Nat, James and Joe have seats together at the Texans football games.

**Carlos R. Hernandez '82** emails from Sugar Land that he is a claims adjuster for the American Modern Insurance Group in the Houston area.

**Jeff Higgins '82** is an area sales manager for Sanofi-Aventis Oncology in Nashville, TN.

**Carlotta Boudreaux Lansford '83** and husband Mike have their own businesses and together are raising three children, ages 16, 13, and 3. Carlotta is in public accounting and has an office in the Lake Conroe area and Mike operates a party rental business.

**Charles A. Newman '83** supervises the Waller County office of the Texas Dept. of Transportation and also manages a family-owned farm and ranch operation in Pattison. He stays in touch with **Joe Mark Taylor '82**, who lives in Marlin. His niece, Caroline Gottfried, is a Barkat freshman. Charles is married to Michelle Charpentier Neuman and they have a 3-year old daughter, Hillary Rose.

**Mark A. Wilkening '83** writes that he is the division chair for the Business, Economics and Computer Science Department at Blinn College's Brenham campus.

**G. Edward Williams '84** emails from Arlington that he works for Sandvick Equipment & Supply and travels the globe. He has hiked the jungles of Belize, dived the oceans of Hawaii, roamed castles in Great Britain, and enjoyed the beer and wine of Germany and France. "Not married," he writes, "no kids."

**Sandra Finley '85** emails from Carrollton that she is the new executive director of Phi Chi Theta, a national professional co-ed business fraternity established in 1924. Sandra will be busy with PCT's 30 chapters nationwide, including SHSU's Beta Theta chapter.

**Carl H. Kleimann '85** emails that he is the president of Odyssey One Source and provides outsourcing services to 400 companies in 15 states. He is past president of the National Association of Professional Employer Organizations (NAPEO), the industry's national trade association based in Alexandria, VA, and past president of NAPEO's Texas chapter in Austin. He is currently a member of the board of directors of the Certification Institute, which promotes operating standards within the PEO industry and certifies members' adherence to those standards. He and his wife Kennetha live in Tomball.

**Leonard Barras '85** can't believe it's been 20 years! Leonard is the south Texas region field manager for Universal Computer Systems, a company that provides in-house computer systems to automobile dealerships. His territory includes 300+ dealerships from Weimar to Orange and from Houston to Brownsville. He and Lisa have been married 14 years; daughter Loran is 10, daughter Landri is 5, and their son Logan is 2.

**Tyler Hartson '86** writes that he is no longer in accounting. He received a master's in social work from UH in 1997 and runs a private practice that provides

Medicaid and Medicare counseling services to the homeless and poor.

**Susan Morgan '86** emails that she has been working for Dell, Inc. for 13 years and is currently a contracts manager in the federal government sales segment. She also teaches Junior Achievement programs to educate children on the roles business, jobs, and money play in our communities, cities, states, and country. Susan is divorced and she and her son Kyle like to snow ski at Christmas and spend July 4th at the beach. Kyle is active in Cub Scouts, plays basketball and soccer, and keeps Mom active, too. Susan stays in touch with **Bearkats Linda Dybdahl Sudderth '84** and **Stacy Carter Franz**.

**Michael Lacey '85** emails that he has been an accountant for the YMCA of the Greater Houston area since 1987.

**Karan Cunningham Lozano '86** is a registered nurse and patient coordinator of day surgery for Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston. She will soon finish her MBA and her husband, a firefighter, will begin law school soon. They have two beautiful daughters and enjoy bodybuilding and travel.

**Cheryl A. Phillips Joiner '86** emails that she has worked in the aerospace industry for 16 years and is a flight integration manager for the Boeing Company in Houston, a job that has taken her to meetings in The Netherlands and other European destinations. Cheryl has a ten-year old daughter, Kelli, and in her spare time volunteers at a local women's shelter.

**James M. Talbert '86** is the southern regional manager for Atlas Corp. He and his wife Gina married in 1993 and have two children: son James is 9 and daughter Brooke is 5.

**David J. Wright '86** emails that after graduation he spent 14 years with Gates Corporation in various sales and marketing positions and is now the director of sales and marketing for Flex-Tech Hose & Tubing in New Braunfels. David is married and has two sons: Evan is ten and Arron is nine. "Working full-time while going to school was a struggle," David writes, "but my overall SHSU experience left me with a lifetime of wonderful memories. I've lost contact with so many great friends, but please let them know I think of them often and always have."

**J.H. "Romey" Alexander '87** is doing well in Atlanta! He made the City Finals in USTA 3.0 tennis, played #1 singles but lost in three sets. Daughter Brittany and son Jason are both doing well and, he writes, "my beautiful wife Kim is doing a swell job putting up with us and we sure love her for it!"

**Linda C. Vandagriff-Ottinger '87** is the business manager at Fairchild Medical Center in Yreka, CA and in June will receive her MBA from Southern Oregon University. She and husband Gary are enjoying an empty nest. Linda's sons are in college and Gary's sons have families of their own. After graduation, Linda plans to accept an executive position in a larger hospital on the coast.

**Nancy Wylie Norman '87** emails from Cypress that she is a CPA working as a financial reporting manager for the public accounting firm Kikis & Company PC in Houston. She has been married ten years and has two small children, Ashley and Michael.

**Michael Johnson '87** recently transferred to the Chicago office of Hormel Foods, where he is a senior account executive. He has been married 12 years and has one son.

**Charles Ezell '87** emails from San Antonio that his career as sales manager with General Mills has provided a lot of exciting and valuable experiences across the west. Since moving back to Texas he's connected with several Barkats, including **Floyd Reese**. In 1999 he and wife Elsa started "Sewing Notions," a customized embroidery/window treatment service that has been quite successful and Charles is now developing "Sound Decisions" for drums, guitar and studio recording lessons. He, Elsa and their two children love to watch the 'Kats play, and Charles and his son Trevor made the bus trip to Florida with other alumni for the 2003 NCAA tournament.

**Robert Conrad '88** emails from Beaumont that he and **Jada Bolton '88** are married and that he is the general manager for Transit Mix Concrete and Materials.

**Janelle Loftin Sumner '88** has completed her MBA and is a senior HR specialist with Blue Cross. "My family will have four generations of Bearkats," she writes. "My daughter graduated, my son has applied for the fall, my grandson will apply in three years, and my mother – at age 90 – graduates in December!"

**Ronald Royce Callaway '89** emails that he and **Jill '90** have been married since 1992 and have two children. Ron is global sales manager for Greene Tweed & Company. He and his family spend free time at their lake house and Ron enjoys fishing and golf. "I was on campus recently for the first time in five years," Ron says, "and I was excited and proud of all the changes. I am very pleased with the direction of the University and I hope my children will select Sam Houston as their school."

**Chris Davis '89** writes that he and wife **Janna Fitzgerald '88** have three children and that he uses his business degree everyday. Chris recently opened a Mutual of Omaha Insurance agency in Huntsville at One Financial Plaza.

**Mike Enos '89** emails from Pearland that he and Angela have been married for five years and have a two-year-old son, Joshua. Mike works for Grainger Industrial Supply in Deer Park and meets with the Kappa Sigma alumni organization every month in Houston.

**Rob Hungate '89** dropped us a line from Houston, where he works for Bluebell.

**Anita Burzynski Johnson '89** emails that she and Alan Johnson were married in 2000 and have two children. Anita teaches math at Montgomery High School.

**Robert G. Nichols '89** emails that after working 14 years in information technology, he now operates a real estate agency in northwest Houston with his wife **Leslie '88**. Bob and Leslie work with and socialize with many SHSU friends and Theta Chi fraternity brothers throughout the greater Houston area.

## 1990s

**Jeff Bradley '90** emails that he has been with Tuboscope Pipeline Services for ten years, currently working in software engineering and support. His job has taken him all over South America and Canada. He has three lovely daughters, is a member of the Houston Livestock Rodeo, volunteers on the Rodeo Express Committee, and is a volunteer firefighter in Pearland.

**Keith W. Hinze '90** works in Columbus, OH as a securities attorney with Nationwide Insurance. He is also an adjunct professor teaching accounting, ethics, law and other subjects at the MBA level. Keith is married and has two young daughters, Mia and Laurel.

**Michele D. Jolley Roden '91** works part-time as a leader for Weight Watchers and lives in Bossier City, LA with her husband John and their children, Emily and Zachary.

**Ricky T. Newman '92** is a claims adjuster with State Farm Insurance in Dallas. He is married with three children, 2 boys and a girl, and is an armour bearer and active member of the Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church.

**Donovan Shea Stamps '93** emails from Frisco that he is the vice president of internet sales for Countrywide Home Loans.

**Christie Haney Davidson '94 MBA '99** emails that she is the assistant director for the SHSU Correctional Management Institute and that she and husband David became the proud parents of a son last June. Christie stays in touch with **Donna Jahns Yeaman '93**, her roommate and fellow AKPsi member, and reports that Donna has twin nine-year old boys and works for Dow Chemical.

**Anne Hennington '94** writes from San Angelo that she has been a registered nurse for three years and hopes to begin work in hospital administration soon.

**Louie Ruffino '94** and **Cherie Markowski Ruffino '94** email from Houston that Lyndi Ann Ruffino was born last October 28th. Lyndi joins her big sister, Chloe Ashton.

**Darrel Walsh '94** writes from Crosby that he and his wife Wendy have three daughters, Kaylee 18, and Tanya and Tiffany, both 11. Darrel is in process technology at ExxonMobil and enjoys hobbies, sports, and his family.

**Helen A. Larrabee '95** still lives in Huntsville, taking advantage of the small town environment for single parenting. Her oldest is a high school senior, her youngest is a first grader. Helen works in contracts and procurement for TDCJ and says their lives are pretty quiet. "Everyday stuff seems to keep us pretty busy!" she writes.

**Ronald G. Van Asperen '95** emails from Dallas that he received his MBA from UTA in 1999 and works as an information technology project manager for EMC Squared. He and Jennifer Green got engaged last May while vacationing in Curacao and are planning a July destination wedding in Mexico with family and a few close friends.

**Felicia M. Wheaton '95** graduated from South Texas Law last May, took the bar exam and is currently working in the Texas Attorney General's Houston office, awaiting the bar results, which will be released in November.

**Derek F. Beck MBA '96** writes that he is a vice president with Moody Rambin Interests.

**Jacquetta Anderson Madgett '96** emails that she is a senior business continuity planner at Southwest Bank of Texas, responsible for technical recovery planning. She and Gary were married in September 2003 and their son Jaden is now one year old.

**Jay Tchamanzar '96** emails that he is married and that he and a business partner run Tchamanzar Financial Group, a private investment banking firm in Houston.

**Elmo Gore '97 MBA '99** sends greetings from Bartlesville, OK.

**Diana Hunziker MBA '97** writes from Huntsville that her accounting practice now offers financial services and is associated with HDVest, a subsidiary of Wells Fargo.

**Lance M. Albert '98** writes that he and his wife Marcela welcomed their daughter Maria Isabel Albert, born November 13, 2003.

**Michael DeSilva '98** writes that he is married to **Bearkat Karen Davis '92** and they have three children: two girls and a boy. He and his family moved to Conway, AR last June where Mike is the regional manager for AmeriCredit Corporation, one of the largest subprime auto lenders in North America.

**Lisa Kubeczka '98 MBA '01** emails that she is busy planning an October wedding to Bill Shumway, an oil executive with a doctorate in chemistry. She recently made an internal transfer within AIG to a department focused on strategic projects for the domestic life companies, an exciting new opportunity. She is still involved with Phi Chi Theta and was able to visit the campus last Homecoming. "The College of Business is really making some big moves," she cites. "Impressive!"

**Thomas L. Mouton '98** emails from Houston that he is the information technology global coordinator for Latin America for ChevronTexaco.

**Dwight E. Shreve '98** writes from The Woodlands that he recently started two real estate companies, Maverick Realty and Maverick Financial. He also owns Renting Solutions and Flat Fee MLS. He and his Bearkat wife are celebrating seven years of marriage; she was a member of Alpha Delta Pi and Dwight was a member of Kappa Alpha Order.

**Valerie Thornton Stacy '98** writes from Haltom City that she has been working as an administrative assistant since graduation. She married Kris Stacy in 2001 and their first child, Kaylie Lynn, was born in December.

**Charles D. Fator '99** sends "thank yous" to **Jim Bexley**, chairholder of the Smith-Hutson Endowed Chair of

Banking, for his teaching and guidance. Charles is the president of two Prosperity Bank centers in west Houston and was recently named Prosperity Bank's 2004 Associate of the Year. Since he left the College, Charles has graduated from the state and national Bankers Association lending schools and married his high school sweetheart, Tamara. Charles sees Sigma Chi fraternity brothers and other Bearkats on a daily basis and is proud of the continuing changes and improvements at the College.

**Kimberly Gradwohl '99** writes that after working as a buyer for Randalls for several years she will graduate from nursing school in May. She will begin work soon at Houston Medical Center and plans to marry in June.

**Jason Komar '99** emails that since he graduated he has been to Europe twice, married, and has adopted two children. Jason is in sales at AIG American General.

**Misty Nelson '99** writes from Friendswood that she and Jason have been married for five years and now have a son, Austin, born last September. Her husband is a training coordinator at the NASA Johnson Space Center and Misty is a financial analyst for IBM.

**Jarrett L. Spence '99** has been in The Woodlands with Procorp Associates for eight years, a consultancy company specializing in business performance, and was recently promoted to vice president for client relations. Jarrett has also started his own asset holding company and writes "I wouldn't be where I am today without the education I received from SHSU and the College of Business."

**Jennifer Spencer MBA '99** writes from Rockwall that she recently moved back to Texas from Virginia and is a financial planner/agent with New York Life.

**Melissa Thacker '99 MBA '00** emails that she worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers for two years after graduation and then went to law school. She receives her JD next month and is planning a May wedding with David Moncure, a Duke Law School student from Richmond, VA who will also receive his JD in May.

## 2000s

**Jonathan R. Braddick '00** emails that he is the agency relations coordinator for the North Texas Food Bank in Dallas.

**Angela Martin Leboda '00** writes from Cedar Park that she and her husband became the parents of twin boys on January 14.

**Carolyn "Cari" Stark '00** writes that she now works for the City of Conroe, where she lives with husband Justin Lee. She stays in touch with **Michelle Yoder Acreman '02**, **Jennifer Meadows '02**, and **Jean Englebrecht Hanson '03**.

**Charles Benson '01** emails from Fort Worth that he and Erin have three children now: Payton, Taylor and Ava. Charles is a loan officer with JPMorgan Chase and was named number one in sales revenue for the Tarrant County district for 2003.

**Kristen Christopher '01** and husband **Nick '03** live in Houston, where she works as an adjuster for Allstate Insurance. Kristen enjoys her job and even received Allstate's distinguished performance award for 2004. She writes "I credit the College of Business for being part of the reason I've had three successful years at Allstate. Thanks, COBA!"

**Erica Douglas Gloyd '01** received a master's degree in journalism in May 2003 from the Univ. of Illinois and married Roosevelt Gloyd III on November 1, 2003. She currently works as a technical writer for Shea Writing Solutions in Houston.

**Aron C. Kloesel '01** lives in San Angelo and is a claims adjuster for Farmers Insurance.

**Shannon Kyle Murdock '01** writes that she married Bearkat **Ben Murdock '01** in March 2002. They still live in Huntsville and Shannon works on campus at the Law Enforcement Management Institute (LEMIT).



## Class Notes

**Joe Mark Robinson '02** is a business analyst with Hewitt Associates. Wife Kimberley graduates from SHSU this May and they are expecting their first child later this month.

**Lawrence Saenz '01** is a Sigma Nu Fraternity house director at Drury University, where he is working on his MBA. He plans to walk across the stage in December with a 3.5 GPA.

**Kyle Marik '02** and his wife **Jenny** are both Bearkats and use their Sam degrees everyday. Kyle is the marketing manager for the Orlando division of a Florida home builder and Jenny teaches first grade with the Orange County ISD. They truly love living in Florida and were thrilled to travel to Gainesville last Dec. 29th to see the Kats take on the Gators. Kyle invites any classmates passing through Orlando to please look them up.

**Sarah Pyle Nethery '02** married Jerret Nethery on May 24, 2003 and works in pharmaceutical sales for Johnson & Johnson. The couple purchased their first home in Katy last year, which they share with their two dogs Pepper and Ernie.

**Michael S. Wheeler '02** works as a training auditor for TDCJ and is glad he majored in MIS. He and his wife have a two-year-old son and Michael is planning to begin graduate school at SHSU next fall.

**Ryan E. Bisetti '01 MBA '03** recently started a great career with Sanofi-Aventis, the second largest pharmaceutical company. Ryan, as you may recall, played football at SHSU from 1999-2001 and is grateful to the MBA program for preparing him so well.

**Ashley Fairfield Riley '02** (a close friend of **Leenette Wilke '03**) emails that she and husband Clint have purchased their first home, located in Carrollton. Ashley is a real estate administrator for the Staubach Company.

**Adam Grier '03** married his best friend and fellow Bearkat **Brianna Giardini** on January 8th and reports that their wedding was a Bearkat reunion! Adam works for Cintas and has been invited to speak several times in classes at the College. Brianna teaches kindergarten and they both feel SHSU prepared them to succeed.

**Katrina Kiselichev MS '03** emails that she is currently an operations manager for First Community Credit Union and is working on completing requirements for a CPA license. In her spare time she enjoys volunteering at MD Anderson, church activities, dancing and working out, traveling, and visiting with friends and family.

A close friend of **Leenette Wilke '03** who wishes to remain anonymous reports that Leenette will celebrate the big "4-0" this year and wishes her a happy birthday!

**Paul Simon MBA '03** emails everyone hello. Paul is actively involved in the Huntsville community as treasurer of the Walker County Historical Commission.

**Misty Baker Blossom '03** and **Patrick Blossom '02** were married September 18, 2004 at Del Lago Resort in Conroe. Misty works for an attorney/CPA in The Woodlands and is looking forward to receiving her own CPA license. Patrick is a credit analyst at Republic National Bank in the Galleria area and they live in Spring.

**Angela Scarboro '03** is the director of recruiting for IMG Financial Group in Houston and was ranked a top ten recruiter for 2004 by IMG's national network of firms. If anyone is interested in a career opportunity or consultation, just give Angela a call! Angela enjoys recruiting at the universities around Texas but feels most at home at SHSU. She keeps in touch with her Alpha Delta Pi sorority sisters and many Bearkats.

**Paige Stimson Streiff '03** emails from Cuero that she married Bearkat **Ben Streiff '01** and together they work on staff development and marketing strategies for their six family-owned furniture stores in south Texas. Their duties take them on buying trips to the furniture market in High Point, NC and on trips to electronics and appliances conferences around the country.

**Carissa Barosh '04** graduates with her MBA this May and has a full-time job lined up with Pricewaterhouse Coopers. Carissa currently works in the SHSU Business Office on campus and traveled to Pensacola, FL over the Christmas break to visit friends. A former Disney intern, she also visited Florida last summer when PwC sent her to Disney World for their intern development program.

**Dana Bible '04** reports that she and Jason Powell will marry on October 15, 2005.

**Melanie Gonzalez '04** says there's no place like home! After graduation she moved to Oklahoma City, OK to work for the Barnes & Nobles bookstore at Univ. of Central Oklahoma. She was then transferred to the Univ. of Central Arkansas. Then, after training in McAllen, she returned to the SHSU campus on January 31st as the manager of the Barnes & Nobles University Bookstore.

**Omer Ilsever '04** married the lovely **Katherine A. LaBarbera '05** on December 19, 2004. Omer works for Nobel

Logistics in Houston and was promoted to southeast operations department manager after only five months. "Since graduating from SHSU," he writes, "I have met many wonderful alumni and am truly proud to be a Bearkat!"

**Jennifer Lopez '04** writes from The Woodlands that she is the on-premise wine sales representative for Republic Beverage.

**David A. Matthews '04** emails that he is a contract specialist intern with the General Services Administration in Fort Worth and lives in Haltom City.

**Toni V. McClenon '04** and her husband have a baby boy, Thailan. Toni is enjoying being a stay-at-home mom and plans to start a career in management next year. She wishes the best of luck to all her classmates.

**Matthew C. Powers '04** is living in Austin and loving it. Matt is a manager-trainee with Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

Bearkat couple **Chad Thoe '04** and **Wendy Bass '03** will marry on June 11, 2005. Chad is an accountant for Loren D. Stark Company and Wendy is a business teacher/cheerleading coach at Cypress Ridge High School.

**Kimtesha L. Webster '04** writes that her family is doing well and that God is continually blessing her. Kimtesha is a management trainee with Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

## Classmates we will miss ...

Ben F. Ratcliff '43

Guy G. Attaway '48

Terry W. Nowlin '88

## We've Got Game...

(continued from page 1)

The second component of the PGM track is the 16-month internship requirement, which is divided into four segments. Three 3-month summer internships between the freshman, sophomore and junior years will fulfill 9 months of the requirement, followed by a long 7-month internship between the program's fourth and fifth years. Students will have access to quality internship sites throughout the nation and will receive placement assistance from PGM program staff to assure that each site meets the PGA's eligible employment guidelines.

The third component of the PGM track requires the completion of the PGA's 3-leveled educational program. PGM students will complete an extensive work experience kit and then must pass knowledge and simulation tests on each subject before advancing to the next level. For example, Level 1 includes topics such as the PGA Constitution, the Rules of Golf, Tournament Operations, and Golf Cart Fleet Management and, when finished, the completed work experience kit is sent to the PGA for review. As each work experience kit is approved, the PGA visits the College to conduct an on-campus checkpoint with the student. "Again," Ballinger states, "the program offers classes to help students complete these work experience activities and to help get them through their checkpoints."

The College has scored a hole-in-one with The PGA/PGM™ Program at Sam Houston State University. With only 16 other programs in the country, enrollment is expected to reach 200 students quickly. "The closest programs are New Mexico State University to the west and Mississippi State to the east," Ballinger says. "College-degreed, PGA members are in great demand and I anticipate 100% job placement of our graduates."

For more information, email ballinger@shsu.edu, or call (936) 294-4810.

## Travel with SHSU

Get on the mailing list at [www.shsu.edu/travel](http://www.shsu.edu/travel) and receive registration details and timely updates on all the exciting trips planned for you and your fellow Bearkats. And be sure to access Orbitz through the website to make any travel reservation; Orbitz sends a contribution to SHSU for each transaction made through the travel website. Upcoming trips include:

- Ireland (May 18-30)
- China & Tibet (June 21-July 2)
- Colorado Rocky Mountain Trains (July 17-24)
- Provence, France Cooks' Tour, hosted by Nancy Gaertner (September 13-22)
- San Francisco Napa Valley (September 22-25)
- Costa Rica Eco-Tour (November 2-9)
- Botswana (March 9-18, 2006)
- Scotland Golf Tour, hosted by SHSU President Jim Gaertner (August 2006)

For more information email [travel@shsu.edu](mailto:travel@shsu.edu), call (936) 294-4725, or visit [www.shsu.edu/travel](http://www.shsu.edu/travel).



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### COBA Advisors Tour New Addition

*Members of the COBA Advisory Council had two opportunities this year to tour construction in the new Addition.*



## Together We Provide Opportunity

A brighter job market, an impressive list of recruiting companies and a record turnout of business students had the Lowman Student Center ballroom abuzz with networking opportunities at the Spring 2005 Business Career Fair on February 22. More than 50 companies participated, including major names such as British Petroleum, ConAgra Foods, New York Life, the Federal Reserve and retail giants Wal-Mart and Target Stores.

"This career fair offered a wide variety of job opportunities," said *R. Dean Lewis*, dean of the College and host of the event. "The business community was well represented and offered opportunities to students of every major discipline within the College. We even had the U.S. Foreign Service here, recruiting for embassies overseas."

Representatives from banking and financial institutions, insurance and finance companies, public accounting firms, information systems services, retailers, distributors, and a wide range of firms and government agencies seeking candidates for management and marketing positions visited with more than 1,000 interested students – a College record. Company representatives appreciated the preparation and appearance of the candidates and the high student and faculty turnout. "I wish I could hire on the spot," one recruiter commented. "I wanted to make several offers today, but we are required to go through the interview process." Repeat visits are common among participating recruiters, many of whom are alumni of the College who return to campus to conduct interviews, pre-employment testing, and information sessions.

The College hosted its first career fair in 1999 and interest in the event has steadily grown. "We manage the career fair so it breaks even at the College level and it has become an important fundraising mechanism for our student organizations," said Dean Lewis. "That helps keep student interest high, which keeps companies coming back. It's a win-win all around."

### Spring 2005 Business Career Fair Participants

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| AFLAC                           | Houston CPA Society                       |
| American National Insurance     | Houston Community Bank                    |
| Beneficial                      | Houston ISD                               |
| British Petroleum               | Internal Revenue Service                  |
| Buckle                          | New York Life Insurance                   |
| CenterPoint Energy              | Northwestern Mutual Financial             |
| CH Robinson                     | Office of the Comptroller of the Currency |
| Cintas Corporation              | Partners Bank of Texas                    |
| ConAgra Foods                   | Schneider National                        |
| Drug Enforcement Admin.         | Sherwin-Williams                          |
| DXP Enterprises, Inc.           | Smart Financial Credit Union              |
| Easley Endres Parkhill          | Southwest Bank of Texas                   |
| Enterprise Rent-a-Car           | Target Stores                             |
| Fastenal Company                | Temple-Inland Forest Products             |
| Federal Deposit Insurance Corp  | Texas Dept. of Banking                    |
| Federal Reserve Bank            | United Rentals                            |
| Federal Supply Service          | Universal Computer Systems                |
| First Investors Corp            | U.S. Customs & Border Protection          |
| First National Bank Huntsville  | U.S. Dept. of State – Foreign Service     |
| First National Bank Texas       | U.S. Navy Officer Programs                |
| First State Bank Central Texas  | U.S. Secret Service                       |
| General Services Administration | Walgreens                                 |
| Glazer's Distributors           | Wal-Mart Stores                           |
| Grant Thornton LLP              | Wells Fargo Bank                          |
| Hastings Entertainment          | WFS Financial                             |
| Hertz Corporation               | Woodforest National Bank                  |
| Homecomings Financial           | Woodlands Resort Center                   |



## CLASSnotes

We want to hear from you and share your news and accomplishments with other alumni and

friends in the next issue of PRIDE! Let us know of your promotions, transfers, special honors, and personal news and help us keep everyone aware of what SHSU COBA alumni are doing.

Email news to Margaret Quarles (*mquarles@shsu.edu*) or mail your news to College of Business Administration, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX 77341-2056.

Please send us your news for the next issue of PRIDE!

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